

PROGRESS-M2 DOCKED TO MIR: The freighter Progress-M2 docked to MIR on 22 Dec. 1989 at appr. 0540UTC. It docked to the aft (Kvant-1) docking port so that the MIR complex now consists of: MIR, Kvant-1, Kvant-2, Soyuz-TM8 and Progress-M2.

APPROACH: The approach and docking was guided by the Kurssystem. The approach began when MIR was within our range during pass in orb. 22048, 0526-0536UTC. At 0530UTC Progress-M2 started the approach and the operation could be observed by the camera of Pr-M2 and that of MIR. The operation went well and when MIR passed the eastern horizon the distance between the two spaceobjects was 130 M. and the approach speed appr. 1 M per sec. Radiotraffic during passes on the next 2 orbits confirmed that the docking had been completed successfully. During pass in orb. 22049, 0702-0712UTC, the cosmonauts already got instructions for the priorities in unloading the Pr-M2. Special attention got the equipment belonging to the American experiment. Already in the next pass (orb. 22050, 0842-0849UTC) the cosmonauts already were on board Pr-M2 and worked on it. Serebrov had problems with bolts which he had to unscrew. The cosmonauts also mentioned the successful docking, the conservation of the Pr-M2 and the deployment of an air hose to Pr-M2. When they speak about "conservation of the Pr-M2" they mean: switching off systems no longer needed and transferring control systems to the control-panels of the Base Block of MIR.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF CARGO: 2700 KGS.

EXACT TIME OF DOCKING: The normal channels via which I usually get the precise times were jammed due to the events in Rumania. But that time will not differ more than 1 or 2 minutes from 0540UTC.

EVA-s: Possibly the plans for Extra Vehicular Activities have been changed. Cosmonauts asked TsUP to confirm the information that they will have to carry out 2 EVA-s inside the P.Kh.D. (transition section). Possibly one EVA to check the new spacesuit Orlan and the second one to transfer a docking unit from an active docking port to a passive one, which will be necessary for future redocking of Module-T.

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