

The Battalion

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Quarrels Would Not Last Long, If The Fault Were Only On One Side.

THURSDAY — Occasional light drizzle or rain today and tonight. High 45, low 45.

FRIDAY — Partly cloudy to cloudy with widely scattered showers. High of 57.

Apollos 'Go' Despite Computer Hassle

By HOWARD BENEDICT
AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE KENNEDY, Fla. (AP) — Delayed for more than two hours by a computer problem coming within a breath of a flawless lift-off, Apollo 17 vaulted toward the moon Thursday morning, propelled by a fiery rocket on what could be man's last voyage to another world in this century.

The last flight of the historic Apollo series began at 12:33 a.m. EST as a thundering Saturn 5 rocket thrust Navy Capt. Eugene A. Cernan, geologist Harrison H. "Jack" Schmitt and Navy Cmdr. Ronald E. Evans away from their home planet on a scientific expedition to fill in missing chapters of moon history.

Despite the delay in launch, Apollo 17 went smoothly into earth orbit. To reach the moon, the spacecraft orbits the earth twice in slightly more than three hours. Then another rocket burst from the Saturn 5's third stage will send the spacemen toward the moon and away from their home planet.

Mission Control said the tardy launch will not affect the Dec. 11 arrival time at the moon. The lost time will be made up by performing a more powerful rocket thrust when the spacecraft blasts out of earth orbit.

Hundreds of thousands of persons jammed viewing sites in the Cape Kennedy area to bid farewell to Apollo and to watch the blazing departure in the first after-dark launching of an American manned space flight.

They all had to wait two hours 40 minutes beyond the planned liftoff time while experts trouble shot the problem with a computer-driven device called an automatic sequencer.

The countdown proceeded smoothly to within 30 seconds of the originally planned liftoff time of 9:53 p.m. EST when the device, for some reason, failed to pressurize an oxygen tank in the third stage of the Saturn 5. This caused the computer device to call an automatic halt to the countdown.

Launch control recycled the countdown to 22 minutes and resumed, only to be halted again eight minutes before launch. This, officials said, was to give experts more time to resolve the problem.

Launch spectators were rewarded for their long wait by the most dazzling liftoff in the history of this spaceport, where more than 3,000 rockets have been fired in 22 years.

The astronauts rode quietly calling out the routine readings on their instruments.

"At three minutes, we're go,"

first Schmitt shortly after the first stage rocket burned out and fell away.

"You're going right down the pike," said Mission Control.

Technicians both here and at Marshall Spaceflight Center in Huntsville, Ala., worked against the clock to overcome the problem.

Experts here determined that a computer which controls the countdown was not able to accept the fact the third stage oxygen tank was being pressurized manually instead of automatically as planned. In effect, they worked out a new program which told the computer to accept the manual pressurization.

The new procedure was worked

out on a mockup of the system at Marshall, the center which was responsible for development of the Saturn 5 rocket.

After more than an hour of testing, technicians determined that the new technique would perform satisfactorily.

The technicians were working against the 1:31 a.m. EST deadline — determined by the position of the earth, moon and sun — beyond which launch would have had to wait until Thursday night.

Apollo 17's astronauts are scheduled to have a quiet day in space today. Here are the planned activities (all times Eastern Standard):

9:41 a.m. — The astronauts

begin a six-hour, 44-minute rest period.

4:25 p.m. — Rest period ends. 4:55 p.m. — The crew eats breakfast.

8:33 p.m. — Lunch. 9:33 p.m. — Crew exercise period.

11:33 p.m. — The crew has dinner.

The astronauts end their day at 1:03 a.m. EST and begin an eight-hour rest period.

Mission Control said the times of some mission events during Apollo 17's coast to the moon may not occur precisely as scheduled because the trip to lunar orbit has been speeded up to make up the time lost by the delayed launch.

Truman's Health 'Critical'

By CHET CURRIER
Associated Press Writer

KANSAS CITY (AP) — Former President Harry S. Truman, fighting congested lungs and a weakened heart, remained on the critical list today but medical officials said his condition was improved.

A statement issued at 10 a.m. EST by Research Hospital and Medical Center, where Truman was taken late Tuesday, said: "His age (88) and the potential of sudden change require that he continue to be described as critical."

But the hospital's hourly bulletin reported "he is not in a coma and is becoming more responsive to stimuli." An hour earlier, the spokesman had said Truman was in a "deep stupor but responsive to painful stimuli as differentiated from a coma — when the patient is unresponsive."

