

## Exhibit Checklist

### Photographs

Apollo Lunar Landing Mission Profile, July 1969.  
AP Photo/NASA.

Neil Armstrong leads the crew of Apollo 11 to the van that carried them to the launch platform at Cape Kennedy, 16 July 1969. AP Photo/NASA.

Apollo 11 blastoff, 16 July 1969. AP Photo/NASA.

Southeasterly view of the lunar surface, 20 July 1969.  
AP Photo/NASA.

Col. Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin standing on the moon, 20 July 1969. AP Photo/Neil Armstrong, NASA.

Col. Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin's footprint on the surface of the moon, 20 July 1969. AP Photo/NASA.

Lunar module, *Eagle*, rising from the lunar surface toward the command module, *Columbia*. 21 July 1969.  
AP Photo/NASA.

Splashdown in the Pacific Ocean, 24 July 1969.  
AP Photo/NASA.

President Richard M. Nixon flashes the "OK!" sign to the Apollo 11 astronauts, 24 July 1969. AP Photo/NASA.

Moonwalk transmission prints shot from NASA's closed-circuit TV screens, 20 July 1969. AP Photo/NASA. (Gift of Martin Zucker, 2005).

Reporters and photographers witness the blastoff of Apollo 11, 16 July 1969. AP Photo.

Howard Benedict interviewing John Glenn on first anniversary of Mercury-Atlas 6 flight, February 1963. AP Photo.

American servicemen pause on a downtown Saigon street to read an account of the Apollo 11 landing in the *Saigon Post*, 21 July 1969. AP Photo.

A crowd of 100,000 people in New York's Central Park watch as Apollo 11 lands on the moon, 20 July 1969.  
AP Photo/Marty Lederhandler.

A woman in Tokyo watches the television broadcast of the Apollo 11 astronauts' salute from the moon, 20 July 1969.  
AP Photo.

People gather in front of the Central Photo Agency office in Warsaw, Poland, where prints of the lunar landing were exhibited, 21 July 1969. AP Photo.

### Wire Copy

#### Cape Canaveral and Saigon Bureau Records

Astronaut Selection, Washington, 10 January 1969.

Mission Overview, Cape Kennedy, 15 July 1969.

Launch by Howard Benedict, Cape Kennedy, 16 July 1969.

Moon landing flash and bulletin by Howard Benedict, Space Center, Houston, 20 July 1969.

### Wire Copy (cont.)

Apollo TV by Harry F. Rosenthal, Space Center, Houston, 24 July 1969.

Poor People's Campaign protest by Don McKee, Cape Kennedy, 16 July 1969.

Splashdown by Howard Benedict, Aboard U.S.S. *Hornet*, 24 July 1969.

Apollo 11-The Meaning, Space Center, Houston, 12 August 1969.

Earthmen-Moonmen, London, 21 July 1969.

Vietnam War Roundup by Richard Pyle, Saigon, 21 July 1969.

### Printed Materials

*AP World*, Summer 1969, "How Man's First Flight to the Moon was Reported by The Associated Press."

*AP Log: A Weekly Analysis of AP News and Photo Coverage*, 20-26 July 1969

Apollo 11 Main Leads folder, July 1969. Cape Canaveral Bureau Records.

*Footprints on the Moon* by the writers and editors of The Associated Press, manuscript by John Barbour (Associated Press: 1969).

Front pages of the *Buffalo Evening News*, *New Orleans States-Item*, *Springfield (MO) Daily News* (digital facsimiles), 21 July 1969. Courtesy of The Newseum, Washington, D.C.

### Artifacts

Hasselblad 1000F 120 SLR camera (Gift of Sandy Colton, 2005).

### Cover Images:

Apollo 11 blastoff, 16 July 1969. AP Photo/NASA.

*The AP World*, Summer 1969

At the AP news transmitters in Houston (standing L to R): Lou Boccardi, Executive Assistant to General News Editor; Jim Mangan, Texas chief of bureau, and Operator John Bovaird. Seated: Ed Fornell, Texas traffic chief; Operator Lou Carden (on the "A" wire) and Operator Ed Miller (on the Broadcast trunk).

Col. Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin standing on the moon, 20 July 1969.  
AP Photo/Neil Armstrong, NASA.

