

**1958**

**NASA**  
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS  
AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION  
ESTABLISHED TO DEVELOP  
SPACE EXPLORATION PROGRAM

**1960**

**AUGUST 12**  
*ECHO I*, FIRST PASSIVE  
COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE LAUNCHED

**1960'S**

ATLAS INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC  
MISSILE, NEVER USED AS A WEAPON,  
SERVES AS LAUNCH SYSTEM  
FOR SPACE MISSIONS

**1961**

**APRIL 12**



YURI GAGARIN OF USSR  
BECOMES FIRST MAN IN SPACE

**1961**

FIRST WORDS SPOKEN FROM SPACE  
*I SEE EARTH. IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL!*  
YURI GAGARIN

**1961**

**MAY 5**  
FIRST AMERICAN IN SPACE  
IS ALAN B. SHEPARD, JR.  
IN MERCURY SPACECRAFT *FREEDOM 7*

**1962**

**FEBRUARY 20**  
JOHN GLENN, JR.  
BECOMES FIRST AMERICAN TO ORBIT EARTH  
IN MERCURY *FRIENDSHIP 7*



**PYLON 9**

**Monument to a Century of Flight**  
Kitty Hawk, North Carolina