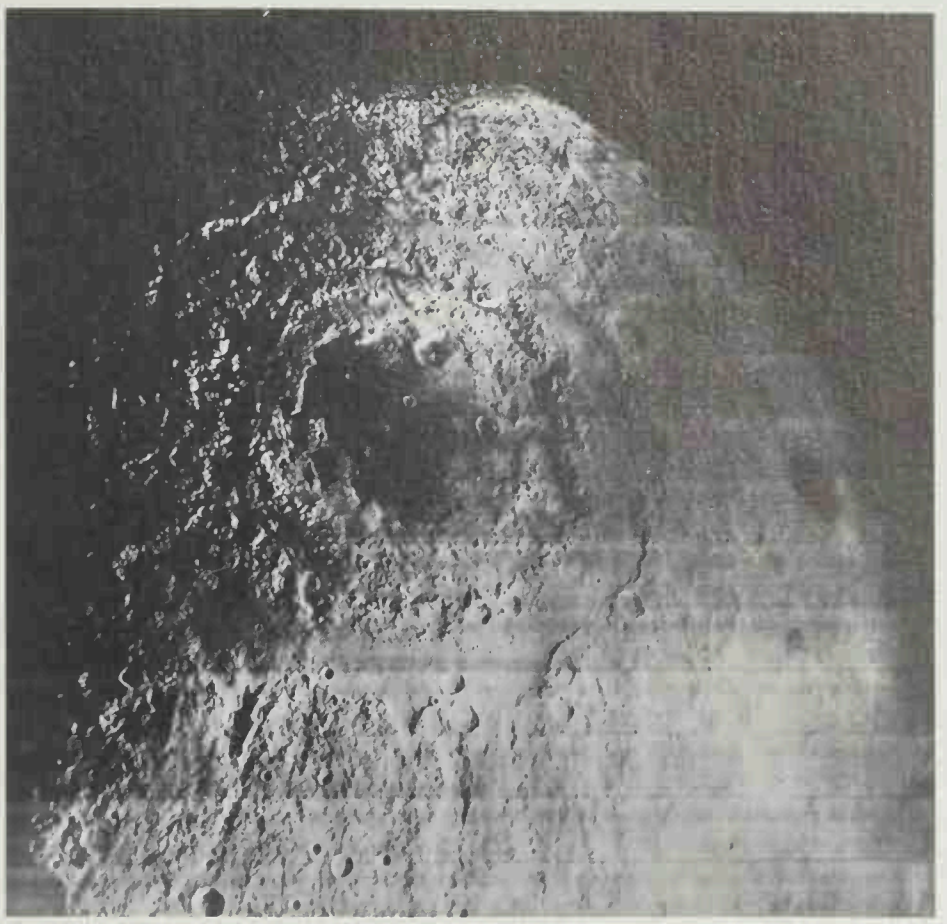
Table 5·4 **Moon-Earth comparative data**

