

Cosmonauts set new space record; 139 days is longest manned flight

United Press International
MOSCOW—Two Soviet cosmonauts ended the longest manned space flight in history—139 days—with a safe landing Thursday in Central Asia.

"History's longest manned space flight has been successfully completed," the official Soviet Tass news agency said.

Tass reported that Soyuz 29 cosmonauts Vladimir Kovalenok and Alexander Ivanchenkov made a soft landing in the recovery zone in Soviet Central Asia.

"A preliminary medical checkup showed that they had withstood well the long orbital flight," Tass said.

Launched June 15, at 11:17 p.m., the two cosmonauts spent 139 days, 14 hours and 48 minutes in space—a new record for manned space flight endurance which surpasses the earlier mark of 96 days, 10 hours set by two of their Soviet colleagues earlier this year.

Soviet television interrupted its normal program schedule to show film of the Soyuz capsule undocking from the Salyut station at the end of the historic flight.

A television newscaster said the

Soyuz capsule touched down with the help of parachutes and rocket engines at 2:05 p.m. Moscow time (6:05 a.m. EST) about 115 miles southeast of Dzhezkazgan, a city in the Soviet Central Asian republic of Kazakhstan.

Interviewed on television at the Baikonur Mission Control Center, Gen. Vladimir Shatalov, chief of cosmonaut training, said the successful landing signaled the start of a difficult period for the two men, involving medical checks and readaptation to the crushing weight of earth's gravity.

"This is the start of a very difficult period of medical examinations which will enable us to determine their condition and their future ability to work in space," Shatalov said.

"This gives us the possibility to look boldly into the future and look forward to other, doubtless no less long, missions in space."

The landing came five days before the Soviet Union's biggest annual holiday on Nov. 7, anniversary of the 1917 revolution. And the cosmonauts are bound to be decorated for their mission.

The Salyut 6 has been the scene

of a variety of space firsts that have won the Soviet Union recognition for a space program previously marred by failure and tragedy.

The firsts include dispatching four special robot capsules to refuel and

resupply the space station and sending international space crews—two of them—to the Salyut 6, proving the viability of double-docking to space stations.



Aggies prepare for battle

Freshman Steve Vodkin, left, and sophomore Russell deCastongrene, members of the local chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism, prepare their weapons for a practice

session near the Grove recently. The SCA, which recreates medieval fighting styles, will participate at the Texas Renaissance Festival this weekend. Battalion photo by James Hamilton

Pressmen's strike over; New York dailies to return

United Press International
NEW YORK—Until 12 weeks ago, Sunday mornings for many New Yorkers were defined by the ritual of walking home with bulky editions of the Times and News under one arm while the other was pulled by a dog on a leash.

Sunday afternoons meant rearranging the dozen or so sections and reading them in an order that unquestionably characterized a New Yorker's priorities. Monday mornings meant leaving them piled up in neighborhood recycling centers.

Wednesday, it looked as though the 85-day-old cold turkey withdrawal the city's readers have suffered during the pressmen's strike against the two papers may be over Sunday, just in time for the weekend ritual to begin again.

The walkout, the third-longest in the city's history, tentatively was settled Wednesday with an agreement between the Times, the News and the pressmen's union.

Publishers of the two dailies said they hoped to have their papers on the stands Sunday if they are able to wrap up agreements with four other unions—the drivers, paperhandlers, machinists and auto mechanics.

The pressmen's union said it would hold a ratification vote on the 6-year pact as soon as the drivers' union reached a tentative agreement with the papers.

Talks between the publishers and the unions were scheduled for Thursday.

The tentative agreement came at 8:20 a.m. Wednesday—12 weeks

to the day after the strike began—following a grueling 22-hour bargaining session that saw the publishers agree to the union's major demands on the crucial issues of pressroom manning and job guarantees.

The settlement capped weeks of difficult and sometimes bitter negotiations. Apparently facing a united front formed by the Times, the News and the New York Post at the beginning of the strike Aug. 9, the pressmen eventually succeeded in driving a wedge between the publishers.

On Sept. 27, Australian publishing magnate Rupert Murdoch withdrew the Post from the joint talks and concluded a separate agreement with the pressmen, prompting

angry outbursts from the publishers of the Times and the News. They have been feuding publicly with Murdoch ever since.

The walkout idled some 10,000 employees at the three papers and cost the publishers more than \$100 million in lost circulation and advertising revenue, according to city estimates. The pressmen each lost thousands of dollars in wages.

The strike's impact on the city's economy was more difficult to assess. In the early stages of the walkout, the city estimated it was costing business \$1 million a day. But that figure was sharply reduced when interim newspapers and other forms of advertising took hold in the absence of 3.3 million daily and 4.2 million Sunday newspaper copies.

Nov. 3-4 9PM-??

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