Cosmonauts

move to

Salyut
MOSCOW

Cosmonauts Leonid Kizim
and Vladimir Solovyov
boarded the Soviet space
station Salyut 7 on May 6,
having transferred from the
new Mir 1 station in their
Soyuz T15 craft. Their move
marked the first-ever transfer
between space stations.
Soyuz T15 undocked from
Mir 1 at 1612hr Moscow time
on May 5 and docked with
Salyut 7 at 2058hr Moscow
time on May 6, travelling just
3,000km during its almost
29hr trip.
Salyut 7 was launched on
April 19, 1982, and has
received visits from ten Soyuz
T crews, 12 Progress robot
tankers, and three heavy
Cosmos modules, the last of
which, Cosmos 1686, remains
attached.

Kizim and Solovyov, on
their 55th day in space on
May 7, are expected to
retrieve a French cometary
dust particles collection
experiment from outside
Salyut 7. They are also
expected to close Salyut down,
and some analysts expect
them to return to Mir before
they return to Earth.

Ariane

schedule

revised
PARIS

Arianespace has announced
changes to its payload
manifest and launch schedule
for this year, although the
next Ariane flight, V18 carry-
ing Intelsat VA-F14, remains
scheduled for May 30.
The following flight, V19,
has been set for the end of
July, using an Ariane 3 to
carry Eutelsat's ECS-4
and Australia's Aussat 3
communications satellites.
West Germany's direct-
broadcast TV-Sat 1 has
been named as the payload for
V20 at the end of September,
using an Ariane 2.

The maiden flight of the
uprated Ariane 4, V21, has
been set for the end of Octo-

FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL, 17 May 1986

SPACEFLIGHT

ber. Payload for the launcher
in its AR44LP form com-
bining liquid and solid rocket
boosters will be ESA's
Meteosat P2, the Apex Ariane
passenger experiment, and
possibly Panamsat. Pan
American Satellite has yet to
make a definite booking,
however, because of continued
business difficulties.

The final launch of the
year, V22, has been scheduled
for the end of November,
using an Ariane 3 to carry two
communications satellites,
France's Telecom 1C and
GTE's Gstar 3.

Meanwhile, Arianespace
has confirmed Flight's report
of April 19 that SCC of Japan
will use Ariane to launch two
Ford Aerospace commu-
nications satellites in 1988.

Europe's
Columbus

proceeds
PARIS ~

Definition studies of Europe's
Columbus contribution to the
US Space Station will
continue, despite the lack of a
formal ratification with Nasa
similar to those already signed
by Canada and Japan.
ESA's Columbus board has
reconfirmed that the hard-
ware elements proposed for
the station are a pressurised
module, a co-orbiting plat-
form, and a polar-orbiting
platform. ESA has agreed, at
least temporarily, that its
pressurised module will be
permanently attached to the
Space Station. Initially, it
wanted its module to be capa-
ble of flying autonomously.
The module will be used
primarily for materials
science, life sciences, and fluid
physics research.

The co-orbiting platform
will be a man-tended free-
flyer comprising a small labo-
ratory and resource module
which can be launched
together on a single Ariane 5.
The unmanned polar-orbiting
platform will also be launched
on an Ariane 5. A further
option being considered by
ESA is a small co-orbiting
platform, based on an
improved version of its
Eureca Shuttle free-flyer, that
could be made compatible
with the Space Station, or
with Ariane 5 and Hermes.

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