Official Apollo 11 crew portrait (I-r)

Neil A. Armstrong
Apollo 11 Commander

Michael Collins
Command Module Pilot

Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin, Jr.
Lunar Module Pilot









Apollo was the culmination of roughly a decade worth of developing experience and technology for manned spaceflight. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS

Apollo was result of a challenge issued by the late President Kennedy on 25 May 1961 before Congress

"...before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to earth."









Apollo 11 lifts off on its historic mission to the moon and fulfilling the challenge made by the late President Kennedy. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS

Mission Timeline 2:50:13.03 since launch

July 16, 1969 11:22:13 AM CDT 16:22:13 UTC

Translunar Injection





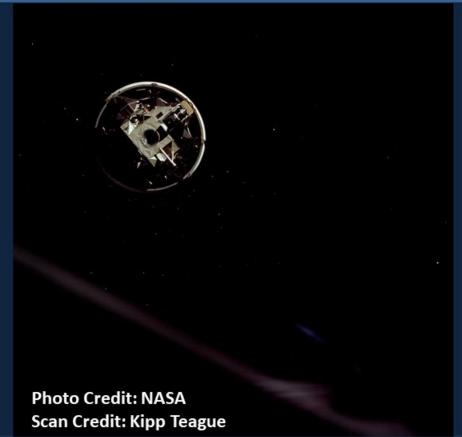


1969-2019

Mission Timeline 3:05:03.9 since launch

July 16, 1969 11:37:03 AM CDT 16:37:03 UTC

Transposition and Docking Begins

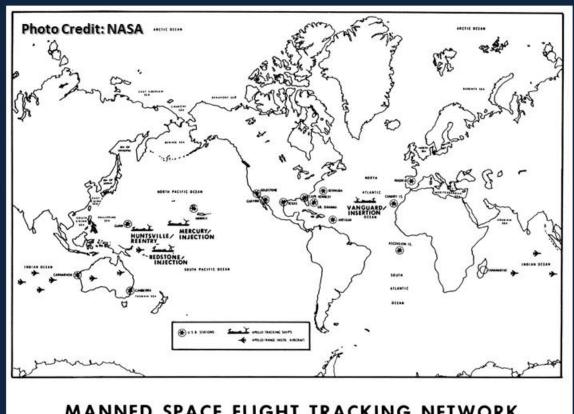






Manned Space Flight Tracking Network for Apollo 11

17 land stations 4 ships 6-8 jet aircraft



MANNED SPACE FLIGHT TRACKING NETWORK



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In order to keep in contact with Apollo 11, the Manned Space Flight Tracking Network was expanded to include ships and aircraft. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS

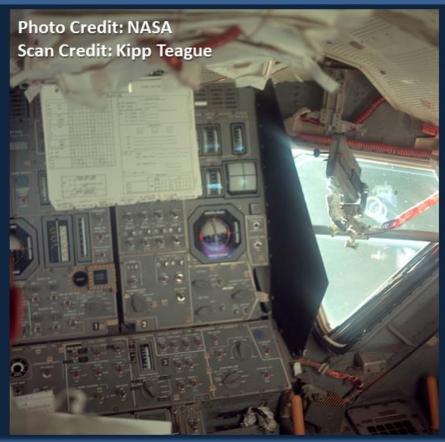
1969-2019

Mission Timeline ~55:41:00 since launch

July 18, 1969 4:13 PM CDT 21:13 UTC

3rd TV broadcast

Inspecting the Lunar Module (LM)





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Four TV broadcasts were made by Apollo 11 on the way to the moon. The LM inspection broadcast lasted 1 hour and 36 minutes. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS

APOLLO 11 GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY 1969-2019 **Photo Credit: NASA Mission Timeline** Scan Credit: Kipp Teague 75:49:50.37 since launch July 19, 1969 12:21:50 PM CDT 17:21:50 UTC Lunar orbit insertion begins



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Slowing down Apollo 11 and placing it in lunar orbit was the next critical phase of the mission. The window to do so was very narrow. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS



The *Eagle* crew consisted of Neil Armstrong and "Buzz" Aldrin. A final go/no go by Houston was made about halfway to the moon's surface. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS

1969-2019

Mission Timeline 102:45:39.9 since launch

> July 20, 1969 3:17:39 PM CDT 20:17:39 UTC

> LM lunar landing

At ~3:18 PM CDT 20:18 UTC Neil Armstrong says;

"Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed."





