

MOSTLY CLOUDY

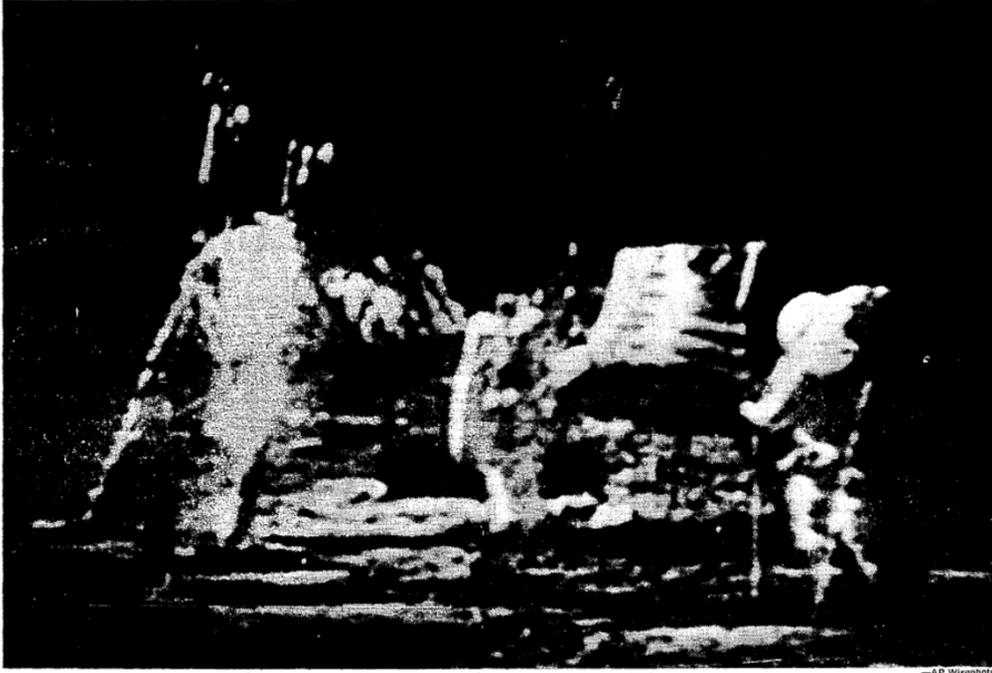
Cloudy through Tuesday with chance of light showers in afternoon and early evening. Temperature range, 65 to 76 degrees. Details on b-7.

The San Diego Union

HOME EDITION

101st YEAR TELEPHONE 234-7111 SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA MONDAY MORNING, JULY 21, 1969 42 PAGES DAILY 10 CENTS

First Step On Moon 'A Giant One For Mankind,' Says Neil Armstrong



Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin plant the American flag on the surface of the moon. A few minutes later, they talked with President Nixon in a 250,000-mile radio telephone hookup. Page of pictures from the moon—Page a-3.

Red Satellite Soars Over Apollo Site

Russian Mission Remains Secret, Luna Dips Lower

JODRELL BANK, England (UPI) — Russia's Luna 15 satellite yesterday dropped into a 9.9-mile-high moon orbit that carried it above the landing site for America's Apollo 11 astronauts, the Jodrell Bank Observatory reported.

Although the new orbit was announced by the Soviet Union as well as being tracked here, there was still no clue to the exact mission of the Soviet satellite.

NO CLUE YET

"We don't know whether it is still going to land, or explore the near-moon space which could include a close reconnaissance of the American landing site," said Sir Bernard Lovell, director of the observatory.

Lovell said the 40th orbit of Luna 15 was carrying the satellite over the moon's Sea of Tranquility at the same time astronauts Neil A. Armstrong and Edwin E. Aldrin were making a landing approach in their lunar module "Eagle."

The Soviet news agency Tass announced the new orbit level yesterday in a brief dispatch, which described Luna 15's mission only as "scientific exploration." Tass said the new elliptical orbit ranged from 9.9 miles to 68.2 miles above the moon's surface.

TIME RUNNING OUT

There remained a possibility it could still be brought to a landing on the moon. However, time was running out on the Russian chances of getting the first load of lunar dust back to earth ahead of the Americans—if that was what Luna 15's goal was.

