

5TH EXTRA VEHICULAR ACTIVITY (EVA) MIRCREW:

This 5th, and for this crew last EVA, started on 5 Febr. 1990 at appr. 0608UTC. This time it was Viktorenko's turn to test the SPK (flying armchair). This EVA was shorter than the SPK check of Serebrov on 1 Febr. 1990. The operation ended at abt. 0915UTC. Viktorenko reached a distance from the complex of about 45 Meters. Viktorenko remained attached to the station by a safetyline. When V. inspected the whole complex, he gave the Soyuz-TM8 and the Progress-M2 a special attention and had to be careful that his safetyline did not get stuck on a solarpanel. Sometimes he had to stop immediately. He made some turns around the X- and Z-axis (resp. Roll and Yaw). He tested also a portable spectrometer BIM-600, which measured the radiation coming from the different parts of the complex. During the pass in orb. 22753, 1040UTC, Serebrov could be heard. Obviously the cosmonauts took off their Orlan spacesuits. Normal routinework was done during the next 2 passes (orb. orb. 22754, 1214UTC and orb. 22755, 1354UTC). Viktorenko also transmitted videorecordings of the EVA to earth. He commented the images and so I had the opportunity to get an idea how the operation had been carried out. He emphasized that the recordings were not good for commercial use, but only for technical purposes.

Now the crew can prepare themselves for:

1. the undocking of the Progress-M2 (loading of goods and equipment they wished to get rid of, unloading that what still is needed and emptying the water- and fuel tanks).
2. the rendez-vous with the Soyuz-TM9 with reliefcrew to be launched from Baykonur on 11 Febr. 1990, appr. between 0545 and 0610UTC and to dock to MIR Kont-1 aft port on 13 Febr. 1990.

C.M. van den Berg, NL-9165/A-UK3202