

Amelia Earhart: The REAL Story

From the Marshall Islands to Saipan: the real history and fate of America's favorite aviatrix

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May 20, 1937 - Amelia Earhart and her navigator, Fred Noonan, take off on the first leg of a 27,000 mile round-the-world flight aboard a Lockheed Electra 10E.

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July 2, 1937 - Amelia takes off from Lae, New Guinea. Bound for Howland Island for refueling, she crash lands (or was shot down) on Endriken island in Mili Atoll. Noonan, suffers injuries to his head and leg. Many Marshallese, including the father of a Reverend Shigeru Lajon, witness the landing but are threatened to silence by Japanese authorities.

4

1937 - Earhart, Noonan and the Electra are transported on the Japanese ship, Koshu Maru, from Mili Atoll to Majuro, then to Jaluit island, where Bilimon Amaron, health aid to a medical practitioner on Jaluit, treats Noonan's leg wound on the ship.

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Jan 5, 1939 - Amelia is declared dead in absentia.

7

May 1944 - Jack Salas, 12, and his 9-year-old brother see a caucasian woman on the back of a truck with two prisoners prior to US invasion of Saipan.

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~ 1944 - Josephine Blanco Akiyama sees Amelia and Noonan in a restricted area on Saipan.

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June 15, 1944 - US Forces invade Saipan during WWII

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June 19, 1944 - The Lockheed Electra is found in a hangar at As Lito airfield; Julius Earskin Nabers, the radio operator who decoded the message of the find, is tasked with guarding the plane. Two weeks later, the Electra is flown around Naftan point. Two weeks later, the plane is ordered destroyed by P-38 tracer bullets by the US and is likely in a ditch under a runway.

12

July 1944 - Marines E.W.Henson & B. Burks exhume Amelia's and Noonan's skeletons from graves near a cemetery and crematorium in Lower Base.

13

July 1944 - Robert Wallack blows open safe in a church and finds Amelia's briefcase with passport, maps and navigational gear.

14

1968: Don Kothera leads an expedition to Saipan burial site; 189 bone fragments are found; identified as belonging to a 40yr old white female. The bones have since been lost.

15

2013, 2015 - Les Kinney films Richard Spinks' expedition to Kendriken island in Mili Atoll; finds pieces of the Electra.

16

July 11, 2017 - The History Channel airs a documentary revealing the Jaluit photograph showing Amelia and Noonan alive after their presumed disappearance.



3

July 18, 1937 - The US Navy ends its search, pronouncing the pair lost at sea.

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1937 - The two aviators, likely believed to be spies, are taken to Kwajalein then to Saipan (Japanese imperial headquarters) where Amelia is held first in the hospital, then the jail. Saipan resident, Joaquina Cabrera, delivers linen to jail and notes Earhart's sickly appearance.

9

Dates unknown - Fred Noonan is beheaded. Eye witness, Anna, claims to have seen the beheading. **Amelia Earhart likely dies of dysentery while a prisoner on Saipan.**

