

Houston Cover For Astronauts Return

1-29-67
The three Apollo 8 Astronauts received a typical Texas reception when Houston officially welcomed home its moon travellers, Astronauts Frank Borman, James A. Lovell Jr. and William A. Anders, on January 13. The greeting was tumultuous, spirited and colorful, but above all else it was sincere.

Texas Governor John Connally headed the parade honoring the Apollo 8 team, and Houston Mayor Louie Welch presented Borman, Lovell and Anders with official gold medals of the city.

In turn, the Astronauts gave both the Governor and the Mayor tiny Texas flags that were flown around the moon. In addition, Mayor Welch received a photograph of the earth taken from the moon orbit.

In tribute to the occasion, the Space City Cover Society, Box 53545, Houston, Texas 77052 prepared a limited number of covers for the official welcome home ceremony, and released a NASA local post souvenir sheet.

The cover, available for 50c, in addition to the U.S. stamp affixed, is flanked with a NASA local post issue, and bears both a local cancellation and a Houston postmark. The souvenir sheet of nine locals shows the three Astronauts and carries marginal inscriptions. It may be ordered at 45c each.

A 10c postage handling charge must be added to each order because all material will be returned under separate cover, and the Society would appreciate addressed, gummed labels with each order.