

Press release of 25.07.07 (18)

Single-engine plane from Germany lands in Vancouver **Red roses float from the sky**

**Private pilots on a round the world trip in a single-engine Cessna: 28,000 nautical miles, 30 countries and 50 landings in 80 days. Reception held by Mayor Akiba
Guests bring a message from Hanover.**

On August 29, red roses will float from the skies of Vancouver International Airport. Pilot Uwe Thomas Carstensen (60) and his co-pilot Hans Christian Albertsen (59), who are flying around the world in a single-engine plane, are making a three-day stopover in British Columbia. The Cessna T206H's fuselage is decorated with pictures of red roses and the name "Marie". Which is a declaration of love from the pilot to his wife. After all, Maria Carstensen will have to stay behind in Germany without her husband for 80 days.

The father always wanted to return to Canada

The pilot is particularly pleased that he will be seeing his father, Carsten Hans Carstensen again, who close to 55 years ago emigrated to Canada. Carsten Carstensen earned his money by repairing trucks used for opencast mining. For many years he worked in the Montréal and Winnipeg areas, before he came to the Rocky Mountains with a mining company. Today Carstensen lives at Logan Lake. Back then his plan was to bring his family from Germany to Canada, but his wife at the time did not want to leave her home country. Now Carstensen is married to his third wife, a German he got to know during a holiday back home. Every two to three years, Carstensen visits his family in Germany, but always wants to return because he just likes Canada better.

Pilots in rose-painted plane in Canadian airspace for several days

After saying goodbye to Carstensen's father, the pilots have several long flights right over Canada in front of them. On September 3, they will leave Vancouver and fly towards Fort McMurray. The pilots' flight plan predicts 4.5 hours for this route covering some 600 nautical miles. Fort McMurray to Station Churchill will

- Start of the second leg on July 31 in Sydney
- New on board: Co-Pilot Hans Christian Albertsen from Husum in Germany
- 135 flying hours still to complete. Longest flight: 2,400 kilometres taking 10.5 hours
- Rose-painted plane will land in Vancouver August 29
- Pilot to visit his 88-year-old father in Canada
- Return to Hanover is scheduled for September 14

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take another 600 nautical miles and is scheduled for September 4. On September 6, seven hours flight time and some 850 nautical miles are required to cross Hudson Bay before reaching the destination Iqaluit.

After travelling for several weeks, pilot Uwe Thomas Carstensen feels well up to the job: "We've tested all the equipment including the oxygen flasks and survival suit. So we'll manage the flight over the vast expanse of Canada easily."

Global trip started mid March

Carstensen and Albertsen are the 139th crew since 1924 to fly around the world in a single engine plane. Their adventure began in Germany in the middle of March. Their flight route has taken them over South East Europe, the Middle East, Pakistan, India and South-East Asia, right across the Australian continent to Sydney, where the first leg of the round the world flight ended.

On August 1, the rose-painted plane took off on the second leg of the global adventure. Via Indonesia and several stops in South East Asia, the Germans flew to Japan, to the Russian peninsula of Kamchatka and from the Bering Straits to Nome in Alaska. The adventure will end on September 14 in Hanover, Germany.

For the whole flight route, the pilots' travel reports, log book entries and background reports about the adventure see www.globeflight-rallye.com



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