

My fuzzy faded memories of...

GROWING UP WITH SPACEFLIGHT



**Some people were up-close to America's
manned space program, hands-on,
working with the nuts and bolts of
mankind's greatest adventure, a part of
the single greatest peaceful advancement
of human civilization...**

The rest of us had to watch it on TV.

**Growing up with
spaceflight, my
earliest memory was
sitting in front of my
grandma's TV
watching Freedom 7
launch...**





**...of course it looked
more like this.**

High-tech. TV graphics circa 1961





The Flight
of
LIBERTY
BELL

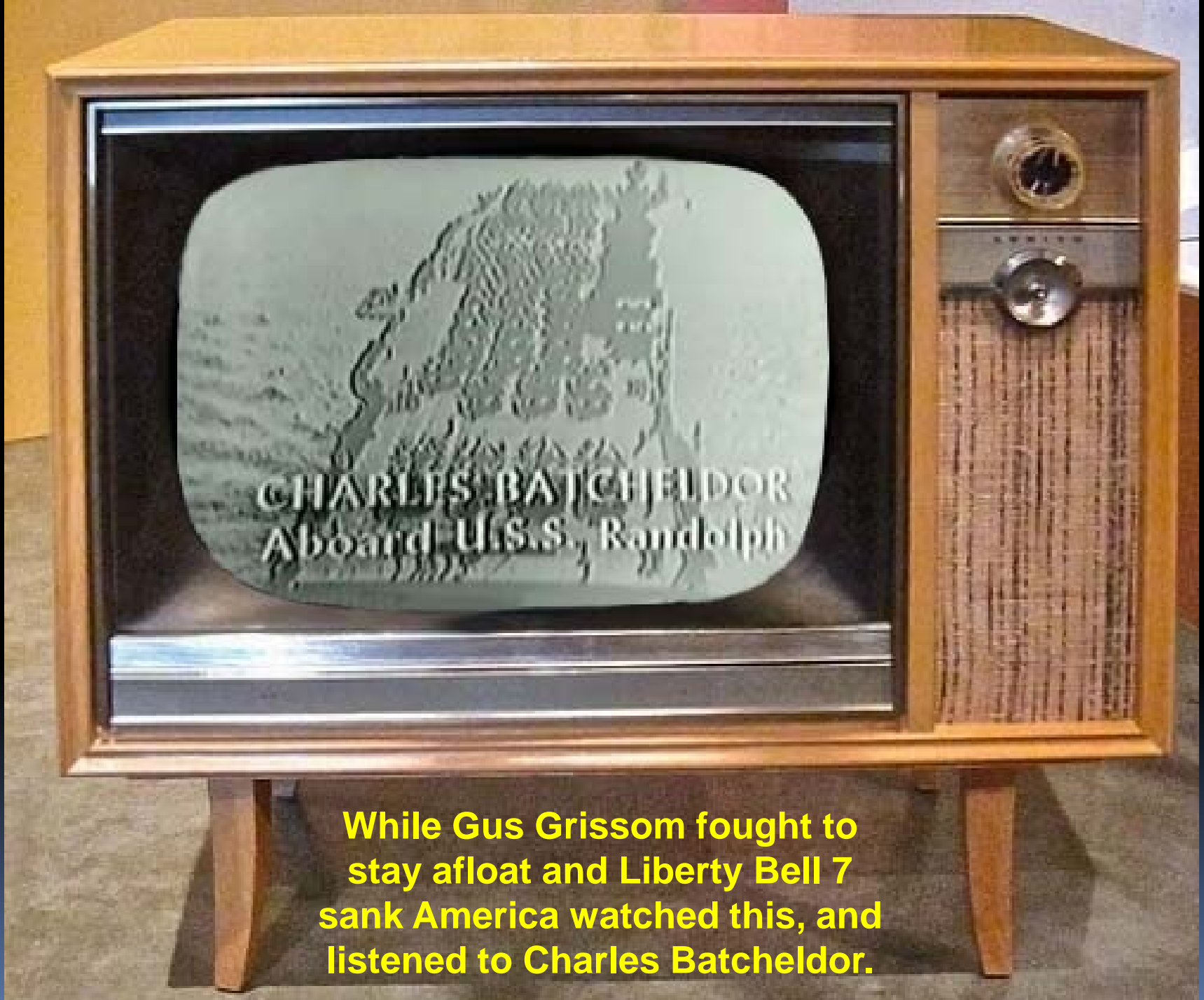
The second United States man in space "*Shoot.*"



NBC cleverly filmed a simulation exercise of MR-4 to play during the mission. It was synced with mission events and showed controllers and astronauts working the flight and... especially Alan Shepard...



**...you had to have a lot of
Alan Shepard in 1961.**



While Gus Grissom fought to stay afloat and Liberty Bell 7 sank America watched this, and listened to Charles Batchelder.

What's missing from this picture?

