



SPACE TO GROUND

1

00:00:00,919 --> 00:00:06,340

Nicole: Welcome to Space to Ground. Your weekly look at what's happening on board the ISS.

2

00:00:06,340 --> 00:00:08,320

I'm Nicole Cloutier-Lemasters.

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00:00:08,320 --> 00:00:12,639

The population of the station was cut in half this week with the departure of three crewmembers

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00:00:12,639 --> 00:00:17,449

Astronaut Mike Hopkins and cosmonauts Oleg Kotov and Sergey Ryazanskiy bid farewell to

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00:00:17,449 --> 00:00:22,210

their Expedition 38 crewmates on Monday afternoon, and hatches on their Soyuz spacecraft were

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00:00:22,210 --> 00:00:26,760

closed. The vehicle undocked from the orbital outpost later that evening, and after a short

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00:00:26,760 --> 00:00:31,689

3 hour journey, the trio touched down in the wintery snow of Kazakhstan. They were greeted

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00:00:31,689 --> 00:00:36,039

by a small contingent of agency representatives and medical personnel to extract them from

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00:00:36,039 --> 00:00:39,670

the spacecraft and expedite their departure from the landing site.

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00:00:39,670 --> 00:00:43,370

The space-travelers were congratulated on their mission during a celebratory gathering,

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00:00:43,370 --> 00:00:48,019

where they were presented traditional Kazakh attire, flowers, and commemorative Matryoshka

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00:00:48,019 --> 00:00:54,119

dolls in their likeness. The landing wrapped up 166 days in space for Hopkins, Kotov, and

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00:00:54,119 --> 00:00:54,899

Ryazanskiy.

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00:00:54,899 --> 00:00:58,729

Mike Hopkins returned to the United States Tuesday evening, and he'll begin specialized

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00:00:58,729 --> 00:01:02,159

reconditioning and strength workouts to help his body readapt to gravity.

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00:01:02,159 --> 00:01:06,280

And just as one mission ends, the next is set to begin...

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00:01:06,280 --> 00:01:11,280

Astronaut Steve Swanson and cosmonauts Alexander Skvortsov and Oleg Artemyev are making final

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00:01:11,280 --> 00:01:15,280

preparations before the March 25th launch of their Soyuz spacecraft. The three

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00:01:15,280 --> 00:01:19,039

departed Moscow for the launch site in Baikonur, Kazakhstan on Thursday.

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00:01:19,039 --> 00:01:24,719

And this week's twitter question is: how many sleeping berths does the ISS have? Great

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00:01:24,719 --> 00:01:25,759

question!

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00:01:25,759 --> 00:01:29,820

Astronauts sleep in their private crew quarters, which are about the size of a closet or telephone

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00:01:29,820 --> 00:01:33,079

booth, if you remember those... the quarters are lined with a soft quilted fabric and provide

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00:01:33,079 --> 00:01:37,619

just enough space for crewmembers to have a quiet, private area to sleep, talk with

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00:01:37,619 --> 00:01:41,829

friends and family, post photos, or read. There are 6 of these crew compartments on

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00:01:41,829 --> 00:01:46,039

the space station, 4 in the U.S. segment and 2 in the Russian segment.