

danger, in the flight of Luna 15. Luna 15 is doing out there.

ONE DAY LATER, ON JULY 21, THE ASTRONAUTS MADE ELEVEN INTO A LUNAR ORBIT.

WLC: One of the most critical flights came just a half hour ago, at 1:45 P.M. when Mission Control in Houston gave the "go" for lunar orbit insertion, when they have been doing in the last few hours to check their service propulsion systems—to go into orbit around the moon.

They were last heard from when they were 100 miles from the moon according to the calculations made at 7,664 feet per second. They were at that point—going behind the moon. They should have fired the engine six minutes and more, for that engine had been fired once before on this mission. It had never fired in the lunar environment during the journey to the moon—for . . . just over an hour to the spacecraft's speed. It was a possible mid-course correction. How accurate was the trajectory of the engine? That engine fired successfully for a great deal longer than that. On the way to the moon orbit. The firing came in bursts. . . . The engine fires two bursts per hour. As they started when they were going 5,724 miles per hour, they were