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After seeing the computer would land on the edge of a rocky crater, Armstrong manually landed *Eagle* with only 30-45 seconds of fuel left. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS

1969-2019

Mission Timeline 109:24:15 since launch

July 20, 1969 9:56:15 PM CDT 02:56:15 UTC July 21, 1969

Armstrong takes first step

"That's one small step for [a] man...one giant leap for mankind."





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The [a] was lost due to static in transmission from Armstrong's famous pronouncement. It was re-discovered when the tapes were digitized. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS

APOLLO 11 GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY 1969-2019 **Mission Timeline** Video Still Credit: Ken Glover 124:22:00.79 since Material Credit: Mark Gray launch July 21, 1969 12:54:00 PM CDT 17:54:00 UTC Eagle lifts off from the moon



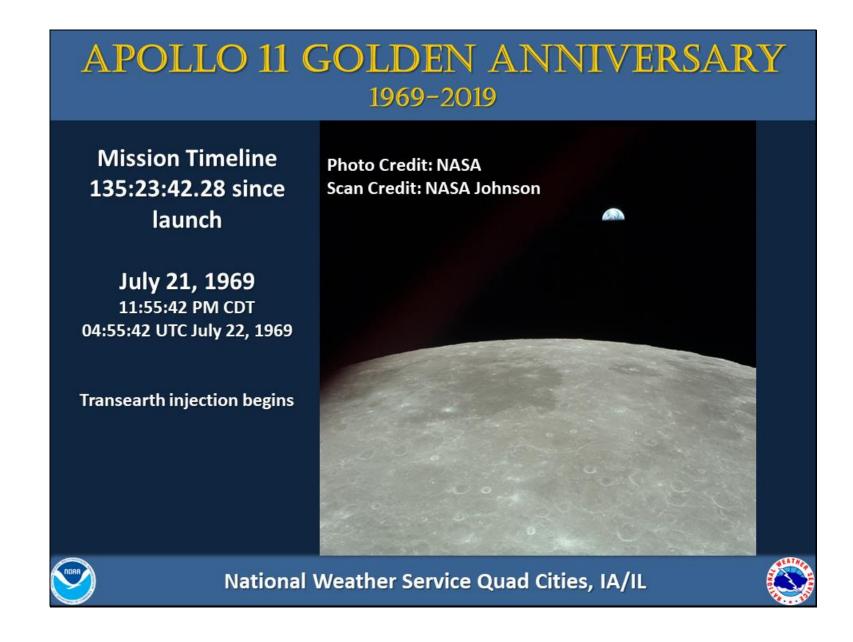
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Prior to liftoff much work was done to get an accurate position of Eagle (landing off target) and Columbia's orbit to minimize fuel usage. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS



Eagle and Columbia docked at a slight angle which caused spacecraft oscillations until the docking latches fired and achieved a hard dock. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS



After several lunar orbits to verify spacecraft weight and a recheck of systems, Houston gave the go to proceed back to earth. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS

