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00:00:03,860 --> 00:00:09,470

[Mike Massimino] Hi I'm Mike Massimino and this is Inside the International Space Station.

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00:00:09,470 --> 00:00:15,740

Intro clip: "100 camels running around.

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00:00:15,740 --> 00:00:16,740

Cosmodrome.

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00:00:16,740 --> 00:00:20,410

It's a Dream liner, a 787"

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00:00:20,410 --> 00:00:28,120

[Massimino] We're going to talk to Joe Acaba and Sunny Williams about their upcoming space

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00:00:28,120 --> 00:00:29,120

flight.

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00:00:29,120 --> 00:00:31,390

[Williams] It's a nice thing for people to learn a little bit more about a different

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00:00:31,390 --> 00:00:36,130

culture and a different part of the planet.

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00:00:36,130 --> 00:00:40,420

Even Kazakhstan, even Baikonur itself was a secret to the Russians for a long time,

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00:00:40,420 --> 00:00:42,990

for most of the Russian public.

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00:00:42,990 --> 00:00:46,660

In the last couple of decades, it's sort of, of course now everybody knows

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00:00:46,660 --> 00:00:47,660

where Baikonur is.

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00:00:47,660 --> 00:00:51,329

It's an amazing history.

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00:00:51,329 --> 00:00:53,440

It's out in the middle of nowhere.

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00:00:53,440 --> 00:00:55,691

We launch in Florida of
course so all of the pieces can fall into

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00:00:55,691 --> 00:00:56,691

the ocean.

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00:00:56,691 --> 00:00:58,700

They launch in Kazakhstan because East of
that is

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00:00:58,700 --> 00:00:59,820

just a steppe.

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00:00:59,820 --> 00:01:01,411

But still the big pieces still fall in the
steppe.

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00:01:01,411 --> 00:01:02,411

[Massimino] The steppe is?

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00:01:02,411 --> 00:01:03,411

I'm sorry.

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00:01:03,411 --> 00:01:09,460

[Williams] The steppe is this big desert type
brush area running East of where Baikonur

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00:01:09,460 --> 00:01:12,950

is so the big

Rocket pieces, the first stage all falls back

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00:01:12,950 --> 00:01:15,720

onto the land, the second stage just all falls
back onto the

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00:01:15,720 --> 00:01:16,720

land.

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00:01:16,720 --> 00:01:20,690

And they did all of this so nobody would actually
really know, of course the Soviet Union, so

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00:01:20,690 --> 00:01:26,229

nobody would know where the launch pad was
or what that were doing from the very beginning.

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00:01:26,229 --> 00:01:27,920

So

it's cool now that the T.V.

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00:01:27,920 --> 00:01:30,510

cameras are coming to this place and they're
seeing it.

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00:01:30,510 --> 00:01:33,850

When I was there

last we saw a herd of camels like 100 camels

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00:01:33,850 --> 00:01:35,270

running around, wild horses.

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00:01:35,270 --> 00:01:39,689

It is in the middle of freakin
nowhere.

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00:01:39,689 --> 00:01:41,970

They made it that way on purpose.

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00:01:41,970 --> 00:01:44,570
Actually the name Baikonur was spelled a little bit

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00:01:44,570 --> 00:01:51,090
wrong so people didn't know exactly where it was on the map when they just settled it.

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00:01:51,090 --> 00:01:54,409
The history is pretty cool and it's neat for other folks

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00:01:54,409 --> 00:01:56,630
in the U.S. and I hope there's more news people who come to

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00:01:56,630 --> 00:02:00,590
Kazakhstan so they can understand the whole history of the space program.

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00:02:00,590 --> 00:02:01,590
It wasn't just ours.

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00:02:01,590 --> 00:02:04,470
Ours was awesome; of course, going to the moon

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00:02:04,470 --> 00:02:06,740
and everything leading up to it but theirs is too.

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00:02:06,740 --> 00:02:08,899
The effort that the Soviet Union and the Russians

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00:02:08,899 --> 00:02:10,259
made is pretty historic.

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00:02:10,259 --> 00:02:12,280
It's nice to be able to share that.

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00:02:12,280 --> 00:02:14,250
It's another appreciation for different cultures, it's cool.

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00:02:14,250 --> 00:02:17,910
[Massimino] So Baikonur was that, is that where Sputnik was launched from?

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00:02:17,910 --> 00:02:21,870
[Williams] Oh, now you're going to ask me stuff I don't know.

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00:02:21,870 --> 00:02:22,870
[Acaba] Yuri was.

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00:02:22,870 --> 00:02:24,980
[Williams] Yuri was for sure, but I don't know about Sputnik.

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00:02:24,980 --> 00:02:30,489
[Massimino] How do you get in there, on a C130 or something?

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00:02:30,489 --> 00:02:33,239
How do you get into this place?

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00:02:33,239 --> 00:02:35,860
[Williams] It's a Dream liner, a 787.

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00:02:35,860 --> 00:02:37,250
It's all luxury.

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00:02:37,250 --> 00:02:39,580
Far from it, my friend.

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00:02:39,580 --> 00:02:45,910

[Massimino] So when you go to Russia, you fly into Moscow, when you guys go there?

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00:02:45,910 --> 00:02:51,230

Then you train in Star city, then you go out to Baikonur?

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00:02:51,230 --> 00:02:52,760

Now you fly to this place?

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00:02:52,760 --> 00:02:53,760

[Williams] Yeah.

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00:02:53,760 --> 00:02:54,760

[Massimino] Can you tell me, you can't tell me where it is?