Truman's condition was downgraded from serious to critical late Wednesday, and John Dreves, spokesman for Research Hospital, said he had suffered a "temporary relapse." He said Truman's condition later stabilized, however.

At Truman's bedside were his wife Bess and her sister-in-law,

Mrs. George Wallace, the hospital said.

Truman's temperature was 102.8 degrees, the hospital said, indicating "he is not responding to antibiotics administered intramuscularly, necessitating the administration of the antibiotics intravenously."

"The administration is being performed with extreme care to prevent adverse reactions because of his known allergies," a hospital spokesman said.

An hour earlier, the hospital said Truman's condition was in a "very delicate and critical balance." The hospital's definition of "critical" includes the phrase "death may be imminent."

Dreves said:

"In response to speculation about the cause of Mr. Truman's hospitalization, Dr. Graham said that pulmonary difficulties had been treated at home, as indicated, for the past two weeks. The acute phase and heart failure began the night before hos-

pitalization while the arteriosclerosis has been a gradual change for some time."

In earlier bulletins Dr. Graham said the bronchial problem was complicated by a mild weakening of the heart caused by hardening of the arteries. Dreves said at the evening briefing the reference to heart failure was synonymous with the weakening described earlier.

The rest of Dreves' statement read:

"Mr. Truman is receiving occasional administration of carbon dioxide to stimulate the increased blood flow interspersed with the inhalation therapy treatments noted at the afternoon conference. He is also using a flotation mattress to prevent impeding the circulation."

Dreves said the carbon dioxide is being administered by mask.

Dreves was relaying written questions from newsmen to Dr. Graham.

Rolling Stone's Mick Jagger Stars In CAC's 'Performance'

The last Contemporary Arts Committee Film Series movie of the fall semester will be presented in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom at 8 p.m. Friday.



Mick Jagger

"Performance" is one of the most contemporary films slated in the series and features Rolling Stone Mick Jagger and James Fox in the life of a superstar. The film is set in London and was shot on-location. It is a story of the underworld and an incisive probe into the effects of love and hate on human relationships.

Jack Nitsche wrote the music except for "Memo From Turner" by Jagger and Keith Richards, also of the Stones.

Joining Jagger in providing vocals for the soundtrack are Randy Newman and Buffy Sainte-Marie. Merry Clayton and "The Lost Poets" are also featured on the soundtrack. Randy Newman directed the film.

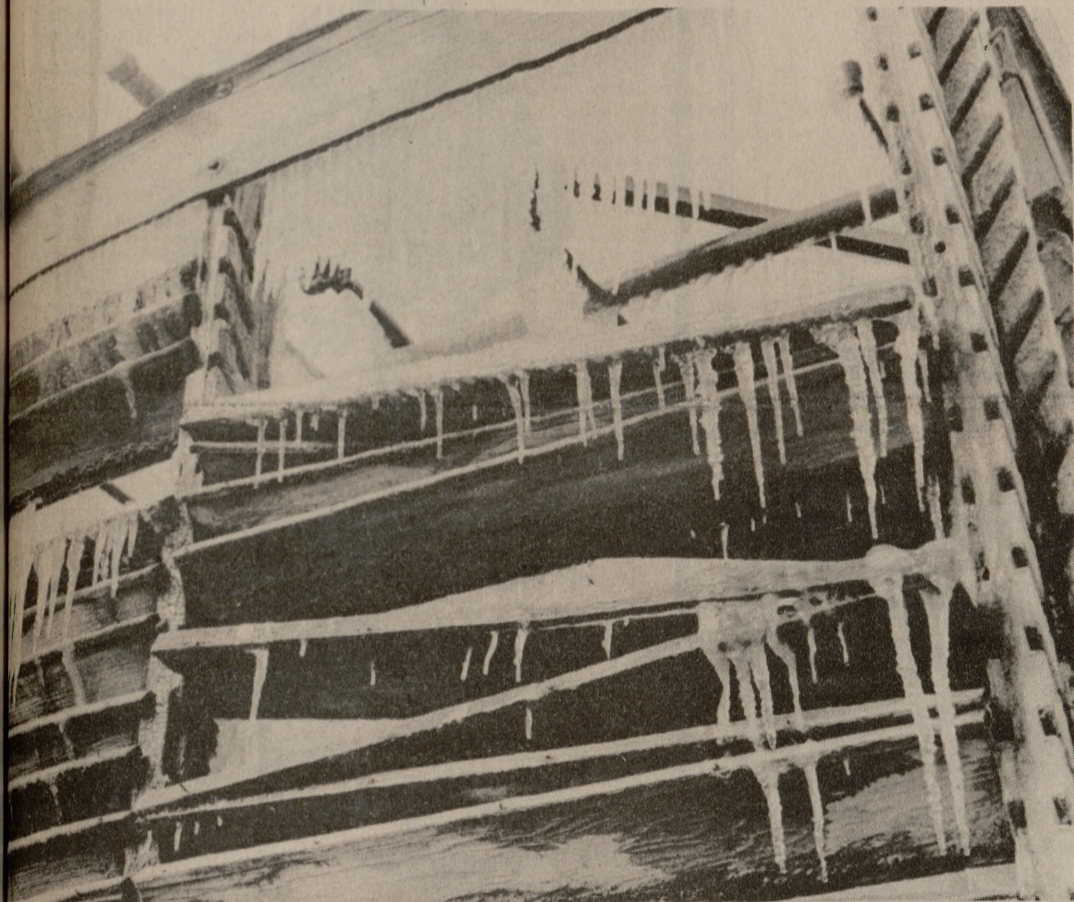
Tickets are one dollar for A&M students and \$1.50 for all others. Refreshments will be available.

