

MIRNEWS.063 9 AUGUST 1990

SOYUZ-TM9 SAFELY RETURNED TO EARTH!!!

Touch down on abt. 70 KM NE Arkalyk (Kazakhstan) at 073440UTC.

After undocking from MIR the cosmonauts at 0538UT started the computer to execute the descent programm:

0639UT engines working for 263.3 sec to reduce speed of ship for reentry manoeuvre.

0707UT: separation of the Orbital Module (Houshold compartment).

After a few seconds separation of the Service Pod. (So the pyrobolts worked well!!)

0710UT reentry in atmosphere.

0712UT start of descent.

0719UT opening of parachute.

EVACUATION: Immediately after landing the rescue team evacuated SOLOVYOV and BALANDING from their descent module and were handed over to the medical team. Via Arkalyk S. and B. will be flown to Starcity near Moscow. They have an ETA there at abt. 1500UT. Tomorrow there will be press-conference at 0800UT.

MIR: The new crew: MANAKOV and STREKALOV will continue with the production of mono-crystals on board Module-T. They will also do 2 EVA-s, one of them to conclude repairwork on the hatch of Module-D's airlock.

PROGRESS-M4: Launch of this freighter already within a week, possibly on 15 Aug. 1990. For the first time a return-capsule of Pr-M will be used. (In a conversation during the ASE congress Krikalyov had some doubts about the use of that capsule. Maybe he has been too pessimistic in this respect).

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