

4. An artist's concept of a small moon-orbiting satellite which is designed to ride piggyback aboard the Apollo 15 spacecraft. It will be kicked into lunar orbit by a spring-loaded separation mechanism just before the Service Module's propulsion system is fired for return to earth. Sensitive instruments in the satellite will record and transmit to earth data on the moon's magnetic fields and provide earth-based radar with a target for studying the gravitational field of the moon with some of the highest precision yet attained. This data, coupled with that of instruments left on the moon by the Apollo 15 crew, will provide geophysicists with a better understanding of what the inner structure of the moon is like. Scheduled mission life of the hexagon-shaped satellite is one year. Photo from IPS - Color: SCI 3515. B/W 71-1170

