

The space race . To Apollo 11.

1st man on the Moon? reality or myth.

The space race was a technological competition between the Soviet Union and United States, which had as main objective the moon. At that time the national and political prestige of the two superpowers was at stake and space technology was the best letter of introduction to the world of the capitalist or Communist supremacy, therefore nobody spared efforts in order to reach the goal.

All that waste of media had a great impact on the industrial and technological field, but above all, constituted a historical fact that came in at least one century to the normal course of history. You showed is that when there is political will and desire to do things well human beings can get anything difficult this will be.

It's really amazing that reaching the Moon more than 40 years ago and not be think again at least in the short term until at least mid this century. The first trips of the man to the Moon, the Apollo missions, constitute a historic event that apparently has been moved forward in a century to the normal course of history, especially in what refers to the space age and scientific progress. It is not often that things like this happen. The Cristóbal Colón journey, with connotations similar to the astronauts of Apollo 11, was not ahead of the historical events of the time. Otherwise, perhaps was carried out with a certain delay facing what then would have been normal. From another perspective, it could be said that the supersonic airliner Concorde was ahead of the story. It first flew on April 9, 1969. However, despite the time that has elapsed since then, supersonic commercial aviation has yet to prevail in our civilization. But the emergence of this aircraft as a historical event, but rather as a small technological advancement at a time which is not yet ready to do so, in contrast to the fact that man first put his foot on another celestial body can not be considered.

The cold war

In 1945, after the second world war, United States and the Soviet Union embarked on a bitter cold war of espionage and propaganda. Space exploration and satellite technology fed the cold war on both fronts. The equipment on Board of satellites could spy on other countries, while the space achievements served as propaganda to demonstrate the scientific capacity and a country's military potential. The same rockets that could put into orbit a man or reach any point of the Moon could send an atom bomb to a city any enemy. Much of the technological development required for space travel applied equally to war rockets such as intercontinental ballistic missiles. Along with other aspects of the arms race, progress in space was shown as an indicator of technological and economic capacity, demonstrating the superiority of the ideology of the country. Space research had a dual purpose: it could be used for peaceful purposes, but could also contribute to military objectives.

The two superpowers worked to gain an advantage in space research, without knowing who would give the leap first. They had laid the groundwork for a race to space, and just hoped the firing of output.

The space race begins

On October 4, 1957, the former USSR launched Sputnik 1, the first artificial satellite to reach orbit, successfully and began the space race. By its military and economic implications, the impact of Sputnik was tremendous, caused fear and sparked political debate in the United States. At the same time, the launch of Sputnik was perceived in the Soviet Union as an important sign of scientific and engineering capabilities of the nation.

For the United States, the surprises would not end with Sputnik 1. In November 1957, only a month later, the Soviets placed in Earth orbit, the first living being, the dog Laika. It was clear that in the USSR it was planning to send men into space. Laika was only the first trial. At that time there was no technology to recover Laika after the flight, and died from stress and overheating shortly after reaching space. In 1960, the Russian dogs Belka and Strelka orbited the Earth and returned successfully. The U.S. space program imported chimpanzees from Africa and sent at least two into space before launching their first human being.

What baffled most American specialists was to check the load tool from this second release, composed by Sputnik 2 and the third stage of the rocket launcher in where various scientific instruments were installed weighed 4,250 pounds, something inconceivable in those years.

Almost four months after the launch of Sputnik 1, United States managed to launch its first satellite, Explorer I, launched by the Juno 1 rocket, the Explorer I weighed 14 pounds against the 85 kilos of Sputnik 1. During that time, there had been several unsuccessful and embarrassing publicity releases of Vanguard rockets from Cape Canaveral.

The first satellites were used for scientific purposes. Both Sputnik and Explorer I was launched as part of the participation of both countries in the International Geophysical year. Sputnik helped to determine the density of the upper atmosphere and the Explorer I flight data led to the discovery of the belt by James Van Allen Van Allen radiation.

During those early years of the space age, the supremacy of the Soviets was based on its ability to manufacture high-power launchers. The us. UU, were forced to take important measures to try to reduce this advantage. Among them, the most spectacular was the creation, in October of 1958, NASA, (Administration national aeronautical space), gathering a team of more than 8,000 scientists and technicians. With two priority objectives: the military use of space and the national prestige.

