

MIRNWS.041 23 APRIL 1990

MODULE-T (KRISTALL): REASON POSTPONEMENT LAUNCH HAS BEEN PUBLISHED:

In radiotraffic on Thursday 19 April 1990 (orb. 23984) Solovyov told that they had problems with the attitude control of the station. This might jeopardize the original planning. This in fact confirmed the findings from radiotraffic during the last weeks.

LAUNCH MODULE-T (KRISTALL) NOW PLANNED FOR 1 JUNE 1990:

REASON: Difficulties in the adjustment of the computersystems. The systems showed problems, despite the speed of 200.000 operations per second, because of new stations to be docked to the station. Computer adjustments turned out to be harder than expected.

SALYUT-7:

This unmanned station is still in orbit, but cannot be put in a higher orbit. The Sal-7 now has an ap/per of 409/391 KM, so almost as high as the MIR complex. Without special measures the station will decay in a foreseeable period. The attitude of Sal-7 is not stable: the tumbling of the station will increase the drag and descend.