

APPENDIX E

THE IMPACT OF APOLLO 8

E-1 Current News, NASA Public Affairs Office, - "Apollo 8."



CURRENT NEWS

Prepared by OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

Date JANUARY 6, 1969

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APOLLO 8

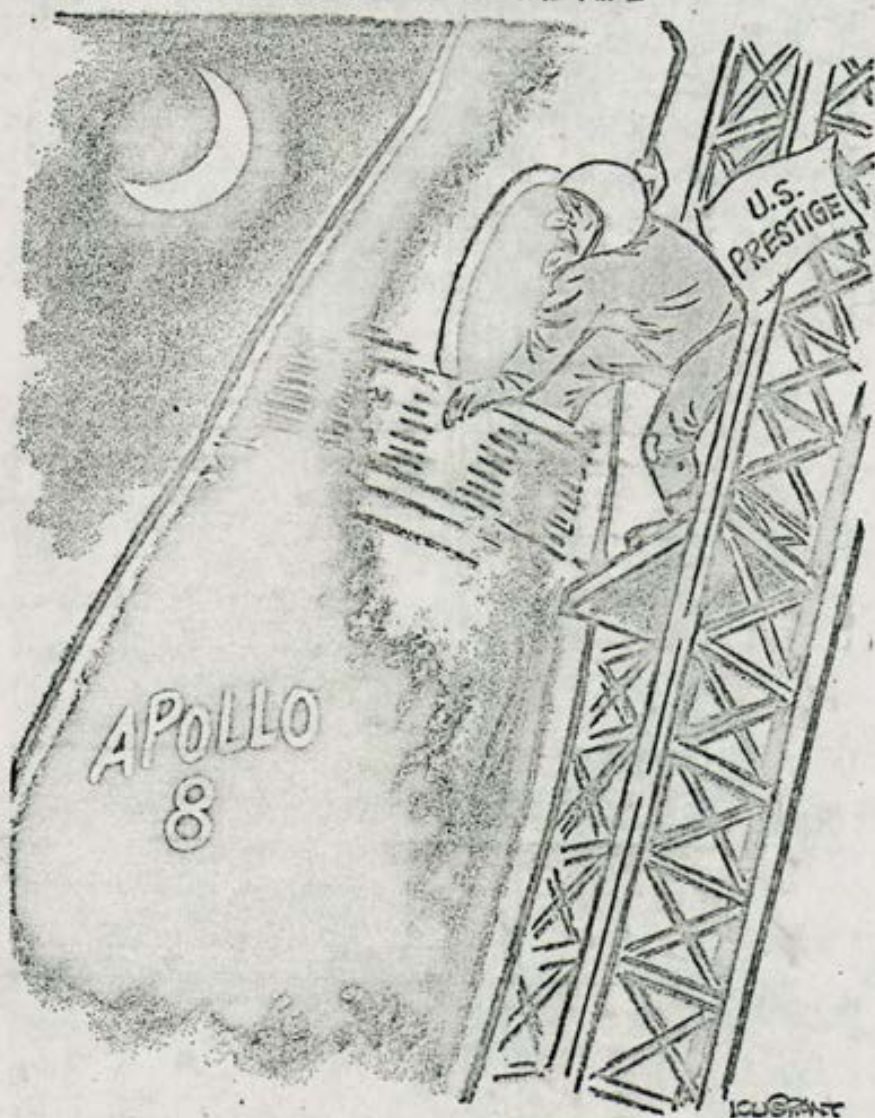
SPECIAL

PART 1 of 2

The Huntsville Times

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1968

GOING ALONG FOR THE RIPE



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THE EDITORIAL PAGE OF
The Huntsville Times

For Truth, Progress and Independence

Leroy A. Simms, Editor and Publisher

Patrick McCauley, Executive Editor
James K. Hutsell, Associate Editor

Chas. B. O'Reilly, Advertising Director
Hubert Hawkins, Circulation Manager

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

THURSDAY, DEC. 19, 1968

Space Support

ACCORDING TO an October poll by Trendex for the Thiokol Chemical Corporation, interest in space flight is up. Their testing-sample indicates that 68 per cent of the people support the program, 21 per cent are opposed, and 11 per cent have no opinion.

In July 1963, when these polls were first begun, 61 per cent supported the program, 38 per cent were opposed, and 1 per cent had no opinion. This would seem to indicate that many of those originally opposed are moving gradually towards a wait-and-see attitude which may eventually result in approval. Moreover, those who are opposed gave as their prime reason not some intrinsic disapproval of the purpose of space flight but felt that the money might be better spent for other programs.

The highest support figure came

in September 1965 when 77 per cent supported, 20 per cent opposed, and 3 per cent had no opinion. The greatest opposition to the program was shown in the September 1967 poll taken eight months after the death of the three Apollo astronauts. 51 per cent approved of the program, 35 per cent were opposed, and 14 per cent had no opinion.

There has also been an increase in the number of people thinking that the government is not spending enough on space. In October 1968, 18 per cent thought more should be spent. This is the first time since September 1964 that this figure has been above 7 per cent. The previous high had been 14 per cent in February 1964.

The Trendex figures gratify us no end— or had you already guessed?



The WASHINGTON DAILY News

A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER

"Give light and the people will find their own way."

Richard Hollander

Editor

Ray F. Mack

Business Manager

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1968

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Incredible or Not, We'll Try

EVER since the Russians sent the first Sputnik into space more than 11 years ago, and especially since John Glenn made the first orbital flight for the United States in 1962, we have been conditioned to the idea that eventually men would set foot on the moon.

But now that a team of American astronauts is about to venture on the climactic preliminary to that ultimate feat we confess to a feeling of awesome anxiety.

Don Weaver of our staff was recalling an 1890 fantasy by William Gladden about an imaginary flight to the moon, and how Gladden had one of the characters in his story say:

"After all, in these days of Edison and Jules Verne, nothing is incredible."

But in this day of Frank Borman, James Lovell and William Anders, we say it is incredible that Saturday morning these three astronauts will attempt to travel by spacecraft some 500,000 miles to the moon and back, a six-day journey, if all goes well, which surely will shake the world and make Sputnik seem like a tot's toy.

In Mr. Webster's words, incredible means "seeming too unusual or improbable to be possible." What Apollo 8 is scheduled to try Saturday surely fits this definition if anything does.

When you remember that no man

ever has been more than 853 miles from the earth, the idea of now going 240,000 miles to the moon seems beyond even a vivid imagination.

We can believe that one day this will be accomplished, but we can only hope that this is the time. For, despite the intensive preparations and confident scientific knowledge, the hazards of so complex an undertaking have got to be nerve-splitting, at least to us laymen.

Our space writer, Don Kirkman, has reported that if all does not go perfectly in the first few hours, while the spaceship "cranks up" by taking a few swings around the earth, the flight can be scrubbed or sent on a substitute mission of less spectacular scope. A relatively comforting alternative, we suppose.

But the breathtaking moment will come on Christmas Day, according to the schedule, when the astronauts fire their engines to start the return from the moon. Failure would leave us with nothing but mourning, for there is no such thing as rescue.

So, if there is to be anything amiss, we hope it comes fast, in time to return these daring young men safely to earth. Thereafter, fate takes over.

This is an adventure which can only be described as terrific, incredibly terrific. May all the blessings of the Maker shine upon it.

The San Diego Union

FRIDAY MORNING, DEC. 20, 1968

APOGEE OF COURAGE

Mere Men Poised for Giant Step

If all goes well three courageous American astronauts will reach the apocynthion — the high point — of their orbit around the moon in the early hours of Tuesday.

Most Americans watching the Apollo 8 mission to the moon will reach the first high point of exhilaration and admiration early tomorrow morning if the incredible rocket leaves the United States of America.

For Apollo 8 is the apocynthion also of the entire manned space effort of the United States which began with the sub-orbital flight of Cmdr. Alan Shepard May 5, 1961, in Freedom 7.

The progress of the space effort represented by the span from Freedom 7 to Apollo 8 is as fantastic as a yarn by Jules Verne.

The Saturn V rocket lifting Col. Frank Borman, Cmdr. James Lovell and Maj. William Anders into lunar orbit is more than 36 stories high, has more than 2 million parts, weighs more than 6 million pounds and will use more than 7.5 million pounds of thrust to lift this mass into space.

And it is more than statistics, impressive as they are. Apollo 8 represents the billions of dollars the United States has invested in the space program. It is a symbol of the thousands of brains that have developed a thought into a rocket. It is a testimonial to the American technological and industrial capacity that can make a huge Saturn V as sophisticated as a watch.

Apollo 8 also is a testimonial to American manhood — men who worry

as much about a common cold that could keep one of them from making the flight as they do about the possibility of being trapped in lunar orbit.

In typical fashion the United States has done all possible to reduce the risk by the full use of its technology and in the superb training of the astronauts.

The risk and the scientific value of the Apollo 8 mission have been criticized, notably by Sir Bernard Lovell, head of the Jodrell Laboratory, and physicist Dr. Ralph E. Lapp.

But as Astronaut Anders, a San Diegan, noted: "This will be the first eyeball, connected to a brain, connected to an arm that can write or a tongue that can speak in this vicinity of our solar system."

Who can put a monetary value on the stepping stone into the next century?

Apollo 8, if successful, will be a milestone not only of American scientific and technological achievement, but also of space diplomacy. The Soviet Union which is able to direct more of its resources to rocketry because of its totalitarian and harsh society apparently will not be able to attempt a lunar orbit until at least January.

Significantly, the success of our missions depend increasingly upon the new kind of space diplomats, three intelligent, fit and disciplined Americans who, like other military men, are willing to sacrifice life for achievement.

When the nation wishes Astronauts Borman, Lovell and Anders "Merry Christmas" as they orbit the moon, it will have a special ring.

Following Yonder Star



Friday, December 20, 1968

Heading for the moon

The nation has had more than a decade to get used to the idea that men were bound for the moon. The idea was implicit in the first successful satellite (Sputnik I) back in October, 1957. President Kennedy gave it form and substance with his pledge that Americans would land on the moon by the end of the 1960s.

The hundreds of launchings since then, both manned and unmanned, have come close to reducing space shots to the ordinary, as though all the superlatives had been used up and the excitement drained. It seems so long ago that millions held their breath and prayed for Alan Shepard and John Glenn in their lonely capsules atop the rockets.

Yet suddenly all is different. We come to the moment of truth when men are actually headed for the moon. The years of circling the Earth to gain knowledge and experience are ready to bear their fruit in a voyage unprecedented in the annals of mankind. The Moon Rocket and the Moon Ship are no longer the stuff of dreams or science fiction. They are here. And so are the

men whose skills have been honed to a fine edge for just this moment.

Everything about the Apollo 8 voyage at this time needs to be preceded by an "if." A whole series of alternate plans has been prepared for use "if" this happens or that fails along the way. But the goal is clear and it is near. If all goes well, Frank Borman, James Lovell and William Anders will go where no man has gone before on the most adventurous voyage since Columbus set sail in 1492.

The risks in this venture are many. While it may be true, as a space official says, that the Apollo 8 crew is "in a far less hazardous position" than the crew of the Santa Maria, the scope of this mission and the public awareness of all that is at stake make this voyage truly unique.

No wonder the pulses quicken now as they haven't since the first space flights. Here, at last, is a moon flight—a fly-by rather than the landing that will come later, but a trip to the moon in reality. And a watching world will once again unite its hopes and prayers for a safe voyage and a safe return.

Friday, December 20, 1968

Apollo-8's Trip To the Moon

THE DECEMBER 1868 issue of Scientific American said in an editorial: "The period of the 40 years past may be termed the Age of Invention. The question has been raised: 'Is the Age of Invention at a standstill?' We hazard an answer that the coming 40 years will witness some marvelous improvements...."

One hundred years after the magazine's optimistic appraisal of the future, three U.S. astronauts will be launched on a six-day voyage of discovery around the moon.

That would have abashed even the Scientific American's enthusiastic editorialist who marveled, "We speed over the ground; rattling across bridges, journeying from New York to San Francisco in seven days, but will it be done in seven hours?"

America's heart will go aloft with astronauts Borman, Lovell and Anders when their Apollo-8 vehicle is launched tomorrow. They follow a scientifically-productive profession that carries elements of great danger. Three astronauts already have died.

Col. Borman says the risks have been reduced to "really acceptable levels," but space flight still is "risky business." He compares it to a combat tour of Vietnam. His are the words of a brave man. But nuclear physicist Ralph E. Lapp, a space program critic, warns, "We are pushing our luck"

The scientific fruits of the space program already are enormous. Apollo-8 and the programs to follow will teach more. President-elect Nixon says, "I consider the space programs one of our national imperatives."

Seven days from New York to San Francisco? How about six days on a moon flight? The "Age of Invention" continues.

Good luck to Apollo-8 from launch to splash-down.



"The folks at NASA want some advice on the re-entry problem"

The Birmingham News

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Friday, December 20, 1968

The Journey Begins

Some have reservations about the wisdom of tomorrow's scheduled launch toward a moon orbit, arguing that the game isn't worth the candle. Still others are concerned that the timing of the venture is on the order of demeaning the Christmas period.

Give those who so reason credit for their opinions. Whether the moon project's value will be proved is a way off yet, and the planned orbital flight extending from tomorrow until after Christmas is but one carefully charted stepping stone in the master plan to explore space. We have committed great effort to its goals and it should proceed.

The expressed opinion that this period of the year, when Christendom's eyes turn toward Bethlehem, is no time to send human beings roaring off into outer space may, at first thought, enlist some support. But

just how sound is that promise, really?

Where is there a conflict between the eternal story and promise embodied in the holy trinity of the Birth, the Crucifixion and the Resurrection, and the location mortals may be in at a certain time of year? All logic and reasoning says that what a man holds in his heart is what counts, whether fate and circumstance finds him at a given time beside his fireside, on his knees in worship, crouching in a foxhole or spinning in a space capsule a quarter-million miles from earth.

The nation's space program certainly has not been projected to lessen to the slightest degree the message that Christmas brings. To believe that would be an admission that a passing incident can suddenly blot out in a flash all that the world was promised almost 2,000 years ago in a stable's manger.

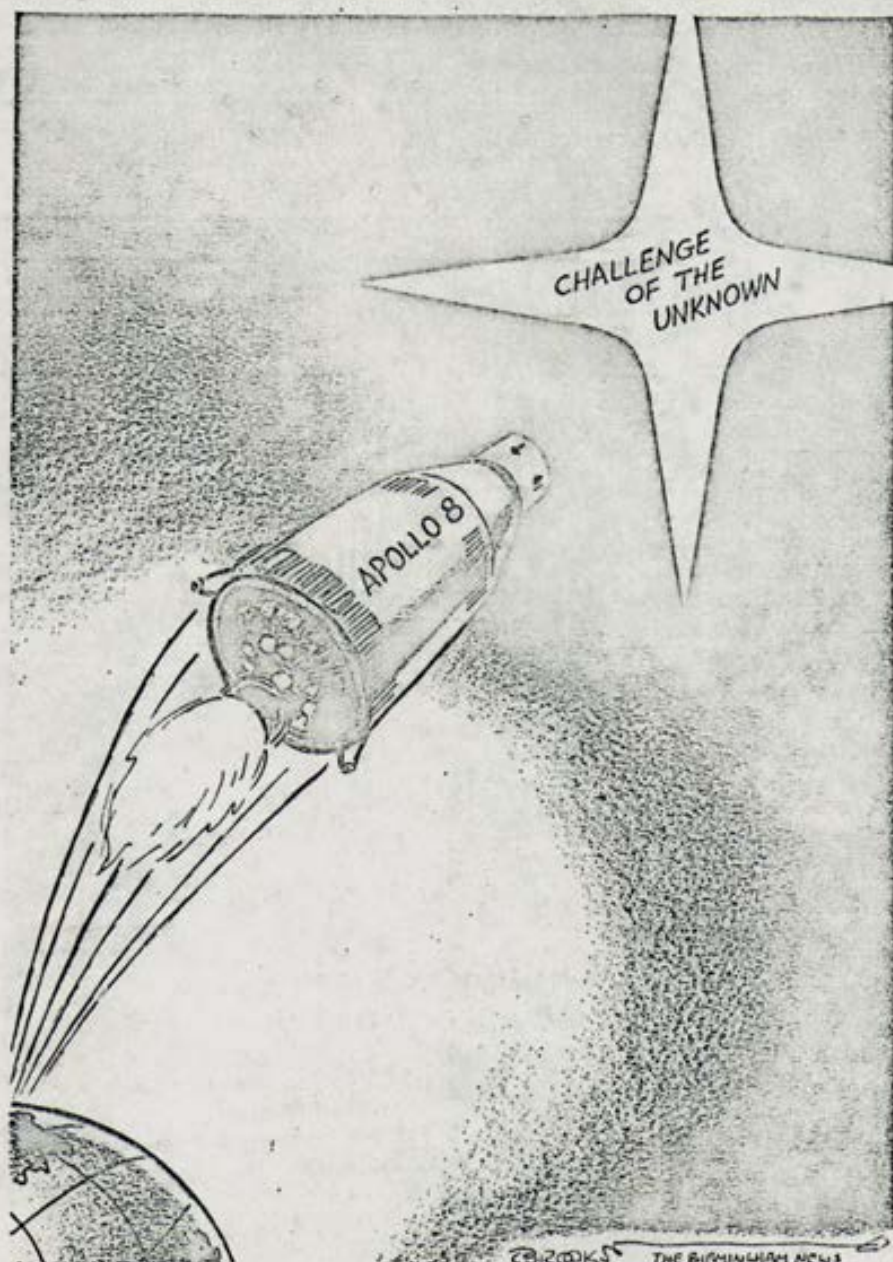
Christmas is a glorious symbol. But nowhere in the message He brought us did He counsel that we were to pause in awe and adoration only on special days and neglect the others, as even the more devout among us sometimes do.

Should they soar away successfully tomorrow, it would be in keeping with the spirit of the season, we think, to pause now and then during the solemn period that approaches and murmur a prayer for the three whose faith has carried them where they are.

That, too, is a part of the message of Christmas.



Man Has Always Followed Stars



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—THE TRIBUNE CREDO

THE VIEW FROM THE MOON

"The moon is essentially gray, with almost no color. It is much like plaster of paris or a grayish beach sand." So report the astronauts. The earth, on the other hand, is brown and blue, for land and water, and nobody's waving at the space travelers.

So all in the point of view, or perspective. Sometimes we think it might be a good idea if the inhabitants of this pesky planet got a long way off and took a good look at themselves. The appraisal could hardly be called flattering.

We have communist ideologies imposing a blighting philosophy on masses of helpless people, whose minds are commanded to run in ordained grooves. We have arrogant and incompetent politicians juggling vast amounts of other people's money and making a mess of almost everything to which they turn their hand. We have ugly racists, black and white and equally intolerant. We have criminals and general nuisances called demonstrators or dissenters. We have barbarians, like the North Koreans who abused the men of the Pueblo. We have makers of unjust wars, like Ho Chi Minh. We have shiftless and careless people who foul the environment.

It is not an inspiring picture. After all these millennia, when are the people chained to this planet going to try to get along with one another? When will there be a little elementary courtesy and consideration in their mutual dealings? The moral and intellectual virtues are well recognized, but when will they be practiced?

Some are some of the reflections that could be inspired by viewing the earth from a point so distant that its inhabitants are not visible even as crawling ants.

The Great Space Adventure

The climactic stage in the U. S. commitment to explore the moon has come. Barring last minute delays, Apollo 8 should lift off not far behind schedule Saturday morning.

America's three spacemen — Frank Borman, James A. Lovell Jr. and William A. Anders—will be on their way across thousands of miles of space to a rendezvous with the earth's only natural satellite.

This is truly the first long voyage into space, a leap some 238,000 miles from the earth's surface and back again. Americans should wait for every word of the progress of this momentous adventure with justified concern for the welfare of the men whose lives are in the balance.

The odds faced by the astronauts cannot really be calculated, of course, by any system of mathematical probability, but a rough idea of what could happen may be gained from reviewing the many times

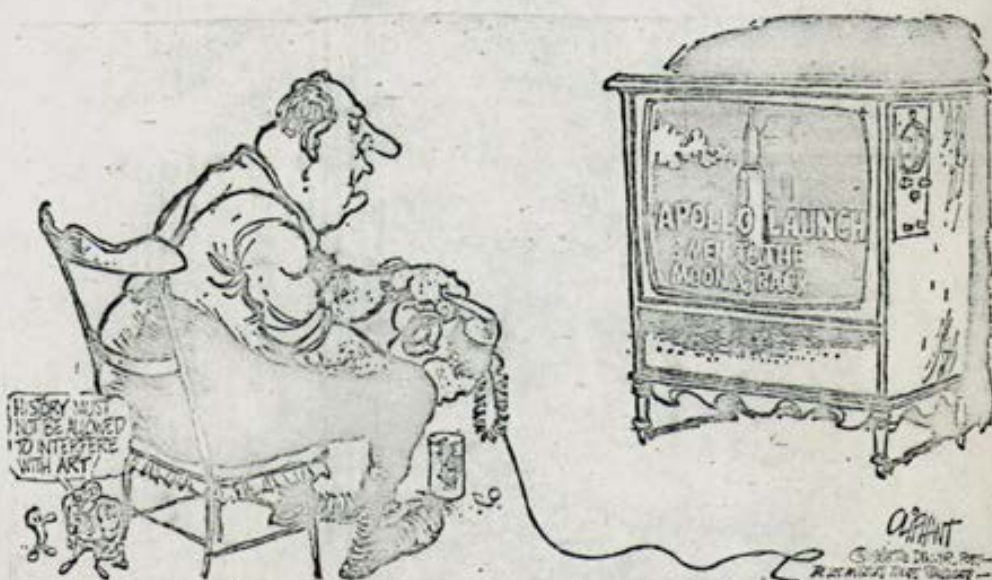
U. S. rockets have malfunctioned over the past few years. The Apollo rockets must ignite repeatedly as planned, and fire as long as intended, for the mission to succeed.

The most suspenseful moment of all may come on Christmas morning when the return voyage is scheduled to begin. That is when the rocket engine must be started up and achieve sufficient power to hurl the tiny space ship back again to the planet of its origin.

With their limitless optimism, the astronauts have made light of the risks, and most Americans, lulled by the success of past manned space ventures, may well underestimate them. Borman, Lovell and Anders—in their hearts—know better. Only great courage has enabled them to maintain confidence.

All Americans should be wishing and praying for the safety of these inordinately brave men.

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, Sat., Dec. 21, 1968



"OK, then!—But if this runs just one second into the Cleveland-Dallas game . . ."



THE EDITORIAL PAGE OF *The Huntsville Times*

For Truth, Progress and Independence

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HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

SATURDAY, DEC. 21, 1968

History Is Watching

COLUMBUS knew that the earth is round but thought its size much smaller than it actually is. He sailed West from Spain past the Azores in the expectation to reach the Spice Islands, which are in present-day Indonesia. He had no knowledge of the American continent and when he finally saw land, he thought it was Asia.

Our moon adventurers are much better informed about their trip. There will be no new continents discovered. The moon has been photographed from all angles; the path of the space-craft has been carefully computer - programmed; the length of the voyage is calculated down to seconds.

Apollo 8 is a major engineering feat. It makes use of our most advanced technologies in all areas of science. Besides the intricate rocketry, there is the capsule which provides a miniature world

for the astronauts to live in.

At present the technological feat seems to overshadow the historical significance and the romantic appeal most other adventures generate. Perhaps romantic appeal comes with time and reflection on an event. The day Columbus sailed, he was pre-occupied with weather conditions, provisions, water, and his crew. The motives that led the rulers of Spain to sponsor Columbus were commercial, prestigious, and military.

In time, Apollo 8 will take on a romantic aura. Its historical significance is already assured. It marks the first time, man has entered the gravitational field of another heavenly body and points to an age of space travel.

So engineers, make those valves work! History is watching!



The Sunday Bulletin

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1968

V C

The secret of a good life is to have the right loyalties and to hold them in the right scale of values. The value of dissent and dissenters is to make us reappraise those values with supreme concern for the truth. Rebellion per se is not a virtue. If it were, we would have some heroes on very low levels.—Norman Thomas, former Socialist candidate for President.

Apollo 8

For the first time, man breaks the shackles that bind him to the face of his planet.

He is a space voyager now, venturing for the first time in recorded history beyond the pull of Earth's gravity and into the gravitational embrace of the moon.

Behind him, receding at a speed of thousands of miles an hour, is Earth and the collective experience, imagination and intelligence which culminated in the construction of the intricate vehicle he pilots more than 230,000 miles through space.

Although it is a feat to inspire pride in American ingenuity and courage, it is, too, an achievement which tends to divest itself of nationality and emerge as an adventure of mankind.

Against the vast and pitiless expanse of interplanetary space, nationality pales to a single fact, a single identity:

Air Force Lt. Col. Borman, Navy Captain Lovell and Air Force Major Anders are not only gallant Americans, they are men from the planet Earth, forerunners of explorers who will probe the universe to distances beyond present imagining.

But one thing is indispensable to the hunger to know, to reach the moon.

It is man's confidence in the ma-

chines he builds, his willingness to entrust his life to the product of his head and hand.

For Col. Borman, Captain Lovell and Major Anders, this confidence is reduced to dependence on a single, 650-pound rocket engine.

This engine develops 20,500 pounds thrust, only a minute fraction of the awesome power generated by the Saturn V rocket to hurl their Apollo 8 capsule in Earth orbit yesterday, preliminary to the takeoff for the moon.

But it is on this engine, its instant response to firing commands, its inner workings that astronauts depend to nudge them into orbit around the moon Christmas Eve and then propel them out again for the return voyage to Earth Christmas Day.

Against the huge pitted face of the moon and the endless reaches of space, the spurt of flame from this single engine's bell-shaped nozzle Christmas Day might seem meaningless, of no consequence.

But to the men who ignite that flame, it means the return of Apollo 8, the conquest of space beyond the point of no return.

It is, in its own way, a Christmas star of hope and trust.

The Christmas Journey

The curious juxtaposition of man's first effort to penetrate outer space and the Christmas season is deeply troubling. Depending upon how you look at it the trip to the moon that began yesterday can be regarded as an unwanted and an unwarranted source of anxiety, needlessly injected into a time of year set aside for religious purposes; as another example of how Americans have let their concern with material matters detract from the true meaning of Christmas; as just another event in an already too-busy world; or as a symbol of Christmas itself.

You can pick the description you like best to describe what is surely the most remarkable human venture ever undertaken. For the young and imaginative, it can be a modern-day miracle, on a par with Santa Claus and his reindeer. For those who give the trip religious meaning, it can be the Star in the East or the Three Wise Men. For those who think the space program is emphasized all out of proper proportion, it can be the world's costliest boondoggle. For those who see it as opening up a new world of space travel, it can be Christopher Columbus's trip to the New World compressed into seven days.

Regardless of how you look at it, this venture into space, assuming all goes well, is going to overwhelm all the events and feelings that have been associated traditionally with Christmas. Three human beings—whether you see them as the personification of the world's most irreligious Santa Claus or as the symbols of man's long effort to know better the Universe and its Maker—will be out there on Christmas Eve, a quarter of a million miles away, sending back their greetings live on TV.

The start of their trip was truly magnificent. The quiet confidence of the astronauts and the NASA officials made it seem as if a space launching and, indeed, a trip to the moon are as routine as the takeoff of a jet airplane. The technological excellence that makes this air of confidence possible certainly gives every reason to believe that the moon mission will be a complete success.

It is fair to ask both why the astronauts are going there and why they are going at this particular time of year. President Kennedy provided the first why for the Nation when he reached figuratively for "the far side of the moon" in his address accepting the presidential nomination and followed through by setting a landing on the moon by 1970 as a national priority. If it is possible for man to operate in outer space, he argued, the United States must be there to maintain its prestige, to protect its military security, and to reap the scientific benefits of space exploration. The unspoken reason resting behind the enthusiasm of many for space

travel is simply that if the moon can be visited, man must visit it just as man had to climb Mt. Everest.

The question of why, at Christmas, is more difficult. For those who are cynical about the space program, the timing can be related to NASA's need for a grand bit of publicity to enforce its claim on funds from the incoming Administration. But it can also be related to the national goal of getting man's feet on the surface of the moon as quickly as possible.

The period in any given month during which a moon trip of this kind is feasible is limited by the position of the moon relative to the earth and by the lighting conditions on the moon itself. One of the purposes of the trip, to scout the proposed landing sites, would be eliminated if the visit came when those sites were in darkness. During December, the "window" during which a flight is feasible opened yesterday and closes next Friday. Yesterday was the best simply because the flight could begin earlier thus providing more daylight for search in case something had gone wrong during the launch.

But why December? The flight could have been put off until January when a similar "window" opens on the 18th. The difference is that a month's delay would mean that the eventual landing of Americans on the moon's surface would be a month later and, since American scientists do not know how far the Russian moon program has advanced, that month might make the difference between being there first and being there second.

Whether you like the choice of this particular month or not gets back to how you look on the mission. It will certainly be an intrusion on Christmas. Space talk is likely to intrude on Santa Claus. Space toys may become the gift. And the Christmas Eve prayers for peace on earth, goodwill toward men will be joined by one for the safety of three men. These, and the other ramifications of a Christmas Eve program from the moon, certainly justify many of us in concluding that the timing is inappropriate if not irreverent.

Others, who feel about space travel as one of the astronauts does, may judge the timing totally appropriate. Talking to his minister the other day, Maj. William A. Anders said, "The more I see of God's universe, the deeper will be my belief in God."

A diverse Nation, like ours, has room for all these divergent feelings about this extraordinary venture. Regardless of how one may feel about this mixture of space and Christmas, we can join in wishing these three travelers Godspeed.



