When did the president predict the future?

“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. No single space project ... will be more exciting, or more impressive to mankind, or more important ... and none will be so difficult or expensive to accomplish.”
—John F. Kennedy, May 1961

Who was the first American to man a space mission? Why did his outfit matter?
Find out in... THE AMERICAN PRESIDENCY on 3 Center

Find Yourself in American History

1. Find the objects and people chosen to fit your personality.
2. Use the images and quotes to help your search.
3. Start on the 1st floor and move up through the Museum.

Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center
1903

Riding along in my automobile...
“All attempts heretofore to go overland in an automobile have come to grief.” —San Francisco Examiner May 23, 1903

Who drove this car and where were they going?
What were the roads like?
Find out in... AMERICA ON THE MOVE on 1 East

1860

Where can you ride a buffalo?
“Near Like-a-Fishhook Village, wood was rather scarce because we sold so much of it to steam-boats.” —Buffalo Bird Woman

How did American Indian women and others “ride” the rivers?
Find out in... ON THE WATER on 1 East

1814

O, Say Can You See...
“All attempts heretofore to go overland in an automobile have come to grief.” —San Francisco Examiner May 23, 1903

How did Francis Scott Key see the Star-Spangled Banner?
Find out in... THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER on 1 East

1803

Go west, young man. (Young women too!)
“Capt. Lewis and Clark wintered at the entrance of a Small river opposit the Mouth of Missouri Called Wood River, where they formed their party, Composed of robust helthy hardy young men.” —William Clark

How did Lewis and Clark know where they were going?
Find one of their tools in... The AMERICAN PRESIDENCY on 3 Center