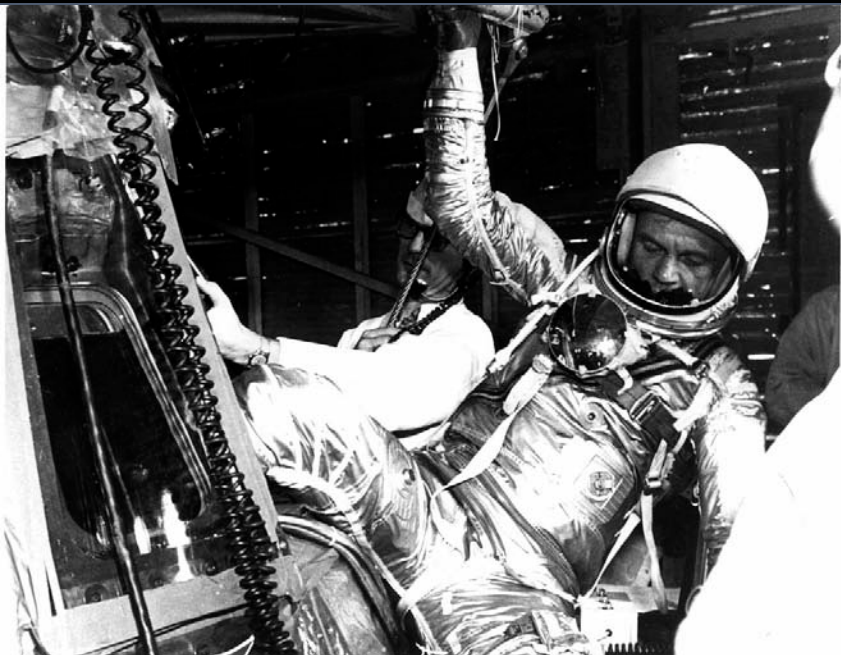


Errors in planning

1. Explosive hatch never tested with astronaut in the spacecraft
2. No rescue swimmers in water
3. No flotation collar on spacecraft
4. Explosive hatch never tested in sea conditions with landing bag deployed
5. No supplemental flotation equipment provided to astronaut.

On February 20, 1962 Astronaut John Glenn became the first man to ride a Mercury Atlas. He subsequently orbited the earth three times on a flight that lasted 4 hours and 55 minutes.

Although modern documentaries would have you believing that the world prayed as John Glenn reentered with a supposed loose heat shield...





...no one outside of Mission Control knew about it. That's because Shorty Powers never said anything about it.



Circa 1962 (e-bay price \$1,500)

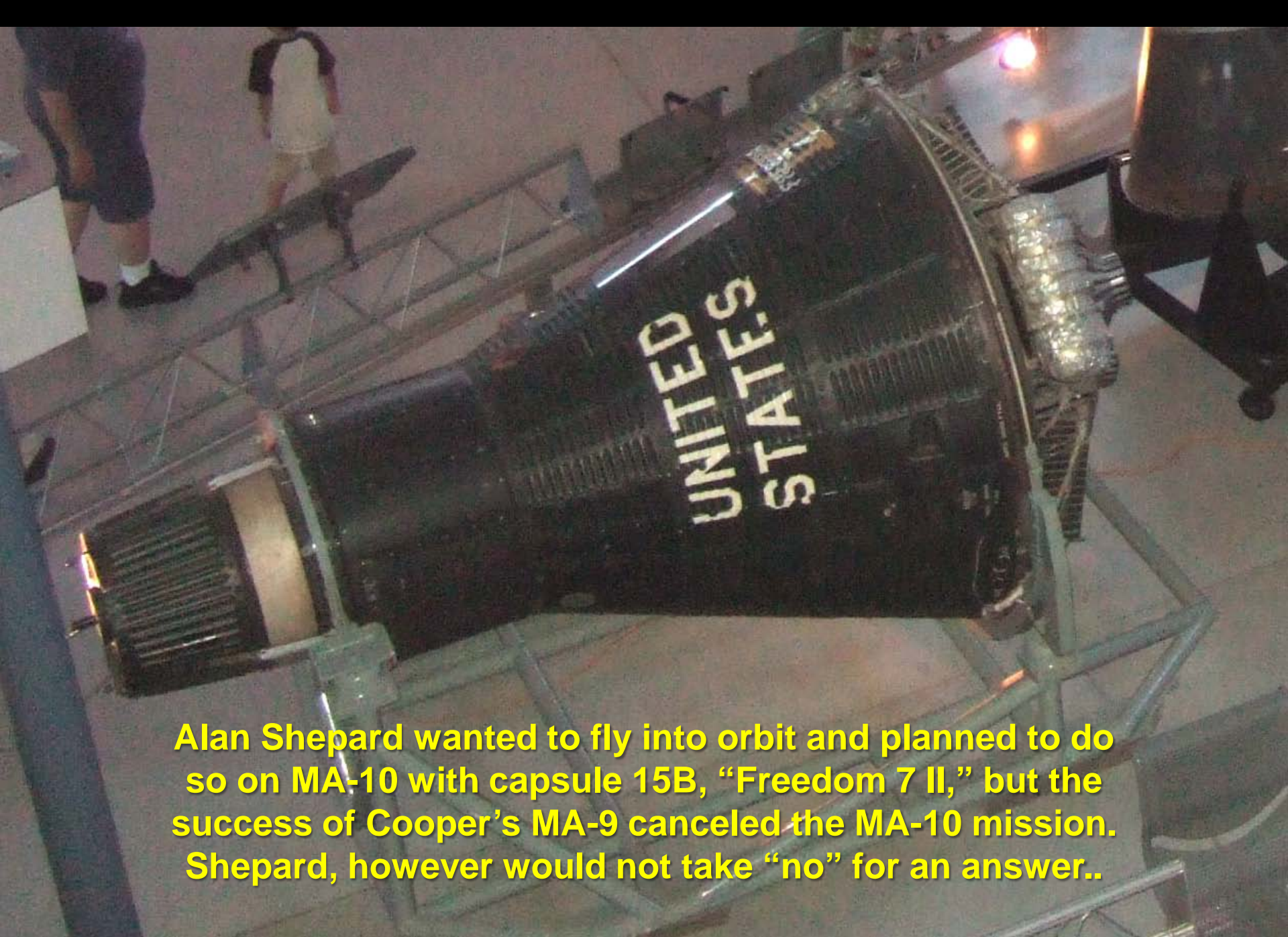
THE MARX - ATOMIC CAPE CANAVERAL MISSILE BASE



Marx Toys was on the ball. Note: most of the figures are Pad Rats.