The orbital change, second in two days, tightened the Russian probe's path around the moon, reduced the time of its orbit to one hour, 54 minutes and brought it "very much closer to the lunar surface—and very much closer to where the Apollo astronauts will be landing," a Jodrell Bank spokesman said.

CLOSER TO EQUATOR

The astronauts' landing spot was in the Sea of Tranquility, near the lunar equator. With the orbital switch, which came on its 39th circuit, Luna 15 also was ranging closer to the equator.

"But that's about all we can say right now," the spokesman added.

However, he said that even on its new path there was "hardly any chance" that Luna 15 would collide with either the U.S. "Eagle" lunar landing vessel or the mother ship, "Columbia."

Luna 15 was launched from Russia's Kazakhstan spaceport one week ago and swung into orbit around the moon Thursday.

PURPOSE SECRET

The Soviet Union has remained vague about the mission of Luna 15 but official and unofficial reports from Russian scientists and cosmonauts indicated it was planned to soft land the craft on the moon, scoop up soil samples and blast off back to earth ahead of the U.S. astronauts.

The American schedule called for a blastoff with moon dust today for the return to earth.

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Israel, Egyptian Jets Downed In Fierce Battles

By Associated Press
Israel and Egyptian jets battled over the Suez Canal yesterday and raided each other's territory in some of the heaviest fighting since the Middle East war of 1967. Each side claimed shooting down a large number of planes.

FORTRESS ATTACKED

The fighting began early yesterday with an Israeli commando attack on an Egyptian island fortress in the Gulf of Suez. Israeli planes followed up by hitting Egyptian positions across the Suez Canal for the first time since the 1967 war, and Egyptian jets then took to the air to raid Israeli targets in the occupied Sinai Desert.

Israel said the pilots of its two downed aircraft bailed out safely and landed on Israeli territory.

Military communiques from Egypt and Cairo radio said one Israeli Mirage was shot down by anti-aircraft fire during the commando raid, another was downed later yesterday morning, nine in the afternoon and six more in the evening. Cairo said most of the planes were shot down in dogfights.

The air battles coincided with fierce artillery duels along the Suez Canal in which Israel claimed three of its soldiers were killed. An Israeli army spokesman said the canal air action lasted more than six hours.

RAIDS CHARGED

The air and artillery clash came in the wake of "850 violations of the cease-fire by the Egyptian forces" across the Suez Canal, Tel Aviv radio said.

It accused Egypt of staging at least 10 commando raids against Israel and 50 mining and sabotage incidents.

U.N. observers twice called for a cease-fire but Israel said the Egyptians continued fighting and Israeli forces retaliated.

The Cairo Radio broadcasts indicated the Egyptian jets were scrambled to raid the Sinai after the latter cease-fire deadline. Tel Aviv radio reported the Egyptian aircraft were shot down while trying to attack Israeli positions on the east bank of the Suez Canal.

MAKES HISTORIC PHONE CALL 'A Priceless Moment...' Nixon Tells Astronauts

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Nixon told America's men on the moon last night that "for one priceless moment in the whole history of man all of the people on this earth are truly one."

Nixon spoke to astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin E. (Buzz) Aldrin Jr., for two minutes from the White House.

Television viewers got a split picture showing both the President and the astronauts as they performed their assigned tasks on the moon's surface.

Armstrong said "it is a great honor and privilege for us to be here representing not only the United States but men of peaceable nations with an interest and a curiosity and vision for the future."

'Proudest Day Of Our Lives'

Speaking from the Oval Room, Mr. Nixon told the astronauts "this certainly has to be the most historic telephone call ever made from the White House."

Mr. Nixon added: "I just can't tell you how proud we all are of what you have done for every American. This has to be the proudest day of our lives. "For people all over the world I am sure

Havana Turns Out To Greet Red Ships

HAVANA (AP) — A task force of Soviet naval vessels glided into Havana harbor yesterday morning and was greeted by a 21-gun salute and a warm welcome from Prime Minister Fidel Castro's government.

Thousands of Cubans who lined the city's five-mile waterfront were generally quiet. Many of them had been standing more than two hours under a blazing sun.

"This visit is a marvelous thing, but I'm going home," said one onlooker. "It's just too hot."

