

C-O-P-Y

U.S. COAST GUARD  
OFFICIAL DISPATCH

FROM ITASCA  
TO HEADQUARTERS

6004 YOUR 6004 1909 FOR SECRETARY MORGENTHAU HAVE SEARCHED AREA NW TO NE OF  
HOWLAND RADIUS 120 MILES WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS THOUGH VIS WEATHER AND SEA  
CONDITIONS EXCELLENT PERIOD EXTRA AND VIGILANT LOOKOUTS POSTED AND CONTINUAL  
USE BOTH HIGH POWER SEARCHLIGHTS DURING DARKNESS PERIOD AM REASONABLY CERTAIN  
PARTY IS NOT AFLOAT IN AREA INDICATED PERIOD COMMENCED RECTANGULAR SEARCH THIS  
MORNING AT DAY BREAK 180 MERIDIAN TO HOWLAND ISLAND BETWEEN LAT 020 NORTH AND  
130 NORTH PERIOD ESTIMATE ORIGIN THIS SEARCH WELL TO WESTWARD AND LEEWARD OF  
PLANE POSITION IS PLANE DOWN WEST OF ISLAND PERIOD PRESENT CURRENT SETTING  
WEST ONE HALF KNOTS WIND ESTIMATED ONE KNOT WEST PERIOD WEATHER OVERCAST VIS  
EXCELLENT SEA VERY MODERATE AND FAVORABLE PERIOD WILL HAVE COVERED INDICATED  
AREA TO HOWLAND BY TUESDAY EVENING 6 JULY PERIOD ESTIMATE SEARCHING THREE  
THOUSAND SQUARE MILES DAYLIGHT VIS AND ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED SQUARE MILES  
DURING NIGHT 1515

TOR 224 NAVY # LN

83272  
126

Earhart

INFORMATION  
ON  
MISS EARTHART'S FLIGHT  
ON THE LAE, NEW GUIENA, - HOWLAND ISLAND  
SECTION OF HER WORLD FLIGHT

W.T. Miller

C-O-P-Y

U.S. COAST GUARD  
OFFICIAL DISPATCH

FROM ITASCA  
TO HAWAIIAN SECTION  
SAN FRANCISCO DIV. (OPNAV FROM 12TH NAV DIST)

6002 YOUR 6002 1401 WE HAVE HAD NO POSITIONS COMMA SPEED COMMA OR COURSES  
FROM EARHARTS PLANE EXCEPT SO CALLED LINE OF POSITION AT 0843 WHICH HAD NO  
REFERENCE POINT PERIOD SHE GAVE US NONE OF HER BEARINGS PERIOD BELIEVE SHE  
PASSED NORTH AND WEST OF ISLAND ABOUT 0800 AND MISSED IT IN THE GLARE OF  
RISING SUN THROUGH WE WERE SMOKING HEAVILY AT THAT TIME PERIOD JUDGE SHE CAME  
DOWN BETWEEN 337 AND 90 FROM HOWLAND AND WITHIN 100 MILES PERIOD HAVE BROADCAST  
AS INDICATED 1402

TOR 2117 NAVY NR 57 DL.

C-O-P-Y

U.S. COAST GUARD  
OFFICIAL DISPATCH

FROM ITASCA

TO SAN FRANCISCO DIV.

HAWAIIAN SECTION  
(14TH NAV DIST OPNAV FROM 12TH NAV DIST)

6002 EARHART UNREPORTED HOWLAND AT 1200 BELIEVE DOWN SHORTLY AFTER 0915 AM  
SEARCHING PROBABLE AREA AND WILL CONTINUE 1315

TOR 2025 NAVY NR 54 DL.



C-O-P-Y

TELEGRAM

FRANK GRIFFIN  
RUSS BLDG  
SAN FRANCISCO CALIF

RECEIVED YOUR TELEGRAM INCLUDING INFORMATION FROM LAE WE APPRECIATE VERY MUCH  
YOUR INTEREST AND COURTESIES EXTENDED STOP WE SHALL BE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING  
THE FULL REPORT IF A COPY CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE BUREAU OF AIR COMMERCE

W T MILLER

c-o-p-y

United States  
Department of the Interior

Office of the Secretary  
Division of the Territories and Island  
Possessions

Washington

July 22, 1937.

