

Early Return From Space?

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ALMATY, Kazakhstan — Kazakh officials said Wednesday that the return to Earth of three astronauts from the international space station might be brought forward to next week so it does not clash with an international summit.

U.S. astronauts Douglas Wheelock and Shannon Walker and Russia's Fyodor Yurchikhin had been due to land Nov. 30. Kazakh officials have requested that air space be kept clear for the Dec. 1-2 summit by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The capital, Astana, where the security summit is due to be held, is about 400 kilometers away from the planned landing site.✉

(AP)