

Basic Detail Report



1984.01854.01

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Title

Apollo 11 Flag

Date

July 1969

Primary Maker

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

Medium

Wood, Fabric, Metal

Description

This is a plaque commemorating the Apollo 11 Lunar Mission. It is on a rectangular wooden plaque with cut-out corners and beveled edges. At the top, under Plexiglas, is a small American flag. Beneath it is a label that reads,

"This flag was carried to the Moon aboard the Lunar module 'Eagle' July 16-24, 1969." The plaque in the middle third is a replica of the plaque left on the moon by the Apollo astronauts. It has two circles with the Western and Eastern Hemisphere. It reads, "HERE MEN FROM THE PLANET EARTH FIRST SET FOOT UPON THE MOON JULY 1969, A.D. WE CAME IN PEACE FOR ALL MANKIND. [Signature] NEIL A. ARMSTRONG ASTRONAUT [Signature] MICHAEL COLLINS ASTRONAUT [Signature] EDWIN E. ALDRIN, JR. ASTRONAUT [Signature] RICHARD NIXON, PRESIDENT, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA." Under that is a label that reads, "This plaque is a replica of the original, which was left on the Lunar surface during the Apollo 11 Mission." At the bottom of the plaque, there is an engraved plate that reads, "Presented to The President of the United States, Ronald Reagan, On the 15th anniversary of the Apollo 11 Lunar Landing, Tranquility Base From the Apollo 11 Astronauts and The National Aeronautics and Space Administration The White House, Washington, D.C. July 20, 1984." The reverse has white hanging hardware at the top center and four blue pads in the corners.

Dimensions

16 1/2 x 9 in. (41.9 x 22.9 cm)

Historical Note

President Reagan met with the astronauts of Apollo 11 at the White House East Room on July 20, 1984, for a celebration during the 15th anniversary of man landing on the moon. President Reagan signed a proclamation declaring it Space Exploration Day. The plaque was a gift from James M. Beggs, Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the crew of Apollo 11. The flag at the top was flown to the moon on the lunar module Eagle in 1969, and the plaque itself is a replica of the one

left on the moon. After Neil Armstrong presented him with the plaque, President Reagan thanked him, saying "You're still beyond -- all of you -- my capacity to imagine."

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