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MANNED SPACECRAFT CENTER

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE HOUSTON, TEXAS 77058

713/483-5111



news
July 7, 1971

MSC 71-48

HOUSTON, TEXAS...The Apollo 15 crew, now in final training and pre-launch preparations Wednesday received a "medical go" from Dr. Charles A. Berry, Director of Medical Research and Operations following the first in a series of medical examinations.

Dr. Berry said that laboratory tests of the crew's F-minus 30-day physicals confirm that the prime crew and backup crews have no abnormalities and at this time are cleared for launch. The prime crew - mission commander David R. Scott, command module pilot A. M. Worden and lunar module pilot James B. Irwin - received their preliminary physicals on June 29. The backup crew of astronauts Richard F. Gordon, Jr., Vance D. Brand and Harrison A. Schmitt - underwent their physicals the previous day.

Dr. Berry said the laboratory tests of last week's physicals were completed Tuesday at the NASA Manned Spacecraft Center and the lab workup confirms the health of the crew members.

The crews will undergo additional physical examinations on July 12, at F-5 days on July 21, and on launch morning.

In order to reduce to possible exposure of the crews to disease or illness, a program of close medical surveillance was instituted this week at Cape Kennedy and the Manned Spacecraft Center. In addition to medical surveillance, the program similar to that initiated prior to Apollo 14, calls for close control of the numbers of people having contact with the crew.

CAB 18



IN REPLY REFER TO: CA

RENATIONAL DERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION MANNED SPACECRAFT CENTER

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MEMORANDUM

TO:

DA/Director of Medical Research and Operations

FROM:

CA/Director of Flight Crew Operations

SUBJECT: Apollo 15 Mission 5-Day Report

For the record, we do not concur in your statement on page 41 of the above report regarding crew sleep on the lunar surface. We believe it should be qualified to indicate that is an opinion based on secondary clues which may or may not be valid. In the crew's judgement, they beat your estimate by 50 percent and we all know crews tend to underestimate the quantity of good sleep.

Donald K. Slayton

cc:

AA/R. R. Gilruth CB/A. B. Shepard PA/ J. A. McDivitt

CA/DKSlayton:8/18/71:2281

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The Flight Crew Health Stabilization Program generally provides clinical medicine, and immunology programs, and limitation of the number of outside contacts with the flight crew.

- Crew members (prime and backup) will reside solely in the Crew Quarters while at the Kennedy Space Center for a period of 21 days prior to launch.
- Access to primary training areas utilized by crew members will be controlled by the KSC security forces while occupied by flight crews.
- Access to areas during crew occupancy will be limited to properly badged primary contacts, or by waiver from the Director of Flight Crew Operations and subject to medical clearance from the Director of Medical Research and Operations.
- The major scope of crew activities will be limited to the primary areas of the Manned Space Operations Building (MSOB) and Flight Crew Training Building (FCTB), the flight line, and launch pad white room during the 21 day prelaunch period. Primary areas of the MSOB and FCTB are those areas with special air conditioning. Crew access to other than these areas requires special approval.
- Crew members will use personal vehicles when traveling from one primary area to another. The transfer van will be used when crew members travel from MSOB to the launch pad.

In the event crew members are required to be at MSC for training purposes they will reside in their own residence or the crew reception area of the Lunar Receiving Laboratory. Appropriate security controls will be implemented if crew members choose to stay in their homes while at MSC and children and everyone but the wife who is primary contact will be excluded.

-more-

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Starting 60 days prior to launch all illnesses occuring in family members of prime, backup, and support crews, as well as close contacts of these families are being reported to medical officials. A group of KSC employees will be similarly followed.

Primary contacts (wives, backup crew members, mission essential personnel) have been given physical examinations as early as 90 days prior to launch.

The follow-on medical surveillance is expected to maximize the possibility that those who come in contact with the crew prior to launch are healthy.