



Gordon White
runesoup.com

1
00:00:07,530 --> 00:00:12,390

[Music]

2
00:00:16,550 --> 00:00:14,950
talk about reclaiming this history about

3
00:00:17,830 --> 00:00:16,560
our space program and about mars in

4
00:00:20,150 --> 00:00:17,840
particular

5
00:00:22,550 --> 00:00:20,160
sure so you're completely right alex

6
00:00:24,790 --> 00:00:22,560
that in the early 20th century it was

7
00:00:28,070 --> 00:00:24,800
sort of self-evident that

8
00:00:29,990 --> 00:00:28,080
we assumed that when we eventually got

9
00:00:31,669 --> 00:00:30,000
to mars or when we built a telescope

10
00:00:33,590 --> 00:00:31,679
that was powerful enough to see things

11
00:00:35,350 --> 00:00:33,600
that we would see ruins in the remains

12
00:00:36,870 --> 00:00:35,360
of a civilization or even one that still

13
00:00:39,430 --> 00:00:36,880

existed

14

00:00:41,910 --> 00:00:39,440

so here then is gordon and dr john

15

00:00:44,869 --> 00:00:41,920

brandenburg on reclaiming

16

00:00:45,730 --> 00:00:44,879

space history

17

00:00:47,590 --> 00:00:45,740

mars

18

00:00:50,229 --> 00:00:47,600

[Music]

