



My flight plan was approved for flying over Tehran, Esfehan and

Shiraz . This flight was about 980 nautical miles and I had 25 knots of head wind that made the flight more challenging over high mountains of

Iran and limited fuel.

I climbed to my assigned flight level 190. Fifteen minutes into the flight over the Caspian Sea and still in Azerbaijan territory, Baku radar informed me that

Tehran will not accept this flight unless I climb to flight level 210. I accepted the altitude and climbed.

Soon after I entered the Iranian airspace Mehrabad control center told me that my flight over

Tehran was forbidden and I must take a different route. They vectored me around the west side of

Tehran . My original route would put me over the Liberty Square, but the re-routing prevented me to over fly the monument.

My flight over Esfahan and

Shiraz was according to my flight plan. Due to high terrain I lost radio communication for nearly 20 minutes. I finally established radio communication with

Shiraz .

As I was approaching

Shiraz I requested to over fly Persapolice . My request was denied and I was tolled that it was a restricted area. Once I was over

Shiraz airport, I started to communicate in my native language with the local air traffic controller. I told him about my flight around the world and soon I received overwhelming welcome and cheers from him and other pilots on the same frequency who where flying commuter aircrafts. For the next thirty minutes we used that frequency and talked about the flight. We shared thoughts and information about Freedom Flight. We exchanged names and it was very apparent that we made connection.Â

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The air traffic controller told me when I earlier requested to fly over Persapolice he did not know I was an Iranian, otherwise he would have granted my request. I told him it is not too late and I could turn around. He vectored me to the site. It was the moment of victory and I was overwhelmed with the feeling of pride flying over Persopolice that is the first sign of structural civilization and the symbol of

Persian Empire .

I finally crossed the southern boarder of Iran in to

Persian Gulf and entered Emirateâ€™s territory. It was a mix emotion of reaching safety, and leaving my motherland and few friends I made behind.Â

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After nearly 8 hours of flight, I finely arrived at

Dubai that has the most unbearable heat.

