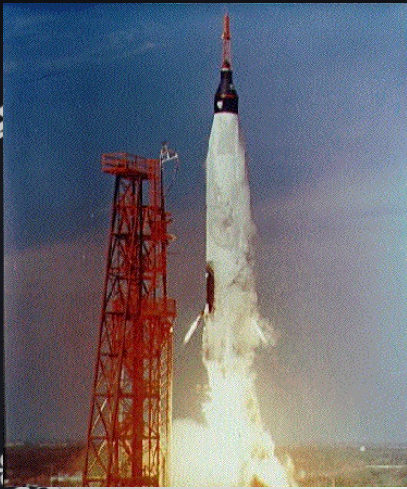




PHOTO JOURNAL: 1961

Jessica Taylor

HIST 222-03



MAJOR EVENTS

- ❖ Mercury Atlas 5 (MA-5) was the second and final orbital qualification flight of the Mercury systems prior to manned orbital flight. On-board was a 17 kg, five-year-old chimpanzee named Enos. Enos performed various psychomotor activities during the flight and was found to be in excellent physical condition following splashdown.
- ❖ The first Freedom Ride took place on May 4, 1961 when seven blacks and six whites left Washington, D.C., on two public buses bound for the Deep South. They intended to test the Supreme Court's ruling in *Boynton v. Virginia* (1960), which declared segregation in interstate bus and rail stations unconstitutional.
- ❖ In the early hours of August 13, 1961, the border crossings between the eastern Soviet Occupied Zone of [Berlin](#) and the western American, British and French controlled sectors began to be sealed. At first barbed wire was used to separate East from West Berlin, but over time this was replaced by concrete slabs and a deadly no man's land that became known as the Berlin Wall.





IMPORTANT PEOPLE

- ❖ On May 5, 1961, Alan Shepard became the first American in space. He flew on a one-person Mercury spacecraft that he named Freedom 7. It launched on a Redstone rocket. On this flight, Shepard did not orbit Earth. He flew 116 miles high and then returned safely. The flight lasted about 15 ½ minutes. The mission was a success.
- ❖ Barack Obama born August 4, 1961.
- ❖ Dashiell Hammett (66), author, died in NYC from throat cancer. In 1983 Diane Johnson authored his biography. His books included "The Maltese Falcon" and "The Thin Man," both of which were turned into films. He wrote "The Maltese Falcon" while living in San Francisco at 891 Post St., which was also given as the address of detective Sam Spade.



35.



POLITICS



- ❖ On January 20, 1961, President John F. Kennedy delivered his inaugural address in which he announced that "we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and success of liberty."
- ❖ Components of Brigade 2506 landed at the Bay of Pigs on April 17, 1961 and were defeated within 2 days by Cuban armed forces under the direct command of Castro.
- ❖ April 17, 1961 President John F. Kennedy awaited word on whether a CIA-sponsored invasion force would topple a pro-Communist regime in Cuba.





POPULAR CULTURE

- ❖ "A horse is a horse, of course, of course, and no one can talk to a horse, of course. That is, of course, unless the horse is the famous Mister Ed." The television show, "Mr. Ed", aired its first episode in October 1961.
- ❖ The 1961 season witnessed one of the most amazing performances in all of baseball as Yankees teammates Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris went head-to-head for the all-time, single-season homerun record set by another slugger in pinstripes named Babe Ruth.
- ❖ Houston defeated San Diego 10-3 for the AFL championship, December 24. Green Bay won its first NFL championship since 1944, defeating the New York Giants 37-0, December 31.



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