19

00:00:52,869 --> 00:00:50,239

always fascinated me as a

20

00:00:56,229 --> 00:00:52,879

child growing up in the space age

21

00:00:58,470 --> 00:00:56,239

in america where we were

22

00:01:00,150 --> 00:00:58,480

mesmerized by the mercury you know the

23

00:01:02,389 --> 00:01:00,160

moon race the

24

00:01:04,469 --> 00:01:02,399

whole drama of the mercury program the

25

00:01:06,390 --> 00:01:04,479

gemini program following the apollo the

26

00:01:10,070 --> 00:01:06,400

landing on the moon

27

00:01:10,950 --> 00:01:10,080

um and watching of course the russians

28

00:01:13,510 --> 00:01:10,960

um

29

00:01:15,749 --> 00:01:13,520

be ahead at first and then struggle you

30

00:01:17,749 --> 00:01:15,759

know the very brave cosmonauts

31

00:01:19,990 --> 00:01:17,759

uh out there in space also and uh

32

00:01:21,270 --> 00:01:20,000

finally fall behind with the destruction

33

00:01:23,830 --> 00:01:21,280

of their

34

00:01:25,350 --> 00:01:23,840

big n1 rocket so they couldn't make it

35

00:01:27,190 --> 00:01:25,360

make make they couldn't make it to the

36

00:01:28,870 --> 00:01:27,200

moon whereas we did

37

00:01:30,310 --> 00:01:28,880

and in the middle of this is werner von

38

00:01:33,030 --> 00:01:30,320

braun

39

00:01:36,069 --> 00:01:33,040
a rather anomalous uh character

40

00:01:37,749 --> 00:01:36,079
uh didn't he used to work for the nazis

41

00:01:39,429 --> 00:01:37,759
sort of the question that came to my

42

00:01:41,749 --> 00:01:39,439
mind when i was a kid

43

00:01:43,830 --> 00:01:41,759
and uh but there he was

44

00:01:44,870 --> 00:01:43,840
now transformed into an all-american

45

00:01:46,389 --> 00:01:44,880
hero

46

00:01:48,310 --> 00:01:46,399
and uh

47

00:01:49,990 --> 00:01:48,320
he wants to go to the moon but he really

48

00:01:52,630 --> 00:01:50,000
wants to go to mars

49

00:01:54,710 --> 00:01:52,640
that is his real goal

50

00:01:56,630 --> 00:01:54,720
and then he says something very cryptic

51
00:01:58,149 --> 00:01:56,640
in the middle after landing on the moon

52
00:02:00,230 --> 00:01:58,159
successfully

53
00:02:02,389 --> 00:02:00,240
he says um

54
00:02:03,990 --> 00:02:02,399
well the first people we should send to

55
00:02:08,630 --> 00:02:04,000
um

56
00:02:14,309 --> 00:02:11,990
and i remember hearing

57
00:02:16,869 --> 00:02:14,319
of that when i was young and thinking

58
00:02:20,550 --> 00:02:16,879
that's a peculiar thing to say

59
00:02:26,150 --> 00:02:23,830
uh the nasa

60
00:02:28,390 --> 00:02:26,160
the u.s government was heavily

61
00:02:31,110 --> 00:02:28,400
influenced by the work of pushable

62
00:02:32,790 --> 00:02:31,120
lowell as it turns out

63
00:02:36,309 --> 00:02:32,800

it and

64

00:02:37,750 --> 00:02:36,319
even though many scientists uh

65

00:02:41,110 --> 00:02:37,760
basically

66

00:02:43,830 --> 00:02:41,120
discarded the work of percival lowell

67

00:02:46,949 --> 00:02:43,840
uh and of course the canals

68

00:02:48,830 --> 00:02:46,959
within the u.s government

69

00:02:52,150 --> 00:02:48,840
there was

70

00:02:54,309 --> 00:02:52,160
um a kind of view that

71

00:02:57,190 --> 00:02:54,319
well personal law may very well have

72

00:03:00,070 --> 00:02:57,200
been right uh because it mars gave the

73

00:03:03,430 --> 00:03:00,080
appearance of being a

74

00:03:05,110 --> 00:03:03,440
um a planet that was once like earth i

75

00:03:09,030 --> 00:03:05,120
mean we found uh

76

00:03:10,630 --> 00:03:09,040

upon investigation on mars um

77

00:03:13,030 --> 00:03:10,640

uh well the first thing we saw was

78

00:03:14,790 --> 00:03:13,040

craters and that was uh

79

00:03:16,790 --> 00:03:14,800

when we we didn't see any canals we

80

00:03:18,790 --> 00:03:16,800

found a lot of craters

81

00:03:21,110 --> 00:03:18,800

and so we're we're sending probes to

82

00:03:24,149 --> 00:03:21,120

mars in addition to the big moon ray the

83

00:03:25,350 --> 00:03:24,159

big drama of the moon race

84

00:03:28,390 --> 00:03:25,360

and it's

85

00:03:30,630 --> 00:03:28,400

every every american knew that our

86

00:03:32,789 --> 00:03:30,640

eventual goal was to go to mars

87

00:03:34,630 --> 00:03:32,799

and all the science fiction movies

88

00:03:36,390 --> 00:03:34,640

were about going to mars and finding

89

00:03:39,030 --> 00:03:36,400

civilizations there and everything like

90

00:03:40,869 --> 00:03:39,040

that was all very uh i don't know how

91

00:03:42,869 --> 00:03:40,879

many grade b science fiction movies i

92

00:03:45,509 --> 00:03:42,879

saw about going to mars

93

00:03:47,350 --> 00:03:45,519

as a kid and uh saturday afternoon

94

00:03:49,270 --> 00:03:47,360

matinee

95

00:03:51,350 --> 00:03:49,280

popcorn and a hot dog

96

00:03:52,869 --> 00:03:51,360

for lunch that was

97

00:03:55,190 --> 00:03:52,879

that was the way to spend the afternoon

98

00:03:55,990 --> 00:03:55,200

in my hometown yeah i mean

99

00:03:58,149 --> 00:03:56,000

it's

100

00:04:00,149 --> 00:03:58,159

the verna von braun court is interesting

101
00:04:02,710 --> 00:04:00,159
and and when you mention the sort of

102
00:04:04,470 --> 00:04:02,720
widespread belief in canals on mars it

103
00:04:06,309 --> 00:04:04,480
really was widespread i mean the new

104
00:04:08,470 --> 00:04:06,319
york times in in i believe it was the

105
00:04:10,550 --> 00:04:08,480
30s was running articles about

106
00:04:12,789 --> 00:04:10,560
hypothetically how we could communicate

107
00:04:15,030 --> 00:04:12,799
with these evident cultures on mars by

108
00:04:17,590 --> 00:04:15,040
doing things like burning pie

109
00:04:19,030 --> 00:04:17,600
into the grasslands in eurasia so that

110
00:04:20,469 --> 00:04:19,040
they could potentially see it so it's

111
00:04:22,069 --> 00:04:20,479
always struck me very interesting and

112
00:04:23,430 --> 00:04:22,079
we'll get onto this story

113
00:04:24,870 --> 00:04:23,440

in the show it's always struck me as

114

00:04:26,550 --> 00:04:24,880

very interesting in the first half of

115

00:04:28,390 --> 00:04:26,560

the 20th century

116

00:04:31,270 --> 00:04:28,400

it was take it well not maybe first

117

00:04:32,629 --> 00:04:31,280

third taken is self-evident and not that

118

00:04:34,390 --> 00:04:32,639

big of a deal

119

00:04:36,550 --> 00:04:34,400

that there was either an existing

120

00:04:37,510 --> 00:04:36,560

culture on mars or previous cultures on

121

00:04:41,110 --> 00:04:37,520

mars

122

00:04:42,469 --> 00:04:41,120

uh and it's only as as we move into

123

00:04:44,870 --> 00:04:42,479

the cold war

124

00:04:46,629 --> 00:04:44,880

period or the post-war period

125

00:04:48,310 --> 00:04:46,639

that um

126

00:04:51,350 --> 00:04:48,320

that starts to get a bit fishy but it's

127

00:04:52,950 --> 00:04:51,360

important your um verna von braun quote

128

00:04:56,550 --> 00:04:52,960

is correct it's not just there i mean

129

00:04:59,510 --> 00:04:56,560

it's nasa's founding documents well

130

00:05:01,749 --> 00:04:59,520

the think tanks that were providing

131

00:05:04,710 --> 00:05:01,759

sort of strategy to nasa

132

00:05:06,150 --> 00:05:04,720

uh had in them the expectation that we

133

00:05:08,469 --> 00:05:06,160

would find

134

00:05:10,390 --> 00:05:08,479

um ruined artifacts it was part of

135

00:05:13,110 --> 00:05:10,400

nasa's dna from the beginning that we

136

00:05:15,450 --> 00:05:13,120

were it was our expectation to find