

TIGHAR TRACKS

A PUBLICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL GROUP FOR HISTORIC AIRCRAFT RECOVERY

WE DID IT

The analysis of artifacts recovered during last year's expedition has reached the point where we can now say with confidence that we have the proof. Exhaustive research has established that a section of aluminum aircraft skin found on Nikumaroro could only have come from Earhart's aircraft (see page 2, "Artifact 2-2-V-1"). The remains of a shoe discovered on the atoll are identical in all documentable respects to those worn by Earhart on her final flight (see page 4, "Artifact 2-2-G-7"). In each case, an artifact with multiple unique and identifiable features has been matched with those same features on an object which disappeared with Earhart. All reasonable alternative explanations for the presence of these artifacts on Nikumaroro have been eliminated by the island's well-documented history.

Other artifacts, such as a length of late-1930's style aviation radio wire and the cap from a bottle of American stomach medication of the same period (AE was having stomach trouble), provide additional support. Still more objects, such as what appears to be a broken 1930's-style aviation radio face plate, have yet to be identified and may eventually provide additional proof.

And there's more. The Earhart Project has recently brought to light two important documents, each written in 1937, each containing vital new evidence pertaining to the Earhart disappearance, and each previously unknown to researchers (see "Lost and Found," page 5 and "First on the Scene," page 6). These new sources provide confirmation of TIGHAR's deductions in several crucial areas of the investigation and join the rest of what has become an overwhelming array of documented evidence that settles, once and for all, the question of what happened to Amelia Earhart.

In 1988 TIGHAR set out to demonstrate that high academic standards could replace wild imaginings with rational hypotheses, and that strict adherence to scientific method could sort fact from fiction to discover the truth about the disappearance of Amelia Earhart. We did it – with the hard work and perseverance of the Earhart Project volunteers; the generous assistance of scientists,

scholars, and corporations; and most of all, with the support of the people who made it all possible: you, the worldwide members of TIGHAR.



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