**Beginning on May 15, 1963
Astronaut Gordon Cooper flew a
mission that made for 22 orbits
of the earth and lasted for 34
hours and 19 minutes. He was
the last person to ride atop an
Atlas booster and the last man
to fly from Complex 14.**





Alan Shepard wanted to fly into orbit and planned to do so on MA-10 with capsule 15B, "Freedom 7 II," but the success of Cooper's MA-9 canceled the MA-10 mission. Shepard, however would not take "no" for an answer..

Today Pad 14 stands abandoned and mostly in ruins...

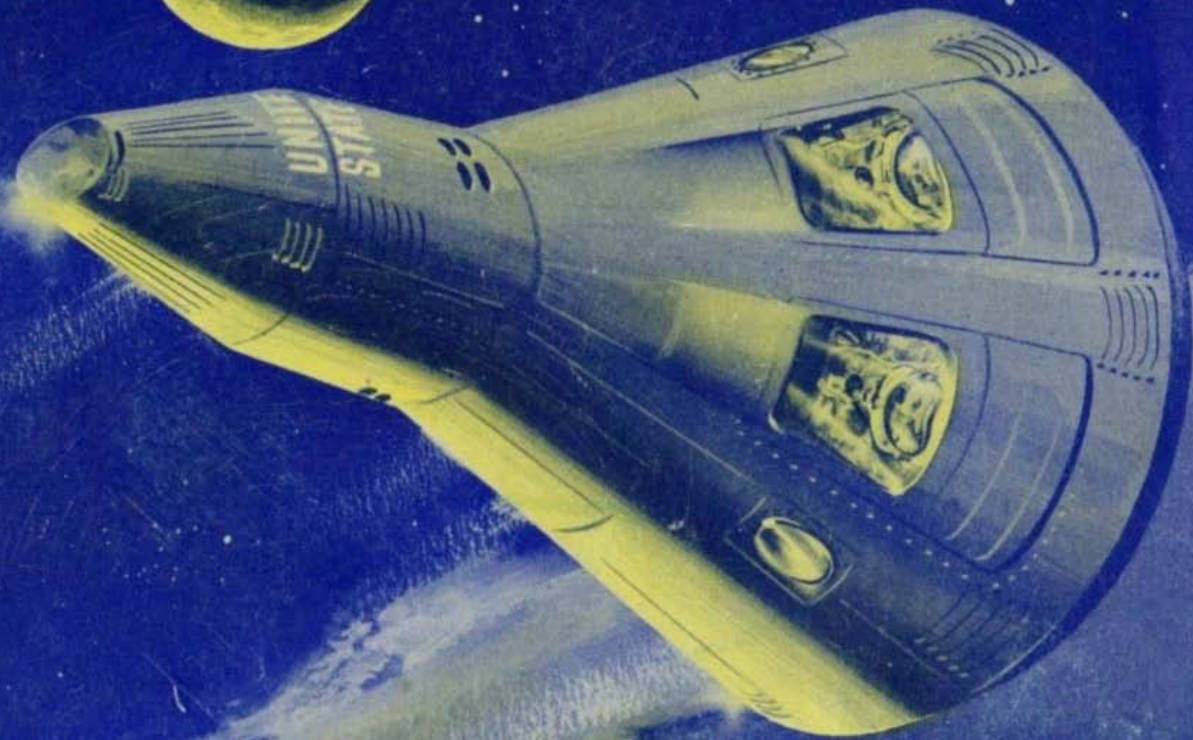


...Of course if you are a true space buff and you stand there long enough and use enough imagination, you just may see that the spirit of Complex 14 could not be demolished and sold for scrap.



