

originally modelled after LANDED SCIENCE CONFIGURATION

the U.S.A. Government Space **Agency Mars lander called** Viking. This picture shows one of the planners of the project, Carl Sagan with the Viking Lander. It is not certain whether this picture was taken on Mars or not.

GCMS

MAGNIFYING MIRROR CAMERA TEST TARGET & MAGNET METEOROLOGY SE BOOM ASSEMBLY TEMPERATURE INTERNALLY MOUNTED: Biology VIEW MIRROR (2) X-Ray Fluorescence X-RAY FLUORESCENCE Pressure Sensor FUNNEL

The Viking spacecraft was sent to mars as a pair of identical vehicles. Their mission was essentially to test the feasibility of sending remotely operated spacecraft to Mars and also to search for evidence of life. Sagan suggested that bait be affixed to the sides of the vehicle so that Martians might lick it and get their picture taken.

BPL-003, Moranic Mission To Montana is scheduled to launch in August, 2009. See BPL doc. 200902-bpl003 (at http://memo.browerpropulsionlab.com/2009/02/bpl003.html) for details and links.

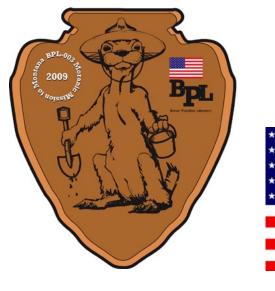
Munin, in part to keep the Viking theme, was originally named after one of the two Ravens kept by the mythological god Odin. These birds were sent out to gather information daily and report back. The other Raven was called Hugin, which means thought. "Munin" means memory, and as a nostalgic project with an uneasy relationship with thought, that was also limited to just one vehicle, BPL authorities chose the name Munin. Later we decided that we had better acronymitize that monniker, and so the name's meaning was changed to Module for Unmanned Novel Investigation and Notation, which is more secular, and easier to remember.

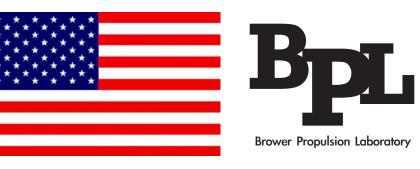


The experiments yielded unexpected results and debates about the presence of life, its fossilized remains, or even its constituent elements continued.



The present state in June, 2009 of the Munin vehicle is depicted here. Many critical components are in place and the configuration is taking shape. One significant missing element is the expensive but somewhat necessary power source. The Viking vehicle used radioactive thermoelectric assemblies to generate power. As BPL researched this technology, it became apparent that we could attract more left-leaning adherents, which are our true power source, if we embraced the fad of solar panels for electricity production. And like all objects of middle class fetishization, we have not yet concentrated the capital to make the panels. Anyway, for now we can just plug the thing into the wall.





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