WHY ARE PEOPLE STILL SEARCHING FOR AMELIA EARHART'S MISSING PLANE?

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

A new expedition has failed to find Amelia Earhart's missing aeroplane, but the search has brought her story back into the news. Earhart was one of the world's most famous pilots. In 1937, she attempted to fly around the world with navigator Fred Noonan. Their Lockheed Electra disappeared over the Pacific Ocean, and neither person was found. Researchers recently thought they had spotted the shape of the plane beneath the water near Nikumaroro, a remote island belonging to Kiribati. A team from Purdue University and the Archaeological Legacy Institute travelled there to investigate. Using sonar and equipment designed to detect metal, they discovered that the object was not an aircraft. It was probably a mass of coral sand and other underwater debris. The mystery remains unsolved. Other researchers still believe the plane may have crashed at sea, while some think Earhart and Noonan reached an island and survived for a time.

WHY IS THIS INTERESTING?

Earhart's disappearance shows how historical mysteries can last for generations, especially when evidence is incomplete. It also reminds us that exciting claims are not automatically true. Researchers must test ideas carefully, accept disappointing results and separate real evidence from shapes that only look convincing in photographs.

THINK LIKE A HISTORIAN

"What evidence would be needed to prove what happened to Earhart?"

Source: National Geographic

https://www.nationalgeographic.com/history/article/amelia-earhart-plane-nikumaroro-taraia-object