



1  
00:00:00,790 --> 00:00:01,790  
Music

2  
00:00:05,850 --> 00:00:11,850  
In preparation for space shuttle Endeavour's final launch, the STS-134 crew of six veteran

3  
00:00:11,950 --> 00:00:18,283  
astronauts flew T-38 training jets to NASA's Kennedy Space Center on the afternoon of March 29.

4  
00:00:20,310 --> 00:00:21,220  
They came to the Florida launch site to conduct the standard week-long prelaunch training and

5  
00:00:25,600 --> 00:00:26,076  
countdown dress rehearsal -- officially known as the Terminal Countdown Demonstration Test.

6  
00:00:31,190 --> 00:00:37,256  
Mark Kelly: "TCDT, or Terminal Countdown Test, is when the processing and the training kind

7  
00:00:37,480 --> 00:00:37,710  
of comes together after being parallel things for a very long period of time."

8  
00:00:42,450 --> 00:00:43,700  
Commander Mark Kelly and Pilot Greg Johnson got down to business the next morning

9  
00:00:46,600 --> 00:00:50,333  
with practice landings in the Shuttle Training Aircraft.

10  
00:00:51,080 --> 00:00:51,976  
The entire crew received instruction and practiced driving the M113 armored personnel

11  
00:00:55,850 --> 00:00:58,983  
carrier as part of its emergency exit training.

12  
00:00:59,970 --> 00:01:04,503  
At Launch Pad 39A, where Endeavour is undergoing final preparations,

13  
00:01:05,030 --> 00:01:05,576

the astronauts inspected the payload for the mission, which already is

14

00:01:09,150 --> 00:01:11,683

tucked inside the shuttle's cargo bay.

15

00:01:12,130 --> 00:01:12,370

Severe weather closed in on the Space Coast for 24 hours, covering the area with heavy winds,

16

00:01:18,090 --> 00:01:19,756

rain, lightning and hail.

17

00:01:20,370 --> 00:01:24,636

While the storms caused no significant damage at the launch pad,

18

00:01:25,100 --> 00:01:26,443

weather conditions caused some delays and reshuffling of training activities.

19

00:01:28,890 --> 00:01:29,643

This included moving the media Q&A, normally held at the launch pad,

20

00:01:32,670 --> 00:01:35,270

into Kennedy's television auditorium.

21

00:01:35,850 --> 00:01:40,250

Greg H. Johnson: "I think every time you strap on a space shuttle,

22

00:01:41,620 --> 00:01:43,989

there is some intimidation among the crew members, knowing there's just an awesome

23

00:01:43,990 --> 00:01:48,990

amount of power and something that's going to be a milestone in their life.

24

00:01:49,880 --> 00:01:50,443

Whether it's the first time, or the fourth time. And Mark and I were talking about it today,

25

00:01:55,450 --> 00:01:59,516

how excited we are to be flying Endeavour in a couple weeks."

26

00:02:00,860 --> 00:02:01,646

With the sun shining again, the crew participated in the centerpiece of the week's activities,

27

00:02:06,340 --> 00:02:06,513

a launch dress rehearsal and practice countdown with the look and feel of a real launch day.

28

00:02:12,300 --> 00:02:17,300

The crew members also rehearsed launch pad emergency evacuation procedures.

29

00:02:17,530 --> 00:02:18,640

With the launch site exercises behind them, the astronauts returned to their home base,

30

00:02:22,220 --> 00:02:23,483

NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, where they will continue training before returning

31

00:02:27,090 --> 00:02:29,956

to Florida for their targeted April launch.