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Connecting - July 17, 2019

1 message

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Wed, Jul 17, 2019 at 8:49 AM

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Connecting

July 17, 2019

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The Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum projected an animated image of the Saturn V rocket's launch on the Washington Monument on Tuesday night to mark the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing. Fox 5 DC Photo

Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this the 17th day of July 2019,

Today's issue brings more of your memories of the 1969 Apollo 11 mission as we recall where we were that day 50 years ago on Saturday when the first men walked on the moon.

We also bring you a story on the AP's re-release of the 50th anniversary edition of its book - "Apollo 11: An AP Special Anniversary Edition."

Yours are remarkable stories of history as you lived it - and I hope that if you have a memory to share, you will send it along today. After an issue Thursday morning, Connecting will take a few days off as Linda and I travel to Colorado and the newsletter will resume next Tuesday morning.

Click [here](#) to view the latest AP coverage of the anniversary of the moon landing.

Have a great day!

Paul

Some photos from that historic week



Associated Press Science Writer John Barbour in AP's Houston Bureau during the coverage of the Apollo 11 moon landing in July 1969. Barbour wrote the AM leads on the moon shot, historic landing and the subsequent moon walk. (AP Photo/Corporate Archives)



AP staff in Houston during the moonshot, July 1969. Standing in picture are Lou Boccardi, in overall charge of coverage; Jim Mangan, Texas chief of bureau, and Operator John Bovaird. Seated are Ed Fornell, Texas traffic chief; Operator Lou Carden (on the "A" wire) and Operator Ed Miller (on the Broadcast trunk). (AP Photo/Corporate Archives)

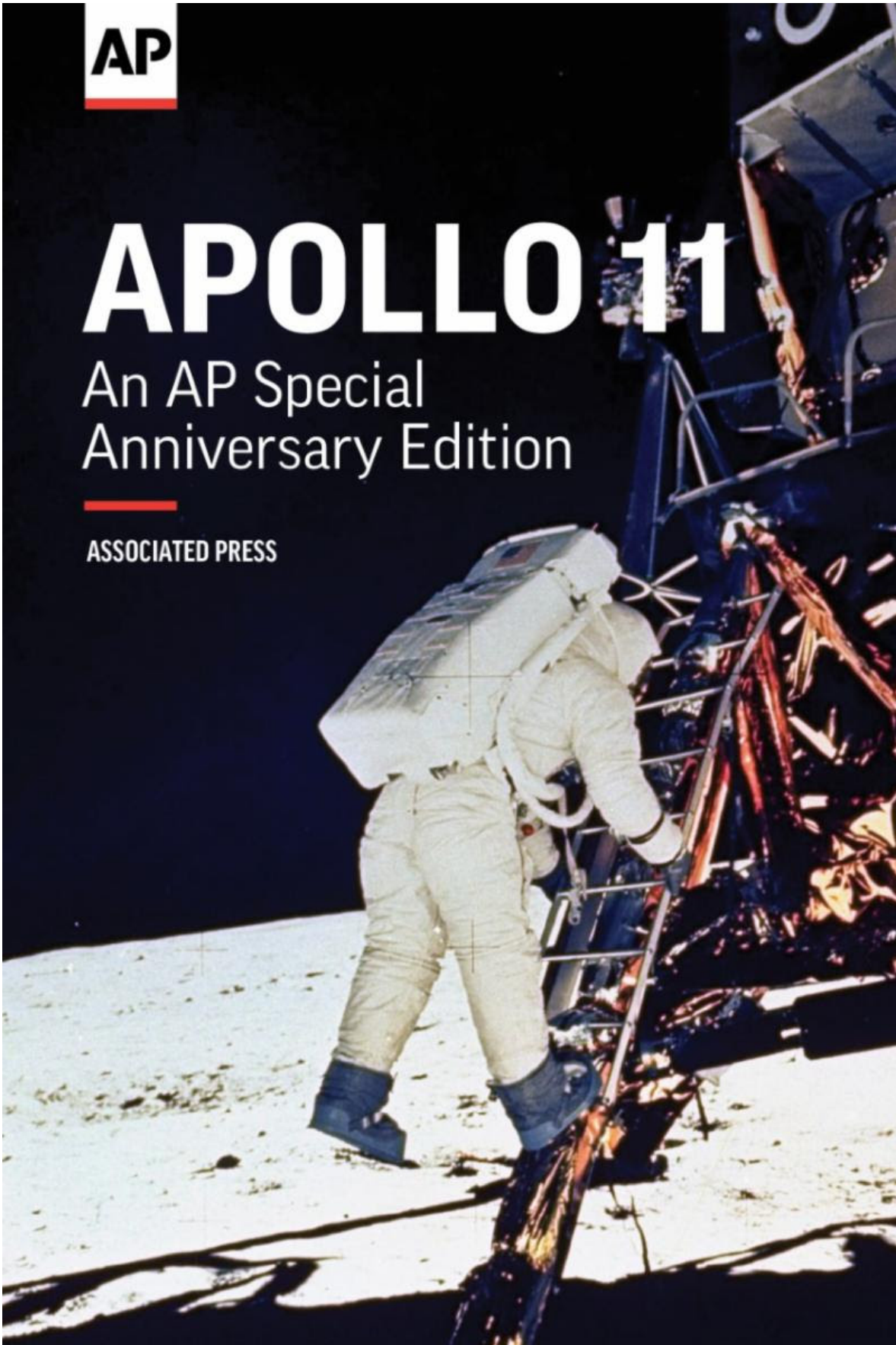
AP Book: How America won the race to the moon!