FLAGS FLY

Cuban flags flew from many of the buildings facing the bay and miniature Soviet and Cuban flags were passed out to the crowds mobilized by the government to greet the visitors.

The squadron of seven ships represented the largest show of Soviet power in the Western Hemisphere since the 1962 missile crisis.

The detachment, commanded by Rear Adm. Stepan Sokolan, consisted of a rocket cruiser, rocket ship, an antisubmarine ship, two submarines, the mother ship Tobot and the tanker Lena.

Pride, Relief Sweep Nation In Moon Vigil

By DAVID SMOTHERS
United Press International
America held its breath yesterday, then let it out in a sigh of pride and relief.

It was a day of national vigil, one in which every American and any other member of mankind within sight of a television set joined Neil A. Armstrong and Edwin E. Aldrin in spirit on the moon.

"Unbelievable!" a soldier yelled as he stood in the almost-deserted Logan International Airport at Boston and watched Armstrong set foot on the moon.

10,000 IN PARK

At New York's Central Park, where more than 10,000 persons gathered in the rain to watch man's first moments on the moon, a policeman said to no one in particular, "It's a great day for mankind. It's a great day to be alive."

In Los Angeles, members of a Russian track and field team participating in an international track meet cheered, clapped each other on the back and congratulated Americans around them for Armstrong's feat.

The voices from space and their televised images followed Americans to beaches, golf courses, ball parks, camping sites, all the places where they normally would spend a summer afternoon away from work.

There were moon watch parties last night. Many vowed they would stay in front of their sets for the duration of the great adventure.

The prayers which began the day were many and varied. Those which highlighted the services at the White House were the first 10 verses of Genesis, read by Astronaut Frank Borman to the President and his guests.

CARNIVAL AIR

If in some respects America's celebration of the moon landing was reverent, in others it had almost a carnival air. In New York City, it amounted to a happening.

There was a 15-foot-square television screen for moon watching in the Time-Life Plaza. Mayor John V. Lindsay invited all New Yorkers to watch the first steps on the moon on three 9-by-12-foot screens put up in Central Park, where the city staged an all-night moon vigil for tens of thousands.

People were asked to come in (Continued on a-2, Col. 1)

Astronauts Raise U.S. Flag, Gather Rocks, Lunar Soil

By LEW SCARR
San Diego Union Staff Writer

HOUSTON — Astronaut Neil Armstrong stepped onto the surface of the moon at 7:56 p.m. San Diego time yesterday, and in his flat Ohio voice said: "One small step for man . . . one giant step for mankind."

Then for more than two hours, he and astronaut Edwin Aldrin explored the moon's surface, collected samples of lunar rock, talked with President Nixon and conducted several scientific experiments.

The words Armstrong spoke as he stepped onto the moon were full of warmth and enthusiasm, in contrast to those seven hours earlier when the lunar module, Eagle, first touched the moon at the Sea of Tranquility.

At touchdown, speaking deliberately, he said: "Houston, Tranquility Base here. The Eagle has landed."

When Aldrin stepped on the lunar surface 20 minutes after Armstrong, his first words were: "Beautiful, beautiful, beautiful. A magnificent desolation."

Black-and-white television covered the descent from the lunar module (LM) by both Apollo astronauts.

"I'll step off the LM now," Armstrong said from the bottom rung of the ladder.

Armstrong Kicks At Soil On Moon

Then he stood there on the moon, still holding the LM ladder to see if his balance were such that he would not fall. As he stood there he kicked at the moon soil.

"I can kick it up loosely with my toe," he said, and he walked away on it.

"It's like powdered charcoal," he said, "sticking to the side and sole of my boots."

Armstrong and later Aldrin said there was no difficulty in moving around. In fact, after Armstrong had been on the moon a few minutes he was running.

Aldrin jumped the last few feet from the ladder to the moon. Then, playfully, he bounded back onto the ladder demonstrating the physical prowess of man in moon's slight gravity.

Armstrong began to gather samples of the moon, which were put in a Teflon bag and then into a pocket of his suit.

If the mission were shortened for any reason, this sampling at least could be brought back.

"It's very interesting," Armstrong said as he went sample-gathering out of the picture.

