

Permanent Mission to Mars

By

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Summary: The exploration mars mission takes place in the year 2047. It is an era of low LEO and LLO commercial exploration. Significant strides have been made by the commercial industry to haul ordinary citizens as distant as the moon's orbit. The art of "joint International partnerships" to space have been perfected since the "Share the Universe" treaty was signed.

"Wake up Klympo, come on..it's time" whispered Spiler as she squeezed the upper body into her silver cryo-suit. "You sure were dreaming up a storm! especially the last 7 months since the Lagrange-51X jump", as she held ajar her personal-cryo-pod slightly open with her left ankle. "Oh...ahhhh..man, Spi..thanks I feel good; right..I better go check the brain neuron activity analyzer images shortly...how I do miss Mona and the kidos", as he leaped out of his pod just as quickly as it sprung open. By the time he stowed away his cryo suit and sealed the door, Spiler had already sealed the hatch and started dozing-off. "Sweet niner Spi and sorry it will be just a nap for you this time... Klympo turned to the port side to view his other 4 partners peacefully floating about in their ergonomically fitted confines.

As if in initial loss of consciousness, Klympo abruptly came out of it and began to traverse to forward end of the module while simultaneously locking his stare on the remaining clock-time of each crew. "Okay Norm, you're up in 4 short months", as he more impatiently began to make stride towards the control room to check the logs for the last 9 months, where Spiler had left off. "Well, fifteen more months should be slow but I can wait to see the incredible Mars atmosphere; there's just too much on tap to think that far ahead".

As one of the selection criteria for the crew to qualify for this the third follow-on mission to Mars, the individual had to train and achieve literal multi-tasking functions. Through NASA's experimental dynamic pupil detection and communication training system (EDP-DCTS), he subsequently demonstrated a seemingly innate ability to perceive audio, visual data, and active interaction simultaneously from multiple sources with immediate response actions using voice, hand motion and visual movement to respond to the on-board multi-dimensional dialogue intelligent entity (ObMddIE) queries in the vehicle. After a rapid visual scan through the telemetry logs on system health, crew consumables & recovery, journey projections, and timelines, he reviewed snippets of key ultra-real memories in storage and saved several of recent months worth of dreams in the memory storage vacuum (MSV). "How I miss you love! Seems like forever", he whispered. While still in a seeming entranced state, it occurred to him that all his life prior to this was just memories with only thing left which is real at the moment, laid before him.

Glancing down the virtual check-list, stationed in the cool dry air in front of him with the crew member pods in the background, the next item showed and voiced "Mental calibration mission sequence – 15 Minutes duration"

"The president of the United States along with all represented International Partners just signed the Permanent Presence on Mars Initiative Agreement, which had been in the works for the 7 years. This is truly a remarkable day on earth and human kind's history uttered the president. It is not for the selfish interests of a sole nation but for the advancement and expansion of every nation on the face of the planet. Effective immediately, the previously presented mission schedule and revolving annual budget reviewed by this committee and signed by all members, is to take effect. Every mission which will launch for Mars twice a year with the logistics plan to build on the previous, will continue to be indefinitely funded until there is such a presence in the Mars surface and its orbit that it will not only be proven self sustainable but begin a Mars populating civilization which in the long term will expand and adapt beyond Mars. Until such time, which will be assessed by this committee on a recurring 5 year basis, infrastructure, resupplies and increasing crew size capability

will be launched and continue to be built as has been in the carefully laid out plans. Technology for quicker travel, human adaptation, construction, deep space communication and transportation will continue to be a priority and implemented continually. No return missions are planned at this time, until the stated a sustainable and self populating Mars community has been proven and established.

“This is truly a dream come true” uttered Klympo to himself. It is as if he received a galactic jolt of energy. He was suddenly fully alert and just as he began to day dream if just for a moment, a voice sounded over the system all around him with a subtle pulsating glow around him, “I want to personally congratulate you for... – “I know, I just heard it with my own ears” interrupted Klympo, “this is truly a dream come true, it hardly seems real”.

Just as Klympo began to grab a mouthful of air to further elaborate without regard to commander Plinc’s words of excitement, the Caution and Warning system as if overwhelm his thought process, illuminated the touch panels around him in phasing yellow and red while intermittently chirping in a staccato sound. Commander Plinc’s voice began, but abruptly cut off not to be heard again. Slowly exhaling his lung-full of air as if disappointed for the interruption Klympo calmly heard himself saying “System fault status please”. Just as soon as he started querying, a voice and visual 3 dimensional slowly rotating image appeared above him, “primary Oxygen system failure due to electrical short in remote power control module circuit A, operating in secondary mode”.

Focusing his eyes precisely on the glowing module outline within the rotating image, it automatically began to zoom in and display location coordinates and electrical interconnects. “These darn ORUs are not supposed to fail for fifteen years, what the...?”. “Please provide maintenance instruction and spare location he uttered”. Klympo gazed at the checklist again and noticed that it had updated with an unexpected instruction showing “No replacement spares available onboard”.

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