

# China's Yutu rover is still alive, reports say, as lunar panorama released

September 9 2014, by Elizabeth Howell

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A still from CCTV showing part of a panorama from the Yutu rover. Credit: CCTV/YouTube

It hasn't been an easy few lunar months for the Yutu rover, which reportedly had problems positioning its solar panels in March while exploring the lunar surface. That said, reports are emerging that the rover is still alive. Along with those reports came a new panorama released in time for the Moon Festival in that country.

As you can see in the video above, the new panorama shows the Chang'e-3 lander and the tracks of the Yutu rover in the Mare Imbrium (Sea of Rains). The duo landed on the Moon on Dec. 14, 2013, with the rover on the top. Yutu then drove on its six wheels on to the surface only about seven hours after the touchdown happened.

The act was hailed as an accomplishment for China, which is the third nation to make a soft landing on the moon after the Soviet Union and the United States. It also was the first to touch down on the moon in more than a generation, as other lunar programs have focused on orbiters (such as NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, which remains in operation above.)

According to the Twitter account UHF Satcom, the X-band carrier signal for Yutu was strongly audible from Earth yesterday (Sept. 7), although the lander was not audible.

*Yutu Rover is back! X-Band carrier loud and clear – amazing! FFT @ [t.co/JZaYaAYpjpg](https://t.co/JZaYaAYpjpg) No signals from Chang'e'3 lander though.*

— UHF Satcom (@uhf\_satcom) September 6, 2014

*Tonights Yutu downlink on X-Band – nice signal again; FFT @ [t.co/nkU8iZnmCI](https://t.co/nkU8iZnmCI)*

— UHF Satcom (@uhf\_satcom) September 7, 2014

Source: [Universe Today](#)

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