Following the success of the Soviets put the first satellite in orbit, the Americans focused their efforts to send a probe to the moon. They called program Pioneer at

the first attempt to achieve this. The Soviet Luna program began to work with the launch of Luna 1 on 4 January 1959, becoming the first probe to reach the moon. Besides the Pioneer program, there were three specific American programs: the Ranger program, the Lunar Orbiter program, and the robotic Surveyor program, aiming to find landing places potentials for the Apollo program.

In October 1959 the Soviets launched Luna 3, which went around the Moon and photographed its hidden face, which can never be

from the Earth. It became evident that the Soviets had chosen the Moon space objective for its cosmonauts.

On April 12, 1961 the Soviets returned to surprise the world by putting into orbit to Yuri Gagarin, the first human being who entered outer space aboard the ship Vostok, driven by A-1 rocket, derived from that launched Sputnik 1, but with many technological advances. It had 33 engines that combined a boost of half a million pounds.

Before this succession of events, space, military and political advisers of the President of the United States emphasized the urgent need to overcome the thrust of the Soviets.

Hastily 23 days after Gagarin, the Americans in the Freedom 7 mission, sent Alan Shepard who was the first American to go into space, in a suborbital Mission in the tiny Mercury capsule.

President Kennedy after 42 days from the flight of Gagarin promised the Americans should be put as a aims to put a man on the Moon and make it healthy and except to earth before the end of this decade.

However the feat of the Soviets was only achieved by Americans with John Glenn in Friendship 7, became the first American to orbit Earth, completing three orbits on February 20, 1962. At that time the Soviets had already launched 48 orbital missions.

The Soviet Valentina Tereshkova became the first woman in space on 16 June 1963 in the last ship Vostok 6. This was a flight with Vostok 5 ship, piloted by Valeri Bikovski.

Medico-biologicas research was done during this mission, were validated and analyzed issues related to the development of systems of ships. It was also during this mission that the problem of the power of the cosmonauts was satisfactorily resolved.

Although the Vostok cosmonave ceased to be used in manned flights to make way for the Voskhod and Soyuz, greater capabilities, and more sophisticated types the ingenious design of the Vostok has been used as a basis for various models of artificial satellites, some of which still provide service, such as Photon reconnaissance satellites, used since 1985 the last of which took off recently on May 31 from the Baikonur Cosmodrome with a good part of its payload, provided by the European Space Agency.

Korolev had planned further Vostok missions with greater durations, but following the announcement of the Apollo program of NASA, the first Khrushchev clerk sued over top. The first flight with more than two crew members, Voskhod 1 of the USSR, a modified version of the Vostok, took off the 12 October 1964 carrying Komarov, Feoktistov, and Yegorov on board. This flight also marked the first time that a crew did not wear space suits.

The scenario was prepared for another great Soviet triumph, the first walk in space. Alexei Leonov, Voskhod 2, launched by the Soviet Union on 18 March 1965, carried out the first spacewalk. This mission almost ends in disaster; Leonov came close to not returning to the capsule and, due to a deficiency in the retropropulsor, the ship landed 1600 km from its target. At that time Khrushchev had left office and the new Soviet leadership was not going to commit to a full effort. This would be the last Soviet triumph of the manned space program. That year an American also floated in space, Edward White

Although the achievements made by the US and the USSR provided much pride to their respective Nations, the ideological climate said that the space race would continue at least until the first human to walk on the moon. Prior to this achievement, ships without crew first explored the Moon using photographs and demonstrated their ability to land safely.

The USSR showed a greater ambivalence about human visits to the moon. The Soviet leader Khrushchev did not want to or be "defeated" by another power or the costs of a project as well. In October 1963, he stated that the USSR "not planned currently no flights of cosmonauts to the Moon",

Korolev, Chief Designer of the Russian space agency, had begun to announce that their Soyuz craft and N-1 launch rocket had the ability to make a manned moon landing. Khrushchev ordered Korolev to get new design office first positions in space by modifying the technology of Vostok existing, while a second team started building completely new launcher and a ship, the Proton rocket and the Zond, for a sub-lunar flight manned in 1966. In 1964, the new Soviet dome gave Korolev the backing for the project of manned moon landing and they put all the projects under his direction. With the death of Korolev and the failure of the first flight of the Soyuz in 1967, coordination of the Soviet moon landing program was quickly undone. The Soviets built a landing module and selected cosmonauts for the mission that would have placed Alexei Leonov over the lunar surface, but with the successive failures of launch of the N1 rocket in 1969, plans for the manned moon landing suffered first delay and more late cancellation.

