

Important Astronauts

Yuri Gagarin (USSR)

March 9th, 1934, Yuri Gagarin was born. Originating from the small Russian village of Klushino, Gagarin's early years consisted of a peaceful life on a collective farm. However, in the year 1941, when Gagarin was only 7 years old, the German Nazis attacked the USSR. His hometown, Gzhatsk, was directly in the path that the Nazi's took on their way to Moscow. Gagarin's family fled to the Ural Mountains and only returned to Gzhatsk after the war. After returning, Gagarin was sent to industrial school where he fell in love with airplanes. He graduated with distinction as a molder and went on to study at the industrial college at Saratov. There, he was

able to take courses in flying at a local flying club. In 1955, Gagarin was accepted and began training at the First Chkalovsky Higher Air Force Pilots School in Orenburg. He was well respected and was able to quickly climb the ranks. He had become senior lieutenant by 1959 and that same year was brought



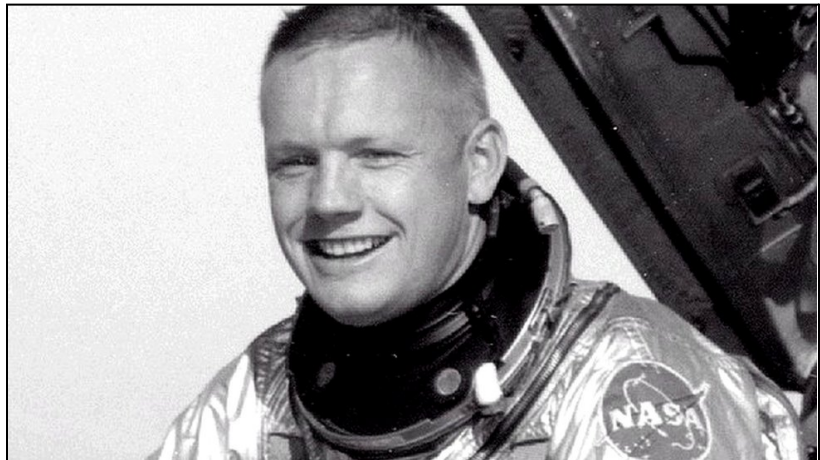
into the space programme. After being selected, out of his fellow trainees, Gagarin was favored greatly. In January 1961, Gagarin and a select few of his peers were given the title of pilot-cosmonaut. After going through trials to be selected, Gagarin was chosen to be aboard the Vostok 1 spacecraft and he became the first man in space.



Neil Armstrong (US)

Neil Armstrong was born in August 1930, in Wapakoneta, Ohio. As a kid, Armstrong developed a love for flying. His father brought him to the Cleveland Air races and at the age of 6, he flew on an airplane for the first time. While in high school at Wapakoneta, Armstrong took flying lessons at the airfield there. On his 16th birthday, he earned his pilot's license. After high school, in 1947, Armstrong started attending Purdue University, studying aeronautical engineering. He attended college under a scholarship that required

him to go through flight training and serve as an US Navy aviator in the middle of his 4 years of college. After training for one year, Armstrong became a fully qualified naval aviator in 1950. Between the summer of 1951 and spring 1952, Armstrong flew 78 missions over Korea for the Korean war effort. He received many medals in this time and in 1952, his time in regular commission in the Navy ended. He remained in the reserves for 8 years, in this time being promoted to lieutenant. After completing his degree at Purdue, Armstrong joined the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. In 1962, Armstrong became a part of the NASA astronaut program. In Spring 1966, Armstrong acted as the command pilot for Gemini 8 and was launched into the Earth's orbit.



Valentina Tereshkova (USSR)

Born in 1937, in a small village in Central Russia, Valentina Tereshkova was only 2 years old when her former sergeant father died. Her mother worked at a cotton mill to support Tereshkova and her other 2 children. Valentina Tereshkova attended school for the first time at the age of 10 and graduated at 17.



