



1
00:00:01,630 --> 00:00:03,940
My name's Mike Fossum.

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00:00:03,940 --> 00:00:06,390
I'm currently serving as the
commander of Expedition 29

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00:00:06,390 --> 00:00:08,760
on board the International Space Station.

4
00:00:08,760 --> 00:00:15,300
My crewmates are Japanese astronaut Satoshi
Furukawa, Russian cosmonauts Sergei Volkov,

5
00:00:15,300 --> 00:00:23,010
Anton Shkaplerov, and Anatoly Ivanishin,
as well as American astronaut Dan Burbank.

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00:00:23,010 --> 00:00:27,320
Today's an important day in the story
of the international space station.

7
00:00:27,320 --> 00:00:31,290
We're the twenty ninth crew to
call this marvelous vessel home,

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00:00:31,290 --> 00:00:34,470
and we've made the best of every minute of it.

9
00:00:34,470 --> 00:00:36,830
However our time grow short.

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00:00:36,830 --> 00:00:41,030
Although expedition twenty nine does
not officially end until we undock

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00:00:41,030 --> 00:00:45,270
from the station tomorrow, we have a
change of command ceremony today so Sergei,

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00:00:45,270 --> 00:00:48,970

Satoshi and I may concentrate on our preparations for departure.

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00:00:48,970 --> 00:00:53,460

Dan, she'll be your ship in a few minutes.

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00:00:53,460 --> 00:00:57,150

First, I'd like to say a few more words.

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00:00:57,150 --> 00:01:00,930

Expedition twenty nine has been a very interesting time.

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00:01:00,930 --> 00:01:05,600

We were here to be part of the historic last space shuttle mission.

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00:01:05,600 --> 00:01:08,730

It was then our task to transition from a focus

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00:01:08,730 --> 00:01:13,500

on assembly operations to full scientific utilization.

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00:01:13,500 --> 00:01:17,670

With the loss of the progress cargo ship and the delay in launches, we spent all

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00:01:17,670 --> 00:01:22,040

but the last few days of Expedition twenty nine as a three-person crew,

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00:01:22,040 --> 00:01:27,030

yet we achieved every science goal that was set before us.

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00:01:27,030 --> 00:01:30,740

We are the fortunate ones living
in space with the great view.

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00:01:30,740 --> 00:01:37,110

In truth, we merely serve as the hands and
eyes for a huge team with the real brains,

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00:01:37,110 --> 00:01:41,370

passion, persistence and patience.

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00:01:41,370 --> 00:01:46,730

We did work hard, but our success is really
a tribute to the mission teams on the ground

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00:01:46,730 --> 00:01:49,780

who developed the plans to make it all happen.

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00:01:49,780 --> 00:01:54,760

I think of it is a pyramid with only a few
at the point, but they couldn't stand there

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00:01:54,760 --> 00:01:59,000

without the rock solid foundation
which reaches far below.

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00:01:59,000 --> 00:02:06,350

There too many individuals to mention by name,
but I have to say a few a special thank you

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00:02:06,350 --> 00:02:10,240

for lead flight director
in Houston, Royce Renfrew.

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00:02:10,240 --> 00:02:14,240

He has been the unflappable
quarterback calling the perfect plays,

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00:02:14,240 --> 00:02:17,550

always scrambled to run our patterns
so we won't let the team down.

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00:02:17,550 --> 00:02:22,290

Finally I'd like to say a few words about our patch.

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00:02:22,290 --> 00:02:28,050

The image we chose was the international space station following the path

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00:02:28,050 --> 00:02:34,850

of the historic eighteenth-century explorer, Captain James Cook and his ship Endeavour.

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00:02:34,850 --> 00:02:40,020

During Cook's three main voyages he explored and mapped a major portion of the oceans

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00:02:40,020 --> 00:02:44,750

and coastlines under the flight path of the ISS, adding immeasurably

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00:02:44,750 --> 00:02:47,040

to the body of knowledge of that time.

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00:02:47,040 --> 00:02:53,300

As the ISS sails a stardust trail following the spirit

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00:02:53,300 --> 00:02:55,590

of Endeavour sailing towards the dark unknown

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00:02:55,590 --> 00:02:58,970

and new discoveries, it enlightens the Earth below.

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00:02:58,970 --> 00:03:04,190

The quest for new discoveries has been a significant element of the human character

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00:03:04,190 --> 00:03:09,630

through the centuries, inspiring us to endure hardships and the separation of a mission

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00:03:09,630 --> 00:03:12,810

that is greater than the individual.