The most reproduced photo of Apollo 11

"Buzz" Aldrin on the lunar surface

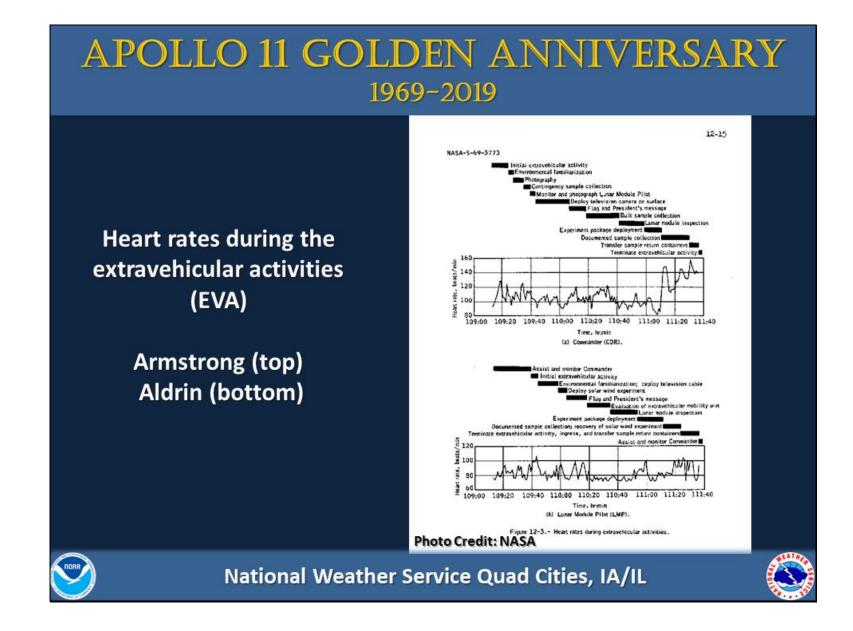




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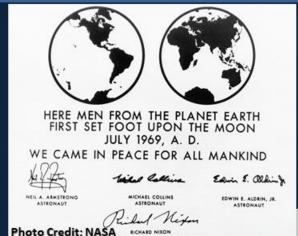
The Apollo 11 image of "Buzz" Aldrin on the moon and "Earthrise" from Apollo 8 are two of the best known images from the Apollo program. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS



The post mission report showed that the heartrates of Armstrong and Aldrin varied greatly while they were on the lunar surface. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS

Items that were left on the lunar surface

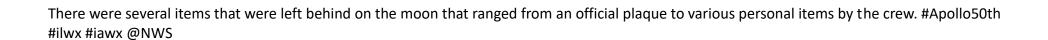
A commemorative plaque on the ladder of Eagle's landing gear

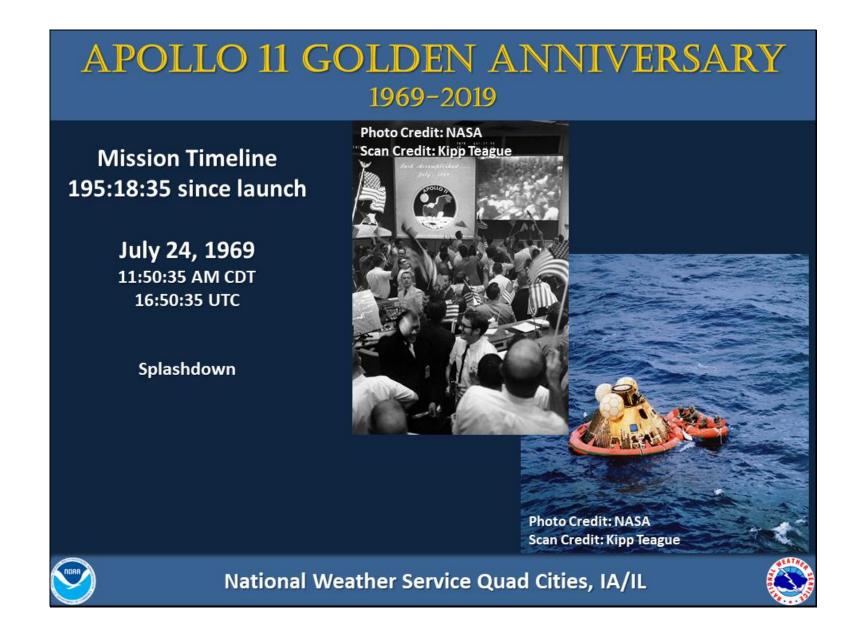


The crew left approved personal items on the moon. Armstrong left an Apollo 1 mission patch.









