

The Battalion

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Lunar Lander Released; Apollo 13 Heading On In

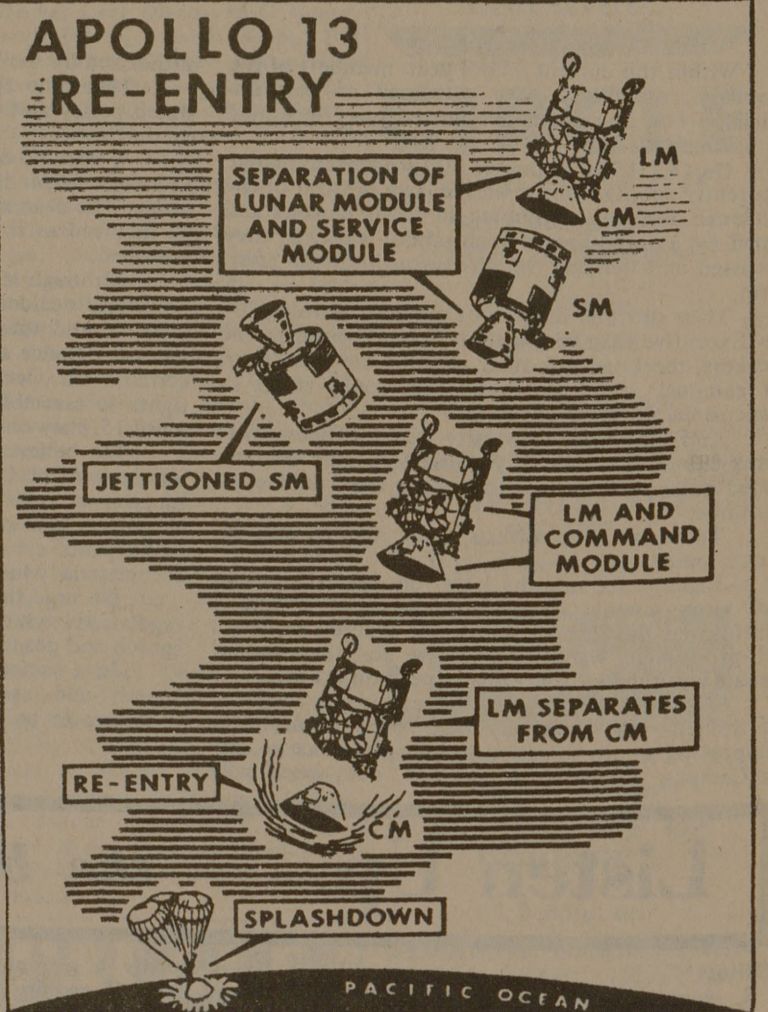
By Howard Benedict
Associated Press Writer
SPACE CENTER, Houston — The Apollo 13 astronauts today kicked loose the lunar lander that has served as their lifeline and headed in the command ship for a dash through earth's atmosphere to a splashdown in the Pacific Ocean.

Their splashdown was set for 1:07 p. m. EST. Their service module, crippled by an explosion Monday, had been cast off earlier. As the astronauts jettisoned

their services module they reported, "There's one whole side of that spacecraft missing . . . it's a mess." The damage was the result of the oxygen tank rupture that aborted the moon-landing mission Monday night and forced the astronauts to fight for survival with the resources of their lunar lander. The separation of the service module came at the end of an hour of furious activity in which James A. Lovell Jr., Fred W. Haise Jr. and John L. Swigert

Jr. turned on the electrical power in the command ship and fired a control jet to aim for an afternoon landing in the Pacific Ocean. The service module damage would present no problem to the astronaut's return to earth. Following the separation, Lovell said one whole panel, 22 feet long, and part of the engine bell were missing. "Looks like a lot of debris is just hanging off the side," Lovell said. "It's near the S-Band antenna." The service module contained

most of the long-life oxygen and electrical power for the Apollo 13 command ship. The explosion Monday night rendered the command vehicle useless until today when power was restored with batteries. The astronauts discarded the service module to expose the command ship heat shield which was to protect them during the blazing re-entry through the atmosphere. The spacemen used a tricky "push-pull" technique to separate the service module. Lovell fired the lunar module jets to push the service section forward. Simultaneously, Swig-



Termed 'Too Costly' No Space Rescue System Planned: NASA Officials

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Despite the perilous flight of Apollo 13, the United States has no plans to develop a space rescue system in the near future. It would be too costly with present hardware, say officials of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Even if another Saturn 5 rocket had been standing by on a launch pad at Cape Kennedy, it might not have been useful if Apollo 13 had needed immediate rescue when an oxygen tank ruptured Monday night. Apollo 13 was nearly three days from earth, near the moon. The Saturn 5 would have required several hours checkout

and at least three days to reach the troubled astronauts. The cost of a Saturn 5 is \$185 million. The Apollo spacecraft would require modification, at great cost, to serve as a rescue craft capable of carrying at least five men.

