

MIR: 29 JUNE 1990.

PREPARATIONS EVA: Some preparations already made. Sometimes cosmonauts give their opinion about the loose thermal cover of S-TM9, based on observations via porthole in Module-D.

EVA now planned for 17 July 1990. Cosmonauts (mainly Balandin) have to try to reach outside of S-TM9's landing module. If repair is possible they will do that, if not so they will have to report the situation. There is also some concern of the pyro-bolts which have been exposed to extreme temperatures. Inspection of those bolts is part of EVA.

EVENTUAL RESCUE MISSION: If necessary there are 2 possibilities to bring the cosmonauts back to earth if S-TM9 can not be use for that purpose:

1. Launching an unmanned S-TM on an automatic flight to MIR, or
2. launching a S-TM with one cosmonaut on board. This then will be an experienced cosmonaut, who got a training to fly without a board-engineer. A.A. Leonov, Head of the Centre to Prepare Cosmonauts, stated that such a mission can be accomplished on short notice. 4 cosmonauts are stand-by for that purpose: Lyakhov, Aleksandr Volkov, Berezovoy and Vladimir Titov.
(Certainly the best possible selection!)