

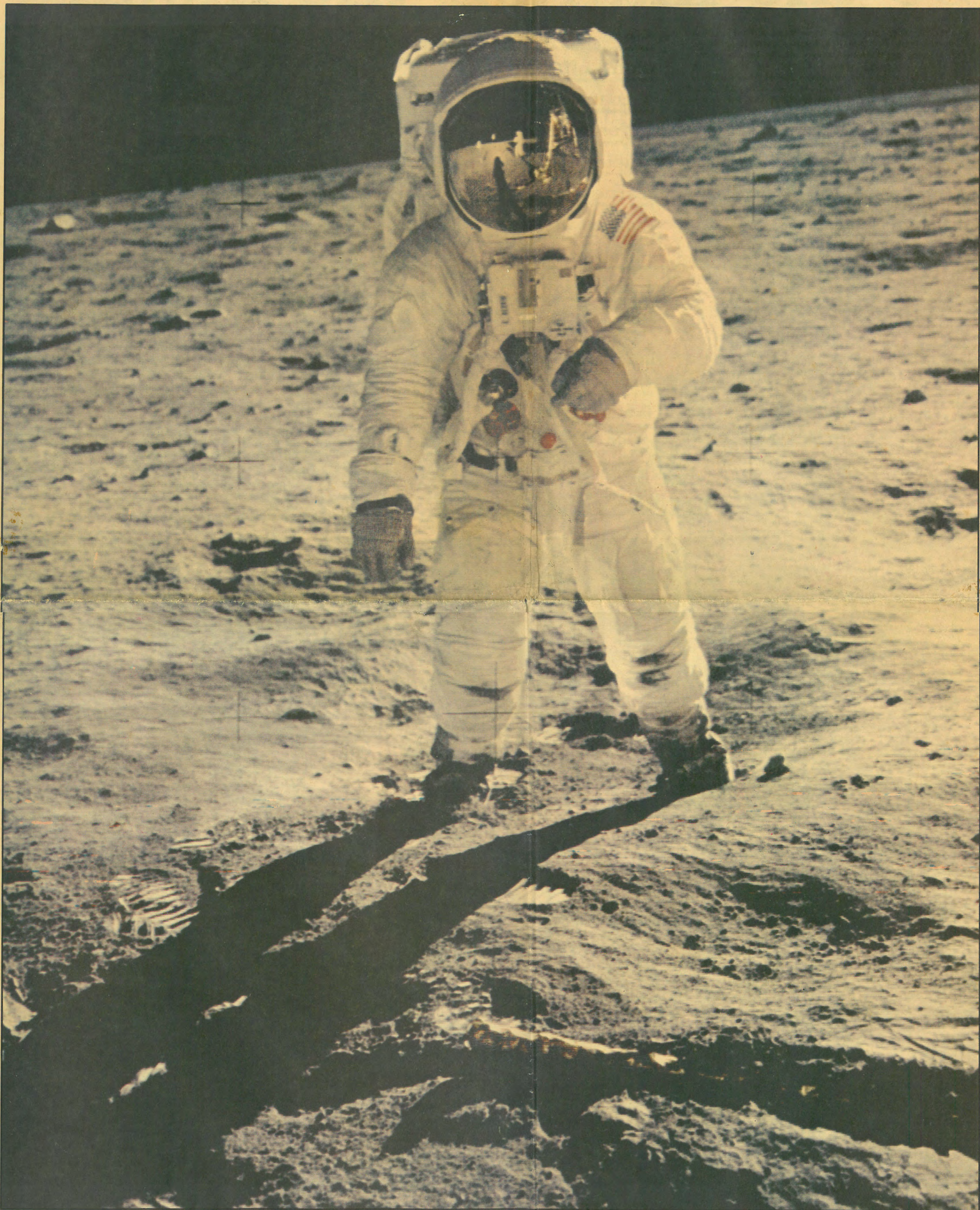
DAILY EXPRESS

NOT TO BE SOLD SEPARATELY



COLOUR TODAY

A historic souvenir
of the day man
set foot on the Moon



Astronaut Edwin E. Aldrin, lunar module pilot, photographed by Astronaut Neil Armstrong walking on the Moon on July 21, 1969. Armstrong's reflection can be seen in Aldrin's face mask. This is the most historic photograph taken of Man.

