

G. W. BROPHY MISSING IN CHINA SEA FLIGHT

Warships Speed From Manila in Search for American—Radio Call Heard Here.

Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

MANILA, Friday, March 20.—Three destroyers and an airplane tender carrying two seaplanes are steaming under forced draft from Manila to comb the entire west coast of Luzon in search of Glenn W. Brophy, Los Angeles aviator, who is missing on the first solo flight attempted across the China Sea.

Mr. Brophy took off from Macao, Portuguese China, at 8:50 A. M. yesterday, expecting to arrive in Manila in the afternoon, but no word has been heard from him. He was last sighted fifteen minutes out from Macao.

All radio stations in the Philippines are on the lookout for messages and the army and navy are extending all their facilities in the search for the flier. Two army Sikorski amphibian planes will take off at dawn to widen the search.

Mr. Brophy's plane was not an amphibian but the gasoline tanks, when empty, would sustain the plain for at least forty-eight hours in a calm sea. Mrs. Brophy, who is here, expresses the fullest confidence that her husband will come out safe.

MANILA, Friday, March 20 (AP).—Hope that Glenn W. Brophy, Los Angeles aviator, might be safe was dimmed today when it developed that a plane seen flying over Lingayen, Central Luzon Island, had not definitely been identified as that of the missing pilot. Earlier reports said the plane was that of Mr. Brophy and that he had set out from Lingayen for Manila after successfully flying over the China Sea.

Meanwhile authorities had virtually abandoned hope for F. A. Diekhoff of San Francisco and William Scott of Manila, believed to have fallen into the Pacific Ocean off the wild eastern coast of Mindanao Island, southernmost of the Philippines, eleven days ago.

Faint radio signals bringing word of the "loss of an airplane between Hongkong and Manila" were intercepted yesterday morning at about 8:30 o'clock, Eastern Standard Time, at the Sayville station of the Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company, according to T. E. Nivison, a Mackay official. Glenn Brophy is the only flier reported to have been in flight over that part of the Pacific Ocean at the time of the receipt of the message, which was repeated several times.

Mr. Nivison said the message had apparently not originated in an airplane, but at a land station in China or the Philippines or on a ship in that part of the Pacific Ocean. The message said:

"S O S airplane—between Hongkong and Manila lost."

Mr. Brophy, manager of the aviation division of the L. E. Gale Company of Shanghai, American importers of aircraft, left Shanghai Jan. 17 to blaze an airplane trail for mail and passenger service from Shanghai to Manila via Foochow, Canton and Macao. His plane was forced down twice in China—at Diongloh, because ice formed on the wings, and at Chuchow, by fog. The craft was not equipped with a radio set.