



1  
00:00:04,470 --> 00:00:01,910  
many people may not remember this but

2  
00:00:05,510 --> 00:00:04,480  
neil armstrong was here from the very

3  
00:00:07,990 --> 00:00:05,520  
beginning

4  
00:00:09,750 --> 00:00:08,000  
an experienced naval aviator and the

5  
00:00:11,589 --> 00:00:09,760  
youngest pilot in his squadron he flew

6  
00:00:14,629 --> 00:00:11,599  
some 78 combat missions during the

7  
00:00:15,589 --> 00:00:14,639  
korean war and returned home a decorated

8  
00:00:17,109 --> 00:00:15,599  
veteran

9  
00:00:19,029 --> 00:00:17,119  
armstrong later joined the national

10  
00:00:21,750 --> 00:00:19,039  
advisory committee for aeronautics or

11  
00:00:22,550 --> 00:00:21,760  
naca which was nasa's predecessors you

12  
00:00:24,550 --> 00:00:22,560  
learned

13  
00:00:27,189 --> 00:00:24,560

and there he was a test pilot at the

14

00:00:29,269 --> 00:00:27,199

lewis laboratory in cleveland he later

15

00:00:31,349 --> 00:00:29,279

transferred to edwards air force base

16

00:00:35,350 --> 00:00:31,359

where he was a project pilot on many

17

00:00:37,270 --> 00:00:35,360

high-speed aircraft among them the x-15

18

00:00:39,270 --> 00:00:37,280

he made seven flights in the x-15

19

00:00:43,110 --> 00:00:39,280

reaching 4 000 miles per hour at an

20

00:00:46,630 --> 00:00:43,120

altitude of more than 207 thousand feet

21

00:00:49,350 --> 00:00:46,640

in 1962 neil armstrong was selected in

22

00:00:50,869 --> 00:00:49,360

the second class of astronauts and in

23

00:00:52,869 --> 00:00:50,879

1966

24

00:00:55,029 --> 00:00:52,879

he and dave scott made history during

25

00:00:57,270 --> 00:00:55,039

their gemini 8 flight by achieving the

26

00:00:59,189 --> 00:00:57,280

first docking in space

27

00:01:00,869 --> 00:00:59,199

his calm and methodical approach to

28

00:01:02,709 --> 00:01:00,879

flying saved the mission after the

29

00:01:04,390 --> 00:01:02,719

spacecraft began spinning dangerously

30

00:01:07,510 --> 00:01:04,400

out of control

31

00:01:10,070 --> 00:01:07,520

in 1969 armstrong was selected as

32

00:01:12,870 --> 00:01:10,080

commander for apollo 11

33

00:01:15,749 --> 00:01:12,880

and on july 20th with only about 20

34

00:01:18,149 --> 00:01:15,759

seconds of fuel remaining he safely set

35

00:01:19,510 --> 00:01:18,159

that lunar module eagle on the surface

36

00:01:21,510 --> 00:01:19,520

of the moon

37

00:01:23,190 --> 00:01:21,520

meeting the challenge president john f

38

00:01:26,550 --> 00:01:23,200

kennedy gave the nation

39

00:01:27,670 --> 00:01:26,560

with five months to spare ladies and

40

00:01:29,830 --> 00:01:27,680

gentlemen

41

00:01:31,429 --> 00:01:29,840

again it is a high honor and pleasure to

42

00:01:49,910 --> 00:01:31,439

introduce to you

43

00:01:56,149 --> 00:01:52,149

thank you so much

44

00:02:02,469 --> 00:01:59,510

thank you leon and thank all of you

45

00:02:04,389 --> 00:02:02,479

in the summer of 1958 the congress wrote

46

00:02:06,870 --> 00:02:04,399

and the president signed

47

00:02:08,790 --> 00:02:06,880

the national space act

48

00:02:11,190 --> 00:02:08,800

establishing the national aeronautics

