National Aeronautics and Space Administration

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The Apollo 13 mission was meant to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> mission to land on the surface on the moon. It

was to explore the Fra Mauro formation with American astronauts James A. Lovell Jr as mission

Commander, John Swigert as the command module pilot, and Fred W. Haise Jr as the Lunar

module pilot. This mission would unfold in a similar fashion to Apollo 11 and 12. Two main

modules; the Command/Service Module (CSM, also named Odyssey for this particular mission)

and Lunar Module (LM, also named Aquarius for this mission), would launch on a three-staged

Saturn V rocket, whose last stage would put both modules in a trajectory towards the moon.

Then, the CSM would turn 90 degrees and retrieve the LM from the rocket's 3<sup>rd</sup> stage, in

preparation for the 3-day journey to the moon. Upon arrival, the CSM would burn its hydrogen/

oxygen fuel to insert both modules into Lunar orbit. Then the LM would undock from the CSM

(leaving a single astronaut behind in the CSM), land on the moon; and then return from the

moon's surface to re-dock with the CSM and take the astronauts back home.

In the current situation however, it is clear Apollo 13 has lost the moon. After a loud bang that

appears to have originated in the service module, the crew of the Odyssey reports that oxygen

tank no.2 is showing zero, and oxygen tank no.1 is dropping steadily. This might turn out to be fatal to the crew and mission if we don't take action.

My name is Charles Moss Duke, Jr. and I've been a part of NASA since 1966 when I joined NASA's fifth group of astronauts. As of right now, I'm most famously known for having been CAPCOM in Apollo 11, and being backup Lunar Module pilot for Apollo 13. I was also part of the support crew in Apollo 10. 2 days prior to the launch of Apollo 13; I accidentally exposed the primary crew to German measles, which I contracted from a friend's child. Given that Ken Mattingly (Command Module Pilot) was not yet immune to this disease, he had to be replaced by Jack Swigert. That being said; as a Lunar Module Pilot, I'd be happy to make helpful contributions in order to bring these three brave men back to Earth.