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00:03:12,810 --> 00:03:16,180

The crew of Expedition twenty nine is proud to continue the journey,

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00:03:16,180 --> 00:03:18,720

this greatest of all human endeavors.

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00:03:18,720 --> 00:03:24,300

Throughout history the change of command for sailing ship has been a formal occasion,

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00:03:24,300 --> 00:03:26,390

and we continue that tradition today.

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00:03:26,390 --> 00:03:33,620

We are proud to have served, and we are humbled by the outstanding professionalism and support

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00:03:33,620 --> 00:03:41,750

from teams around the planet, in Houston, Moscow, Cologne, Munich, Tsukuba, Montreal,

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00:03:41,750 --> 00:03:45,920

and Huntsville, Alabama, not to mention the science and engineering teams

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00:03:45,920 --> 00:03:49,890

from numerous agencies and universities.

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00:03:49,890 --> 00:03:57,470

Sergei and Satoshi, this was my dream mission and you guys have been my dream crew.

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00:03:57,470 --> 00:04:01,330

I would launch with you guys on another mission in a heartbeat.

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00:04:01,330 --> 00:04:07,620

Dan, Anton, and Anatoly, You arrived at our door just a few days ago,

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00:04:07,620 --> 00:04:11,790

well-prepared and ready to spring into action.

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00:04:11,790 --> 00:04:13,830

You are ready to take over.

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00:04:13,830 --> 00:04:17,580

My only regret here is that we had so little time to spend together.

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00:04:17,580 --> 00:04:22,780

But we made the best of it, and we're happy to see you continue the continuous human presence

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00:04:22,780 --> 00:04:26,940

on board the international space station, which has now surpassed eleven years.

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00:04:26,940 --> 00:04:31,250

There are no words to express our gratitude to our families

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00:04:31,250 --> 00:04:35,420

who have endured much throughout our years of training and this mission.

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00:04:35,420 --> 00:04:39,780

We call home excited about seeing countries at night in a blaze of light

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00:04:39,780 --> 00:04:42,430

with a flicker of aurora on the horizon.

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00:04:42,430 --> 00:04:46,990

Whether dealing with kids, homework
and cars which need repairs.

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00:04:46,990 --> 00:04:49,800

The stuff of real life.

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00:04:49,800 --> 00:04:52,050

Honey, I'm coming home.

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00:04:55,260 --> 00:04:58,860

Dan, I am ready to be relieved.

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00:04:58,860 --> 00:05:00,610

I relieve you, commander.

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00:05:00,610 --> 00:05:02,040

Thanks, Mike.

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00:05:04,410 --> 00:05:06,160

I stand relieved.

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00:05:08,620 --> 00:05:14,240

I'd just like to say thank you for
handing us over such a magnificent ship.

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00:05:14,240 --> 00:05:17,820

Space station's in perfect condition.

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00:05:17,820 --> 00:05:21,440

It's an honor and a privilege to take the helm.

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00:05:21,440 --> 00:05:27,490

.. On, I guess, on a personal note I'd really
like to recognize you and Satoshi and Sergei

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00:05:27,490 --> 00:05:31,620
for all the hard work that you've
committed to us in the last couple months

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00:05:31,620 --> 00:05:35,920
by not having the two months that we expected
to have and instead having for months.

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00:05:35,920 --> 00:05:39,850
It was a heavy load for you at the same time

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00:05:39,850 --> 00:05:43,160
that you were operating the entire
space station, keeping the science going

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00:05:43,160 --> 00:05:45,880
at about half strength for two months there.

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00:05:45,880 --> 00:05:51,440
And .especially I think all of us really owe a
debt of thanks to all the teams on the ground.

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00:05:51,440 --> 00:05:55,570
The folks that prepared us for this mission,
the folks that prepared all of the crews,

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00:05:55,570 --> 00:06:00,410
the previous crews, the people in all the
control centers round the world that watch

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00:06:00,410 --> 00:06:06,390
over space station systems, that fly this
vehicle and that watch over us all the time.

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00:06:06,390 --> 00:06:09,330
So it's really been a whirlwind
but it's been a pleasure.

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00:06:09,330 --> 00:06:15,530
I can't promise that I won't be calling

you with questions here and there,

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00:06:15,530 --> 00:06:18,320

and I know you'll be there ready to help us.

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00:06:18,320 --> 00:06:22,500

Anton, Anatoly and I look forward
to carrying on the proud legacy

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00:06:22,500 --> 00:06:26,070

that the previous crews have laid before us.

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00:06:26,070 --> 00:06:32,210

And I guess on behalf of the three of us we'd
like to wish you, Sergei, Satoshi fair winds,