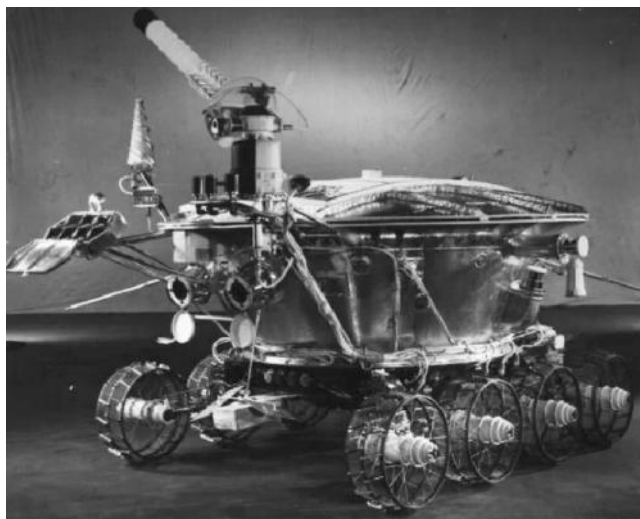


Lunokhod: Secret Report

Lunokhod 1 was the first of two unmanned lunar rovers landed on the Moon by the Soviet Union as part of its Lunokhod program. The *Luna 17* spacecraft carried *Lunokhod 1* to the Moon in 1970. *Lunokhod 1* was the first remote-controlled robot "rover" to freely move across the surface of an astronomical object beyond the Earth. Lunokhod 0, the previous and first attempt to do so, launched in February 1969 but failed to reach orbit.

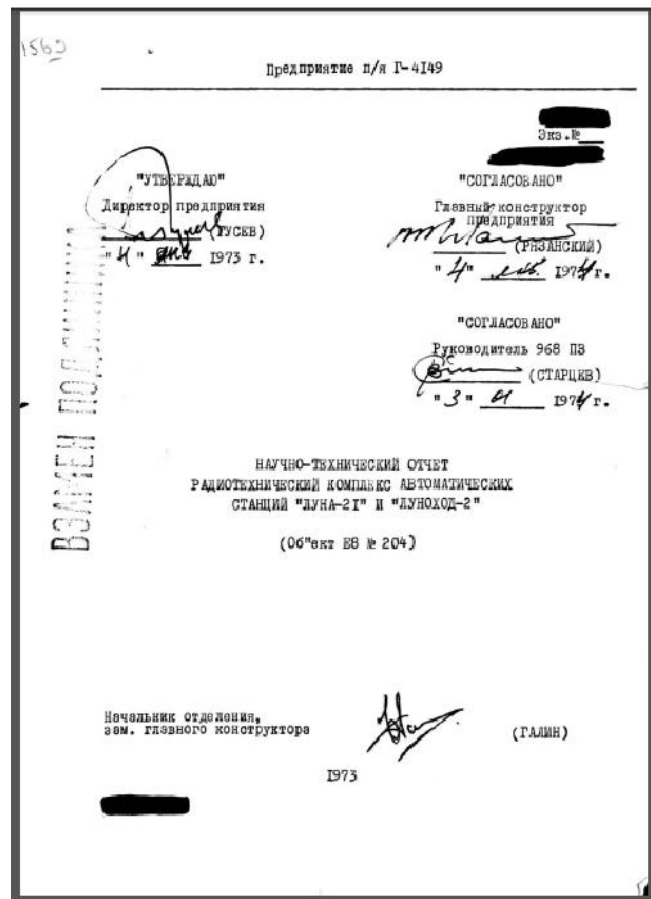


Lunokhod 1

Luna 17 was launched on November 10, 1970 at 14:44:01 UTC. After reaching earth parking orbit, the final stage of *Luna 17*'s launching rocket fired to place it into a trajectory towards the Moon (1970-11-10 at 14:54 UTC). After two course correction maneuvers (on November 12 and 14), it entered lunar orbit on November 15, 1970 at 22:00 UTC. The spacecraft softly landed on the Moon in the Sea of Rains. The spacecraft had dual ramps by which the payload, *Lunokhod 1*, descended to the lunar surface.

During its 322 Earth days of operations, *Lunokhod 1* travelled 10,540 metres (6.55 miles) and returned more than 20,000 TV images and 206 high-resolution panoramas. In addition, it performed 25 lunar soil analyses with its RIFMA x-ray fluorescence spectrometer and used its penetrometer at 500 different locations.

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First Page of (early) Secret Report about Lunokhod- 1

In 2017 Report about the mission was open to free access in the internet. However, the report has some censoring, all photos from the report are removed. Anyway, it is very interesting historic document that you may download from antentop. The document in Russian.

Link for download:

http://www.antentop.org/library/shelf_lunokhod.htm

Ownership of *Lunokhod 2* and the *Luna 21* lander was sold by the Lavochkin Association for US \$ 68,500 in December 1993 at a Sotheby's auction in New York. The buyer was computer gaming entrepreneur and astronaut's son Richard Garriott, who is also known by the name of his gaming character Lord British...

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