Graduating Ags Need To Make Aggieland Plans

Saturday's graduating seniors who have paid for a 1972-73 Aggieland are reminded they should make arrangements with secretaries in the Student Publications Office to have annuals mailed to a forwarding address.

Students are required to pick up annuals in person or have them mailed.

Forwarding addresses, plus one dollar for handling, should be brought to Room 216 of the Service Building.



FORMING AN ICE FLOW was easy Wednesday afternoon if one had the patience to wait in a freezing wind for one to form. The picturesque icicles were found atop the roof of the A&M Press building on its air conditioner water cooler. (Photos by Mike Rice)

Rather Cites Government For Creating Trust Crisis

The American crisis of trust in leadership will not be solved by government management of news, a prominent television network journalist believes.

"Our country's problem today is a lack of communicable trust in its leadership," Dan Rather stated in a Political Forum talk Wednesday.

The CBS News White House correspondent said it runs straight through the Republican and Democratic Parties, from county courthouses to the White

House.

Rather believes the last evidences of communicable trust were during the Eisenhower administration and that "it must be built back."

"It's a gut issue," he informed an audience of more than 800 TAMU students, faculty-staff and administrators. "We've got to get truth out of our leaders."

"I don't see it happening. What I see is when someone is in doubt, they stamp 'secret' on it. Then if the press gets it, administra-

tion goes to court to try to prevent publication," Rather related.

There are "some few things" that should be kept secret, he admitted, but "the question to be answered is whether it being known will embarrass the U. S., or a candidate for political office."

"What goes on in the Departments of Commerce or Agriculture," he queried, "that 400 to 500 pieces of paper a day need to be kept secret?"

Rather, a Texas-born and trained reporter who views his as an adversary relationship ("an important cat-dog relationship") with politicians, said that "more and more in recent years, especially on the part of this administration, leaders have tried to manage the news. They misled reporters, and by misleading reporters, they misled you."

He said each administration from that of Kennedy on "has gotten a little bolder in selling the idea that society's problems are the fault of the press, like pointing out the growing gap between the haves and the have-nots."

"How long has it been since you heard top U. S. leadership admit it has made a serious policy mistake?" the speaker posed.

(See Dan Rather, page 2)

Record 1,224 Aggies Applied For Graduation Saturday

A record 1,224 students have applied for mid-term graduation at Texas A&M Saturday.

Houston attorney Leon Jaworski, immediate past president of the American Bar Association, will be commencement speaker. The exercises will be held at 9 a.m. in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Gen. Jack J. Catton, commander of the Air Force Logistics Command headquartered at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, will address students receiving military commissions at 1:30 p.m.

The cadets' first 1972-73 parade field review will take place after commencement and commissioning.

Corps Commander Ronald L. Krnavek of Corpus Christi will lead the review off at 3:15 p.m.

Col. Thomas R. Parsons, commandant, said it will honor Gen. Catton, and about 130 newly-commissioned officers.

Col. Parsons noted the review will not be of the Final Review type held at the end of the spring semester. He said it will be cancelled in case of inclement weather.

