

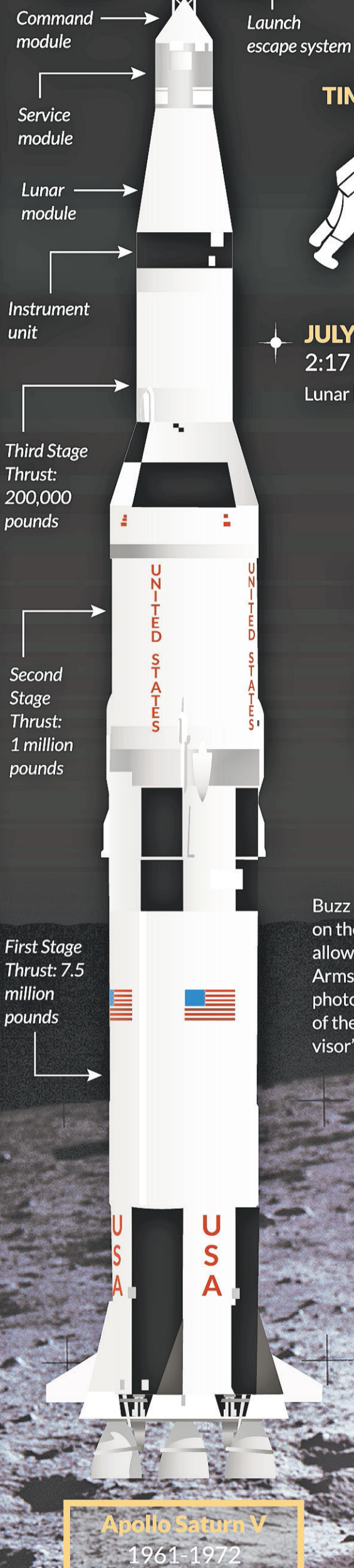
1969-2019

50

APOLLO

MISSION: To perform a manned lunar landing and return safely to Earth.

This month marks 50 years since Apollo 11 became the first spaceflight to land people on the face of the moon. Commander Neil Armstrong and lunar module pilot Buzz Aldrin landed the module Eagle. Armstrong became the first person to walk on the surface of the moon and Aldrin joined in 19 minutes later. Command module pilot Michael Collins flew the module Columbia alone in lunar orbit while they were on the moon's surface. Armstrong and Aldrin spent 21.5 hours on the face of the moon before rejoining Columbia in orbit. Apollo 11 fulfilled a national goal proposed by President John F. Kennedy in 1961. Here are some more facts and stats about the mission:



TIMELINE (Central)



JULY 20, 1969
2:17 P.M.
Lunar landing.

JULY 16, 1969
8:32 A.M.
Apollo 11 launched from Kennedy Space Center in Titusville, Fla.

JULY 20, 1969
8:56 P.M.
First step on surface of the moon by Neil Armstrong.

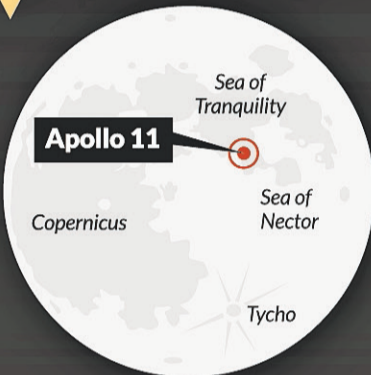
JULY 17, 1969
6:31 P.M.
First scheduled color telecast showing view of the Earth.

JULY 21, 1969
11:54 A.M.
Return trip lunar liftoff.

JULY 19, 1969
11:21 A.M.
Lunar orbit insertion and out of radio contact for the first time.

JULY 24, 1969
10:50 A.M.
Splashdown in Pacific Ocean, followed by 21 days of quarantine.

