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Day 48: RTW expedition reaches Santa Paula

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NEW DELHI: The IAF RTW expedition reached Santa Paula in California on Wednesday.

The pilots earlier took off from Tracy on Wednesday morning. They reached Tracy in the US around 7.00 AM IST on Tuesday where they were hosted by Society of Indian Veterans in America. People travelled from distant places to cheer the brave hearts.

On Thursday, the duo plan to fly till Buckeye, in Arizona, and if time permits, Dona Ana in New Mexico. Each leg of 3.5 hours, which means 700 nm or about 1200 km. However, the aircraft is also due for servicing on Thursday morning. And if that delays the departure, it would be just one leg.

The expedition has been hamstrung by poor weather over China, Russia and then the US.

The expedition is still hopeful of creating a World Record in circumnavigating the globe in the shortest possible time. It had originally planned for 64 days, but is delayed by several days now. It is still in line to break the 99 days existing record though.

[Congratulate Wing Cdr Rahul Monga](#)

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