station this is Houston are you ready

for the event yes I am CBS Radio News

this is Mission Control Houston please

call station for a voice check station

good afternoon this is CBS Radio News

how do you hear me I have you loud and

clear commander Steve Swanson good

afternoon this is Peter King along with

bill Harwood we're both in Florida and

glad to talk to you this afternoon and

as we talk to you you're getting ready

to welcome a new crew aboard

so wondering how much work it takes to

get ready for the new guys it's a little
bit of work it's not too much it's just
we still put in the same amount of time
each day and we're looking forward to it
so it's a work that's enjoyable because
I know the what's gonna come out of this
work it's gonna go I'm gonna get some
new crewmates and that's going to make
life much better up here we spoke with
Reid Wiseman a few days ago actually a
couple of weeks ago and he seems very
very excited to come up on his very
first spaceflight what do you think is
gonna be the hardest adjustment for him
to make when it comes to living in this
kind of environment for the first time

oh that's a microgravity environment

with everything floating and you just

have to slow down take your time and let

things go because if you try to view

too quickly up here it's not

going to turn out so well hey Steve it's

bill Harwood at the Kennedy Space Center

you guys have a really busy summer

coming up I guess there's two

Russian spacewalks up to three us EVs

and one of those I think includes you

where do things stand on getting the US

Space shoot the EMU issues put to rest
once and for all

44
00:01:46,748 --> 00:01:52,248
that's a good question on SpaceX three

45
00:01:50,388 --> 00:01:55,728
they just unlocked about a week ago

46
00:01:52,248 --> 00:01:57,918
there are lots of samples from the suits

47
00:01:55,728 --> 00:02:00,019
that were sent down for the engineers to

48
00:02:01,188 --> 00:02:05,118
study once we get the results of that

49
00:02:00,019 --> 00:02:03,200
which hopefully will be within a couple

50
00:02:01,188 --> 00:02:05,118
of weeks we can then hopefully to clear

51
00:02:03,200 --> 00:02:07,299
the suits and there'll be these clothes

52
00:02:05,118 --> 00:02:09,560
to be ready to go at that point

53
00:02:07,299 --> 00:02:11,000
do you anticipate the challenge getting

54
00:02:09,560 --> 00:02:12,560
ready for these EVs I really sound

55
00:02:11,000 --> 00:02:13,789
relatively straightforward but I'm not

56
00:02:12,560 --> 00:02:18,620
sure an EVO you ever

57
00:02:13,789 --> 00:02:19,878
yes I had a true statement even if it
looks straightforward on paper doesn't

mean it's gonna turn out that way so no

we'll prep just like we normally do for

every VA and try to cover all the

contingencies but it'll be fun doing

them we're looking forward to it let me

ask one more real quick one for I pitch

it back to Peter and it's the obligatory

political question these days you know

there's a fair amount of concern down

here in some quarters about the clinical

situation in the wake of the Ukraine

crisis and things that have been said

Russia US sanctions all of that has any
of that had any impact on you and your crewmates I'm just wondering if you guys even talked about all this up there oh we might talk about a bit more in the sense of just kind of whether the politics are doing it does not affect our working relationship but we're still good friends so we get along very well there's no issues at all up here on a negative basis but we do you know keep informed in the news and just trying to follow along so that we are informed Steve it's Peter King again how much as you're keeping informed how much
attention do you pay to the rhetoric

that's going on on both sides and how

much do you guys actually talked about

this up there oh I read the news just

like most people do and so that's where

I get it from and it's just a glance

here to see what was happened today or

that kind of information but we don't

talk about it much honestly unless

something new came up wouldn't say that

oh yeah I saw that too yeah well we'll

see what that means because we honestly

don't know for us it's all is the same

for us I mean as in our work day going
on with nothing changes and as a new commander I'm just wondering if any of
this is a particulars the guy who does
where the commander's stripes if you will up there no not so far is not been an issue no so far at all you know we've not had any issues up here and there are mission controls are working together very well too it's all going fine and smoothly you've got a really busy increment ahead this summer a lot of activity a lot of visiting spacecraft tell us a little bit about that and how you prepare for all that activity yes we have a Cygnus coming up I think
June 13th is when it's going to birth as

that takes a quite a bit of work just to

get everything ready to be unloaded and

then stuff loaded back on to it and then

of course right to practice the grapple

and all the rest of stuff so that will

be a lot of work after that we're going

to have a TV and SpaceX almost come

close to the same time and to come up

that's going to be a lot of work that's

a lot of stuff that comes up on both

those vehicles and the SpaceX vehicles

have a lot of science on them so that

need to get performed and back on SpaceX
and back down so that's always a very busy time at the same time one of the things about the experiments is that you know in many cases they're kind of a turnkey that is you know there's not a lot you do because the scientists are controlling them on the ground or whatever I'm curious about the kinds of things that that you're working with hands on up there well the most hands-on we do of course are on ourselves we do many experiments on ourselves from ultrasounds to I experiment stew all sorts of things but for other ones right
00:05:35,579 --> 00:05:39,568
now I'm actually growing lettuce as an

