

**ORBITCORRECTIONS:** The reason for the increasing of the altitude during the last weeks is that they have to build up altitude as much as possible before the docking of the D-Module. This Module will be docked to the axial forward port, but as soon as possible it will be redocked (by the use of the Lyapa-system) to a lateral port. This gives the station an L-shape. Scientist recommend not to use the Progress-M engines during that asymmetrical shape. So to perform the first orbit-correction burn they have to wait until the arrival and redocking of the T-Module Febr. next year. The use of the phrase "do not recommend" might mean that scientists are not sure about the behavior of the station in the near future. This situation has for us "MIR-observers" the advantage that for a considerable period the use of the first Keps after the departure of Progress-M1 is possible.

**MIR-OPERATIONS:** Passes in this period during the nighthours. So cosmonauts sleep if nothing special has to be done. We can expect some radiotraffic in the first pass of a sequence in the eveninghours. Cosmonauts have been involved in the determination of the radiation caused by streams of ionized particles after the solar activities (solar flames) recently. For this purpose they use the experiment "Circe", brought to MIR by Chretien late 1988. This week the cosmonauts again do have to be alert for this radiation for the side of the Sun on which the flares are active turned again in our direction. During the pass in orb. 21450 on 13 Nov. 1989 at 2012UT TsUP and the cosmonauts checked the attitude of the station towards Sun and Earth. TsUP gave the cosmonauts permission to go asleep. (Possibly in another compartment of the station.) Te S.U. officially announced that there is no danger for the health of the cosmonauts.

**SALYUT-7/COSMOS-1686:** The transmitter of the Mayak-beacon the C-1686, attached to the Sal-7, can be heard again on 19.956 mc. So the nice signal can be used again by those that are interested in ionosphere and propagation. It gives an extra possibility to check the passes of Sal-7. This is for Sal-7 as well as for MIR possible -clouds permitting- by visual means. Sal-7's altitude is considerably lower and only some 20 KM than MIR. (Ap/Per 401/414 KM. All low orbiting satellites have a greater decay (drag of acceleration mean motion) caused by the solaractivity of the last year. There have been plans to retrieve Sal-7 during a Buran mission. As the Buran programme has been changed the S.U. will have to do somewhat to increase Sal-7's altitude. (For instance the sending of a new Cosmos with the