



1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:07,270

Music

2
00:00:07,270 --> 00:00:10,740

Narrator: On the third anniversary of President Obama's 2010 visit to

3
00:00:10,740 --> 00:00:15,410

NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida, where he set his space exploration vision

4
00:00:15,410 --> 00:00:20,490

for the future, news media representatives were given an opportunity to see up close

5
00:00:20,490 --> 00:00:25,390

the Orion spacecraft that could take astronauts on an asteroid sampling mission

6
00:00:25,390 --> 00:00:28,580
as early as 2021.

7
00:00:28,580 --> 00:00:34,230

President Obama's fiscal year 2014 budget request for NASA includes funding for an

8
00:00:34,230 --> 00:00:40,170

initiative to find, capture and redirect an asteroid, and then send humans to explore

9
00:00:40,170 --> 00:00:41,900

and sample it.

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00:00:41,900 --> 00:00:46,590

Orion's subsystems and components built around the country are now coming together

11
00:00:46,590 --> 00:00:49,440

in the Operations and Checkout Building.

12
00:00:49,440 --> 00:00:53,780

That is where reporters were given a chance to see and hear the progress being made

13
00:00:53,780 --> 00:00:57,630

on the spacecraft, and on the Space Launch System rocket and

14

00:00:57,630 --> 00:01:01,360

Ground Systems Development and Operations activities that will help

15

00:01:01,360 --> 00:01:05,290

send astronauts to new destinations in the solar system.

16

00:01:05,290 --> 00:01:08,080

The spacecraft currently is being readied for the uncrewed

17

00:01:08,080 --> 00:01:11,270

Exploration Flight Test-1 next year,

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00:01:11,270 --> 00:01:15,710

a mission that will see the vehicle travel farther into space than any human spacecraft

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00:01:15,710 --> 00:01:20,480

has gone in more than 30 years and return at high speeds to test

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00:01:20,480 --> 00:01:22,970

the heat shield's performance.

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00:01:22,970 --> 00:01:26,740

They also heard from some of the key leaders who described NASA's progress

22

00:01:26,740 --> 00:01:29,780

toward exploring beyond low-Earth orbit.

23

00:01:29,780 --> 00:01:31,990

Robert Cabana, Director, Kennedy Space Center: Today, this is a world-class

24

00:01:31,990 --> 00:01:39,770

production facility with a flight article, a flight vehicle, Orion, getting ready to fly next year.

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00:01:39,770 --> 00:01:44,010

We've made tremendous progress in our transition to the future.

26

00:01:44,010 --> 00:01:44,620

Dan Dumbacher, Deputy Assoc. Admin. for Exploration Systems Development: We are

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00:01:44,620 --> 00:01:48,650

thrilled with this mission. We're looking forward to it. It will be a challenge,

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00:01:48,650 --> 00:01:55,380

it will be complex. But NASA's up to the challenge and the team you see represented

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00:01:55,380 --> 00:01:58,620

here is ready and willing to take it on.

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00:01:58,620 --> 00:02:02,190

Narrator: NASA's asteroid initiative, which will align on-going activities

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00:02:02,190 --> 00:02:07,420

across the agency, takes advantage of NASA's diverse talents and will build capabilities

32

00:02:07,420 --> 00:02:12,220

needed eventually to send humans to Mars.

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00:02:12,220 --> 00:02:16,740

The mission would allow astronauts to examine the object up close and return samples

34

00:02:16,740 --> 00:02:21,710

to Earth for further study. During the president's 2010 address at Kennedy,

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00:02:21,710 --> 00:02:27,470

he spoke of the value of NASA's work, which the agency is advancing every day.

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00:02:27,470 --> 00:02:31,090

President Obama: For pennies on the dollar, the space program has fueled jobs and

37

00:02:31,090 --> 00:02:32,750

entire industries.

38

00:02:32,750 --> 00:02:35,830

For pennies on the dollar, the space program has improved our lives,