

APOLLO 17



Colorano "Silk" Cachet



APOLLO 17 - LUNAR LIFT-OFF - DECEMBER 14, 1972 - 5:55 P.M. — Astronauts Cernan and Schmitt safely blasted off the surface of Taurus-Littrow with a full load of moon rocks, after ending the first chapter in the history of manned exploration of the moon. The engine burned for seven minutes, 18 seconds, putting them in an initial orbit of 48 by 9 nautical miles; well below Evans in the Command Ship, who was circling at 62 miles. On the first attempt to dock, Evans in the Command Ship "America" moved the large ship gently and just tapped the Lunar Lander. At 8:04 P.M., with the precision of a surgeon, he slipped the docking probe into "Challenger" and locked the craft together for the last time.