

SOYUZ-TM8 LAUNCHED FOR FLIGHT TO MIR:

Launch: 5 Sept. 1989 2138UTC from Baykonur. 2 cosmonauts: Aleksandr Viktorenko and Aleksandr Serebrov. Docking to aft port of Kvant appr. 0000UTC on 8 Sept. 1989. (Docking during MIR orbit nr. 20407, so appr. 9 minutes after LOS in pass 2342-2351UTC on 7 Sept. UTC) During launch and first stages of flight all went as planned. Cosmonauts will remain aboard MIR until 19 Febr. 1990. They will be relieved by other crew.

Radiotraffic during "ferryflight":

The normal frequencies for Soyuz: Voice on 121.750 Mc, FM-N, Telemetry on 166.138 and 922.750 Mc. Callsigns: Vityaz-1 and Vityaz-2. During 2d, 3d, and 4th orbit voice and TLM could be logged. During pass in 4th orbit cosmonauts spoke about first successful orbit correction (motorburn 41 seconds, a.s.o. During pass in 5th orbit only TLM between 0514 and 0523UTC only TLM could be heard. Observations: Towards sunrise MIR and Soyuz-8 were clearly visible. (E) the 3d stage of rocket and the Salyut-7 could be seen.)

Docking with MIR: might take place during orbit 20406 (MIR), 32 (S-TM) or -stated by Moscow, 1 orbit later, 20407 (MIR) 33 (S-TM), at about 2400 hrs. During pass from 2342-2353UTC cosmonauts can be heard during final approach just before docking.

After transfer cosmonauts from S-TM8 to MIR traffic possibly again on 143.625 mc.

Salyut-7: Telemetry beacon on 19.954 mc, working aboard the Cosmos-1686, attached to Sal-7, ceased transmitting as of 24 August 1989.

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