



**PRESS RELEASE**  
For 16 July 2019

## **FAI marks 50 years since mankind's record-breaking "giant leap"**

Lausanne, Switzerland, 10 July 2019 – **The FAI is celebrating fifty years since the NASA Apollo 11 mission of 16-24 July 1969, which remains one of the most important achievements in the history of humankind.**

In 1969, in liaison with the National Aeronautic Association in the US, the successes of the Apollo 11 mission were ratified by the FAI – World Air Sports Federation – an international organisation with the aim of furthering aeronautical and astronautical activities worldwide.

Pertaining to the Apollo 11 mission are five records, each ratified by the FAI:

- Extravehicular duration in space: 2h 31min 40sec
- Extravehicular duration on the surface of the celestial body by an astronaut: 2h 31min 40sec
- Duration of stay in orbit around a celestial body: 59h 27min 50sec
- Duration of stay on the surface of the celestial body: 21h 36min 21 sec
- Greatest mass landed on the celestial body: 7 326.9kg

Among the documents held by the FAI are original photographs and video footage as well as transcripts from the vehicle commander's report, signed by the three crew, Commander Neil Armstrong, Command Module Pilot Michael Collins and Lunar Module Pilot Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin.

The Apollo 11 mission was preceded (and has since been succeeded) by years of scientific research and international achievements, which, since 1961, have all been ratified and documented by the FAI.

Records held in the archive include treasured signed Russian and English copies of Yuri Gagarin's records for flight duration, altitude and mass lifted to this altitude from 1961, the first spacewalk by Alexey Leonov in 1965, Bruce McCandless's untethered spacewalk in 1981, and Gennady Padalka's longest accumulated space flight time in 2015.

The archive of documents, photographs and ratified records is maintained by the FAI Head Office in Lausanne, Switzerland.

### **Editor's note**

All FAI space records: [bit.ly/FAIspace-records](http://bit.ly/FAIspace-records)

### **About FAI**

FAI, the World Air Sports Federation, is the world governing body for air sports and for certifying world aviation and space records. The FAI was founded in 1905 and is a non-governmental and non-profit-making organisation recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

FAI activities include Aerobatics, Aeromodelling, Airships, Amateur-Built and Experimental Aircraft, Balloons, Drones, Gliding, Hang Gliding, Helicopters, Manpowered Flying, Microlights, Parachuting, Paragliding, Paramotors, Power Flying and all other Aeronautic activities and Space records.

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