Mr. William T. Miller,  
Bureau of Air Commerce - Room 7025,  
Department of Commerce,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Miller:

Conforming telephone advice to you of this date, the following radio-grams for you from Mr. Richard B. Black, Field Representative, Department of the Interior, stationed at Honolulu, T. H., have just been received in this Division:

"U.S.C.G. Itasca - July 22, 1937.  
Hampton Interior Department Territories Washington, D.C.

Following for Miller "Here copy msg giving forecast for July 1 from LT True FAB 'For Earhart, Lae, accurate forecast difficult account lack of reports your vicinity. Conditions appear generally average over route, no major storms apparent. Partly cloudy skies with dangerous local rain squalls about 300 miles east of Lae and scattered heavy showers remainder of route. Winds ESE about 25 knots to Ontario and then E to ENE about 20 knots to Howland.' Will answer six questions your radio in order as follows: Answer 1 - Voice first heard on 3105 to 248 AM fragmentary then fairly good from six fourteen then clear from seven thirty until last with signal strength five. Answer 2 - Only voice signals received from Earhart although ITASCA repeatedly asked for key signals on 500 to make use of ship direction finder possible. Answer 3 - Last reception Earhart 844 to 846 follows 'We on the line of position 157 dash 337 will repeat this message we will repeat this message on 6210 Kilocycles we are running north and south'. Nothing was heard on 6210 Kilocycles, acknowledged our signals only once at 803. ITASCA asked on every transmission that she acknowledge. Answer 5 - Not to our knowledge. Answer 6 - Direction finder I borrowed from Navy was manned by USCG operator on Howland all night but no positive reception until 710 and then transmission too brief to get bearings and added difficulty plane signal hundred percent modulated so no adequate carrier for getting bearing and as stated before no key signals. Here weather Howland July 1, Bar 29.81 temp dry 87 wet 78 two-tenths

cumulus surface wind ENE 14 aloft by thousands ENE 18 ENE 19 ENE 24  
ENE 26 ENE 25 ENE 30 ENE 31 July 2, 29R81 D87 W81 five-tenths  
cumulus surface ESE 16 one ESE 15 two E 17 clouds at 2650 feet.  
Both noon observations. Suggest contact Coast Guard Headquarters for  
further information on text of radio contact with Earhart."

Black

"U.S.C.G ITASCA - July 22, 1937.

Hampton Interior Department Territories Washington, D.C.

Reurad 20th - until time our departure Howland noon 18th  
no planes or other ships of search sighted by Howland Island.  
Twice daily contact with Howland since and no word. Had hoped  
that plane landing might be made in accordance with implied  
invitation my memorandum to Kilpatrick, copy of which you have

Black"

Sincerely yours,

/S/ Ruth Hampton  
Assistant Director.

C-O-P-Y

U.S. COAST GUARD  
OFFICIAL DISPATCH

FROM ITASCA  
TO HEADQUARTERS  
HAWAIIAN SECTION

6003 REFERENCE YOUR 6003 DASH 1756 ITASCA SEARCH THREE THOUSAND SQUARE MILES  
DAYLIGHT YESTERDAY PERIOD GUARDED NAVY PLANE DURING NIGHT AND ARRIVED HOWLAND  
DAYBREAK THIS MORNING UNDER ORDERS COMMANDANT FOURTEENTH NAVAL DISTRICT  
DEPARTED HOWLAND 0600 TODAY PLANE HAVING RETURNED TO BASE OWING TO BAD  
WEATHER PERIOD SEARCH BEING PRESSED WITH ALL POSSIBLE ENERGY AND WEATHER  
CONDITIONS FAVORABLE THERETO PERIOD AREAS SEARCHED NORTH OF HOWLAND ON  
ASSUMPTION MOST LOGICAL AS NO DEFINITE POSITION FROM EARHART PLANE RECEIVED AT  
ANY TIME 1250

TOR 2005 NAVY NR 47 BL.