AP

APOLLO 11

An AP Special
Anniversary Edition

ASSOCIATED PRESS



In this fascinating history of the Apollo 11 mission, The Associated Press chronicles America's journey to the moon.

In 1957 the Soviet Union sent Sputnik, the first man-made satellite, into space. America took up the challenge to explore the next frontier. A dozen years, and 25 billion dollars later, the mission of Apollo 11 would yield man's finest hour. For that was the first time man's foot left prints on another heavenly body. And that was only the beginning.

"Apollo 11" is the incredible story of how a nation forged the technology during the turbulent 1960s to slip humanity from the bonds of its native planet. This inside look remembers those who made the great enterprise succeed.

The achievement of the astronauts, especially Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, and Michael Collins, was more than a victory for the United States; it was a triumphant moment for all mankind. And no other moment will seem as big until we reach beyond the moon for other planets, other stars.

This special anniversary edition features an introduction by AP's Aerospace Correspondent Marcia Dunn, a bonus photo gallery and select artifacts from the corporate archives of The Associated Press.

Available in paperback and e-book exclusively at Amazon.com. Click [here](#) to order.

Your memories of the Apollo 11 moon landing

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FLASH

SPACE CENTER

A S T R O N A U T S L A N D O N
 MOON

THE AP

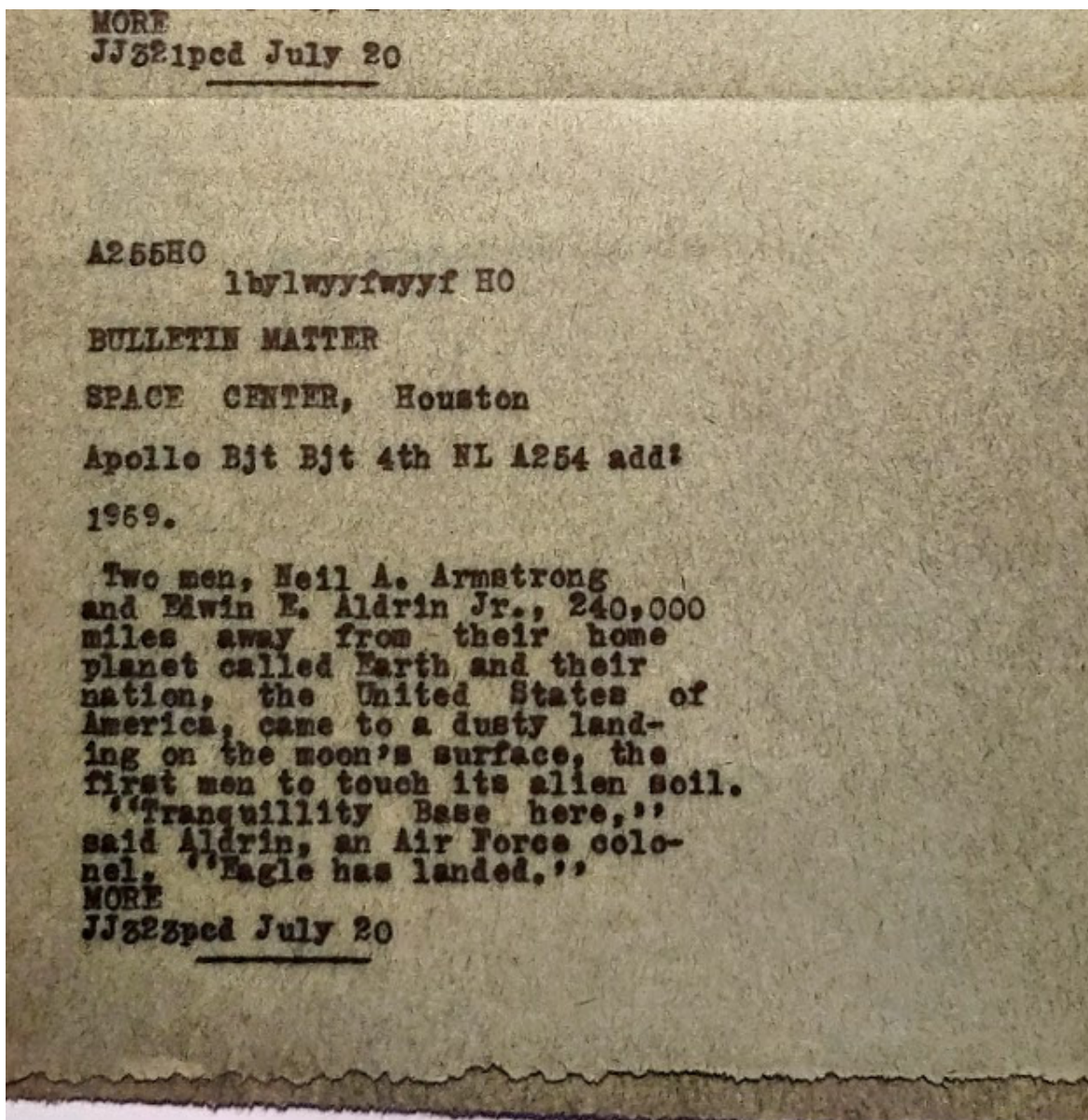
JJ318pcd July 20

BULLETIN

EDITORS: Release A236HO
 Apollo touchdown.
 THE AP
 JJ319pcd July 20

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BULLETIN
 Apollo Bjt 4th NL
 SPACE CENTER, Houston
 AP - Man landed on the
 moon at 4:18 p.m. EDT, Sun-
 day, July 20, 1969.



Ed Breen ([Email](#)) - One of the few times in my misspent youth that I had the good sense to tuck away original wire copy.

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Joe Frazier ([Email](#)) - I was a Marine I Corps corporal in the tiny and mostly friendly village of Phu Hoa some miles inland from Danang during the hours after the landing, which we had been following on Armed Forces Radio and Television Service, lovingly known to all as AFARTS. That morning there was still a yellowish hint of moon in a pale sky. We were on a semi-regular medical patrol during which we visited small town with no medical facilities (most of them) and dosed or patched civilians (we hoped) who needed basic care.

