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00:00:00,849 --> 00:00:05,810

Hi I'm Mike Massamino and welcome to another episode of Inside the International Space

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00:00:05,810 --> 00:00:06,810

Station.

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00:00:06,810 --> 00:00:14,450

...anybody there, yeah they're still there...we could talk to them directly through the intercom...

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00:00:14,450 --> 00:00:16,170

we closed the hatches the night before...

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00:00:16,170 --> 00:00:23,119

Today we're going to be doing something a little bit different.

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00:00:23,119 --> 00:00:27,860

We're going to be talking to two of my buddies, these two guys making fun of me behind my

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00:00:27,860 --> 00:00:34,670

back over here, over my shoulder, my two friends Ron Garan and Mike Fossum spent about 4 months

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00:00:34,670 --> 00:00:38,910

in space together and they're here to talk to us today about their adventures.

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00:00:38,910 --> 00:00:39,910

Guys.

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00:00:39,910 --> 00:00:42,499

Hey Mass, good to see ya.

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00:00:42,499 --> 00:00:48,999

Alright so, Mike arrives and how much later was 135, the last shuttle flight?

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00:00:48,999 --> 00:00:52,109
Three, four weeks, four five... a few weeks.

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00:00:52,109 --> 00:00:53,300
So what was that like for you guys?

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00:00:53,300 --> 00:00:54,699
Both work wise and emotionally.

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00:00:54,699 --> 00:00:56,399
It's a very historic and a big deal.

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00:00:56,399 --> 00:01:00,459
The run up to it was huge.

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00:01:00,459 --> 00:01:05,299
We got there and it's like, Hi, glad to see ya, we got a lot of work to do.

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00:01:05,299 --> 00:01:06,740
Okay.

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00:01:06,740 --> 00:01:09,229
We call it the road to 135.

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00:01:09,229 --> 00:01:11,020
The next flight.

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00:01:11,020 --> 00:01:13,520
It's all of the things that have to be done.

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00:01:13,520 --> 00:01:18,740
We had a conference with our flight director, Ed Van Cise, who was responsible for leading

23
00:01:18,740 --> 00:01:21,119
us through this historic time.

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00:01:21,119 --> 00:01:26,700
He says guys we have all of these things that we have to do and each one of them has to

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00:01:26,700 --> 00:01:28,850
be done on the day we have it scheduled.

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00:01:28,850 --> 00:01:34,200
And so we're not telling you to work late but, they all have to be done because we don't

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00:01:34,200 --> 00:01:36,039
have a day to slip them to.

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00:01:36,039 --> 00:01:38,759
Okay, okay, we understand.

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00:01:38,759 --> 00:01:42,600
So let's start pedalin' harder.

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00:01:42,600 --> 00:01:43,740
So it's just busy.

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00:01:43,740 --> 00:01:49,299
It's getting everything ready, it's getting everything prepacked that had to go home and

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00:01:49,299 --> 00:01:54,649
we're trying to free up space because they were bringing a large cargo carrier in the

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00:01:54,649 --> 00:02:00,880
back of the shuttle and we looked around and said we don't have room for a big cargo

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00:02:00,880 --> 00:02:03,689
carrier worth of stuff in here.

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00:02:03,689 --> 00:02:06,690

Where are we going to put all of this stuff?

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00:02:06,690 --> 00:02:11,920

And so we had to clean out, kinda like having a garage sale.

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00:02:11,920 --> 00:02:13,720

Oh yeah,eah, yeah, garage sale.

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00:02:13,720 --> 00:02:15,880

Well more like a dumpster.

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00:02:15,880 --> 00:02:20,080

So cleaning everything out, getting room for all the new supplies that were coming in and

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00:02:20,080 --> 00:02:21,650

stuff that you needed to hand off to them, right?

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00:02:21,650 --> 00:02:23,880

It sounds like you had to return a bunch of stuff too.

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00:02:23,880 --> 00:02:29,530

Well, you had to move stuff out and it's really a trick doing this because they come

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00:02:29,530 --> 00:02:33,610

up and the cargo carrier is full and we're pretty much full and you have to unload the

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00:02:33,610 --> 00:02:37,100

cargo carrier of all of the stuff that's staying behind before you can start filling

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00:02:37,100 --> 00:02:38,100

it back up too.

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00:02:38,100 --> 00:02:42,390
So you start pulling stuff out and you're moving some stuff back in and Sandy Magnus,

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00:02:42,390 --> 00:02:49,800
she's the logistician, she's the load master, and hats off.

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00:02:49,800 --> 00:02:51,020
What an amazing job she did.

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00:02:51,020 --> 00:02:52,540
So she knew what had to go where.

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00:02:52,540 --> 00:02:55,540
Oh, she cracked the whip.

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00:02:55,540 --> 00:02:57,180
She was totally on top of that.

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00:02:57,180 --> 00:03:00,270
She had to be because there's a lot of stuff, thousands of pounds of stuff.

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00:03:00,270 --> 00:03:01,270
Ok, and then they left.

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00:03:01,270 --> 00:03:05,940
And again you talked a little bit about that and again what was your feeling Mike?

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00:03:05,940 --> 00:03:09,470
Ron talked a little bit about it when he started.

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00:03:09,470 --> 00:03:13,790
We were real busy; we had a hard time even getting them to even relax.

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00:03:13,790 --> 00:03:18,020
Remember that, they had some time off but they were still working and transferring stuff.

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00:03:18,020 --> 00:03:26,240
It was like stop, come, enjoy an orbit a night pass and we had a hard time just getting them

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00:03:26,240 --> 00:03:27,240
to unwind.

