

52nd IAA HISTORY OF ASTRONAUTICS SYMPOSIUM (E4)
Memoirs & Organizational Histories (1)

Author: Mr. Christian Lardier
Institut Français d'Histoire de l'Espace, France, christian.lardier@orange.fr

THE STATE COMMISSIONS FOR THE ROCKETS AND SATELLITES PROGRAMS IN SOVIET
UNION

Abstract

Rocket and satellite programs in the USSR have always been under the direction of a government commission led by a senior figure who coordinates the work, makes the decisions and gives the green light to the launches. This commission is appointed by decree of the Central Committee and the Council of Ministers. It includes customers and main designers. In the field of rockets, the first commission for launching of V-2 was appointed on July 26, 1947 by Decree No. 2643-818: it includes General N D Yakovlev, Chief Artillery Officer at the Ministry of Defense (Chairman), D F Usinov (Minister of Armaments), S N Shishkin (Deputy Minister of the Aviation Industry), N I Vorontsov (Deputy Minister of communications means Industry), V P Terentiev (Deputy Minister of Naval Industry), N I Kotchnov (Deputy Minister of Machinery and Instrumentation), M K Soukov (Chief of GlavKislod), S I Vetchkin (7th Glavka Chief of the Ministry of Armament), General V I Vinogradov (Chief Staff of the Rear the Army), General M P Vorobiev (Chief of Armies of Military Engineering), General P F Jigarev (Deputy Air Force), I A Serov (Deputy NKVD). Subsequently, all rocket developments will have their own state commission. In the area of satellites, the first state commission for the launch of Sputnik was appointed on 31 August 1956 by Decree No. 1239-630: it includes V M Riabikov, president of the Special Committee (chairman), Marshal M I Nedeline (Deputy Defense Minister for Armament), K N Roudnev (Deputy Minister of Armaments), Marshal I T Peresypkine (Head of communications in Defense Ministry), A G Mrykine (Deputy Chief of Rocket Armaments at the Ministry of Defense), S M Vladimirsky (Deputy Minister of Radio Industry), G R Oudarov (Deputy Minister of Machinery), General A I Nesterenko (Director of Baikonur), G N Pachkov (Special Committee), main designers S P Korolev (OKB -1), V P Glushko (OKB-456), M S Ryazansky and N A Piliugin (NII-885), V I Kuznetsov (NII-944), V P Barmine (KBOM). Another State Commission was appointed on 9 September 1960 by Decree No. 999-414 for the launching of objects M (Martian probes of October 1960). The State Commission for the first human flight of Vostok-1 was, for its part, appointed by Decree No. P310 / 142 of 24 November 1960 of the Presidium of the Central Committee. The purpose of this presentation is to discuss the history of State Commissions and their composition.