We were still giddy over the news and a kid of maybe 10 tugged at my sleeve and asked me what was going on. In my best bad Vietnamese, I explained how the United States had landed men on the moon. He pointed to the fading yellow disc in the morning sky. "That moon?" I nodded. He looked up and asked, "Tai sao?" - or "Why?"

I had no answer. A month later I caught my bird (flight home). That morning still stands out among my memories of those 13 months. It put plenty in perspective

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Richard Horwitz (Email) - Watching Apollo 11 lift off from Cape Kennedy was unforgettable. The noise of the rocket was indescribable. I can still feel the pressure of the sound waves, and I was two miles away.

On the way to the airport in Washington, I stopped at a drug store and bought a \$20 tape recorder. Long before iPods, this used 3-inch reels and batteries. I placed it on the ground and turned it on. I recorded the live rocket and, luckily, the voice of a local radio announcer giving his description of the launch. "There she goes, just the way she's supposed to," he said.

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Bill Kaczor (Email) - Apollo 8 had splashed down just a day before Judy and I were married on Dec. 28, 1968, in Medora, Illinois, near her family's farm. The spacecraft had made the first manned trip around the moon. We had been a bit preoccupied, but we'd read about it in the papers and saw some TV coverage. We then headed to Florida for our honeymoon and, appropriately enough, we visited the Kennedy Space Center and saw a moon rocket being rolled toward its launch pad. That was Apollo 9, which did not actually go to the moon. Instead, it conducted the first in-flight test of the lunar lander. By the time Apollo 11 landed I was busy learning how to operate and maintain F-4 flight simulators at now-closed Chanute Air Force Base in Rantoul, Illinois. Judy commuted to another rural town where she taught second-graders. We watched news reports of the landing on a black and white TV but didn't dwell on it much as we quickly returned to our own reality.