THE SUN

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THE A.S. ABELL COMPANY
WILLIAM F. SCHMICK, JR., PRESIDENT

BALTIMORE, FRIDAY, DEC. 20, 1968

Men In Space

In an interview given the New York Times, Dr. Lee A. DuBridge, who will be President Nixon's adviser on science, had a number of illuminating things to say about the relations of science, the scientific community and government. Some of the questions put to him had to do with the space program and its cost, and the part that men as well as instruments have in exploration. Because we are now within a few days of the launch of Apollo 8 his answers to these inquiries were of particular interest.

Dr. DuBridge said "there are a number of observations and information that we don't know how instruments alone can get, and therefore man enters the picture as another piece of the instrumentation that is needed." He pointed out that "automated instruments have to be flexible, and you have to be able to program them and change their programs and tell them to do new things when, for example, they have discovered things that you didn't anticipate. In that case a man will become extremely valuable."

However, when men take part in the explorations, costs rise sharply because provisions must be made for elaborate "survival facilities" and, of course, for safe return. But "by the same token, the information returned will be much greater." Moreover, Dr. DuBridge said, "as the technology of the spacecraft improves, and our instruments need to get more complex, heavier or longer lasting, we may very well be a time when putting a man up will actually be cheaper than trying to use automated instruments."

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HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

FRIDAY, NOV. 22, 1968

Never Scold the Curious

JODRELL BANK has been heard from. Sir Bernard Lovell, noted British director of the observatory there, says the U.S.' Apollo-8 manned flight around the moon, set for Christmastime, "jolly well isn't science."

That jolly well isn't exactly the way we hear it from NASA officials, Sir Bernard. But we'll tell you what, old chap, we're willing to indulge you. Let's say it isn't science.

As a means of getting such information, you say "the trip is just silly." Okay, have your way.

Of no scientific value, and silly. But who ever said we were going there exclusively to bring back a load of science? And if it weren't such a silly idea, we are not sure we even would be undertaking it.

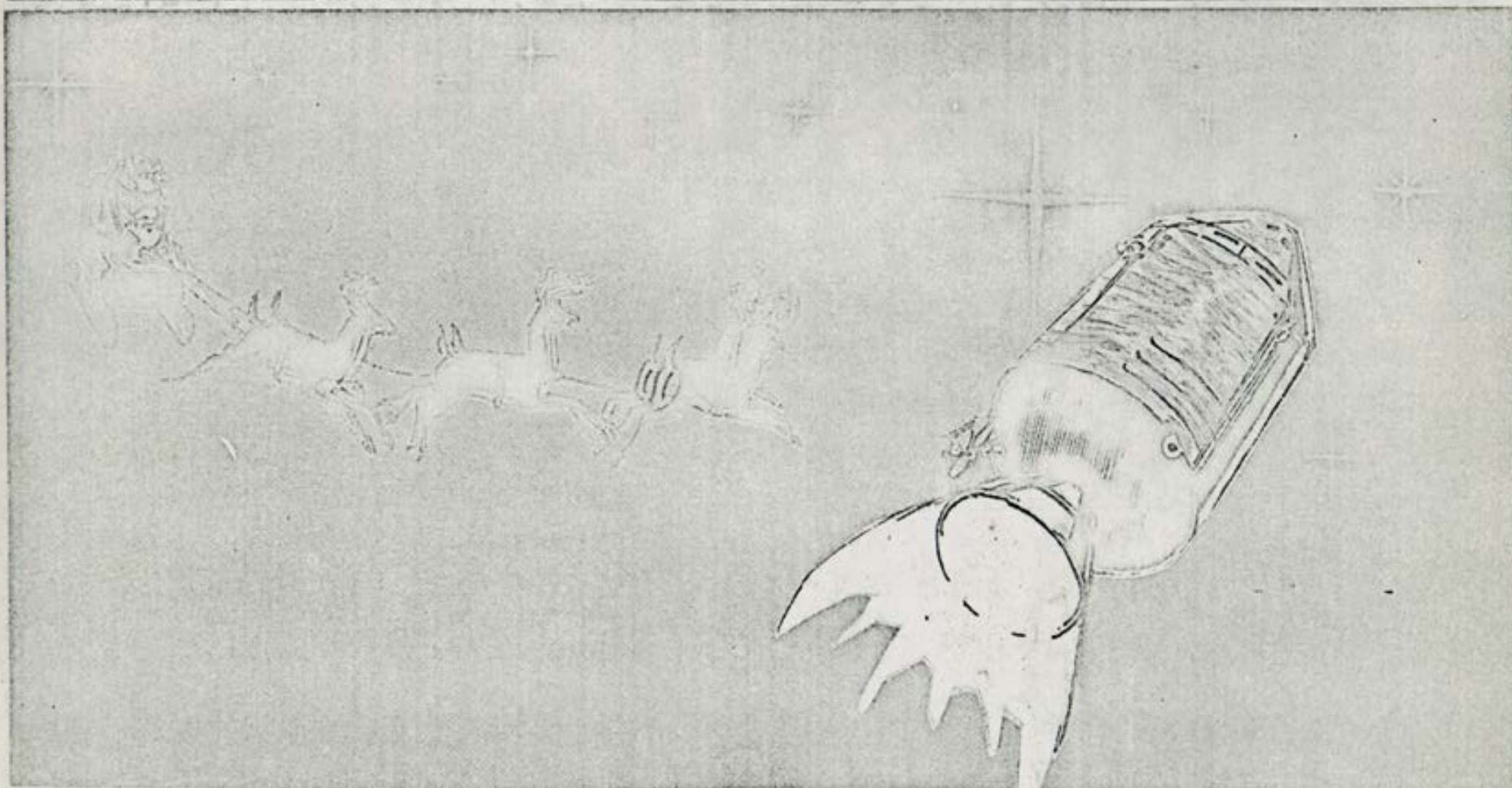
Adventure is in men's souls, Bernard old boy. And there's nothing any sillier than adventure. Any man's a fool who hasn't weighed the wisdom of staying safe home by the fire instead of going out to needle dragons and lunge at bob-

cats. We're safari silly—but ain't it fun!

It wasn't very scientific when Columbus, the idiot, went out to sail three ships over the edge of the world. If he'd really been scientific, he would have tied very, very long strings to three empty wine bottles, hurled them as far as he could westward into the sea and waited to see what would happen to them. But he didn't, the dope. And nobody except the American Indians have ever said they were sorry he went about it in the crude way he chose.

A scientific Alice would never have fallen down the Rabbit Hole. But if she hadn't we would never have learned to use flamingoes as croquet mallets and never chanced upon the Mad Hatter.

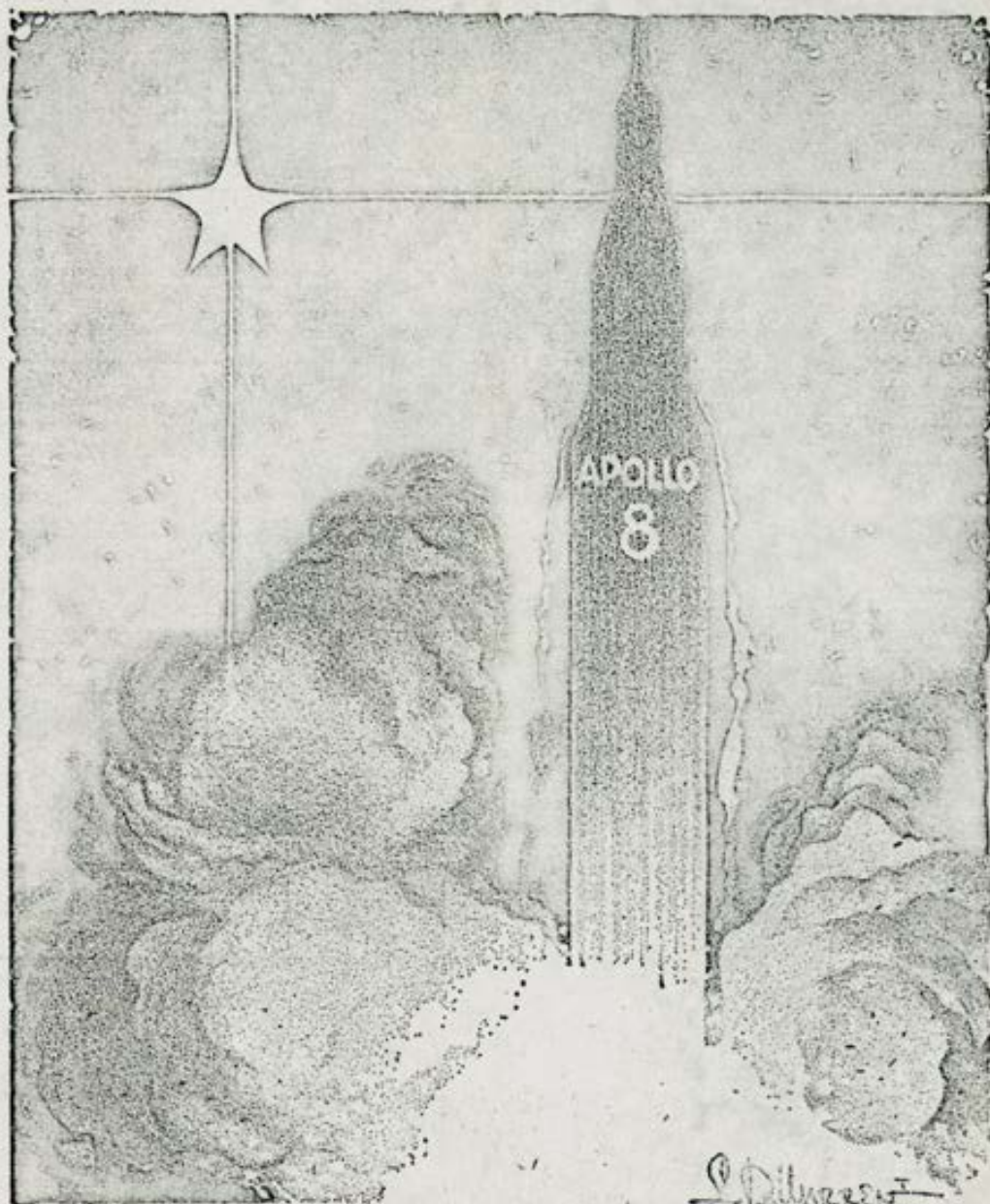
You're right, Sir Bernard — we're moonstruck. We're turgid with tomfoolery. But green cheese fascinates us. We've got this thing about it. You're a scientist, and history should have taught you that you shouldn't scold the curious man.



'Twas three nights before Christmas, and all through the sky,
Several creatures were stirring, and a space ship went by;
And Santa Claus there, exercising his deer, for their long trip ahead,
thought,
"What have we here?"

And as he pulled on the reins, to steer his sleigh through the night,
He spoke to Prancer and Dancer, calming their fright;
" 'Tis but some men," Santa said, his eyes twinkling with gleam,
"On their way to the moon, in pursuit of a dream."
(Bob Paul)

Wondrous Star, Lend Thy Light



L. D. Warren

L. D. Warren, Cincinnati Enquirer

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HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

SUNDAY, DEC. 22, 1968

In Long Johns to the Moon

"YOU are go for TLI."

Anders, Borman, and Lovell are on thier way. Their trans-lunar insertion was successful and they now are coasting to the moon at a speed faster than man has ever travelled before. The first critical phase of the trip is over.

The S-1C first-stage rocket, produced by Boeing and Marshall Space Flight Center, generated its 7,500,000 pounds of thrust and spouting a 500-foot sheet of flame lifted the giant 363-foot Apollo/Saturn V space vehicle off pad 39A.

Now in long johns, after having taken off their bulky protective suits, the astronauts are in their 66-hour glide towards the earth's natural satellite 220,074 miles away.

Hundreds of thousands of men have made this trip possible. Mil-

lions of dollars have been spent, and now the hope and prestige of the United States are focused on a tiny speck in an infinite universe.

In the space race, the U.S. has scored a triumph. There can be no more talk about a missile gap.

But beyond the transitoriness of parochial world rivalries, there is the glory of this event. Man has left his earth incubator and is setting out for new frontiers. The dreams of generations of men, and perhaps of all things, are coming true—the eternal reaching for the stars.

Anders, Borman, and Lovell, "you are go for TLI" goes the refrain and in those silent moments in their capsule, the three dream about a warm Christmas hearth and hope. Such is the nature of man.

The Boston Globe

MORNING  EDITION

16

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1968

Earthbound no more

Col Frank Borman, Capt James Lovell and Maj William Anders—the first human beings ever to leave the environs of this planet—deserve the praise and prayers of all mankind as they speed moonward in their Apollo 8 spacecraft.

While their journey is a breathtaking technological accomplishment, it is even more importantly a triumph of the human spirit, a supreme act of bravery.

The hazards these men face should not be underestimated. Outer space is an unbelievably hostile environment. Should their spacecraft's engine fail to restart after completion of the ten lunar orbits planned for Christmas Eve, they would be trapped indefinitely in lunar orbit with only a few days' supply of food and oxygen.

Re-entry of the earth's atmosphere will take place at some 24,000 miles

an hour—much faster than any previous manned re-entry—and must be done at the proper angle. Too steep an entry attempt could lead to overheating and possible disintegration of the vehicle; too shallow an attempt could throw the craft away from the earth's atmosphere.

There have, indeed, been rumblings that the manned mission would not produce enough scientific information to justify the acknowledged risks. Only time can give an answer to such doubts. But it is plain that the three brave astronauts do not share them. As Capt Lovell once remarked: "Every time we open a little door of knowledge, a great flood of it comes out. Then someone opens another door and we start off in a new direction. It's frustrating but fascinating. I think I'd go wild if I had to punch a time clock and do the same thing every week."

Thursday, December 26, 1968

Editorials

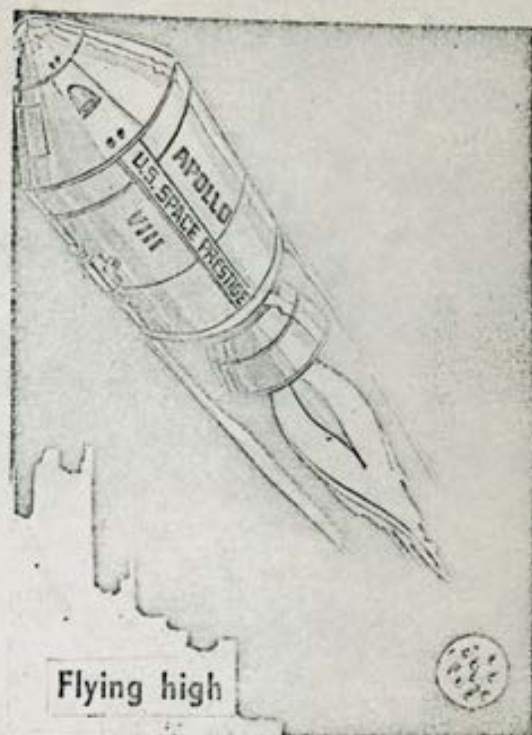
The Birmingham News

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Victor H. Hanson, Publisher, 1910-1945

Tuesday, December 24, 1968



A-2/Earth/68

For years science fiction writers have speculated on the question of life on other planets — whether it exists, what kind of life it is, whether a first encounter between earthmen and space creatures would be friendly

or hostile.

We have no answer yet, of course. But if there are little men on the moon, they're not going to be disposed to feel too kindly toward us if thanks to our Apollo 8 astronauts they all come down with the Hong Kong flu.

EDITORIAL PAGE: SO THE PEOPLE MAY KNOW
THE DENVER POST

Mon., Dec. 23, 1968



The Ultimate Frontier

In time, perhaps, the sense of wonder, amounting to disbelief, will pass. Today, we know that three men are floating in space some 200,000 miles from earth, bound for the rendezvous tomorrow with the moon. We know it, but it is impossible truly to understand it.

Even yesterday's television show, with its nonchalant salutation—"this telecast is coming to you from Apollo 8, midway between the earth and the moon"—could not make the event really credible. The staggering fact is that men have finally broken free of the chains that have, through the ages, bound them to their native planet. Now, after hundreds of generations of dreaming, planning and wondering, man's exploration of the limitless ocean of space has actually begun.

The mission of Apollo 8 has been flawless so far, despite the presence aboard of the flu bug that has afflicted members of the crew. It is, however, by no means over. The three most critical maneuvers lie ahead—the close approach to the moon, the departure from the area of the moon and, finally, the re-entry into the earth's atmosphere.

We, here on earth, can only wait and hope that the dangers that are an inherent part of this great adventure will be safely passed, and that the brave men who led the way will make the long voyage back safely to their home planet.

But, meanwhile, all men must begin to adjust to the fact that, on December 21, 1968, at 10:41 a.m. Eastern Standard Time, at the moment when Apollo 8 rocketed away from earth orbit, a new era was begun. The boundless frontier has been opened. Man's horizon now reaches to infinity.

Newsweek, December 23, 1968

SCIENCE AND SPACE

'It's Worth Doing'

Man is leaving his planet. He is going to the moon. After all the years of talk and planning, of postponements and disappointments, of high adventure and fiery disaster, it is as simple as that. No earthman has ever been higher in space than 865 miles; now three Americans—Frank Borman, James A. Lovell Jr. and William A. Anders—are preparing for an expedition that is intended to range far across the vast ocean of space to the moon, 238,000 miles distant, and back.

On the four color pages beginning at the right, NEWSWEEK offers a guide to the flight of Apollo 8, including a cut-away of the ship that will carry man around the moon, charts of the lunar topography and a diagram of the intricate re-entry maneuver. To be sure, between the launching of the giant Saturn 5 rocket, set for this Saturday, Dec. 21, and the moment early in the morning before Christmas when the three astronauts slip into orbit around the moon, there are countless things that can go awry: an abort at launching, a malfunction that would force the Apollo 8 crew to settle for an abbreviated orbital flight.

The greatest danger, however, will be faced Christmas morning when the astronauts start up their spaceship engine for the return trip to earth. If the engine should fail to start, or not burn for the 206 seconds required to raise the ship's speed for the return flight, the crew will be hopelessly stranded in lunar orbit. Aware of this possibility, NASA has taken extreme care with the engine. It was built with independent sets of valves, controls and plumbing lines so that if one fails, the other will take over.

The astronauts do not seem especially worried. "Yes, it's hazardous," Borman says of the mission, "but it's worth do-

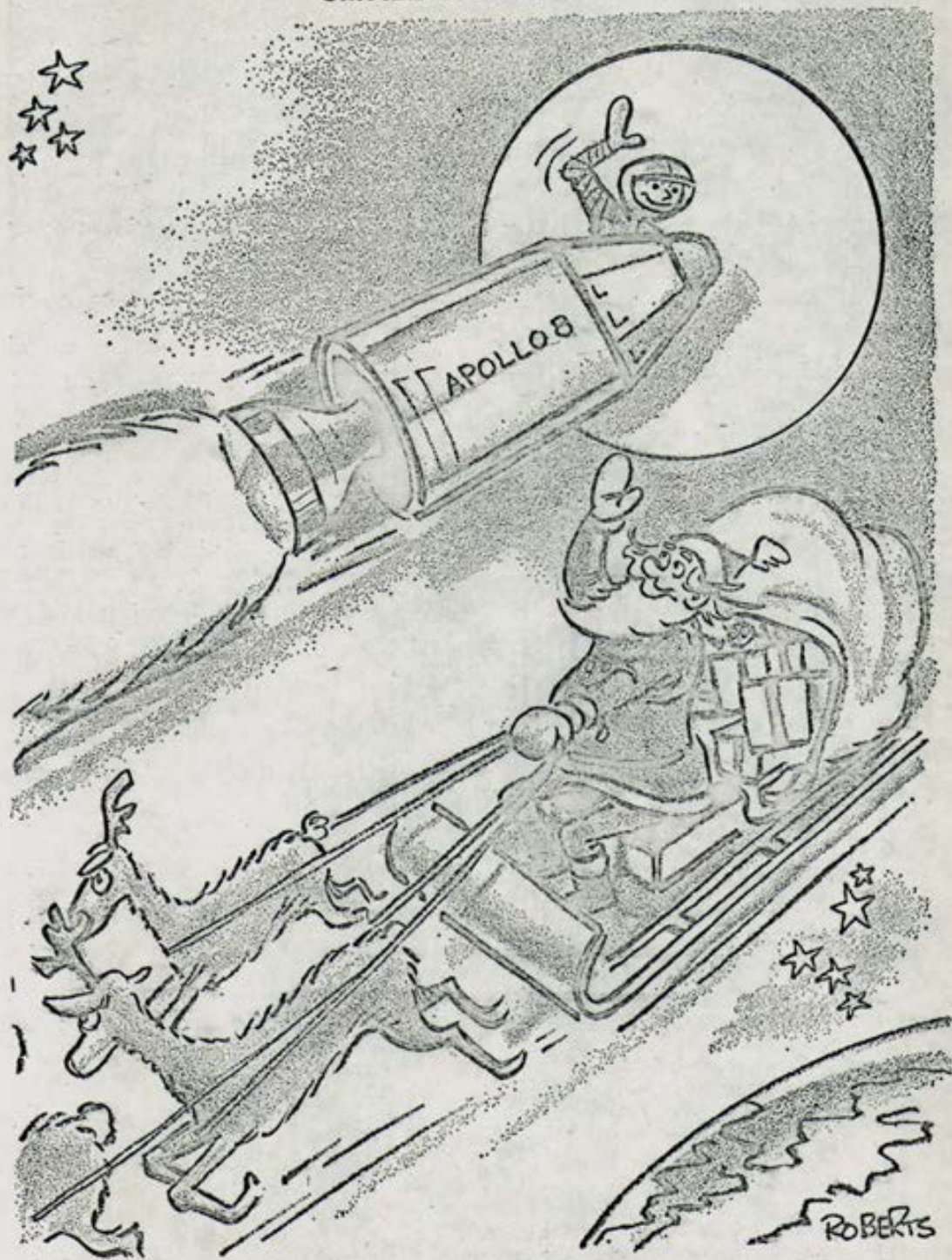
ing." Borman, 40, is an Air Force colonel and a West Point graduate. Lovell, 40, is a Navy captain and an Annapolis graduate. The two men flew Gemini 7 for fourteen days in December 1965, and Lovell flew the final Gemini mission in late 1966. Lovell, in fact, has spent 425 hours in space, more than any other spaceman. Anders, 35, an Air Force major and a Naval Academy graduate, is making his first spaceflight.

Trim: It is coincidence that the earliest opportunity for Apollo 8 to orbit the moon happens to be Christmastime 1968. Celestial mechanics rather than sentiment dictated the dates. Still, NASA will add a little Christmas trimming to Apollo 8, including turkey chunks and fruitcake in the astronauts' menu, and it is weighing a proposal to broadcast a tape-recorded Christmas Eve service to Episcopalians Borman and Lovell and Roman Catholic Anders.

Borman, Lovell and Anders plan to celebrate Christmas with their families at some later date. "Quite frankly, the past six and one-half years that I have been in the space program have meant far more separations from the family than I like," Borman admitted recently. "And doing this at Christmas is just another one of the burdens..."

And yet the import of Christmas is not lost on them. Borman, the Apollo 8 commander, has not revealed what he and his crewmates plan for their television transmissions back to earth on Christmas. But a clue might be found in something Borman said just a few days ago. "When you're finally up at the moon, looking back at earth, all these differences and nationalistic traits are pretty well going to blend and you're going to get a concept that maybe this is really one world and why the hell can't we learn to live together like decent people."

SMALL WORLD



THE MIAMI NEWS

- Pulitzer Prize For Editorial Cartoons In 1966
- Pulitzer Prize For International Reporting In 1963
- Pulitzer Prize For National Reporting In 1959
- Pulitzer Prize For Public Service In 1939

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Monday, Dec. 23, 1968

73rd Year, No. 187

TARGET, THE MOON

It's A Small World, Astronauts Show

Shortly before he left, Frank Borman remarked in an interview that he hoped the results of the U.S. moon quest would some day be measured in more than scientific or technical terms.

Borman said he hoped that by going to the moon, the astronauts would demonstrate that this really is a small world, and that people must some day learn to live together in peace. Then he added: "I hope I don't sound like Don Quixote."

Not at all, Commander Borman. We aren't accustomed to thinking of the space program as a part of the eternal search for peace, but it is an appropriate thought for the Christmas season, and not as far-fetched as it may sound.

For one thing, as Commander Borman said, the moon program is not the exclusive property of any one country. Rather, it is made possible by contributions of knowledge from nations all over the globe. Also, this business of breaking the string of gravity and reaching among the stars could affect the spirit of man as nothing has affected it before.

Who was not stirred by some sort of philosophical thought, for example, when the decision was broadcast on Saturday that sent Apollo 8 out of earth orbit and on a bee-line for the moon? And again yesterday, when the television pictures arrived from 100,000 miles in space, and the voices of the spacemen were heard, making their small jokes, reassuring the earthlings that all was well?

The cynic can point out, with regrettable accuracy, that even the moon exploration has become a symbol of the conflict between two ideologies on earth, and that the world powers, while protesting otherwise, are secretly measuring the military advantage to be gained by the nation that achieves supremacy in space.

All that, as we said, is regrettably true. But there is also truth in what Commander Borman said in his departure message. For today, in this season of peace and goodwill, we prefer to hope that one day the honorable aspirations of the spacemen will prevail.

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MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 23, 1968

Lunonauts Near Moon-Circle Point

At this writing the epochal Saturn-Apollo mission, with its all-systems-shining performance, and precedents established by the hour, had its first faintly equivocal outlook, due to malfunction in one important system—the human body.

From television's first outer-space transmission of such images, one could not tell very well how much of the "all fine" report was bravado and how much it meant that actual recovery had set in for mildly afflicted astronauts Borman, Lovell and Anders.

Be all that what it might, rounding of the moon, at least, couldn't be called off.

Along about the time this is read, 48 hours after a flawless take-off from above the globe's North Pacific ocean face, the astronauts (or lunonauts) will have completed 90 per cent of their outbound

here, in the east, as noon approaches. Later still, to the left of its dark, left edge from earth-view, an imaginary dot would represent the Apollo 8 ship. To its crew the target would be on the starboard beam, close to eclipsing the sun, a view rather risky to naked eyeballs. At the 48-hour point, the speeds will be nearly equal; at rendezvous the pick-up from lunar gravity will almost have tripled Apollo's velocity; and the distance it has to make on the converging courses will be less than the moon's. A gradual moonward hook of the ship's path results from the same attraction.

From perhaps the most accurate (National Observer) of various schematic flight diagrams that have preceded this astronomic human effort, one gathers that the point of aim (left of the left moon rim) is near the rim's middle, for a subsequent quasi-equatorial orbiting program. The equatorial orbit was the only logical one for a mission including equatorial landing-site inspection. Due to the moon's ponderous axial

rotation, only about a degree per day, a polar or crisscross orbit would (unlike earth orbits) see time after time practically the same target landscape come around beneath it.

The sunlit site at the moons' right equatorial edge (seen from earth) is the only one the astronauts pre-studied. The extra sites that later will be sunlit didn't have to be programmed into their data-filled minds.

The getaway stages of this awe-inspiring space "first" were made to look easy and simple. For the third time Boeing-town at Michoud was made happy by a perfectionist heave-ho of the great weight of the Saturn assembly. It was the first time, of course, that their powerhouse booster had men's lives riding with it. Everything thereafter also seemed to click as regularly as an "atomic" clock or the spin of one of the newly-found pulsar stars. Of the 2,000,000—odd human and other components that went into and prepared for the feat, the luck of "no gremlins" (or whatever it is the space-minded call them) was nevertheless greatly appreciated.

Perhaps if skies are clear the crescent of the object of rendezvous and inspection can be made out



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BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, DEC. 28, 1968

Apollo 8

The flight of Apollo 8 and its three astronauts is most accurately, most truly celebrated by the simplest statement of fact: In the space of six days men have traveled from the earth to the moon and returned safely. The fact is the triumph. There is no need to say that it was a staggering, a heroic, an epic, achievement of human genius and courage. It was, of course, but the fact needs no such embellishment of praise. It stands alone, quite self-sufficient, describing itself to the world's astonished attention. To think of it in terms of "records" or of a "race" would be only to demean it; to try at this time to measure its meaning by reference to the great voyages of exploration of the past would be only to confuse it by false and misleading analogies.

This event of December 21-27, 1968, turns one of man's oldest dreams into a reality. What had been for centuries the poetry of myth and aspiration becomes the attainment of science, engineering, technology, organization, the most exact calculations, the most careful planning, the most painstaking tests and preparations. From the moment of ascent to the minute of recovery in the Pacific, Apollo 8 was the instrument precisely, and—seeing the outcome—we can say perfectly, designed, powered and guided by knowledge in pursuit of yet more and greater knowledge.

If it was the instrument, it was Colonel Borman, Major Anders and Captain Lovell who were the very spirit of its mission; the skilled, valorous ambassadors of all humankind, accepting the dan-

The San Diego Union

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 25, 1968



HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Monday, December 23, 1968

gers against which even the best shields of present knowledge could not be a certain safeguard, experiencing what no men have ever experienced before, and bringing back with them the promise that this success, magnificent as it is, will be the springboard of others. The moon has been reached. The limits of adventure in space have been suddenly and vastly extended. The men who have done that and come back, owing much to those who went before them on less ambitious flights, and preparing the way for those who will undertake still longer and more hazardous voyages, have taken their unique and honored place in history.

Grin and Bear It



"To keep our moon landing free from complications it MUST be kept secret from the State Department . . . They might send along a foreign policy!"

