

FORECAST OF UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES -- OCTOBER 2009

60 Years Ago – 1949

October 1: Long Range Proving Ground at Cape Canaveral, Florida, activated.

55 Years Ago - 1954

October 5: Naval Research Laboratory Aerobee rocket took first photograph of complete hurricane located off Texas gulf, launched from White Sands Proving Grounds, NM.

50 Years Ago - 1959

October 4: Luna 3 launched by Vostok , 0224 UTC, Baikonur, USSR -- first probe to circle the Moon with first pictures of the dark side of the Moon.

October 4: Little Joe 1, rest of integration of booster and Mercury Capsule, 6:00 p.m., EDT, Wallops Island, VA.

October 13: Explorer 7 launched by Juno 2, 11:31 a.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

45 Years Ago - 1964

October 4: Explorer 21 (IMP 2) launched by Thor Delta, 10:45 p.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

October 9: Explorer 22 (Beacon Explorer B) launched by Scout, shortly after 11:00 p.m., PDT, Vandenberg AFB.

October 12: Voshkod 1, cosmonauts Vladimir M. Komarov, Konstantin P. Feoktistov, and Boris B. Yegorov aboard, 0726 UTC, Baikonur, USSR. first-three man crew in space. First civilian in space – Feoktistov.

October 30: NASA pilot Joseph Walker conducts first flight in Lunar Landing Research Vehicle (LLRV).

October 31: First NASA astronaut or trainee to lose life, Theodore Freeman.

40 Years Ago – 1969

October 1: ESRO 1B launched by Scout, 6:20 p.m., EDT, Vandenberg AFB.

October 11-13: First simultaneous flight of three spacecraft: Soyuz 6, 7, and 8. Seven cosmonauts in orbit at the same time. Soyuz 6 (1117 UTC - 11th). Crew: Georgi S. Shonin and Valeri N. Kubasov.; Soyuz 7 (1048 UTC - 12th). ; Crew: Anatoliy V. Filipchenko, Vladislav N. Volkov and Viktor V. Gorbatko; and Soyuz 8 (1034 UTC - 13th). Crew: Vladimir A. Shatalov and Aleksei S. Yeliseyev. All missions were launched from Baikonur by a Soyuz rocket, USSR.

35 Years Ago – 1974

October 10: Westar 2 launched by Delta, 6:53 p.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

October 15: Ariel 5 launched by Scout, 3:47 a.m., EDT, San Marco Platform, Kenya.

October 25: Fastest lifting body flight (Mach 1.76, 1164 mph), in X-24B, Michael V. Love pilot. Dryden Flight Research Facility, CA.

October 31: Intercosmos 12 launched by Cosmos rocket, 1000 UTC, Plesetsk, USSR.

30 Years Ago - 1979

October 30: Magsat launched by Scout, 9:15 a.m., EST, Vandenberg AFB.

25 Years Ago – 1984

October 5: STS-41G (Space Shuttle *Challenger*) launched from KSC, 7:03 a.m., EDT. Crew: Robert L. Crippen, Jon A. McBride, Kathryn D. Sullivan, Sally K. Ride, David C. Leestma, Paul D. Scully-Power, and Marc Garneau (Canada). Earth Radiation Budget Satellite (ERBS) deployed less than nine hours into flight. Office of Space and Terrestrial Applications-3 (OSTA-3) carried three experiments in payload bay. First space flight to include two women; (S. Ride/K. Sullivan). First American woman to walk in space (K. Sullivan). First Canadian payload specialist to fly in space. (M. Garneau). First oceanographer in space and the first oceanographer to observe the oceans from space (P. Scully-Power) Landed at KSC, October 13, 12:26 p.m., EDT. Mission Duration: 8 days, 5 hours, 23 minutes.

20 Years Ago – 1989

October 18: STS-34 (Space Shuttle *Atlantis*) launched, 12:53 p.m., EDT, from KSC, Pad 39B, Crew: Donald E. Williams, Michael J. McCulley, Franklin R. Chang-Diaz, Shannon W. Lucid and Ellen S. Baker. Landed at Edwards Air Force Base, CA, October 23, 9:32 a.m., PDT. Mission Duration: 4 days, 23 hours, 39 minutes.

October 18: Galileo spacecraft launched from STS 34. Rendezvous with Jupiter, July 13, 1995 releasing descent probe.

October 27: Intelsat 602 launched by an Ariane 44L rocket from Kourou, French Guiana at 23:05 UTC.

15 Years Ago – 1994

October: Nimbus 7 was retired after more than 15 years of operation.

October 3: Soyuz TM-20 launched from Baikonur cosmodrome at 22:42 UTC to transport a crew of Russian/European cosmonauts (Alexander S. Viktorenko Yelena V. Kondakova, and German Ulf D. Merbold) and experimental apparatus used by Merbold in ESA's month-long Euromir 94 experiment program. During automatic approach to Mir's front port, the spacecraft yawed unexpectedly. Viktorenko completed a manual docking without additional incident.

October 6: Intelsat 703 launched by Atlas 2AS from Cape Canaveral at 2:35 a.m. EDT.

October 12: Magellan burns up in Venus' atmosphere.

5 Years Ago – 2004

October 14: Soyuz-TMA 5 launched by a Soyuz-U rocket from Baikonur at 03:06 UTC. It carried two Russians (Salizhan Sharipov and Yuri Shargin) and one American astronaut (Leroy Chiao) comprising the International Space Station (ISS) Expedition 10 crew. It docked with the PIRS module of the ISS at 04:25 UTC on October 16 with manual control by the commander after it was determined to be approaching the ISS at an excessive speed.