Complete each gap with one word.

(1) _____ the launch of Sputnik, the United States had been working on its own capability to launch a satellite. The United States (2) _____ two failed attempts before succeeding with a rocket that carried a satellite called Explorer on January 31, 1958. The team that achieved this first U.S. satellite launch consisted largely (3) _____ German rocket scientists who had once developed missiles for Nazi Germany. Working for the U.S. Army at the Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, the German rocket scientists were led (4) _____ Wernher von Braun and had developed the German V2 rocket. Explorer carried a Geiger counter for detecting cosmic rays, which proved the existence of (5) _____ are now called the Van Allen radiation belts around Earth.

In 1958, space exploration activities in the United States (6) _____ consolidated into a new government agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). When it began operations in October of 1958, NASA took over what had been (7) _____ the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA), and several (8) _____ research and military facilities.

Alexandros Vouyouklis www.fleximedia.gr

LIVEWORKSHEETS