1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:04,540
October 1968 15 months until JFK’s Moon
landing goal

2
00:00:05,800 --> 00:00:09,020
No human has launched on an Apollo spacecraft.

3
00:00:09,960 --> 00:00:12,280
Wally Schirra, Donn Eisele and Walt Cunningham
-- will be first.

4
00:00:12,480 --> 00:00:17,420
Apollo 7 4...3...2....we have ignition (Rocket
sound)

5
00:00:17,580 --> 00:00:18,420
Commit.

6
00:00:18,560 --> 00:00:19,280
Liftoff.

7
00:00:19,290 --> 00:00:20,290
We have liftoff.

8
00:00:20,290 --> 00:00:24,540
When I look back, there was
a period of time when our crew, that’s

9
00:00:24,580 --> 00:00:33,700
Wally Schirra, Donn Eisele and myself, when
we got assigned to a crew it was going to

10
00:00:33,700 --> 00:00:35,500
be the second Apollo mission.

11
00:00:35,500 --> 00:00:42,070
And the first Apollo mission was Gus Grissom,
Ed White, and Roger Chaffee.

12
00:00:42,070 --> 00:00:43,510
We had the same kind of spacecraft.

13
00:00:43,510 --> 00:00:47,489
I'm taking over a mission that my buddy
was not able to fly.

14
00:00:47,489 --> 00:00:49,760
That was a tough, tough one.

15
00:00:49,760 --> 00:00:52,899
So with that, we went through a lot of trauma.

16
00:00:52,899 --> 00:00:55,710
Gus would be the first person to say, 'Let's
get on with it.

17
00:00:55,710 --> 00:00:56,710
Do good work.'

18
00:00:56,710 --> 00:01:01,760
And that was the kind of attitude I had going
into Apollo.

19
00:01:01,760 --> 00:01:07,640
Apollo 7 became very important.

20
00:01:07,640 --> 00:01:11,760
If we had not had a success on Apollo 7, we
really don't know what would've happened

21
00:01:11,760 --> 00:01:12,870
to the space program.

22
00:01:12,870 --> 00:01:16,280
Now it is time to take longer strides.

23
00:01:16,280 --> 00:01:19,470

Time for a great new American enterprise.

24
00:01:19,470 --> 00:01:23,950
Time for this nation to take
a clearly leading role in space achievement.

25
00:01:23,950 --> 00:01:29,580
Which in many ways may hold the key to our
future on earth.

26
00:01:29,580 --> 00:01:32,500
What happened with Apollo was an amazing series
of events.

27
00:01:32,500 --> 00:01:36,500
We're trying to get to the moon before this
decade is out, if you remember what Mr. Kennedy

28
00:01:36,500 --> 00:01:37,500
told us.

29
00:01:37,500 --> 00:01:42,570
We were smart enough to realize that going
to space was different than just going up

30
00:01:42,570 --> 00:01:46,220
to 40,000 feet, or going supersonic.

31
00:01:46,220 --> 00:01:47,220
Those kind of things.

32
00:01:47,220 --> 00:01:49,230
And that's what appealed to us.

33
00:01:49,230 --> 00:01:52,330
I think that we wanted to be a part of that.

34
00:01:52,330 --> 00:01:56,742
We didn't mind working 80 hours a week,

because we knew we were going to be doing

35
00:01:56,742 --> 00:01:58,240
something different.

36
00:01:58,240 --> 00:02:01,140
Apollo 7 was in Earth's orbit for 11 days.

37
00:02:01,140 --> 00:02:07,682
Today I would tell people about this, it was
the longest, it was the most ambitious, and

38
00:02:07,682 --> 00:02:13,090
most successful first test flight, of any
new flying machine, ever.

39
00:02:13,090 --> 00:02:18,160
And it's still true today 50 years later.

40
00:02:18,160 --> 00:02:26,880
In its complexity, in its application, that
it has never been duplicated.

41
00:02:26,880 --> 00:02:30,739
And that happened two generations ago.

42
00:02:30,739 --> 00:02:37,450
What made it work, was the team work that
developed.

43
00:02:37,450 --> 00:02:41,829
And the understanding of who was responsible
for what.

44
00:02:41,829 --> 00:02:42,920
We as a team worked.

45
00:02:42,920 --> 00:02:43,920
Everyone worked.

46
00:02:43,920 --> 00:02:48,560
So it showed that equality was necessary.

47
00:02:48,560 --> 00:02:58,060
We learned so much in science, space technology,
Computers, much smaller, semiconductors, all

48
00:02:58,060 --> 00:03:01,189
of this was from the space program.

49
00:03:01,189 --> 00:03:03,680
Back then the objective was to get there.

50
00:03:03,680 --> 00:03:05,859
Now our objective is to stay there.

51
00:03:05,859 --> 00:03:08,689
We’re going to go with a sustainable architecture.

52
00:03:08,689 --> 00:03:13,730
The next frontier is going to have to be Mars.

53
00:03:13,730 --> 00:03:18,420
And there will come a time when humans will
go to Mars.