Twenty-seven years later, I finally had a chance to see and hear the first man on the moon while covering a symposium on lunar exploration at what is now called the National Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola. As others have noted, Armstrong was publicity shy and he turned down my interview request, which was a shame because he had an engaging personality. But he did take questions from the audience and that was my lede:

Eleven-year-old Tim Osterhout wanted to know what it felt like to walk on the moon so he asked an expert: Neil Armstrong. Pausing between each word for effect, the first human to set foot on the lunar surface told the boy: "You would really like it." Armstrong's response brought laughter and applause from 1,600 military personnel and civilians at the National Museum of Naval Aviation's symposium last month."

Those last two words in the national version of the story are a bit puzzling because it ran on the state wire within hours of Armstrong's appearance. The two versions appear to be identical. Apparently, news traveled slowly between Florida and New York in those days.

Later in the story, I noted that Armstrong, responding to another questioner, elaborated on his answer to young Mr. Osterhout's query. Armstrong said he got a sense of what it felt like as soon as the lander touched down and it was no different when he stepped on the moon's surface. He said experiencing gravity that is only one-sixth as strong as Earth's is "a particularly enjoyable time. You feel very light. It's wonderful."

He said movement was actually freer inside the lander because wearing a space suit made movement more difficult. "There was great satisfaction, though, in getting to the surface, not so much the fact that there was that much unusual about it compared to being inside the lunar module ... but the fact that we had accomplished what a third of a million people had worked a decade on," he said.

The most difficult part of the trip was the landing: "The higher the orbit is, the more fuel you'll need to get down. The lower the orbit, the more the possibility is you'll make a new crater and they'll name it after you. So we picked kind of a middle ground."

The panel that day also included astronauts Alan Shepard, James Lovell, Walter Schirra and Eugene Cernan, who - as he often has done - bemoaned the fact he was the last man on the moon. Cernan, of course, was hoping there would be more moon landings.

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Dick Lipsey (Email) - When Neil Armstrong stepped onto the moon's surface, I was about two months into Infantry OCS at Fort Benning. The good news was that the dayroom television set -- which I had never seen turned on before -- was in fact on and carrying the broadcast. I was able to watch some of the coverage in passing, but my platoon had other priorities: mopping, waxing, and polishing floors, part of our usual Sunday afternoon routine.

In other circumstances I would have been glued to the set. I was a longtime science fiction reader and had followed the space race intently. But I knew that more moon landings would follow, and a scientific station and colony on the moon, and a mission to Mars ...

At that point in OCS, I don't think we had been allowed outside the company area, but somehow I acquired a copy of the following day's Atlanta Constitution ("For 101 Years the South's Standard Newspaper"). I still have the first section with the headline "Astronauts Walk on Moon's Surface" and a large, grainy Associated Press Wirephoto of Armstrong stepping onto the surface, the only photo on the front page. Most of the section was devoted to the moon landing.

I also have a copy of the July 15 Atlanta Journal ("Covers Dixie Like the Dew") with the headline "Apollo Countdown Is Smoothest Ever" and an uncredited color photo of the three astronauts. Most of that first section was news of the day, including a lengthy AP story (no byline) headlined "Changing World Needs Better Reporting, Dean Says." Dr. Warren Agee, former journalism dean at the University of Kansas, was interviewed after taking over as journalism dean at Georgia. Otherwise, "3 More Georgians Die in Vietnam"; "Resentencing Due For Cassius Clay"; "5 Czechs Fail in Try To Crash Border."

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Jim Lloyd (Email) - The day I met "THE FIRST MAN ON THE MOON!" During my year in Vietnam (10/69-10/70) I was one of the 25,000 troops attending the Bob Hope 1969 Christmas Show held at Long Binh Post in late December or early January. Bob Hope had us rolling with laughter at his perfectly timed one-liners interspersed, with beautiful women, it was ASTRONAUT NEIL ARMSTRONG who "brought down the house" with his low key BUT SPECTACULAR appearance! We all hung on both the mere sight of him in OUR space AND his every word, he was SUCH a big deal. At the conclusion of the wonderful show, I decided to make my

way to the stage (from where I was seated at least a third of the way around the sprawling amphitheater) to try to shake his hand. To my surprise I got there fairly quickly, and reached out to him I believe with both hands, the right to shake his hand and the left to hand him a pen and paper from my pocket for an autograph. God bless America, I got both!