"A soft surface, but as I work with the contingency sample, it seems to be very cohesive . . . I'll try to get a rock or two."

Rock Like One In U.S. High Desert

"Here's a beauty," he said. "Much like the high desert of the United States."

Armstrong used a small shovel about the length of a golf club to gather samples, because in his pressure suit he could not bend over to hand-pick them.

The astronauts talked to Mr. Nixon by radio-telephone.

"This has to be the most historic telephone call ever (Continued on a-2, Col. 3)

Living Outside Earth Predicted

HOUSTON (AP) — Apollo 11's successful landing on the moon has caused us to pause and ponder its meanings which only history, in the final analysis, will reveal to us," he told a news conference shortly after Neil A. Armstrong and Edwin E. Aldrin Jr. landed on the lunar surface.

"Yes, we have entered a new era. Man is indeed going to establish places of abode outside the earth."

TELEPHONES PRESIDENT
Paine, who was in a viewing room at mission control here at the moment of touchdown, telephoned President Nixon immediately after the landing. With Mr. Nixon in the White House was astronaut Frank Borman, commander of the first moon-orbiting flight, Apollo 8.

"Mr. President," he said, "it is my honor on behalf of the entire NASA team to report to you that the Eagle has landed on the Sea of Tranquility and our astronauts are safe and looking forward to starting the exploration of the moon."

'CONSIDERABLE TENSION'
Paine said the moods of the President and himself were both "ones of considerable tension. He (Mr. Nixon) spoke with a great deal of excitement."

"We discussed the gripping excitement and wonder present in the White House and in Mission Control during the final minutes of this historic touchdown," Paine said.

See Here Heirlooms!
Many "saw" and went "there" in response to the recent Union Tribune Want Ad, "HEIRLOOMS". The advertiser reported excellent results.

When the "older day" items are no longer useful to you, you can sell 'em fast the modern way. Just dial 233-8080, the direct line to Classified. A courteous advertiser is "here to see" your want ad wishes fulfilled, Monday through Friday, 8 to 5; Saturday till 4:30.

# Elated Wives Bubble Over Back On Earth

HOUSTON (AP) — Whoops and hollers of happiness rocked the Apollo 11 homes yesterday as Neil Armstrong and Edwin E. Aldrin Jr. landed on the moon. "Good, good, good," shouted Mrs. Armstrong and leaped from a bed covered with maps and charts on which she followed the final minutes of descent. "I just can't believe it," said Mrs. Aldrin, hugging her father, Michael Archer, of HokoKus, N.J.

Later in front yard news conferences, the wives of all three Apollo 11 crewmen struggled to express their happiness.

**WEDDING FIRST**

However, Mrs. Armstrong said she did not consider the moon landing the greatest moment of her life. "That was when we were married," said the wife of the Apollo 11 commander. "I was tremendously excited," she said. "It is a marvelous thing when we have succeeded landing on the moon."

"I cried after the touchdown. I was so happy," said Mrs. Aldrin. "I still am not able to believe it."

Despite intermittent rain, Mrs. Aldrin joined a large group of newsmen and photographers under the towering oak and elm trees of her front yard. She was sheltered by an umbrella, but several times lifted it to one side at photographers' requests.

**'SPASHDOWN BEST'**

"The splashdown will be the best part of the flight," Mrs. Aldrin said in answering a question. "I thought it was fantastically marvelous," said Mrs. Michael Collins, wife of the Apollo 11 crewman who kept watch in the command capsule while the other two visited the moon's surface. "Don't you think he is there with them in spirit?" Mrs. Collins answered when asked if she thought her husband was disappointed because he was not in

the landing party. All three wives already have made plans for a pre-splashdown celebration tomorrow night at a party hosted by astronaut Bill Anders.

Anders was with Mrs. Armstrong during the moon descent, pointing out on the charts and maps the locations named by Armstrong and Aldrin on the way down. The mission control monitor relaying all communications from the spacecraft was on one side of the bed and a color television set on the other.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Others in the room were a son, Eric; Armstrong's younger brother, Dean, and his wife, and Mrs. James A. Lovell, wife of another astronaut. All jumped to their feet and cheered the touchdown.

