



FIGURE 11

demonstrate the performance of the space vehicle in preparation for manned orbital missions. The mission provided the determination that the Command Module heat shield was adequately designed for entry from earth orbital missions.

The space vehicle consisted of an uprated Saturn I launch vehicle and a Block I Command and Service Module spacecraft with essentially all systems operational. This third and very complex mission was a major milestone in preparation for manned flight.

Loss of Apollo/Saturn 204

The success of the first three Apollo/Saturn I missions led to a decision to proceed to the second phase of the program, the Apollo/Saturn 204 manned mission. The flight was scheduled for launch February 21, 1967.

As I mentioned earlier, the AS-204 accident occurred under conditions and using procedures which had been verified by 7 years of manned spacecraft operational experience (fig. 12, MC67-5768; fig. 13, MC67-5765).

Work of Apollo 204 Review Board

Almost immediately, an Apollo 204 Review Board was appointed consisting of the following members: Dr. Floyd L. Thompson, Director, Langley Research Center, NASA, Chairman; Col. Frank Borman, Astronaut, Manned Spacecraft Center, NASA; Maxime Faget, Director, Engineering & Development, Manned Spacecraft Center, NASA; E. Barton Geer, Associate Chief, Flight Vehicles & Systems Division, Langley Research Center, NASA; Col. Charles F. Strang, Chief of Missiles & Space Safety Division, Air Force Inspector General, Norton Air Force Base, California; George C. White, Jr., Director, Reliability & Quality, Apollo Program Office, Headquarters, NASA; John Williams, Director, Spacecraft Operations, Kennedy Space Center, NASA; and Dr. Robert W. Van Dolah, Research Director, Bureau of Mines, Explosive Research Center.

To assist the Board in its investigation, an undamaged Block I Apollo spacecraft, Command Module 014, was shipped from the contractor plant to the Kennedy Space Center. This spacecraft was employed as a control to establish the conditions existing prior to the accident. Detailed disassembly of the burned