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Ray Newton (Email) - All the Apollo 11 emphasis has special meaning for me and my family. We were living in Flagstaff during some of those years. Every astronaut who ever walked on the moon was trained by USGA and NASA folks in Flagstaff on the meteor and volcanic craters and similar terrain.

Not long ago, I did a freelance piece about Bill Tinnin, a USGS employee who built the prototype for the moon rover. Nothing like an extraterrestrial vehicle had ever been created before, so Bill let his imagination and mechanical creativity lead him. Bill found a beat-up-old truck and modified it totally for electric motors. He built "Grover" (above) from scratch. For the antenna which was to receive signals, he took an old umbrella and stripped it. He covered it with metal mesh-and that became the model for the antenna. Grover is now is on display at the USGS headquarters in Flagstaff. That museum is well worth a visit for anyone interested in the Apollo years.

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Bill Schiffmann (Email) - On July 16, 1969 (my birthday), I was in the Air Force, serving at Howard AFB in Panama. Although I had no idea journalism would wind up being my career, all our friends worked for Armed Forces Radio, and we were huddled in the apartment of one of our friends, watching a little B&W television as the rocket blasted off.

We were in front of the same TV a few days later to watch the amazing sight of an American walking on the moon, a feat that previously belonged to SciFi novels. I don't recall much excitement in our host country, but to us it was a moment of pride and excitement. Even though the screen was tiny and reception was terrible, it was - to quote comic Craig Ferguson -- "a great day for America."

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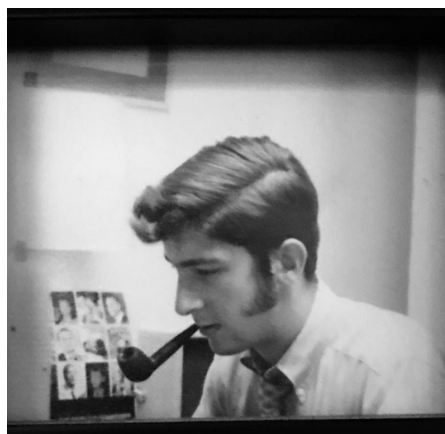
Barry Sweet ([Email](#)) - I remember where I was during the Apollo 11. I was with J. Walter Green from Boston on the aircraft carrier USS Hornet somewhere in the

Pacific Ocean. Most likely the only two AP photographers who did see the landing on the moon. I was a young kid back then and this was my third Apollo mission. I also covered Apollo 8 and Apollo 10. One of my special images.

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Ed Tobias (Email) - The summer of '69 I was a lucky guy. I had a summer job as a Desk Assistant in the newsroom of the ABC Radio Networks in NYC and was one of two DAs assigned to work the night of July 20.

My specific assignment was to sit at a typewriter and write a verbatim of everything that was said between the Apollo 11 crew and controllers in Houston. So, as Neil Armstrong spoke his famous words I was typing furiously. "That's one small step for man," I typed, "one giant leap for mankind."



Now, Armstrong tells people that he said, "That's one small step for a man," and that's how it's reported in the Apollo 11 section of the NASA website. But, I stand by what I typed. The NASA radios were using "VOX," voice-activated, transmissions and the VOX clipped the first fraction of a second of some of the words. So, it's possible that Armstrong said "a man" but the "a" got clipped by the VOX. I don't think so. Listen to the audio recording and let me know what you think he said.

By the way, the other Desk Assistant that night was Ralph Begleiter. The two of us worked together several years later at WTOP Radio in WDC. Ralph left to become CNN's Senior Diplomatic Correspondent. I left to go to work for the AP.

