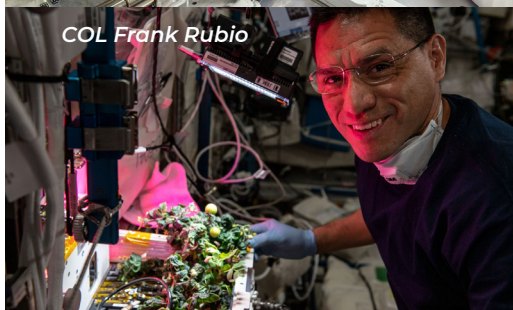


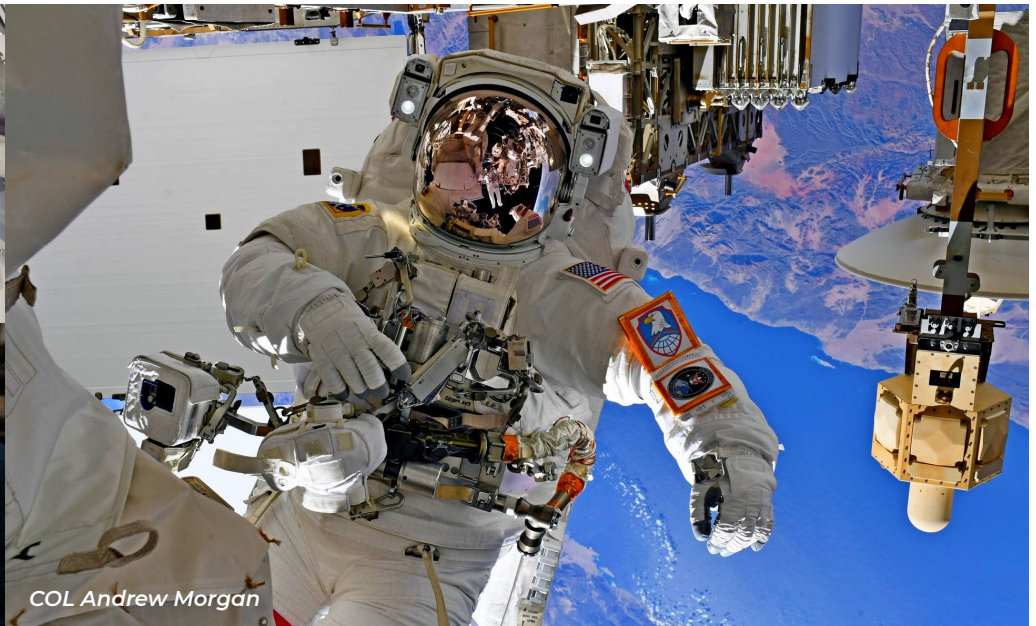
UNITED STATES ARMY NASA DETACHMENT



MAJ Derrick Gough

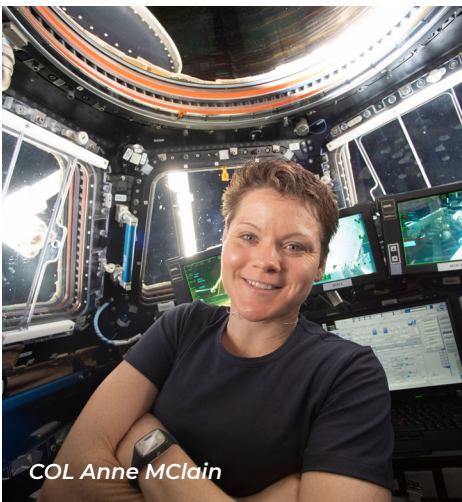


COL Frank Rubio



COL Andrew Morgan

Assist NASA by providing flight crew and engineering, scientific and operational expertise in support of human spacelift



COL Anne McClain

The U.S. Army's extensive involvement in the nation's space program and close work with NASA dates to 1958 and use of the Army's Jupiter-C rocket to launch Explorer 1, the United States' first satellite. An Army rocket was also chosen to carry the first American astronaut into space in 1961.

Throughout the years, NASA has selected 19 Army astronauts to fly and support the peaceful exploration of space.

