

P770029-1841

February 18, 1977

Dear Miss Johnson:

Your letter of January 27 to the Department of State has been referred to this office for reply. The Government's assumption at the time of the disappearance of Miss Earhart and Mr. Noonan was that they had died in or immediately after a tragic aircraft accident. As far as we know, there has been no conclusive evidence to support any theory contrary to the assumption that Miss Earhart and Mr. Noonan were lost at sea in the vicinity of Howland Island in the Pacific.

Since 1967 all of the Department of State files on Amelia Earhart have been open to researchers. The Department's papers in the National Archives and Records Service contain a bulky file on arrangements for the Earhart flight and a much smaller number of documents relating to the search for Miss Earhart after her disappearance. The entire file is identified as case 800.79611 Putnam, Amelia Earhart, enclosures 1 to 212 inclusive. These documents can be inspected at the National Archives and Records Service or copies can be ordered from that agency, although the cost of copying the entire file would be considerable. Inquiries about obtaining copies of papers in the file should be sent to the Diplomatic Branch, Civil Archives Division, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D. C. 20408. Most of the Government's documentation on the search for Miss Earhart, however, is in the files of the Navy Department, which conducted the search.

The Department of State still has in its files a few papers dated 1960 relating to a review of the Earhart case and an investigation by the Japanese Government of allegations that Miss Earhart was imprisoned on Saipan in 1937. This investigation, we were told, included a search of all available Japanese records and questioning of Japanese officials assigned to Saipan in 1937 and of former Saipan residents repatriated to Japan after World War II.

Miss Kathleen Johnson,
R. R. #2, Box T9,
Sacred Heart, Minnesota 56285.

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- 2 -

This Government was informed officially by the Japanese Government that the investigation had failed to disclose any basis for the allegations. Copies of the 1960 documents can be obtained for a fee by writing to the Freedom of Information Staff, Room 2811, Department of State, Washington, D. C. 20520. You should refer to file 200.113 Earhart, Amelia and cite that you are making your request under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. I hope that this information will be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

F. A.
Fredrick Aandahl
Director, Operations Staff
Office of the Historian

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2/15/77

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NND 78956

P770029-1648

R.R.#2, Box 79
Sacred Heart, Minnesota 56285
January 27, 1977

The Department of State
2201 C Street Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Sir:

I am a high school senior and am doing extensive research on Amelia Earhart. I have obtained all the information I know of but would like to do some further researching as to the cause of her disappearance.

Last year I wrote to Fred Goerner, a newscaster who has previously done research on Amelia Earhart. He said that the United States State Department is gradually releasing more information about AE.

My Congressman, Richard Nolan, said that I could inquire directly to you for further information. I would greatly appreciate any help you could give me. Thank you!

Respectfully yours,

Kathleen Johnson

(Miss) Kathleen Johnson

HISTORICAL OFFICE
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

FEB 14 1977

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

*sent to files
2/18/77
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P770029-1044

February 18, 1977

Dear Miss Johnson:

Your letter of January 27 to the Department of State has been referred to this office for reply. The Government's assumption at the time of the disappearance of Miss Earhart and Mr. Noonan was that they had died in or immediately after a tragic aircraft accident. As far as we know, there has been no conclusive evidence to support any theory contrary to the assumption that Miss Earhart and Mr. Noonan were lost at sea in the vicinity of Howland Island in the Pacific.

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Sincerely yours,

Fredrick Aandahl
Director, Operations Staff
Office of the Historian

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and to 2/18/77
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