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Two-Minute Drill



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Out of This World

Forty years ago two Americans walked, for the first time, on a world other than the earth.

Behind this incredible achievement was the collective effort of over 400,000 professionals. It is estimated that 1 out of every 3 people living at that time watched the event on television.

The space ship in which the astronauts rode had over 6 million moving parts. Neil Armstrong estimated that the probability of a successful mission was 50-50. The two men who walked on the moon (Armstrong and Aldrin) carried slide rules in their pockets. The pilot of the Columbia Command Module (Collins) navigated space by using a sextant pointed at the stars.

There were three computers on board, each with the equivalent memory to today's cell phone. Landing at Sea of Tranquility, the Lunar Module (Eagle) had only 15 seconds of fuel left in its tank.

Marvelous things happen, transformative change happens, when leaders communicate an enlarged vision that excites extraordinary performance:

"Now is the time to take longer strides, time for a new American enterprise, time for this nation to take a leading role.... I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the earth."

- President John F. Kennedy,

"We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do these other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard."

- President Kennedy

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Ask yourself:

How do I enlarge the vision for those I lead? How do I excite them to achieve beyond expectations...to "take longer strides"?

What risks am I willing to take to achieve extraordinary things in my life?