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00:02:54,760 --> 00:02:57,010

[Williams] It's a secret.

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00:02:57,010 --> 00:02:59,030

I don't know where it is.

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00:02:59,030 --> 00:03:00,520

[Massimino] So you fly in there?

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00:03:00,520 --> 00:03:02,970

There's obviously a runway there in a small town?

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00:03:02,970 --> 00:03:06,100

[Williams] Yeah, actually Baikonur is a closed city.

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00:03:06,100 --> 00:03:09,230

It's a little interesting place cause we have to have, of

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00:03:09,230 --> 00:03:16,320

course your passport, when leaving to go through Kazakhstan, Baikonur, actually the airport

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00:03:16,320 --> 00:03:17,620

may be in Kazakhstan.

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00:03:17,620 --> 00:03:22,820

The airports in Kazakhstan so you need your passport and your papers to get into

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00:03:22,820 --> 00:03:25,849

Kazakhstan by landing at the airport.

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00:03:25,849 --> 00:03:27,019

..... I think it's called.

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00:03:27,019 --> 00:03:30,409

And then they drive you in to Baikonur, the town, which is a closed town.

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00:03:30,409 --> 00:03:31,940

It's sort of like an Embassy.

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00:03:31,940 --> 00:03:36,080

[Massimino] Kind of like the Vatican or something?

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00:03:36,080 --> 00:03:37,519

[Williams] Yeah, exactly.

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00:03:37,519 --> 00:03:43,790

It's its own little thing, which is Russian, and then we stay and live in this little

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00:03:43,790 --> 00:03:45,030

town called Biakunor.

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00:03:45,030 --> 00:03:49,720

But actually I think I read it was home to

like 100 thousand people at one point,

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00:03:49,720 --> 00:03:51,540

at the height of the Space Program.

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00:03:51,540 --> 00:03:52,540

So it's not tiny.

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00:03:52,540 --> 00:03:53,540

It's a town.

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00:03:53,540 --> 00:03:54,540

[Massimino] It's a Space town?

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00:03:54,540 --> 00:03:55,540

[Williams] It's a Space town.

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00:03:55,540 --> 00:03:56,540

[Massimino] Rocket City?

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00:03:56,540 --> 00:03:57,900

[Williams] Rocket City, exactly.

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00:03:57,900 --> 00:04:02,099

[Massimino] Space ships and rockets are built
other places and then shipped there/

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00:04:02,099 --> 00:04:03,099

[Williams] Yeah.

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00:04:03,099 --> 00:04:05,650

[Massimino] and assembled and shot off?

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00:04:05,650 --> 00:04:07,840

[Williams] from the Cosmodrome.

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00:04:07,840 --> 00:04:09,980

It sounds so cool doesn't it?

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00:04:09,980 --> 00:04:10,980

The Cosmodrome.

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00:04:10,980 --> 00:04:13,799

[Massimino] The Cosmodrome, sounds like an Olympic Venue.

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00:04:13,799 --> 00:04:14,799

[Williams] Exactly.

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00:04:14,799 --> 00:04:20,789

[Massimino] and that's where the, the Progress launches from the same place, and all their

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00:04:20,789 --> 00:04:21,789

stuff.

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00:04:21,789 --> 00:04:24,599

[Williams] They have a couple of different places but that's the main place from what

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00:04:24,599 --> 00:04:25,599

I've heard.

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00:04:25,599 --> 00:04:27,099

They have a pretty big train station right in the

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00:04:27,099 --> 00:04:28,099

center of town.

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00:04:28,099 --> 00:04:31,249

I think it was built and again, don't quote me

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00:04:31,249 --> 00:04:34,289

on all the historic points here, because I don't wanna screw it up too bad.

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00:04:34,289 --> 00:04:35,289

[Acaba] Please.

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00:04:35,289 --> 00:04:38,139

[Williams] I saw this movie, Belka and Strelka?

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00:04:38,139 --> 00:04:39,139

[Acaba] Suni said it.

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00:04:39,139 --> 00:04:43,550

[Williams] The cartoon about these dogs and I believe everything that it said, but there's

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00:04:43,550 --> 00:04:49,020

a pretty big railway system, that went, that goes to that

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00:04:49,020 --> 00:04:51,889

town and that's how these people originally got there.

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00:04:51,889 --> 00:04:57,009

They actually lived in tents remember from the, we do this really cool, as a back- up

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00:04:57,009 --> 00:04:59,449

crew member you get to go to the museum there and you get

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00:04:59,449 --> 00:05:02,199

to see a little bit about the history of this town.

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00:05:02,199 --> 00:05:03,960

That's where I'm grabbin some of this stuff from.

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00:05:03,960 --> 00:05:05,979

But the folks who lived there originally,
when they built

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00:05:05,979 --> 00:05:09,319

this town, they lived in tents and again,
like I'm saying, this is out in the middle

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00:05:09,319 --> 00:05:14,669

of nowhere and they
created this whole Kosmodrone Space Port and

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00:05:14,669 --> 00:05:17,759

the town while they were out there so it's
pretty

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00:05:17,759 --> 00:05:18,759

neat.

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00:05:18,759 --> 00:05:21,469

But most of the pieces are made in different
places.

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00:05:21,469 --> 00:05:28,759

Our Soyuz is made outside of Moscow at a
company called Energia, and the rocket parts

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00:05:28,759 --> 00:05:33,470

are from a company in Samara which I think
is close to

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00:05:33,470 --> 00:05:35,139

Moscow.