

# KNIGHTMUN XXI



November 4th - 6th, 2022

Hello Delegates,

My name is Cross, your director for this crisis committee, and welcome to For All MUnkind! I am a Senior here at UCF majoring in Information Technology with a minor in History. I've been doing Model UN for a few years now at UCF and am glad to have experienced the interesting scenarios and people that come out of these conferences. I can't wait to see what you all come up with for your arcs and for this alternate version of NASA.

This committee will be based on the show For All Mankind, namely the first two seasons or even all three depending on how far we go in the committee. In this alternate universe famous Soviet rocket scientist and leader of the Soviet space program Sergei Korolev lives longer than in reality, and is able to push the Soviets into become first to the moon. For the purposes of the committee, instead of a single director NASA will be headed up by a council of board members hand-picked from various roles within NASA. From there it will be a neck and neck race to see who can reach major milestones in the space race first and ultimately claim victory.

I wish you the best of luck on the race to the moon and beyond, and should you have any questions feel free to reach out.

Best, Cross Gilmore ([crossgilmore@knights.ucf.edu](mailto:crossgilmore@knights.ucf.edu))

## **Crisis Guide**

Welcome to the For All MUNkind crisis committee! These committees typically represent a very different strain of Model United Nations than the formality of the General Assembly. The committee will operate as a faster-paced version of a standard MUN committee. The sense of urgency that usually accompanies an unmoderated caucus will pervade the atmosphere of the room throughout the day. After short introductory speeches, you will be in moderated or unmoderated caucus for the majority of the conference. Crisis should feel free-flowing and dynamic, as you embody a diverse group of officials concerned about your interest groups' future. Delegates will receive a crisis update approximately every twenty minutes, but the frequency will vary depending on the flow of the committee.

There will be two main forms of action that can be taken in committee: Committee Directives and Crisis Notes. Committee directives force the entire committee to take unified action, and they require a 3:5 majority to pass. This is the most powerful form of action your committee can take. Crisis notes can be used for a multitude of purposes. Delegates may use crisis notes to ask the crisis staff for information, arrange private meetings with other delegates, or take unilateral action. Requests will only be fulfilled in accordance with the given delegate's portfolio powers and will be sent to crisis staff without committee debate. If a select group of individuals would like to take joint action without committee approval, they may submit a single note with the signatures of all participants.

## Committee History

### The Space Race

Following the allied victory in World War II, the Soviet Union and United States were left as ideological opposites in contest to dominate the new post-war landscape. There would be a series of events and proxy wars for these superpowers to battle out within, but the most popularized and technologically significant was the Space Race. The Space Race provided the perfect outlet for showing the world a superpower's superiority over the other. The technological achievements showed who was more advanced, their astronauts were paraded as prime examples of their way of life, and the public interest in going to space and the moon was much more appealing than the usual armament buildups that would also be a normal occurrence in the Cold War.

The first satellite and manmade object into space was the Soviet Sputnik probe, launched October 1957. While a simple device, it proved Soviet nuclear missile launch capability and caught Americans off guard. This created public pressure to close the gap in capability, and thus the Space Race truly began. The following year the military-made explorer 1, designed by Wernher Von Braun, was launched becoming the first US satellite in space. Also that year then President Eisenhower signed an order creating the National Aeronautics and Space Administration or NASA.

### Mercury

From 1958-1963 Project Mercury would be NASA's first attempt at human spaceflight. The program would advance US technological achievements with the Mercury capsule and ICBMs repurposed for spaceflight. The program also served as an opportunity

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for many experts to learn what would be needed for further missions into space and the issues they could run into. Pressurized suit requirements and dangerous radiation and micrometeoroid impacts would influence further designs for farther manned missions. An interesting footnote for this program was the privately created “Mercury 13”, a group of women who trained to be astronauts separate from NASA who lobbied the government to give women a chance to be astronauts. Perhaps their training could be of use in the future...

Most notably for the Mercury program US Astronaut Alan Shepard would be the first American in space, beat out to being first human in space by Yuri Gagarin by less than a month. The Soviet Union would also boast the first animal in space with famous dog Laika, with the United States having Ham the chimpanzee as their test flight animal. The trend of the Soviet Union narrowly beating the United States to achievements in the space race would hold true into the Apollo era, and perhaps beyond....

### **Gemini**

The Gemini program (1961-1966) was the perfect test site for the needs of Apollo, with the program developing the expertise for EVAs (extra-vehicular activity) orbital maneuvers and ship to ship docking procedures. Originally a slower transition between Mercury and Apollo, the famous Rice speech given by President Kennedy set out the new goal of getting an American to the moon by the end of the decade and set the timetable forwards. A number of other proposals from the Gemini program would be set forth, with only the Skylab being followed through at the end of the Apollo program. Most important to the future missions to the moon, the Gemini astronauts formed the basis for Apollo crews with Aldrin Collins and Armstrong all within the Gemini Astronaut groups.