MOON LANDING SPOT

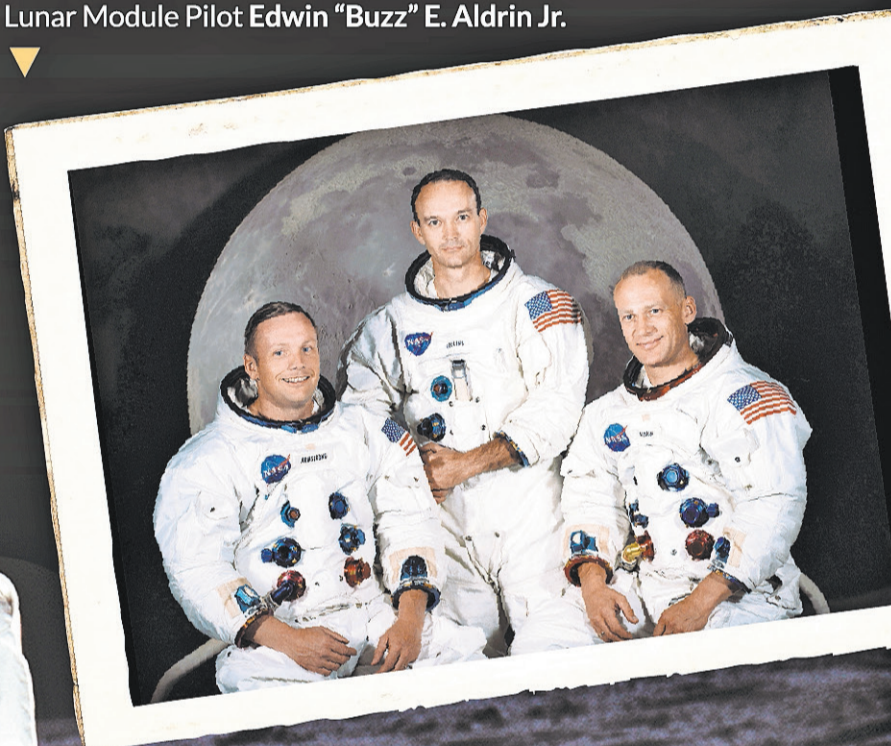


Buzz Aldrin poses on the moon, allowing Neil Armstrong to photograph both of them using the visor's reflection.



CREW (left to right)

- Commander Neil A. Armstrong
- Command Module Pilot Michael Collins
- Lunar Module Pilot Edwin "Buzz" E. Aldrin Jr.



OFFICIAL PATCH

The crew was tasked with creating the patch design. The olive branch was transferred from the eagle's mouth to his talons, a less menacing position.



“One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.”

Neil A. Armstrong

Apollo Saturn V
1961-1972

Sources: NASA, National Air and Space Museum

Troy Becker / Forum News Service

LUBENOW

From Page A1

Cape a thousand questions: Can you use the pads over and over? Yes. But in the Apollo 10 blast-off, a brick firewall came loose and the backfire from the rocket fired bricks like bullets over a 2-mile area. A traffic sign was found with a hole right through it, but it was unbent. That should show you how fast the brick was traveling. They hang on to his every word. They want to know all the small, intimate details about missiles and the men who will ride it. My friend is

not intimate with the men. But he is with the missiles. He has seen them all. He works for Boeing which builds one of the stages. He tells you that there are about 23,000 employed at the Cape — but that when this shot is over, 5,000 will be laid off. We are sitting on the fans and some other people come over to join us and the talk turns philosophical. “Why do we go?” asks a man from Denver. A kid with long hair who looks about 18 answers him, “Why are you here?” If Americans didn’t go, the kid says, we would all still be sitting behind the Allegheny Mountains. The kid looks across the water

to Apollo 11, “Man, we just got to go.” Our group has swelled to about 15 people now and there is one red-faced man from Alabama who is here to see blood. It is obvious. He keeps wondering what will happen if the rocket blows up on the pad, or if we can’t get our people back from the moon and he drools when he talks about it. He says, “I was at the Indianapolis 500 this year. Bad race. Nobody got hurt.” He is here for the lions against the Christians. A frail, sickly-looking girl from Arkansas looks at you when you ask a question, and she says, “I guess I don’t have nothin’

I’ve got two kids and one of them died and the other one is ...” She points to a young boy who is playing near the water. His head is enlarged. He is obviously retarded. “No,” she says, “I don’t have nothin’ except America. We’re goin’ to the moon and I’m goin’ along.” If she can’t share in life’s happiness, she can, by God, share in America’s triumphs. Our group talks of the wonders of space and an aging man with gray hair, says, “There isn’t anything we can’t do if we announce a goal. I mean technically. When we announce that we will put

a man on the moon in this decade, we do it.” He paused and said, “Why can’t we solve human problems the same way? Why can’t we announce a goal of eliminating all hunger in this country and then do it?” Nobody answers. A very old man who came in from North Carolina raises his voice. “It’s wrong,” he says in a quivering voice. He actually does not believe that Apollo 10 went to the moon. He thinks it just went up into the sky out of sight and then they came back and told everybody that they were close to the moon. He says that and it gets

very quiet because he’s an old man and nobody wants to embarrass him. The old man continues, “Yes, it is wrong. Because the Bible says that God created earth and heaven. And the earth is here, not anywhere else. The sky is here, not anywhere else.” Everybody sits there with downcast eyes as the old man raises his right hand and points a gnarled finger across the water at Apollo 11. “That machine is wrong. This is our earth and this is our sky. God has said.” It is quiet for a moment and the pale, sickly-looking girl from Arkansas says softly: “Sir, your God isn’t big enough.”