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## Cat flying in space

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During the flight, electrical impulses were applied to the brain and leg to stimulate the reaction. The capsule was recovered 13 minutes after the rocket caught fire. Most of the data from the mission was of good quality, and Félicette survived the flight, the only cat to survive the spaceflight. The second cat was launched on 24 October, but the mission ended in death. Félicette had the designation C 341 before the flight, and after the flight the media named it Félix, after Félix The Cat. The Centre d'Enseignement et de Recherches de Médecine Aéronautique (CERMA) modified it to the female Félicette and adopted it as its official name. It has been commemorated on postage stamps around the world, and a monument with its likeness is on display at the International Space University. French rocket biological charges were preceded by rats and then monkeys. Background Main article: Animals in space On November 3, 1957, the Soviet Union launched Laika, a strapless dog found on the streets of Moscow, into space on Sputnik 2. She died in space, but was the first animal in Earth orbit. On January 1, 1959, Brazilian Colonel Manuel dos Santos Lage planned to launch a cat named Flamengo aboard the Félix I rocket, but the flight was cancelled due to ethical concerns about the use of the cat. [3] On January 31, 1961, as part of the Mercury project, ham chimpanzee became the first hominid launched into space for a suborbital flight. On November 29, 1961, Enos became the second chimpanzee to be launched into space and the third hominid after cosmonauts Yuri Gagarin and Gherman Titov to reach Earth orbit. The French missile program began in 1961. Véronique rocket flights were restored in 1959 and were operated by the Comité des Recherches Spatiales (CRS). On February 22, 1961, France's base in the Sahara launched a rat named Hector, making France the third country to launch animals into space. [9] Hector had his to the skull, so that neurological activity could be monitored. neurological disorders. rat-laden rockets on 15 and 18 October. French scientists wanted to use larger mammals and chose cats because they already had a significant amount of neurological data on them. [11] [12] Mission selection and training In 1963, the Centre d'Enseignement et de Recherches de Médecine Aéronautique (CERMA) purchased 14 cats from a pet dealer for testing and each animal was selected on the basis of their temperament. All cats were females, for their calmer behavior. Cats were unnamed before launch to reduce the likelihood that scientists would be attached to them. All cats had solid electrodes surgically implanted into the brain to assess neurological activity. Some training in cat spaceflight was similar to training for humans. This was carried out by CERMA and included a high-G three-axis centrifuge chair with simulated rocket noise. Cat-specific training included container closure and experience in withstanding a restraint cloth. The animals trained for about two months; this limit was determined by the risk of polarisation of the electrodes. [17] [further explanation needed] Flight Crew began preparations at the launch site on October 8, 1963. On October 11, the signal in the direction was tested, placing it in a helicopter and tracking it through ground stations. At 12. telemetry in the nasal cone was unsuccessfully tested and then a successful test the next day. There were problems testing beacon guidance on the 14th and 15th, but all the electronics were operating to a satisfactory level on October 16th. On October 17, six feline finalists were selected as candidates for the flight, and a tuxedo cat with the designation C 341 was selected for the flight along with the stock. Weighing 2.5 kg, the C 341 was voted the best of the six finalists due to its calm demeanor and weight. [14] Electrodes were attached to her left and right hind legs to monitor heart activity. Nine electrodes had previously been implanted on her skull: two in the anterior sinus, one in the somatic area, two in the ventral hippocampus, two in the reticular region and two in the cortex of the association. Two electrodes were glued to the front so that electrical impulses could be used for in-flight stimulation. Two microphones, one on her chest and one on the cone of the rocket's nose, monitored her breathing. The launch vehicle was the Véronique A3 47 rocket, manufactured at Vernon in Haute-Normandie. [19] The Véronique rocket came from the German Family of Aggregate rockets from World War II,[21] developed for the International Geophysical Year (French: Année géophysique internationale) in 1957 for biological research. On October 18, 1963, at 8:09 a.m., C 341 was launched into space from the interarmées d'essais spéciaux center in Algeria. [22] The mission was a flight and lasted 13 13 The rocket engine burned for 42 seconds on a hill and the C 341 experienced 9.5 g of acceleration. The nasal cone separated from the rocket and then reached a height of 152 kilometers, and the cat was subjected to five minutes of weightlessness. Parachutes