A boy who knew he would be the man on the moon

IN SOME ways our educations were almost custom-tailored for us. For instance, I was allowed to select my own science projects and given all the time I needed for them, once my science teacher at Wapakoneta (Ohio) High noted my intense interest in his subject.

By allowing me longer lab periods, measured against a percentage of time in classroom for fundamentals, he encouraged and stimulated me.

Since our high school library matched its other facilities my science teacher was soon sending me off to the libraries of nearby colleges. These became my research centre, and in fact, schools in themselves.

Since my school didn't offer a course in trigonometry I studied and learned the subject in college libraries with text books recommended by my maths teacher. I knew I would have to know it because, even then, I knew what I wanted to be.

EXPERIENCE

I'd been building model airplanes ever since I was old enough to read instructions. When I grew up I would design the real thing, and if I were going to do that I'd need an engineering degree and an engineering degree required trigonometry. Simple.

Wapakoneta High taught me something else, too, that's not in any textbook or course: You can lose just as readily as you can win. But either way you learn something from experience.

Competing in an interscholastic science fair I built a working alcohol-system turbine as my entry. It ran like a Swiss watch at home. At the fair it just sat there and did absolutely nothing.

I learned as much from trying to locate the fault and fixing it as I did building it.

Graduating from Wapakoneta High, I enrolled in Purdue University's School of Engineering in 1947. Originally my choice had been M.I.T. (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) but Purdue's reputation for excellence in aeronautical engineering and its superb facilities swayed me, just as it undoubtedly influenced my friends, the late Gus Grissom and Gene Cernan.

It came as a jolt to discover that the kind of student-teacher relationship I had known in high school simply didn't exist at Purdue. The university couldn't have cared less if I passed or failed. In effect, it was telling me, "You're a man now. It's entirely up to you to make the grade."

During this period I learned to fly light aircraft and after two years of college I felt convinced that to become a competent airplane designer I should extend my piloting experience to heavier, more complex aircraft.

FINDING OUT

To this end, I became a Navy pilot in 1949, completed flight training, and flew 78 missions in Korea. In 1952 I returned to Purdue on a Navy scholarship, familiar at first hand with high quality aircraft, to complete my work towards a Bachelor of Science degree in aeronautical engineering, awarded in 1955.

That same year I joined N.A.S.A.'s Lewis Research Centre in Cleveland, Ohio, and later transferred to their high speed flight research station at Edwards Air Force Base, California, as a research (test) pilot. Then, in September of 1962, I was selected for N.A.S.A.'s astronaut programme.

Even today, though, I haven't forgotten that little non-working alcohol-powered turbine of mine back in Wapakoneta. When we run into a problem here at the Manned Spacecraft Centre and something that worked great in the laboratory just sits there and does nothing at all, I know we'll learn something by finding out what went wrong. In my book, you always win from losing. But it's nicer to win in the first place.

© THIS article was written for a special book by astronaut Neil Armstrong while he was under contract to World Book Science Service.



