

FUEL GONE, NO LAND NEAR, SAYS RADIO OF PLANE

U. S. Ship Speeds to Aid World Flyers.

(Pictures on back page.)

HONOLULU, July 2.—(P)—Amelia Earhart and her navigator, Capt. Fred Noonan, were believed to have been forced down in the Pacific ocean near Howland Island today when their fuel gave out on a flight of 2,570 miles from Lea, New Guinea, the longest and most perilous hop of Miss Earhart's attempt to fly around the world.

A radio message from them at 2:12 p. m. [Chicago daylight time], saying they had only a half hour's supply of fuel, and that no land was in sight, was believed to indicate they had overshot the tiny coral island, at which they were due between 2 and 4 p. m.

Washington Orders Aid.

The coast guard cutter Itasca, stationed at Howland Island, immediately prepared to search for the flyers northwest of the island. Late tonight a navy flying boat hopped off to join the Itasca.

Coast guard headquarters in Washington ordered its Honolulu division to lend all possible aid and to send the cutter Roger Taney from here to help the Itasca search, and the chief of naval operations, Admiral William D. Leahy, ordered the naval station here to assist. He gave the commandant here leave to send fast destroyers and planes across the 1,800 miles to Howland Island. The commandant said fair weather was predicted for four days in the Howland area.

Miss Earhart, who was attempting an equatorial flight around the world from Oakland, Cal., and her navigator left New Guinea at 7 o'clock [Chicago time] last night. Atmospheric conditions hampered radio communications.

An hour before the last radio message Miss Earhart reported the flyers were searching for the island, which she believed was not more than 100 miles away.

Previous reports indicated fairly strong headwinds, which apparently increased gasoline consumption. Officers of the Itasca estimated the plane could not remain aloft after 6:30 p. m.

Carries Emergency Equipment.

When the plane left Miami, Fla., June 1, starting the world girdling flight, it carried a rubber lifeboat and life belts for use if the craft were forced down at sea. The tanks of the land plane were equipped to be emptied quickly, serving to keep it afloat.

How long the Lockheed Electra low wing monoplane with its two motors could stay above the waves with the two flyers was a matter of conjecture.

The weather at Howland Island was reported partly cloudy, with visibility twenty miles. The coral island, two miles long and only a few feet above sea level, presented a small target for the plane flying the great expanse of Pacific ocean, dotted sparsely with other small atolls.

Husband and Wife Anxious.

At Oakland, Cal., Miss Earhart's husband, Publisher George Palmer Putnam, was gravely concerned as he awaited word of the fate of his wife. Putnam received messages from the coast guard while waiting at an airport.

Mrs. Noonan, a bride last March, predicted that the Itasca would find Miss Earhart and Noonan. The navigator attended public schools in Chicago.

This trip, Miss Earhart's second attempt to fly 27,000 miles around the world just for fun, started in Oakland May 21. From there she flew across the continent to Miami. Thence she hopped to Porto Rico, down the coast to Brazil, over the Atlantic to Africa, across Africa to India, Australia and then New Guinea.

Climax of Career.

Her route followed the equator as closely as possible. It was a reversal of her original attempt, which ended March 20 in Honolulu when the landing gear of her big twin-motored monoplane gave way on an intended takeoff for Howland Island.

Miss Earhart's adventure was undertaken as a climax to a career which already has embraced two trans-Atlantic flights, one solo, and a solo flight from Honolulu to Oakland.

Her \$80,000 "flying laboratory" was regarded as one of the most completely equipped planes in existence.

Hunt Amelia Earhart and Navigator Believed Down in Pacific—32 Injured in Train Wreck in Evanston

Picture Story of Missing Aviatrice

(Story on page 1.)



Amelia Earhart and her navigator, Capt. Fred Noonan, reported forced down on the Pacific ocean on flight of 2,570 miles from Lae, New Guinea, to tiny Howland Island as fuel ran out.

[Acme Photo.]

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