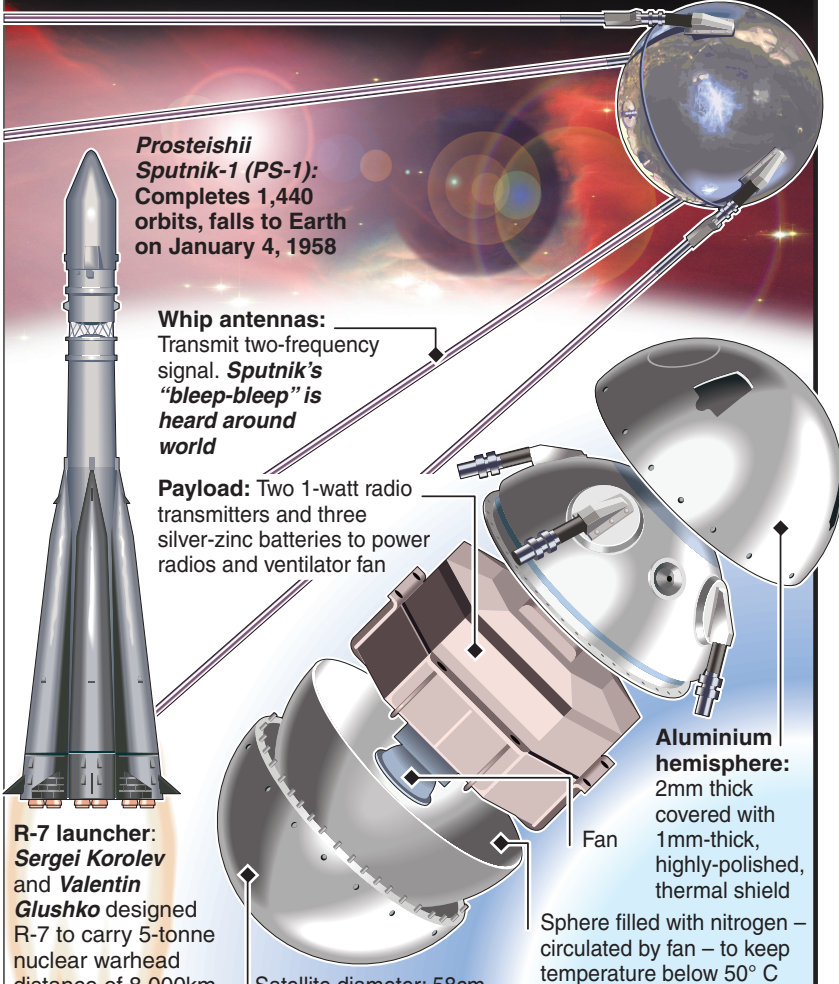


Sputnik – dawn of the space age

History changed on October 4, 1957, when the Soviet Union successfully launched Sputnik I, the world's first artificial satellite. The launch ushered in new political, military, technological, and scientific developments, triggering the Space Race between the USSR and the United States



Prosteishii Sputnik-1 (PS-1):
Completes 1,440 orbits, falls to Earth on January 4, 1958

Whip antennas:
Transmit two-frequency signal. *Sputnik's "bleep-bleep" is heard around world*

Payload: Two 1-watt radio transmitters and three silver-zinc batteries to power radios and ventilator fan



R-7 launcher:
Sergei Korolev and **Valentin Glushko** designed R-7 to carry 5-tonne nuclear warhead distance of 8,000km

Source: Baikonur Museum



Aluminium hemisphere:
2mm thick covered with 1mm-thick, highly-polished, thermal shield

Sphere filled with nitrogen – circulated by fan – to keep temperature below 50° C



Satellite diameter: 58cm
Weight: 83.6kg