

Cosmodrome "Baikonur"

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As you know, the cosmodrome "Baikonur" has a complex, interesting and eventful history, which has absorbed many bright moments of world cosmonautics.



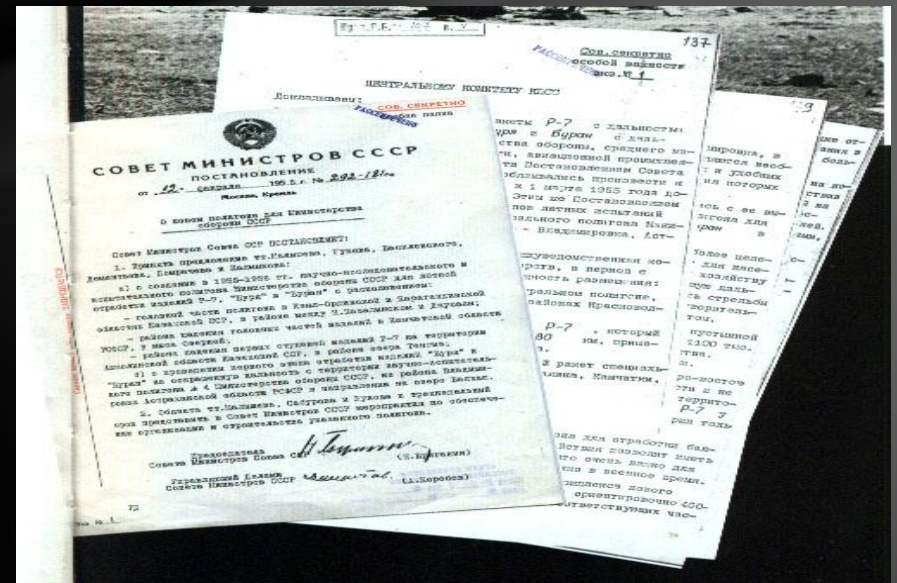
Today, from the height of time looking at the modern development of the spaceport, it is important to remember how to become and develop this unique complex, which by the will of fate become the property Kazakhstan.



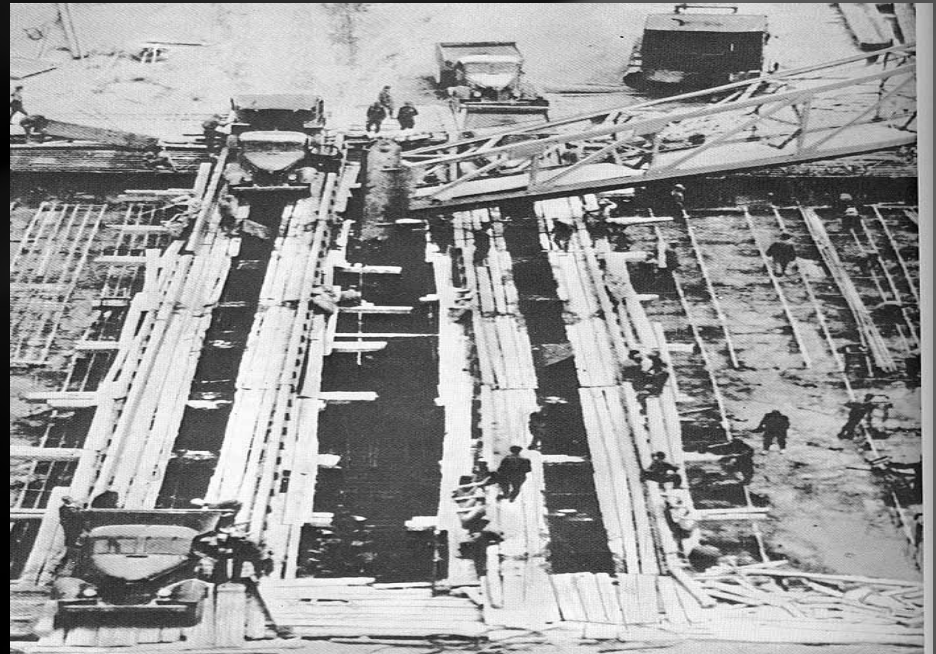
It all started with the fact that in 50-ies in the USSR there is a necessity of development of the first Soviet Intercontinental ballistic missile "R-7" which has required the construction of the cosmodrome "Baikonur". The flight range of the new missile exceeds 8000 km In this connection there was a necessity of equipping a new route, passing in an easterly direction nearly across the Asian part of the Soviet Union.



