



РЕГИОНАЛЬНАЯ ОБЩЕСТВЕННАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ «Клуб ветеранов Морского космического флота»

Коллективный член РОО «Федерация космонавтики России»

To the 41st Sino/Russian Technical Forum
of the British Interplanetary Society (London)

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Dear friends,
we are sending our greetings to the Forum participants who have gathered to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the flight of the "Salyut" orbital station.

We are addressing to you on behalf of a group of enthusiasts and veterans of the Soviet Space Research Fleet regarding the preservation of the R/V Kosmonavt Viktor Patsaev, the last surviving Soviet space tracking ship.

The Soviet Space Research Fleet was laid down in 1959 on the initiative of Sergei Korolev in connection with preparations for the launch of the first automatic interplanetary stations of the Mars and Venus type, as well as the Vostok manned spacecraft. The entire history of the development of Soviet cosmonautics is strongly linked with reliable support from the Soviet Space Research Fleet. The main task of the Fleet was to control spacecraft, trajectory and telemetry measurements, to maintain communication with the crews of spaceships and stations. After the Soviet Union split up due economic difficulties in the 1990s, the Fleet was dissolved.

To date, the only one ship of the Soviet Space Research Fleet survived, the R/V Kosmonavt Viktor Patsaev, docked at the pier of the World Ocean Museum in Kaliningrad.

In 2016, thanks to the efforts of the veterans of the Soviet Space Research Fleet, the ship was enclosed in the Unified State Register of Cultural Heritage Objects of Russia. Veteran's societies propose to create a Soviet Space Research Fleet Museum on board.

The owner of the ship is a joint-stock company affiliated with Roskosmos. For a long time, the situation with the financial support of the ship maintenance and organization of the Museum onboard is being discussed, but till now no part takes the responsibility of financing. Unfortunately, without proper funding, the ship slowly but surely comes into a deplorable state, and the further, the more funds and efforts will be required to restore it.

Finally, there is a unique ship of the Soviet Space Research Fleet, which here, in Russia, cannot find a reliable owner capable of maintaining it as a monument and museum.

It is especially offensive to realize this in the year of the 50th anniversary of the flight of the world's first orbital station "Salyut" and the spacecraft "Soyuz-11" with cosmonauts Georgi Dobrovolsky, Vladislav Volkov, Viktor Patsayev on board.

The urgency of the situation forces us to apply to various cultural organizations. If you have any ideas how to support the ship "Kosmonavt Viktor Patsaev", please contact us.

We appreciate your interest to the Space research history and international solidarity.

References:

1. <https://world-ocean.ru/en/kosmonavt-viktor-patsayev>
2. <http://niskvp.ru/index.php/21-otdelnye-stati/204-otchjot-o-poezdke-na-nis-kosmonavt-viktor-patsaev-iyun-2012>

Sincerely yours,

Anatoly Kapitanov,
Chairman of veteran`s organization
“Club of Veterans of the Marine Space Fleet”



Anatoly Kurochkin,
Chairman of veteran`s organization
“Union of Veterans of Ships of the Command and Measurement Complex”



Svetlana Patsaeva,
Daughter of cosmonaut Viktor Patsaev



Vladimir Proschenko,
Veteran of the Space Research Fleet,
Coordinator



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