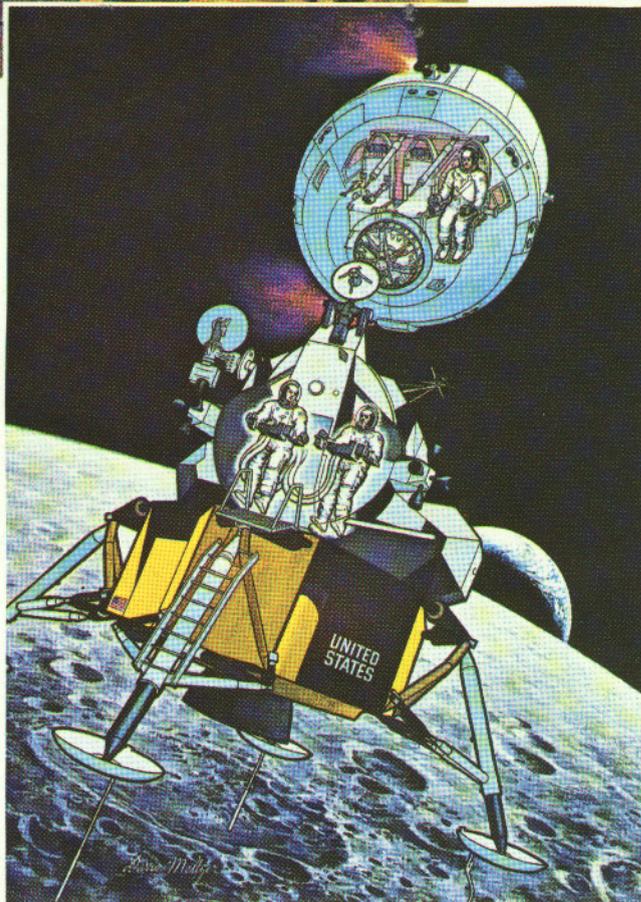
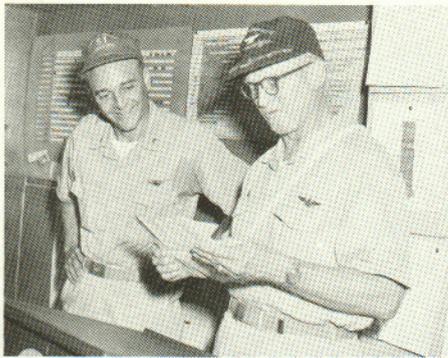


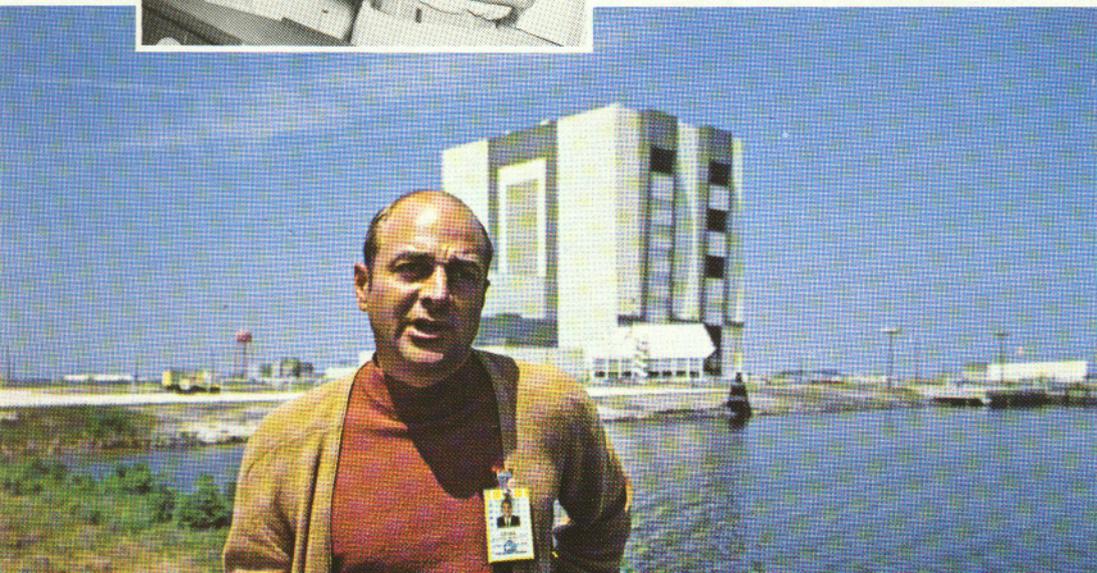
JOC James Johnston

Apollo 14 crew members, Shepard and Mitchell, are shown in the lunar module simulator, a far cry from the primitive rig used by Lt. Soucek. The LM sim is built around a closed circuit television system which produces images of the moon's surface in the windows as the crew practices approaches and landings. External cameras pan over moon model in response to the pilots' control. The LM and command module sims enable the astronauts to train for every possible contingency. Shepard and Mitchell will descend to the moon's surface as shown at right, in the artist's rendition, and will spend 34 hours exploring the moon.



PAINTING BY DAVIS MELTZER, GEOGRAPHIC ART DIVISION © NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

JOC James Johnston



Ron Evans, backup command module pilot for Apollo 14, received his letter of acceptance for the space program in 1966 following his final combat mission from the USS Ticonderoga off Vietnam. More recently, he expressed the view that his present work is just an extension of flying: "You have to plan for everything that may go wrong."