

MIRNEWS.076

24 NOVEMBER 1990

PROGRESS-M5:

The crew was still busy with the concluding activities around the freighter Progress-M5. The inventarisation, unloading and loading was now more difficult for they will also have to prepare for the experiment with the returncapsule. So they also had to select what to store in that capsule and what in the other compartments of Pr-M5. The transfer of fuel and water from the tanks of Pr-M5 to MIR has been completed. The return in the Earth's atmosphere of Progress-M5 (and its decay) and the eventual landing of the returncapsule will take place in the last week of November 1990, so just before the launch of S-TM11 on 2 Dec. 1990. So definitely no Progress-M6 launch this month.

LAUNCH OF SOYUZ-TM11:

On 2 Dec. 1990 with the crew (or: stand-in crew) already named in last report. Take off from Baykonur at 0813UTC.

Docking of S-TM11 to the front port of MIR on 4 Dec. 1990 at abt. 0959UTC. (So the 10 minutes before radiotraffic regarding the approach can be heard in Southern UK and Western Europe.)

SALYUT-7/COSMOS-1686:

This huge combination (abt. 38 tons in weight) is loosing height rapidly. Raw calculations make a decay possible in the period 11-28 January 1990. Possibly unburnt pieces can fall down on earth between 51degr 36 min. North and 51degr. 36 min. South.

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