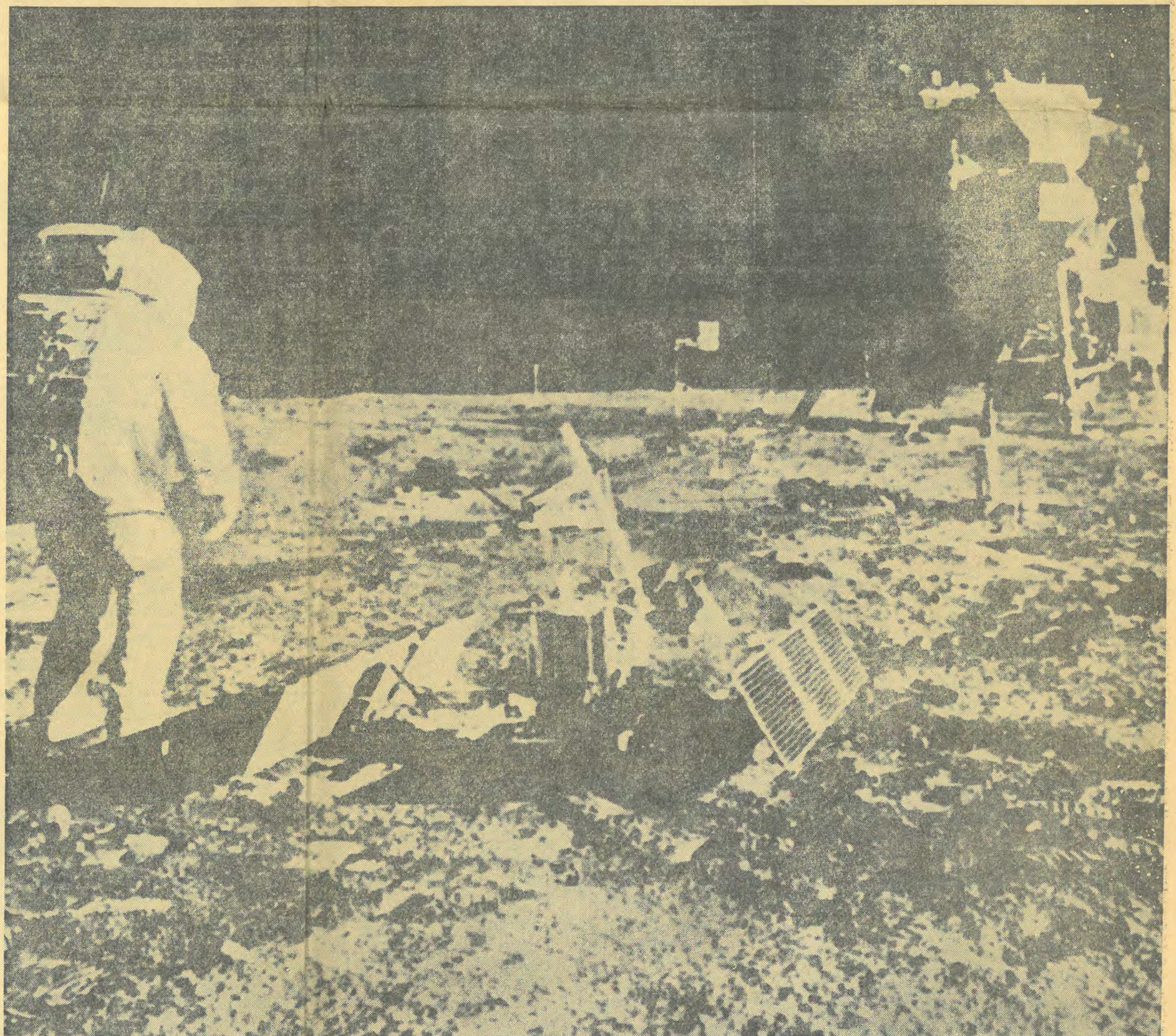
THE MAN IN UNIFORM . . . unlike most astronauts, Armstrong is a civilian. The uniform he knows is that of a spaceman.