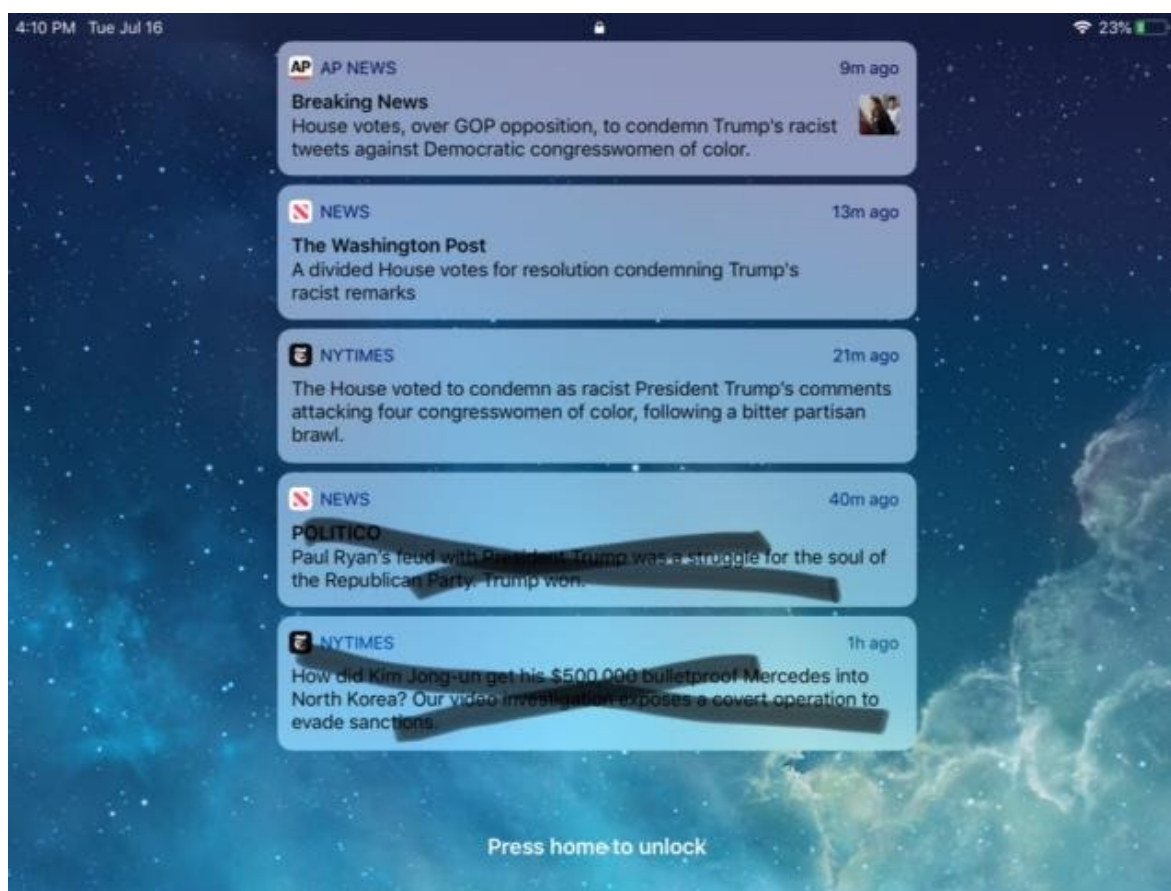
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George Varghese (Email) - When one fifth of the world's population watched it on TV, I was in a small town in India without any access to television. I was a fan of space travel ever since Russia's Sputnik experiment. Space travel one day was my dream which will be buried with me six feet under! I followed all Apollo travels including 11 through the newspaper. However, I did not want to wait until the next day's newspaper to read about the moon landing. I wanted to listen over the radio. Voice of America broadcasting was banned in India at that time. So, I went to my uncle's house who had a radio which could up pick up Voice of America broadcast from neighboring Sri Lanka. I woke up early in the morning which was July 21st in India to hear the running commentary of the moon landing. My excitement grew as

the lunar module separated from the spacecraft . One problem, my uncle, who had limited knowledge of English, demanded simultaneous translation. Annoyed but respectful, I obliged. I heard Armstrong saying "one small step for man, but a giant step for mankind" the same time as the TV viewers. I am still excited about that day and read every article in yesterday's Wall Street Journal's supplement on the moon landing.

Connecting mailbox

Proud of AP for standing its ground



Michael Rubin (Email) - A screen grab of three news alerts regarding Tuesday's House vote regarding Trump's tweets. Both AP and the Washington Post flat out call Trump's remarks "racist" while The NY Times more cautiously says the vote was "to condemn as racist" his comments.

I'm proud of AP standing its ground in this one. Trump's comment was one of the oldest racist/nativist taunts around used against every newcomer to our shores after the Pilgrims and original colonists.

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David Maraniss' biography of his father is fascinating read



The Cap Times newsroom, with its messy, paper-strewn AP desk, is where I saw Elliott at work in the 1960s. I was an AP campus stringer at the time. I made this photo of Elliott Maraniss in December, 1966, in the adjacent composing room supervising makeup of page one, the very image of a "newspaperman born with ink in his blood."