February 12, 1955, adopted a resolution of the Council of Ministers of the USSR N 292-181 on the construction site. Since then, the complex "Baikonur" has become to develop dynamically and grow into a complex and diverse technological structures required for launches of carrier rockets of different classes. 2 June of the same year the General staff of the Soviet army adopted the organizational structure of the landfill (military unit 11284), designed for testing of rocket and space technology. This date is considered the day of Foundation of the city and spaceport "Baikonur".



The main construction projects were the launching pads of Intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) and technical facilities of the landfill. By November 1956 there were completed construction works on most of the sites and facilities, ensuring readiness for the start of flight tests of ICBMs. Then built the launch complex, the launch, integration and test building, a part of the measuring points, the building of the computing center, implemented a water pipeline, pumping station and power plant. The construction of highways and Railways.



The first launch of a two-stage Intercontinental ballistic missile 8K71 NO. 5L - prototype of a family of missiles R-7 Soyuz - held on 15 may 1957. The first successful launch of 8K71 No. 6 was held on 21 August and 4 October of the same year, opening the era of space exploration, from Baikonur launched launch vehicle 8K71 PS with the first artificial Earth satellite "PS-1".



April 12, 1961 in space was launched spacecraft with the first cosmonaut of the planet Yuri Gagarin. In subsequent years at the site are launch and technical complexes for the preparation and launch of spacecraft using launch vehicles of the lung ("Cyclone-M"), medium ("Union", "Lightning", "Zenith"), heavy ("proton") and super heavy ("Energy") classes, as well as the infrastructure of the landfill.



The history of "Baikonur" is the story of world rocket production and development of complex engineering. The first launcher Soyuz launch vehicle was put into operation in 1957, the second, similar to her - in 1961. Two launcher PH "Cyclone-M" were put into operation in 1967. The first launcher "proton" was put into operation in 1965, second in 1966 and two more - in 1979. By and large, the Baikonur cosmodrome has made an enormous contribution to the history of development of mankind space. Here it is necessary to remember the launches of carrier rockets proton with interplanetary stations to the moon, Venus, Mars and long-duration orbital stations "Salyut" and "Mir". The Baikonur cosmodrome has been used for the implementation of space projects such as Vostok, Voskhod, Salyut, MIR, "Mars", "Venus", "Moon" and "Energy-Buran".

The greatest role Baikonur cosmodrome played in implementing the project "MIR". It was attended by about 220 organizations and 80 scientific research institutions. At the station "Mir" was visited by 104 people including 62 foreigners. In the field of medicine, biology, engineering and astrophysics have been conducted over 31000 experiments, as well as 64 docking with the cargo spacecraft "Progress", 31 - with a Soyuz spacecraft, and in the framework of the program "NASA WORLD" - 9 dockings with the American "Shuttle". To the station were delivered 170 tons of various cargo and returned to Earth more than 4700 kg with experimental results. This is an integral part of world history, and the name "Baikonur" is inscribed in its annals in Golden letters.

In 1994 between Kazakhstan and Russia were signed two life-changing for "Baikonur" document - an Agreement between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Lika Kazakhstan about main principles and conditions of use of cosmodrome "Baikonur" from 28 March 1994 and lease Agreement of the Baikonur complex between the governments of the two countries, dated 10 December 1994. According to these documents, the complex was leased to the Russian side for 20 years. Thus was created the legal basis of relations between the two States for further use. "Baikonur" has found a second wind. During the period between Kazakhstan and Russia was signed more than thirty international treaties and agreements governing space and socio-legal activity in the rental space complex.

9 January 2004 by the presidents of Kazakhstan and Russia opened a new important stage in the functioning of "Baikonur", signed in Astana the agreement between the two countries on the effective use of this space complex. In a joint statement dated 2 June 2005, the two presidents once again emphasized the zeros that "the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation will continue to do everything necessary to the cosmodrome "Baikonur" has remained at the forefront of development of world Astronautics, served as a symbol of scientific progress, a vivid evidence of the multifaceted and mutually beneficial cooperation between **Kazakhstan and Russia**".

Thus, today, Baikonur, one of the leading international space harbours, confidently occupies a leading position in the world by number of space launches. It accounts for over a quarter of all launches. In addition, spaceport tied to the implementation of more than 70 percent of Russian, a significant portion of international space programs. Currently on the initiative of the head of state focused on the transition from interim benefits from the rental of the Baikonur complex to implement at the Baikonur long-term cooperation with Russia space programs and projects.



This will contribute to the development of our space science and new technologies and have a special significance, because from year to year world space industry is growing rapidly, becoming one of the most promising and lucrative segments of the global economy. Therefore, for Kazakhstan, which set itself the strategic goal to become the most developed, technologically advanced and competitive countries in the world, the creation and development of private space industry has a special significance. The only way to keep up with the times and make efficient progress in its development.