In the Aldrin home, astronaut Russell Schweickart kept Mrs. Aldrin advised of the lunar lander's descent. She sat on a sectional sofa, alternately looking at a chart, listening to the mission control "squawk box," and watching television. During the final few feet of descent, Mrs. Aldrin rose to her feet and shouted "touchdown" when she heard the landing report. "There were whoops and hollers from everyone," said an official family spokesman. "I got so excited I forgot to note who they were, but there was a lot of noise."

"When it quieted down, someone said: 'Resume breathing.' And I don't even know who said that."

In the Armstrong home when the cheering subsided, Mrs. Armstrong, who very seldom smokes, lighted a cigarette and stretched out to relax.



Edwin E. Aldrin Jr.

Neil A. Armstrong

# First Step On Moon 'A Giant One For Mankind,' Says Neil

(Continued from Page a-1)

made," Mr. Nixon said to the two men. Armstrong, commenting on the rocky scene around him, said, "It has a stark beauty all its own. It's different."

The dust, too, was unusual. "The color of my boot has completely disappeared into . . . I don't know how to describe it — a kind of cocoa has covered my boot," Aldrin commented.

Armstrong also read from the plaque on the side of the spacecraft. In a steady voice, he proclaimed, "Here man first set foot on the moon, July, 1969. We came in peace for all mankind."

At 8:42 p.m. PDT, Aldrin unfurled the Stars and Stripes and it stood in the airless, windless atmosphere of the moon, held taut by a rod along the top. One of the Americans stood back and saluted.

ters around us, and it required flying manually over the rock field to find a reasonably good area."

Eagle hovered for a minute as the astronauts searched for a landing spot. It had 40 seconds of fuel left when it touched down.

Had man not been aboard, the module would have crashed.

For a while after touchdown, in a manner of speaking, Eagle was lost on the moon. Armstrong said he did not know where he had landed because he did not recognize any landmarks as he looked around the moonscape.

"No sweat," said control in Houston. "We'll figure it out for you."

## Begins Sending Back Data On Area

But Armstrong did begin immediately sending down data on what surrounded the spacecraft. "We'll get to the details of what's around here," he said, "but it looks like a collection of just about every variety of shapes, angularities, granularities, every variety of rock you could find."

"The colors vary pretty much depending on how you're looking relative to the phase point. There doesn't appear to be too much of a general color at all, however."

"Rog, Tranquility," said control, "be advised there's lots of smiling faces in this room, and all over the world."

"There are two of them up here," Armstrong said. "Rog, that was a beautiful job, you guys."

The trip to the surface of the moon by Eagle began with a tentative separation early yesterday of the two spacecraft.

Command module pilot Collins inched his Columbia away from Eagle just enough so Mission Control and the astronauts could make sure all systems were functioning properly and Collins could look Eagle over.

They were. So, Collins pulled away to a distance of about two miles.

Among the first words from Aldrin after this separation, were:

"The Eagle has wings."

The final approach phase was without incident, much smoother than anyone had dreamed. There was some lunar dust kicked up by the descent engine as the module settled on the moon's surface, but that was expected.

Eagle had landed. And now the whole world knew the answer to that question, "Why is man going to the moon?"

It was simple, really: Because he can.

## Module's Footpads Sink Only Inch Or Two

Armstrong said the spacecraft's footpads had pressed only an inch or two into the soft lunar surface. His foot sank only a "small fraction—about an eighth of an inch."

The astronauts took two core samples of the crust of the moon.

Aldrin, hammering the cores in, said, "I hope you're watching how hard I had to hit this into the ground to the tune of five inches. . . . It almost looks wet."

Before the astronauts climbed back into the LM at 10:09 p.m. PDT, Aldrin retrieved the device to register solar wind and stowed it in an experiment box. The astronauts blast off from the moon at 10:55 a.m. PDT today.

The two moon explorers depressurized their cabin again at 3:45 a.m., opened Eagle's hatch and dumped their two spent backpacks and other excess equipment out on the surface. They closed the hatch and repressurized the cabin three minutes later.

When Eagle first landed on the moon and Armstrong said his historic words, Charlie Duke, the Mission Control communicator, shouted his reply back eagerly and excitedly:

"Roger, Tranquility, we copy you on the ground. You've got a bunch of guys about to turn blue. We're breathing again. Thanks a lot."

