



May 24, 1962



M. Scott Carpenter

Scott Carpenter

One of the original 7 Mercury Astronauts

MERCURY ATLAS 7



The second manned American orbital flight duplicates the goal of the first. Primarily, this 2-orbit mission is to confirm the suitability of both man and machine for the rigors of space. For example, the spacecraft will be maneuvered to observe the sunrise and to make use of day and night horizons, landmarks, and stars as navigation cues. A secondary goal is to conduct scientific experiments. These include tethering a multi-colored balloon to the capsule to study the reflection properties of different colors and to determine aerodynamic drag; taking photographs of cloud formations and land masses; a study of the airglow layer; and the observation of the K. Baylon is found by the doctors to have a minor heart flutter. Although he performs the rigorous preflight training tests extremely well, medical opinion about his condition is divided. NASA Administrator James Webb finally decides against adding this uncertainty to the upcoming mission, and reluctantly replaces Deke with Scott Carpenter. The Mercury spacecraft is named Aurora 7 by Carpenter, signifying the bright and shimmering dawn of the space age and the pioneering by the seven astronauts.

MALCOLM SCOTT CARPENTER

Born May 1, 1929 in Boulder, Colorado, Scott Carpenter joined the Navy in 1949 and received flight training at Pensacola, Florida, and Corpus Christi, Texas. He later attended the Fleet Airborne Electronics School, Navy Intelligence School and Naval Air School. As a Navy test pilot he has conducted high speed projects on ground aircraft and has logged 2000 hours flying time. Scott is married and has four children. His interests are sailing, aviation, and meteorology. He was Ocean's 60th. He is now in 60th.