The New York Times

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1968

Columbuses of Space

Not since Christopher Columbus's first voyage to the "new world" have men embarked upon a journey comparable to that begun by Apollo 8 yesterday. The many manned orbital flights of the past decade, for all their hazard and glamour, were of a different, lower order of importance and difficulty. Even to speak of astronauts Borman, Lovell and Anders as being on a trip to the moon is to underestimate the full significance of their venture.

In the most literal sense, these three brave men are the Columbuses of space, the first of the human species to break the complete dominion of earth's gravity and to embark upon the exploration of the solar system. They are blazing a trail that innumerable men will follow in the millennia ahead, a path that others will extend to the farthest planets and then ultimately to the stars beyond the sun.

The Apollo 8 is an American space ship and its crew members are American citizens, but few things could be as inappropriate as any effort to turn this feat into an orgy of national pride and conceit. It is as much an accident of history that the United States enjoys priority at this stage of man's break-out into the universe as it was that a Russian, Yuri Gagarin, pioneered orbital flight. The real credit belongs to men of many countries and many centuries: Euclid and Archimedes, Newton and Kepler and Copernicus, Tsiolkovsky and Oberth and Goddard—the list could be continued indefinitely. It is an achievement of the human species and all men can take pride in this first step away from the planet that produced our kind.

It is a hostile and enormous realm that Apollo 8 has entered. The quarter-million-mile journey to the moon is only the first small step to the planets and the stars. To send fragile human beings into this literally unearthly environment—the most inhospitable and dangerous imaginable—will always be expensive and perilous, while the tasks men will want to accomplish there are infinite.

Space contains more than enough opportunity for fruitful application of the energies that all mankind can devote to its exploration, development and eventual settlement. There is no need here for wasteful rivalry deriving from earthbound nationalistic and political ambitions. In the face of the most breathtaking challenge humanity has ever faced, the only rational response is cooperation to make space an arena of unity and international brotherhood.

Man's hopes and prayers ride with the pre-Christmas voyagers. After them must come ships bearing the United Nations flag, each carrying men of different citizenship, language, political and religious convictions and color.

THE NEW YORK TIMES,

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1968

Small World

Those were spectacular pictures of earth that Apollo 8 televised back to this planet yesterday from roughly 200,000 miles away. Like Astronaut James Lovell, many viewers here must have been struck by how invisible man and his works—his largest cities, his tallest buildings, his longest bridges—were from that distance. It was the outlines of the continents and the oceans, plus the complex patterns of clouds and weather systems, that dominated the scene.

The ability of spaceships to view large sections of the earth in a single sweep opens up great potentialities for human benefit. The existing weather satellites are already making major contributions but they are only the beginning. Scientists and businessmen have started discussing the use of similar vehicles to prospect for minerals, to improve the information available to fishing fleets and to increase available knowledge of the large-scale patterns of earth's soils and geological formations.

But the drama and interest of yesterday's view of earth from space transcended any prosaic considerations of practical utility. Rather the excitement these pictures aroused among millions of stay-at-homes flowed from the visual evidence they provided of man's successful entrance into a completely new realm, one which poses challenges, opportunities and dangers such as the human species has never before faced. And yesterday's pictures provided a sobering perspective on man's puny earthly works and rivalries, reminding all humanity that nature is the basic antagonist, not other men.

ROSCOE DRUMMOND SAYS:

Man's Flight to Moon Is a Necessary Trip

There is nothing new about man's desire to go to the moon. It has long been with us and 109 years ago Jules Verne predicted it right down to the detail that three Americans would take off from Florida in a capsule shot from a massive cannon.

And now the three American astronauts are on their six-day voyage deeper into outer space than man has ever gone, en route 240,000 miles to orbit the moon 19 times at a mere 70 miles from the surface before returning.

What is new about man's flight around the moon — man will be landing there soon — is not the concept but the fact that man now has the capability, the complex and costly mechanisms, the technology and the resources to do it.

So we're doing it.

It was never in doubt. The only question was when. What it will mean can only be dimly foreseen, but the potential is so great that it justifies the cost, the risks, the uncertainties. The potential is metaphysical as well as material.

For the first time man is flying beyond the orbit of his planet. For the first time he is releasing himself from the physical bonds which have tied him to earth, and now the vast, unexplored territories of the universe itself are coming more within reach.

No wonder the late Dr. Hugh L. Dryden, the first deputy administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration — thinker and

doer — put the true value of the manned moon flight in metaphysical terms.

"None of us knows," he once remarked, "what the final destiny of man may be — or if there is any end to his capacity for growth and adaptation. Wherever this venture leads us, we in the United States are convinced that the power to leave the earth — to travel where we will in space and to return at will — marks the opening of a brilliant new stage in man's evolution."

Astronauts Frank Borman, James Lovell and William Anders are taking man nearer to learning the origin of the universe.

That's quite a little.

But it isn't all.

There are rich dividends from space exploration — and more to come.

A valuable satellite communications network is in being.

A weather satellite system is providing storm warnings to save lives and property.

New vistas of practical knowledge are opening up for engineers, medical doctors, chemists, astronomers, oceanographers and geologists.

New technologies, which didn't even exist 10 years ago, are at hand.

We are now learning that industry can do things in space it can't do on earth.

Take one example out of many:

In the weightlessness of orbital space flight fluids take the shape of a perfect sphere, unattainable on earth. Thus, metal ballbearings could be produced in space to tolerances otherwise impossible, thus achieving the vastly important goal of reducing friction to the vanishing point.

Will the United States be first to put men on the moon?

Being first isn't crucial, but it doesn't hurt.

I have suggested that man — because he is man — will do anything he is capable of doing. I would go further: man is capable of doing anything he can think of.

Obviously other planets and the galaxies are next. And after that, perhaps, comfortably living in outer space because man's environment is expanded.



"... oh, what fun it is to ride, in a one horse open sleigh."

Editorials

Christmas around the Moon

We are living in a strange and wondrous world. Three astronauts at this moment are hurtling toward or around the Moon, sending back television signals not only of their activities within their Apollo 8 capsule but also pictures of the Earth. It is an eerie feeling, to see Earth on your television as it looks from 200,000 miles out in space.

We saw Earth in black and white, but the astronauts saw it in color—the waters royal blue, the clouds a bright white, the land areas light brown to dark brown according to Frank Borman's description.

All this we take almost as a matter of course. Apollo 8's launch and journey toward the Moon so far has been almost perfect—virtually a miracle of technology and science. Yet we are not surprised, so miraculous has been man's space achievements during the '60s.

On Christmas Eve Santa Claus and his reindeer usually are the most at-

tention-getting flying missile. Today is different as, for the first time in history, three men fire their spacecraft's main engine to put it into orbit around the Moon.

This space mission far outdistances anything the Soviet Union has done. It strongly suggests that the United States will be the first nation to reach the Moon. The task has not been easy. This success can be attributed to the immense talents, the hard work, the super-sophisticated technology of the thousands who work in the U.S. space program.

We pray that everything goes all right. We trust that it will, so comprehensive has been the preparation for this space venture. And yet we know that this is a dangerous assignment. These brave astronauts—Frank Borman, James Lovell and William Anders—are charting unknown courses, just as history's great explorers have done in the past. They do so with the blessings of an admiring nation.

THE MILWAUKEE JOURNAL

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HARRY J. GRANT, 1916-1963

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Tuesday, December 24, 1968

The Wonder of It All

To the explorers' honor roll, where men like da Gama, Magellan and Columbus live in legend, we now etch the names Borman, Lovell and Anders.

Our moon orbiting astronauts have had a thrilling journey replete with firsts. Never has man traveled so far and at such speed. Never has he slipped from the gravitational grip of earth into that of another celestial body. Never has he seen the moon at what amounts to arm's length, nor his own planet from such awesome distance — a lonely sphere floating in vast nothingness.

For creatures who did not have photography until 1822, the telephone until 1876, radio until 1895 and successful manned flight until 1903, to say nothing of television and rocketry, we can only look upon Apollo 8 as a staggering demonstration of man's power to reason, to invent, to surmount enormous barriers. As a new age of discovery dawns it is a power that must be turned increasingly to the great problems of earth as well as the great unknowns of outer space.

Tuesday, December 24, 1968

THE KANSAS CITY STAR

Founded September 13, 1830, by William Rockhill Nelson.
The Kansas City Star Company, Owner and Publisher.

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MEN IN ORBIT WHERE MEN HAVE NEVER BEEN

THE moon some 70 miles below them, the earth a distant planet appearing intermittently in their spacecraft window, three American astronauts today are experiencing the fulfillment of man's greatest adventure in flight.

Shortly before 4 o'clock this morning, the crew of Apollo 8 triggered the brief burn of their ship's engine that slipped them into lunar orbit where they will remain until the first minutes of tomorrow, Christmas day, when another burst will start them coasting earthward again.

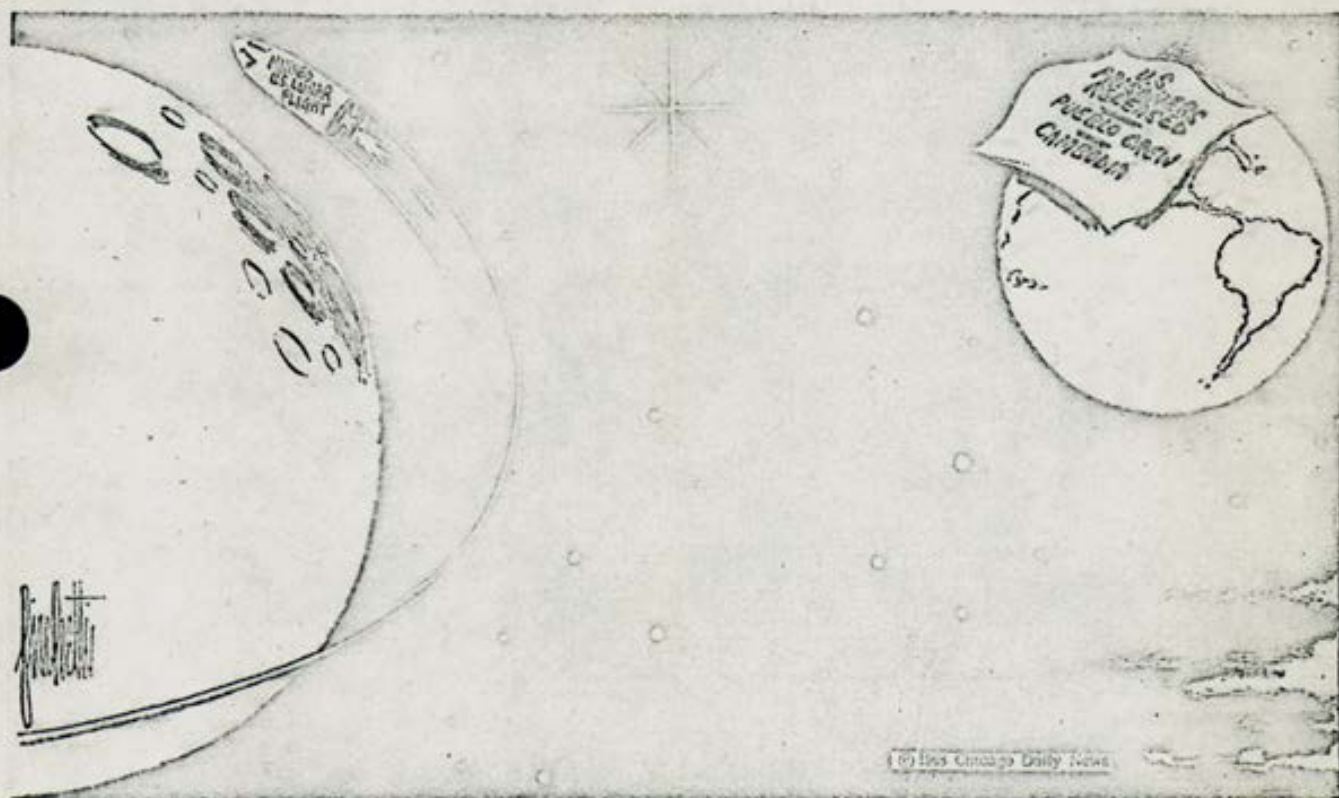
Thus far, the spaceship and the crew of Borman, Lovell and Anders have met every demanding test built into their trail-blazing mission. They have flown where no manned craft has ever ventured. They have seen moon and earth from a vantage entirely new to human experience.

The sweating is not quite finished yet. Even as the astronauts move toward the last of their 10 scheduled orbits, inspecting the touch-down sites selected for a possible landing attempt next year, two exceedingly critical elements of the mission still lie ahead.

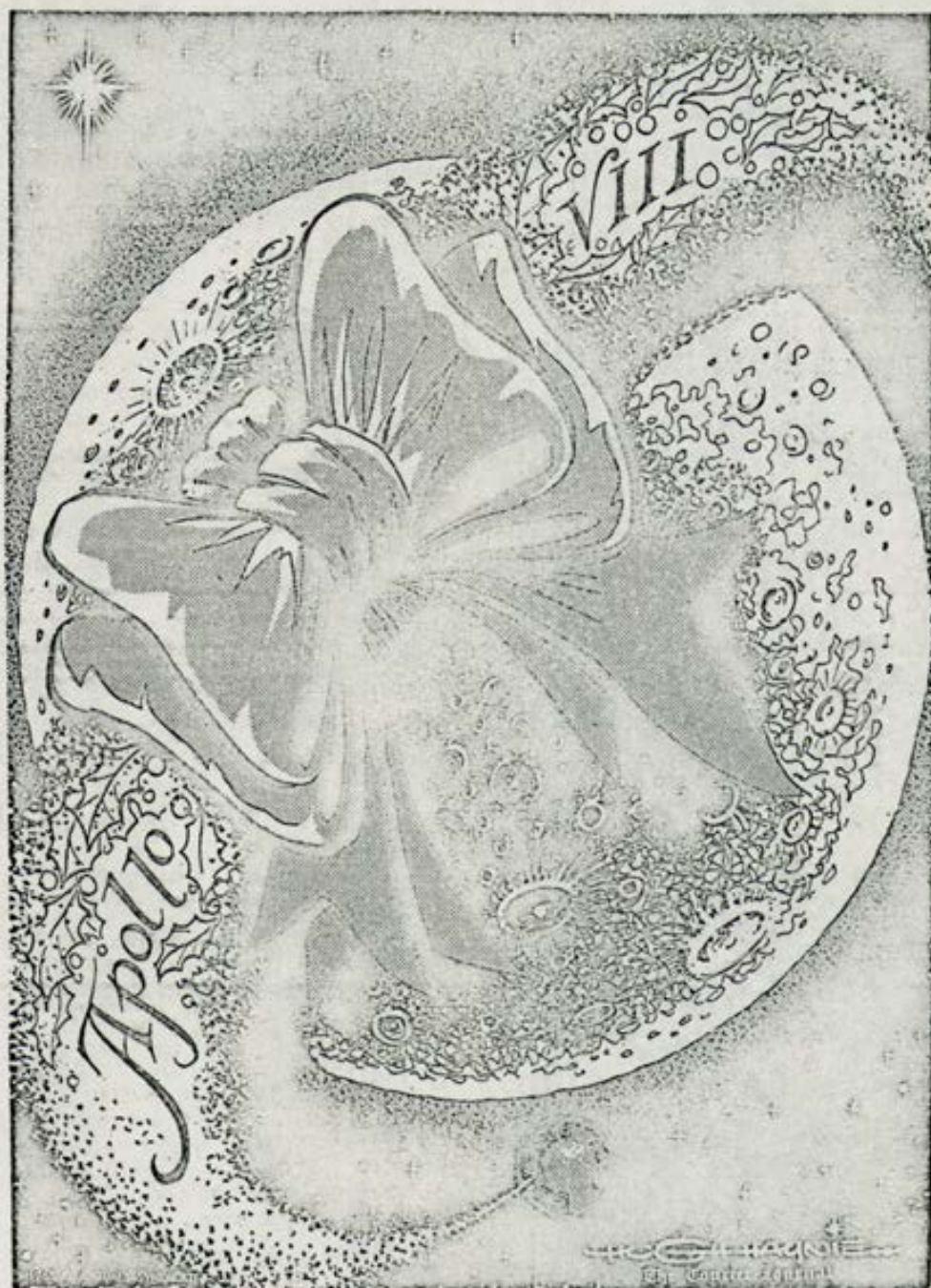
The first is tonight's post-midnight engine ignition to break free of the moon's gravitational pull and start back to their home planet. The second will come a quarter of a million miles later, on Friday, when they attempt to maneuver their capsule on a precise trajectory through the earth's atmosphere to a safe recovery at sea. A failure at either of these crucial junctures could, in a terrible instant, turn a brilliant success into a heartbreaking tragedy.

But this, certainly, is no moment for such dismal speculation. Based on Apollo 8's performance so far there is every reason for optimism—reinforced, perhaps, with a measure of faith.

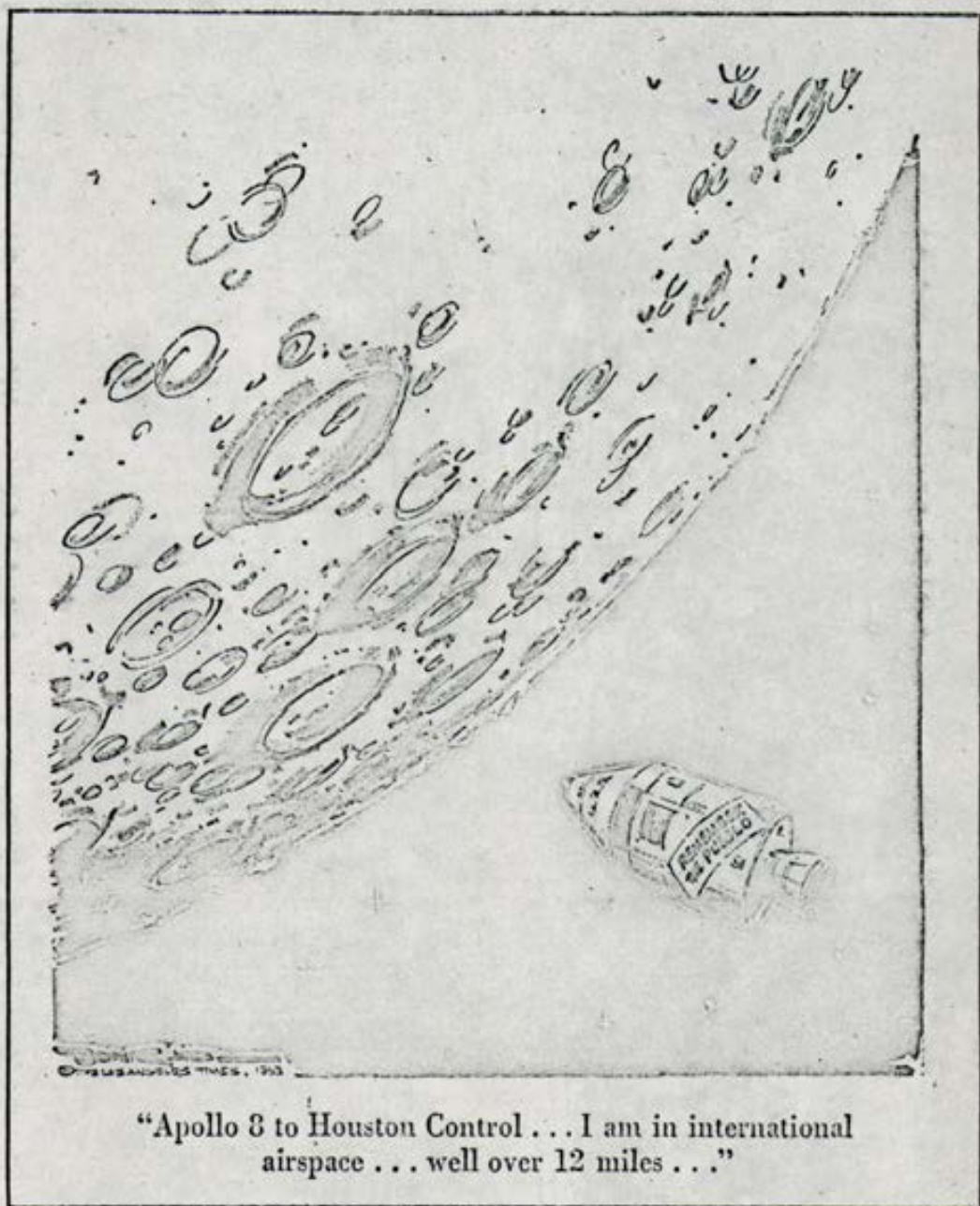
John Fischetti



A Christmas to remember



Yuletide Odyssey

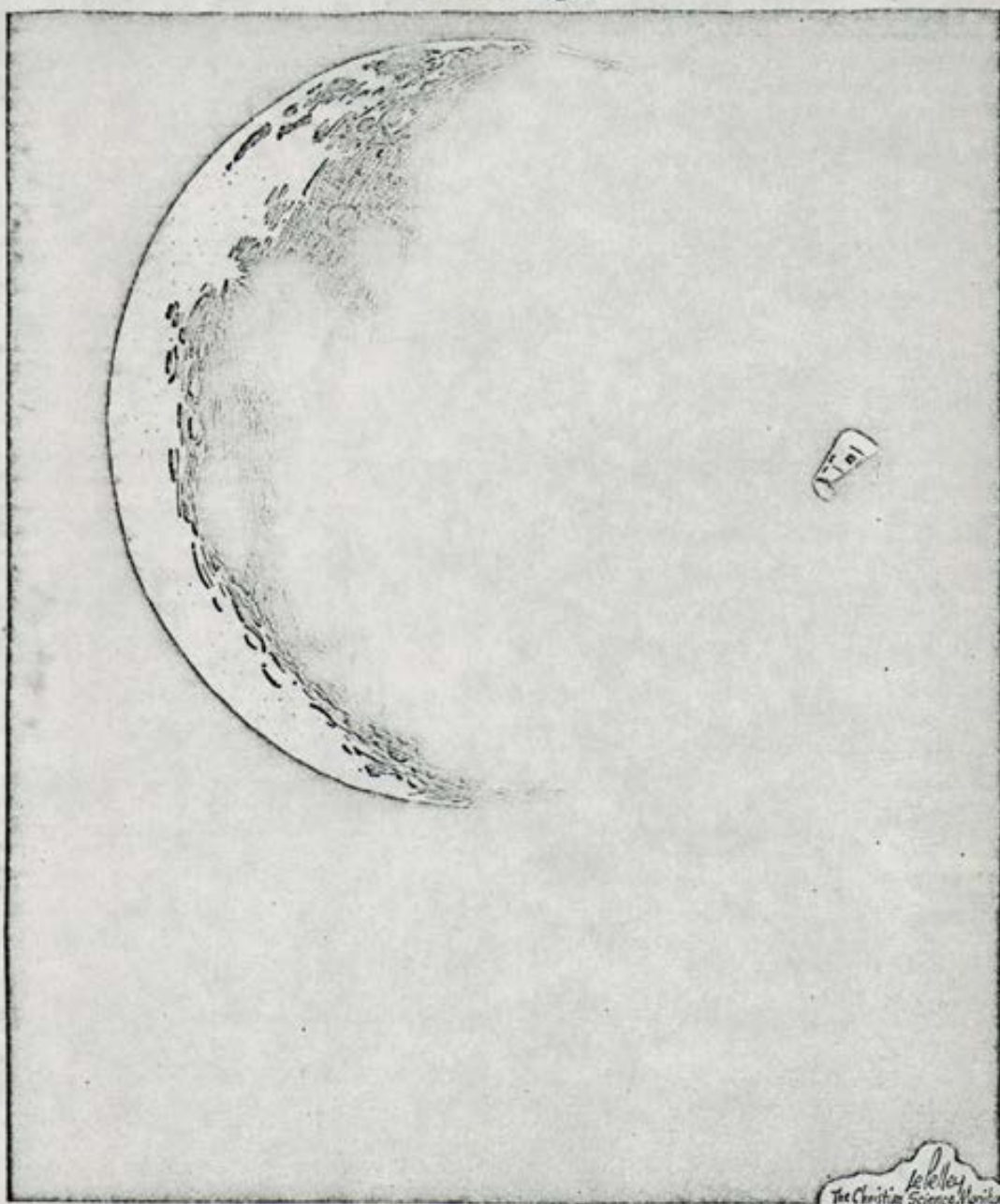


"Apollo 8 to Houston Control . . . I am in international
airspace . . . well over 12 miles . . ."



'God rest ye merry, gentlemen!'

Silent night



LeLoy
The Christian Science Monitor

The Miami Herald

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Tuesday, December 24, 1968

Cool Customers In Space

THE SERENITY of the three men aboard Apollo 8 is the most striking impression transmitted in their telecasts from interplanetary space.

Indeed, Maj. William A. Anders, acting as cameraman, was downright nonchalant. Told by a voice from Houston that he evidently had turned the camera upside down and had "everybody standing on their heads down here," Anders quipped: "Well, we all have our problems."

And the mission commander, Col. Frank Borman, spoke of returning to the "barbecue mode" of slowly rotating the vehicle to keep the sun's rays from overheating one side.

Such was the dialogue heard distinctly when the spacecraft was nearly 140,000 miles from earth. The astronauts have good reason to be calm. They have trained diligently. They know exactly what they are doing.

Their view of our planet as a glowing ball against a blue background should give us all a fresh perspective on this world and its universe.

Not the least of the wonders is the communications system which enables earthlings to see and hear men so far away.

No one can foresee all the products and byproducts, material and otherwise, which will come from this flight around the moon. Discoverers and other pioneers seldom look beyond the immediate horizon.

Col. Charles A. Lindbergh, who watched the launching of Apollo 8 at Cape Kennedy, must have smiled approvingly. When he flew alone across the Atlantic, he could hardly have guessed that some 10,000 persons daily would be making the same flight today in just a few hours. His trans-Atlantic adventure took place only 41 years ago.

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TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 24, 1968

Moon-Orbit Prospect

Chances continued much better Monday, it seemed, that orbiting the moon would remain in the Apollo 8 mission.

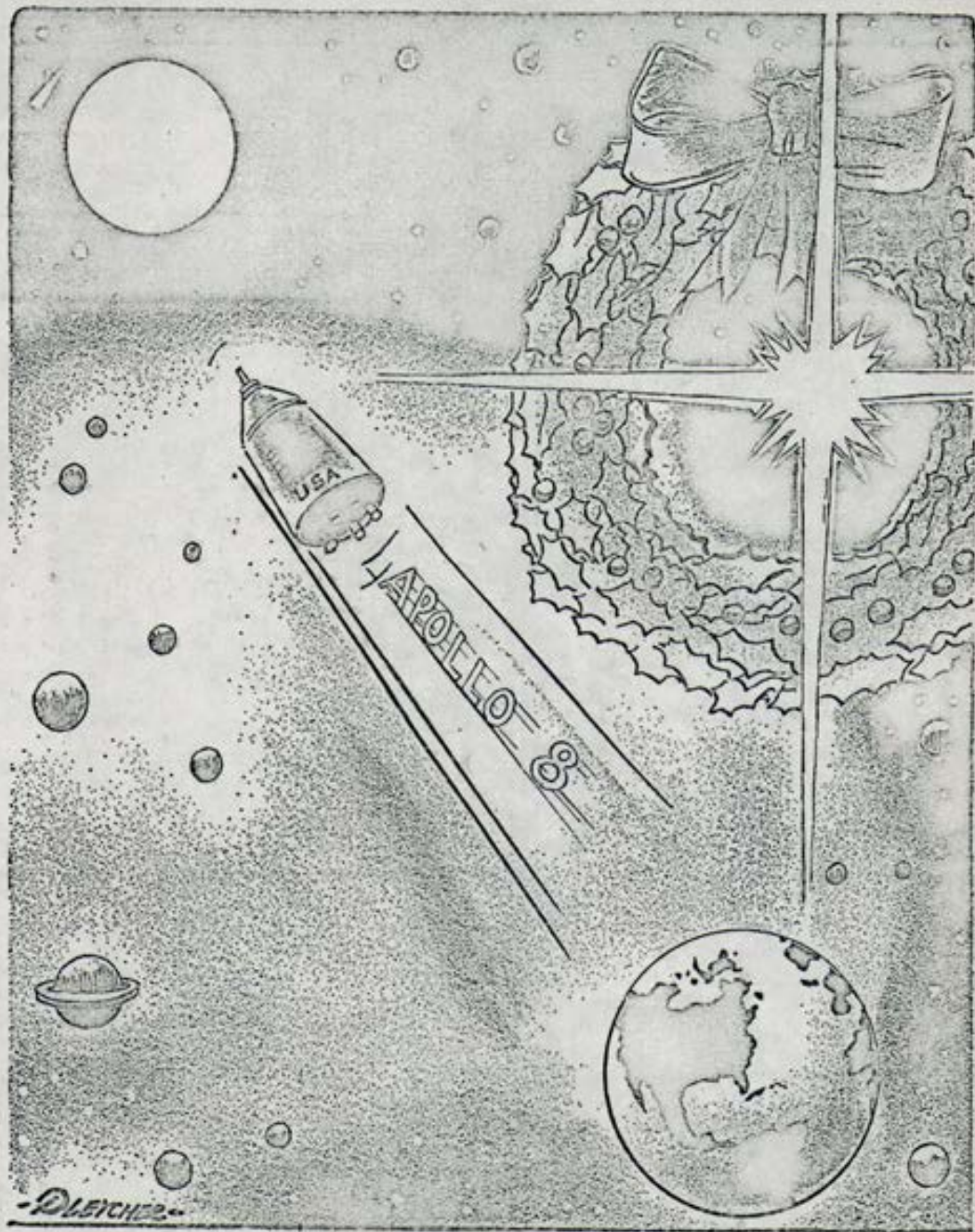
Had astronauts Borman, Lovell and Anders, or any two of them, got into the throes of a genuine, rubbery-back case of influenza, the oddity might have presented itself whether it might not in fact have been better to let them rest up for as many lunar orbits as indicated (perhaps at higher altitude) rather than try for earth re-entry in a badly enfeebled state. (We don't, of course, practice celestial medicine ourselves.)

