

ALP40-Alpha

Sadly, The American Legion Amateur Radio Club's first balloon ALP40-A (Alpha) went silent overnight, April 17/18, 2024 and has not been heard from in 24 hours. Alpha was over Brazil amongst numerous thunderstorms, super cells, with heights in excess of 55,000'. Most likely it went down somewhere in the area West of Sao Luis, Brazil. The balloon had been up for over 74 days, traveled over 150,000 miles and 6+ laps around the world. We at TALARC consider it a successful first effort at Pico-ballooning.

Some WSPR transmissions have been picked from the ALP40-Alpha balloon, which confirms it is down in Brazil at grid square GI67DM, with an altitude of about 400'. The area is very rural, so no attempt at recovery will be made.