

APOLLO 8

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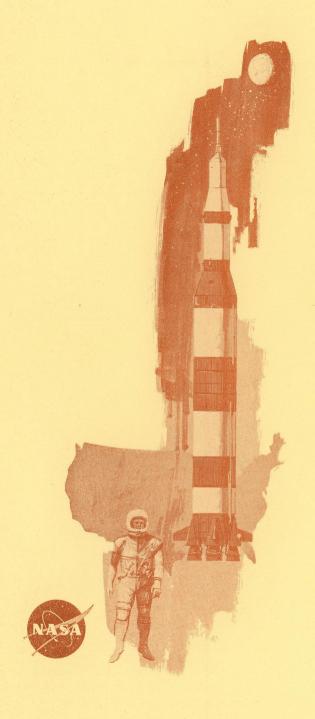
presented to

Frank Borman, Col., USAF / James A. Lovell, Jr., Capt., USN / William A. Anders, Lt. Col., USAF

at

Houston, Texas

BY SPACE CITY COVER SOCIETY



APOLLO 8 MISSION

Mankind has done something it has never done before — something that seemed like a mere dream only a few years ago. U. S. Astronauts Frank Borman, James A. Lovell, Jr. and William A. Anders have traveled to a distant heavenly body. They circled 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 gone before.

It all started at 6:51 a.m. (Houston time) December 21, 1968, when the Apollo 8 was launched, and ended at 11:04 a.m. (Houston time) December 27, 1968 when the hatch of the spacecraft was opened and the astronauts stepped out into a liferaft. In between these times a string of "firsts" was established. The mission's records include:

- Closest man has been to the Moon
 70 miles
- Farthest man has been from Earth220,000 miles
- First time man has left the Earth's gravitational influence, about 185,000 miles out
- Fastest man has traveled, about 25,000 mph; reached at re-entry into Earth's atmosphere
- Slowest any spacecraft has traveled, about 1148 mph; when the ship entered the Moon's gravitational influence
- Heaviest payload put into Earth orbit
 280,000 pounds—and heaviest exclusive of the booster vehicle—96,431 pounds
- Heaviest payload for any mission to the Moon — 87,550 pounds

. . . . "In the beginning God created the Heaven and The Earth . . . and God called the Dry Land Earth and God saw that it was Good"....

... "And from the crew of Apollo 8 we close with good night, good luck and God Bless All of You – All of You on The Good Earth"...