c-o-p-y

R A D I O G R A M

POINDEXTER GOVERNOR  
HONOLULU HAWAII

WASHINGTON D C JULY 20 1937

FOR BLACK FROM MILLER quote KINDLY RADIO SUMMARY WEATHER INFORMATION  
EARHART FLIGHT JULY FIRST AND SECOND INCLUDING GROUND WIND DIRECTION AND  
VELOCITY CEILING AND CLOUD FORMATIONS TEMPERATURE AND UPPER AIR WIND  
CONDITIONS stop QUESTION ONE comma WAS VOICE FROM PLANE RECEIVED CLEARLY AND WHAT  
WAS QUALITY stop TWO comma DID MISS EARHART ATTEMPT TO USE CODE AND IF SO WHAT  
WAS CONTENT OF MESSAGE stop THREE comma WHAT TIME OF DAY WAS THE LAST AUTHENTIC  
RADIO RECEIVED FROM MISS EARHART AND CONTENTS OF MESSAGE stop FOUR comma WAS  
MISS EARHART ABLE TO RECEIVE MESSAGES FROM ITASCA WITHOUT DIFFICULTY stop FIVE  
comma DID SHE CONTACT EITHER ONTARIO OR SWAN DURING FLIGHT FROM LAE AND IF SO  
STATE CONTENTS OF MESSAGES IF INFORMATION AVAILABLE stop SIX comma DID ARMATURE  
STATION ON HOWLAND CONTACT OR RECEIVE MESSAGE FROM EARHART PLANE AND WAS RANGE  
FIND ON HOWLAND UTILIZED unquote

HAMPTON

C-O-P-Y

U.S. COAST GUARD  
OFFICIAL DISPATCH

FROM ITASCA  
TO HEADQUARTERS  
SAN FRANCISCO DIV

8004 FOLLOWING TEXT MESSAGES RECEIVED BY ITASCA FROM EARHART MORNING 2 JULY ZONE ELEVEN AND ONE HALF TIME PERIOD FORWARDED FOR HEADQUARTERS RELEASE TO ASSOCIATED AND OTHER PRESSES PERIOD ALL MESSAGES VOICE ON 3105 KILOCYCLES PERIOD ANY PRESS RELEASE SHOULD CLEARLY INDICATE THAT ITASCA WAS AT HOWLAND AS HOMING VESSEL ONLY AND THAT THIS WITH WEATHER WAS SOLE RADIO DUTY REQUESTED BY EARHART PERIOD SHIP MET ALL EARHART REQUESTS WITH EXCEPTION INABILITY TO SECURE EMERGENCY RADIO BEARING ON 3105 KILOCYCLES DUE BRIEF EARHART TRANSMISSIONS AND USE VOICE PERIOD WITH EXCEPTION 0803 MESSAGE NO ITASCA MESSAGE OR REQUEST ACKNOWLEDGED BY EARHART PERIOD EARHART APPARENTLY NEVER RECEIVED ITASCA REQUESTS TRANSMIT ON 500 KILOCYCLES IN ORDER ITASCA CUT HER IN WITH SHIP DIRECTION FINDER 0245 RECOGNIZED EARHART VOICE MESSAGE NOT CLEAR EXCEPT QUOTE CLOUDY WEATHER CLOUDY UNQUOTE 0345 QUOTE ITASCA FROM EARHART ITASCA BROADCAST ON 3105 KILOCYCLES ON HOUR AND HALF HOUR REPEAT BROADCAST ON 3105 KILOCYCLES ON HOUR AND HALF HOUR OVERCAST UNQUOTE 0453 HEARD EARHART VOICE SIGNALS UNREADABLE WITH FIVE LISTENING 0512 QUOTE WANT BEARINGS ON 3105 KILOCYCLES ON HOUR WILL WHISTLE IN MICROPHONE UNQUOTE 0515 QUOTE ABOUT 200 MILES OUT UNQUOTE WHISTLED BRIEFLY IN MICROPHONE 0545 QUOTE PLEASE TAKE BEARING ON US AND REPORT IN HALF HOUR I WILL MAKE NOISE IN MICROPHONE ABOUT 100 MILES OUT UNQUOTE 0730 QUOTE WE MUST BE ON YOU BUT CANNOT SEE YOU BUT GAS GAS IS RUNNING LOW HAVE BEEN UNABLE REACH YOU BY RADIO WE ARE FLYING AT 1000 FEET UNQUOTE 0757 QUOTE WE ARE CIRCLING BUT CANNOT SEE ISLAND CANNOT HEAR YOU GO AHEAD ON 7500 KCS WITH LONG COUNT EITHER NOW OR ON SCHEDULE TIME ON HALF HOUR UNQUOTE 0803 EARHART CALLING ITASCA WE RECEIVED YOUR SIGNALS BUT UNABLE TO GET MINIMUM PLEASE TAKE BEARINGS ON US AND ANSWER ON 3105 KCS UNQUOTE EARHART MADE LONG DASHES FOR BRIEF PERIOD BUT EMERGENCY HIGH FREQUENCY DIRECTION FINDER COULD NOT CUT HER IN ON 3105 KCS 0844 EARHART CALLED ITASCA QUOTE WE ARE ON THE LINE OF POSITION 157 DASH 337 WILL REPEAT THIS MESSAGE ON 6210 KCS WE ARE NOW RUNNING NORTH AND SOUTH UNQUOTE NOTHING FURTHER HEARD FROM EARHART ON 6210 OR OTHER FREQUENCIES PERIOD HIGH FREQUENCY DIRECTION FINDER ON HOWLAND WAS SET UP AS AN ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY CAUTION WITHOUT EARHARTS REQUEST OR KNOWLEDGE PERIOD ITASCA HAD IT MANNED THROUGHOUT NIGHT BUT NEVER ABLE TO SECURE BEARINGS DUE TO EARHART VERY BRIEF TRANSMISSIONS AND HER USE OF VOICE PERIOD EARHART ADVISED 28 JUNE ITASCA DIRECTION FINDER FREQUENCY RANGE 550 TO 270 KILOCYCLES PERIOD ITASCA TRANSMIT ON 500 KCS TO ENABLE SHIP TO CUT HER IN PERIOD SHE NEITHER ACKNOWLEDGED NOR COMPLIED THOUGH OUR ADVISE INDICATES HER ABILITY TO TRANSMIT ON 500 KCS PERIOD COMMUNICATIONS MONITORED THROUGHOUT BY LIEUTENANT COMMANDER BAKER LIEUTENANT COMMANDER KENNER ENSIGN SUTTER AND LIEUTENANT COOPER US ARMY AIR CORPS 1900

