

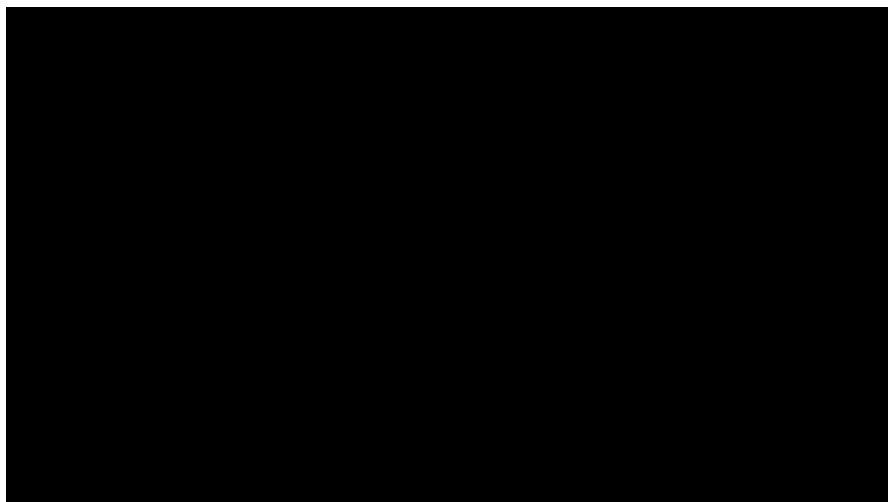


Last update: Tue Oct 6 2009 18:50:10

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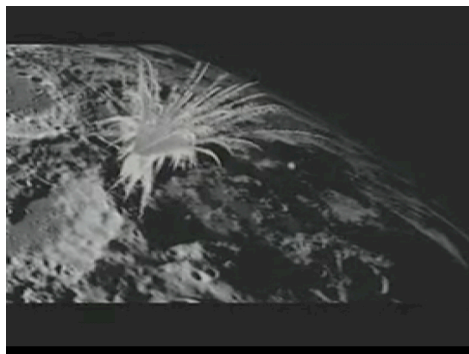
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Moon Bomb: Stellar science or cosmic cover-up?

Tue Oct 6 2009 18:50:10



A controversial NASA mission to send a missile into the surface of the moon is set to be completed this week.

The Lunar Crater Observation and Sensing Satellite (LCROSS) will strike the moon at twice the speed of a bullet this Friday, enabling scientists look for traces of water in the six mile plume of debris the impact will create.

The rocket was launched in June and aims to gather the most detailed information ever about the composition of the lunar surface, potentially paving the way for human colonies.

There is fierce opposition to the project on the web, where the mission has been dubbed 'NASA bombs the moon'.

Geoff Brumfield of Nature Magazine believes the project is an early but significant stage towards eventual lunar bases.

"There's a long way to go before anyone's going to be colonising the moon. But if you're going to build on the moon, you need to know what's there and this is a great first step."

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The countdown's started to what the web's dubbed 'the moon bombing'. A NASA rocket will impact on Friday and the conspiracists are already out there.

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