In 1960 she graduated from a technical school. She had a deep interest from a young age at parachuting and trained for skydiving for many years. She secretly became a competitive parachutist in secret from her family, while still managing a job at a textile mill. Tereshkova was also a part of the local Communist Youth League, Komsosol, she served as the secretary of the organization through 1960 and 1961. At this point in time, Tereshkova had no interest in going to space or in



Buzz Aldrin (US)

Born in Glenridge, New Jersey in 1930, Buzz Aldrin was the son of a World War I Army aviator. His real name was Edwin Eugene Aldrin Jr., nicknamed Buzz after a nickname from his brother. Buzz Aldrin graduated 3rd in his class from Westpoint, the US Military Academy, in 1951 with a degree in mechanical engineering. He became an Air Force Pilot with over 66 combat missions during the Korean War. After, in 1959, he began attending MIT for a master's degree. He ended up pursuing a doctorate degree in astronautics as he enjoyed the coursework where he is now.

Portfolio Power Breakdown

Politicians

Your power as a politician to make decisions that will drive the progress of your nation's space program forward. One of the key decisions that politicians can make is the allocation of funding to space programs. These programs require a massive amount of resources and funding, and it's up to politicians to determine how much money will be allocated to these initiatives. The amount of funding can greatly impact the success and progress of a space program, as it can determine the scope of research and the development of technology necessary to make significant advancements.

Additionally, politicians can also play a crucial role in setting the direction of a nation's space program. This can include deciding which specific areas of research and development will be prioritized, and what objectives should be targeted. Political leaders may also negotiate international agreements and partnerships with other countries, which can provide additional resources and expertise to further advance space exploration.

While politicians may not have the technical expertise of scientists and engineers, their decision-making power can greatly impact the direction and progress of a nation's space program. By working closely with experts in the field, politicians can make informed decisions that support the continued advancement of space exploration and drive us closer to reaching the cosmos.

Scientists

Scientists have an immense influence on the development and success of space programs. They play a crucial role in designing and building rockets, spacecraft, and other technology necessary for space exploration. Scientists also conducted extensive research on topics such as orbital mechanics, radiation, and life support systems, providing critical information that was essential for the safety of astronauts and the success of missions. Their expertise and knowledge are highly valued by political leaders, who rely heavily on their advice and guidance when making decisions related to space programs. Additionally, scientists will often be the ones pushing the boundaries of what was possible, proposing new ideas and innovations that helped drive the progress of space exploration forward.

Militarists

Militarists play a crucial role in shaping the direction of the space race. While scientists were focused on advancing knowledge and exploration of space, the militarists saw space as a potential battlefield and sought to use it for military purposes. This mindset led to the development of technologies like intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) and spy satellites, which were designed to give each nation a strategic advantage in the event of a conflict. The militarists who were responsible for these programs had a significant influence on the direction of the space race. They prioritized military objectives over scientific exploration, which meant that much of the space technology that was developed during this time had a military application. The United States and the Soviet Union both invested heavily in developing space-based weapons and surveillance systems. The militarists saw these technologies as a way to gain a strategic advantage over their opponents and to demonstrate their technological superiority to the world. However this came at a cost, with funding being redirected from other essential sectors such as healthcare and education.

Cosmonauts

Cosmonauts, or the Soviet Union's equivalent of astronauts, had a significant influence and power during the space race. They were the ones who were sent into space and became the public faces of the Soviet Union's space program. Thus they were important figures in the Soviet Union's propaganda efforts. They were often portrayed as heroes and symbols of the Soviet Union's technological superiority over the United States. This helped to rally public support for the space program and for the government's policies more broadly. In terms of their actual power, cosmonauts had some influence over the design and implementation of space missions. They worked closely with engineers and scientists to ensure that spacecraft were safe and functional, and they provided feedback on their experiences in space to help improve future missions. Like their Soviet counterparts, American astronauts had some influence over the design and implementation of space missions. In general, both cosmonauts and astronauts acted as public figures, who could sway the common citizen's understanding of space exploration, while also providing input to the scientists and officials of their space program, acting as a sort of buffer between the two.

