

FURTHER ON CONCLUSION OF JOINT SOVIET-VIETNAMESE SPACEFLIGHT

Moscow Press Conference

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[Text] Moscow, 11 Aug, TASS--"The sixth international manned flight in the 'Intercosmos program' has ended. Viktor Gorbatko and Pham Tuan brilliantly coped with their tasks. The Socialist Republic of Vietnam acquired her cosmonaut, the hero of the liberation war against the American aggressors, the courageous son of the heroic Vietnamese people-- Pham Tuan." This is how the results of the flight of the Soviet-Vietnamese crew were described by Academician Oleg Gzenko, director of the Soviet Institute of Medico-Biological Problems. He spoke at a press conference in Moscow today.

"The flight," Gzenko said, "convincingly showed once again that fraternal socialist countries can resolve major objectives in exploration of outer space." For seven days Viktor Gorbatko and Pham Tuan, jointly with Leonid Popov and Valeriy Ryumin who have been working in the Salyut-6 orbital station for the fifth month now, fulfilled the extensive program of scientific-technical explorations.

Pilot Cosmonaut Viktor Gorbatko spoke in detail about joint experiments aboard the station. The exploration program, he emphasized, was not at all narrow, since the equipment of the station and its energy possibilities enable a broad complex of scientific research. That made it possible for the crew to fulfil even in a brief flight works in the interests of many scientific organisations of the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Viktor Gorbatko said that in many situations his Vietnamese colleague behaved as a courageous man, worked precisely and expressed readiness to stay in orbit "even for a year."

Cosmonaut-explorer Pham Tuan expressed gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the Governments of the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for a great trust in him. The orbital Salyut-6--Soyuz scientific complex, he said, is a well-equipped scientific laboratory which in outer space conditions enables the most diversified explorations and experiments. All its systems and scientific equipment operate reliably.

Remarks by Giap

LD111205 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Aug 80 p 4

[TASS report: "Source of Inspirations"]

[Text] Hanoi, 5 August--A mass meeting was held of representatives of the successful conclusion of the Soviet-Vietnamese crew's spaceflight.

Addressing the meeting, Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the Vietnam Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and deputy premier of the SRV Government, stressed the historic significance of the flight, which proved a vivid demonstration of the strength of Soviet-Vietnamese friendship and solidarity.

We warmly greet the Soviet Union, he said, as the country which opened a new era in mankind's history--the era of progress toward socialism and communism--and as a country which blazed the trail for mankind in space. We express profound gratitude to the Soviet Union's working class and all its working people, to the Communist Party and the Soviet state and personally to Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the Vietnamese people's great friend, for the fact that our country was given the opportunity to participate in the space research program.

This triumph of Soviet-Vietnamese friendship, Vo Nguyen Giap stressed, calls our whole people to new labor achievements and inspires all our republic's working people.

SCIENTISTS PREVIEW INDIAN OCEAN RESEARCH PROJECT

LD111029 Moscow TFAVDA in Russian 6 Aug 80 p 6

[Correspondent N. Bratchikov report: "To the Underwater Volcanos"]

[Text] Vladivostok--The scientific research ship Dmitriy Mendeleev has left Zolotoy Rog Bay for the Indian Ocean. Scientists are devoting its jubilee voyage--its 25th--to the study of metal-bearing deposits and incrustations in the regions of underwater mountain ridges. This is not the first expedition to collect material relating to the world ocean's geological history. The Dmitriy Mendeleev has made two such voyages before. They produced a considerable amount of valuable information.

On the day of the ship's departure conversation took place on board with the expedition chief, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences A. Lisitsyn; Doctor of Geographical Sciences A. Zhivago, laboratory chief at the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Oceanography; and Candidate of Technical Sciences A. Gorlov, a diver operating from a Pisces underwater apparatus. This is what they said:

A. Lisitsyn: The phenomena which we are going to study in the Indian Ocean are completely new. They only became properly known a few years ago and turned out to be so considerable that they are forcing certain classic concepts of even dry-land geology to be reexamined. It was thought, for example, that the land is the source of various kinds of elements which enter the ocean, and that sea water is formed through this.

But then ridges riven by deep diagonal clefts were discovered on the ocean bed in the middle of the Pacific. Powerful warm currents, exceeding by tens of times those known hitherto, are carried from them to the surface. Where do they come from? Careful research has shown that an abyssal substance in the form of ore-bearing solutions containing iron, manganese, lead and other elements gushed out here from the depths of the earth. This means that the ocean is not such a passive basin as it had been thought to be.

The Dmitriy Mendeleev's voyages to the Pacific have confirmed the global nature of the formation of contemporary stratified ores on the ocean bed. However their manganese and iron content is low in modern terms. Yet it is fully sufficient to ensure that in the future mankind will display not only scientific but also practical interest in it.

In the Pacific scientists first encountered discharge from an underwater volcano--a column of material 2.5 km high rich in iron and manganese. Its tail extended for about 200 km. U.S. researchers (they were studying this test site along with us then) managed by submarine to "peep" into one of the discovered mouths of the hot spring. The temperature of the solution gushing out of the volcano was approaching 300 degrees centigrade. It seems that out of sight of man on the ocean floor a colossal chemical reactor is working quite quietly. Nothing is boiling, nothing is seething there--there are just great pressures, and slowly ore-bearing rivers spread across the ocean floor.