49

00:02:13,910 --> 00:02:11,200

and space administration

50

00:02:16,710 --> 00:02:13,920

and i remember the time clearly

51  
00:02:19,110 --> 00:02:16,720  
uh 50 years ago this week i was high

52  
00:02:22,229 --> 00:02:19,120  
above the california desert

53  
00:02:24,470 --> 00:02:22,239  
piloted in a b-29 carrier aircraft and

54  
00:02:26,550 --> 00:02:24,480  
launching the x1e

55  
00:02:30,949 --> 00:02:26,560  
the latest and most advanced of the

56  
00:02:33,750 --> 00:02:30,959  
fabled x1 research airplane series

57  
00:02:35,949 --> 00:02:33,760  
nasa became an operating agency

58  
00:02:37,750 --> 00:02:35,959  
on october 1st

59  
00:02:41,430 --> 00:02:37,760  
1958

60  
00:02:43,990 --> 00:02:41,440  
i found myself that wednesday morning

61  
00:02:45,750 --> 00:02:44,000  
going to work at the same job

62  
00:02:47,830 --> 00:02:45,760  
my same office

63  
00:02:51,589 --> 00:02:47,840

doing the same work that i've been doing

64

00:02:53,990 --> 00:02:51,599

the previous day it was a relatively

65

00:02:56,710 --> 00:02:54,000

easy transition

66

00:02:58,790 --> 00:02:56,720

we were already riding on rockets in

67

00:03:01,830 --> 00:02:58,800

research aircraft

68

00:03:04,949 --> 00:03:01,840

we already knew how to count backwards

69

00:03:05,830 --> 00:03:04,959

eight seven six five

70

00:03:11,270 --> 00:03:05,840

we

71

00:03:12,390 --> 00:03:11,280

naca

72

00:03:15,830 --> 00:03:12,400

and

73

00:03:18,710 --> 00:03:15,840

replace it with an s on our airplanes

74

00:03:19,990 --> 00:03:18,720

our trucks and vans

75

00:03:23,190 --> 00:03:20,000

as the other

76  
00:03:25,670 --> 00:03:23,200  
principal components of the new agency

77  
00:03:28,229 --> 00:03:25,680  
the jet propulsion laboratory the

78  
00:03:31,430 --> 00:03:28,239  
california institute of technology

79  
00:03:33,990 --> 00:03:31,440  
and the army's redstone arsenal and

80  
00:03:35,830 --> 00:03:34,000  
huntsville alabama

81  
00:03:37,350 --> 00:03:35,840  
assume they were

82  
00:03:39,589 --> 00:03:37,360  
deciding

83  
00:03:41,990 --> 00:03:39,599  
what the minimum amount of painting

84  
00:03:44,229 --> 00:03:42,000  
would be required at their installations

85  
00:03:45,430 --> 00:03:44,239  
and what new responsibilities they would

86  
00:03:48,470 --> 00:03:45,440  
face

87  
00:03:50,550 --> 00:03:48,480  
in any case i suspect there are

88  
00:03:51,670 --> 00:03:50,560

some number of people here

89

00:03:54,789 --> 00:03:51,680

tonight

90

00:03:57,910 --> 00:03:54,799

who remember the birth of nasa and were

91

00:03:58,830 --> 00:03:57,920

a part of the early days

92

00:04:03,990 --> 00:03:58,840

so

93

00:04:07,990 --> 00:04:06,229

those here tonight

94

00:04:10,710 --> 00:04:08,000

who were

95

00:04:13,350 --> 00:04:10,720

founding members of nasa

96

00:04:14,789 --> 00:04:13,360

those from naca those from jpl those

97

00:04:16,710 --> 00:04:14,799

from redstone

98

00:04:18,949 --> 00:04:16,720

and those who came from various other

99

00:04:22,390 --> 00:04:18,959

places to join

100

00:04:24,629 --> 00:04:22,400

nasa in the year 1958.