00:05:37,620 --> 00:05:42,959
experiment I have to water it and tend

00:05:39,569 --> 00:05:45,509
to it every day hey it's bill Harwood

00:05:42,959 --> 00:05:47,489
one more time how important is it gets

00:05:45,509 --> 00:05:49,080
good six crew back on board you know

00:05:47,490 --> 00:05:50,189
just talking about the science ops I've

00:05:49,079 --> 00:05:51,418
always thought that you know there's

00:05:50,189 --> 00:05:55,459
only three up there it's pretty hard to

00:05:51,418 --> 00:05:55,459
do much besides just maintain the thing

00:05:56,689 --> 00:06:00,659
well I'm getting a pretty good amount of

00:05:59,098 --> 00:06:03,240
science it's done even right now with

00:06:00,658 --> 00:06:05,968
just the three of us it does limit

00:06:03,240 --> 00:06:07,710
though quite a bit so with the full

00:06:05,968 --> 00:06:13,168
government up here it would definitely

00:06:07,709 --> 00:06:15,299
help our science utilization it's back

to Peter again I'm just wondering from a

personal standpoint you know when you're

up there for six months at a time there

are an awful lot of things that you miss

and I'm wondering if you're missing any

important personal or family milestones

while you're there yes I am actually in

about a week my son is going to graduate

from high school and my youngest son and

I'm gonna miss that unfortunately but it

will get to hopefully

Videocon in and get to watch part of it

at least and so that's a little I mean

sad for me but we've talked about it we
both understand it and it will move on from that point but yeah that's women the biggest things going on for the summer well a few weeks ago we had Rick Mastracchio deliver the commencement address or at least part of the commencement address for University of Connecticut do you have any such thing planned for your son's high school graduation no no no I'm just gonna hopefully get them watching what has been the most surprising part of your stay so far that's a good question the most surprising part of my stay I've
never thought about that one for sure
cuz that we get prepped on almost everything coming up here so nothing
really has surprised me too much I guess
still how what surprising to me is still I like a look out that window and still
be amazed every time I look out the window you think you might grow older
that you don't hey it's bill again let me just follow that up for a second I'm always been curious that you know you have a short duration flight versus a long duration flight the adaptation to microgravity how has it been just
adapting to living up there in the absence of gravity as we know it is it

is it very different from your shuttle experience it is a little different you know some experience you say well short as 14 days approximately and you know you can deal with anything for 14 days you know it doesn't matter what is going on you can just deal with it maybe this doesn't work maybe you know something's gonna have issues with this or that and you can just deal with it and boom you're back down and no issues or no problems here though if there is
something coming up you gotta take care

00:08:25,589 --> 00:08:27,000
of it you gotta learn how to deal with

00:08:26,639 --> 00:08:28,560
it

00:08:27,000 --> 00:08:30,600
and you're gonna come up with a solution

00:08:28,560 --> 00:08:32,309
that can work every day and for a long

00:08:30,600 --> 00:08:35,759
period of time it's just like visiting

00:08:32,309 --> 00:08:36,929
your country or some other place and you

00:08:35,759 --> 00:08:38,639
know maybe your electrical outlet

00:08:36,929 --> 00:08:40,259
doesn't work and so for a couple days

00:08:38,639 --> 00:08:41,429
you can handle it but if you have to

00:08:40,259 --> 00:08:42,718
live there for six months you're gonna

00:08:41,429 --> 00:08:45,539
want to get a fix to that you're gonna

00:08:42,719 --> 00:08:47,550
solve your problem and it's Peter again

00:08:45,539 --> 00:08:49,439
and along those lines is there anything

00:08:47,549 --> 00:08:52,399
there that has not lived up to your
expectations or hopes

