

THE USE OF LUNAR LAVA TUBES AS EMERGENCY SHELTERS AND SUPPLY DEPOTS. A. A. Mardon¹ and C. A. Mardon², ¹Antarctic Institute of Canada (Post Office Box 1223, Station Main, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5J 2M4 Email aamardon@yahoo.ca), ²NTC(Email Post Office Box 1223, Station Main, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. T5J 2M4 Email: ccmardon@yahoo.ca)

The author proposes that where areas where Lunar Lava tubes are proposed to exist and human future surface activity will occur that caches and temporary emergency shelters could be created for use to store emergency supplies and rough shelter be provided. Robotic missions to lay supplies could put these supplies in place with inflatable structures to be used inside the micrometeorite shielded lava tubes. Entering and egress from such permanent structures could either be at entrances that are exposed and also a hole with ladder could be drilled to the lava tube from the surface. The supplies would not be as quickly degraded because there would be less thermal variation in the lava tube as compared to the surface. Lava tubes provide a viable alternative to use as structures on the Moon this is just one example of their potential versatile characteristics that could be used.

Bibliography:

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