

## **Press conference: UCSD device on Apollo 15**

**July 9, 1971**

When Apollo 15 blasts off for the moon July 26, it will carry a special gamma-ray measuring device developed by a team of scientists headed by Dr. James Arnold, professor of chemistry at the University of California, San Diego.

This scintillation counter will be one of several instruments mounted in the service module (the first time an Apollo spacecraft has carried such an instrumentation package). While the module orbits the moon, this counter will be extended approximately 25 feet on a boom. It will pick up gamma rays from the lunar surface, and the information it gathers will be telemetered to earth. The data thus obtained, it is hoped, will for the first time give scientists some idea of the chemical composition of large areas of the moon which have not been explored by astronauts and which may never be explored except by instrumentation. This Gamma ray counter and other instruments aboard Apollo 15 may open exciting new insights into the history of the moon.

To describe this phase of the Apollo 15 flight, and to discuss some of the discoveries which conceivably could result, Dr. Arnold will meet with the news media on

Wednesday, July 14, 1971 at 10 a.m. in Conference Room "All Matthews Campus University of California, San Diego La Jolla, California

Dr. Arnold will be accompanied by Dr. Laurence Peterson, associate professor of physics at UCSD, who is collaborating with Dr. Arnold on the experiment. Dr. Peterson is an authority on measurement of gamma rays and x-rays from outer space. Dr. Arnold, an authority on meteorites and the chemical composition of the moon, is one of some 150 scientists throughout the world chosen by NASA to analyze moon rocks.

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