There are several other ideas, from orbiting rescue stations to one-man space lifeboats that could re-enter the atmosphere. But they too cost money. Because of economics, the space agency has concentrated on eliminating the chance of failure by building backup systems in its space vehicles. That approach showed shortcomings when the command ship's main and backup supplies of power and oxygen were drained by an oxygen tank rupture. But the astronauts did have the lunar module resources to keep them alive.

219 Candidates Seek 70 Offices

Two hundred nineteen candidates are seeking 70 positions to be decided in the April 23 general election, Tommy Henderson, Election Commission executive vice president, announced Thursday. Henderson said that polls will be located at the Memorial Student Center, Sbis newsstand, dorm 2 guard room, and northeast of the library. A mobile poll unit will also be used, he said. Polls will be open from 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Henderson said. The mobile unit will be at the North Gate post office from 7:30 a.m.-11 a.m., the architecture parking lot from 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. and the parking lot of the student apartment office from 4:30-8 p.m. Candidates, according to official Election Commission lists, are:

Student Senate Executive Committee: President — Kent Caperton, William M. Maskal, Jim Weaver; Vice President — Roger Miller, David L. Moore; Recording Secretary — Dale Foster, Bill Hartsfield; Treasurer — Jimmy Alexander, Eddie Duryea; Parliamentarian — Michael

Martin Essmyer; Allen Eugene Giles; Life Chairman — Rudy de la Garza, John Sharp; Issues Chairman — Kirby Brown, Dale Foster, Charles R. Hoffman; Welfare Chairman — Charles Hicks; Public Relations Chairman — Jimmy O'Jibway, Mike van Bavel.

Student Senators:

College of Agriculture (two senior, two junior, two sophomore representatives): Senior — Randall E. Betty, David E. Frost, Charles Mueller, David Reynolds, Gerald Witkowski; Junior — Chuck Donnell, Kenny Hensley, Court Koontz, Mike Latta, Ira F. Lee; Sophomore — Mark Stephen Kidd, Paul Eldon Puryear.

College of Architecture (one senior, one junior, one sophomore): Senior — Gary Boyd, Matt Carroll, Joe Flores, Robert Riggs, David Stephens, Jr.; Junior — Pearre Chase Jr., Ric de Neve, Bob Thompson; Sophomore — Darryl Baker, Cortland Pierce Houchard, Edward Earl Huckaby.

College of Business Administration (two senior, two junior, (See 219 Seek, page 3)

NASA does expect to have a space rescue capability when it develops a so-called space shuttle system, perhaps late in this decade. The shuttle would operate like an airplane, taking off with assist from a reusable manned rocket to ferry men and supplies to large orbiting space stations. The shuttle would land like a conventional airplane on any runway, and could be flown 100 or more times. With fast reaction time, it will be able to serve in an emergency situation.

Hundreds of sailors on the deck cheered and clapped as the astronauts splashed down in warm, rolling waters. The crew rode its command ship Odyssey to a pinpoint landing at 1:08 p. m., EST just four miles from this recovery carrier. The spaceship landed close enough for television cameras aboard the ship and a helicopter to relay dramatic pictures as Odyssey broke through a layer of clouds 2,000 feet high. The command module dangled under three huge orange and red parachutes.

Dallas Lawyer Speaker At 68th Muster Tuesday

Dallas attorney Yale B. Griffis will be the speaker at the annual Muster program on the Texas A&M campus Tuesday. A&M students and staff and Brazos County former students will assemble in front of the east entrance to the System Administration Building for the 5:30 p.m. program where A&M students pay respect to deceased Aggies.

Collier Watson, chairman of the Student Senate's Student Life Committee, will preside at the 40-minute Muster. The program will begin with the Texas Aggie Band playing "Texas Our Texas." Civilian Student Chaplain Ed Donnell will give the Muster prayer. Student Senate President Gerry Geistweid will explain the Muster tradition. An official from the Association of Former Students will bring greetings from the association.