no not really I think everything has done pretty much this as expected it's an enjoyable time doing the science is fun and I have work to look enjoy working with the ground teams and definitely again I say look out the window and just floating around or fantastic things to do okay one last question this is one I'm personally curious about because I work a lot of early mornings and I like an afternoon nap are you guys allowed to take a quick nap from time to time during your work
day well if you get ahead you can but

that's a very rare that you get ahead in

your schedule so most likely no we don't

got to do that we have a pretty tight

schedule every day that we work and

there is no nap time scheduled in there

there are no naps in space commander

thank you so much for the time this

afternoon my pleasure station this is

Houston ACR that concludes the CBS Radio

News portion of the event please standby

for a voice check from ABC News digital

ABC News did you know how do you hear me

I have you loud and clear
great thank you we'll get going that was my other success but I think he felt a part of that and so that meant a lot to him personally.

I know that your foundation is something you take very seriously yes it is we give books to children from the time they're born once a month this is a special report from ABC News.

hello Gwen I'm Dan plepler in New York. the relationship between the US and Russia may be tense here on earth but there is still some cooperation between both in space there are currently two
American astronauts onboard the

00:10:55,059 --> 00:10:58,449
International Space Station living and

00:10:56,590 --> 00:11:00,639
working alongside three Russian

00:10:58,450 --> 00:11:03,250
cosmonauts so it tell us more about the

00:11:00,639 --> 00:11:05,230
relationship and everyday life on the

00:11:03,250 --> 00:11:06,639
ISS I want to bring an expedition 40

00:11:05,230 --> 00:11:08,560
commander Steve Swanson from the

00:11:06,639 --> 00:11:11,500
International Space Station some 230

00:11:08,559 --> 00:11:13,149
miles above Earth Steve thanks for being

00:11:11,500 --> 00:11:15,759
with us today we really appreciate that

00:11:13,149 --> 00:11:17,829
and I wanted to start off you know has

00:11:15,759 --> 00:11:19,569
anything changed up there because of

00:11:17,830 --> 00:11:25,000
what is going on on the ground here

00:11:19,570 --> 00:11:27,100
between Russia and the US no nothing has

00:11:25,000 --> 00:11:34,149
changed for us our operations are
continuing just as they always have how

would you then describe the relationship then between the US astronauts and

then between the US astronauts and
cosmonauts is it a rivalry is it is it a

brotherhood in space almost oh it's

brotherhood in space almost oh it's
definitely a brotherhood in space I mean
definitely a brotherhood in space I mean

we write up on the same rocket together

we write up on the same rocket together

we train together we've become close

we train together we've become close

friends and we with not just my this

friends and we with not just my this

crew here but other ones we've worked

crew here but other ones we've worked

with before on the ground and so we're

with before on the ground and so we're

definitely a brotherhood of space
definitely a brotherhood of space

effectively do you talk either among them
effectively do you talk either among them

ask other fellow astronauts or the
cosmonauts the events that are happening

I hear back on earth at all about the

politics that that's happening yeah we

do talk a little bit about the politics

I mean you almost can't help but it's in

the news and we watch the news and read

the news and so we will talk about it

but we also know that that's politics

and then we also have our job over here

which is not related 230 miles above

Earth everything kind of separates a

little bit now this is this is the

second year this third time you've been

to space station right and the first
time though as a commander how different

then is your role

well it is quite a bit different and the

first three times were on shuttle missions and they were short duration

and they were to build a space station and concentrating on that task now it's totally different for me in a sense is that now I'm up here for a long duration my main task is science up here which is a big difference and also maintaining the station on a day to day basis and so those those aspects are even probably bigger than just doing the difference
between me and a flight engineer and a
commander as the commander role though
the big difference is of course taking

care of the big picture between the
ground and us on board and making sure
everything is running smoothly in both
places now you went on a spacewalk back
in April it seems that there are more
and more robotic arms going up on the
next kind of equipment runs if you will
will there be fewer spacewalks in in the
future given that robotics is gonna be
playing a larger role well no I think
probably there will be larger robotic
operations but that's good because I
think we're still going to have plenty
of spacewalks to do there's other things
that we can do that it can't do and so
if we didn't have the robotic arm
helping us we'd have almost too many
spacewalks to do and wouldn't get much
else done so it's a great trade-off find
now that we have going alright let me
ask you this and given the fact that it
is your third trip up there and you've
kind of grown accustomed to life on the
ISS but what are you really missing what
are you craving back here on earth I'd
say well of course you know being with
357 00:14:24,350 --> 00:14:28,220
the family and friends and I guess the