Neal Ulevich (Email) - A Good American Family, David Maraniss' recent biography of his father Elliott Maraniss, is a fascinating read about a fine journalist in a troubled time. The elder Maraniss was a born newspaperman, leftist, sometime communist (though never one of consequence), an Army officer in WWII and a baseball fan.

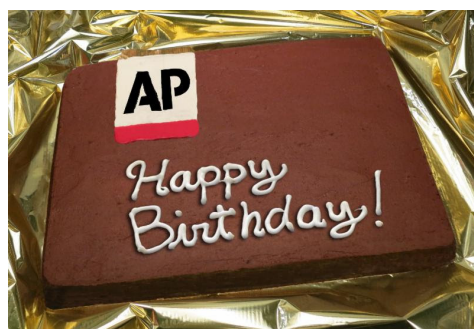
He was also in his student days at Michigan a young man with university pals well on their way to fame: Arthur Miller, poet John Ciardi, and Stan Swinton, later an AP giant, among others.

Elliott Maraniss later became a target of the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC), a circumstance which left him years in blacklist wilderness. Some journalistic jobs ended summarily not for journalistic cause, but for pressure from the FBI or Red baiters.

"My father, the newspaperman born with ink in his blood, was out of the business for the first time in more than 20 years," David wrote. "The FBI made it clear that its agents would follow him wherever he went and whenever he applied for a job."

Ultimately he emerged from that wilderness: He hired on with the Capital Times in Madison, Wisconsin, an afternoon daily which made no apology for its progressive stance. He was hired as a reporter. When he left the Cap Times years later he was executive editor.

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Carolyn Lessard - clessard@ap.org

Story of interest

Kellyanne Conway says she meant 'no disrespect' with question about reporter's ethnicity (The Hill)

By JOE CONCHA

White House counselor Kellyanne Conway said she meant "no disrespect" when she questioned a reporter about his ethnicity on Tuesday while defending President Trump amid blowback to his remarks going after a handful of progressive House Democrats.

"This was meant with no disrespect," Conway wrote to her 2.8 million Twitter followers, referring to her exchange with the reporter during a press gaggle earlier in the day at the White House.

"We are all from somewhere else 'originally.' I asked the question to answer the question and volunteered my own ethnicity: Italian and Irish," she continued. "Like many, I am proud of my ethnicity, love the USA & grateful to God to be an American."

Read more [here](#).

The Final Word



Today in History - July 17, 2019



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, July 17, the 198th day of 2019. There are 167 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On July 17, 1996, TWA Flight 800, a Europe-bound Boeing 747, exploded and crashed off Long Island, New York, shortly after departing John F. Kennedy International Airport, killing all 230 people on board.

On this date:

In 1821, Spain ceded Florida to the United States.

In 1862, during the Civil War, Congress approved the Second Confiscation Act, which declared that all slaves taking refuge behind Union lines were to be set free.

In 1918, Russia's Czar Nicholas II and his family were executed by the Bolsheviks.

In 1944, during World War II, 320 men, two-thirds of them African-Americans, were killed when a pair of ammunition ships exploded at the Port Chicago Naval Magazine in California.

In 1945, following Nazi Germany's surrender, President Harry S. Truman, Soviet leader Josef Stalin and British Prime Minister Winston S. Churchill began meeting at Potsdam in the final Allied summit of World War II.

In 1954, the two-day inaugural Newport Jazz Festival, billed as "The First American Jazz Festival," opened in Rhode Island; among the performers the first night was Billie Holiday, who died in New York on this date in 1959 at age 44.

In 1955, Disneyland had its opening day in Anaheim, California.

In 1961, Baseball Hall-of-Famer Ty Cobb died in Atlanta at age 74.

In 1975, an Apollo spaceship docked with a Soyuz spacecraft in orbit in the first superpower link-up of its kind.

In 1981, 114 people were killed when a pair of suspended walkways above the lobby of the Kansas City Hyatt Regency Hotel collapsed during a tea dance.

In 1997, Woolworth Corp. announced it was closing its 400 remaining five-and-dime stores across the country, ending 117 years in business.

In 2014, all 298 passengers and crew aboard Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 were killed when the Boeing 777 was shot down over rebel-held eastern Ukraine.

