

NEWSMIR.070 7 FEBR. 1989

UNDocking OF PROGRESS-39 ON 7 FEBR. 1989:

For some days it was obvious that this undocking would take place this day. The undocking itself probably took place long before MIR was in our range. So we cannot yet give the exact times of the undocking and -if this happened- the decay and destruction in the earth's atmosphere. Yesterday the cosmonauts ultimately closed the hatch between Kvant and Pr-39. The last day was a strenuous one: Polaykov was very busy in loading Pr-39 with all goods and equipment they did not need any more. A lot of confusion -as always before undockings of "freighters"- TsUP several times ordered them to return things to the station.

On 7 Febr. no radiotraffic during the majority of passes of MIR: possibly the cosmonauts have been rewarded with a day off due to the strenuous job yesterday. The microphone was open and a lot of music - supplied by the ships A.S.K. and K.V.K. - could be heard.

PROGRESS-40:

The launch of this s/c from Baykonur is planned for Febr. 10th '89 at appr. 0846UTC.

On Febr. 12th, Progress-40 will be very close to MIR in our range in a low elevation in S.E. direction between 1019 and 1025UTC. We can expect radio traffic in which they will speak about the approach. The docking itself will take place just out of our range at appr. 1031UTC. This is on Sunday morning, so a lot of those interested in this all might be able to monitor that traffic. I wish them success!