The Americans on the other hand after designing the plan, which would take them to the Moon using links in orbit, started their first essays. The first space meeting was held between the Gemini 6 and Gemini 7, both American ships, on December 15, 1965. Its successor, the Gemini 8, performed the first space docking on 16 March 1966. The first automatic space docking engaged Soviet ships Cosmos 186 and Cosmos-188 (two Soyuz unmanned) on October 30, 1967.

There have also been successes with unmanned probes. The Soviet Union was the first to send planetary probes to Venus and Mars, in 1960. The Venera 1 passed between 19 and 20 May 1961 100,000 km from Venus, without sending data. The first ship that flew successfully Venus, the American Mariner 2, did so on December 14, 1962. He sent back surprising data on the high surface temperature and the density of the air of Venus. As it had no cameras, its discoveries not captured the public's attention as the images from space probes, widely exceeding the capacity of the ground-based telescopes would. The Venera 3 Soviet launched on November 16, 1965, with the Mission of landing on the planet Venus and it impacted the surface on March 1, 1966, becoming the first probe Earth to make contact with another planet.

The Luna 9, nicknamed Lunik 9, was a Soviet unmanned Russian space program which was launched January 31, 1966. The probe landed successfully on 3 February of the same year in the sea of storms (in the coordinates 7.08 ° N – 64, 4 ° W). It was the first object built by man in settle gently on another celestial body. When he landed he opened their long boards with petal-like and took photos of the scene. It transmitted photos and data for three days.

The year 1967 it was dramatic for the two superpowers. The designs of the new ships that would serve to go to the Moon, the American Apollo and Soviet Soyuz claimed the first victims. In the United States, the first astronauts who died during direct participation in space travel or preparation served in Apollo 1: pilot Commander Virgil "gu" Grissom, Edward White senior pilot and pilot Roger Chaffee. They died in a fire occurred during a ground test on 27 January 1967.

The flight of the Soyuz 1 and Soyuz 11 Soviet also resulted in the death of cosmonauts. The Soyuz 1, put into orbit on 23 April 1967, was manned by a single Cosmonaut, Colonel Vladímir Komarov, who died crashing the ship after its reentry into the Earth.

However the Americans are sobreponieron to this tragedy. Apollo was redesigned, new security measures were applied and after many tests Apollo 8 was launched on December 21, 1968, was the first manned space voyage that reached one sufficient speed to escape from the gravitational field of the Earth; the first to enter into the gravitational field of another celestial body; the first to escape from the gravitational field of another celestial body; and the first manned return to Earth from another celestial body voyage. Three men from the pilot of the lunar module and the crew formed by the Commander of the mission Frank Borman, command module pilot Jim Lovell, Bill Anders became the first humans to see the dark side of the moon with their own eyes, as well as the first to see the Earth from an orbit around another celestial body. The mission was also the first manned launch of a Saturno V and the second manned mission of the Apollo program.

Apollo 9, released on March 3, 1969. It would be commissioned to test the lunar module. It was the third manned mission program Apollo. Shortly after the Apollo 10 was released on May 18, 1969, with Thomas P. Stafford - Commander - John W. Young and Eugene A. Cernan aboard.

This mission was a combination of the two, since for the first time the lunar module BOM stood in an orbit close to the Moon, and there were the necessary maneuvers that had already been made in orbit around the Earth. The day of the moon landing was ever closer.

Trip to the moon. The first moon landing.

They had little more than ten years passed since the launch of Sputnik 1, during which the space activity in the United States had been very intense and aimed mainly to prepare the man's first journey to the moon. He had designed, built and tested a giant rocket and a strange lunar ship. There had been two General tests the final trip to the Moon (Apollo 8 and 10). Despite their great complexity, all that paraphernalia had worked incredibly well. Now all that remained was going to the Moon, walked on it and explore it, although the latter had to be reduced to very small areas and should be done with very few technical means and Cientificosindice of the article:

THE ARRIVAL OF MAN ON THE MOON

- on July 20, 1969. The American space mission, [Apollo XI](#) moonlanding for the first time in the history of humanity. The fourth of the manned missions, Apollos had departed 109 hours before Cape Kennedy in Florida. That day, before millions of viewers around the world, **the famous words were heard: "one small step for a man; a leap for mankind"**.