"Thank you," Armstrong said.

It was a smooth touchdown, but Eagle had been headed for a rough and rocky landing area until Aldrin took control of the LM away from automatic pilot. As Armstrong explained:

"The auto targeting was taking us right into a football field-sized crater, with a large number of big boulders and rocks for about one or two crater diam-

# Moon Landing Stirs U.S. Pride, Relief

(Continued from Page a-1)

"symbolic" white clothes to ride during the weekend on the watch the television pictures beamed on the huge screens with cartoons and movies of past imaginary moon trips.

The program included a synthetic aurora borealis, a dance performed in a "moon" bubble under black light, and the dropping of colored parachutes from a 19th Century balloon by "parachute sculptor" Yukihisa Isebe.

Other big television screens were erected in Rockefeller Center, where a life-size model of the moon module was displayed, and at Kennedy Airport, less crowded than usual because many people apparently stayed home to watch their own sets.

A midtown pub, not to be outdone by civic officials, announced it would break out free "moontinis" at the historic moment of Armstrong's walk. Anybody named Armstrong, Aldrin or Collins was promised a free

# Here's Plan For Apollo 11 Return Trip

HOUSTON (AP) — Here are highlights of Apollo 11's day in space today, all times San Diego time:

Eight-hour, 50-minute rest period began at 11:40 p.m. Sunday.

Astronauts have meal beginning at 8:55 a.m.

Lunar Module's ascent engine fires for critical seven-minute burn at 10:50 a.m. to put astronauts into an initial lunar orbit ranging from 11 to 52 miles high. Smaller maneuvering rockets fire several times to put LM in same orbit as command ship for docking at 2:26 p.m.

Armstrong and Aldrin rejoin Collins in command ship two hours later. Unmanned Lunar module jettisoned from command ship's nose at 6:20 p.m.

Main control command ship engine fired at 9:52 p.m. to propel Apollo 11 out of moon orbit and start return trip back to the earth.

# Malaysia Ups Patrols

KUALA LUMPUR (UPI) — Malaysia has increased security patrols along her border with Thailand, a government spokesman said yesterday. The strengthened security forces followed a clash with 15 Communist terrorists last week, the spokesman said.



Her husband is the man on the moon. Mrs. Janet Armstrong crosses her fingers for luck shortly before her husband, astronaut Neil Armstrong, was to step out onto the lunar surface.

# Laser Beam Bounced Back From Moon

HOUSTON (UPI) — The space agency said early today that the Lick Observatory in California's Santa Clara County had detected a return signal created by bouncing laser beams off a small reflector set up on the moon by the Apollo astronauts.

Neil A. Armstrong and Edwin E. Aldrin deployed the reflector near their Eagle lunar landing craft last night.

The reflector looks like an ice cube tray with 100 precision ground quartz mirrors. It is mounted on a two-foot square pallet and weighs 11 pounds in lunar gravity.

It was set up facing earth, to act as a simple mirror, reflecting laser light beams aimed at it from observatories on earth.

The laser pulses were beamed in brief periods lasting ten one-billionths of a second. By measuring the time it took for the light to get to the moon and be bounced back, scientists could measure the distance between the earth and the moon within a yard.

# Geographer Elected

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dr. Arch C. Gerlach, chief geographer of the U.S. Geological Survey, is the new president of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History.

# Only Chinese Miss Landing By Astronauts

By United Press International

Almost all the world bore witness yesterday to mankind's great achievement.

In Communist China — home for one-fifth of mankind — there was no report, no announcement, no word that two humans had reached the moon.

Elsewhere, millions watched or listened to American astronauts Neil A. Armstrong and Edwin R. Aldrin fulfill for mankind the dream it has cherished for millenniums.

In a unanimity that is rare, but understandable, that part of mankind aware of the achievement expressed hope that it would be beneficial to itself and, in some way, bring peace to earth.

Kings and presidents, prime ministers and prelates sent congratulatory cables to the Apollo 11 astronauts, in care of the Space Center at Houston, and to President Nixon in Washington.

Like husbands, housewives and children everywhere, the world's leaders also sat in front of television sets or tuned transistor radios to follow the moon landing.