deployed 8 minutes and 55 seconds to take off, using 9 g. Thirteen minutes after the rocket ignited, the helicopter arrived at the cargo. C 341 was safely excavated and the mission made it the first cat to reach space. [25] [26] Results and consequences High-quality data were recorded during flight, other than mesh measurements and re-submission data. Electric shocks were administered up to C 341 at a higher rate than planned. She was alert during the ascent phase due to the payload of the rocket. During the microgravity phase, her heart rate slowed down and her breathing became nominal. A tumultuous re-addition resulted in an increase in her heart rate, but weak data made it difficult to analyze. The flight's biological data was passed on to the media, who named C 341 Félix after a series of cartoons by Félix the Cat. [27] CERMA changed it to female Félicette and adopted its name as official. Félicette was euthanized two months after launch so that scientists could conduct an autopsy to examine her brain. The second cat was launched into space on 24 October by the French. The explosive bolt that released the rocket from the launcher did not work, causing the rocket to fire at an extreme angle. The radio transponder stopped working on the launcher, making it difficult to find the rocket. The helicopter spotted the parachute but was unable to land, so the agency sent ground vehicles. They were unable to get past some barbed wire. The next day, the helicopter was sent back and he managed to land on the spot. The nose cone in which the load was located was badly damaged and the cat died. [19] Of the remaining 12 cats that have been trained, fate 11 is known. One cat's health deteriorated after electrode surgery, so scientists removed it. The group adopted her as a mascot and gave her the name Scoubidou because she had a scoubidou braid around her neck, a popular style at the time. The remaining nine cats were decommissioned at the end of the programme. The monkey known as Martine was launched on March 7, 1967, and Pierrette six days later. They both managed to recover. France completed research on biological cargo at the national level with these flights, but later worked on biological cargoes with the Soviet Union in the 1970s. [28] Legacy According to an article in Space.com 8 November 2017, Félicette's participation in the space race... it was certainly not voluntary, but it was a huge milestone for France, he has just founded the world's third civilian space agency (after the Soviet Union and the US). Félicette's mission helped France enter the space race. Félicette flight was much less popular than other space flights at the time. Burgess and Dubbs believe this is due to pictures of her with electrodes implanted on her skull and a new animal rights movement. Former French colonies have created stamps commemorating flight Félicette. [33] The Comoros Islands issued the stamp in 1992 as one of a series of stamps depicting animals participating in spaceflight; the stamp ironically used the name Félix. In 1997, postage stamps commemorating Félicette and other animals in space were issued in Chad, again under the name Félix. A 1999 stamp in Niger also used the wrong name. [32] [34] The UPS Student Astronomy Club at Université Toulouse III will name its future astronomical observatory in honor of Félicette. It will be the first French observatory entirely managed by students and is due to open in 2021. The Dall-Kirkham telescope with a diameter of 500 mm (focal length 3500 mm) will be housed in a motorized dome with a diameter of 3.90 m. [36] Monument to the Monument While some non-covered animals that traveled in space were celebrated as heroes - chimpanzee Ham was buried in the International Space Hall of Fame in New Mexico, USA, and the Soviet dog Laika has a bronze statue at the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center -, not far from Star City in Russia, more than 50 years after its mission, there was a monument to Félicette. Then, in 2017, Matthew Serge Guy launched a crowdfunding campaign to erect a bronze statue of Félicette to commemorate her contribution to science. The sculpture was designed by sculptor Gill Parker. The initial project depicted a cat at the top of the Earth, and a plaque with the names of the main donors was to be included. [32] [39] In April 2019, Guy announced that the monument was to be located in eastern France at the International Space University. The monument was unveiled on December 18, 2019 as part of the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the University's Master's program. It is 1.5 meters high and depicts Félicette sitting on Earth looking into the sky she once traveled. Guy wrote in the Kickstarter update, "It's crazy that the video I posted online... this has led to this. The internet is sometimes fine. See also Bioastronautics List of microorganisms tested in space Monkeys and monkeys in space Soviet space dogs Zond 5, the first animals to circle the moon (turtles and insects) Reference ^ a b Chatte Félicette. CNES (in French). Accessed July 15, 2015. ^ Malashenkov, Dimitri (October 10, 2002). 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