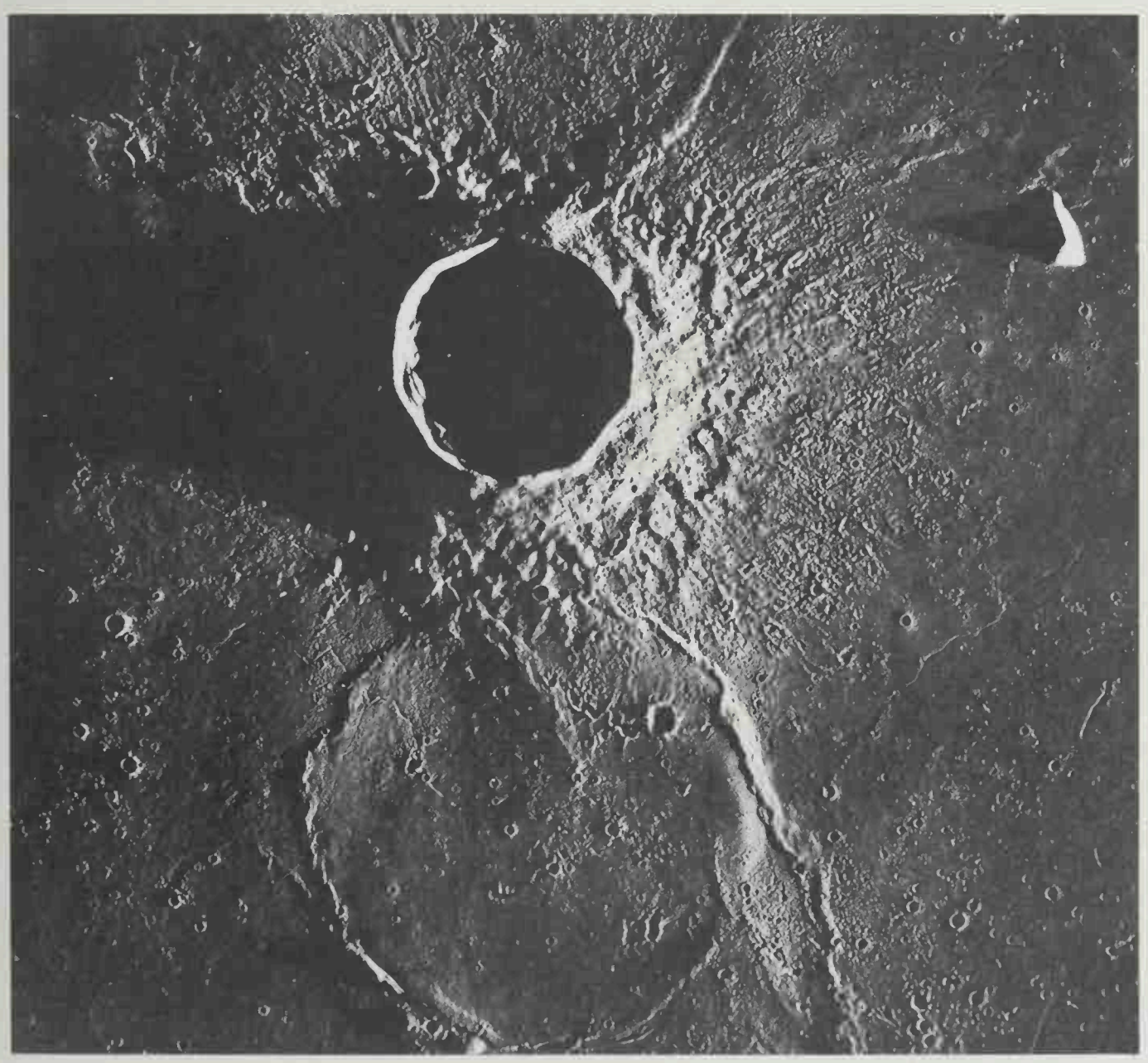
	Moon	Earth
equatorial diameter (km)	3 476	12 756
sidereal period of axial rotation	27·322d	$23_h\ 56_m\ 04_s$
inclination to ecliptic	1^0 32	23^0 27
density (kg per m^3)	3 340	5 517
mass (Earth = 1)	0·0123	1·0000
surface gravity (Earth = 1)	0·1653	1·0000
escape velocity (km per s)	2·37	11·2
albedo	0·07	0·36
mean Earth-Moon distance	384 402 km	

Craters

Craters have been found on all four inner planets, the Moon and the satellites of Mars, Jupiter and Saturn. In the case of the Moon, although present all over the surface, they are particularly numerous in the highlands. They are circular, or approximately circular features with raised walls and range from large multi-ringed structures with diameters of hundreds of kilometres, all the way down to microscopic pits on the surface. The Moon is exceptionally rich



Above:
Lunar Orbiter IV photograph of the Mare Orientale basin, and its multiple mountain rings. The outer ring, the Montes Cordilliera, has a diameter of 900 km.



The crater Lambert in the Mare Imbrium, showing the radial structure of the ejecta blanket and also many secondary craters. The mare ring structure to the south has a diameter of about 50 km and seems to have been caused by lava flows covering, and then subsiding onto an earlier crater wall.