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KENNEDY SPACE CENTER SPACE SHUTTLE STATUS REPORT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1995 (9:38 AM EST)

MISSION: <u>STS-74</u> -- 2nd MIR DOCKING (Docking Module)

LAUNCH DAY

VEHICLE: <u>Atlantis/OV-104</u>

LOCATION: Pad 39A

OFFICIAL LAUNCH DATE/TIME: Nov. 12 at about 7:30:43 a.m. (on time)

TARGET MIR DOCKING DATE/TIME: Nov. 15 at about 1:27 a.m. TARGET KSC LANDING DATE/TIME: Nov. 20 at about 12:34 p.m.

MISSION DURATION: 8 days, 5 hours

CREW SIZE: 5

ORBITAL ALTITUDE and INCLINATION: 196-245 statute miles/51.6 degrees

NOTE: The Space Shuttle Atlantis on mission STS-74 was successfully launched today from KSC at 7:30:43 a.m. eastern time on an 8-day mission to dock with Russia's Mir space Station. The launch occurred on time at the beginning of a short 10 minute window.

Launch from pad 39A went without any serious technical problems. The only discussions centered around the weather at the three <u>TAL sites</u> and at KSC. Weather cleared for at least one TAL site and at KSC and managers were able to launch Atlantis on time. Due to low clouds at KSC, range safety observations were conducted by a forward observer located in a helicopter.

Launch had been scheduled for Saturday, but was postponed at T-5 minutes due to poor weather conditions at all three TAL sites in Africa and Spain.

The crew of Atlantis are carrying with them to Mir additional supplies for the Mir crew and two new solar arrays for installation on the Russian space station. Also, located in the orbiter's payload bay is the Mir Docking Module. This module will be permanently attached to Mir during this flight and used for future docking missions.

Docking of Atlantis with the Mir space station is scheduled to occur early Wednesday morning. The vehicles will remain linked for three days with undocking scheduled for early Saturday morning, Nov. 18.

Atlantis is scheduled to land at KSC on Monday, Nov. 20 at about 12:34 p.m.

The STS-74 crew are: Commander Ken Cameron, Pilot James Halsell, and Mission Specialists Jerry Ross, William McArthur and, representing the Canadian Space Agency, Chris Hadfield.

The <u>solid rocket booster recovery ships</u> have reported on station monitoring the spent boosters. Later today, crews on the ships will begin preparations to tow the boosters to Hangar AF. Arrival time is targeted for about 8:30 a.m. Tuesday.