



1

00:00:01,466 --> 00:00:06,546

Scott, what led you down a different road after STS-118 to begin training for a ride

2

00:00:06,546 --> 00:00:11,706

to the space station in a Soyuz vehicle and training to become a space station Commander,

3

00:00:12,416 --> 00:00:17,226

and for Mark, why did you remain on a shuttle path rather than follow

4

00:00:17,226 --> 00:00:20,566

in your brother's footsteps to go for Soyuz and Russian training?

5

00:00:21,126 --> 00:00:27,236

Scott - My, you know, after STS-103 who, one of the crew members on 103 was Mike Foale

6

00:00:27,236 --> 00:00:32,506

who was also at the time, you know, doing double duties as a, you know,

7

00:00:32,506 --> 00:00:37,156

Associate Center Director, I think was his title, and, you know,

8

00:00:37,156 --> 00:00:40,146

he thought I would be a good person to be the,

9

00:00:40,146 --> 00:00:42,516

what's called the Director of Operations in Star City.

10

00:00:43,146 --> 00:00:49,196

So, you know, we talked about that and I decided that maybe, you know,

11

00:00:49,196 --> 00:00:52,436

that'd be a good experience,
never, never intending to,

12

00:00:52,546 --> 00:00:57,466

to get on this space station
track as soon as I, I did.

13

00:00:57,996 --> 00:01:01,506

You know, I thought my career would be
flying a couple shuttle flights as a pilot

14

00:01:01,506 --> 00:01:05,606

and then a couple as the, the shuttle
Commander and then later flying,

15

00:01:05,606 --> 00:01:07,366

maybe flying a long duration flight.

16

00:01:07,396 --> 00:01:12,386

But then, you know, after I was the DOR,
Director of Operations in Star City for,

17

00:01:12,386 --> 00:01:17,226

I don't know, about nine months, soon after I
got back I thought I was going to, you know,

18

00:01:17,556 --> 00:01:22,256

get assigned as a, a pilot again
but for whatever reason the Chief

19

00:01:22,256 --> 00:01:29,906

of the Astronaut Office decided to ask me to
be a backup, for Expedition 5 and the plan was

20

00:01:30,056 --> 00:01:36,886

for me not to fly as a prime but just be the
backup and, he said he would then assign me

21

00:01:36,886 --> 00:01:41,006

as the Commander of a, of a shuttle flight
and then the Commander of the space station.

22
00:01:41,496 --> 00:01:47,886
Actually wound up, you know, being true, you
know, what, he said was the, the plan for me,

23
00:01:48,366 --> 00:01:53,116
but it just, because of the Columbia
accident obviously took much longer,

24
00:01:53,566 --> 00:01:58,366
but it wasn't really something I was
particularly interested in at the time.

25
00:01:58,366 --> 00:02:03,236
I would have rather flown the two pilot flights
and two commander flights but being just the,

26
00:02:03,576 --> 00:02:08,766
you know, military type of guy I am I
couldn't say no and I said, "Well, you know,

27
00:02:08,766 --> 00:02:12,846
if that's what you want me to do, you
know, that's, that's what I'll do."

28
00:02:13,646 --> 00:02:16,436
Mark - So, Rob, you ask that question
like we, we have a lot of control

29
00:02:16,436 --> 00:02:17,896
over this and we actually really don't.

30
00:02:17,896 --> 00:02:22,156
I mean, it's not you, you go into the office
and you say, "Hey, I want to this flight

31
00:02:22,156 --> 00:02:23,176
and then I want to be on this one."

32
00:02:23,176 --> 00:02:28,556
It's really, you know, the, the, the Chief of
the Astronaut Office, Peggy Whitson now, I mean,

33
00:02:28,556 --> 00:02:35,756
she makes the decisions of, you know, who is on
which flight and it's, to a large extent it's,

34
00:02:35,916 --> 00:02:37,896
it's really out, out of, out of your control.

35
00:02:37,956 --> 00:02:42,186
You know, my case, I've been fortunate enough
to fly, you know, three shuttle flights so far

36
00:02:42,896 --> 00:02:46,906
and this flight which I think'll wind up being
the last flight of space shuttle Endeavour

37
00:02:47,036 --> 00:02:52,326
and it's been a, you know, certainly a great
opportunity and a privilege to get to do that.