**MERCURY
MARK-II
Or...**

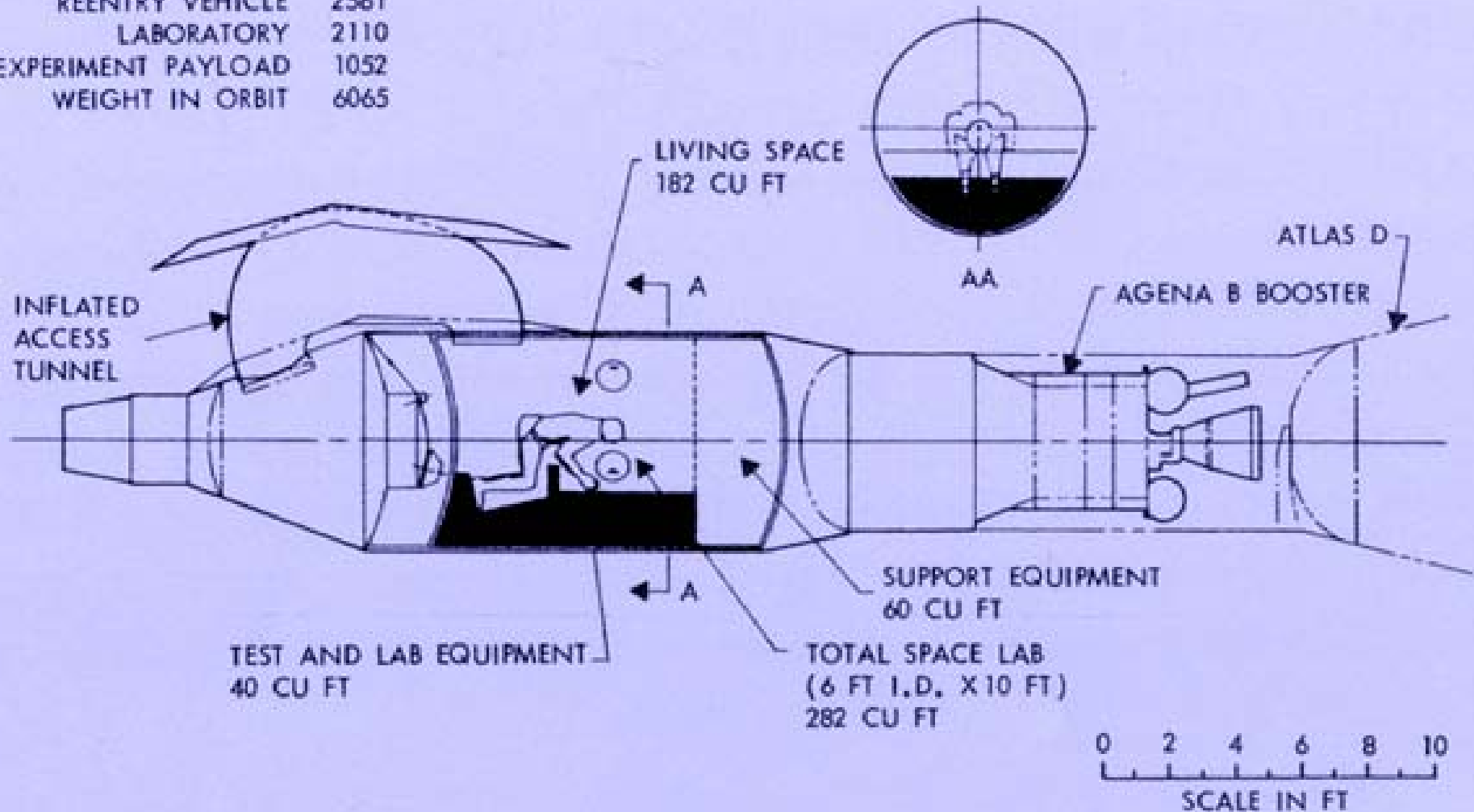
**PROJECT
GEMINI**



October 18, 1960

WEIGHT DATA (LB)
(14-DAY MISSION)

REENTRY VEHICLE	2561
LABORATORY	2110
EXPERIMENT PAYLOAD	1052
WEIGHT IN ORBIT	6065



GT-3





Tuesday, March 23, 1965



Channel 12



Channel 5



Channel 25



**3 orbits,
4 hours,52 minutes and 3 seconds**



**We weren't the only ones watching the mission.
A Gemini-3, 13 x 21 inch Mounted Canvas Print from Czechoslovakia**



Cool spaceflight buttons were very “in” back in 1965

GT-4





GEMINI 5



REAPER

CONRAD

**Eight
days
or
bust**



No one could grow up with spaceflight without these guys. They showed up in late 1964 and by 1966 every toy store had them. Normally they were 29 cents for a bag full. They all seemed to carry either Geiger counters or space assault rifles... and occasionally a camera.

