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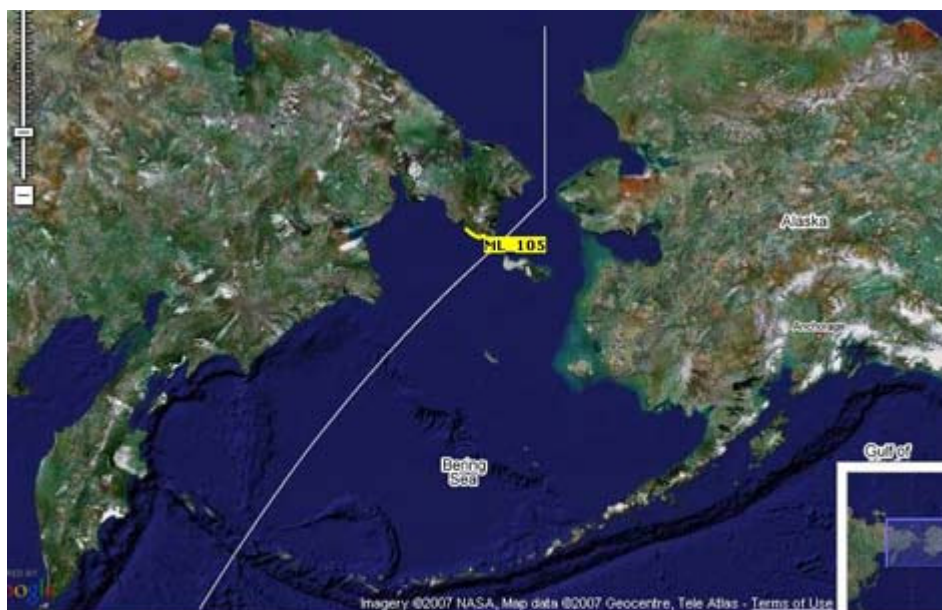
THE TIMES OF INDIA

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Day 35: RTW reaches Provideniya, its last stop in Russia

5 Jul 2007, 1000 hrs IST, INDIATIMES NEWS NETWORK

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Name	Event	Local Time	Latitude	Longitude	Speed (knots)	Heading (true)	Altitude (feet)
ML-105		2007-07-05 04:18:57	64 23.0313 N	173 13.9488	0	0	145

Round the World Expedition landed at Provideniya, its last stop in Russia on Thursday.

The IAF Microlight Expedition round the world has reached a critical stage with the machine, flown in this leg by Wing Cdr. Rahul Monga alone, reaching Provideniya, its last stop in Russia.

On Thursday, Monga took off from Markovo and landed in Anadyr around 5:50 IST, a distance of 348 KM, and then on to Prodeniya, another 432 KM.

The IAF RTW Expedition is already delayed by 12 days. On Wednesday, the two IAF pilots were supposed to have landed in Colorado Springs, USA. But they are still in the last leg of Russian territory.

On Friday, if all goes well, Monga will take off from Provideniya and reach Nome, in Alaska, USA. This 387 KM stretch will be the first time an Indian would be flying solo over the Bering Sea.

After a refuelling stop in Nome, where the co-pilot, Wg Cdr. Anil Kumar will rejoin the expedition, the duo will fly to McGrath, a distance of 513 KM and then on to Anchorage, another 359 KM away.

The expedition is behind schedule due to bad weather over most of China and Russia in the past 20 days. However, the duo is hopeful of making up at least a few days as it flies into clearer weather across the US.

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