TOR 0500 NAVY NR 6 BL.

C-O-P-Y

TELEGRAM

FRANK GRIFFIN  
RUSS BLDG  
SAN FRANCISCO CALIF

IF CONVENIENT IT WILL BE APPRECIATED BY THIS BUREAU IF YOU COULD OBTAIN THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FROM NEW GUIENA RELATIVE TO MISS EARHARTS DEPARTURE FROM LAE STOP TIME OF HER DEPARTURE FROM LAE AMOUNT OF GASOLINE ABOARD ON TAKEOFF CONDITION OF MOTORS AND RADIO EQUIPMENT WEATHER CONDITIONS LENGTH OF TAKE OFF DID MISS EARHART CONTACT GROUND STATION BY RADIO IF SO CONTENTS OF MESSAGES AND ANY OTHER ADDITIONAL KNOWLEDGE OR INFORMATION OF INTEREST RELATIVE MISS EARHARTS VISIT AND FLIGHT STOP THIS IS FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL RECORD PURPOSES STOP THE ABOVE INFORMATION IF AVAILABLE COULD BE AIR MAILED TO W T MILLER BUREAU OF AIR COMMERCE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC STOP ANY COURTESIES OR SUGGESTIONS EXTENDED WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED

W T MILLER



C-O-P-Y

TELEGRAM

W T MILLER BUREAU OF AIR COMMERCE WASHN DC

HAVE FOLLOWING WIRE FROM NEW GUINEA BEGINS MISS EARHART DEPARTED LAE TEN AM LOCAL  
TIME JULY 2ND ELEVEN HUNDRED US GALLONS GASOLINE SEVENTY FIVE GALLONS OIL ABOARD  
MOTORS PERFECT CONDITION LENGTH TAKE OFF RUN 850 YARDS LAE GROUND STATION  
RECEIVED RADIOPHONE MESSAGES FROM MACHINE UNTIL FIVE EIGHTEEN PM LOCAL TIME JULY  
SECOND STOP FULL REPORT POSTED VIA SYDNEY ENDS KIND REGARDS

FRANK GRIFFIN

Departed Lae 10 a.m. July 2nd.  
1100 gallons gasoline  
75 gallons oil  
Motors O.K.  
Length of takeoff 2550 feet  
Radio ground station received radiophone messages until 5:18 p.m.

Two and one-half hour difference in time between Lae, New Guinea and Howland  
Island.

Flying time 20 hours 16 minutes

		30	"	gas left in plane as reported by last radio
20	"	46	"	

Distance 2550 miles

Wasp motors - 550 HP each.

1100 gallons gasoline - flying time 20 hours 46 minutes - Miss Earharts consumption  
would be about 53 gals. per hour.

Assuming 60% power and .48 consumption she should use 52.8 gallons per hour.

Wind about 25 knots from ESE in vicinity of Ontario about midway between Lae and  
Howland.