A majority of the Aggies participating in a poll conducted Wednesday and Thursday strongly agree that on-campus housing is necessary for women and that pollution is a very threatening problem to the human race and environment. Sophomore accounting major Julio Richer, initiator of the poll, has founded the PEAR Association to conduct statistical research polls and surveys on the A&M campus. According to Richer, the word PEAR is derived by taking the first letters of the phrase, "Resident After-Election Poll" and spelling them backwards. He conducted his poll among Moses Hall residents. Richer said that it took him over 17 hours to interview the students and to calculate the results. Students were asked whether they strongly agreed, moderately agreed, slightly agreed, were indifferent, strongly disagreed,

moderately disagreed or slightly agreed with the 21 questions Richer asked each of them. Most of those questioned strongly disagreed with changing the name of the "Aggie War Hymn" to the "Aggie Fight Song." One hundred five of the 149 students interviewed strongly agreed that the Student Senate should make announcements in The Battalion with regard to the time and place that a senate meeting will take place. Most Aggies participating said they at least agreed that the faculty and students should have a voice in the nomination of the permanent president of the Texas A&M University System. Richer said that any dormitory wishing to participate in the April 22 and April 27 election polls must supply four volunteers per dorm. Anyone wanting information, he said, about the poll should contact him at 845-4075.

Aggies favor coed housing, Student's PEAR Poll Reveals

On Student Problems Smith, Ags Confer

Two A&M student leaders are in Austin today participating in the Governor-to-Presidents Conference. Kent Caperton, Student Senate vice president, and Tom Henderson, president of the Texas Intercollegiate Student Association, were invited, along with student leaders from across the State, to discuss some of the most pressing problems facing the state. Gov. Preston Smith is sponsoring the conference, which will discuss environment, higher education, drug abuse, welfare, alienation of youth and the legislative process. Former Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark was scheduled to speak this morning and CBS news correspondent Dan Rather was to speak at noon. The remainder of the day was to be spent in seminar session. The conference resulted from the President-to-Presidents Conference held by President Richard Nixon last summer. A Texas conference was proposed by Bill Wright, student body president at Southwest Texas State University and planned through the Governors Office. Gov. Smith said that this conference was a continuation of his policy of meeting with student

body presidents, one which had already expanded his knowledge and awareness of the ideas and ideals of Texas youth. "I think that this is a very encouraging sign from our government that he is interested in our problems and our approaches to their solution," Henderson said. "With cooperation between student leaders and governmental officials, I feel that we can go a long way toward the solution of our common problems in a responsible yet satisfactory manner," he said. Civilian Week Begins Monday

Civilians begin Monday the week that is theirs, one that climaxes with Civilian Weekend April 24-27. Several activities are planned for each day during the week, according to Garry Mauro, president of Keathley hall and chairman of the Civilian Student Council's Civilian Week-Weekend Committee. A dance and selection of the 1970-71 Civilian Sweetheart next Saturday will end the week. Monday, Mauro said, has been designated Residence Hall Day. From noon until 6 p.m. a CSC-sponsored auto show will be held in the quadrangle area between Sbis Dining Hall and Davis-Gary Hall. Several local auto dealers will be participating in the show. Beginning at 6 p.m., halls will participate in egg throw and molasses drop contests, held on a run-off type basis, in the quad area. At 7, Aggie Cinema will show "The Great Race" in The Grove for 50 cents admission. In the event of rain, the film will be shown in Room 113 Biological Sciences. Tuesday is Academic Day-Aggie Muster. A noon banquet will honor faculty members who, in the opinion of the CSC, are student-oriented. Muster will be held at 5 p.m. in front of the System Administration Building. A Black Awareness Rap Session at 7 p.m. ends the day. Between four and six black students will be on hand in lounge A-2, between Boses and Eugene Halls, to answer questions other students might have about black student life at A&M. "This is one of the few opportunities for the average Aggie to talk with a black student," Mauro said, "and find out what he really expects to get out of Texas A&M. It's a chance for Aggies to find out what the real situation is, instead of going by rumors."

Aggies Favor Coed Housing, Student's PEAR Poll Reveals

Wednesday will be Earth Day, in honor of the national environmental teach-in being held that day. All day will be devoted to programs presented by A&M's Symposium for Environmental Awareness. A voter rally will be held at 5 p.m. on the drill field, and mud football, horseshoes, push ball and tug of war contests will be held on the intramural field at West Gate. Pool tournaments will begin at 6 in the Aggie Den at North Gate, and spade and chess contests will be held in the MSC. Get Out The Vote Day is Thursday's title. Throughout the (See Civilian Week, page 2)



HOMETOWN REMEMBRANCE — Three Biloxi, Miss., youngsters hang up a sign renaming their street after astronaut Fred Haise Jr., who grew up on Church Street. (AP Wirephoto)