

**VERGINIYA ATANASOVA
RUSSIAN YOUTH CLUB – SOFIA (BULGARIA)**

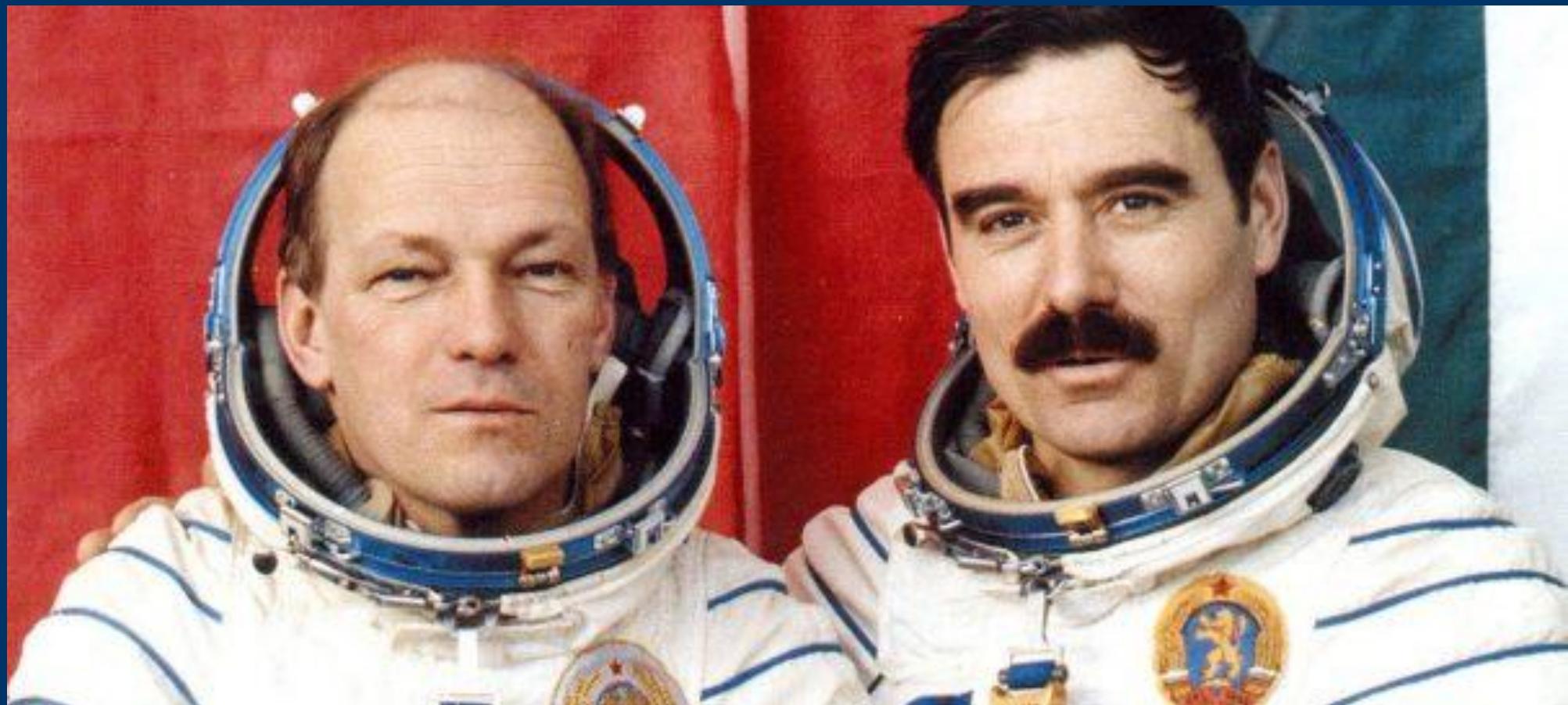
**42 YEARS SINCE THE FIRST FLIGHT OF
THE BULGARIAN COSMONAUT INTO
SPACE**



GEORGI IVANOV – BIOGRAPHY

Born on 2 July 1940 in Lovech, Bulgaria, has been requested to change his original family name to Ivanov due to a misnomer in Russian language. Bulgaria's air force pilot, admitted in 1959 and graduated from the military academy in 1964. In the period 1964–1967 he continued as instructor and in 1968–1978 as a group commander and finally as a squadron commander. In 1978 was selected for the space program with more than 1900 hours of air flight training. After the space flight he was rewarded with many Soviet and Bulgarian medals. In 1984 he earned a PhD in Physics. Promoted to general-lieutenant.

Georgi Ivanov & Nikolai Rukavishnikov



BULGARIAN SPACE PROGRAM

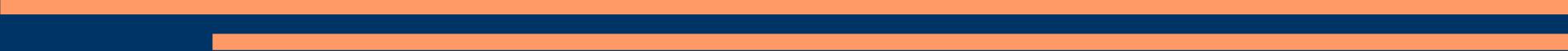
Bulgaria ranks 6 th country worldwide to have an astronaut (cosmonaut) flown in space (above 100 km), after (former Soviet) Russian's first Yuri Gagarin, US' first (suborbital) Alan Shepard, (former Czechoslovakia) Czech's first Vladimir Remek, Poland's first Miroslaw Hermaszewski and (former East) Germany's first Sigmund Jähn.

Following with the statistics (as of January 2018), Bulgaria holds the 9th place by the total number of astronauts in space, after USA, Russia (with former Soviet flights), Japan, Germany, China, France, Canada and Italy. Four countries have two astronauts, though when organized by date, the order is as follows: Bulgaria (1979, 1988), Netherlands (1985, 2011), UK (1991, 2015) and Belgium (1992, 2009).

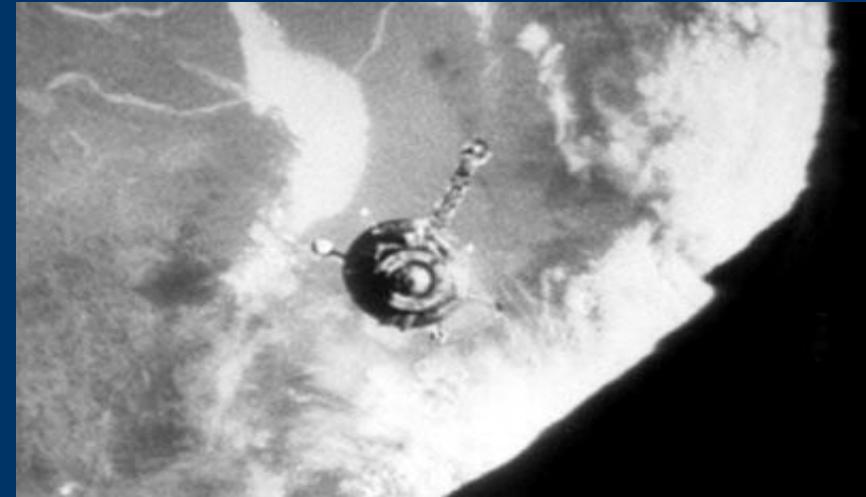
The Soyuz-33 reentry capsule, as well as Ivanov's flight suit and lots of other gear is on display at the Krumovo Aviation Museum outside Plovdiv.







СОЮЗ-33 10.04.1979



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION :)