Ten years ago: Former CBS anchorman Walter Cronkite died in New York at 92. Bombs ripped through two luxury hotels in Jakarta, Indonesia, killing seven victims and wounding at least 50 more. The space shuttle Endeavour arrived at the international space station to deliver the third and final component of a billion-dollar Japanese lab. Gordon Waller, of the pop duo Peter and Gordon, died in Norwich, Connecticut, at 64.

Five years ago: Eric Garner, an unarmed black man accused of selling loose, untaxed cigarettes, died shortly after being wrestled to the ground by New York City police officers; a video of the takedown showed Garner repeatedly saying, "I can't breathe." (Garner's family received \$5.9 million from the city in 2015 to settle a wrongful death claim.) All 298 passengers and crew aboard Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 were killed when the Boeing 777 was shot down over rebel-held eastern Ukraine; both Ukraine's government and pro-Russian separatists denied responsibility. Broadway performer Elaine Stritch, 89, died in Birmingham, Michigan.

One year ago: Amid criticism from within his own party, President Donald Trump said he had simply misspoken when he said during his summit with Vladimir Putin that he saw no reason to believe Russia had interfered in the 2016 U.S. election. Former President Barack Obama, speaking in South Africa, denounced Trump's policies without mentioning his name; Obama took aim at the "politics of fear, resentment, retrenchment," and decried leaders who are caught lying and "just double down and lie some more." Alex Bregman and George Springer hit back-to-back homers in the 10th inning, and the American League beat the National League 8-6 in an All-Star Game that included a record 10 home runs.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Donald Sutherland is 84. Actress-singer Diahann Carroll is 84. Rock musician Spencer Davis is 80. Sportscaster Verne Lundquist is 79. Comedian Tim Brooke-Taylor is 79. Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, is 72. Rock musician Terry "Geezer" Butler is 70. Actress Lucie Arnaz is 68. Actor David Hasselhoff is 67. Rock musician Fran Smith Jr. (The Hooters) is 67. German Chancellor Angela Merkel (AHN'-geh-lah MEHR'-kuhl) is 65. Television producer Mark Burnett is 59. Actress Nancy Giles is 59. Singer Regina Belle is 56. Rock musician Kim Shattuck is 56. Country singer Craig Morgan is 55. Rock musician Lou Barlow is 53. Contemporary Christian singer Susan Ashton is 52. Actor Andre Royo is 51. Actress Bitty Schram is 51. Actor Jason Clarke is 50. Movie director F. Gary Gray is 50. Singer JC (PM Dawn) is 48. Rapper Sole' is 46. Country singer Luke Bryan is 43. Actor Eric Winter is 43. Actor Mike Vogel is 40. Actor Tom Cullen is 34. Actor Brando Eaton is 33. Rhythm-and-blues singer Jeremih (jehr-uh-MY') is 32. Actress Summer Bishil (BIHSH'-ihl) is 31. Actress Billie Lourd is 27. Actor Leo Howard is 22.

Thought for Today: "Modo et modo non habebant modum." (By and by never comes.) -- St. Augustine (A.D. 354-A.D. 430).

Connecting calendar



July 27 - Services for **Ed Shearer**, a longtime AP sportswriter, will be held Saturday, July 27, at 1 p.m. at St. Barnabas Anglican Church, [4795 N Peachtree Rd, Dunwoody, GA 30338](#). In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to: **Lazarus**

Ministries, [2270 Defoor Hills Rd NW, Atlanta, GA 30318](#). The family said that so we can thank you, please have acknowledgments sent to: [130 Kimberly Rd, Canton, GA 30115](#). A family contact is Sheri Browne - sheribrowne@att.net

August 6 - A scattering of ashes for former AP Concord and Indianapolis bureau chief **Dave Swearingen**, who died in 2018, will be held Tuesday, August 6, at 10:30 a.m. at Reid State Park, [375 Seguinland Road, Georgetown ME 04548](#). Those attending should meet at the Todd's Point Parking lot and will head over to Half Mile Beach. While there is no formal service, brief remarks will be made. Dave's son Tim can be reached at timswearingen71@gmail.com

August 17 - Albany AP bureau reunion (including other upstate bureaus), 1-5 p.m., Marc and Carla Humbert residence on Tsatsawassa Lake, [68 Marginal Way, East Nassau, NY](#). Contact: Chris McKnight ([Email](#)).

Got a story or photos to share?

Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:

- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.

- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.

- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.

- **"A silly mistake that you make"**- a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.

- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.

- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.

- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?



- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.

- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

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