The wee-hours program this morning, in any event, called for killing about 2250 miles per hour

of the ship's velocity (behind the moon, as we see it) in order to obtain an equilibrium between it and lunar gravity for the desired orbit-altitude. The low point of orbit (originally dubbed the perilune, now referred to as pericyynthion) was expected to be about 70 miles—impossibly low, in the earth's atmospheric field, for sustained orbiting. Entry velocity was to be around 3460 mph., increasing to about 3600 for the desired circular swings around the moon's middle, right to left (earth-view) and east-to-west (moon directions) across the partly sunlit face.

Technically all today may be Christmas Eve but it's in the true "Eve" part, toward midnight, that tension would build up for the crucial phase of homeward flight.

'Peace in the Universe, Good Will Toward Men'





"I Don't Know What's The Matter. My Back Aches, I've Got
A Headache, Fever, Feel Weak And My Stomach's Queezy..."



"Gesundheit!"

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The Globe-Democrat is an independent newspaper printing the news impartially, supporting what it believes to be right and opposing what it believes to be wrong without regard to party politics.

Out of This World

When the Apollo 8 astronauts have swung into orbit around the moon just 69 miles above its surface the most daring space flight in history will have achieved what men only a few years ago considered a comic-strip dream.

This mastery of outer space requires technological and human skills so great, most Americans can't begin to comprehend them.

We can remember, when the space program started little more than a decade ago, many highly regarded scientists predicted it would be impossible to build a rocket big enough and powerful enough to break away from the gravity of the earth. But soon Apollo 8 will be responding not to the gravity forces of earth but of the moon.

There is some question whether the tremendous expenses of the moon venture can be justified when other programs on earth are underfunded.

But today the cheers of the American people are for three brave astronauts, Frank Borman, James Lovell and William Anders.

As in all epic voyages into the unknown the risk is great. But there is no shortage of courage among our astronauts who eagerly put their lives on the line to prove that men can fly to the moon and beyond.

The great skill with which the spaceship is being guided indicates that we may be only a decade or two away from regular intercontinental rocket flights.

The military aspects of space are so enormous that no nation dares fall too far behind in the new technology. Military space fleets are coming unless nations on earth can reach an agreement to end the arms race.

But for the coming days we plan to enjoy the remarkable feats of our astronauts and keep our fingers crossed as we await a safe landing.

The Star and the Satellite

This is the night of the star, the star promising universal peace and tranquility.

Yet the astronomers, short-sighted despite their telescopes, doubt that it ever rose in the East. Even after correcting the miscalculation of the Nativity date by Dionysius Exiguus, they say that the Wise Men were guided, if at all, by an inert planet moving into conjunction with another. And the editors of the new Jerusalem Bible say that "obviously, the evangelist was thinking of a miraculous star; it is futile to look for a natural explanation."

Yet Matthew had no doubt, saying: "And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight."

And like the Orient Kings, little children clearly see the star in the Christmas firmament. Indeed, they have such eyes for wonders that, although assailed for a month and more by dubious characters in sleazy red, they still can see Santa Claus and his reindeer coursing across the moon. Tonight, however, they are more likely to proclaim the sighting of the earth-made space-ship which for a few hours is to be a satellite of the moon.

The gaze of older eyes, of course, will not reach out 200,000 miles and more. But older minds, always somewhat uneasy, may apprehend a dichotomy in the heavens, a conflict between the miraculous star under which angels promised peace and the almost miraculous star of the scientists which, despite its dedication to discovery, carries for some an intimation of mundane hostilities extended into the heavens.

Henry Adams felt that technology, pursued without inhibition, would end in cosmic tragedy. So he turned from the dynamo and the second law of thermodynamics to the Virgin and Child in the Nativity window of Chartres. Richard Weaver concluded that only "the re-creation of a non-materialist society can save us from a future of nihilism urged on by the demoniacal force of technology and by our own moral defeatism." With Old Testament grimness he warned that "the present tendency of the world's great states is in the direction of dictator or emperor worship. It is not a chosen course; the emperor will be elevated to his throne by science; he will be the source of control of power too dangerous for distributive ownership."

Neither man was an obscurantist. Neither had

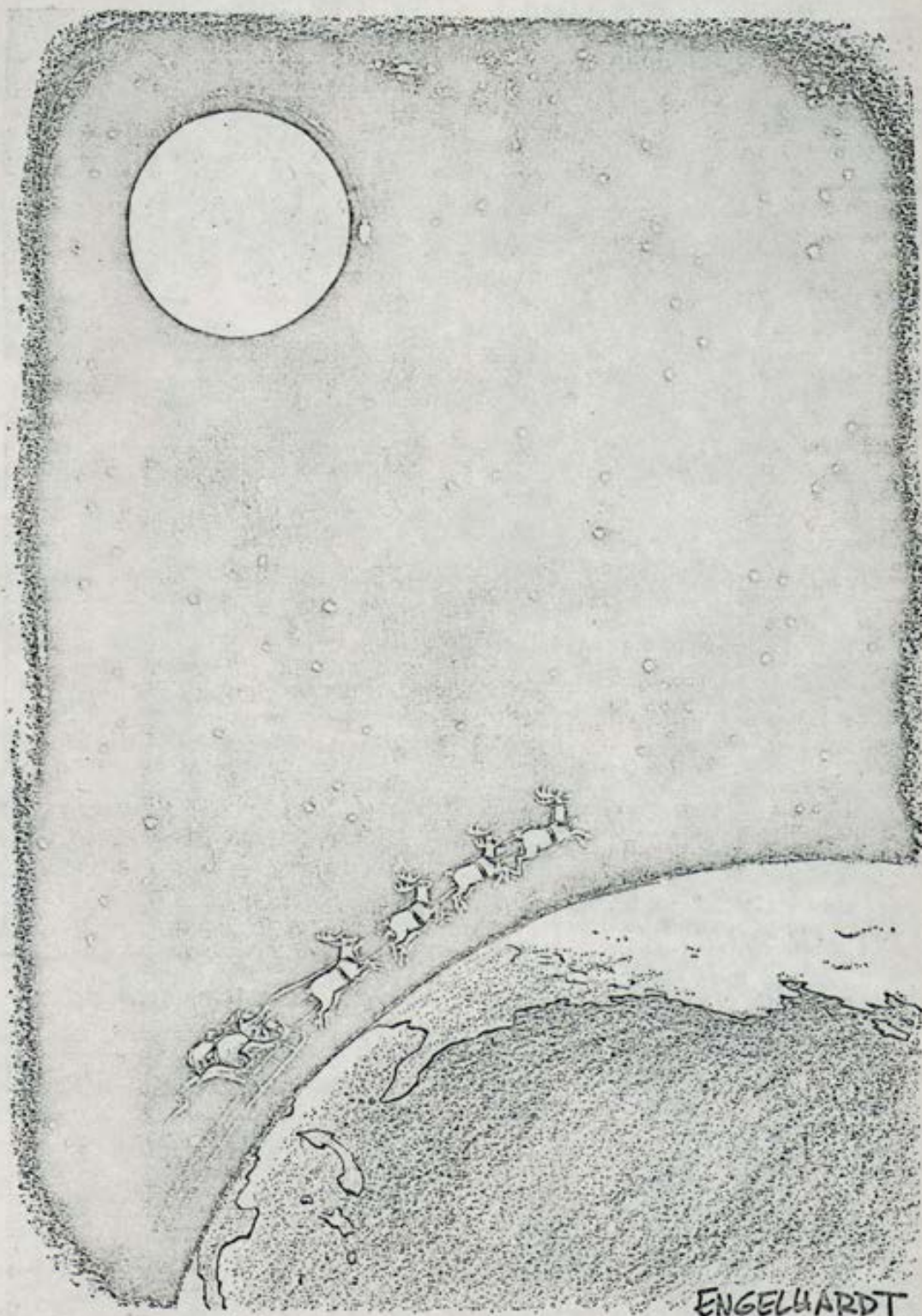
a primitive aversion to the exploration of the unknown, or to the extension of man's technological control over his environment. But as students of history, both were conscious of his capacity for the abuse of power. The rulers of the world, especially those of the two nuclear great powers, must have this much on their minds. They know how little success they have had, so far, in curbing the proliferation of the weapons already in their hands. And the atomic scientists are even more conscious of the catastrophic potential of their prodigies.

They have been forced to set aside the first rule of their search for knowledge, the long-accepted rule that this must be an open and co-operative pursuit in which knowledge is shared so that it may be enlarged. Not science, but a fear-haunted nationalism has made a "race" of progress toward the moon, its pace quickened by the dread of losing some cosmic advantage as much as by the thirst for knowledge. There are philosophers of science—Teilhard de Chardin, for example—who accept even devastating wars as mere incidents in man's evolution. They hold that this has reached the point at which man actually can shape his destiny, and that this, above all else, drives him to the unfolding of mystery after mystery.

For an ordinary man, however, this is a cold theory of human perfectibility. His aspirations do not reach so far into the future. He desires present pleasure or, at least, the lifting of present fear. And so he seeks solace in the promise of peace under the Bethlehem star, sometimes forgetting that this was, after all, a conditional promise to men of good will. Who has reckoned the years and the troubles to be endured before the sounding of the seventh trumpet? Yet the book also ends with a promise. "Meanwhile let those who do good go on doing good," wrote the visionary of Patmos. "They will have the right to feed on the tree of life and can come through the gates into the city."

Christmas promises more than "pie in the sky." It does not assume the inevitability of disaster. Instead, it is a reminder of what may be achieved with good will. The Christmas tree with its tinsel star is a symbol of "the tree of life." And the Christmas wreaths, the greetings, the gay gifts, and especially the sweet and simple carols are not gaudy shams. They bear witness to the joy proclaimed under the star.

God rest ye merry, gentlemen.



Orbits

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Tuesday, December 24, 1968

It couldn't be done

It was there on the television screen and yet it was impossible by all recently reliable standards—a live picture of a basketball-sized Earth shot from the window of a perfectly controlled little vehicle 202,000 miles out into space. And hours later—once again in clear voice and picture contact with Earth—the capsule Apollo 8 with its three crewmen was orbiting the moon so close that a man on the moon could have followed their progress with the naked eye.

Surely here was proof that man could do literally anything he set his mind to, and in that fact a lesson of hope for this season of hope. If he could think well enough to discover the handful of physical and mechanical principles involved in space rocketry, and then go on to make and assemble the more than 5,000,000 individual parts that make up Apollo 8, and then master the intricacies of hoisting this giant machine into space and around the moon—if he could do all this, what couldn't he do?

Might he not hope even to make a lasting peace?

Perhaps there are lessons in the one project that are transferable to the other.

No one man or single group could have built Apollo 8 and sent it to the moon.

The project was launched more than 700 years ago, in China, when the first

primitive rockets were used in combat. Through the years other men joined in the effort.

Three Englishmen named Congreve, Dennet and Hale, a Russian named Tsiolkovsky, an American named Robert H. Goddard, a German named Oberth, an Austrian named Sanger, all helped bring the project down to World War II, when the Germans gave it a massive shove forward, so that the Russians and Americans in the post-war era could finally lift man into orbit.

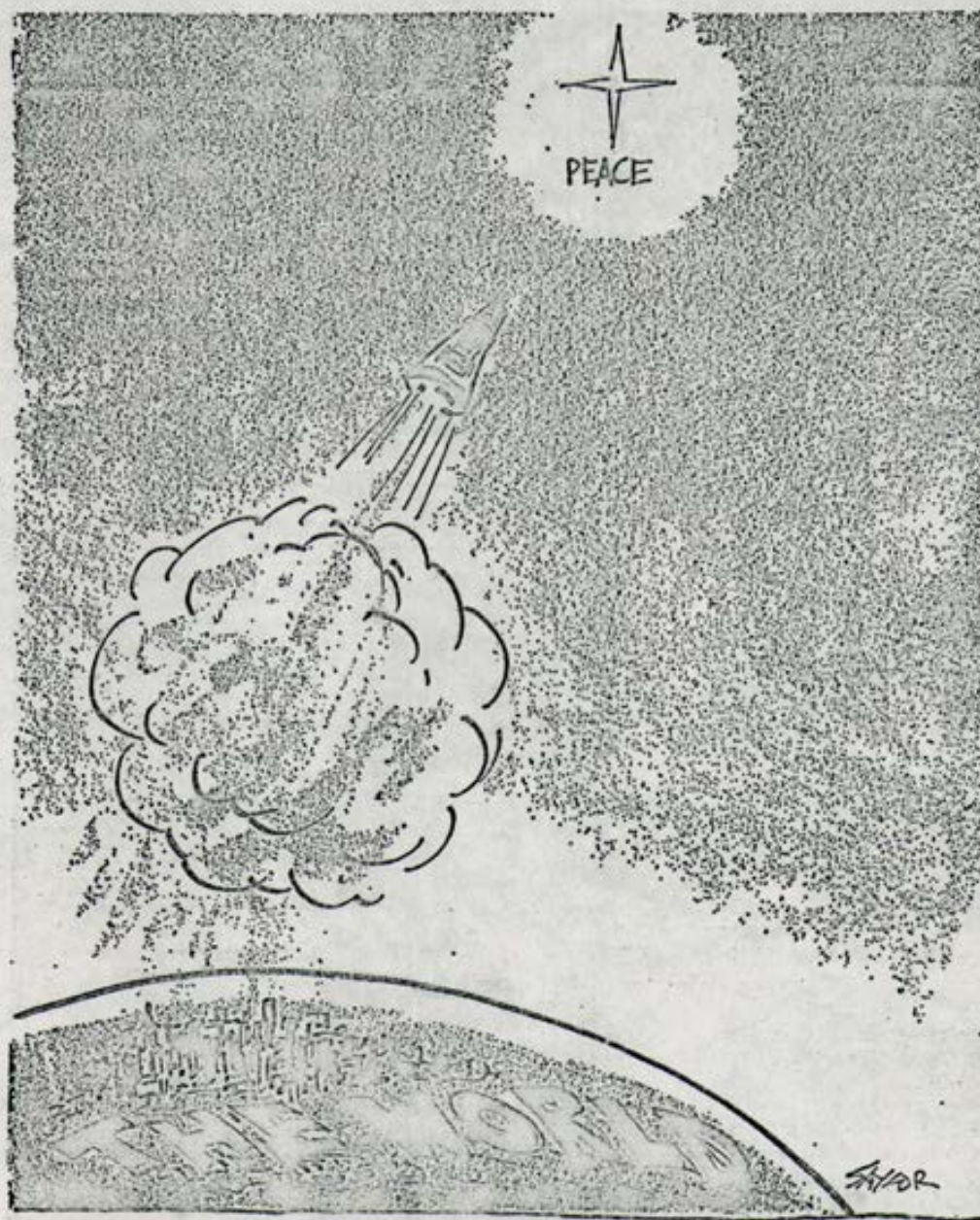
Thus today's feat is a triumph of seven centuries of single-minded persistence by thousands of men who shared a continuing dream.

The quest for peace began even earlier, and millions have contributed in one way or another to the project.

If peace were relatively so simple that it could be constructed, like Apollo 8, of 5,000,000 parts, it would doubtless have been accomplished long since.

But peace involves analysis and discipline of the subtlest creature ever known—man himself, whose mind and heart are a hundredfold more complicated than any engine yet designed or yet to be designed.

So the quest continues, a small step at a time, with many falterings. Yet it seems possible that now the goal stands out with greater clarity and urgency than ever before, and perhaps for that reason the pace of the search will quicken.



Ultimate Mission

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Wednesday, December 25, 1968

Live, From the Moon...to You

The drama of the Christmas Eve fly-arounds of the moon with American space-men broadcasting guided tours to earthlings is so unbelievable that unless you saw it with your own eyes—as millions upon millions have—it wouldn't seem true.

Today, Christmas Day, surely every human who knows what is going on up there will be listening for the glad tidings that three brave men are on their way home from man's first journey to the moon, 223,000 miles away.

Air Force Col. Frank Borman, commander of Apollo 8, and his crewmen, Air Force Maj. William A. Anders and Cleveland-born Navy Capt. James A. Lovell Jr., offered the guided tours complete with quips, the nicknaming of moonscapes for themselves and friends and with topographical descriptions: "Whitish-gray, like dirty beach sand with lots of footprints in it."

They have made the unknown into the known—and they have brought it openly to all humanity, they and the United States of America.

Many of the fantastic advances in several sciences covering the last generation have now been compressed into two seconds. That is the most it takes for Apollo 8's television signal to bring pictures of the moon directly into your home. The planning—and the results—have been magnificent.

That this is but the first of many journeys mankind will make into space is underscored by announcement from the Soviet Union that three researchers successfully have completed, physically and psychologically, a full year's stay in a ground isolation chamber to test life support systems for long interplanetary space flight. This journey around the moon, and the coming moon landing, will make possible voyages toward the planets, possibly in the lifetime of those who are children today.

All earth people are sharing one of the world's greatest moments this Christmas Day. Man has left his planet. He is going onward.

The Seattle Times

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1968

'Be of Good Cheer ...'

THE shining glories of the heavens are an integral part of the Christmas story. It seems fitting that man's first voyage around a celestial body should be made at the Christmas season.

Navigating by the same stars that shone over the town of Bethlehem two millennia ago, three modern wise men have become the first members of all mankind to break free of the gravitational pull of their native earth.

Accompanying the Apollo 8 voyagers on every spin of their spacecraft are the prayers of all Christendom.

To Frank Borman, James Lovell and William Anders, the earth on this Christmas day is a distant and beautiful globe, glowing in the void of space. To them it is a heavenly body.

But to us earthbound mortals, this

sad old world—even on this, the grandest of holidays—is a good deal less than heavenly.

In the time of Christ, man could travel no farther or faster than the sails of his ships or the legs of his horses could carry him. Today, he can go to the moon.

But in 2,000 years man has not learned how to live in peace and harmony, and without hunger and privation in his midst.

The magnificent achievements of the Apollo 8 team testify to the glories of science.

The unhappy, unsettled state of mankind testifies to the need of something beyond science:

"Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people ..."

THE NEW HAVEN REGISTER,
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1968

'Apollo 8 Or No, I'm Orbiting Tonight'



The Knoxville News-Sentinel Wednesday, Dec. 25, 1968

BERRY'S WORLD

By Jim Berry



© 1968 by NEA, Inc. *Jim Berry*

"What do we do if everybody at control central gets the flu?"

EDITORIAL PAGE: SO THE PEOPLE MAY KNOW[®]
THE DENVER POST

Wed., Dec. 25, 1968

Apollo 8's Moment of Truth

THE incredible space voyage of Apollo 8 achieved its brilliant climax Christmas Eve with the dramatic firing of the spacecraft's powerful rocket following the 10th orbit of the moon.

The rocket burst at 11:06 p.m.—the awesome moment of truth for Astronauts Frank Borman, James Lovell and William Anders—permitted the Apollo 8 to break free from the moon's gravitational pull and start the return journey to the earth.

Before the suspenseful rocket blast, the astronauts treated millions of persons throughout the world to closeup live views of the lunar surface.

This sharing of experience, more than anything else, has made the Apollo flight a totally new kind of exploration. By its very nature, exploration is a lonely venture. Through the marvels of electronic communication, however, the whole world has been able to participate with Borman, Lovell and Anders.

Before the launching of Apollo 8 there were a

number of critics at home and abroad who questioned the wisdom of a manned flight, with all of its risks, and then asked why it had to take place at Christmas.

The fantastic success of Apollo's experiments thus far has silenced most of the critics, including the Russians, who are engaged with us in a race to land men on the moon.

SOMEHOW to us it seemed completely right that Americans should be undertaking this historic exploration at a joyous time commemorating the birth of the Prince of Peace.

Mingled with our feelings of anxiety before the climactic rocket firing were moments of utter tranquility—moments when we felt, with the astronauts, at peace with the universe.

And we could not help but marvel at this tranquility and wonder how this sense of peace in outer space could be transferred to our troubled earth.

We wish our brave explorers Godspeed for a safe and triumphant journey back home to earth.

Editorials

The paradox of Christmas

Christmas is a paradox—a secular as well as a religious festival.

On the one hand we have overcommercialization and exploitation; on the other we have one of the most religious observances in Christianity—the anniversary of the birth of Jesus.

We talk about glory to God, peace on earth and good will toward men. Yet there is precious little of each. Peace does not reign on earth. Conflict between men is more in evidence than good will. And God, at least for many, no longer is a force to heed except in the most perfunctory manner.

This is one of the sad commentaries on our society and on our times—that our performance falls so far short of our aspirations.

Yet it has always been this way. Man is an imperfect creature, and perhaps we cannot expect him to be more than human. War, crime, violence, suffering, cruelty, hunger have been always with us. At Christmas at least we pause to ponder the selflessness of Jesus, the perfect example that he gave us, and his teachings which, 20 centuries later, we still strive to follow.

We must not overly dwell on man's shortcomings, for Christmas is a happy and a joyous time—a time of gift-giving and of sharing and of families gathering together. Even the most cynical among us are infected by the joy of the Christmas lights and the tinsel and the caroling which appears in every city and village in the land.

There is no other season quite like this one, and we relish it—both for its

religious and its secular significance.

This particular Christmas, Americans see much which can lift their spirits.

Eighty-two crew members of the USS Pueblo are having their best possible Christmas, a reunion with their loved ones after 11 months imprisonment in North Korea. Certainly this is something to warm the hearts of the nation.

In Vietnam, a three-day truce has been declared. More importantly, this long and cruel war at last seems to be moving toward a settlement, even though it is agonizingly slow.

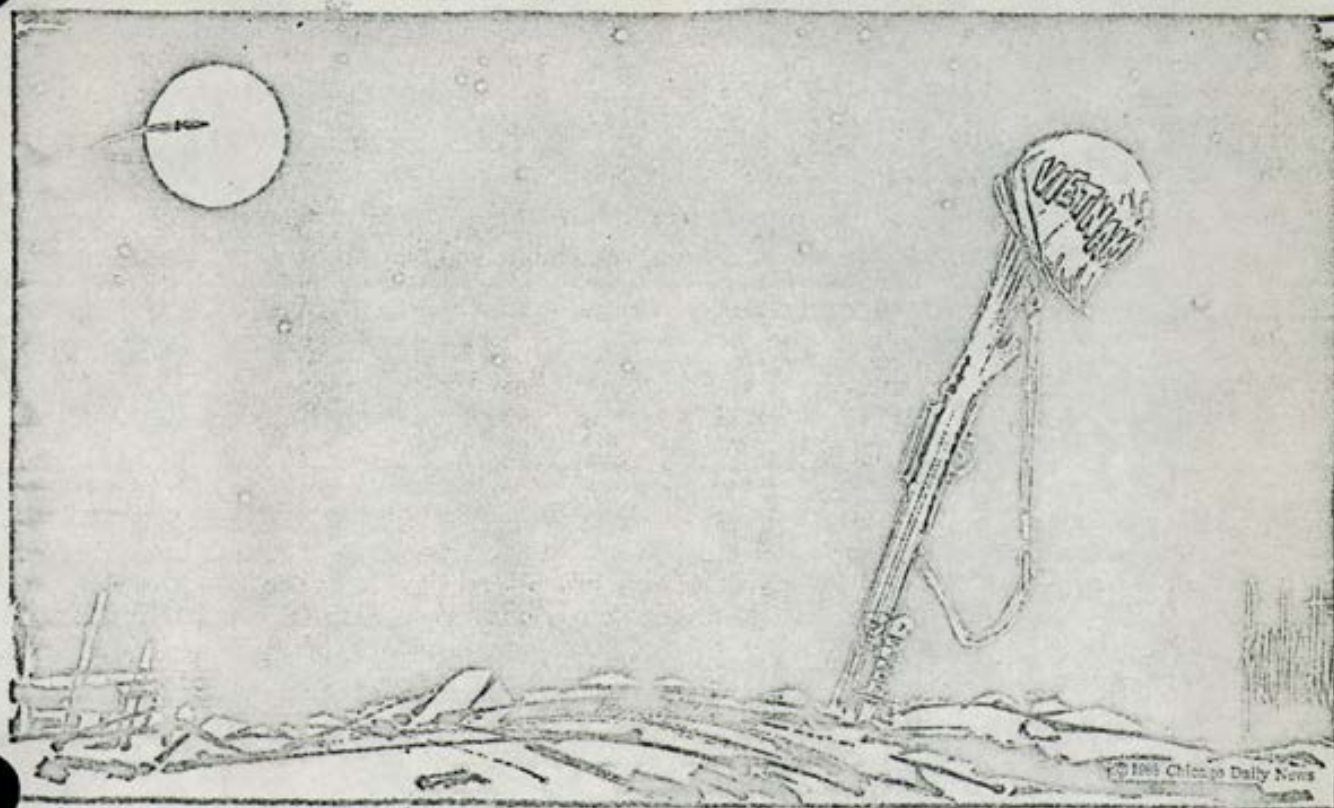
In Washington, a new national administration is about to take charge of the government—new in spirit, abundant in energy and eager to tackle the problems which beset us.

And far up in the heavens, three American astronauts are making history—directing the attention of a fascinated world toward a future so broad in scope we can only dimly envision it.

On this holy day, we wonder how they contemplate their Creator and the universe. From their perspective, the problems which so frustrate us down here on Earth must seem insignificant.

For the rest of us, perhaps it is enough that we enjoy the pleasure of our children on Christmas. We see in their innocence a glimpse of the goodness which is in man, always striving to make itself felt, but not always succeeding.

John Fischetti



Horizons

THE HOUSTON POST

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1968

Greetings!

To our astronauts in space we say, we wish you a Happy Christmas on your grand adventure, seeing and doing things that no men have ever before seen or done. The world's heart beats faster because of your unprecedented feat, and this Christmas has been given

a memorable new dimension.

But as we sense that man has indeed liberated himself from the only environment known to the human beings who have preceded us, we hope the astronauts share in their spaceship some of the traditional joys of this holy day. We wish them Godspeed and a safe return.

THE KANSAS CITY STAR

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Wednesday, December 25, 1968

OF HOME ON A SPACE AGE CHRISTMAS DAY

ON the day before Christmas the men of the Pueblo came back, and early on Christmas morn, the men of Apollo 8 headed homeward after 10 trips around the moon. How wonderful the news, and if Christmas is joy and peace and the return of the travelers, what a heartwarming way to prove the point!

In San Diego, families are reunited. The three men who saw the moon as no others have seen it have yet to complete their trip. Critical maneuvers remain for the re-entry and Friday will be a day of world-wide suspense. But as a nation we have been given two shining Christmas presents, to stress—for those who hear—the full meaning of this day for the Christian world.

For anyone, contemplating the words of reunion, or hearing the first words from Apollo 8 as it emerged from the moon's darkness—there were moments of deep emotion and thanksgiving, and of wonderment, even as there had been on Christmas eve when the words of Genesis were read to earthbound men by those who circled the moon.

The special meaning of Christmas, 1968. The pain of war in Southeast Asia is not eased, and suffering remains—the suffering of poverty and hunger, of the frustrations of the human spirit. Yet this day suddenly glows a bit more intensely in the reflected light of the Christmas tree, and of the Star of Bethlehem.

For home is another word of Christmas, and that is where the freed crewmen of the Pueblo are. And that is the destiny of history's first moon voyagers, flying earthward with the hopes and prayers of all.

