

Goerner-Hathaway Letters.

In 1970, having read Fred Goerner's book *The Search for Amelia Earhart*, Betty Klenck Brown's friend and neighbor John Hathaway wrote to Goerner describing Betty's experience but not disclosing her name. These are the two letters he received in return.



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FREDERICK ALLAN GOERNER

Twenty-four Presidio Terrace
San Francisco, California 94118

August 21, 1970

Mr. John Hathaway
White Wheels
Rossville, Illinois 60963

Dear Mr. Hathaway:

Your letter of August 10, 1970, was forwarded to me by Doubleday and Company and received today in San Francisco.

I would be pleased to hear more information with respect to the message your friend received in 1937.

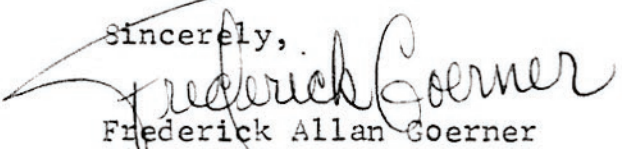
Apparently, amateur radio operators in many parts of the country reported hearing signals from the Earhart plane, but unfortunately, they were largely discounted at the time by the U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard.

I do believe that many of the reports were founded on fact. Why the Navy and Coast Guard chose not to believe any of the amateur radio operators is a question yet to be answered.

I can understand your friend's desire for anonymity. I will be happy to guarantee not to use her name if she so desires.

Thank you for taking the time to contact. I shall look forward to your next communication with interest.

Sincerely,



Frederick Allan Goerner
24 Presidio Terrace
San Francisco, California 94118

FG/mm

FREDERICK ALLAN GOERNER

Twenty-four Presidio Terrace
San Francisco, California 94118

September 4, 1970

Mr. John Hathaway
White Wheels
Rossville, Illinois 60963

Dear Mr. Hathaway:

Well, to tell you the truth Mr. Hathaway, I can't make anything out of the messages Mrs. Brown received.

The figures do not seem at all relevant, especially the supposed position reports. It almost sounds as if several broadcasts were being received on the same frequency at the same time.

Is there no way to determine what specific dates on which the broadcasts were received? Perhaps if, as you mentioned, Mrs. Brown received a letter or some kind of communication from the U.S. Coast Guard, it would indicate the dates on which the messages were received.

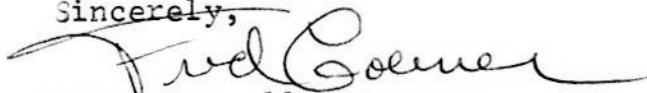
Also, on what frequency were these messages received? What did Mrs. Brown's father say about receipt of the messages?

I do appreciate your having taken the time to communicate with me about the matter. I'm just afraid though that without a great deal more clarification of the messages it would be impossible to make any determination from them.

Please extend my thanks to Mrs. Brown for permitting you to send to me her observations.

With best regards, I am,

Sincerely,



Frederick Allan Goerner
24 Presidio Terrace
San Francisco, CA. 94118

FG/mm