

3.

First Mail On The Moon

“One small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind.”

“You got it Neil, at last. On the 17th take, but you did it. Go again. Only next time remember to

bounce on your toes. It’s supposed to be low gravity on the moon. You gotta make it look right.”

“OK Mr Ford.”

“Places everybody. Final rehearsal. We’re live in 3 minutes.”

“Wait. Mr Ford what’s that white shape?”

“White shape?”

“By Neil’s feet. I’m seeing something white.”

“Neil is there something on the floor by your feet? Looks like a white rectangle.”

“Yes sir. It’s an envelope.”

“An envelope. How in the name of God did that get there?”

“It belongs to Buzz sir.”

“Buzz? What’s Aldrin doing with letters on my film set?”

“He rehearsed earlier sir, so he took his fan mail into the Lunar Module to answer it.”

“What’s all that writing on the back of it?”

“I can’t get my lines right Mr Ford, so I wrote them down to help me.”

“Of all the dumbass things to do. Get rid of it. We show people a letter on the moon? What are

they gonna think? The US Postal Service got there first? Letters to Santa Claus? It’s bad enough with that stupid flag we have to pretend is fluttering and then they tell us there’s no wind.”

“Live in one minute Mr Ford.”

“Okay. First places everyone. Can someone flatten out that sand. It’s got Neil’s size 11s all over it.

Looks like Flash Gordon’s been holding a welcome party.”

“Neil. Live in 10,9,8.....Sound, Camera, Turnover, Action!”

“One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.”

“Oh for Chrissakes. A week of rehearsals and he screws up in front of 3 billion.”