PROJECT GEMINI TWO WEEKS IN SPACE

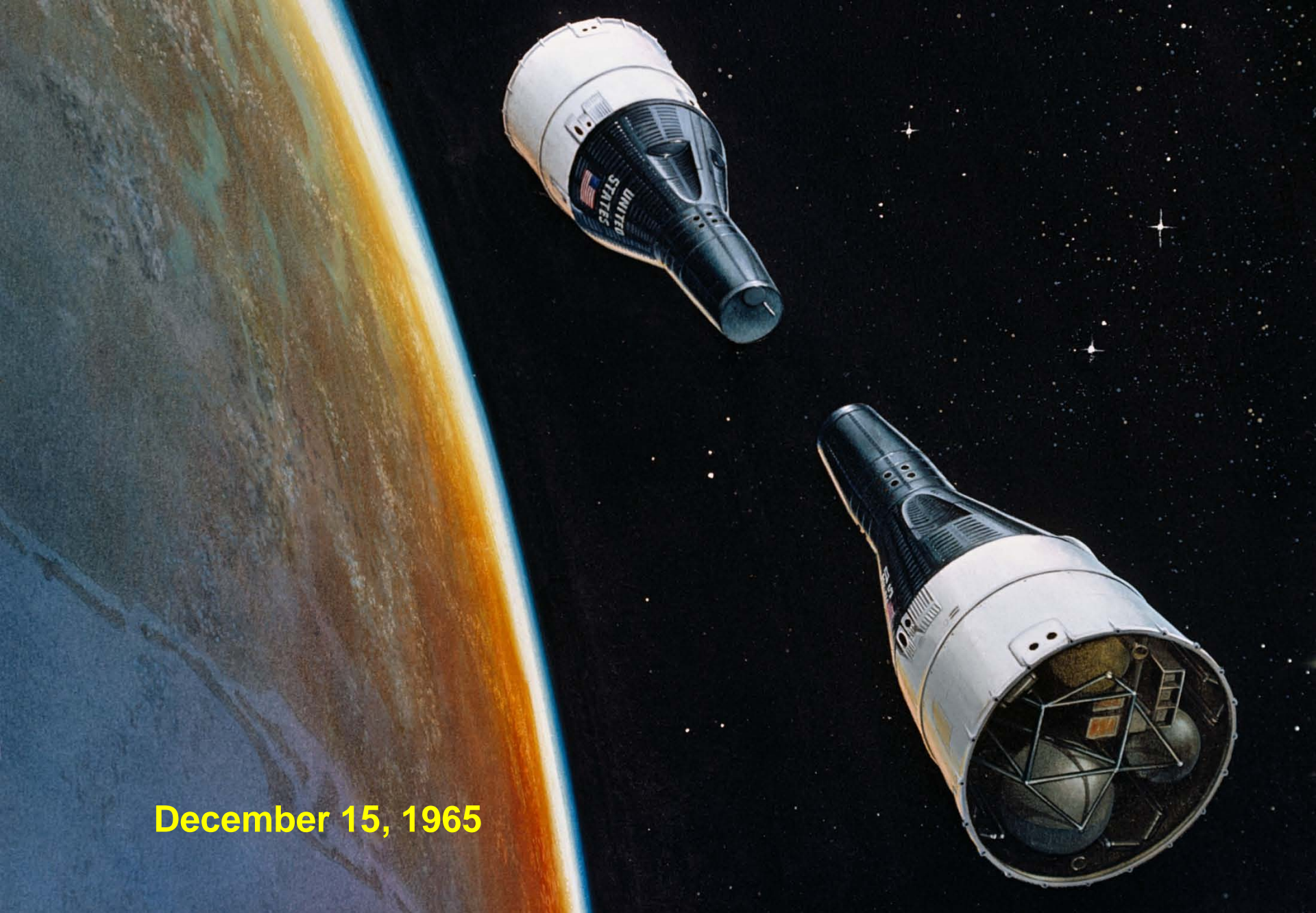


GT-6 & 7

December 12, 1965
**Walter Cronkite: "This will be our
most exciting day in space..."**

He got that right.





December 15, 1965



GT-8

March 16, 1966

Valve to the #8
OMS thruster
shorted out in the
open position.



The abort preempted Bat Man

GT-9





While Cernan struggled with the “spacewalk from hell” we saw a guy suspended on wires in a CBS studio.

Even the simulated EVA had problems as the hatch door of the mock-up nearly fell off...
Oooooo... that's realism.







GT-11

















NASA's most fun astronauts. Note: the Navy pilot's wings sewn onto each suit above the NASA meatball

GT-12



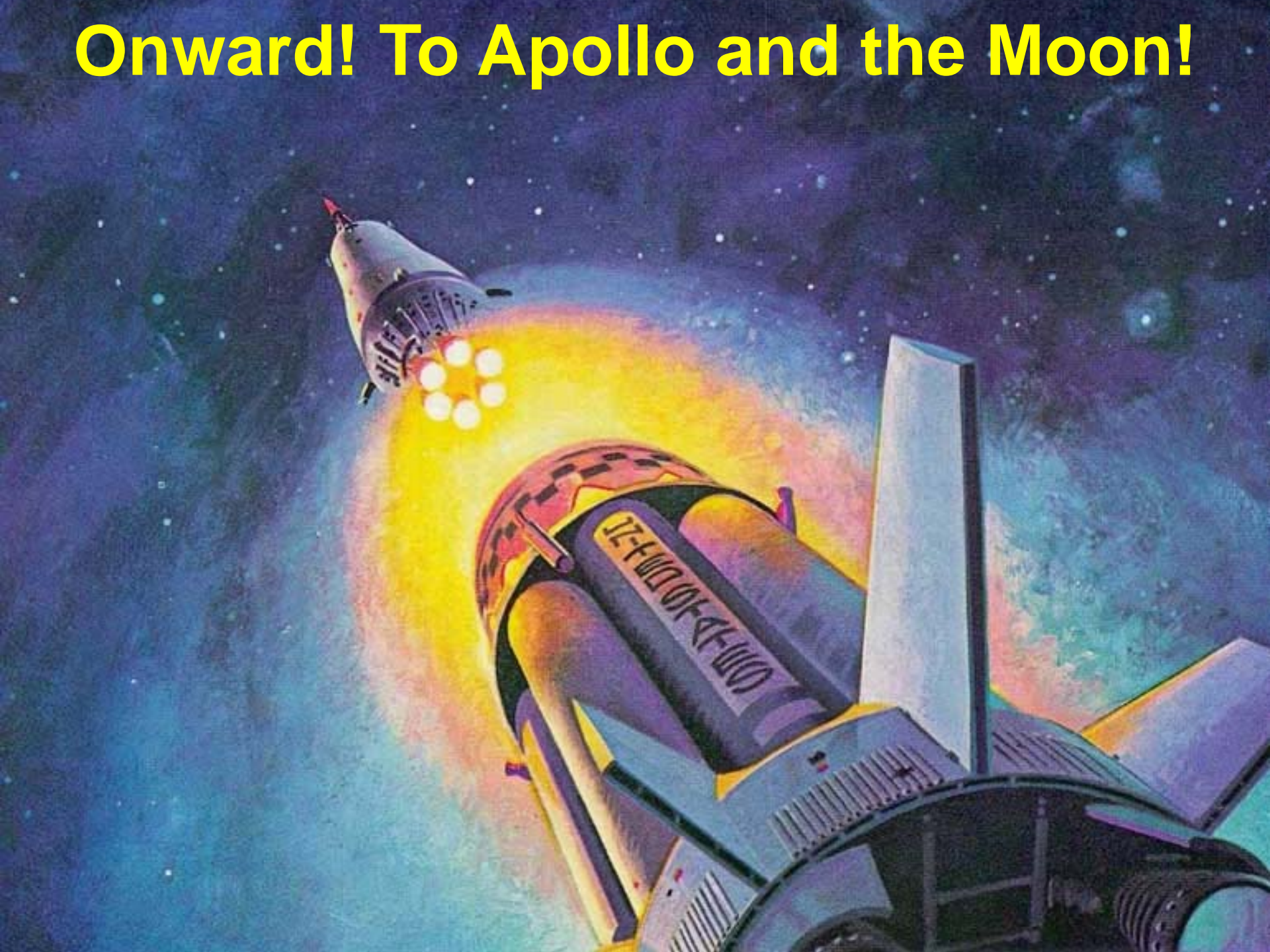
**Buzz attempting to
explain rendezvous to...
...well... everybody.**