A&M Library Will Be Open 24 Hours A Day For Finals

Around-the-clock quiet for semester finals study will be available to A&M students at the University library Dec. 12-15.

The facilities will be available to prepare for exams 88 straight hours, from the regular 8 a.m. opening time Dec. 12.

TAMU fall semester finals are scheduled Dec. 13-16, 18 and 19.

Circulation Librarian Mel Dodd said the main checkout desk, division service desks and reserve room will close at midnight and reopen at 8 a.m. during the period. Studying students may use accessible shelf materials in the library, however. Doormen will be on duty.

The final exam study arrangement has worked well for the last couple of years, Director of Libraries John B. Smith noted.

Cohen Calls Occult 'Handle On Life'

Most young persons turning to the occult, are from families without religious backing and are searching for a similar type holding on life, said Daniel Cohen, editor of Science Digest.

"People have more things than they ever had before, but they're still not happy," said Cohen in speaking before an almost full house in the Memorial Student Center Ballroom Wednesday night.

"No one seems to care to change things anymore. The world seems too big and complex to change. Instead people turn to the occult to get some sort of

handle on the world in order to understand it better."

Cohen, a skeptical observer of the occult, said 'occult' means hidden knowledge derived from ancient times when secrets were entrusted to a few.

Belief in the occult was thought to be dying in the 18th century or the "enlightenment period." "But there is a greater interest in occultism today than there has been in the last century," said Cohen.

"In the late 19th and early 20th century, there was a rise of spiritualism," Cohen continued. "But this growth did not change things much. I wonder if the rise in interest of occultism is a sign of change today?"

Several reasons were used by Cohen to justify the growth in interest of the subject. Included in these reasons were the decline in organized religion, a disenchantment with science, a sense of individual lack of power, drugs and the anti-establishment figure.

"Parapsychologists and astrologists don't like to admit they are part of occultism, but they are," emphasized Cohen.

Astrology, in a short summation, began with the creation of civilization and was originally intended for one person — the

king. There was no meaning in the stars for the commonfolk until the Greeks expanded astrology into what it is today.

The meaning of astrology is a foretelling of the future according to the position of the stars at the time of birth.

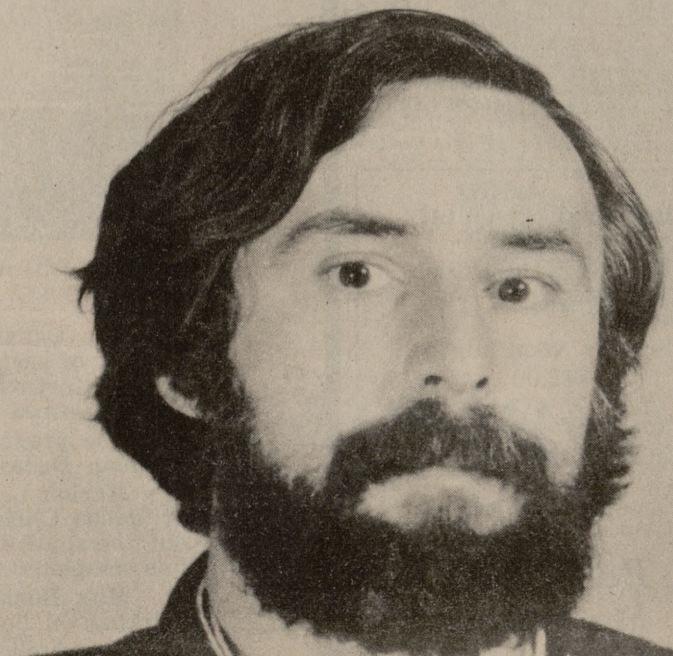
"Astrologers pretend to tell us something about ourselves," said Cohen.

"Witchcraft is basically the practice of bad or evil magic," continued Cohen. "Originally priests looked upon witches as competition as they offered immediate relief to their subjects, even if this relief did not necessarily happen. All priests could do was to submit a request to the subjection of God."

"Modern spiritualism never really got off the ground as an organized movement until 1888 when a family called 'The Foxes' heard strange rapping noises in the form of signals in their home."

"It became a popular movement and led directly to the study of parapsychology which hasn't yet given up on the idea of trying to find some proof of immortality," said Cohen.

University National Bank "On the side of Texas A&M." —Adv.



Daniel Cohen