

"...to reach for new heights and reveal the unknown so that what we do and learn will benefit all humankind."

NASA Vision

NASA

October 1, 1958

On this date, the NACA officially turned over its 7,500 employees and \$300 million in facilities to NASA. The new Agency would now work to lead the Nation in civilian human, satellite, and robotic space programs, as well as aeronautical research.



March 3, 1915

On this date, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) was founded to advise and ultimately supervise U.S. aeronautical research. Its chief product was technical reports that were shared openly throughout the world.



# NASA

1915 - 2015

More than 100 years ago, a small group of aeronautics pioneers saw how other countries were fast outpacing the United States in aircraft research. The Germans, French and Russians were spending millions annually. The United States? \$140,000.

Those pioneers --including staff from the Smithsonian, War Department, Weather Bureau, Naval Aeronautics, Signal Corps and several leading universities -- urged the government to create an advisory group. On March 3, 1915, Congress signed into existence the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, or NACA.

With a tiny budget and no paid staff, the NACA began developing the capabilities our nation needed to regain leadership in aeronautics. During the next few decades, the NACA achieved breakthroughs still used in some form today -- engine cowings, retractable landing gear, airfoil shapes.

When the NACA became NASA in 1958, some of its brightest minds became leaders of the space effort and directors of NASA research centers. One former NACA employee put the first footprints on the Moon. A few original NACA staff still work or consult with NASA.

March 3, 2015 marks 100 years since the NACA's founding and a time to celebrate a legacy entwined with the vision we pursue today.

"...to supervise and direct the scientific study of the problems of flight with a view to their practical solution...."

NACA Charter