### Apollo

Finally, the culmination of years of efforts and focus was the Apollo program. The last tests and technologies needed to get to the moon and back all before the timeframe set by President Kennedy. From 1961 on the program would develop the rockets, landers, procedures, and tests needed for the end goal of a man on the moon. While everything remained on schedule, a counter was brewing within the Soviet Union.

In 1966 Sergei Korolev, father of the Soviet space program and head of the effort to get a Soviet on the moon, survives a risky surgery. This keeps the program on track and allows for the successful launch of the Soviet N1 rocket. While apprised of their progress by the CIA, NASAs timetable remains ahead, and they are confident an American will be the first on the moon.

Two months before Apollo 11 is scheduled to land, Apollo 10 with Edward Baldwin, Gordo Stevens, and Fred Talmadge does the final test of the Apollo program: a manned landing run in orbit of the moon. While under fueled, it remained technically possible to land and return at that moment, but the choice is made to abort as planned and return to Earth on schedule.

## **State of the Committee**

Less than a month before Apollo 11 is scheduled to launch a Soviet N1 mission is detected. The CIA marks the mission as an unmanned test and the decision is made to again remain on schedule. Finally on June 26 1969 the unthinkable occurs, the world watches as Soviet Cosmonaut Alexi Leonov becomes the first human to land on the moon. With the narrow but successful landing of Apollo 11 not long after, the Space Race enters a new phase on the moon...

## **Members**

### **Edward Baldwin**

Korean war veteran, test pilot, and astronaut Edward Baldwin was commander of Apollo 10, and believes that the excessive caution of NASA cost them the moon landing.

### **Margo Madison**

Close with Wernher von Braun Margo works in Mission Control and is the first woman to do so, she is also involved in astronaut training.

### **Wernher von Braun**

German scientist and creator of the famous Saturn V rocket, Wernher is closely involved with rocket operations and serves as a public figure for NASA.

### **Thomas Paine**

Administrator of NASA and advisor to President Nixon, Thomas was charged with getting America to the moon first and believes a new goal is necessary to still gain a victory over the Soviets.

### **Molly Cobb**

One of the "Mercury 13" and skilled pilot, her skills may become useful should President Nixon charge NASA with sending women to the moon.

### **Gordo Stevens**

Astronaut and test pilot, Gordo was a crew member on Apollo 10 and would later face scrutiny along with Ed Baldwin for not landing when given the chance.

### **Gene Kranz**

Flight Director of NASA during Apollo and head of mission control, Gene works closely with astronauts and administration alike to keep NASA running.

### **Ellen Wilson**

Ellen is heavily involved in the space industry already as the daughter of the head of an aeronautics company, though she may have further ambitions should the opportunity arise.

### **John Glenn**

Former US astronaut and first American in space, John now serves as advisor to other astronauts and brings his expertise to the program.

### **Neil Armstrong**

Commander of Apollo 11 and second man on the moon. Neil's skilled piloting avoided a disaster for the Apollo 11 mission, and his fame as being the first American on the moon is well known.

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### **Michael Collins**

Astronaut on the Apollo 11 mission Michael Collins remained in the command module and stayed in orbit longer than ordered to confirm the Apollo 11 crew were still alive on the moon.

### **Buzz Aldrin**

Apollo 11 astronaut and third man on the moon, Buzz Aldrin would later become Chief of the Astronaut office.

### **Bill Strausser**

Mission control specialist Bill would support missions from Apollo 11 onwards and provide flight data needed by the crew teams.

### **Larry Wilson**

NASA Engineer suing the Apollo program, Larry may also have political ambitions in the home of the Johnson Space Center in Texas.

### **Danielle Poole**

First African American candidate for a possible female astronaut class Danielle proves her skill as a commander and astronaut and serves as a catalyst for further progressivism at NASA.

### **Shorty Powers**

NASA public affairs office Shorty relays wants from the President and handles the public image of NASA.

### **Tracey Stevens**

Wife to astronaut Gordo Stevens Tracey is a possible female astronaut candidate and experienced pilot in her own right.

### **Karen Baldwin**

Karen is married to Ed Baldwin and has exceptional business skills that could be used for future developments.

**Note:** for further information on the show or the characters outlined here, the following website can be used as a resource: [https://for-all-mankind.fandom.com/wiki/For\\_All\\_Mankind\\_Wiki](https://for-all-mankind.fandom.com/wiki/For_All_Mankind_Wiki)