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APOLLO COMMAND MODULE (202)

Apollo, third step in the U.S. manned space flight program, calls for an operational spacecraft capable of carrying astronauts safely to and from another body in the solar system.

The Apollo spacecraft assembly is 82 feet tall and weighs about 45 tons. It is composed of three modules or units, the Command Module, Service Module and Lunar Module, plus an adapter and launch escape system.

The Command Module is the only module which will return to earth from the lunar mission. It contains the crew's living compartments and all the controls for the various in-flight maneuvers. Similar in shape to a cone, this module has a bottom width of 13.8 feet and stands about 13 feet high. It consists of 2 shells: a pressurized inner crew compartment and an outer heat shield. Launch weight is about 12,000 pounds. More elaborately equipped for human comfort than either the Mercury or Gemini spacecraft, the Apollo Command Module contains a pilot cook pit for 3 astronauts. It has 2 side windows, a crew hatch window, and two rendezvous windows which face toward the nose of the Command Module.

The Apollo Command Module shown on Platform B is the actual unmanned spacecraft which was launched from Cape Kernedy on August 25, 1966. It was the second unmanned flight test of an Apollo Spacecraft Command and Service Module. The 93-minute suborbital flight carried the spacecraft three-fourths of the way around the earth. Landing was in the north central Pacific, approximately 300 miles southeast of Wake Island. This flight involved the use of a fully operational Apollo Command Module and provided the first flight