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MIR HAS BEEN BROUGHT IN HIGHER ORBIT:

In radiotraffic the planned orbit correction has been referred to. With the help of the engines of Progress-M3 this was possible, but not recommended by the scientist. They were not sure about the result of 'impulses' due to the asymmetrical shape of the complex (L-shape). Under influence of the normal drag the complex loses height and this had to be corrected now the arrival of Kristall (Module-T) has been delayed. The correction took place on 24 April 1990 and the following day the predictions were wrong: already 271 seconds too early.

AN EVA CAN BE EXPECTED SOON:

For this mission (the 6-th MIR expedition) no Extra Vehicular Activity had been planned, as Solovyov and Balandin would be too busy with the reception, redocking and putting in operation of Kristall. Probably the cosmonauts will have to take care of the thermal cover of Soyuz-TM9. The confirmation that there will be an EVA came from Balandin during a radioconversation. There have to be improvisations: the cosmonauts will use the Orlan spacesuit. They will not be using the S.P.K (space scooter). It must be a difficult operation as the Soyuz-TM9 has no rails or other means of support.