

Internet browsers to surf red planet

Having abandoned his predecessor's \$100 billion project to put a man on Mars, President Clinton has adopted a 'faster, cheaper, better' approach to the space programme, which begins its rolling launch timetable with the \$154m Mars Surveyor in November and the \$171m Pathfinder the following month

Presidents in space – the 'vision thing'

1961

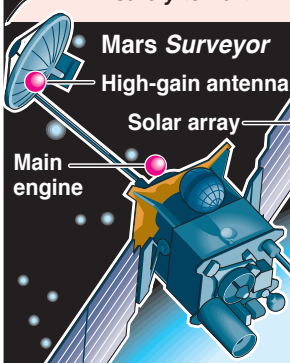
Kennedy: *'this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to Earth'*

1990

Bush: *'will put an American on Mars by the year 2019'*

1996

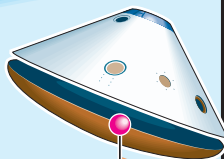
Clinton: *'will undertake a sustained programme to support a robotic presence on the surface of Mars by the year 2000'*



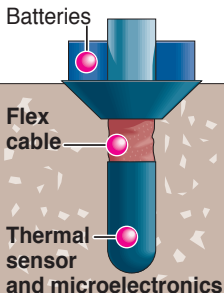
Nov '96: Launch of Mars orbiter
Mar '98: Mission to chart planet's surface starts

Mars Pathfinder

Dec '96: Launch of Mars lander – due to set down on the Fourth of July, 1997, Independence Day



Jan '99: Second Surveyor will release two microprobes to penetrate surface



Sojourner
\$25 million robot will analyse surface
Live pictures on Internet within 40 minutes

