

#flo #ret #hw

1 | Research project

1.1 | thoughts

sputnik? - satellite was launched before, sent this massive wave of panic - because the red was ahead technologically! - led to a huge amount of focus on STEM - turns out, we actually had the satellites the whole time - but eisenhower didn't want to launch them because he didn't want to deal with the fuss about how to manage airspace?

eisenhower didn't want to launch - didn't want to escalate? - was already spying, and got found out

// this entire philosophy that

the current modern philosophy that science and technology should be the main focus of education was built off of a politically self-serving lie. the current modern philosophy -> the current educational emphasis on science and technology, expanded in the post-sputnik era, was built on...

- sputnik was a thing
- sputnik was a lie (we weren't really behind)
- that lie was politically motivated
- and yet...
- sputnik led to an expansion of techno education and social value
- that persists

political self serving motivates what is perceived as true has this on both sides: eisenhower and the "the gap"

driving 'truths' are formed from politically self serving lies

the sputnik lie – and its consequent impacts –

– a cultural impact so deep, that the falsehood of its roots has little effect on its adherence – was propagated by aligned political agendas of competing parties

thesis: the Sputnik lie – {} having a cultural impact so deep, that the falsehood of its roots has little effect on its adherence – was

The Sputnik lie, born of political agendas, had a cultural impact so deep that

the need for technological advancement *

- sputnik shocked the country

sputnik launch,

1.2 | sources

- <https://history.nasa.gov/sputnik/sputorig.html> good source of quotes and primaries

- <https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/partners/aol/special/sputnik/main.html> all the archived nyts from the period
 - <https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/partners/aol/special/sputnik/sput-15.html> nyt article saying we need to focus on science
 - <https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/partners/aol/special/sputnik/sput-20.html> Vanguard Rocket Burns on Beach; Failure to Launch Test Satellite Assailed as Blow to U.S. Prestige
- <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/military/sputnik-declassified.html#> the org nova vid
- <https://guides.loc.gov/sputnik-and-the-space-race/primary-resources> <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/collection/383/space-race>

1.3 | route bin

1.4 | outlinin!

THESIS: The Sputnik lie, and with it massive cultural impacts, was born of a confluence of competing political interests.

- Sputnik had a massive cultural impact
 - hysteria, fear, massive focus on STEM in schools
- But it was a lie
 - what actually happened was...
- It was a lie because
 - Eisenhower's reasoning (declassified)
 - * wanted covert info on Russians
 - * got caught
 - * didn't want to escalate further
 - Dems reasoning
 - * wanted to make the reps look bad (had lost previous election due to being portrayed as "soft on communism" - lost China etc..)
- conclusion?
 - But nobody questions the emphasis on STEM, even though the original premise has been falsified. Thus, history teaches us, the cultural changes live on well beyond their original purpose.

1. the cultural impact of sputnik