1961: Your Mission

As the battle for Space picks up at a rapid pace, the United States and the Soviet Union find themselves at the front of the race. With the Soviet Union's launch of the Sputnik 1, the first earth-orbiting satellite and the first man-made object to be placed in Earth's orbit in history, and the United States' response with delegating additional funds for its space program, NASA, stakes for the space race are at an all time high. Delegates, YOU will be the deciding factor in the outcome of the Space Race in the late 20th century. Consider the assets at your disposal, and take action accordingly. But most importantly, consider your loyalties and the loyalties of your peers. It's a competitive world, and everyone is constantly seeking out ways on how to advance the furthest. As it always is when two world powers are fighting to achieve something, every word and every action is of the utmost importance. It is up to you whether or not the Soviet Union or the United States will emerge victorious in the space race, and to what degree their victory will be. Delegates may choose to throw their heart and soul into ensuring that their country takes the crown, but remember that every action has an equal or opposite reaction. Keep in mind the consequences and results of your choices, and choose wisely. Only time will tell who the true winner of the space race will be.

GOOD LUCK / удачи !

Bibliography

American Experience. "The Soviet Lunar Program & the Space Race." *PBS*, American Experience, 7 Dec. 2017,

www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/moon-soviet-lunar-program-and-space-race/

"Cold War Origins." *Link to NCpedia Main Page*,

<https://www.ncpedia.org/anchor/origins-cold-war#:~:text=The%20Cold%20War%20developed%20as,by%20the%20USSR%20in%201939.>

Dickson, Paul. "Sputnik's Impact on America." *PBS*, Nova, 6 Nov. 2007,

www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/article/sputnik-impact-on-america/.

Director of United States Central Intelligence. "The Soviet Space Program." *George Washington*

University, 19 June 1969, nsarchive2.gwu.edu/NSAEBB/NSAEBB501/docs/EBB-16a.pdf.

Garcia, Mark. "60 Years Ago: The U.S. Response to Sputnik." *NASA*, 27 Nov. 2017,

www.nasa.gov/feature/60-years-ago-the-us-response-to-sputnik/.

Garcia, Mark. "60 Years Ago: Vanguard Fails to Reach Orbit." *NASA*, 6 Dec. 2017,

www.nasa.gov/feature/60-years-ago-vanguard-fails-to-reach-orbit.

Hanes, Elizabeth. "From Sputnik to Spacewalking: 7 Soviet Space Firsts." *HISTORY*, 4

Oct. 2012, www.history.com/news/from-sputnik-to-spacewalking-7-soviet-space-firsts.

Kennedy, Ian. *The Sputnik Crisis and America's Response*. The Sputnik Crisis and America's Response. 2004,

stars.library.ucf.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=&httpsredir=1&article=1578&context=etd.

Kilmarx, Robert A. "The Soviet Space Program." *Current History*, vol. 45, no. 266, 1963, pp. 200–41.

JSTOR, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/45310991>.

McNamee, Gregory. "This Soviet Cosmonaut Was the First Human in Orbit - Fueling the Space

- Race.” CNN, Cable News Network, 12 Apr. 2021,
<https://www.cnn.com/2021/04/12/world/space-race-yuri-gagarin-scn/index.html>.
- Office of the Historian. “Sputnik, 1957.” *US Department of State*, 2020,
history.state.gov/milestones/1953-1960/sputnik#:~:text=The%20success%20of%20Sputnik%20had,accelerate%20space%20and%20weapons%20programs.
- “Sergei Korolev | Biography & Facts | Britannica.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 2023,
www.britannica.com/biography/Sergei-Korolev. “Space Exploration - Soviet Union | Britannica.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 2023,
www.britannica.com/science/space-exploration/Soviet-Union.
- “Sergei P. Korolev.” *New Mexico Museum of Space History*, 2019,
www.nmspacemuseum.org/inductee/sergei-p-korolev/.
- “Sputnik Biographies--Sergei P. Korolev (1906-1966).” *NASA*, 8 Feb. 2005,
history.nasa.gov/sputnik/korolev.html.
- “The Shock of Sputnik.” *U.S. National Park Service*, 2017,
www.nps.gov/articles/mimiarmsrace-01.htm.
- “The Soviet Space Program.” *Royale Air Force Museum*, 2013,
www.nationalcoldwarexhibition.org/schools-colleges/national-curriculum/space-race/soviet-space-program.aspx.
- “Toward a New World Order.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.,
<https://www.britannica.com/event/Cold-War/Toward-a-new-world-order>.