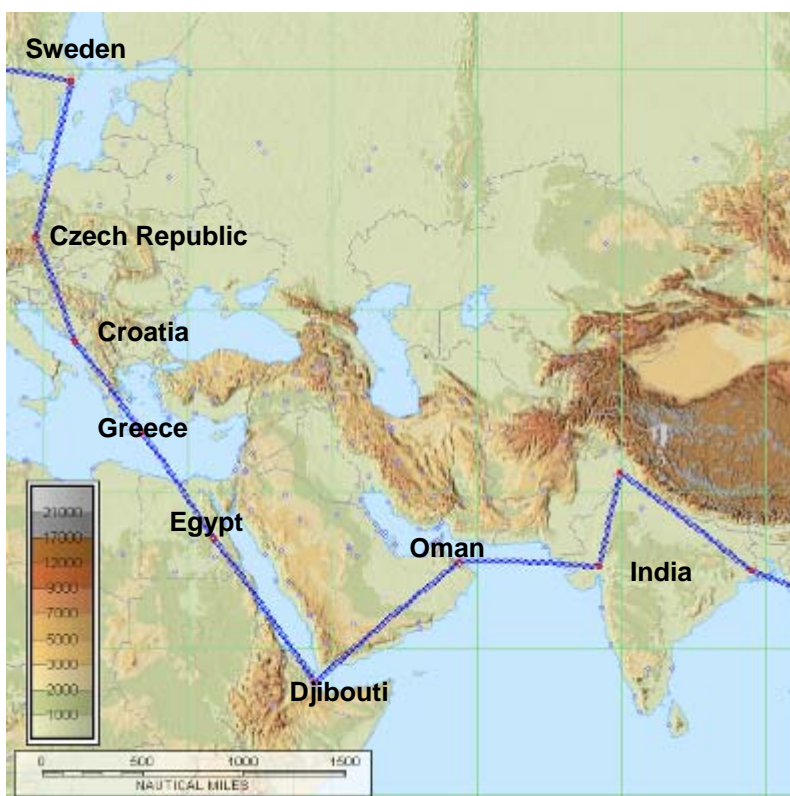


News letter 5

This newsletter have focus on the actual journey that the WFH expedition will undertake starting March 2006. The around-the-world-flight will involve visiting more than 25 countries. The final routing is not written in ink yet; as long as we are building contacts with different organizations around the world that are interested in WFH we're planning accordingly. We're also trying to match the route to coincide with some major flight events to reach out our message to an even wider audience.

The journey is planned to start down south from Sweden passing Denmark and having Prague as one of the stops. On the way down in Europe we will visit some of hard of hearing organizations that have invited to get to see the airplane. We will then continue to Croatia and then head for Iraklion in Greece. After leaving the Mediterranean the flight continues to Egypt and Luxor. A couple of days will be spent to experience the old Egyptian historical places such as the *The Valley of the Kings*.

The flight then continues south of Saudi Arabia over the Red Sea to the small country of Djibouti and the capital Jibuti. We have now passed the African continent and will head towards Asia. Before entering Asia there will be a stop in Muscat, Oman which is located east of Saudi Arabia. The next leg is straight east towards India just passing south of Pakistan airspace. The first stop in India will be Ahmadabad and after that we will turn north to the north-west corner of India, namely to the city of Amritsar. The intention is to achieve experience from hard of hearing people and organizations in the region of Amritsar before we fly south-east along the Himalayan mountain ridge towards Calcutta.

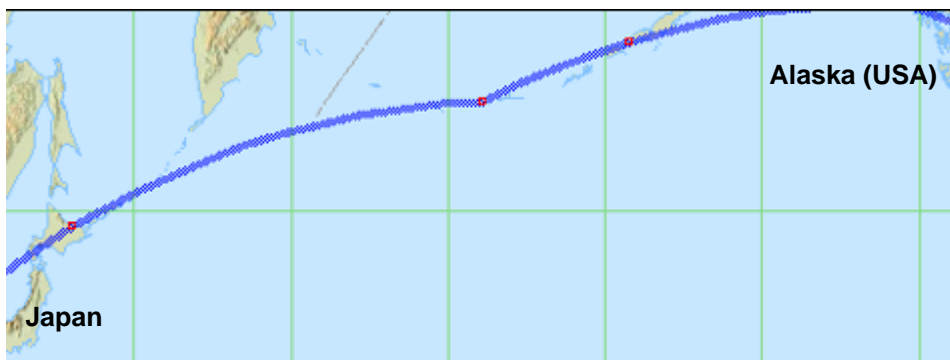


The next country to fly to is Thailand and its northern City of Chiang Mai. After a short stop we will then fly into Vietnam. In Vietnam we will visit a school for hearing impaired and share our experiences from our trip and spread the message of World Flight for Hearing. The journey then continues south-west to the Penang Island in Malaysia and then further to Jakarta in Indonesia. A pretty long flight will take us down to the north coast of the huge continent of Australia. The first stop here will be Darwin, the northern capital of Australia. We will probably spot a few crocodiles before it is time to head south for Alice Springs and the mountain sculptures of Ayers Rock (the Aborigines call the mountain Uluru). On the countryside in Australia there is real school to keep children in. Instead of this all countryside children attend the Alice Springs School of the Air. This institution uses radio communication to provide lessons for children living in remote Outback areas. The WFH team will visit this school and get to know how they take care of hearing impaired children!