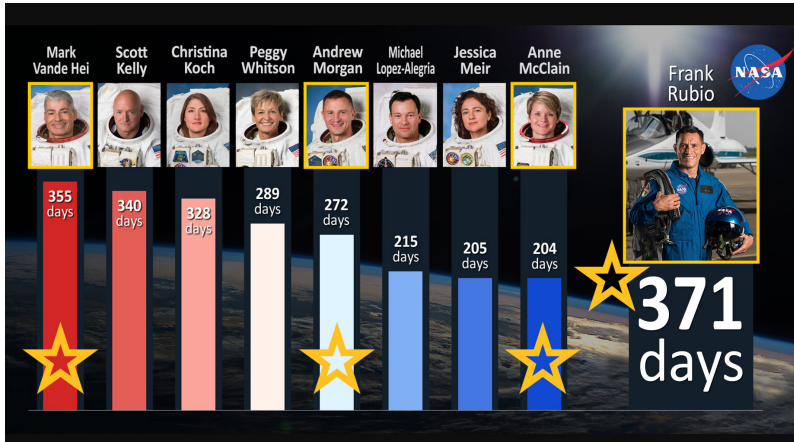
Today, Army astronauts and FA40As provide Army space expertise and leadership to NASA's

human space flight programs of record, low-earth orbit, and deep space exploration initiatives.

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command is the proponent for the Army astronaut program and provides support to NASA with an Army detachment assigned to Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.

- Retired BG Robert L. Stewart became the Army's first astronaut in 1979.
- There are currently three active-duty Army astronauts.
- Col. Frank Rubio holds the U.S. record for the longest duration single mission at 371 days.
- The U.S. record for second longest duration single mission is held by another Army officer, retired Col. Mark Vande Hei at 353 days.
- Col. Drew Morgan was selected by the Army for garrison command and assumed command of the Army Garrison, Kwajalein Atoll in June 2023.





The U.S. Army NASA Detachment is a subordinate element to U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command. Army astronauts are detailed to NASA for the duration of their assignment as astronauts.

The detachment is located at the Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas. In addition to the three astronauts, there are two FA40A space operations officers and one Department of the Army civilian who provide administrative, operational, and logistical support.

FA40As fulfill a variety of strategic roles, such as leading integration and operations for NASA crew launch and landing campaigns, leading test teams for Artemis test series, and serving as capsule communicators. They bring highly valuable knowledge, competencies, and attributes from their Army experiences and in performing their duties at NASA they also learn how to leverage sister agency capabilities as well as problem solving methodologies to support the USASMDC Campaign Support Plan and advance the National Space Policy and National Security Space Strategy.

Although the Army NASA detachment comprises only a tiny fraction of Army space assets, they

have an outsized impact on both NASA and the Army. They inform Army space requirements and doctrine and are key to maintaining relationships with space industry partners.

Army astronauts compete with their peers from other services and civilians for selection directly by NASA. Then they are assigned to the detachment. The screening process is around 18 months. More information can be found at <https://www.nasa.gov/humans-in-space/astronauts/become-an-astronaut/>.

Current Army astronauts are training for missions to the International Space Station aboard the SpaceX Dragon, Boeing Starliner and Russian Soyuz. They are also part of the Artemis Corps, the group of astronauts who will fly modern spacecraft back to the moon. During missions to space, tasks they perform include:

CURRENT ARMY ASTRONAUTS

COL FRANK RUBIO (M.D.)

Detachment Commander

(Medical Corps)

- Space flight – ISS Expeditions 67, 68, and 69
- Space walks (three)
- Former aviator: UH-60
- Medical doctor
- Airborne qualified
- Combat veteran
- West Point, class of 1998

COL ANNE MCCLAIN

(Aviation)

- Commander, Crew-10
- Space flight – ISS Expeditions 58, 59, and 72
- Space walks (two)
- Aviator: OH-45D, UH-60, and C-12 pilot
- Test pilot
- Air assault
- Combat veteran
- West Point, class of 2002

biomedical research, hardware and technology experiments, extra-vehicular activity (space walks), and spacecraft maintenance. Additionally, they conduct public affairs outreach/engagement, serving as diplomats for NASA's human spaceflight program, and the U.S. Army.



LTC Nicholas Holtz, Keira Hardy, and MAJ Derrick Gough



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