Wind about 20 knots from E to ENE at Howland Island.



C-O-P-Y

U.S. COAST GUARD  
OFFICIAL DISPATCH

FROM ITASCA  
TO SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION  
HAWAIIAN SECTION

6002 ITASCA EARHART SEARCH UP TO THIS TIME NEGATIVE RESULTS PERIOD BROADCASTING TO STEAMERS BUT FEW IN THIS AREA PERIOD FOLLOWING ESTIMATED OPENING OF POSSIBILITIES UP TO HAPPENING PERIOD EARHART APPARENTLY HANDICAPPED THROUGH NIGHT BY CLOUDY WEATHER AS PORTIONS OF RECEIVED MESSAGES INDICATED OVERCAST AND CLOUDY WEATHER PERIOD EARHART DIRECTION FINDER APPARENTLY NOT FUNCTIONING AS WELL AS SHE COULD NOT GET OUT ON ITASCA ON AGREED FREQUENCIES PERIOD EARHART HAD BARELY SUFFICIENT FUEL UNDER THE CONDITIONS TO MAKE HOWLAND PERIOD THOUGHT CLOSE TO HOWLAND AT 0758 WHEN CIRCLING TRYING TO PICK UP LAND AND ATTEMPTS ITASCA TO GIVE EARHART RADIO BEARINGS FAILED AFTER THOROUGH TESTS BOTH WAYS PERIOD BELIEF BASED ON SIGNAL STRENGTH ONLY THAT AT 0758 EARHART PASSED CLOSE TO AND TO NORTHWARD OF HOWLAND AS BELIEVED THAT SHE WOULD HAVE SEEN BAKER ISLAND IF PASSING TO SOUTHWARD PERIOD ITASCA CONTACTED EARHART TO RECEIVE INCOMPLETE MESSAGE ON AGREED SCHEDULES FROM 0248 TO 0855 THIS MORNING EARHART ONLY ACKNOWLEDGED RECEIVING ITASCA SIGNALS ONCE AND DID NOT ANSWER QUESTION AS TO POSITION COURSE SPEED TIME ARRIVAL PERIOD EARHART USED VOICE ENTIRELY STATIC INTERFERENCE HEAVY AND ITASCA RECEPTION FRAGMENTARY IN EARLY HOURS PERIOD CONDITIONS HOWLAND FORENOON GOOD SMOOTH SEA GOOD VISIBILITY UNLIMITED CEILING PERIOD CONSIDER SEARCH RESULTS DEPEND UPON CONTINUED GOOD WEATHER AND ABILITY PLANE OR EMERGENCY BOAT REMAIN ALOFT PERIOD HAVE HEARD NO SIGNALS FROM EARHART SINCE 0855 THIS MORNING WHEN SHE GAVE ITASCA A LINE OF POSITION BELIEVED TO MEAN RADIO BEARING AND STATED SHE WAS RUNNING NORTH AND SOUTH PERIOD ITASCA USING EVERY RESOURCE TO LOCATE PLANE PERIOD BLACK REQUESTS GRUENING INTERIOR BE KEPT ADVISED DEVELOPMENTS 1940

TOR 0704 NAVY 70 WD

C-O-P-Y

U.S. COAST GUARD  
OFFICIAL DISPATCH

FROM ITASCA

TO SAN FRANCISCO DIV.

HAWAIIAN SECTION  
(CHIEF OPNAV 12TH NAV DIST FROM 14TH NAVDIST)

6002 EARHART CONTACT 0742 REPORTED ONE HALF HOUR FUEL AND NO LAND FALL POSITION  
DOUBTFUL CONTACT 0646 REPORTED APPROXIMATELY ONE HUNDRED MILES FROM ITASCA BUT  
NO RELATIVE BEARING PERIOD 0843 REPORTED LINE OF POSITION 157 DASH 337 BUT NO  
REFERENCE POINT PRESUME HOWLAND PERIOD ESTIMATE 1200 FOR MAXIMUM TIME ALOFT AND  
IF NONARRIVAL BY THAT TIME WILL COMMENCE SEARCH NORTH WEST QUADRANT FROM HOWLAND  
AS MOST PROBABLY AREA PERIOD SEA SMOOTH VISIBILITY NINE CEILING UNLIMITED PERIOD  
UNDERSTAND SHE WILL FLOAT FOR LIMITED TIME 1015

TOR 1717 NAVY NR 34 DL.