For Man . . . Who Already Has Everything



Following Their Star

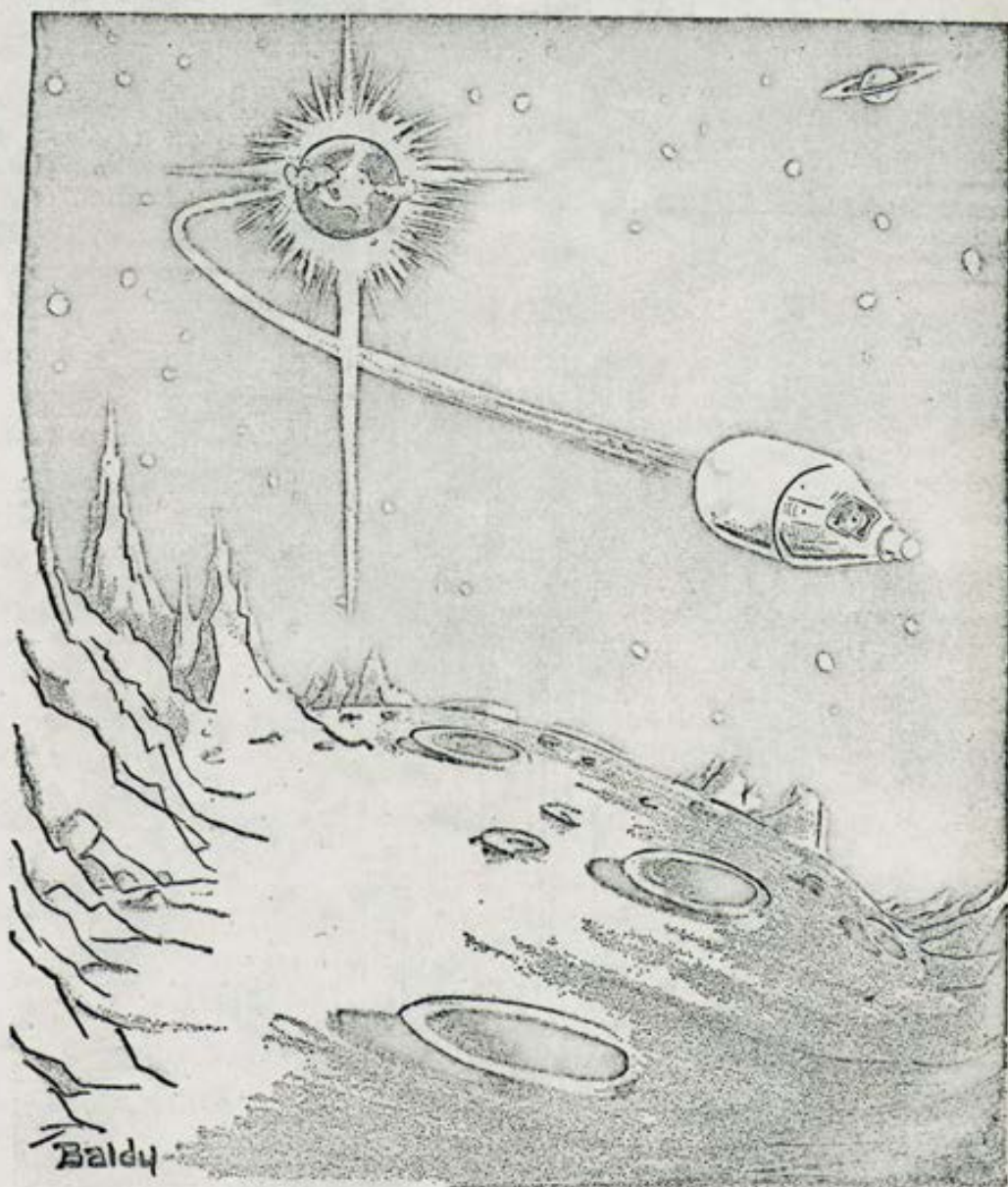
by Karl Hubenthal





1968 CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

"They're having their Christmas dinner away from home, too."



'... It Could Be! ... If It Would Be! ...'

The Evening Star

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1968



'You won't believe me, Sweetie, but I
had to deliver some extra presents!'

The New York Times

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1968

Reconnaissance of the Moon

A superlative feat of human history occurred yesterday, one that will deservedly become the subject of song, story and pictorial art in the decades and centuries ahead. Never before had men reached the neighborhood of another celestial body; never before had men seen with unaided eye the side of the moon that lies eternally hidden from earth; never before had a manned vehicle orbited earth's lunar satellite, moving under the primary control of that foreign globe's gravity.

The space age, no doubt, will produce many future heroes and many other historic accomplishments, but even now it is plain that yesterday Astronauts Borman, Lovell and Anders assured themselves of immortality as the first men literally to break the shackles of earth and travel successfully to another destination in this suddenly shrunken solar system.

Man is still too close to this staggering crossing of the space frontier to grasp the full significance of what has been accomplished. That is not a new situation. The contemporaries of the first men to use fire in a controlled fashion or to shape and exploit the wheel could have had no real idea of the significance of those milestones either.

Yet even at this early stage some implications of the path-breaking achievement of Apollo 8 are clear enough. If men can make a reconnaissance of the moon, they can also land there and then take off for earth again. There is now no reason to suppose that

this feat is more than a matter of months away. It is conceivable, in fact, that in 1969 both American and Soviet astronauts will visit the moon's surface and explore it on foot as well as from space.

After those first landings on the moon will come the permanent settlements—the bases for detailed exploration of the lunar body and for astronomical observation and experimentation in biology, physics and chemistry.

Eventually the moon will become a steppingstone to the wider vistas of space. Its low gravity and indigenous raw materials assure it an enormous future as the launching pad for expeditions to the planets—to Mars and Venus, to Mercury and Jupiter and Saturn and Neptune and even to distant Pluto.

These dizzying prospects were Buck Rogers fantasy until yesterday. Today they are sober and reasonable prospects for the decades ahead because of the accomplishments of those who flew Apollo 8, those who designed and built it and those from many lands who contributed the needed basic knowledge.

The precondition for turning these possibilities into reality is, of course, that men learn to live at peace with each other and to join their energies and talents for a cooperative surge into space. Apollo 8 has given the world an ennobling Christmas present; now it is the Christmas spirit of brotherhood and peace that is required to continue on the path these three courageous envoys of mankind have pioneered.



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36 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1968 BK

I don't like to be away from home on Christmas. But the geometry of the situation doesn't recognize the fact that Christmas falls at this time of year.—Air Force Col. Frank Borman, Apollo 8 flight commander.

Apollo: Homeward Bound

The inhabitants of planet Earth—and we must remember, that the moon shot is an achievement of mankind more than any one of his nations—can be permitted a small sigh of relief now that Apollo 8 is on the way home.

So far, this miraculous craft has worked close to perfectly, although a critical test lies ahead: re-entry into our atmosphere at just the right angle.

Even with the anxious wait for that step, the trip has infused this Christmas season, inherently a wondrous evocation of the spirit of new life, with a special dazzling wonder.

At the same moment, comes a sense of man's tininess in the limitless arc of the universe and amazement at his achievement of interplanetary travel. It is noteworthy that the flight of Col. Borman, Capt. Lovell and Maj. Anders is the first voyage from one body in space to another in all of time.

Almost as staggering is the fact that they have taken the world along on their trip. Columbus, Peary, Lindbergh—all the explorers and adventurers of the past—had to tell the world later.

Yet here are we looking at television pictures of our own planet as it would look to Martians coming in for a landing, watching live coverage from the capsule drifting across the lunar surface and hearing Capt. Lovell casually describing it as being "like a dirty beach and with lots of footprints on it."

As a people we Americans are used, all too used, to superlatives. But anyone who fails to comprehend the epochal nature of this trip is missing the chance to live through a tingling moment of history.

It will not be over, of course, until after the splashdown and after recovery and until then our exaltation will be mixed with anxiety.

The Knoxville News-Sentinel



A Scripps-Howard
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Established Dec. 23, 1886

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and the People Will
Find Their Own
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1968

God Bless These Heroes of Our Age

MODERN MAN scarcely knows what quality of men were history's great explorers—Fa-hsien, I-ching, Marco Polo, Christopher Columbus, Ferdinand Magellan and others—because there are only bits and pieces of accurate information about them. Theirs are vague and faded portraits.

But with the three Astronauts now on their way home from their flight around the moon, it is different. Never before was a journey so stupendous, a frontier reached so far away or an audience so vast and so intimately in touch. So it is that we can say we know these three men well, and having said that can add that we are immensely proud of them.

What sort of men are they?

FIRST, WE SUPPOSE, they are calm and utterly sophisticated scientists, who, after the life-or-death moment of firing their spacecraft out of lunar orbit and back toward the planet earth, can say matter-of-factly, "Go ahead, Houston. Apollo 8. Burn complete. Our orbit is 169.1 by 60.5—169.1 by 60.5"—just laconically as a cab driver telling his radio dispatcher he has just picked up a passenger at the airport and is coming into town.

Then too, these space travelers are military officers. It is not just that they come from the Air Force and Navy specifically or hold a certain rank; it is that they are men of enormous courage and discipline and capacity. If the traditional phrase used in citations—"a credit to the uniform"—ever had any meaning, it surely does now, applied to these officers.

Still, our Astronauts are hu-

mans. Each in his own way was awed by the spectacle of the moon, viewed from so close, and the long gaze across a quarter-million miles to the coin-sized earth.

To Captain Frank Borman the moon was "a vast lonely expanse of nothing . . . and not a very exciting place to live and work." To navigator James A. Lovell Jr., "the earth is a vast oasis in space." He too spoke of the awesome loneliness. And to photographer William Anders, his perfectly practical observation was that the stark sunrises and sunsets enabled him to "really pick out terrain features."

AND STILL one thing more about our heroes. They are Americans. Down to the marrow, with the sense of reverence and the sense of humor we have when we are at our best.

Their message from lunar orbit was a soul-tugging reading of the first verses of the Bible: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth . . ." Never were those familiar words richer in meaning. Then a wish for a blessing to all of us back here "on the good earth."

Yet these are the same fly-boys who had joked that if the return-to-earth rocket failed to fire, "Well, we will have had a bad day." And could say of one of their members who had sacked out, "Lovell's snoring already."

Truly these are heroes for our age. We rejoice in their triumph and pray for their safe passage through that last hot swift ride into the earth's atmosphere tomorrow morning. They are splendid men. God bless them all the way home.



*'... Sure It's a Narrow View! The World Understands
It Better That Way!'*

THE KANSAS CITY STAR

Founded September 18, 1880, by William Rockhill Nelson.
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Thursday, December 26, 1968

Apollo 8 Gives Man a New Idea of Himself

The Pulitzer prize-winning poet, Archibald MacLeish, after seeing an astronaut's-eye view of the earth on television, called our planet "that tiny raft in the enormous, empty night." It was almost as if he, like millions of others around the world, was realizing for the first time the truth of Copernicus's solar system theory.

Until the lunar voyage of Apollo 8, it was difficult to imagine the earth's place in space. After all, for all practical purposes the earth is still as flat as the ancients believed it to be. But from the depths of space, the earth is "whole and round and beautiful and small," as MacLeish said. So very small that the poet compared the globe to a tiny raft. The sight, he said, might remake our image of mankind. MacLeish added:

"To see the earth as it truly is, small and blue and beautiful in that eternal silence where it floats, is to see ourselves as riders on the earth together, brothers on that bright loveliness in the eternal cold—brothers who know now they are truly brothers."

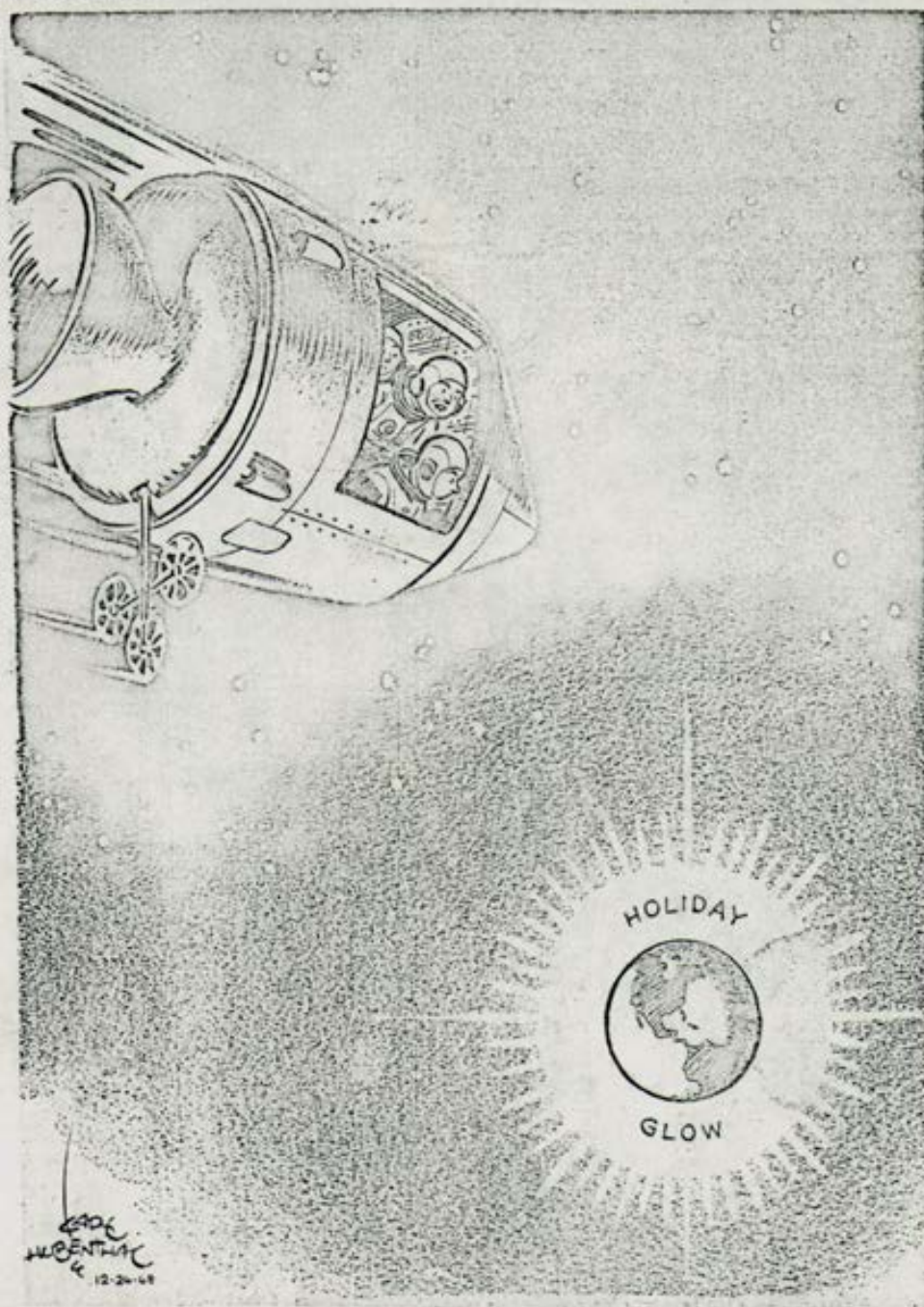
The point is that for the first time large numbers of men are thinking of themselves as citizens of the earth and not just Americans, Italians, Russians or whatever. To paraphrase the poet, MacLeish, we are all passengers on this planet, all of us cast from the same mold whether white, black, red or yellow and we should indeed realize now that we are all brothers.

"How can we go on living in the usual, small, narrow ways after something like this?" asked an Italian who saw the picture of earth on Rome television. We can't. The earth is not as big now as it was only a week ago.

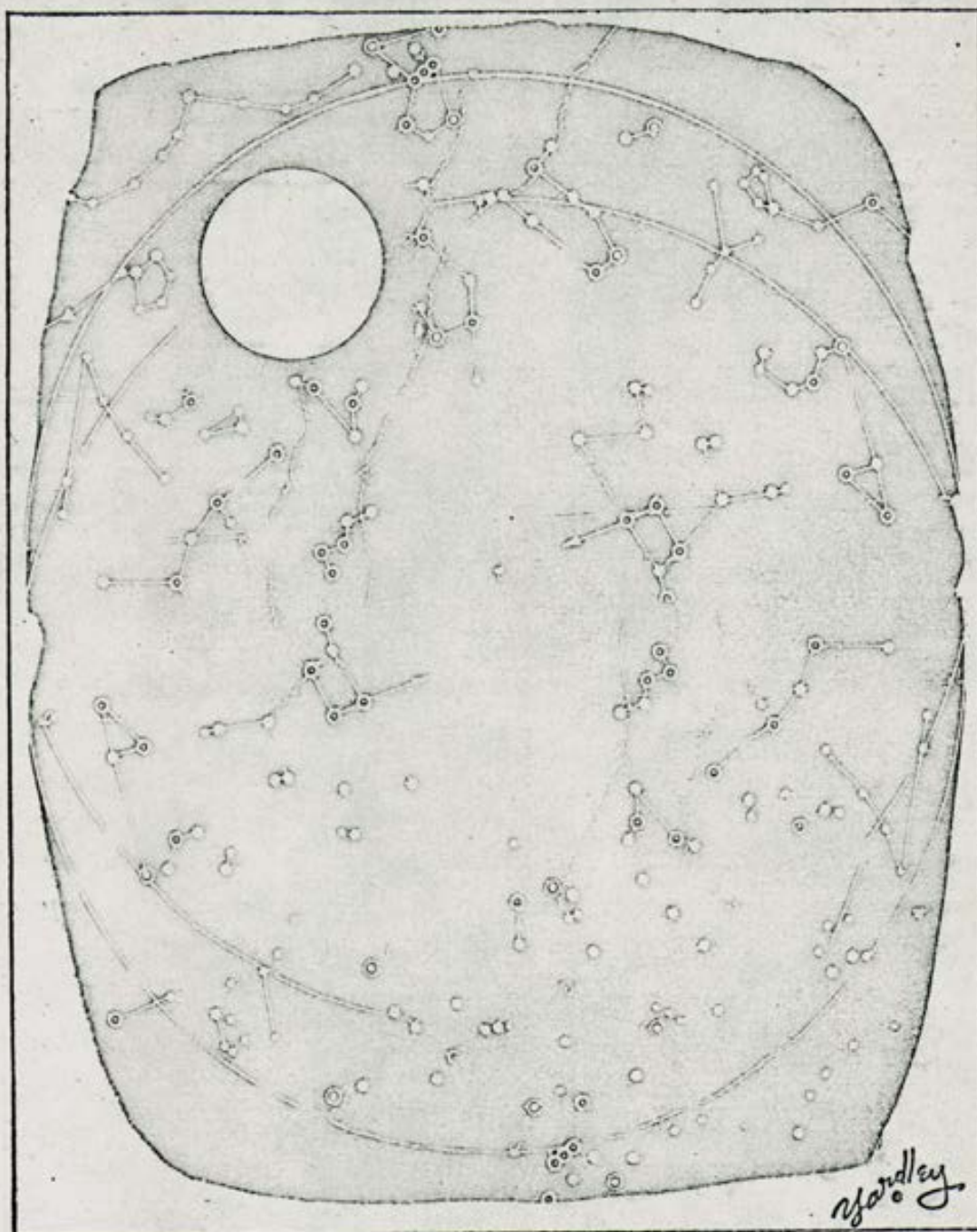
So perhaps instead of distracting attention from earthly problems, as many critics of the space program thought the flight would do, it will help people to focus more steadily on these problems. While orbiting the barren moon, astronaut James A. Lovell, jr., said, "The earth is a grand oasis in the big vastness of space." He meant that it is lush in comparison to the moon. But with this new perspective the astronauts have provided, perhaps we can also turn this planet of ours into more of a spiritual as well as a physical oasis.

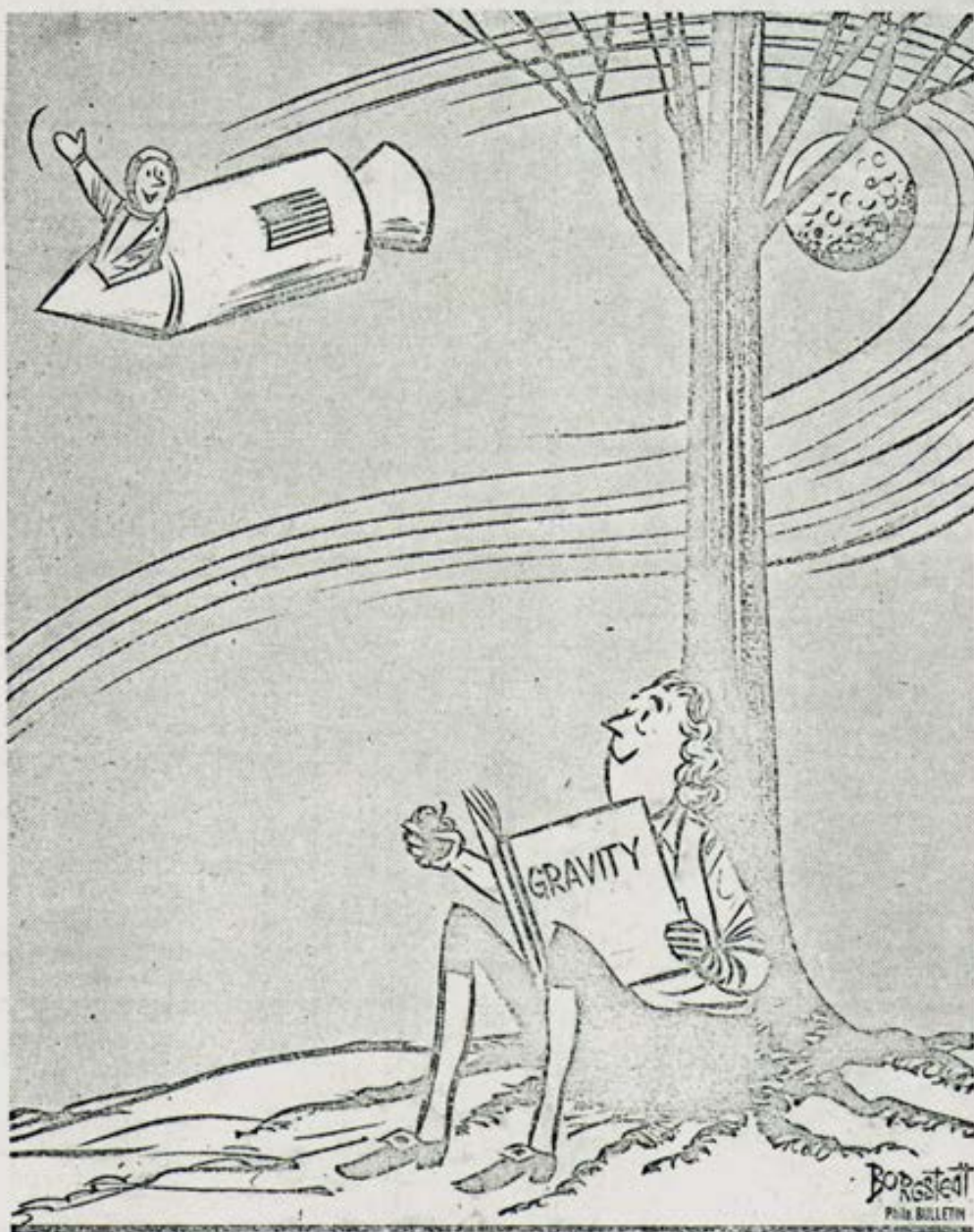
'Too Bad It Fades'

by Karl Hubenthal



The Man in the Moon Has Christmas Guests





'Apollo 8 calling Sir Isaac Newton...thanks for the ride!'

The Philadelphia Inquirer

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THE INQUIRER'S PLATFORM

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1968

Returning From the Moon

As Astronauts Frank Borman, James Lovell and William Anders swung out of lunar orbit on Christmas morning and headed homeward, streaking toward a splash-down in the Pacific scheduled for Friday, mankind was witness to the most spectacular voyage in history.

This was man's first circumnavigation of the moon. The trio of Americans circled the heavenly body, more than 200,000 miles from the earth, ten times during a 20-hour period—skimming to within 70 miles of the surface. Many millions of earthmen shared the experience simultaneously by means of the most remarkable sequences of live television programming ever achieved. There, on our television

screens, was the lunar landscape.

To say it was thrilling, to say it was fantastic, to say it was literally out of this world—to say any such thing is to deal in understatement. Someday, in the perspective of historical retrospect, humanity may find words to describe adequately this pioneering feat. We who are contemporaries can only marvel at it all.

This has been a Christmas to remember—a time when the human race reached the watershed dividing earthbound existence and the great beyond. A threshold has been crossed and we who are alive in 1968 can scarcely imagine what it portends for the course of civilization in eons to come.

Needed: Post-Apollo Space Goals

Washington—In space it is almost literally true that nothing succeeds like failure. And the other way around.

The flight of Apollo 8 makes it virtually certain that the United States will win the race to put a man on the moon. But what about space exploration after the moon?



Kraft

The answer is that American prospects are doubtful. And the reason is that the financing of the country's space effort can no longer be tied to the spectacular features of the moon race. For future effort in space a new, less erratic, rationale is required.

To appreciate the ups and downs of the space race, it is useful to go back to the beginning. The Russians had failed to catch the United States in the development of small nuclear warheads. To move their nuclear weapons, accordingly, they needed powerful launching rockets. These rockets made it possible for the Soviets to undertake the first space shot—the Sputnik I—back in 1957.

2-Year Lapse

On the strength of that early start the Russians scored a series of impressive firsts in manned flights. The Vostok (one-man cabin) put the first man—Yuri Gagarin—into space in 1961, and in 1962 achieved the first synchronized maneuver of two space ships. With the Vostok (two-man cabin) in March, 1965, came the first man to walk in space.

But at that point something seems to have gone awry in the Soviet program. Two years elapsed before the next manned flight—a Soyuz (three-man cabin)—in which the cosmonaut Komarov was killed. In the next manned flight, 18 months later, a Soyuz with pilots on board approached an unmanned Soyuz, but failed to rendezvous.

Since then the Russian effort suggests a search to improve guidance techniques and to build a new and more powerful booster.

Bigger Booster

Meanwhile the American program, after a series of almost ludicrous failures, was beginning to take off. The Mercury (one-man cabin) program put John Glenn into earth orbit in 1962. The Gemini (two-man cabin) program achieved between 1965 and 1967 ten successful shots of nearly 1000 hours' duration, including a man walking in space, and five different meetings of space ships.

In 1967, with the Apollo (three-man cabin) program, the United States, for the first time, began using a bigger booster than the Russians had—the Saturn 5 with 7.5 million pounds of thrust. The initial effort failed with the tragic fire and three deaths in January, 1967. But in November of last year, a Saturn 5 powered an unmanned flight without mishap. And the entirely satisfactory 11-day Apollo flight in October of this year set the stage for the venture now under way.

Soft Landing

Most American officials believe that the United States has now acquired enough momentum to assure a landing on the moon sometime in 1969. That should beat the Soviet effort. But beyond that achievement, American superiority is dubious.

The Russians have a deep commitment to space as a national objective. Despite difficulties in the manned flight program, they have kept up other aspects of their moon exploration. Thus early in 1966, they achieved with un-

manned satellites the first soft landing on the moon. Later that year another of their unmanned satellites was the first to go into orbit around the moon.

Far more than the United States, the Russians have emphasized development of a base for flights to the planets. And right now their program, as measured by space flights this year, is more active than that of this country.

This country, on the other hand, has built its space program almost entirely around the race to the moon. Post-Apollo programs have been sharply cut in the Congress. And spending on space has been compared unfavorably with money for

the Nation's pressing internal needs.

In this situation, it makes sense for this country to disengage while it is ahead. There is no need for the United States to race Russia to every new milestone in space. On the contrary, what the United States wants is a program closely connected to explicit American requirements—a program of exploration for its own sake, not for the sake of beating the Russians. In that way, this country can continue to develop a capability in space, without having to respond in a panic to the ups and downs that are a necessary part of the space business.

The San Diego Union

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 26, 1968

'GIVE US WISDOM AND FAITH, O GOD'

Voyagers See Earth in Humble Glow

Since time immemorial the moon has made the hearts of young people beat faster.

This week the hearts of the entire world almost stood still, then accelerated as three Americans went into moon orbit and made Dec. 24, 1968, a day that will live in history.

An index of the achievement of the United States of America space team and its Apollo 8 members, Col. Frank Borman, Cmdr. James Lovell and Maj. William Anders, is in the reaction of the Soviet Union.

Georgy Petrov, director of the Soviet Institute of Space Research, called the Apollo 8 flight "risky and ill considered."

The United States will find a grim amusement in his comment that Apollo 8 is following a course already laid out by the unmanned Soviet probes, Zond 5 and 6.

We can look for the Russians to stage some space spectacular to overcome their inferiority feeling because of Apollo's success.

The success is there for the whole world to see and it is undeniable.

From the mission we will learn more about space radiation. We will learn more of man's ability to live and work

in distant reaches of space or in differing gravities.

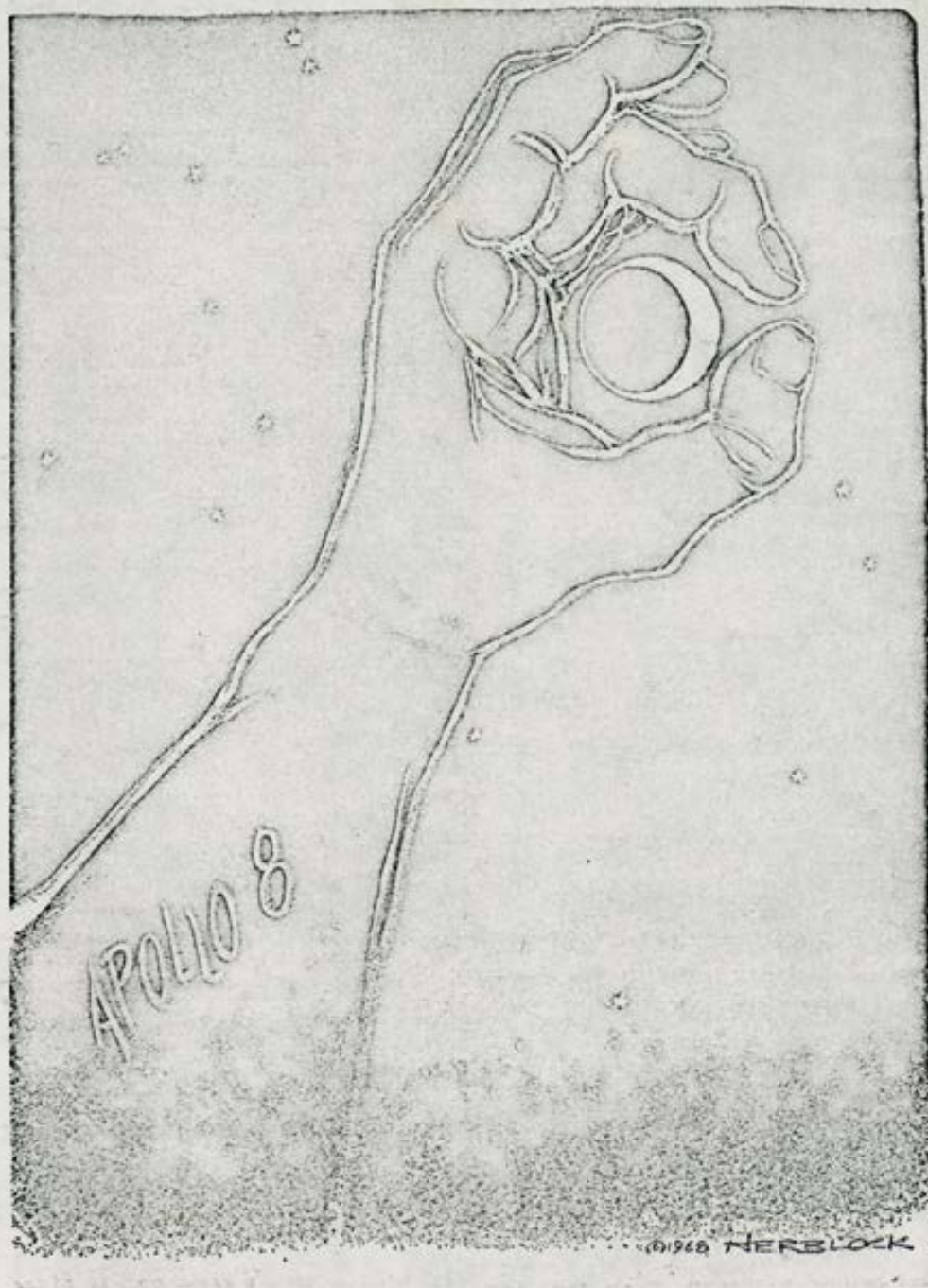
We may learn more of the origin of the moon, its gravitational field, its atmosphere and about the 41 per cent that is not visible from earth, particularly whether it can retain heat. Nor should symbolism of America's great scientific achievement on the most holy of Christian holidays be lost upon the earth.