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by **NEIL ARMSTRONG**



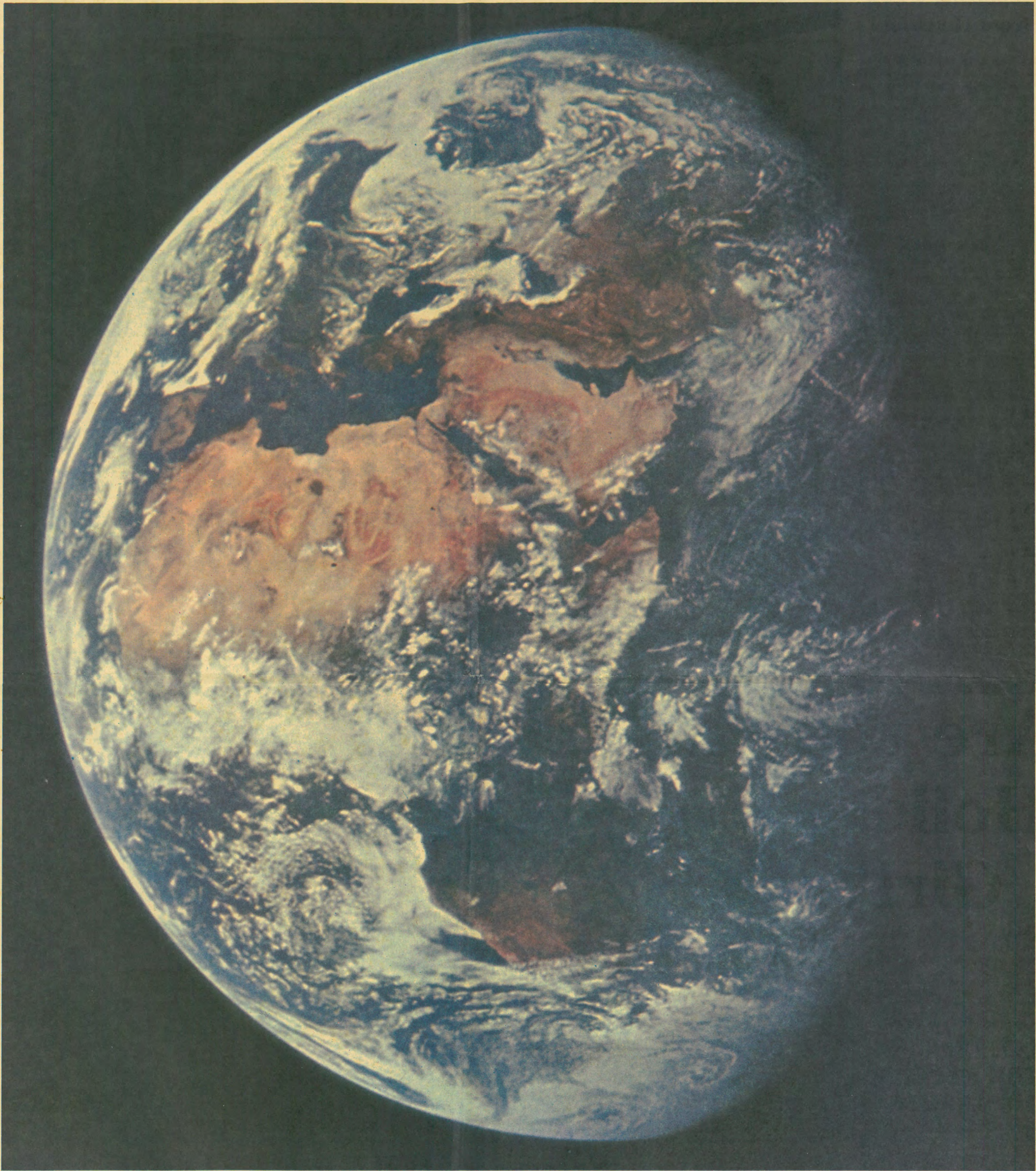
THE BOY IN UNIFORM . . . at Wapakoneta High School, Neil Armstrong did think about other things than airplanes and spacecraft. He was in the school and city bands and played instruments from French horn and trombone to piano.



TAKEN BY
THE FIRST
LUNAR
CAMERAMAN

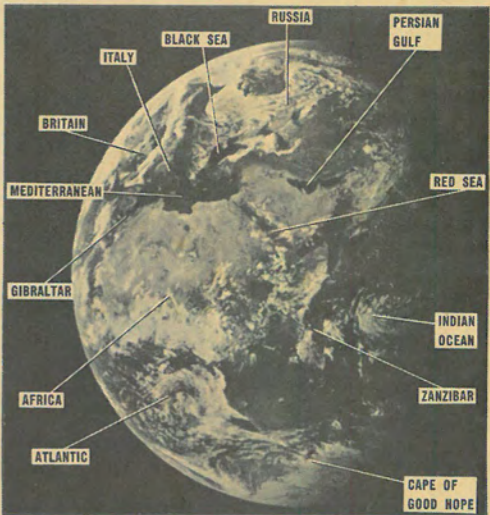
SPACEMAN at work: Edwin Aldrin sets up the lunar experiments while Neil Armstrong, Apollo 11 commander, takes the pictures. The American flag is in the background; on the right is the fragile spacecraft—code name Eagle—that put the first men on the moon. Aldrin is walking towards the Laser reflector that will enable scientists on earth to determine the exact distance between moon and earth and whether there is any shift in the continents of the earth.

THE WORLD YOU LIVE IN



In Space an astronaut pictures Earth as the Apollo II mission which took men to walk on the Moon on July 21, 1969, curves across 240,000 miles with uncanny precision. This is our globe that until recently was only seen on a window-sill in a classroom. Suddenly we are per-

mitted to view it in context with the Universe, a speck in Space, a beautiful, mysterious blend of blues and browns with the white clouds its veil. Life is down there. Who can look on planet Earth without a sense of the amazing days we live in and the amazing days yet to come?



DAILY EXPRESS 

August 1969