

MIR: 7 JULI 1990

SOYUZ-TM9 REDOCKED TO FORWARD DOCKING PORT:

This operation took place on 3 July 1990 between 2208 and 2234UTC. (For Moscow time already 4 July 1990). In fact redocking of S-TM9 is now a risky operation. If the redocking might be impossible return to earth would be necessary. The soviets took the risk as redocking was necessary for the repair operation. The EVA was to be executed via the hatch of Module-D.

MORE DETAILS:

My conversations with a number of soviet cosmonauts during the Cospar- and ASE conferences revealed a lot of particulars about S-TM9's problem. What will happen in the near future fully depends on the EVA on 17 July 1990. There is no danger that the loose thermal cover might cover the IKV (Infrared sensor), but it might be possible that these loose blankets can cause misreadings due to reflection of Infrared radiation and thus giving the computer incorrect data. This risc cannot be accepted. The EVA is also necessary to access the cause of this damage.

CREWS FOR SOYUZ-TM10:

Manakov, Gennadiy, and Strekalov, Gennadiy. Stand-in crew:

Afanasyev, Viktor, and Manarov, Musa.

3d CREW IN THE SEQUENCE:

ARTSEBARSKIY, Anatoliy, and KRIKALYOV, Sergey. This crew will also be prepared for a flight to MIR in May 1991. No particulars about cosmonauts tasks for that mission. Krikalyov is pleased to get Artsebarskiy as commander. He got his training together with that cosmonauts and they are good friends.

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