The symbolism was further emphasized by the beautiful prayer of Col. Borman, which he radioed back to substitute for one he had planned to give Christmas evening to his church in Seabrook, Tex.

"Give us, O God," said Col. Borman, "the wisdom which can see Thy love in the world in spite of human failure. Give us the faith to trust Thy goodness in spite of our ignorance and weakness ..."

In the pictures the Apollo crew radioed back to earth, we had a chance to see ourselves physically as others might see us. As Col. Borman hopes in his prayer, perhaps the achievement of Apollo, the Greek god of sunlight and prophecy, also may let us see ourselves in other ways.

Man's Reach



The Washington Post

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1968

Message From the Moon

At some point in the history of the world, someone may have read the first ten verses of the Book of Genesis under conditions that gave them greater meaning than they had on Christmas Eve. But it seems unlikely. Three men, the first to break free of the earth's grasp and venture into the ocean of space, chose the biblical story of the Creation as their Christmas message to their fellow men. Their choice no doubt had something to do with the insignificance they must have felt, despite their own magnificent achievement, in their unique personal confrontation with the universe. And it also reflected a feeling that the more we learn about that universe—and Astronauts Borman, Lovell and Anders are adding substantially to that knowledge—the more awesome it becomes.

If that Christmas Eve message to the earth was the most moving moment of this journey to the moon, then the minutes that ticked off a few hours later, when the trip home began, were the most critical. Until the capsule swung out from behind the moon, only the astronauts knew whether the crucial engines had ignited and set the capsule on an earthbound course. But swing out it did, right on schedule and moving at a speed within a few thousands of a per cent of what had been planned.

While that meant the moment of this mission's greatest potential terror had passed, the new conquerers of space are not yet home. There remain the maneuvers to bring Apollo 8 into proper earth

orbit and then to settle it through the atmosphere and drop it safely into the Pacific. And there remain the studies of what extended travel through space does to the human body. Quite properly, Americans demand safety as part of success. Fortunately the remarkable performance so far of the equipment and the NASA team both in space and on the ground gives reason to believe that demand will be met.

Even if hitches should mar the perfection of the Apollo 8 mission, this Christmas will always be remembered as the lunar one. Surely few men ever hoped, just a few years ago, to watch a narrated travelogue live from the moon. Its topographical features, always before just names attached to photographic images, now seem startlingly real. The scientists' conceptions have been verified by the naked eye. The moon is, to use Colonel Borman's words, "a vast, lonely, forbidding . . . expanse of nothing."

Above all, perhaps, this Christmas Eve at the moon and Christmas Day on the way home have told us more about our earth than about the moon. One of the astronauts had wondered on his way to the moon whether, if he were a traveller from another planet, he would think that intelligent life existed on Earth. The answer, from Captain Lovell at least, is that our planet is "a grand oasis in the great vastness of space." That is an awing insight and it reminds us that man has far to go here at home to fulfill the Christmas promise of Peace on Earth, Good Will toward Men.



The WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS

A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER

"Give light and the people will find their own way."

Richard Hollander
Editor

Ray F. Mack
Business Manager

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1968

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Heroes for Our Age

MODERN man scarcely knows what quality of men were history's great explorers—Fa-hsien, I-ching, Marco Polo, Christopher Columbus, Ferdinand Magellan and others—because there are only bits and pieces of accurate information about them. Theirs are vague and faded portraits.

But with the three astronauts now on their way home from their flight around the moon, it is different. Never before was a journey so stupendous, a frontier reached so far away, or an audience so vast and so intimately in touch. So it is that we can say we know these three men well, and having said that can add that we are immensely proud of them.

What sort of men are they?

First, we suppose, they are calm and utterly sophisticated scientists, who, at the life-or-death moment of firing their spacecraft out of lunar orbit and back toward the planet earth, can say matter-of-factly, "Go ahead, Houston. Apollo 8. Burn complete. Our orbit is 169.1 by 60.5—169.1 by 60.5"—just as laconically as a cab driver telling his radio dispatcher he has just picked up a passenger at the airport and is coming into town.

Then too, these space travelers are military officers. It is not just that they come from the Air Force and Navy specifically or hold a certain rank; it is that they are men of enormous courage and discipline and capacity. If the traditional phrase used in citations—"a credit to the uniform" ever had any meaning, it surely does now, applied to these officers.

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To Capt. Frank Borman the moon was "a vast lonely space of nothing . . . and not a very exciting place to live and work." To Navigator James A. Lovell Jr. "The earth is a vast oasis in space." He too spoke of the awesome loneliness. And to Photographer William Anders, his perfectly practical observation was that the stark sunrises and sunsets enabled him to "really pick out terrain features."

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The New York Times

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1968

Back to 'Oasis' Earth

Once again, happily, a captive of earth's gravity, Apollo 8 is speeding back to this planet with its tired but triumphant crew, participants in the greatest adventure in human history. The first men ever to journey to the neighborhood of the terribly bleak and lonely expanse of the moon, they are understandably eager to return to what astronaut James Lovell called the "grand oasis in the great vastness of space," this green and flowering earth.

There was more than narrow religious significance in the emotional high point of their fantastic odyssey, their reading of the Biblical story of creation while this world watched live pictures of the moon televised by the astronauts from within a few dozen miles of the lunar surface. One of the most powerful forces impelling men to try to break away from this, humanity's birth planet, is precisely burning curiosity to unravel the mysteries of creation. How were this world and the solar system to which it belongs formed? How did life originate? Are there other living beings in the vast universe of which the sun men know and its planets are but an infinitesimal portion?

Only a beginning—but an important beginning—will

be made toward answering these vital, fundamental questions when men have reached the moon and studied it thoroughly. For centuries scientists and philosophers have debated the question of the moon's origin. Was it once part of this planet, torn away billions of years ago by giant forces about which we can only speculate? Was it always a separate body, but formed at the same time and of the same materials as earth? Or is it a complete interloper, a stray celestial body torn independently of and far from this world, but captured eons ago by earth's gravitational force? Answers to these questions may well be available in a few years if the promise of the journey of Apollo 8 is fulfilled.

The photographs taken near the moon by the astronauts may well provide new important data on these and related scientific problems. But it is not only for this reason that all mankind, scientists and non-scientists alike, impatiently awaits the safe return of Apollo 8 and its intrepid crew from their Homeric journey. Their fantastic feat has immensely excited the imagination of humanity. Conventional national, political and other divisions here on earth are submerged at least momentarily as all men everywhere honor their first ambassadors to the solar system.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

"First the blade, then the ear,  then the full grain in the ear"

Friday, December 27, 1968

Looking out from the Moon

Even Shakespeare's imaginative Puck thought no higher than putting "a girdle round about the earth," yet today men have done the far greater feat of having thrown one about the moon. And while George Moore may have been right to write that "the moon is more interested in the earth than in any other thing," one can say with certainty that today the opposite is true. For the year 1968 is ending with men's eyes on that beautiful satellite and their thoughts on the amazing accomplishment of America's space program.

There are events that are beyond the power of words to describe or adequately record. And who would deny that the orbiting of the moon by three earthlings in a tiny spacecraft fell into this category. When to this is added the achievement of televising both the moon's surface from a few score miles away and the earth's from a distance of some 200,000 miles, men can indeed stand in awe of what their application of intelligence has done.

With this stupendous accomplishment men take a many-league step forward towards an even more sensational goal, that of actually setting astronauts and their craft down on the moon's glittering, dusty surface and then returning them to their homes on earth. And beyond that, who knows, other than to be certain that still greater feats in space will surely follow.

We are also confident that, contrary to some criticism of the space program, its

great achievements will be of early and tangible benefit to men and their problems at home. It is impossible for mankind to have achieved so signal a victory in space and not to have this reflected in mankind's outlook on the more mundane challenges on earth.

Earthside problems have been solved and will continue to be solved only as men's thinking is opened to a recognition of these problems and to the possibility of settling them. No man, no nation, no race can fail to think more broadly and higher as a result of men's having circled the moon. With such an achievement in their eyes, fewer persons will be tempted to believe that earth's problems, however stark, are beyond settlement. And, since few men will ever have the chance to roam outer space in capsules, the space program's greatest and healthiest impact is almost certain to be on events back here on earth.

More than six decades ago the founder of this newspaper, Mary Baker Eddy, penned the remarkable prediction that the time would come when astronomers would no longer look up to the heavenly bodies, but would look out from them upon the universe. This was from the knowledge and conviction that men would increasingly reflect and utilize the divine source of intelligence and that this would more and more enable mankind to break earth-binding fetters. Men's flight about the moon is an impressive first step towards the fulfillment of this prophecy.

EDITORIAL PAGE: SO THE PEOPLE MAY KNOW^o

THE DENVER POST

Friday, Dec. 27, 1968

Once in A Gray Moon

FROM many years ago, when shooting the moon was still a Jules Verne dream, we remember reading something that's of special significance right now.

The writer wasn't discussing moon travel, per se. He was telling young would-be authors how to present their deathless prose and poetry to hardboiled editors.

"Keep it neat," he said, "and use a typewriter. But neatness alone won't sell your stuff. You've got to have a tale worth telling.

"The first man to reach the moon and see for himself what the back side, always hidden from earthbound view, looks like needn't worry about neatness.

"He could scribble his report with a burned match on brown wrapping paper and editors would fight for the chance to pay him a fortune."

We can't recall now who said that. We hope some of our readers will have better memories. But on Christmas Eve, we recalled his words, as a fellow earthling in Houston asked Astronaut Bill Anders what the moon (backside and fore) looked like close up.

"The moon is gray . . . metallic . . . no color . . . like plaster of paris." And again:

"It looks like dirty beach sand with lots of footprints in it."

Now there's a "burned match" description if we ever heard one. But what did we expect — poetry? The honest, unvarnished, eyewitness truth is that our ancient satellite, beloved of lovers, isn't blue, or gold, or even silvery. It's dirty gray—take it from a guy who's been there.

AND then from his orbital perch a quarter-million miles away, Major Anders dropped us a mystery for scientists to ponder: "Walls of the craters are terraced—about six or seven terraces on the way down," he said.

Why terraced, in that windless, rainless, iceless, weatherless globe?

Space dust, maybe—settling undisturbed for millions of years? Maybe it gathers on those steep slopes till one last fleck starts an airless avalanche. Then resettling starts with nothing to disturb it save its own, accumulating weight as milleniums pass.

Anders can write his own explanation with burned matches and we'll still read it avidly, for it's not often such reports are made available.

Just once in a gray moon.

The New Haven Register

An Independent Newspaper

Established 1812

FRIDAY, DEC. 27, 1968



Earthly Welcome For Moongooers

The epochal celestial odyssey of Apollo 8, which captured the mind and imagination of the world, is over. In the end, as in the beginning and middle of this monumental journey, "the most" was accomplished.

The in-the-dark Pacific splashdown adds yet another in a staggering series of space trip "firsts." The landing area is the most isolated in the history of the manned spacecraft program. Once more, our three brave, skillful and visionary astronauts, Col. Frank Borman, Capt. James A. Lovell Jr., and Maj. William A. Anders, have conquered physical isolation.

In giving reality to the "wild" dreams that Jules Verne dared to express 103 years ago, the three moon-orbiting astronauts have extended America's pioneering tradition. These heroes have also enormously extended, by applying human qualities to

technology, man's capacity for knowledge of both himself and his environment.

For the safe return of the crew of Apollo 8, Americans are deeply grateful. All of us must, with their families, share the sense of relief that could only come with the successful end of this trip. The enthusiasm of the astronauts was contagious but the nation could not help but experience deep concern for their safety.

Nerves of steel, Col. Borman, Capt. Lovell and Maj. Anders undoubtedly possess. This along with many other unique qualities fitted them for a journey into the utterly unknown. But while the world watched them up there, simple endearing traits of character shone through and their personal well being became the primary thought in the minds and hearts of all their earthbound fellow citizens.

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Homing Astronauts

Their fame secure; their long, hard look at the moon completed practically "in company with the world," astronauts Frank Borman, James A. Lovell Jr. and William A. Anders draw nearer and nearer home today.

The journey earthward, free of the moon's relatively meager grip, involved no plotting for arrival at an imaginary point in the void precisely when a massive, circling body would itself have neared it. In planetary perspective, theirs is an angling chase course, beginning just within the spatial shell of the orbit, and to the rear of the earth; accommodating itself to the plane of the orbit; and on a bulging arc, closing in around the dark side of the target.

In other respects it is somewhat like the moon trip in reverse—velocity increasing (to about 24,000 miles an hour), with the nearness of approach, rather than decreasing with outward progress. The precision with which the moon was approached, however, as nearly everyone doubtless has learned, has to be duplicated with more fateful significance when Apollo 8 aims at terrif-

ic speed for the outer shell of the atmosphere, at an angle that cannot be too great or too little and allows what seems to the layman little tolerance. Prayerful hope rides with its crew that re-entry and splash-down will be in the same classic security pattern that has so far marked the mission.

The predated Christmas message to the world composed by Mr. Borman and broadcast from outer space spoke for itself in its sincerity and humility. Otherwise, the "lunonauts" have been notable for matter-of-factness and avoidance of deathless statements such as might go into Bartlett's *Quotations*. These rhetorical chores have been taken care of for them by others. There's really nothing to be added to the literary flow, except to say that the whole thing has been a veritably Big Deal—perhaps more appreciated, however, by youngsters than grownups.

Awed as they must have been by their exploit, their experience, and their proving-up of American technology, one wonders whether the trio may not, ambivalently, be now ready to sing along with "There's no place like home: No, there's no place like home."

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Friday, Dec. 27, 1968

73rd Year, No. 192

SPACE CHALLENGE

America's Moon Men Excite The World

The flight of Apollo 8, which ended so successfully today with a splashdown in the Pacific, excited the world as no other spaceflight has since the adventures of Gagarin, Shepard and Glenn nearly a decade ago.

Certainly a special niche will be reserved in the world's hall of explorers for Astronauts Frank Borman, James Lovell and William Anders, who became the first men to fly to the moon.

It is natural that thoughtful persons, while joining in the cheers, are asking questions. Beyond fulfilling man's vague ambition to reach the moon, what will the moon program accomplish?

Obviously, the Apollo spacecraft will not arrive on earth carrying chests filled with gold coins, jewels and rare teas and spices. Their prizes are photographs, personal observations, and soon, bags of moon dust.

It is the hope of scientists that the pictures, scientific observations and the moon dust itself will hold invaluable clues to the mystery of who we are and where we came from.

Geologists have learned much about the mystery by studying the earth. In the moon they have a planet that has been undisturbed for eons by the eroding forces of the wind and rain.

We would like to think that the ultimate gift of the space program will be peace on earth.

It was the Christmas hope of the astronauts that people will one day realize they are all inhabitants of what is, in the overall scheme, a rather small piece of real estate.

So the moon program is more than an abstract challenge, certainly more than a joy ride. It is a part of the evolution of mankind, and it was immeasurably advanced by the journey that ended today.

JOSEPH KRAFT

Space future of U.S. must take new track

WASHINGTON — In space it is almost literally true that nothing succeeds like failure. And the other way around.

The flight of Apollo 8 makes it virtually certain that the United States will win the race to put a man on the moon. But what about space exploration after the moon?

The answer is that American prospects are doubtful. And the reason is that the financing of the country's space effort can no longer be tied to the spectacular features of the moon race. For future effort in space a new, less erratic rationale is required.

To appreciate the ups and downs of the space race, it is useful to go back to the beginnings. The Russians had failed to match the United States in the development of small nuclear warheads. To move their nuclear weapons, accordingly, they needed powerful launching rockets. These rockets made it possible for the Soviets to undertake the first space shot — the Sputnik I — back in 1957.

On the strength of that early start the Russians scored a series of impressive firsts in manned flights. The Vostok (one-man cabin) put the first man — Yuri Gagarin — into space in 1961, and in 1962 was achieved the first synchronized maneuver of two space ships. With the Voshkod (two-man cabin) in March, 1965, came the first man to walk in space.

But at that point something seems to have gone awry in the Soviet program. Two years elapsed before the next manned flight — a Soyuz (three-man cabin) in which the Cosmonaut Komarov was killed. In the next manned flight, 18 months later, a Soyuz with pilots on board approached an unmanned Soyuz but failed to rendezvous. Since then the Russian effort suggests a search to improve guidance techniques and to build a new and more powerful booster.

Meanwhile the American program, after a series of almost ludicrous failures, was beginning to take off. The Mercury (one-man cabin) program put John Glenn into earth orbit in 1962. The Gemini (two-man cabin) program achieved between 1965 and 1967 10 successful shots of nearly a thousand hours in duration, including a man walking in space, and five different meetings of space ships.

In 1967, with the Apollo (three-man cabin) program, the United States, for the first time, began using a bigger booster than the Russians had—the Saturn V with 7.5 million pounds of thrust. The initial effort failed with the tragic fire and three deaths in January, 1967. But in November of last year, a Saturn V powered an unmanned flight without mishap. And the entirely satisfactory 11-day Apollo flight in October of this year set the stage for the venture now under way.

Most American officials believe that the United States has now acquired enough momentum to assure a landing on the moon sometime in 1969. That should beat the Soviet effort. But beyond that achievement, American superiority is dubious.

The Russians have a deep commitment to space as a national objective. Despite difficulties in the manned flight program, they have kept up other aspects of their moon exploration. Thus, early in 1966, they achieved with unmanned satellites the first soft landing on the moon. Later that year, another of their unmanned satellites was the first to go into orbit around the moon.

Far more than the United States, the Russians have emphasized development of an earth-orbiting station as a base for flights to the planets. And right now their program, as measured by space flights this year, is more active than that of this country.

This country, on the other hand, has built its space program almost entirely around the race to the moon. Post-Apollo programs have been sharply cut in the Congress. And spending on space has been compared unfavorably with money for the nation's pressing internal needs.

In this situation, it makes sense for this country to disengage while it is ahead. There is no need for the United States to race Russia to every new milestone in space. On the contrary, what the United States wants is a program closely connected to explicit American requirements—a program of exploration for its own sake, not for the sake of beating the Russians. In that way, this country can continue to develop a capability in space, without having to respond in a panic to the ups and downs that are a necessary part of the space business.

Editorials

More than a spectacular

The blase attitude about the space program, which developed as Earth orbital missions became so familiar to the world, has been wiped out by the flight of Apollo 8.

The flight to the Moon was more than a spectacular. It was one of the most historic endeavors of this century. For the first time man came close enough to another celestial body to survey it with his naked eye.

The excitement of the six-day mission was prolonged. It started with the blastoff and built from there. The perfection of the television pictures was an accomplishment that could be grasped by millions in their homes. There were thousands of other technological and scientific successes that had to be to make the flight succeed.

The skills needed to take man into the depths of space and the implications for the future are hard to grasp. Some critics may never be stilled like the New Scientist, a British magazine, which snipes at the Apollo project as "prestigious prancing" and contends that the technological spinoff from space research is hardly worth the billions spent.

The negative approach reminds us of a comment Texas Rep. Olin Teague made. He pointed out that during a debate 60 years ago over a small appropriation for aircraft research, some

congressmen predicted that the airplane would never contribute anything to the economy and would exist only as a toy for millionaires.

For about 30 years those pessimists could claim that their predictions were not too far off; but airplane development and utility burgeoned in World War II, and afterward jets captured the long-distance transportation business.

Space experimentation has moved at a faster pace. It was only seven years ago that the first man was sent into space, Yuri Gagarin of the Soviet Union. A year later, John Glenn became the United States' first man in orbit.

The future, from this point on, is hard to predict. But we know that if the Moon can be orbited it is possible, probably in a matter of months, to land an astronaut on the Moon.

The first lunar visitors undoubtedly will be followed by others, then working camps may be established. It is conceivable that the Moon will become a base for all types of research and will be used as a launch site for deeper probes into space—explorations that could uncover valuable resources for the Earth.

Apollo has assured that the trite lament of no more worlds to conquer will be voided for decades if not for centuries.

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Friday, December 27, 1968

Home In Triumph

"And God said, Let there be light, and there was light . . .

"And God said, Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together in one place. And let the dry land appear. And it was so.

"And God called the dry land earth. And the gathering together of the waters called the seas. And God saw that it was good."

* * *

MAN'S LONGEST JOURNEY has ended; and with humble thanks to a Divine Providence it has ended successfully, returning three brave men to their families and to a waiting and breath-holding nation.

Not only the scientific brilliance of Apollo 8's performance—and the thousands who made it possible—but also the unquestioning confidence and skill of Frank Borman, James Lovell and William Anders may rightly be acclaimed by every human who, in his own way, aspires to raise himself a little nearer to the stars and to seek answers to questions that have perplexed mankind long before the first page of history was written.

Just as the world began to change once America had been discovered, so now the world must begin to change again and—beyond the slightest doubt—to alter its perspectives.

This just completed page in history, however, must not be recorded only as man's mastery of an intricate equa-

tion held together by hundreds of thousands of vital precision instruments. It must be written of, too, as a flight of more than a half-million miles during the midst of which three adventurers paused, at a time when another event which took place almost two thousand years before was being marked on earth, to read from the Book of Genesis to a global congregation.

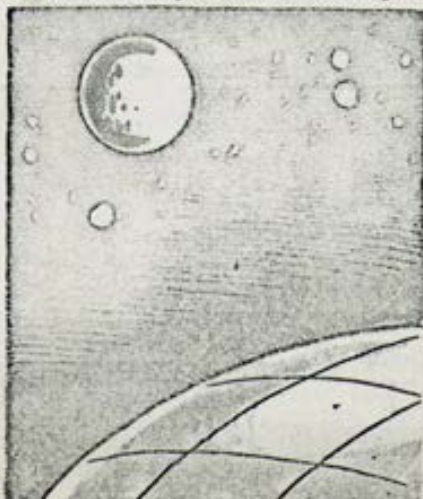
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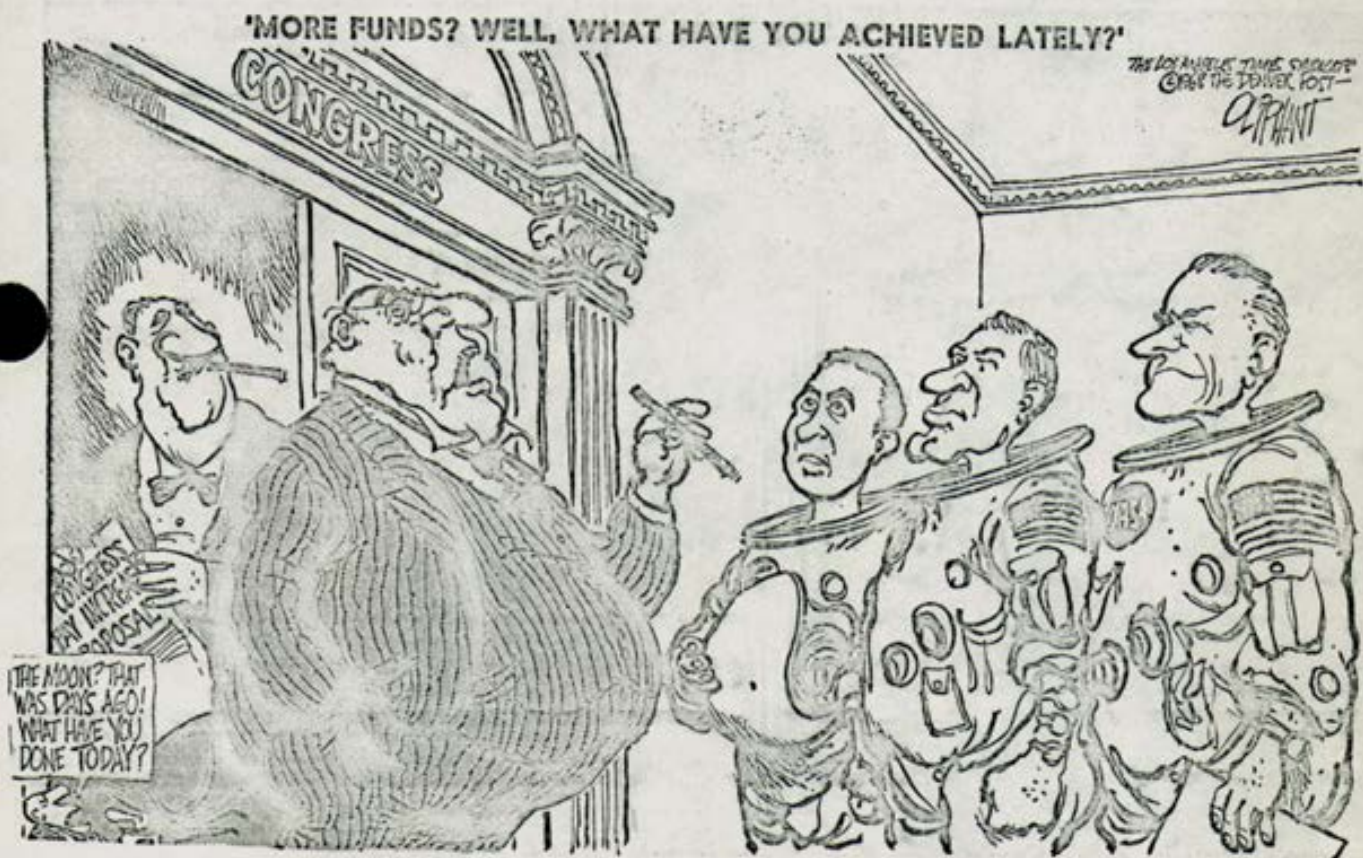
PERHAPS THIS SIMPLE and genuine act of obeisance has soothed the feelings of some whose genuine opinion was that the spectacle of a lunar flight was an intrusion upon a holy time.

To millions, however, the words from the scriptures recited to them from higher in the heaven than man had ever ventured before was a reassurance that man humbly confesses his puny station in the universal scheme of things; that the only path to eternity is through the brotherhood of man and the admission that human beings, finally, control only a tiny fraction of their fate.

The London *Sunday Times* describes the flight as "the greatest assertion of man's supremacy over matter which has ever been made." Certainly, it is every bit of that. Many can and will hope that in the wake of this intrepid journey which a proud nation can hail as a further step to leadership in interplanetary exploration that the magnificence of the exploit we will not, in succeeding generations, be nudged so far into the realms of even greater scientific achievements that we will neglect the fashioning of the scholar's ideal of the "well-rounded man."

We hope this will not be so. The astronauts themselves preferred to view their flight as a means to reassert the truth that all of us are citizens of one globe. And that we, in our burst of pride in the accomplishment, must never lose sight of the fact that many wondrous things are possible, but not because of an imagined infallibility in "we ourselves."





Amazing Journey Around the Moon

The American astronauts' six-day flight to the moon, and around it, verges on the unbelievable.

Astronauts Borman, Lovell and Anders first of all must be accounted among the bravest of men. Next they are due the highest admiration for the scientific attainment that enabled them to perform their intricate task with such unfailing precision.

The list of their "firsts" puts the Borman-Lovell-Anders team in the front ranks of history's explorers—those who explored the world's frontiers and those who crossed into new areas of science. They are the new breed — the learned adventurers.

The astronauts were the instruments. Behind them stood the impressive array of American science that made the feat possible. The moon flight attests to the tremendous resources in the American scientific bank and to the indomitable spirit of the astronauts who drew on it.

These days we are warned of the dangers of the nationalistic spirit. Some truth lies in that admonition. But today we choose to indulge ourselves: we are proud to be Americans.

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Saturday, December 28, 1968

Small, blue, beautiful

After closely regarding the dead gray coldness of the moon, the astronauts looked back at "the good Earth" with a sudden new appreciation of its warm, its rich color, its throbbing life. Surely they were right in describing it as this "grand oasis" set in the grim vastness of space. They, themselves, were proof enough of its amazement.

Returning from the adventure Jules Verne invented from the whole cloth of his imagination, the three men dropped their pod into the designated few square yards of ocean as handily as sliding the family car into a curb space.

