



"He trains our flyers by pouring the "dope" in through their eyes instead of their ears"

Name: Assen

Surname: Jordanoff

Born on: 02.09.1896 **Until:** 19.10.1967

Place of birth: Sofia

Country of living: Bulgaria, USA

Known for: Bulgarian Inventor, Engineer, and Aviator. The founder of aeronautical engineering in Bulgaria, as well as a contributor to the development of aviation in the US.

Short Biography

He occupied a distinct place among pilots of his time, the golden age of airmanship; in America, Jordanoff gained almost legendary status for his many roles as test pilot, airmail and air taxis pilot, stunt pilot, and flying instructor. His part on the team that created the airbag in the 1950s is his contribution that most tangibly changed our life and provided safety while driving.



STEAM connection:



The great-grandfather of the **answering machine** is an invention created by Asen Yordanov. The **Jordafon telephone**, invented by him, had a secretary and enabled a conference call. The main designer of the world's **first transport passenger aircraft** "Douglas DC-3" is Assen Jordanoff. Technology, maths, art - as parts of STEAM.

Anecdote.

"You know, Father," said Assen, "flying and gambling with life in general is not an easy thing. You've never flown, have you? Why don't you try to see how it is." And he raised the priest for a few carousels in the air, while the others laughed and watched from below with curiosity as the plane tossed and spun loop after loop. When they landed, the priest, white as a sail and trembling with terror, crossed himself. "God bless you boys!" He exclaimed. "You deserve your salary, really. Keep it all!"



ASSEN JORDANOFF

Timeline:

Describe five of the most important events that influenced your character's extraordinary story. Or what five events in your character's life were the turning points in the outstanding STEAM career.



From a very young age, Assen Yordanov was interested in flight. He built kites as a child, and as an adolescent attended lectures on physics at the local university. In his teens, Yordanov invented a dark box, a simple substitution to the use of an entire dark room in photograph development.

Blériot school in Etampes, France - the 16-year-old boy was not officially enrolled but attending the famous flying school in the company of great aviators played a huge role in Yordanov's educational development.

Jordanoff also introduced the Jordaphone, a wireless telephone, with an answering function and amplifier and intercom functions. It preceded the modern inventions of the answering machine and tape recorder by 5 to 30 years.

In 1912, at the age of 16, Yordanov built his first workable glider. The exact date of the first flight is unclear, but after it, on February 5, the young flier made a second test flight in the presence of an official commission.

In May 1921 Assen Yordanov and his wartime friend, Alexander Stoyanov, read about a contest to fly around the Earth in 100 days. The first plane to make it would win one million dollars. Yordanov and his partner were fully supported from the prime minister Aleksandar Stamboliyski.