SPACE MISSIONS TO THE MOON

- **Kennedy** was the President that **began that became known as the "American space race"** but on May 25, 1961, exposed before the Congress, the need of that man, before the end of the century had the duty to reach the Moon and return safely to Earth. Certainly was a time of political tensions, clashes with the Soviet Union, at the beginning of [cold war](#).
- They start since space programmes **Mercury and Gemini** . From the conjunction of both emerge **Project Apollo**.
- **The Apollo ships consisted of a command, one service and another lunar module module** . There were several unmanned flights and twelve manned missions, of which six became land. Apolo VII was the first manned flight, but Apolo XI would be the first to get land.
- His mission was to get **stepped on the Moon and extract samples from the lunar surface**. However, the program had doubts about the effects of lunar gravity in the behavior of the astronauts, their mobility and his mind. On the other hand, they didn't know if they could be contaminated, so prepared a quarantine.

AS IT WAS THE ARRIVAL OF MAN ON THE MOON:

- On **July 16, 1969**, in the morning, a strong red flare of the **Saturn 5** rocket pushed the ship into space. 40,000 km. / h. the **Apollo was burning stages and discarding each of the three modules** that comprised it a mediated that it was dropping them hydrogen and liquid oxygen.
- On **Sunday, July 20**, the space shuttle Columbia was in lunar orbit. Astronauts **Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong went to the Eagle**, while Michael Collins remained in the main ship, the gate behind closed them.
- Finally, the **Apollo XI successfully got his mission after landing his LEM**, the lunar module "Eagle" (in honor of the animal of the country), in the **Sea of tranquility**, the venue for the moon landing. It was the 22.56 hours.
- Contrary to what he thinks, is the **first words** that the television broadcast of **Armstrong**, were: *"I am at the foot of the ladder. The feet of the **Eagle** have only depressed the surface a few centimeters. The surface appears to be very fine-grained, when viewed closely. It is almost a fine, very fine powder. Now leave the platform."*
- **Aldrin** was the second man to walk on the moon. Also he had his moment of glory before the television cameras. *"From here you can see a beautiful panorama." It is a bit similar to some deserts of the **United States**'*, says. "
- Many **questions and mysteries have emerged as a result of the photos transmitted to Earth**, but the truth is that this space mission put the bases for new further landings. Four months after the **Apollo XII** would begin its take-off. With the **Apollo XVII** ended the race to conquer the Moon, reportedly for economic reasons.

The arrival of man on the Moon: reality or myth?

The **arrival of the man to the Moon** is one of the most important events in the history of mankind. Neither more nor less than the conquest of space. But, and if everything was perfectly orchestrated fraud? Numerous theories and documentaries who consider that the arrival of man on the Moon was all a hoax, a sham have emerged from many years ago. And they bring what for them are exclusionary testing.

The conspiracy theory more "accepted" by those who deny the arrival of man on the Moon is that which says that everything was filmed and staged in a dish of cinema. I.e., that it was a movie. To give you an air even more Hollywood supporters of this theory point to **Stanley Kubrick** as alleged head of this "film disguised as a reality". According to them, ' 2001: A Space Odyssey ', released a year earlier, was a kind of training for the director.

Much experience and expertise in space matters which had acquired Kubrick and lots of help from NASA which had, defenders of the conspiracy theory claim that numerous evidence indicating that the images of the astronauts were not taken from the moon there is.

These hypotheses are based on the observation of certain images and findings of no scientific validity. They also rely on social and political explanations, that United States needed as it was coup effect allowing him to move up to the Soviet Union in the space race.

We can say that there are two currents between the theories which deny the images of Armstrong and Aldrin also. On the one hand, those who directly deny that man reached the Moon, on the other hand, those who do not deny the arrival of man on the Moon (or not are manifested in favour or against) but considered that the images that were offered at that time were rolled onto a plate, the impossibility of sending images from the moon.

The case is completely well-founded evidence of the veracity of the historical moment, as traces of the moon landing, recorded in photography by satellites and space probes.

Either way, an important event is normal that much to talk about. For some, there is never enough evidence to prove its veracity, and instead only a small indication is needed to shout from the rooftops that everything is a lie.

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