



*-leave Moon with
213 lbs. of rocks
Apr. 23, 8:25 pm EST*
Charles Duke



*-complete ascent
covered by TV*

U.S. POSTAGE

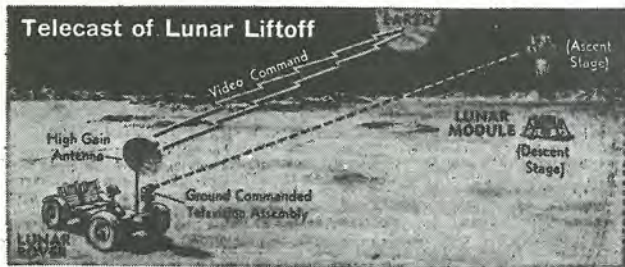


John Young



Ken Mattingly

Apollo 16 Moon-liftoff



Astronauts Leave the Moon

At 8:25 p.m. EST on April 23rd, Astronauts John Young and Charles Duke in Orion blasted off from the Descartes base to re-join the Apollo command ship Casper and crewmate Ken Mattingly.

For seven minutes and eighteen seconds Orion's ascent engine fired, lifting the frail craft into the black sky above Descartes.

A color television camera mounted on the moon car Rover II, shot a clear dramatic picture of the blastoff to Earth. Then with the lunar module's upper stage out of sight, the camera panned down and swept across all that was left on the surface of the descent stage of the moon ship. Orion and Casper docked at 10:35 p. m. EST.