358 00:14:26,269 --> 00:14:30,799
first and foremost Sun on your mind all

359 00:14:28,220 --> 00:14:32,870
the time but if you take that one aside

360 00:14:30,799 --> 00:14:35,929
what do you crave most and I would say

361 00:14:32,870 --> 00:14:38,028
that if thing for me is like being able

362 00:14:35,929 --> 00:14:40,250
to cook on my grill outside in the

363 00:14:38,028 --> 00:14:42,200
backyard and put a nice hamburger or a

364 00:14:40,250 --> 00:14:44,629
juicy steak on there and do the whole

365 00:14:42,200 --> 00:14:48,950
things up that way that's what I’m

366 00:14:44,629 --> 00:14:49,820
missing all right well then I won't tell

367 00:14:48,950 --> 00:14:51,680
you the fact we've had some beautiful

368 00:14:49,820 --> 00:14:55,370
weather down here recently in North

369 00:14:51,679 --> 00:14:57,828
America but that being inside you've had

370 00:14:55,370 --> 00:14:59,509
some special social media history from
your time up there at the ISS in fact

because you were the first one to

to Graham from space did you realize

that you were going to be this milestone

maker no I didn't I had no idea that was

happening so I was kind of taking by

surprise about the whole event you're

from Colorado you love the great

outdoors clearly you love barbecuing

grilling outside they're mountain biking

mountain climbing as well obviously you

can't do that in space so what do you do

up there to relax for downtime well I

still work out and that does help me
relax but for other downtime looking at
the window was a number-one downtime you
can have it it's still it's not being
outside but I get to see the some
beautiful scenery it's like you got to
climb to the top of some big mountain
and then you get to look out upon the
valleys and everything below and that's
still a great thing to see so that shows
that relaxed me too besides that a
little watching TV and just hanging out
with the guys watching TV alright what
are your favorite shows then when you
guys are out there you guys I'm assuming
there's one maybe one or a limited
number of television sets up there so

you guys have to kind of agree on what
everyone's going to watch right well we

watch them on our laptops and so you can

if we're watching together well of
course I have to be y'all huddle around

a little laptop screen and we do of

course watch some sports since you know

that's a standard a nice a group

activity to do but there's also some

other shows anywhere from my Game of

Thrones or stuff like that that we watch

together so tell me a little about the

work that you guys are doing up there
what are some of the spirit experiments

that you guys are conducting there's

many experiments this is over 170 so

there's a different types there's ones

that are like outside that we don't even

touch which I think are very interesting

the Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer which is

trying to look for our dark energy and

dark matter and anti-matter which is I

find fascinating there's now we got that

HD camera that's outside looking down

and taking pictures and people can see

it online I think that's great we also

have opals experiment which is trying to
use lasers to communicate to the ground

in a very high bandwidth that's great

inside though we do many other

experiments most of them on right now or

I seem to be on plants and working with

them or on the human body and I'm

working with out on ourselves and trying

to figure out well how we are adapting

and what are our bodies going through

for the changes from living up here so

you guys are actually growing plants up

there like common ordinary everyday

plants yeah right now I'm growing

romaine lettuce and trying to get it to
grow up to be a large plant if we could

00:17:50,000 --> 00:17:53,630
possibly eat this is this the first time

00:17:51,769 --> 00:17:54,980
we're trying this so I'm actually not

00:17:53,630 --> 00:17:56,750
going to get to eat it though I have to

00:17:54,980 --> 00:18:00,890
send it back to the ground when they

00:17:56,750 --> 00:18:00,890
have to analyze it and check out what

00:17:58,700 --> 00:18:02,569
microbes are on it etc and anything

00:18:00,890 --> 00:18:04,310
interesting or different about this one

00:18:02,569 --> 00:18:05,899
that would cause it to be not edible

00:18:04,309 --> 00:18:07,849
so we're kind of taking it safe first

00:18:05,900 --> 00:18:10,750
and no but it's starting to look pretty

00:18:07,849 --> 00:18:10,750
tasty though I'll tell you that

00:18:12,529 --> 00:18:15,769
fascinating well we certainly appreciate

00:18:14,420 --> 00:18:17,960
your time and all the work that you guys

00:18:15,769 --> 00:18:19,519
are doing up there on the ISSP Swanson
thank you so much we certainly appreciate that this has been an ABC News digital special you keep up with the story in real-time downloading the ABC News app starring the story station

this is Houston ACR thank you that concludes the event Thank You CBS Radio

we are now resuming operational audio communications well-done swanee thank you