"It is an achievement of such importance that I don't know any point of comparison," said the president of the International Aeronautical Federation, Prof. Edward Wegelius of Helsinki. His comment characterized scientific reaction.

**ACKNOWLEDGED BY RUSSIA**

The Soviet Union acknowledged the U.S. triumph but waited 10 minutes to do it. Its news agency, Tass, announced the moon landing in a 52-word dispatch. There were no congratulatory messages immediately coming from the Kremlin.

Less than three minutes after the Voice of America started broadcasting in Russian news of the Apollo 11 mission into the Soviet Union last night, the frequencies were jammed.

Richard G. Cushing, acting director of the VOA, said the Russians interrupted the broadcasts by transmitting a musical cultural program on the same frequencies. VOA English language broadcasts into the Soviet Union were not hampered, however, Cushing said.

In other major Communist nations, Chinese leaders decided to withhold the news of man's attainment of the moon from 750 million persons. The Yugoslav news agency, in a dispatch from

Peking, said no word of any phase of the Apollo 11 mission had been mentioned in China.

President Giuseppe Saragat of Italy, drawing fully on the eloquence of Italians, perhaps summarized fulfillment of man's moon dream best for all the world.

"Indescribable emotions" have been aroused throughout the world, he said.

"Perhaps this victory can give hope for victory more grand—that of peace, justice and liberty for all mankind."

**EMBASSY CROWDED**

More than 500 persons crowded the lobby of the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw to hear news of the landing. "People were pressed against the glass in the entrance way to catch the news. There was euphoria in the crowd" when they landed, said an embassy spokesman.

In the war-torn Middle East, Arab radio stations interrupted their bulletins of a major air battle over the Suez Canal to acclaim the event and praise Edwin Aldrin and Neil Armstrong for "making history."

The streets of some of the world's largest cities—Mexico City, Oslo, Belgrade, Rome—were nearly deserted as millions stayed home glued to their television screens.

Thousands of U.S. servicemen watched and heard the event over the armed forces television and radio networks.

**'THERE THEY ARE'**

In Montreal, an estimated 29,000 spectators let out a huge roar when a public address system in Jarry Park announced: "We have just learned the two American astronauts have successfully landed on the moon."

At the Hotel California on Paris' Rue de Berri, an American couple held their young daughter up on their balcony so she could get a glimpse of the moon, a buttery-colored crescent in the clear, blue-black sky.

"There they are," the child repeated. "There they are. I see them, mommy, really I do."

# Pope Hails Feat, Looks To Future

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (AP) — Pope Paul VI hailed the Apollo 11 astronauts yesterday as conquerors of the moon and said man looks forward to "the expansion of endless space and a new destiny."

The 71-year-old pontiff, who followed the lunar landing on color television in the pontifical observatory at his summer retreat south of Rome, declared:

"Honor, greetings and blessings to you, conquerors of the moon, pale lamp of our nights and our dreams! Bring to her, with your living presence, the voice of the spirit, a hymn to God, our creator and our father."

**'CLOSE TO YOU'**

"We are close to you, with our good wishes and with our prayers. Together with the whole Catholic Church, Pope Paul VI salutes you."

In a dramatic, unscheduled address, the Pope greeted news of the lunar landing by exclaiming: "Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth to men of good will!"

"We, humble representatives of that Christ, who, coming among us from the abyss of divinity, has made to resound in the heavens this blessed voice. Today we make an echo, repeating it in a celebration on the part of the whole terrestrial globe, with no more unsurpassable bounds of human existence, but openness to the expanse of endless space and a new destiny."

**'HONOR TO ALL'**

"Honor to all those who have made this bold flight possible. Honor to all of you who have been in some way involved; Honor to you who, seated behind your awesome instruments, are controlling the mission, to you who notified the world of the feat and the hour, which fear spreads to the heavens — so the wise dominion and courage of man."

"Honor, salutes, and blessings."

The Pope followed the descent to the moon hour by hour, several times looking through the powerful telescope in the Vatican Observatory.

It was one of the most emotional speeches the pontiff has ever delivered.



Pope Paul looks toward the heavens through a telescope at his summer retreat at Castel Gandolfo.