101

00:04:26,710 --> 00:04:24,639

i'd like those of you who are seated in

102

00:04:28,710 --> 00:04:26,720

that category to stand and those of you

103

00:04:32,790 --> 00:04:28,720

who are standing to raise your hands and

104

00:04:41,749 --> 00:04:35,110

another one

105

00:04:47,590 --> 00:04:44,469

you'll be recognized as

106

00:04:49,749 --> 00:04:47,600

old foggies

107

00:04:54,230 --> 00:04:49,759

the old folkies that we are

108

00:04:58,469 --> 00:04:54,240

and of which we are exceedingly proud

109

00:05:00,550 --> 00:04:58,479

and here tonight uh a half century later

110

00:05:01,990 --> 00:05:00,560

we look back on on what has been

111

00:05:04,230 --> 00:05:02,000

accomplished

112

00:05:04,950 --> 00:05:04,240

our knowledge of the universe around us

113

00:05:08,710 --> 00:05:04,960

is

114

00:05:11,990 --> 00:05:08,720

has increased a thousand-fold and more

115

00:05:14,390 --> 00:05:12,000

we learned that hobie homo sapiens was

116

00:05:17,510 --> 00:05:14,400

not forever imprisoned

117

00:05:20,310 --> 00:05:17,520

by the gravitational field of earth

118

00:05:23,909 --> 00:05:20,320

performance efficiency reliability and

119

00:05:25,590 --> 00:05:23,919

safety of aircraft have rep improved

120

00:05:27,830 --> 00:05:25,600

remarkably

121

00:05:29,110 --> 00:05:27,840

we set probes throughout the solar

122

00:05:30,790 --> 00:05:29,120

system

123

00:05:31,670 --> 00:05:30,800

and beyond

124

00:05:34,710 --> 00:05:31,680

we've

125

00:05:36,710 --> 00:05:34,720

seen deeply into our universe

126

00:05:39,749 --> 00:05:36,720

and look backward

127

00:05:43,590 --> 00:05:39,759

nearly to the beginning of time

128

00:05:46,870 --> 00:05:43,600

we were a competitor and perhaps

129

00:05:48,230 --> 00:05:46,880

the greatest peacetime competition

130

00:05:53,029 --> 00:05:48,240

of all time

131

00:05:55,510 --> 00:05:53,039

the space race usa versus ussr

132

00:05:58,070 --> 00:05:55,520

like the war it was expensive

133

00:06:00,710 --> 00:05:58,080

like a war each side wanted intelligence

134

00:06:02,870 --> 00:06:00,720

on what the other side was doing

135

00:06:03,670 --> 00:06:02,880

and i'll not assert

136

00:06:05,830 --> 00:06:03,680

that

137

00:06:08,309 --> 00:06:05,840

the space race was a diversion which

138

00:06:10,390 --> 00:06:08,319

prevented a war nevertheless

139

00:06:12,070 --> 00:06:10,400

it was a diversion

140

00:06:14,950 --> 00:06:12,080

it was intense

141

00:06:15,990 --> 00:06:14,960

it did allow both sides to take the high

142

00:06:17,990 --> 00:06:16,000

road

143

00:06:19,189 --> 00:06:18,000

with the objectives of science and

144

00:06:21,670 --> 00:06:19,199

learning

145

00:06:24,309 --> 00:06:21,680

and exploration

146

00:06:26,870 --> 00:06:24,319

eventually it provided a mechanism for

147

00:06:28,469 --> 00:06:26,880

engendering cooperation between

148

00:06:29,670 --> 00:06:28,479

adversaries

149

00:06:32,230 --> 00:06:29,680

in that sense

150

00:06:35,350 --> 00:06:32,240

among other among others it was an

151  
00:06:37,029 --> 00:06:35,360  
exceptional national investment for each

152  
00:06:38,790 --> 00:06:37,039  
site

153  
00:06:42,070 --> 00:06:38,800  
i submit

154  
00:06:43,749 --> 00:06:42,080  
that one of the most important roles of

155  
00:06:47,749 --> 00:06:43,759  
government

156  
00:06:51,990 --> 00:06:47,759  
is to inspire and motivated citizens

157  
00:06:54,710 --> 00:06:52,000  
and particularly its young citizens

158  
00:06:57,350 --> 00:06:54,720  
to love to learn

159  
00:06:58,870 --> 00:06:57,360  
to strive to participate in and

160  
00:07:02,150 --> 00:06:58,880  
contribute to

161  
00:07:03,510 --> 00:07:02,160  
societal progress

162  
00:07:04,710 --> 00:07:03,520  
that measure

163  
00:07:06,870 --> 00:07:04,720

nasa

164

00:07:09,189 --> 00:07:06,880

will without doubt

165

00:07:12,629 --> 00:07:09,199

rank in the top tier

166

00:07:15,350 --> 00:07:12,639

of government enterprises

167

00:07:18,150 --> 00:07:15,360

the goal is far more than just going

168

00:07:19,589 --> 00:07:18,160

faster and higher and further

169

00:07:20,790 --> 00:07:19,599

our goal

170

00:07:23,189 --> 00:07:20,800

indeed

171

00:07:25,589 --> 00:07:23,199

our responsibility

172

00:07:27,909 --> 00:07:25,599

is to develop new options

173

00:07:30,950 --> 00:07:27,919

for future generations

174

00:07:32,390 --> 00:07:30,960

options in expanding human knowledge

175

00:07:34,150 --> 00:07:32,400

exploration

176

00:07:37,830 --> 00:07:34,160

human settlements

177

00:07:40,710 --> 00:07:37,840

and resource development outside

178

00:07:42,070 --> 00:07:40,720

in the universe around us

179

00:07:44,710 --> 00:07:42,080

our highest

180

00:07:46,710 --> 00:07:44,720

and most important hope

181

00:07:49,670 --> 00:07:46,720

is that the human race

182

00:07:51,589 --> 00:07:49,680

will improve its intelligence

183

00:07:53,350 --> 00:07:51,599

its character

184

00:07:55,670 --> 00:07:53,360

and its wisdom

185

00:07:59,510 --> 00:07:55,680

so that we'll be able to properly

186

00:08:02,070 --> 00:07:59,520

evaluate and choose among those options

187

00:08:04,390 --> 00:08:02,080

and the many others they will encounter

188

00:08:05,990 --> 00:08:04,400

in the years ahead

189

00:08:07,670 --> 00:08:06,000

and i

190

00:08:09,990 --> 00:08:07,680

look forward

191

00:08:13,029 --> 00:08:10,000

to watching the progress

192

00:08:15,510 --> 00:08:13,039

and those exciting developments and

193

00:08:17,749 --> 00:08:15,520

hearing a status report