Fresh from a re-entry in which they had smacked the atmosphere at 25,000 miles per hour, generating friction that turned the vehicle's leading edge into a rosy, blazing shield, they emerged demanding steak and eggs and an Alka-Seltzer.

What next?

A man will doubtless walk on the moon next year, but even that once unimaginable event has been brought into the realm of the expectable by this week's feat. Nothing in space will ever again seem improbable; the great leap has been made.

But the great decisions have not. And their time is near at hand.

If there was a contest for the moon, it has been won now by the United States.

But the great challenge is still ahead. That is whether man's ingenuity can be focused on the common good, or harnessed to the perilous ends of common hostility.

If it is to be the former, the ironies presented by Apollo 8 can be translated into exciting challenges.

For while man can leap over the moon, he can't yet find a way to clean up the air he breathes, or the water he uses daily. He can leap over the moon but he cannot build a habitable city, or break a poverty-ignorance-misery cycle that still imprisons two-thirds of the world's people after countless centuries. He can leap over the moon, but he can't find a way to live at peace with his neighbors.

What next in space? Is there to be a sharing of scientific data, perhaps even shared efforts to probe deeper and discover secrets to help control weather and improve communications?

Or is an Earth-bound missile race to be followed by a desperate competition

to build a platform in space where H-bombs can be mounted and trained on each other's great cities, ready for instant mutual destruction?

Archibald MacLeish made a pertinent point here. He said that hundreds of years ago—in Dante's time—men saw themselves as the center of the universe—God's chosen creatures with divine license to rule and kill and conquer as they chose. Then, centuries later, Dante's notion disappeared and men became in their own eyes helpless victims of a senseless farce—playthings of forces that caused wars and left humanity strewn dead or destitute.

Now suddenly, wrote MacLeish, man has glimpsed Earth as it is—"small and blue and beautiful in that eternal silence where it floats," and "ourselves as riders on the Earth together, brothers on that bright loveliness in the eternal cold—brothers who know now they are truly brothers."

If that view of man can be maintained and spread through cities and states and nations, the space age can become man's golden age. But it is not an easy view to maintain, in the rot and rubble of a city tenement or the sullen hostility of a Paris meeting room.

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES EDITORIAL PAGE

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Sat., Dec. 28, 1968

Triumphant Odyssey

The world's first odyssey into the great void of space is over. The astronauts guided Apollo 8 down to the sea on schedule and on target—precisely on target—in a final triumph of this first flight in which man left his environment and returned.

The tremendous feat of technological wizardry the flight represents is breathtaking. There are more than 5,000,000 parts in the spacecraft, a staggering potential for failure. Perhaps a few parts did fail, but the painstaking work done by the designers, scientists and technicians in providing back-up systems overcame that danger.

The incredible accuracy of space navigation is also breathtaking. Apollo 8 traveled 570,000 miles. It had to hit a target, a narrow corridor just ahead of the moon (which was traveling at a speed of a half-mile a second in relation to the Earth) precisely and at the

correct speed in order to be drawn into the moon's orbit. Failure would have meant a flight on to the sun and death. The re-entry to Earth's atmosphere presented other grave problems. Unless the narrow entry corridor was hit within one degree of the correct angle the spacecraft would either have skipped on out into space or burned up in a dive into the envelope of Earth's atmosphere.

Everything went so well it almost seemed routine. That it did so is a tribute to the astronauts, the scientists and technicians and the ground crews who did their work with such devotion and accuracy.

The odyssey is over. The world has reacted with extravagant praise for the astronauts and the technology that made it possible. A new era of man's history has begun. We give thanks that Apollo 8 and its crew are safely home.

Topics: *The Next Voyages to the Moon*

By WILLY LEY

The moon is still silvery in the night sky but it is no longer unreachable. For a number of years thousands of scientists, engineers and interested laymen have known that a trip was possible. The three astronauts of Apollo-8 have proved it to everybody on earth.

For a long time a journey to the moon was a subject of fiction. Italian and French newspapers told their readers yesterday that the reports from America sounded "like a story by Jules Verne." Jules Verne's story about a voyage to the moon with take-off from Florida was published just over a hundred years ago, in 1865, and it was not the first. The first was written by Lucian of Samosata in 160 A.D.

So much for fiction. What about moon facts for the future—the immediate 1969 future?

There are now three Saturn-V rockets in the Vertical Assembly Building at the Cape, as I could see when I watched the take-off of Apollo-8. There are also three LM's—pronounced "lem" and meaning Landing Module—ready or nearly so. The next step evidently envisions a combination of both, for no LM has yet gone through a space test. Apollo-7, the long orbital flight that was the first manned flight of the Apollo Command Module, did not carry a LM along, nor did Apollo-8.

The next mission probably will bring a space test for the LM. Naturally the Apollo-9 mission is not completely specified on paper at this moment, because the Apollo-9 mission will be shaped by the results of the Apollo-8 flight (just as the mission of Apollo-8 could not be put into its final shape until Apollo-7 was completed).

Landing Technique

For the actual landing, two astronauts will enter the LM and take her down to the surface while the Command Module and the Service Module stay in orbit around the moon. After the mission on the lunar surface is completed, the two astronauts return to orbit, using the upper portion of the LM, while its lower portion that did its duty as a take-off pad for the upper portion stays on the moon.

Then the two astronauts transfer to the orbiting Command Module and the return journey begins, leaving the upper portion of the LM in orbit around the moon.

These maneuvers have not been practiced yet, and that practice could well be the mission for Apollo-9—except that the LM would, in all probability, be landed empty. It will be "flown" by somebody in the Command Module and its upper part may be brought back into lunar orbit by remote control,

too. After this has been done, Apollo-10 might accomplish the actual landing.

When thinking about the first landing on the moon it is important to put emphasis on the word "first". It will be followed by a second—nobody can tell right now when that second landing will be made or who will make it. Then there will be a third, and a fourth, but by that time it will no longer be just for the sake of exploration.

The moon offers unique possibilities for research. Because of the intensity of radiation from the sun which is not mitigated by an atmosphere, specimens could be heated to almost any temperature by the use of curved mirror. Similarly, specimens exposed to space (and shielded from earthlight) during the long lunar night will cool off to a temperature near absolute zero.

Good and Cheap Vacuum

On earth, a cubic yard of really good vacuum costs in the neighborhood of \$20,000; on the moon many cubic miles of an even better vacuum are available free of charge. And the lunar gravity is only one sixth of terrestrial gravity: Will this influence the growth of crystals, for example?

In short, the moon probably will be the site of a research laboratory where new insights into the laws of nature can be

obtained. New industrial processes could result. It is entirely reasonable to think a single new process will be worth the whole effort.

The astronauts who splashed down in the Pacific Ocean yesterday traveled almost a half-million miles to and from the moon. Watching, I could not help thinking of the early dreams and experiments. In 1930 I introduced a number of aeronautical engineers in Berlin to the first liquid fuel rocket they had ever seen. It stood about five feet tall and, even when fueled, was light enough to be lifted with one hand. It could climb about 1,500 feet and was brought back by a small parachute.

What, the engineers wanted to know, was the aim of all this? Eventually, I replied, rockets of this type will carry men to the moon. That, most of those present thought, would take about a century.

Yet from that time to the first landing on the moon in 1969 will be less than four decades. And from then on men will continue to go to the moon, not for adventure, but to learn.

WILLY LEY, American educator and a pioneer writer about space exploration, was a founding member of the German Rocket Society in 1927. His latest book in this field is "Rockets, Missiles and Men in Space."

The Miami Herald

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Saturday, December 28, 1968

EDITORIALS

A Great Day For Man— And A Worldly Welcome

WHEN Ferdinand Magellan returned after eight years from the first of his voyages which were to prove that the earth was round, "no relatives or friends awaited the homecomers on the dock, for there could be no advance news at Lisbon of their arrival."

Millions of persons the world over and thousands of trained men attended every second of the homecoming of Apollo 8 yesterday.

It had circumnavigated the moon. It had taken man as far into space in his time relatively as far as Magellan had traveled — only to die — across the unknown earth.

Both events have changed the course of history, each for the better. The difference is that Frank Borman, James Lovell and William Anders survive. Again in their time they have demonstrated that man can leave his element,

the earth's atmosphere and its gravity, and orbit another planet. What was science fiction is scientific fact.

The whole nation exults at this feat accomplished with such precision that each move, each stage was predictable nearly to the second. So, in a moment of conscious brotherhood, does the whole world. Mortal man now is bigger in his own eyes.

For the time it is not of significance what comes next. A moon landing, for which this was preparation, probably will follow. In the years ahead the moon voyage will be commonplace. In his stride man will reach out to other planets, gaining knowledge and technical skills of priceless value here on earth.

What matters now is the homecoming, the return of the discoverers, noble captains all. With fortitude and bravery they have put their nation first in space. What a great day for the race of man!

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The Magnificent Voyage

IT IS a commonplace to say that the magnificent voyage of Apollo 8 will be celebrated for as long as men honor the bravery and skill of other men. But beyond that we earthlings who have been dazzled by the epic achievement can only guess at the long-range significance of the flight.

Certain speculations seem sound, however. Not since the voyage of Columbus has any single exploration done so much to enlarge the horizons of mankind. Columbus and his crew epitomized the Renaissance (although it is important to note that their triumph was unknown to all but a handful of the people who lived at that time, and that its real impact was a century or more in being realized). It may be hoped that the magic journey of James Lovell, Frank Borman and William Anders could have some such effect on a doubting and apprehensive humankind.

It is clear now that a manned landing on the inhospitable surface of the moon is well within the state of the art. In fact it seems a safe assumption that most of the people alive today will someday thrill to manned landings on the earth's neighboring planets. Scientific knowledge, already growing by geometric progression, is sure to speed its rate of increase. Truly

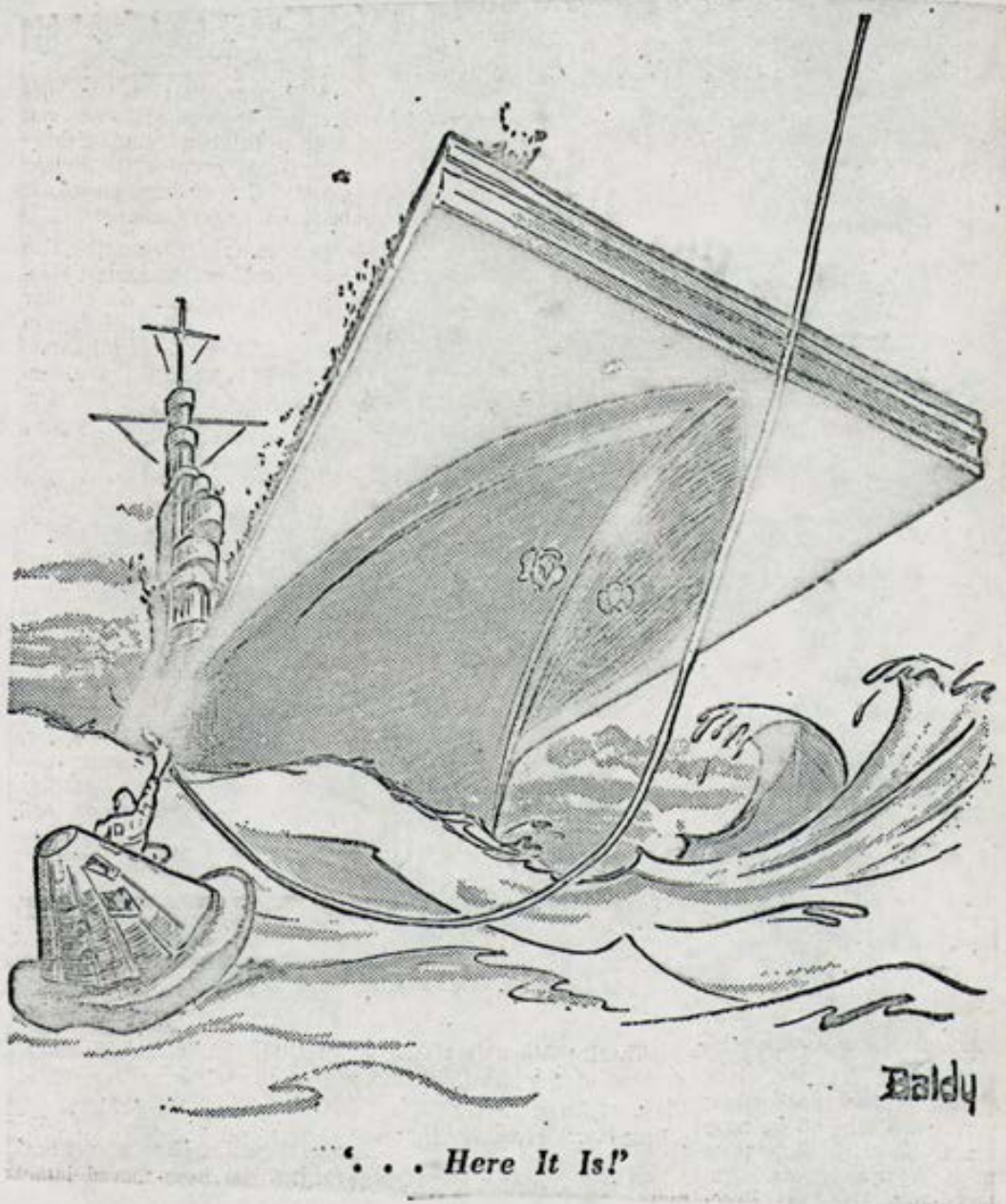
nothing that the mind of man can conceive seems beyond his grasp.

AND SURELY the central lesson of Apollo 8 shines through clearly and unmistakably: If man can elevate his moral and ethical concepts to match his scientific achievements, then no problems of famine, disease or war are insoluble. And if he does not, the same power of science that we rejoice in today must certainly bring about the destruction of his civilization. →

If this moral parity cannot be achieved by our generation, then history will be justified when it deems us a pathetically lopsided species—so full of promise, and so suicidally bent on self-destruction. It is the duty of enlightened mankind to see that this is not the verdict that future beings will find. Let the promise of space exploration help man emerge from the dark side of his nature and into the rich, humane future he is so clearly capable of reaching.



Home From Afar... 2 Crews



THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

For 101 Years the South's Standard Newspaper

RALPH MCGILL, Publisher



REG MURPHY, Editor
Editorial Page

PAGE 4

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1968

Home from the Moon

Man has journeyed to the moon and back, a testimony to his spirit, to his dreams, to his inventiveness and to the integrity of his machines. An epochal door to the universe has been opened by a flight so fantastic and thrilling and precise its execution staggers the consciousness.

But there they were at the glorious ending: Frank Borman, James Lovell and William Anders, in front of our very eyes emerging from a helicopter on the Yorktown deck and smiling, and waving, and walking, and talking, just as Earthbound mortals do.

But they had been to the moon, around it 10 times and returned, coming in to Earth's atmosphere at nearly 25,000 miles per hour, hitting it at a perfect angle, then going as a bright light in the Pacific darkness to a landing incredibly close to the target carrier.

Absolutely unbelievable.

* * *

The landing was almost casual in its execution, the crewmen of Apollo 8 talking in calm and technical terms of their approach, Houston Control replying in kind, just as though another aircraft were gliding in for a landing. The communications blackout of reentry arrived, and the world was very still, listening.

Then came the announcement, again al-

most businesslike, "We have voice contact with the crew." The mission was 146.58 hours old, Houston said.

Here, seven and a half years after a President, now martyred, spoke the goal, we have rendezvoused with the moon, 240,000 miles away, and returned, and the announced 10-year schedule of landing there suddenly seems within immediate reach.

It is the beginning of a new era of exploration, and a new world, just as the men of Apollo made clear in their readings from Genesis, in their Christmas Eve broadcast from the moon.

* * *

This was an exploration in constant touch with the world, unlike the uncharted voyages of Columbus and Magellan, who left for shores unseen and days unnumbered. Now, through his science, man can stay close, even to the moon and back.

We have touched a spectral dream previously the province of the poets, and mankind, together for this moment, may feel very near the rapture of

*"Heaven's ebon vault,
Studded with stars unutterably bright,
Through which the moon's unclouded
grandeur rolls. . . ."*

The Minneapolis Tribune

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SATURDAY, DEC. 28, 1968

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What Lies Beyond the Moon Landing?

THE THREE Apollo pilots have returned alive from their moon-girdling mission; the jubilation which swept the nation Friday following the pre-dawn splashdown in the Pacific did not stem so much from the fact that sensational history had been made but that astronauts Borman, Lovell and Anders were safe.

The space explorers followed the script with such surprising precision, and surmounted danger with such apparent ease, that anticipation of success ran strong from the time they attained lunar orbit until their journey ended. They set speed and distance records, took hundreds of pictures of the moon and did everything according to plan, even to their TV shows.

The final objective—putting men on the moon — now seems but months away. Robert Rowe Gilruth, director of the manned spacecraft center at Houston, thinks a lunar landing in 1969 is a foregone conclusion.

What after that? If we get there ahead of the Russians, as now seems certain, will the space program languish

for want of incentive, or because Congress puts a further squeeze on space appropriations? The incoming administration thinks the program too important to curtail but there is broad sentiment in Congress and the country that we need to devote more money to domestic problems and less to celestial endeavors. This sentiment may grow once the lunar objective is attained—and may endure until Russian cosmonauts also reach the moon.

But space challenges remain and will persist. And before our sights are turned on Mars, there are assignments closer to earth. Director Gilruth, for instance, looks ahead to a time when scientific laboratories will orbit the earth for periods up to a year.

And the moon will have to be explored. Both the United States and Russia have renounced territorial claims to the great grey satellite. The world hopes that this will avert conflict if substantial mineral or other wealth is discovered there. It would be tragic if, as man expanded his vistas, he also expanded his areas of dispute.

The Kansas City Times

(The Morning Kansas City Star)

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Saturday, December 28, 1968

BEYOND APOLLO, A DREAM WITHOUT LIMIT

ON the same note of perfection with which it began, man's greatest space triumph ended just before dawn yesterday in the choppy waters of the central Pacific. Astronauts Borman, Lovell and Anders are back safe from their journey across the void—a journey that has stretched the human imagination and forced every man to revise his definition of the possible.

The flight of Apollo 8 thus takes its place among the milestone events of the Space age, along with the orbiting of the first Russian Sputnik, the first manned flight and the first soft landing of a spaceship (the unmanned U. S. Surveyor) on a celestial body.

For 20 hours earlier this week, the crew of Apollo rode in orbit around the moon, only 70 miles above the forbidding lunar surface. They have seen their home planet, earth, as no men before have ever viewed it: A lonely sphere, on which a precious—and perhaps unique—cargo careens through the awful cold and eternal silence.

Apollo's fiery re-entry of the atmosphere was observed from their windows by passengers on a commercial jetliner high in the dark Pacific morning. A generation ago, of course, there were

no jetliners. But had there been, and had anyone aboard it reported seeing a moonship's return, he would have proclaimed himself either a lunatic or a mystic.

Now, "I hear they're back from the moon" is a throwaway line at luncheon between the tomato juice and the roast beef.

SO far the space art has progressed, and so swiftly, that the Apollo 8 flight itself seemed, somehow, almost too perfect. The hazards that had been feared—though willingly accepted—did not materialize. The ship's riders, who only hours before had been heroic chips adrift on an infinite sea, were now three men in dire need of a bath. From the sublime to the commonplace.

And yet space travel is plainly not commonplace, nor is it likely to be in the experience of any living man. It is an operation conducted at the very margin of human ingenuity. Its risks, while reckonable, boggle the mind—and those risks will almost certainly increase in direct proportion to the greater ambition of later missions.

Sometime next year, in the spring or early summer, with luck, the next step will be tried when another Apollo carries astronauts toward an actual moon landing attempt. That is the present goal of the manned U. S. space effort. In fact, it is an arbitrary target. For neither the moon nor the stars themselves can fix the outer limit of men's dreams. That is the affliction—the glory, some would call it—of our species.

THE HOUSTON POST

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1968

A Truly Dazzling Achievement

A truly dazzling achievement, the greatest voyage of exploration in the history of mankind, has been crowned with success. Man has been to the moon and has come back to tell of it. We join the rest of the world in a heartfelt salute to three brave, wise and good men.

We salute, too, the scientists and engineers at the Manned Space Center and elsewhere for a job well done in carrying out their exacting responsibilities on this historic mission. The pressure on them has been far greater than on previous voyages into space.

Rarely has an event so captured the imagination and enthusiasm of people all over the globe. There are a rash of press reports already in of newborns here and abroad being

named Apollo and of course being named after Frank Borman, James A. Lovell Jr and William A. Anders.

There have been anxieties, of course, as there will be when the lunar landing mission is undertaken. But our Magellians of outer space are safely back with us, and their presence is reason enough for thankful prayers.

Their accounts of the sense of space, and of man's reactions to the loneliness of it, will be fascinating to read. There has never been anything remotely like this great Apollo 8 adventure, and the full telling of it will be a thrill for everyone who lives on this pleasant oasis in space, as the astronauts themselves term our earthly home.

The Miami Herald

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Friday, December 27, 1968

The Moon Unmasked

A DUTIFUL grandmother we know is glad about the Apollo 8 mission but sad about the moon. That glorious orb of song and rhyme, says 'Astronaut

James Lovell, "is essentially gray . . . no color . . . looks like plaster of Paris."

What is she going to tell her grandchildren? The moon really isn't made of green cheese. A cow wouldn't want to jump over it. There's no man in it.

Alas, kiddies, all of this is true. The best thing you can say for the moon's looks, we suppose, is that it's over Miami.

The Philadelphia Inquirer

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THE INQUIRER'S PLATFORM

To print the news accurately and fearlessly, but never to be content with merely printing the news; to strive always to uphold the principles of our American democracy, to war relentlessly against alien "isms," to fight intolerance, to be the friend and defender of those who are persecuted and oppressed; to demand equal justice for employer and employed; to work for the advancement of industry in Delaware Valley and Pennsylvania; to oppose political hypocrisy and corruption; to fight and never to cease fighting to maintain the sanctity of personal liberty and the inviolability of human rights.

And Safely Back to Earth

From liftoff to splashdown the Apollo 8 mission to the moon was a spectacular success in every significant aspect.

The safe return of Astronauts Frank Borman, James Lovell and William Anders on Friday, after a six-day space journey highlighted by 10 lunar orbits on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning, was almost a taken-for-granted anti-climax despite the spine-tingling, tension-filled drama of blazing through the earth's atmosphere, parachuting to the Pacific, and the subsequent recovery operations. This trip went so well all the way that a happy ending seemed inevitable, the dangers notwithstanding.

It is precisely because the trio of intrepid spacemen made their flight appear so easy—practically as routine as a leisurely drive into the country on a Sunday afternoon—that their extraordinary accomplishment may not be fully appreciated by a sophisticated and blase society increasingly accustomed to remarkable feats of science and engineering.

This was man's first circumnavigation of the moon. More importantly, it was the first breakaway of the human race from our native planet and the immediate environs

of space dominated by the earth's gravitational grip.

Many millennia from now, when mankind presumably will have long since expanded its exploratory horizons to numerous heavenly bodies enormous distances from earth, the flight of Apollo 8 will loom large in the perspective of history as a pioneering breakthrough.

The voyage to the moon also was an outstanding demonstration of excellence in long-range communications. Live telecasts at various stages of the journey brought the Apollo crew, and their views of the moon and the earth from the spaceship windows, into the homes of millions in many countries.

Significantly, there was no secrecy about the flight and its objectives—in contrast to the prevailing policy in Soviet space projects. The world will share scientific knowledge gained from the journey—just as it shared the thrills of the flight itself while it was in preparation and progress.

Heartiest congratulations have been well earned by Astronauts Borman, Lovell and Anders and by thousands of scientists and technicians who worked behind the scenes to make the mission the tremendous success that it was.

The Boston Globe

MORNING EDITION

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1968

'Riders on the earth'

None but a new Homer could adequately sing the fantastic odyssey of the Apollo 8 astronauts. We lesser mortals can merely marvel almost to the point of disbelief at what three infinitely valorous men have accomplished as casually as the rest of us would cross the street.

There is not one of us who would not now forego virtually all else to stand in Frank Borman's, James Lovell's and William Anders' so richly deserved and so hazardously won place in the history of man's accomplishments—not only on earth but, in this case, deeper into the vastness of black space than man ever before had traveled. Yet, there can be no more than a handful of us who would have traded places with any one of them at their spectacular blastoff last Saturday.

Thus can we feebly measure their daring.

A sometimes disputed syllogism has it that man can achieve anything to which he can truly aspire. Were it otherwise, his creation would have been fraudulent and his Creator himself a fraud for cruelly creating out of nothingness a gnawing appetite which could never be satisfied.

To what, then, will man's aspirations now lead him? And how now can he view himself?

He really so totally without self as it so seemed he must be when he saw his earth as the astronauts revealed it to him—his great

earth just a diminishing speck in space so vast that it has neither beginning nor end, and himself as lost on that small speck as one of the grains of sand in its deserts?

This cannot be, for the astronauts, in revealing man's smallness to himself, revealed also that it is in his very smallness that his significance becomes compelling; he has defied the selfsame laws which govern his planet in its whirling, and he has won.

It is perhaps, then, no wonder that the astronauts, as their earth diminished before their eyes, were moved to take turns reading from Genesis while they raced through space:

"And God said, Let the waters under heaven be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear; and it was so."

Even a man with no religion at all, no belief in anything, must surely have been moved at that moment as the astronauts were, looking down at "the grand oasis in the great vastness of space."

Fittingly named is the Apollo for the Olympian god of light, of poetry, of prophecy. It sheds a light disclosing the limitlessness of man's reserves of courage, invention and perseverance. But it is a light that can be dimmed quickly if we do not also see, in its disclosure of the smallness of our planet, how infinitely tawdry are the differences that separate its races, its nations, its men one from

another—these infinitesimal grains of sand on an earth which is but a grain of sand itself, exaggerating their nonexistent differences, forgetting their oneness in the brotherhood they do not want to recognize.

The poet, Archibald MacLeish, noting that man's conception of himself has depended throughout history on his conception of his earth, has written of the Apollo:

"The medieval notion of the earth put man at the center of everything. The nuclear notion of the earth put him nowhere—beyond the range of reason even—lost in absurdity and war.

"The latest notion . . . formed in the minds of heroic voyagers . . . may remake our image of mankind. No longer that preposterous figure at the center, no longer that degraded and degrading victim off at the margins of reality and blind with blood, man may at last become himself. To see the earth as it truly is, small and blue and beautiful in that eternal silence where it floats, is to see ourselves as riders on the earth together, brothers on that bright loveliness in the eternal cold—brothers who know they are truly brothers."

But do we really know this? Will we ever learn?

"Thousands," said Capt Borman when the all but impossible journey was ended, "have made it possible. We (three) are just part of the group."

So are we all.

The week in review

By C. P. Houston



Saturday, December 26, 1968

Editorials

Achievement for mankind

Our first reaction to the flawless triumph of Apollo 8 is one of immense relief. This admittedly risky mission is now history, and astronauts Frank Borman, James A. Lovell Jr. and William Anders have returned to this planet safely.

A more lasting reaction to this magnificent feat is one of pride—pride in the three astronauts; pride in the thousands of persons in the space program who contributed to this achievement; pride in our city which is so closely associated with the program; pride in our country; and pride in all mankind.

Mankind has done something it has never done before — something that seemed like a mere dream only a few years ago. Borman, Lovell and Anders left the planet to which, until now, all past men have been restricted. They traveled to a distant heavenly body. They encircled it, seeing something no other human beings have seen—the back side of the Moon. And they safely returned to Earth at speeds faster than anyone has ever before gone.

To top a long series of triumphs, their landing was right on the bullseye.

Borman, Lovell and Anders have earned their place in history alongside the other great explorer pioneers of history — Marco Polo, Columbus, Magellan, Vasco da Gama, Lindberg, the Wright brothers.

In a sense, their exploit outshines all others, for they have done what no other men have done—they have left Earth, escaped for a few days man's natural terrestrial boundaries. No one knows the full implications of this achievement.

The United States at long last has surpassed anything the Russians have done. Our space program has conducted more flights, with more men in

space, with more space walks, with more time spent outside the spacecrafts, with more rendezvous in space, at greater speeds and with more accurate re-entries than our Soviet competitors have achieved.

For the first time, Americans can feel confident that—unless an unforeseen setback occurs—the first man to set foot on the Moon will be an American.

But the Apollo 8 success transcends this race with the Russians.

We were struck by these words of Dr. Thomas O. Paine, acting head of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration: "This is the beginning of a movement that will never stop. Man has started his drive out into the universe. A hundred thousand miles from Earth there is no room for a space race, no place for Russian-American competition. This is something for all mankind."

We were impressed, too, by the message of congratulations sent to the Apollo 8 astronauts by 10 Soviet cosmonauts: "We followed very closely each stage of your flight and note with satisfaction the precision of your joint work and your courage which contributed to the excellent completion of this important experiment . . . We are confident that the exploration of outer space will greatly benefit earthmen. We congratulate you on a successful step towards this noble goal."

No grudging praise, this; rather, the deepfelt respect of one group of pioneers for the skillful performance of a similar group.

We have today three new heroes—heroes who belong not just to America but to a geographical unit we will be hearing more about in the future—Earth.

The Moon and Stars



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Serene Homecoming from Epic Travel

Almost unbelievable: not only the word that says three plus one, but the perfectionist character of the entire Saturn-Apollo trip and visual check-up mission.

The homecoming of astronauts Borman, Lovell and Anders was as serene as any stage of a journey accomplished with amazing accuracy and no known flaw. Hearts were lifted to successively higher levels, however, among those who could not help contrasting the things-that-might-happen with those that were working out so exquisitely well.