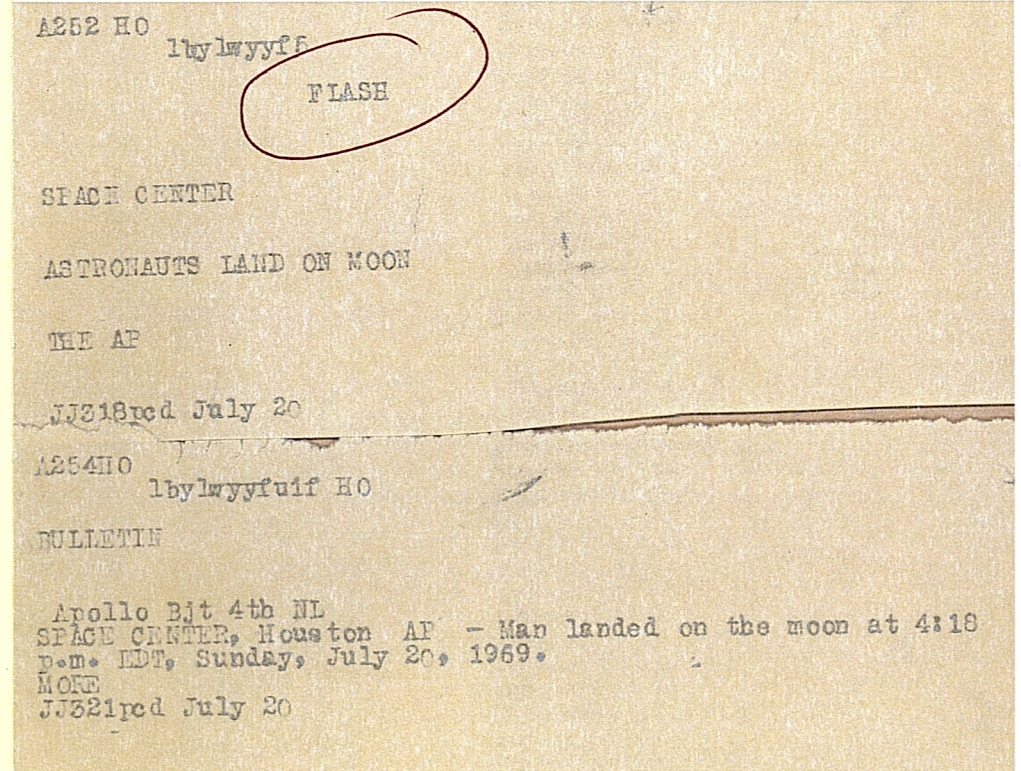
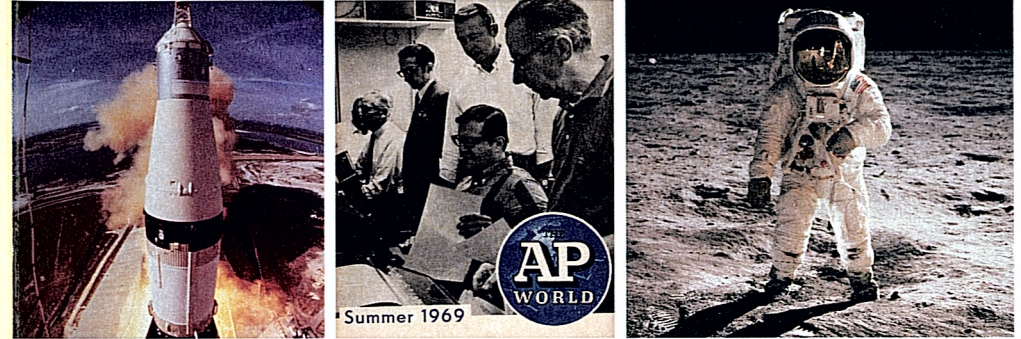
Moon landing flash and bulletin by Howard Benedict, Space Center, Houston, 20 July 1969.

### Inside Image:

Col. Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin's footprint on the surface of the moon, AP Photo/NASA.

# Moon Shot: AP Reports Apollo 11 16-24 July 1969

An Exhibit from the AP Corporate Archives and AP Photo Library





“Contact light,” I heard Buzz Aldrin call out. That meant probes dangling beneath the lunar lander *Eagle* had touched the surface of the moon. I raised my hands for the final seconds. Then I slapped the desk, hard. “Go! They’re down!” I said. The AP Teletype burst out the words:

FLASH

SPACE CENTER  
ASTRONAUTS LAND ON MOON

Then:

BULLETIN

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) – Man landed on the moon at 4:18 p.m. EDT, Sunday, July 20, 1969.”

--Howard Benedict  
AP aerospace writer

In May 1961, President John F. Kennedy set before the nation and Congress the ambitious goal “of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to Earth” before the close of the decade. At the time, the United States was badly trailing the Soviet Union in the Space Race. A month before Kennedy’s speech the Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first man to fly into space. Many astronauts and engineers at NASA thought that Kennedy’s dream of a lunar landing before the end of the 1960s was improbable, if not crazy. As Mercury astronaut Gordon Cooper purportedly said, “we don’t have the rockets, we’ve never had a man in orbit, [and] we don’t even know how to navigate to the moon.” Nevertheless, two Americans walked on the moon in the summer of 1969. On their home planet 250,000 miles away, half a billion people watched and listened to the unbelievable news. And they read about it in the newspapers the following day on front pages that instantly became collectors’ editions.

AP had covered the United States’ efforts in space exploration and rocketry from the first missile launch at Cape Canaveral on July 24, 1950 (eight years before the formation of NASA). Press conditions in these early years were far from congenial as the military kept a tight lid on all operations. This lack of access to the Cape meant that reporters and photographers surreptitiously watched the launches from Bird Watch Hill, a sandy knoll in Cocoa Beach which afforded a good view of the launch pad.

Nearly two decades later, the situation had drastically changed. Several hundred members of the media covered the liftoff of Apollo 11 from the grounds of the Kennedy Space Center. Over the years, AP had cultivated a crop of aerospace writers and reporters with the ability to translate complex scientific and technical matters into prose both soaring and spare. For the eight days of the Apollo 11 mission—from blastoff to splashdown—the 71 members of the AP Space Team recorded man’s first expedition to the surface of the moon and his safe return to earth.

--AP Corporate Archives  
July 20, 2009



SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) - Two Americans landed and walked on the moon Sunday, the first human beings on its alien soil. They planted their nation’s flag and talked to their President on earth by radio-telephone.

Millions on their home planet 240,000 miles away watched on television as they saluted the flag, and scouted the lunar surface.

-John Barbour’s lede that ran in newspapers  
throughout the world on July 21, 1969