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Robots Are Us

My head comes equipped with a camera

By Kat Avila | Web Published 2.26.2004

I'm in the Mobile Suit Museum, which opened on January 2, U.C. 0100. U.C. stands for "Universal Century," of course. What, are you still stuck in B.C. & A.D.?



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Look, here's a timeline. A.D. 1969: Humanity sets foot on the moon.... A.D. 1998: Construction of the International Space Station begins.... Year Unknown: The Earth Federation Government is established.... U.C. 0001: Space settlement begins.

What year were you born? Oh. When did they take you out of cryo-freeze? Just now? That explains a lot. The caveman hair, makeup, clothes. O.K., we can change the subject.

Let's watch these publicity videos from the archives to catch you up. Not much difference between living on a space colony and on the Earth Sphere.

[ZIPPER-LOCKED SILVER GATES PART TO LET US THROUGH.]

Oh, that? Well, it's not from Easter Island. It's the head of an MS-06 Zaku II mobile suit. Don't let the mono-eye rattle you. This robot soldier was 17.5 meters tall. Yeah. Three giraffes high. I forgot you were from the U.S. of A. They never switched over to metric.

Huh? About several billion people live in space. "Illegal" immigrants? You a flat-earther? There is no such thing as an

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"illegal" human being. That was a mythology concocted by colonialists to maintain political, social, and cultural dominance in your sector.

C'mon, here's a comparison of Zeon's MS-06 Zaku with the Federation Forces' RX-78 Gundam. Minovsky particle-adapted technology changed warfare from long-range combat to close-range. That's right. You don't know about the discovery of the Minovsky particle yet.

Hmmm, in your day - around A.D. 2004 - Sony Corporation had debuted the QRIO dream robot and introduced a third-generation ERS-7 AIBO entertainment robot. The AIBO looked and acted like a pet dog. It could recognize its owner's face and voice, had tactile head and back sensors, could even recharge itself. Sure. I can lend you some historical videos.

Say "Cheese!" This picture of you next to the RX-78 turned out great! Why do you look so surprised? My head comes equipped with a camera. It's a multimedia cave. You didn't know I was...a robot?

*Kat will be an engineer in her next life.
Her web site is
www.geocities.com/buscandocalifornia.
By the way, the Mobile Suit Museum
actually does exist at the Bandai
Museum in Matsudo, Japan.*

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