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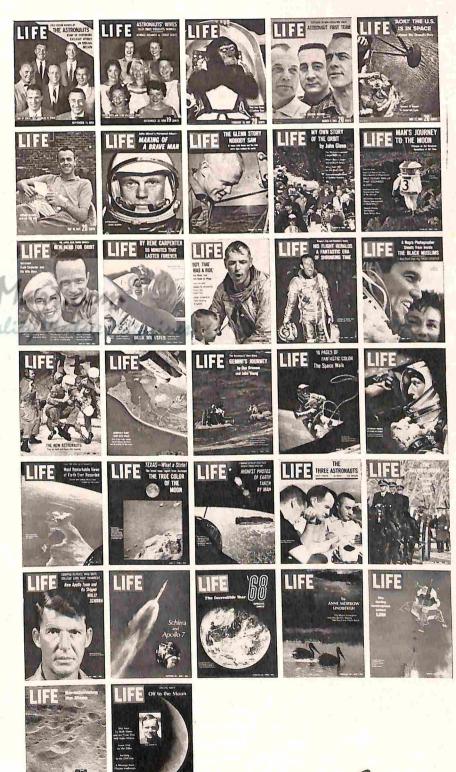
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EDITORS' NOTE

Ten years that led to Apollo 11

In 1959, when the first seven Project Mercury astronauts were chosen, LIFE committed itself to be the definitive journal of moon adventure. Since then we have published 32 covers documenting the steps that led to last week's triumphant launching of Apollo 11 and its determined crew.



RALPH GRAVES Managing Editor



the launching pad

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