November 11-15, 1966

Gemini ended and Launch Complex 19 was abandoned. They do, however, have a sign.



Onward! To Apollo and the Moon!





APOLLO-1

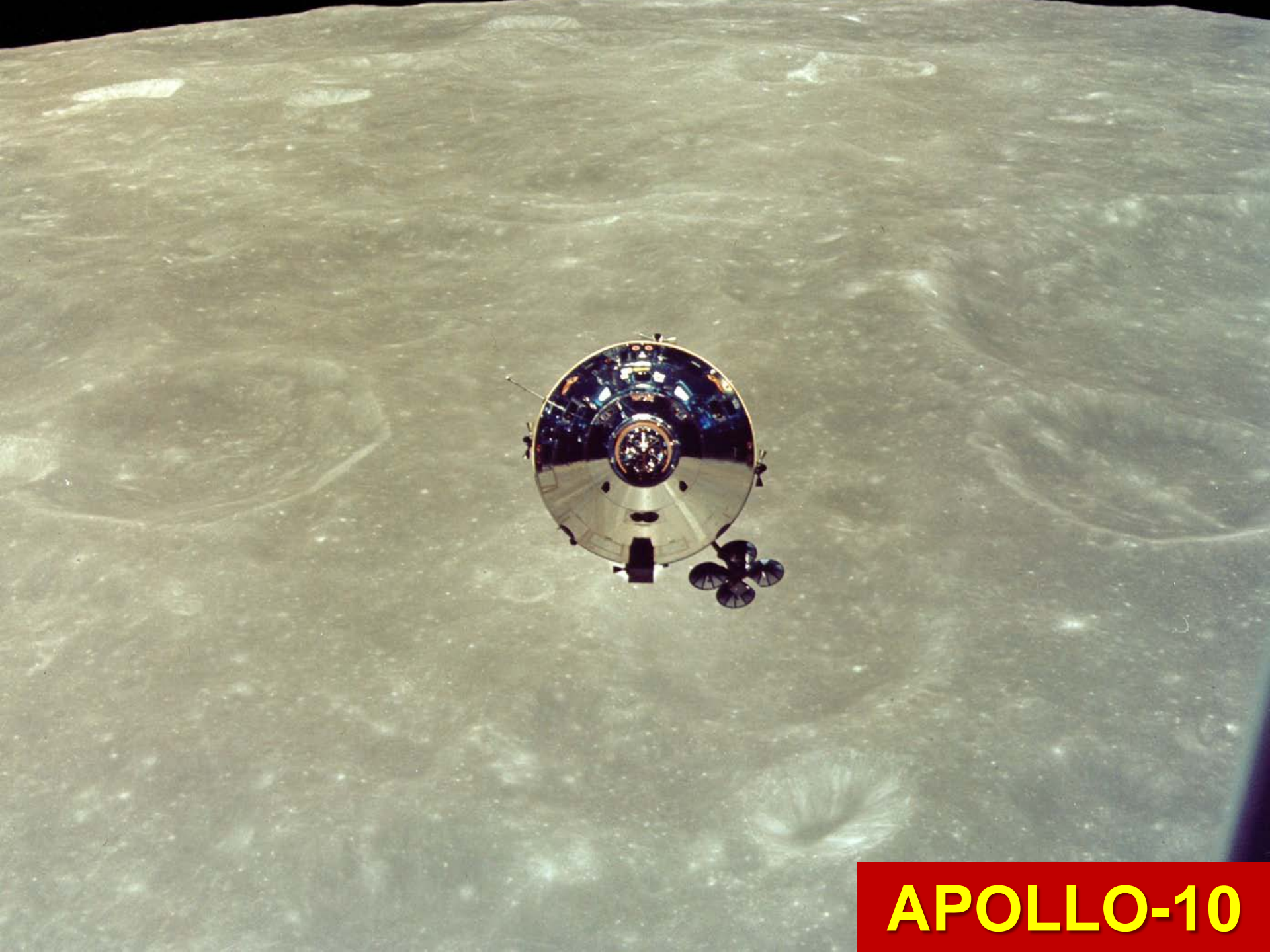


APOLLO-7



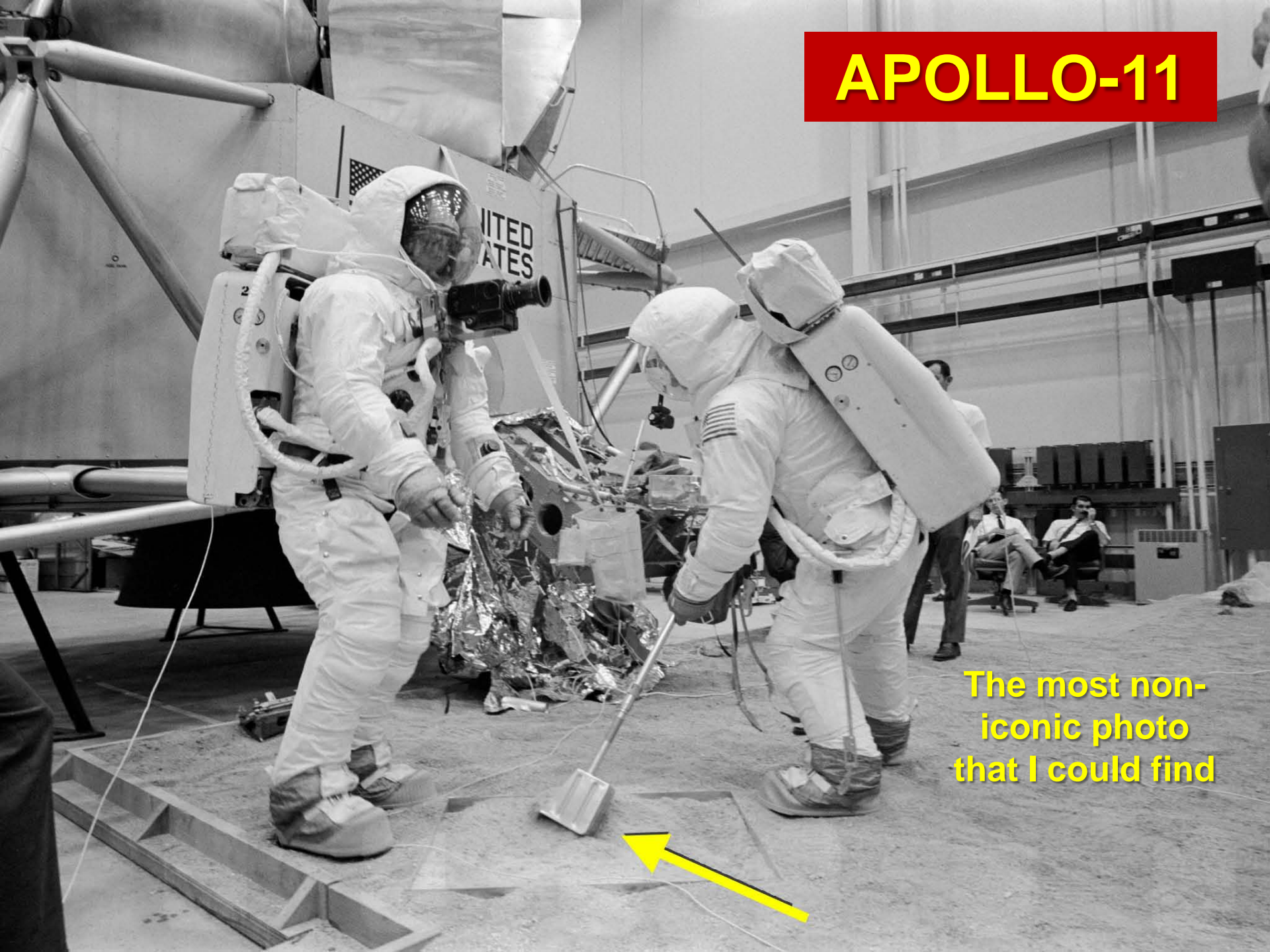


APOLLO-9



APOLLO-10

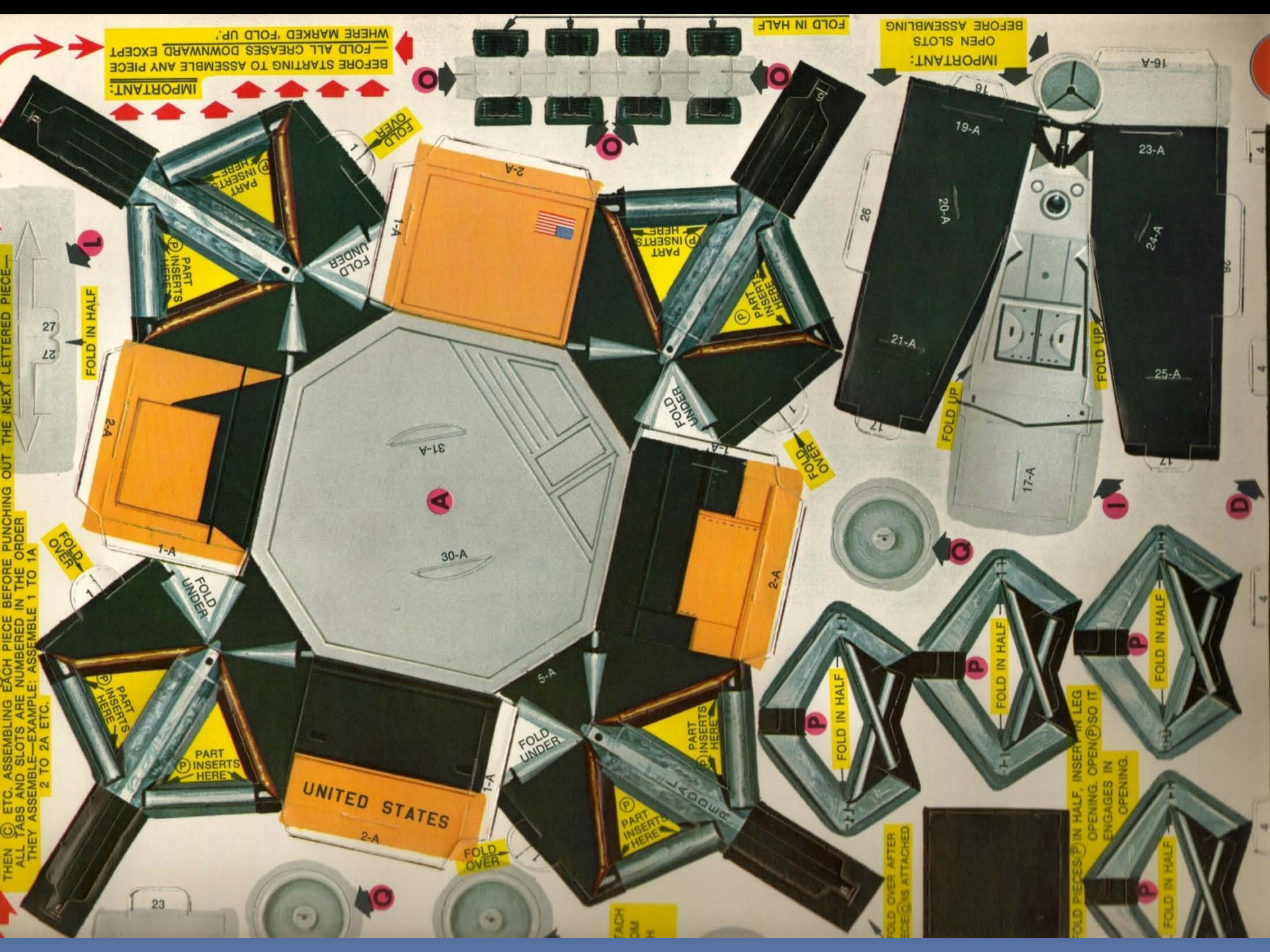
APOLLO-11



The most non-
iconic photo
that I could find

THEN © ETC. ASSEMBLING EACH PIECE BEFORE PUNCHING OUT THE NEXT LETTERED PIECE—
ALL TABS AND SLOTS ARE NUMBERED IN THE ORDER
