

SCIENCE FACT

HOW quickly in the space age the scientific wonder of yesterday becomes the non-event of today!

The Americans' Apollo moon programme had assumed, in most people's minds, the nature of a shuttle service, so perfect were the astronauts' exits and entrances.

But the sudden drama of prelanding technical trouble for the crew of Apollo 16 jolts us all back into recognition of the incredible achievements of the U.S. moon pioneers.

John Young, Charles Duke and Thomas Mattingly have not joined the ranks of the commuters.

They remind us that the Apollo programme is not science fiction. It is hard, and heroic, fact.