After some time in the desert we are heading eastbound to Brisbane where we also will do the first maintenance stop for the airplane. Normally, there is a regular maintenance stop every 50 or 100 flight hours depending on aircraft type. When we have reached Brisbane we will have accomplished around 90 flight hours. During the maintenance stop we will take the opportunity to make our hard of hearing school visits in Australia to learn a bit more about the situation on this continent. After the maintenance stop we will fly northbound again after several weeks with the compass on a southbound compass heading. Now we will head for Timika in Indonesia via Cairns as the final destination in Australia. After Timika with its high surrounding mountains we'll continue further north-west among the Indonesian Islands with Manado as destination. The aircraft is then headed northbound to Lapu-Lapu in the Philippines and further north to Laoag. A long flight will then bring us to South Korea and Cheju on the Island of Jeju. This is a small Island where a lot of South Korean people head for vacation. In South Korea we will be welcomed by locals that will show us around in the area and teach us about their country. After visiting South Korea, we will make another long flight that will take us to Memanbetsu in the northern part of Japan.



The reason to go to Memanbetsu is that it is the airport that is close enough for us to reach Alaska from Japan. The plan is to fly directly to Alaska unless we can arrange permissions to enter Russian airspace and refuel in Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskij cutting down the distance to Alaska. If we cannot make it with the Russian authorities we will make the longest leg on the whole journey constituting of approximately 3250 km directly from Japan to Alaska. The destination will be Adak which is an island midway along the Aleutian Island chain southwest of mainland Alaska.



After this long flight we'll continue further east towards the mainland of Alaska with Cold Bay as the first larger establishment. Next stop is Sitka and then we enter Canadian airspace and head for the city of Calgary. In Calgary we will perform some events together with our sponsors and the local organizations for hard of hearing people and professionals such as the audiologist organization in Canada. The expedition then heads straight south for Las Vegas after some refueling stops. There will be several events around World Flight for Hearing in USA and we are right now planning the activities together with our American partnership organizations.

After USA we are heading into Mexico, first to Culiacán and then further into the highlands with Leon as destination. Leon is a city situated 2000 meters above sea-level. After Leon we're going straight east to Cancún where a visit to the world famous ruins of the ancient Maya culture is a must. If time allows we will then fly south to Panama and visit Panama City and of course get a glimpse of the Panama Canal. The Canal which this year celebrates its 91 birthday has been a very important factor for the shipping infrastructure. Leaving Panama we will fly north to Kingston on the south-east part of Jamaica. Next will be an over-flight of Cuban airspace heading for Key West in the United States. There will be more exciting visits along the east coast in USA. We plan to visit school where there are many hard of hearing children attending. We also plan to meet the hard of hearing organization representatives and discuss hard of hearing issues in USA. In USA we will also perform the second scheduled maintenance stop for the WFH aircraft.



We will continue northwards along the east coast, passing through one of the worlds busiest airspaces we will land at the Westchester airport just 15 minutes flying north of Manhattan. We will of course take the opportunity to fly along the Hudson River in between Manhattan and New Jersey State. This is a small corridor where you can fly towards and circle around the statue of liberty.



After leaving the New York area we will fly into Canada again towards Toronto, we have there planned more hard of hearing activities. Leaving Toronto we will fly north-east towards Bangor and then further north to Goose Bay. Goose Bay is the northern outpost and last refueling stop when flying across the Atlantic towards Greenland. When having suitable weather to do the Atlantic crossing we will set heading for Narsarsuaq where we will do refueling before continuing towards Iceland and Reykjavik. Iceland holds fantastic scenery and of course we will try out the hot steam outdoor bathing activities such as the famous Blue Lagoon. The journey around the world is about to reach its final destination, but before that we will land at Vagar on the Faroe Islands for refueling and also visit several countries in Europe to perform hard of hearing related activities. At this moment we are not certain what countries we will visit – we are in the middle of the planning process.



This concludes the around-the-world flightplan which will cover more than 60 000 km. During the expedition we will continuously update our website with stories and photos as well as the location of the World Flight for Hearing expedition team. We will bring you the stories and highlights as soon as they are happening; make sure to keep an eye at www.worldflightforhearing.com!

World Flight for Hearing Team

Contact information

Email: info@worldflightforhearing.com

Phone: + 46 70 481 00 09

Website: www.worldflightforhearing.com

Principal Sponsor



Other partnership organizations



About World Flight for Hearing

World Flight for Hearing, sponsored by GN ReSound, is a world recognized expedition that intends to raise publicity about hearing impairment and hearing impaired people and their possibilities. Founder of the project is hearing impaired Johan Hammarström, 28, that, despite his hearing impairment has managed to become an experienced pilot. Johan is a living proof that with the right attitude and the right technical aids anything is possible. Johan and his team consisting of Henrik Ejderholm and Martin Håkansson will accomplish the expedition in collaboration with hard of hearing organizations, professional's organizations and the industry.

About this News Letter

The World Flight for Hearing News Letter is distributed on a frequent basis to everyone who is interested to get news about the project. If you do not wish to get this email - please make a reply to this email to cancel your news mail.