THEY ASSEMBLE—EXAMPLE: ASSEMBLE 1 TO 1A
2 TO 2A ETC.

IMPORTANT:
BEFORE STARTING TO ASSEMBLE ANY PIECE
—FOLD ALL CREASES DOWNWARD EXCEPT
WHERE MARKED 'FOLD UP.'



27
27

FOLD IN HALF

FOLD OVER

23

PART (P) INSERTS HERE

FOLD UNDER

PART (P) INSERTS HERE

UNITED STATES

2-A

FOLD OVER

FOLD UNDER

ATTACH FROM HERE

PART (P) INSERTS HERE

5-A

30-A

31-A

1-A

2-A

FOLD OVER

PART (P) INSERTS HERE

PART (P) INSERTS HERE

2-A

FOLD OVER

PART (P) INSERTS HERE

PART (P) INSERTS HERE

FOLD IN HALF

FOLD OVER AFTER ATTACHED

FOLD IN HALF

FOLD IN HALF

FOLD PIECES (P) IN HALF, INSERT IN LEG OPENING, OPEN (P) SO IT ENGAGES IN OPENING.

FOLD IN HALF

FOLD IN HALF

FOLD UP

FOLD UP

IMPORTANT:
OPEN SLOTS
BEFORE ASSEMBLING

FOLD UP

24-A

16-A

19-A

20-A

21-A

23-A

24-A

25-A

26

17

17-A

17

17

17

17

17

17

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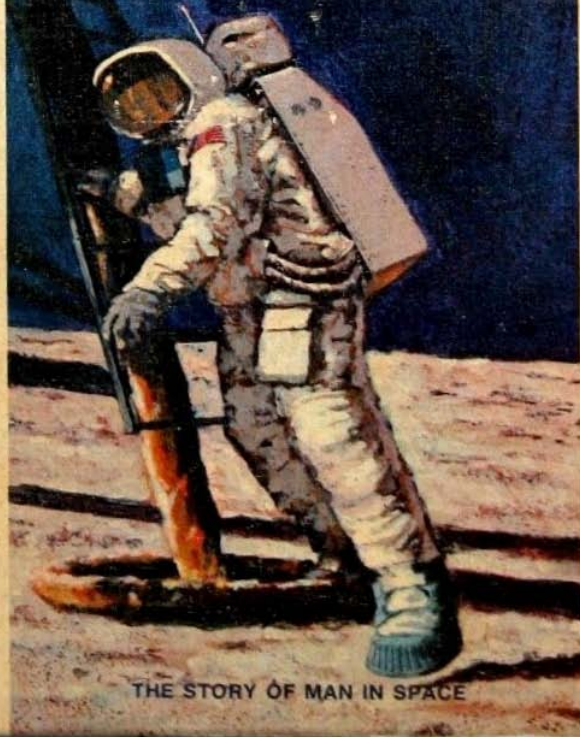
17

17



Just my luck...

WE CAME IN PEACE



THE STORY OF MAN IN SPACE

My fuzzy faded memories of...

GROWING UP WITH SPACEFLIGHT