From the time Michoud's assembled product, the S-1C strong man of the Saturn 5 monolith, belched unearthly fire at Cape Kennedy on the dot of lift-off schedule, to head-up splashdown of the big Apollo cabin-cone in the equatorial Pacific, this sort of contrast provided the only semblance of high drama for most followers of the six-day epic space-flight. And the way it was is the way it was wanted to be, the way we like it.

The perfect series of first-stage booster performances by the Boeing Co. and by its trail-blazing predecessors, the Chrysler Corp., make Michoud a basic symbol, in our perhaps biased opinion, of the painstaking scientific and technological fabric that had to be woven to give human safety a top priority within the framework of the whole achievement. It has been a long, long road, on the ground and in inner-space: a road of many turns and windings and with tragic tombstones marking still the fork of lowest morale and confidence. We cannot help but feel, however, that the last two Apollo missions, and particularly the last, have brought a rebirth of attention and support among congressmen and the public.

The lunanauts also brought back invaluable memory-stuff for briefing moon-landers. There's been a lot of palaver about the effects on velocities and periods of equatorial or quasi-equatorial orbits of the moon, and on descent and ascent trajectories due to certain gravitational anomalies. Of course these considerations are important and the effects, significant or otherwise, will be determined from rigid analysis of recorded data.

But there was no real robot substitute for the sort of lunar-approach simulations made by the doughty astronauts, and (depending on their ability to communicate) the feel for the topography and the depth impressions that can be imparted by them to colleagues waiting for a far-more-complicated test. "I've practically been there" lends a mentor's reliability no set of sensors can duplicate.

The sometimes stern profile of the Man in the Moon at first quarter seemed to reflect a benign chuckle as, on his course around earth, he left behind in space the homebound trio. It proved to be a good omen, though he couldn't, from his position, quite see the finish.

All the rocket-works involved deserve their place in engineering fame; but it was in parting with the trusty unit last attached to their cabin, not long before the fabulous reentry procedure began, the astronauts might most fondly have said: "Goodbye, old friend, you've been more than a father to us."

Return From the Moon

The most fantastic voyage of all times ended happily yesterday precisely at the preassigned moment and place. The travels that earned immortality for Marco Polo, Columbus and Magellan all fade before the incredible achievement of the Apollo 8 crew, Frank Borman, James Lovell and William Anders. Trailblazers for mankind, they flew to the neighborhood of the moon and returned safely to the earth that had given them birth. The praises of that odyssey will ring through the centuries. Yet the astronauts' first words on setting foot on the deck of the Yorktown were concern for the sacrifice the carrier's crew had made in spending Christmas at sea.

Academician Leonid Sedov, the distinguished Soviet space scientist, was entirely correct, of course, when he noted that Apollo 8's journey "goes beyond the limits of a national achievement and marks a stage in the development of the universal culture of earthmen."

There is no conflict between that fact and an awareness that this first crossing of the space frontier between the earth and the moon was a monumental triumph of American technology—the work of literally hundreds of thousands of American scientists, engineers, technicians, skilled workers and others who fashioned the hardware, calculated the route and did all the other thousands of essential tasks that combined to make this towering feat possible.

In the more fundamental sense, however, the achievement was that of all mankind. The Soviet Union, for example, contributed by showing the way into space

with Sputnik I. Ironically, Soviet political leaders also contributed by arguing—fallaciously—that their space firsts were in some way "proof of the superiority of socialism over capitalism." Not the least of Apollo 8's accomplishments was the probability it created that this particular *non sequitur* will not soon be heard again from Moscow. Even Fidel Castro obliquely contributed by repulsing the Bay of Pigs invasion and thus helping form the national mood that impelled John F. Kennedy to announce the national goal of a manned trip to the moon.

Yet even at this moment of deserved celebration and jubilation a disquieting thought must come to all who ponder the deeper significance of this rocket leap to the moon. What Apollo 8 did was made possible by a great mobilization of talent and energy, financed by what at times seemed like a blank check on the United States Treasury.

Why cannot the same kind of mobilization of resources be utilized to meet the nation's real problems here on earth? If it is possible to send men to the moon, is it not possible to give all our people decent housing, adequate schooling and proper medical care, to cleanse the nation's air and water of pollutants, and to save the natural wonders of forest, stream and canyon now threatened by the voracious appetite of an expanding population?

The real lesson of Apollo 8 is that this nation can do what it wants to do, if it is willing to pay the price. That lesson must be learned and applied for urgent needs here on earth even as other brave men continue the exploration of space to which Borman, Lovell and Anders have contributed so memorably and so courageously.

The Sunday Bulletin

PHILADELPHIA

Sunday, December 29, 1968

What Romantic Moon?

It would be difficult indeed for song writers to join fully in the rejoicing over the Moon flight of Apollo 8.

The men who put words and music together have, after all, pretty much depended upon the Moon for their inspiration and royalty checks. The Moon and June, Moon and spoon, silvery Moons, harvest Moons and romantic Moons.

Thanks to the astronauts, though, all this will be changed. How would it sound if a singer emotes about a romantic Moon that looks like a dirty beach with foot prints?

Come to think of it, perhaps all is not lost. A rock group equipped with four amplified guitars might just make it big with something like: "Hey There You Blah Moon Just Sitting Like a Glob of Plaster of Paris."

'Could I Interest You in Some Earthly Problems?'



Two Faces of Science

The two faces of science have rarely been so visibly close together as they were late last week. On the same day that the Apollo 8 returned safely from its historic reconnaissance of the moon, Mao Tse-tung's China exploded a hydrogen bomb with a force equivalent to three million tons of dynamite. This coincidence vividly juxtaposed science as the instrument broadening man's reach into the universe with science as the source of weapons that may destroy humanity.

Scientific knowledge in the narrowest sense is a neutral factor. The differential equations that govern the flight of rockets, for example, are just as useful in planning the orbiting of a weather satellite to help man on earth as they are in planning a simultaneous fusillade of hydrogen bomb-tipped missiles against the main cities of some enemy state. It is the political leaders of nations—the men who give orders to scientists and prescribe the directions for applying many scientific findings who will determine whether Science the Savior or Science the Destroyer triumphs. And behind those rulers, of course, are the masses of ordinary people whose fears, hopes, aspirations, prejudices and dreams influence leaders in dictatorial as well as democratic states.

All rational men, from Presidents and dictators to rank and file citizens, must be concerned with the question of how to increase the probability that the beneficent potential of science wins out over its destructive potential. The key to any such goal surely lies in attempts to widen the range of international cooperation seeking to harness scientific advances for the benefit of all men. The opportunities for such joint efforts are legion. They are best exploited when the range of nations included is truly comprehensive, so that no country—China most conspicuously at the present time—feels itself an outcast.

The new era of space exploration opened by the Apollo 8 voyage offers particularly attractive opportunities for imaginative projects to stimulate international cooperation. It is already agreed, after all, that the moon and the planets are not to be subject to the ownership of any one nation, but rather are to be open to the use of all men. Is there any reason, therefore, that the exploration of the moon in the decades ahead should not be truly international?

There is no need for tomorrow's lunar explorers to be only Americans and Russians—rather they should be men of all nations, Nigerians and Brazilians, Chinese and Germans, Indians and Czechs, Japanese and Mexicans, even Arabs and Israelis. Cooperation in space—based on a full and generous sharing of the complex technology—could help cure or at least ease the cancers of distrust and hatred that now so threaten the world. There are no guarantees, of course, but we will never know unless the attempt is made. Today's world have statesmen bold and imaginative enough to seize the initiative to turn today's dream of comprehensive international space cooperation into tomorrow's reality?

Chicago Tribune

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J. HOWARD WOOD, Publisher
W. D. MAXWELL, Editor

Saturday, Dec. 29, 1968

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—THE TRIBUNE CREDO

HEROES, SUNG AND UNSUNG

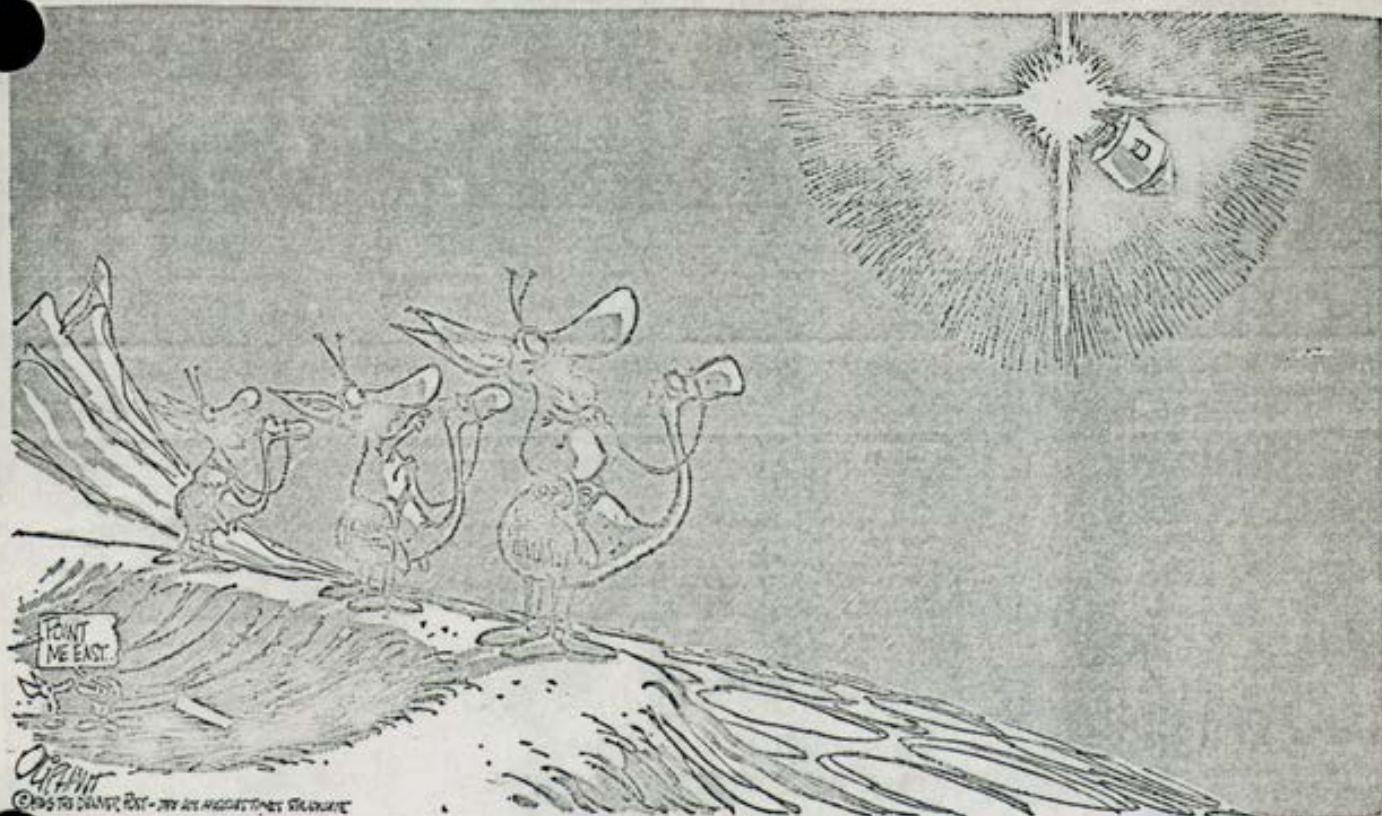
Now that Apollo 8 and its three astronauts are home from their historic trip around the moon, we can safely call it one of the most memorable Christmas gifts ever given to the American people and mankind. As long as there was a chance that something might go wrong, it seemed risky even to mention the Christmas association for fear of tempting fate and inviting disaster.

But everything apparently went perfectly. Capt. James A. Lovell Jr., Col. Frank Borman, and Maj. William Anders accomplished everything they had planned. In the process, they set a galaxy of new records and firsts. They traveled faster and farther from the earth than man had ever traveled before. They were the first to leave orbit around the earth, the first to circle the moon, and the first to see its hidden side. And on top of all this they landed so close to their target that their distance from the carrier Yorktown at splashdown was measured not in miles but in yards.

In this hour of success the spotlight has been focused chiefly on the three astronauts, and quite properly so, for they exposed themselves to risks such as man has never known. The slightest error or malfunction would have doomed them to drift eternally in space.

But we must remember, as President Johnson said in his message to them, that their success would not have been possible without the help of thousands of men and women who have contributed to the work leading up to it.

Continued on page 105



From Page 104

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Nor is it fair, as the year draws to a close, to speak of dedication and heroism without remembering the countless thousands of other Americans who might have been just as willing to face the risks of the moon trip and who have patriotically served the country in other ways, often at the cost of their lives. They have been doggedly fighting an unseen enemy in the jungle swamps of Viet Nam, while men in Washington talk of abandoning our support of the very government for which the soldiers thought they were fighting, and men in Paris dicker endlessly over the shape of a table. Members of the crew

of the Pueblo spent almost a year imprisoned in North Korea, suffering beatings and deprivation while their government listened limply to the lies of the North Koreans and ultimately yielded on very much the same terms that the North Koreans demanded at the beginning.

And so we join the administration as it glories in the success of the Apollo mission. But let neither it nor the people forget that others are serving the country with equal patriotism and are suffering because of its failures and making sacrifices because of its reluctance to make sacrifices itself. We salute all of these heroes, the unsung as well as the sung.

Footprints in the Dirty Sand

How many men throughout the ages have looked into the night sky to wonder and dream about what they saw there? The number is legion yet the spirits of all of them must have been in that sky this week when the capsule called Apollo 8 swept three Americans into orbit around the moon and out again. For with them in that capsule, infinitesimally small in the vastness of space, rode the hopes and fears not just of America but of the ages. Pythagoras, Copernicus, Kepler, Galileo, Newton, Goddard and thousands of others dreamed the dream and Astronauts Borman, Lovell and Anders have realized it. The day has finally come when man can verify with his own eyes some of the theories his mind has conceived. And the day is not far off when man will walk on a piece of the universe seen only dimly before.

The mind of the ordinary mortal must boggle when it attempts to comprehend what has unfolded this Christmas week. The three space travelers have visited a world that is not ours, have shown us what they have seen through an image crossing a quarter of a million miles of space, and have returned to tell us about it. When the majority of Americans alive today were born, only the visionaries dared to think such things were possible and spoke of them only at the risk of ridicule. But now the world must turn to the visionaries for it is they, rather than the politicians and the pragmatists, who point the way. With space travel conquered, who knows what next will fall to enterprising and creative minds?

Surely this week's achievement must rank at the very forefront of man's efforts to learn about the world and the universe in which he lives. There have also been few events in history which stand on a par with this flight to the moon in terms of sheer technical excellence. Everything worked. Those closely associated with the space program had been confident everything would work. But the underlying fear that something might go wrong surfaced from time to time at Houston. When the capsule slid behind the moon early Tuesday morning and the three men were on their own, the astronauts' "See you on the other side" was almost too casual, and the wild cheer and the shout of "We've got it, we've got it" that went up at Houston 36 minutes later told the real story.

Nevertheless, the precision with which the flight of Apollo 8 met the plans drawn for it and the perfect performance of the equipment stands as a demonstration of technical competence at its best. NASA is rightly proud of the team of scientists it has assembled which made this trip possible

and the Nation should praise those unknown men as highly as the astronauts whose names are embedded now in memory.

Even at its moment of greatest triumph, however, the space program must be kept in perspective. There are still as many worlds to conquer at home as there are in space. And the Nation must not lift its eyes to the heavens at the expense of neglecting the problems around its feet. The future of the space program, once the Apollo series concludes with the landing of men on the moon, must be carefully weighed, not just by scientists but also by the rest of us.

In all fairness, this trip to the moon cannot be compared with the other great adventures in history. These three astronauts have traveled farther from home than man has ever been before but only in miles, not in time. The risks they have undertaken are substantial but they were calculated risks based on a wealth of data. The explorers like Columbus, da Gama, Balboa, Marco Polo, Lewis and Clark and all the rest set out into the unknown. Borman, Lovell and Anders did not; the other miracles of modern science had provided in advance the answers, or at least the clues, to most of the questions that plagued earlier explorers. In addition, no explorer in history has ever had the massive technological support that stands behind the space travelers.

Far more than just NASA and the scientific achievements of this era, mighty as they have been, has gone into this trip. It began, one could say, with the ancient Greeks, and the planning for it ran through that race of men which Arthur Koestler has called "The Sleepwalkers." One of those, Johannes Kepler, wrote more than 300 years ago to Galileo Galilei, "There will certainly be no lack of human pioneers when we have mastered the art of flight . . . Let us create vessels and sails adjusted to the heavenly ether, and there will be plenty of people unafraid of the empty wastes. In the meantime, we shall prepare, for the brave sky-travelers, maps of the celestial bodies—I shall do it for the moon, you, Galileo, for Jupiter."

Building on what those who went before created, the modern scientists have made it possible for Astronaut Anders to tell us that the moon looks "like dirty beach sand with lots of footprints in it." His footprints, with those of Colonel Borman and Captain Lovell, will be on the pages of history, marking out a trail other men seem certain to follow. They will overshadow, no doubt, the prints thousands of others have left but the three astronauts would certainly agree with the words of Isaac Newton, "If I have been able to see farther, it was because I stood on the shoulders of giants."

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LONG-RANGE BUDGET EARNED

Apollo Blazes Glorious Path

The fantastic Apollo 8 round trip to the moon has left a warm glow of pride in every American and instilled confidence that a citizen of the United States of America may soon also become the first one on that distant satellite.

From beginning to end, the American odyssey to the moon was textbook perfection, a triumph of technology and training that made it look almost as routine as a jet flight to New York. It has projected the best of America and excited the entire world.

The Apollo 8 achievement has been an eight-year-long goal that cost an estimated \$24 billion — well worth the price. Proficiency and courage of Astronauts Frank Borman, James Lovell and William Anders was legendary.

They could have accomplished little, however, without the dedication and teamwork of thousands of people, the technical and economic resources of the United States of America, and the willingness of its people to take the chance.

Oddly, at the very peak of its accomplishments, the space program of the United States also faces its greatest uncertainties. The Apollo program practically assures now that an American will step down to the moon in 1969. But after that what?

The missions scheduled in space next year were initiated three years ago. At the peak of its effort, the Apollo program involved 300,000 persons. By the end of 1969 the dismantling will reduce the total to 162,000 and the trend continues downward.

The way to the planets in our universe is clear, but the future of the space program is cloudy. Congress lopped the National Space and Aeronautics Administration budget down to

\$3.9 billion next year, the lowest in six years.

Yet it is right now that the United States should be planning to establish manned research laboratories on the moon to learn more about the origins of the earth and its neighbors in the cosmos.

We should be working on manned orbital stations that will have crews of Americans living in them as way stations to the moon and other planets.

The United States also should be preparing to put men into the vicinity of Mars and Venus now, Jupiter and Mercury later. In unmanned space flights there would be tremendous economic benefit from continued research in communications, navigation, meteorology, defense, agriculture and pure science.

The rewards would be great, but the space programs will not be economical. And certainly the NASA budget should not stand alone, but must be considered among the other fiscal needs of the nation.

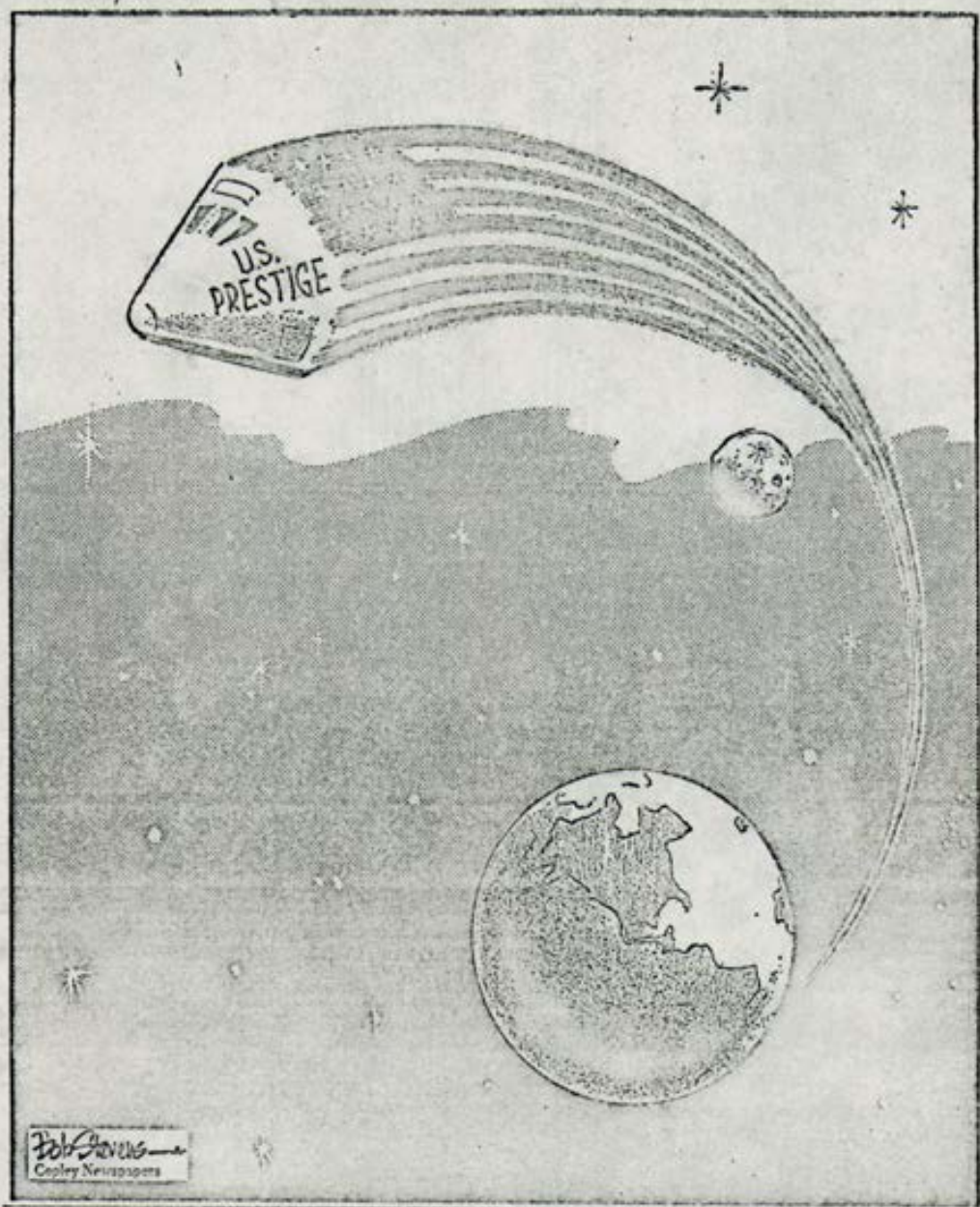
NASA's rank of priority may not allocate the space agency a budget of \$4.5 billion next year as suggested by Acting Administrator Thomas Paine, or the annual \$5.6 billion he says will be needed in the five-year period after that.

However, it is in the national interest to stop the see-saw approach to NASA funding by planning and funding a specific program with long range goals.

If we do not, we could lose not only the efficient space team that has brought us to the moon, but also the public enthusiasm generated by Apollo 8 that has made our space conquest possible.

The heavens now are open to us if we have but the vision to do what must be done.

Reaching New Heights



Makes You Feel 10 Feet Tall

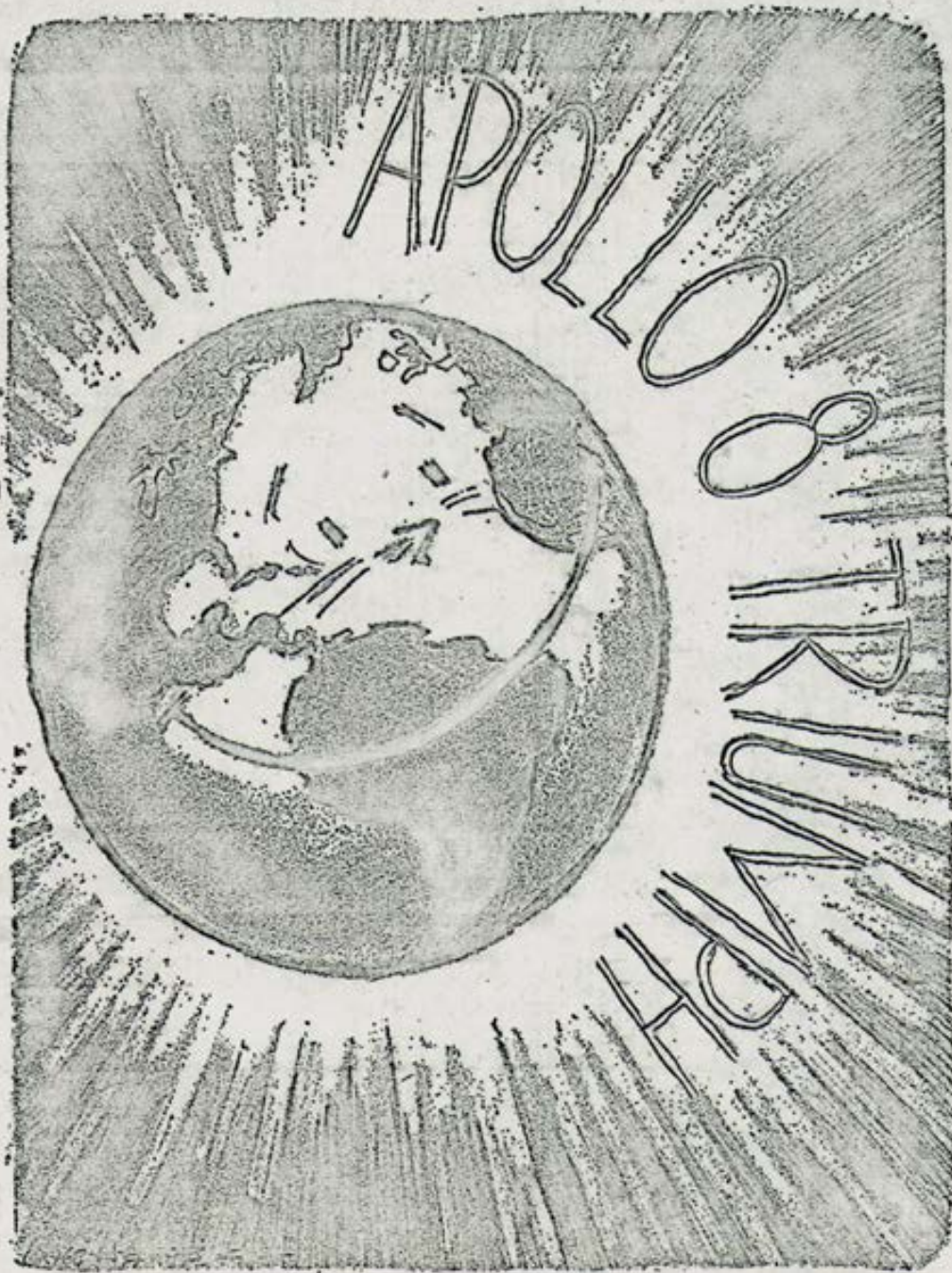


The Washington Post

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PERFECT MOON MISSION

Perfect is the only word possible for the mission to the moon by the three United States Apollo 8 explorers. The historic flight was perfection in every detail and will be remembered with pride by all Americans from this day on.

The brave conduct of the crew and their exemplary prayer beamed from the heavens on Christmas Eve should stir men's souls to renewed faith.

Not since the days when bold seafarers ventured into the undiscovered portions of the earth has man attempted anything so daring.

It has been only four decades since Charles Lindbergh, the Lone Eagle in "The Spirit of St. Louis", won the hearts and admiration of the world by flying across the Atlantic in his tiny aircraft.

Now three courageous men, Col. Frank Borman, Capt. James A. Lovell Jr. and Maj. William Anders, have rocketed repeatedly around the moon and returned safely at speeds the ordinary person cannot comprehend.

The confidence and competence of the scientific experts, ground crews and everyone associated with our space program, from parachute riggers to recovery frogmen, are nothing but astounding.

It has been just short of 11 years since we orbited our first small satellite, and not quite seven years since John Glenn became the first American to orbit the earth.

Other space achievements, which followed disappointments and even tragedy, seem slight compared to the moon mission. But our scientists have been correct in their calculations,

and no one any longer doubts their capability of landing men on the moon.

The year 1968 will stand as one of the most extraordinary of all times for scientific feats, for it was in this year too that the first successful heart transplant operation was performed.

Dr. Philip Blaiberg, the second patient to receive another human's heart under the direction of Dr. Christiaan Barnard in South Africa, is alive and well, as are others who underwent similar surgery elsewhere in the world.

It does not detract one particle from the pride all Americans have for their astronauts and scientists to suggest that the same type of concentrated effort needs to be directed to the problems on the "good earth."

What a wry commentary is the fact that we are capable of sending men around the moon with a greater degree of accuracy and safety than we are able to travel in our cities.

While everyone joins in a "Welcome Home" toast to our moon men, the quest for peace on earth must remain uppermost in our minds.

Men of good will want an end to wars and domestic violence. They want air that is good to breathe, water that is pure to drink, and streets that are safe to walk.

These are elementary things, so elementary they have become urgent matters of national concern, more basic to our survival than any trip in space.

So we join whole-heartedly in the salute to our American heroes who have returned from the reaches of the moon. And we pray our leaders will get down to earth on the less dramatic but even more compelling challenges facing them.



'...then at 2800 MPH we moved from lunar orbit
towards the sphere of gravitational influence'