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00:03:27,240 --> 00:03:29,550
I think everybody regrets that when you get home.

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00:03:29,550 --> 00:03:35,150
You get the work done but you need just a little bit of time for you to appreciate where

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00:03:35,150 --> 00:03:43,110
you, where we're at and what's going on and our part in this grand adventure.

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00:03:43,110 --> 00:03:48,560
But it was, we finally reached the point where, everybody's kinda delaying it but it's

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00:03:48,560 --> 00:03:54,950
time to say goodbye and you count noses to make sure everybody's on the right side

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00:03:54,950 --> 00:03:56,720
of the hatch.

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00:03:56,720 --> 00:04:00,090
We tried really hard to trade me and Sandy.

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00:04:00,090 --> 00:04:04,130
Fergie wouldn't have anything of it.

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00:04:04,130 --> 00:04:07,510

No, Fergie wouldn't hear it.

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00:04:07,510 --> 00:04:11,120

But we finally get the hatches closed and
odd thing, I think this is odd, I don't

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00:04:11,120 --> 00:04:12,120

like it.

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00:04:12,120 --> 00:04:15,090

We closed the hatches the night before.

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00:04:15,090 --> 00:04:16,910

So they stayed docked.

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00:04:16,910 --> 00:04:18,540

They stayed docked overnight.

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00:04:18,540 --> 00:04:20,180

Right on the other side of the hatch.

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00:04:20,180 --> 00:04:21,530

You could knock.

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00:04:21,530 --> 00:04:22,530

Anybody there?

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00:04:22,530 --> 00:04:24,220

Yeah, there still there.

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00:04:24,220 --> 00:04:30,620

But it's kind of odd because they're just
feet away but now the hatches are closed.

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00:04:30,620 --> 00:04:34,820

So it's interesting, we had a little bit

of a malfunction on communications systems

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00:04:34,820 --> 00:04:39,400
where we could talk to them directly through
the intercom but they couldn't talk to us

81
00:04:39,400 --> 00:04:44,330
but through the radio so we had a little fun
with that.

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00:04:44,330 --> 00:04:47,850
Cause we were asking them questions and you
know they had to answer us..

83
00:04:47,850 --> 00:04:49,340
We'd say ya know, Do you miss us yet?

84
00:04:49,340 --> 00:04:50,340
Yes.

85
00:04:50,340 --> 00:04:51,340
We miss you.

86
00:04:51,340 --> 00:04:59,810
And they had to broadcast on the radio so
ground would hear as well?

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00:04:59,810 --> 00:05:00,810
Right.

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00:05:00,810 --> 00:05:07,470
You know when we closed that hatch that was
pretty significant because we were closing

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00:05:07,470 --> 00:05:14,400
the hatch that every shuttle, well most of
the shuttles that docked went through and

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00:05:14,400 --> 00:05:21,350

it's going to be a long time before a vehicle docks to that and you know brings up astronauts

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00:05:21,350 --> 00:05:27,130

and so we really felt like we were closing a chapter in our space program.

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00:05:27,130 --> 00:05:29,090

We were.

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00:05:29,090 --> 00:05:33,490

But we hope that it signifies the opening of a new chapter, one which will bring us

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00:05:33,490 --> 00:05:36,270

beyond low earth orbit because that's the whole idea behind the thing.

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00:05:36,270 --> 00:05:42,800

As part of the hatch closing ceremony we had a Space Shuttle model that's up there near

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00:05:42,800 --> 00:05:48,730

that docking port as well as the flag that flew on STS-1, the very first shuttle flight.

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00:05:48,730 --> 00:05:50,402

So Fergie and his crew brought that up.

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00:05:50,402 --> 00:05:56,150

That was brought up by Fergie, the 135 crew and it's now installed on that hatch.

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00:05:56,150 --> 00:06:01,990

It was an odd thing actually to sit there and say as much traffic as we've had and

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00:06:01,990 --> 00:06:09,300

the big focus in the Space Station Program, the milestones are next Shuttle flights and

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00:06:09,300 --> 00:06:15,300

the next stage, the next piece that you're adding to it then to realize it's done.

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00:06:15,300 --> 00:06:16,780

We built it.

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00:06:16,780 --> 00:06:21,510

And not only that but the Shuttle program is done and when we close this hatch we're

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00:06:21,510 --> 00:06:25,710

closing it and we don't know what vehicle is going to be on the other side of that hatch

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00:06:25,710 --> 00:06:27,150

nor when.

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00:06:27,150 --> 00:06:31,770

That was a very odd thing, you know, actually.

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00:06:31,770 --> 00:06:38,340

The next morning when they actually did the undocking, I couldn't help myself, I opened

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00:06:38,340 --> 00:06:44,590

up the shutters on one of the cupola windows and got some photos as they're backing away.

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00:06:44,590 --> 00:06:53,330

You know, knowing that this is history and to me the way that Atlantis had that robot

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00:06:53,330 --> 00:06:59,590

arm and the boom in the grasp of the robot arm and just a way of handling the loads and

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00:06:59,590 --> 00:07:05,990

possible interference with the jets and stuff
that thing was kind of crossed over the payload

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00:07:05,990 --> 00:07:10,800

bay and to me it really looked like a salute.

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00:07:10,800 --> 00:07:16,650

Of the Shuttle Atlantis, the final mission,
as it's backing away it's holding a salute

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00:07:16,650 --> 00:07:19,770

to the station, to the ISS.

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00:07:19,770 --> 00:07:25,200

And really a salute to the allegiance of people
that have made that program so successful