

Subject: Report of Earhart Search, 2-18 July, 1937.

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Naval District to use all available naval facilities in the search. Accordingly, it was decided to dispatch a seaplane to Howland and at 1923, 2 July, patrol plane 6-P-3, Lieutenant W. W. Harvey, commanding, departed from Pearl Harbor Howland Island. The ITASCA was directed to stand by at Howland to tend the plane and the SWAN to proceed toward Howland.

4. The Department promptly approved the recommendation that the COLORADO, then in Honolulu, be diverted from her R.O.T.C. Cruise to join the search, and the COLORADO was at 2115, 2 July, ordered to proceed, when fueled. In a conference with the Commanding Officer, USS COLORADO, prior to his departure from Pearl Harbor, he was given all information then available, and it was agreed that the COLORADO should first search the southeast quadrant from Howland and the Phoenix Islands.

5. The patrol plane, commanded by Lieutenant Harvey and manned by the following personnel, proceeded toward Howland through the night of 2-3 July, contacting the SWAN enroute on schedule.

PERSONNEL, PATROL PLAN 6-P-3

Lieutenant W. W. Harvey, commanding.  
Lieutenant (jg) W. M. Drane  
Lieutenant (jg) E. S. Lytle  
Aviation Cadet P. W. Smith  
W. C. Curry, A.C.M.M.  
E. J. McCormick, C.R.M.  
F. M. Williams 3d. R.M. 2-c.  
C. L. English, A.M.M.2-c.

At 0710, 3 July, Lieutenant Harvey reported:

2003 APPROXIMATE POSITION LAT 06-35 LONG 72-00  
PERIOD LAST TWO HOURS IN EXTREMELY BAD WEATHER  
BETWEEN ALTITUDE 2000 AND 12000 FEET SNOW SLEET  
RAIN ELECTRICAL STORMS PERIOD IN DAYLIGHT CON-  
DITIONS LOOK EQUALLY BAD CLOUD TOPS APPEAR TO BE  
18000 FEET OR MORE PERIOD AM RETURNING TO PEARL  
HARBOR NOW HAVE 900 GALLONS FUEL ON BOARD 1710

6. Vessels were dispatched from Pearl Harbor to guard the return flight of plane 6-P-3 in case of fuel exhaustion, but the prudence and skill of personnel safely returned the