



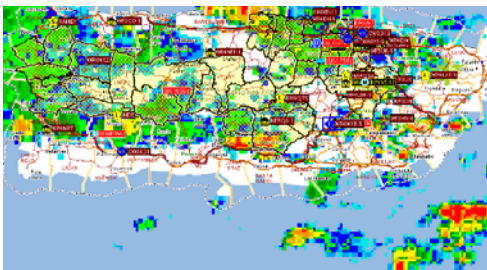
## PR SPACE GRANT CONSORCIUM FLIGHT NO. 6– JULY 1, 2006 “Making a Splash”

“Study nature, love nature, stay close to nature. It will never fail you.”

### FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT

It might be a hobby. It might be dedication. It might be just for the fun of it. One thing we now by now, and it is that we are going to learn on each flight. If you embark in such projects you are destined to “make a splash”.

July 1, 2006 was not the perfect day in terms of weather predictions and logistics; it was a matter of choice. Choice in terms of probably the most important fact in this mission, determination. Determination to make it happen.



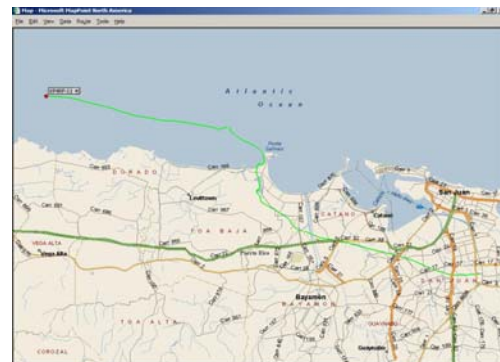
From the start it was a special approach for flight no. 6. We were between two tropical waves and half of our regular crowd was out. Nevertheless, this was a special flight, the “graduation” of a High School Teachers workshop. A practical exam for committed teachers eager to practice what they will deliver next year to their students.

All projections indicated a “wet” landing, therefore arrangements were completed on Friday for a boat for sea recovery, and launching time was delayed on Saturday.

Several decisions were made, such as what the load should be used under actual conditions. Many questions were discussed, including: How many modules shall we launch?, How many cameras?, How many GPS?, etc. Based on the weather conditions and the odds that we will probably encounter it was decided to only fly one module (One camera – one GPS). Very quick and sharp changes were taken in the field. There was a

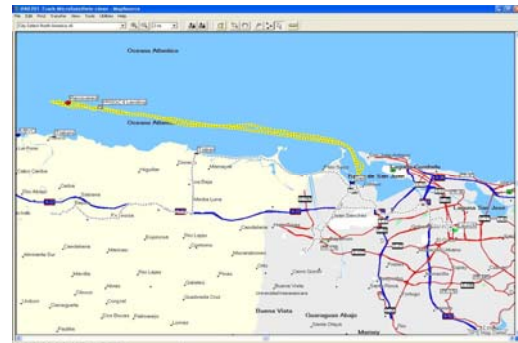
window with FAA that we could not miss to make the launch.

The micro satellite was launched at 10:45 a.m. local time, and it was in the sky (duration) for 1 hour 46 minutes. Reaching a maximum altitude of 32,803 feet, in which parachute cord was “cut” to assure recovery at a practical distance from shore. Traveled



distance was 19.2 miles.

Once the “cord” was cut by mission control,

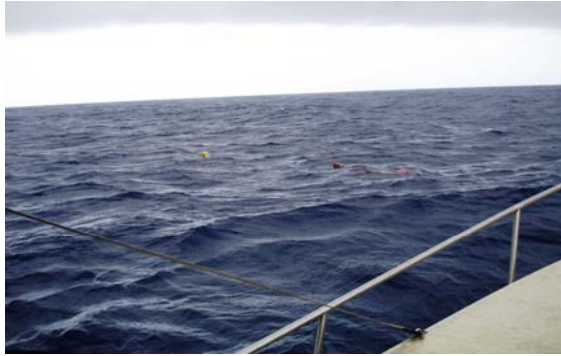


two groups were in action, one in land and another by sea. The cargo landed at sea, almost 1.7 miles from the north coast of Dorado, PR. The land crews provided the last coordinates, which resulted crucial for the “sea tracker” to recover it.

The land trackers were handling a nice shower (heavy rain) and the sea trackers same rain plus 6 – 8 feet waves all the way

in and out. Next graphic shows the sea trackers route.

The following photos catch the spirit during the sea search and after recovery (sorry for the land crews, but they were inside the vehicles due to the rain!).



Cargo recovered close to 600 meters from last coordinate, and 2.0 miles north of Dorado, Puerto Rico.



“Flagging” the recovered cargo when entering San Juan Bay. What a happy crew!



The experience was “priceless” for the crew which included two teachers.

But like in golf, there is always one last good shot that will make us come back. This photo catches it...

We do not know how many times it has been caught in a picture, but this photo grabs the actual impact of the micro satellite after a controlled decent of 32,000 feet. Note the foam or splash of the first box hitting the ocean.



Again, we wanted “to make a splash” and our wishes were granted.

This adventure and project was successfully completed as a result of the work of:

**Mission Managers:**

Oscar Resto, KP4RF, Gladys Nilda Muñoz, NP3BY

**Flight Director:**

Juan Agrinoni, WP3DN

**Flight Director Assistants:**

Rafael Velázquez, NP4VO, Oscar A. Resto Muñoz, Delmer Walker, WP4DM, Fernando Reyes, WP4KS

**Recovery Director:**

Héctor Cintrón, N1TKK

**Recovery Team (Trackers):**

Oscar Resto, KP4RF, Gladys Nilda Muñoz, NP3BY  
Francisco A. Díaz, NP3OD, Carlos Velázquez, KP4VE  
José Palau, KP4TP, Tomás Gerena, WP3BH  
Nestor Alonso, WP4BL

**High School Teachers:**

Migdalia Robles Nieves, Juan Carlos Rivera  
Wanda Aviles, Maritza Rodríguez

**The following persons also assisted:**

Nelson Nevares, Víctor Torres  
Maria del Mar Torres, Rafael Vega

**Boat Captain:**

William Resto Hau (82 years young)

Written by:

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