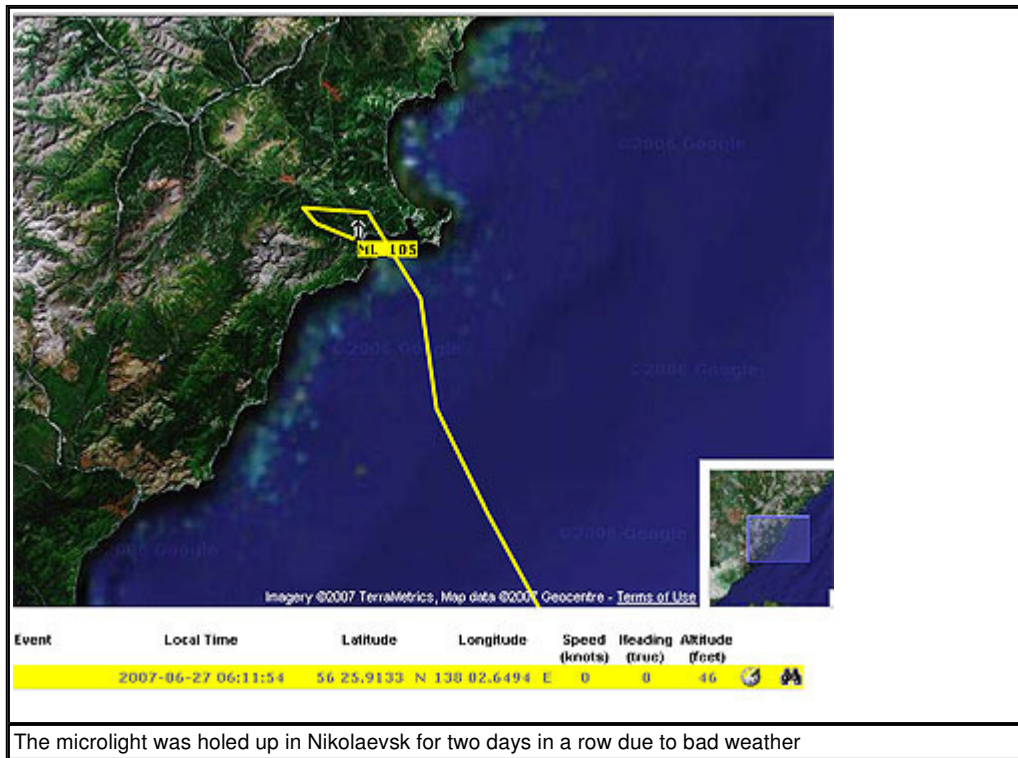


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NEW DELHI: The IAF *Round the World Expedition* took off from Nikolaevsk on Wednesday at 0920 hrs. Earlier, the microlight remained holed up in Nikolaevsk for two days in a row due to bad weather.

According to latest reports reaching here, the microlight is soon going to land at its next destination, Ajan in Russia. And if weather permits, the microlight will then continue its flight from Ajan to Ohotsk, also in Russia.

The forecast for the day indicates clear weather, although initial reports indicated bad climatic conditions.

The Russian leg of the expedition is right now being handled by only Wg Cdr Monga as Russian Air Traffic Control converses in Russian alone and it is therefore mandatory to have a Russian speaking navigator in the machine.

The other pilot, Wing Commander Anil Kumar will meet the expedition when it reaches Alaska.

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