38
00:02:53,626 --> 00:02:56,796
Scott, how different is it
going to be when you strap

39
00:02:56,796 --> 00:03:03,446
into a Soyuz vehicle knowing you're basically
a passenger in the right seat heading uphill

40
00:03:04,106 --> 00:03:07,096
with your knees up in your
throat, very tight capsule,

41
00:03:07,096 --> 00:03:10,176
Mercury-style basically,
Gemini maybe at, at the most?

42

00:03:10,606 --> 00:03:12,616

What do you think that's
going to be like in contrast?

43

00:03:12,816 --> 00:03:17,606

Scott - Well, I'll certainly have a lot less
to do than, you know, during that time in the,

44

00:03:17,856 --> 00:03:23,226

in the Soyuz than on a, on a shuttle
ascent or entry for that matter.

45

00:03:24,506 --> 00:03:29,556

You know, as the Flight Engineer Number
2 you're sort of, you know, a passenger.

46

00:03:29,556 --> 00:03:32,326

You do have some responsibilities
but you're, you know,

47

00:03:32,986 --> 00:03:37,266

it's kind of like being somewhere between, you
know, Mission Specialist Number 1 on the shuttle

48

00:03:37,266 --> 00:03:41,436

and sitting on the mid-deck, your role.

49

00:03:43,556 --> 00:03:45,996

So, you know, in, in that
regard it will be different.

50

00:03:45,996 --> 00:03:50,066

It's kind of neat that it's, you know, a rocket
like a, you know, like a traditional rocket,

51

00:03:50,916 --> 00:03:57,716

so it'll be good to have that, that experience
especially as we move, you know, move on to a,

52

00:03:57,956 --> 00:04:00,966
you know, a new vehicle after,
after the space shuttle program.

53
00:04:02,556 --> 00:04:04,756
Mark, you're going to be traveling
to the Baikonur Cosmodrome

54
00:04:04,756 --> 00:04:06,676
in Kazakhstan to watch your brother's launch.

55
00:04:06,886 --> 00:04:08,386
What do you think that's
going to be like for you?

56
00:04:08,576 --> 00:04:12,866
Mark - Well, I've been to Russia once and it
was a long time so I'm lookin' forward to that.

57
00:04:12,866 --> 00:04:15,446
I'm actually taking Russian
classes right now to see

58
00:04:15,446 --> 00:04:17,516
if I can get a little bit of Russian language...

59
00:04:17,516 --> 00:04:18,376
Scott - I thought you quit?

60
00:04:18,376 --> 00:04:19,276
Mark - ability.

61
00:04:19,356 --> 00:04:19,826
I kind of quit.

62
00:04:20,106 --> 00:04:26,746
I quit last week but, you know, I
was, I, I did, I did a couple months.

63

00:04:26,946 --> 00:04:33,906

You know, for me it's really a great opportunity to not only see, you know, another space launch

64

00:04:33,906 --> 00:04:38,936

with people on board but to see my brother climbing into the Soyuz and,

65

00:04:38,936 --> 00:04:40,676

you know, launching from another country.

66

00:04:40,676 --> 00:04:42,326

I mean, that's, it's going to be amazing.

67

00:04:42,446 --> 00:04:47,826

I think at least one of my parents are going to be there, one of our parents, a lot of friends,

68

00:04:48,176 --> 00:04:51,986

some of the family members so it's really something I'm really looking forward to.

69

00:04:54,376 --> 00:04:59,696

And for you, Scott, knowing that your brother's there, not necessarily next to you but certainly

70

00:05:00,386 --> 00:05:04,396

in spirit, how's that going to be from a support standpoint mentally for you?

71

00:05:04,626 --> 00:05:08,926

Scott - Oh, it'll be great and, you know, I'll have friends and other family members there.

72

00:05:08,926 --> 00:05:10,606

He's going to be one of the family escorts.

73

00:05:11,106 --> 00:05:14,206

Hopefully at least one of my kids'll be there and,

74

00:05:14,206 --> 00:05:18,226

so it'll be good that he's there,
you know, with my daughter.

75

00:05:18,366 --> 00:05:22,046

Mark - And then if something happens to
him, just like accidentally, you know,