



1  
00:00:10,220 --> 00:00:07,550  
it began here at the Kennedy Space

2  
00:00:12,919 --> 00:00:10,230  
Center Florida last summer a pair of

3  
00:00:14,690 --> 00:00:12,929  
spacecraft Viking 1 and Viking 2 were

4  
00:00:15,609 --> 00:00:14,700  
readied for their separate journeys to

5  
00:00:19,029 --> 00:00:15,619  
Mars

6  
00:00:21,349 --> 00:00:19,039  
each is really two spacecraft in one a

7  
00:00:24,259 --> 00:00:21,359  
5,000 pound orbiter with cameras and

8  
00:00:26,240 --> 00:00:24,269  
communications gear and sealed inside to

9  
00:00:28,820 --> 00:00:26,250  
saucer-like capsules at the other end

10  
00:00:30,740 --> 00:00:28,830  
the Viking landing craft a camera

11  
00:00:32,959 --> 00:00:30,750  
equipped automated biological and

12  
00:00:34,790 --> 00:00:32,969  
chemistry laboratory and seismic station

13  
00:00:38,560 --> 00:00:34,800

which has been purged of earthly

14

00:00:42,530 --> 00:00:38,570

organisms by being heated in a huge oven

15

00:00:44,779 --> 00:00:42,540

the 11-month 420 million mile trip for

16

00:00:49,369 --> 00:00:44,789

the two Viking orbiter Landers was set

17

00:00:54,020 --> 00:00:49,379

in motion by two launches one in August

18

00:00:56,180 --> 00:00:54,030

one in September Earth shrinks smaller

19

00:00:58,849 --> 00:00:56,190

and smaller as the two Vikings head

20

00:01:02,000 --> 00:00:58,859

toward their Martian rendezvous then

21

00:01:04,070 --> 00:01:02,010

braking rockets fire on command slowing

22

00:01:07,789 --> 00:01:04,080

the first Viking Explorer II enough that

23

00:01:09,530 --> 00:01:07,799

it goes into orbit around Mars for the

24

00:01:11,800 --> 00:01:09,540

next two weeks the orbiting spacecraft

25

00:01:14,000 --> 00:01:11,810

will survey the surface below

26

00:01:19,070 --> 00:01:14,010

transmitting pictures of possible

27

00:01:21,289 --> 00:01:19,080

landing sites to scientists on earth the

28

00:01:25,370 --> 00:01:21,299

Martian surface should be a study in

29

00:01:27,350 --> 00:01:25,380

contrasts from vast dust swept plains to

30

00:01:30,170 --> 00:01:27,360

immense canyons and frost covered

31

00:01:32,060 --> 00:01:30,180

plateaus huge gullies and channels

32

00:01:34,039 --> 00:01:32,070

photographed by earlier Mariner

33

00:01:36,350 --> 00:01:34,049

spacecraft are believed to have been

34

00:01:42,140 --> 00:01:36,360

caused by running water sometime in the

35

00:01:44,120 --> 00:01:42,150

distant past if all goes as planned the

36

00:01:46,550 --> 00:01:44,130

first Viking Lander will separate from

37

00:01:49,370 --> 00:01:46,560

the orbiting command ship and descend to

38

00:01:52,999 --> 00:01:49,380

the Martian surface landing at 9:40 p.m.

39

00:01:55,010 --> 00:01:53,009

Eastern Daylight Time July 4th the

40

00:01:58,490 --> 00:01:55,020

second Viking is scheduled to land on

41

00:02:02,060 --> 00:01:58,500

September 4 1000 miles to the northeast

42

00:02:04,999 --> 00:02:02,070

of Viking 1 how will Viking go about

43

00:02:07,459 --> 00:02:05,009

looking for life on Mars we asked dr.

44

00:02:11,089 --> 00:02:07,469

Richard Young NASA's chief of planetary

45

00:02:13,010 --> 00:02:11,099

biology we look for life on Mars in much

46

00:02:13,430 --> 00:02:13,020

the same way we would look for life on

47

00:02:16,040 --> 00:02:13,440

Earth

48

00:02:18,080 --> 00:02:16,050

if we were forced to use an automated

49

00:02:20,270 --> 00:02:18,090

device and we don't send a scientist

50

00:02:22,670 --> 00:02:20,280

along if we were sending a little wagon

51  
00:02:25,850 --> 00:02:22,680  
out into the Sahara Desert or one of the

52  
00:02:28,160 --> 00:02:25,860  
dry valleys of the Antarctic which had

53  
00:02:30,020 --> 00:02:28,170  
to function all by itself with automated

54  
00:02:32,600 --> 00:02:30,030  
equipment this is probably exactly what

55  
00:02:33,890 --> 00:02:32,610  
we would sing and let me say by the way

56  
00:02:36,830 --> 00:02:33,900  
that we're looking primarily for

57  
00:02:39,320 --> 00:02:36,840  
microorganisms it would be rather

58  
00:02:41,810 --> 00:02:39,330  
fruitless of us for to look for horses

59  
00:02:42,980 --> 00:02:41,820  
on Mars we wouldn't look for horses on

60  
00:02:45,260 --> 00:02:42,990  
earth if we were looking for life

61  
00:02:47,630 --> 00:02:45,270  
because the chances would be medium to

62  
00:02:51,650 --> 00:02:47,640  
one against finding them with a random

63  
00:02:54,080 --> 00:02:51,660

search Vikings mechanical arm pulls in a

64

00:02:56,600 --> 00:02:54,090

scoop full of Martian soil and drops it

65

00:02:58,520 --> 00:02:56,610

into a one cubic foot box that's really

66

00:03:01,280 --> 00:02:58,530

three completely automated testing

67

00:03:03,260 --> 00:03:01,290

laboratories it is here that the

68

00:03:09,440 --> 00:03:03,270

possibilities for or against the

69

00:03:11,420 --> 00:03:09,450

presence of life will be determined what

70

00:03:14,780 --> 00:03:11,430

will it mean to earthlings if life is

71

00:03:17,780 --> 00:03:14,790

found on Mars it must mean that the

72

00:03:19,460 --> 00:03:17,790

universe is is literally an inhabited

73

00:03:22,040 --> 00:03:19,470

universe with many planets that have

74

00:03:23,030 --> 00:03:22,050

life on it now if there are many planets

75

00:03:26,750 --> 00:03:23,040

that have life on it

76

00:03:28,840 --> 00:03:26,760

there is no doubt at all that to rest

77

00:03:31,970 --> 00:03:28,850

your life is not going to be the most

78

00:03:33,950 --> 00:03:31,980

advanced civilization the most highest

79

00:03:35,930 --> 00:03:33,960

level of consciousness we must be

80

00:03:38,210 --> 00:03:35,940

somewheres in the broad spectrum of

81

00:03:42,610 --> 00:03:38,220

possibility and that drives you to the

82

00:03:47,089 --> 00:03:42,620

conclusion is that there may be

83

00:03:52,239 --> 00:03:49,670

Vikings to Mars and the search for life

84

00:03:56,170 --> 00:03:52,249

there this country's first close-up