Due to thunderstorms the landing area for Apollo 11 was moved 215 miles to the northeast to a position 825 miles southwest of Honolulu. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS

Mission Timeline ~196:30:00 since launch

July 24, 1969 1:02:00 PM CDT 18:02:00 UTC

Apollo 11 crew in the mobile quarantine facility visited by President Nixon





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The crew was quarantined from 24 July 1969 to 10 August 1969 to ensure they did not bring back any germs from the moon. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS

1969-2019

Mission Timeline 430:26:46 since launch

August 3, 1969 6:58:46 AM CDT 11:58:46 UTC

The Apollo 11 mission clock officially stopped when the passive seismic experiment was turned off.

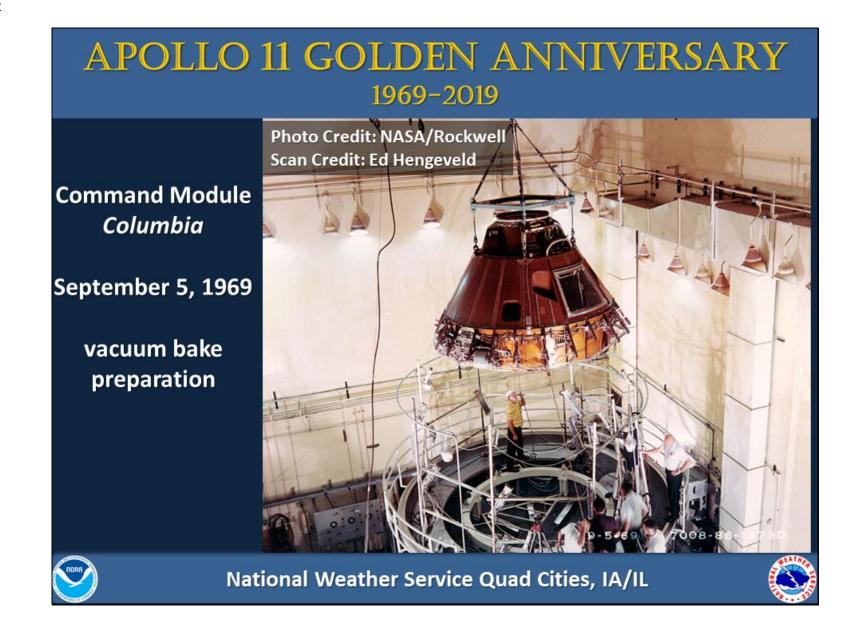




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The Apollo 11 mission clock stopped on 3 August 1969 when the passive seismic experiment was turned off; just over 430 hours after launch. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS



After inspection *Columbia* was vacuumed baked to remove residual moisture before being encased in plastic for display at the Smithsonian. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS

APOLLO 11 GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY 1969-2019 **Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter Photo of the Apollo 11 Landing Site** Altitude of 24 km (15 miles) above the surface Discarded Cover Credits: NASA Godard/Arizona State University 50 m National Weather Service Quad Cities, IA/IL

40 years later the LRO took photos of the Apollo 11 landing site. The dark line to the crater is an unplanned walk done by Armstrong. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS

"...I think one could reasonably make the case that Apollo laid the foundations for modern planetary science, certainly as it relates to the origin and evolution of the terrestrial planets."

Professor Ian A. Crawford, University of London, in Astronomy and Geophysics, December 2012

What was learned from the Apollo Program

- Discovery of anorthosite showed the moon once had very complex geological processes
- Confirmed the theory that the moon formed from debris blown off the earth in a collision with a Mars-sized object early in Earth's life
- Research from the lunar samples has produced more than 2,500 scientific papers through 2015
- The space shuttle's basic structure was made stronger and safer while reducing weight





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Although the Apollo Program was originally not done for scientific reasons, much was learned and that learning still continues to this day. #Apollo50th #ilwx #iawx @NWS