

FORECAST OF UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES--SEPTEMBER 2010

65 Years Ago - 1945

September 20: Dr. Wernher von Braun and other German scientists arrived in the United States, as part of Operation Paperclip.

September 27: First firing of a full WAC Corporal, reaching an altitude of 235,000 feet, WSPG, NM.

55 Years Ago - 1955

September 9: Project Vanguard approved by Department of Defense, Washington, D.C.

50 Years Ago - 1960

September 8: Marshall Space Flight Center, AL, formally dedicated by President Eisenhower and Mrs. George C. Marshall, Huntsville, AL.

September 13: Discoverer 15 (CORONA Mission 9010) launched By Thor-Agena , 6:13 p.m., EDT, Vandenberg AFB. Identical to Discoverer 13; capsule not recovered due to weather.

September 19: NERV (Nuclear Emulsion Recovery Vehicle) launched on Argo D-8 rocket, reached an altitude of 1,260 miles and was successfully recovered. First NASA launch from Vandenberg AFB.

September 25: Pioneer P-30 (Atlas-Able 5A) failed to orbit, 11:13 a.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla. It was intended to be a lunar orbiter probe, but the mission failed shortly after launch.

45 Years Ago - 1965

September 28: 150th flight of the X-15 (No. 3), pilot John B. McKay, DFRF, CA.

40 Years Ago - 1970

September 12: Luna 16 launched by a Proton K rocket. 1326 UTC, Baikonur, USSR. Softlanded on the moon, September 20. First automated lunar sample retrieval and return to Earth – September 24.

35 Years Ago - 1975

September. 9: Viking 2 Mars orbiter and lander; orbited by Titan 3E, 2:39 p.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

September 26: Intelsat 4A F-1 launched by an Atlas, 8:17 p.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla. It was an improved satellite with double the capacity of previous Intelsats for COMSAT's global commercial communications network.

30 Years Ago - 1980

September 9: GOES-4 orbited by a Delta, 6:27 p.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

25 Years Ago - 1985

September 11: International Cometary Explorer (ICE), Comet Giacobini-Zinner Flyby. First comet encounter.

September 29: Intelsat 5A F-12 launched by Atlas G Centaur, 7:36 p.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

15 Years Ago – 1995

September 7: STS-69 (Space Shuttle *Endeavour*) launched from KSC at 11:09 a.m., EDT. Crew: David M. Walker, Kenneth D. Cockrell, James S. Voss, James H. Newman, and Michael L. Gernhardt. Second flight of the Wake Shield Facility (WSF). First deployment and retrieval of two satellites on the same mission. The other satellite was SPARTAN 201. Landed at KSC September 18 at 7:37 a.m., EDT. Mission Duration: 10 days, 20 hours, 28 minutes.

10 Years Ago – 2000

September 8: STS-106 (Space Shuttle *Atlantis*) launched from KSC at 8:45 a.m. EDT. Crew: Terrence W. Wilcutt, Scott D. Altman, Daniel C. Burbank, Edward T. Lu, Richard A. Mastracchio, Yuri I. Malenchenko (Russia), and Boris V. Morukov (Russia). Prepared International Space Station (ISS) for first crew. Landing at KSC, September 19 at 3:58 a.m. EDT. Mission Duration: 11 days, 19 hours, 12 minutes, 15 seconds.

5 Years Ago – 2005

September 30: Soyuz-TMA 7 was launched by a Soyuz-FG rocket 11:55 pm EDT from Baikonur. It carried American William McArthur, Russian , Valery Tokarev and an American tourist, Greg Olsen to the International Space Station (ISS). It docked with the Pirs module at 05:30 UTC on 03 October automatically. The previously docked Soyuz-TMA 6 separated from the ISS, and soft-landed in Kazakhstan on 10 October, returning that tourist and the two previous astronauts who had inhabited the ISS for six months.