

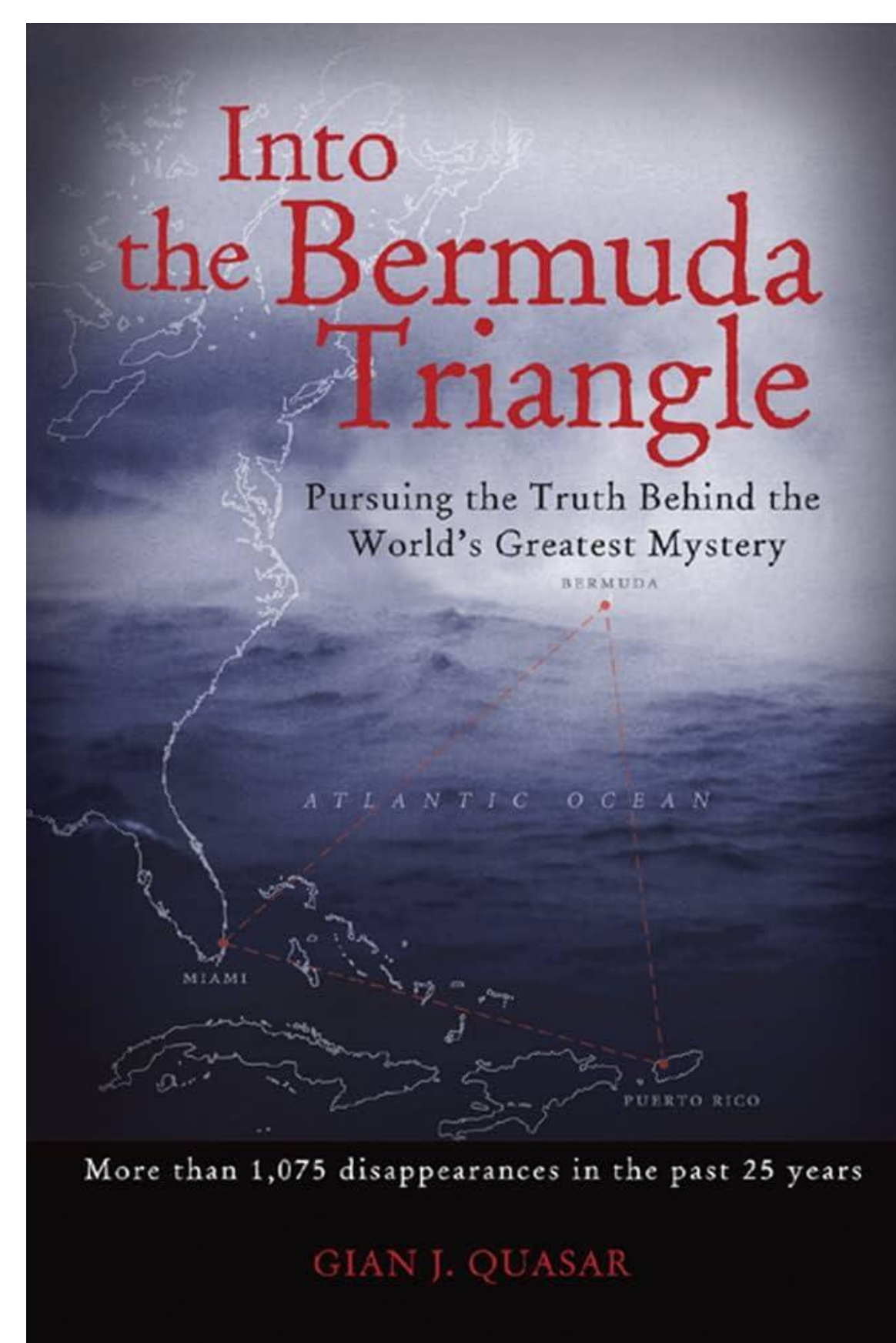
Flight 19 and the Origin of the Myth of the Bermuda Triangle

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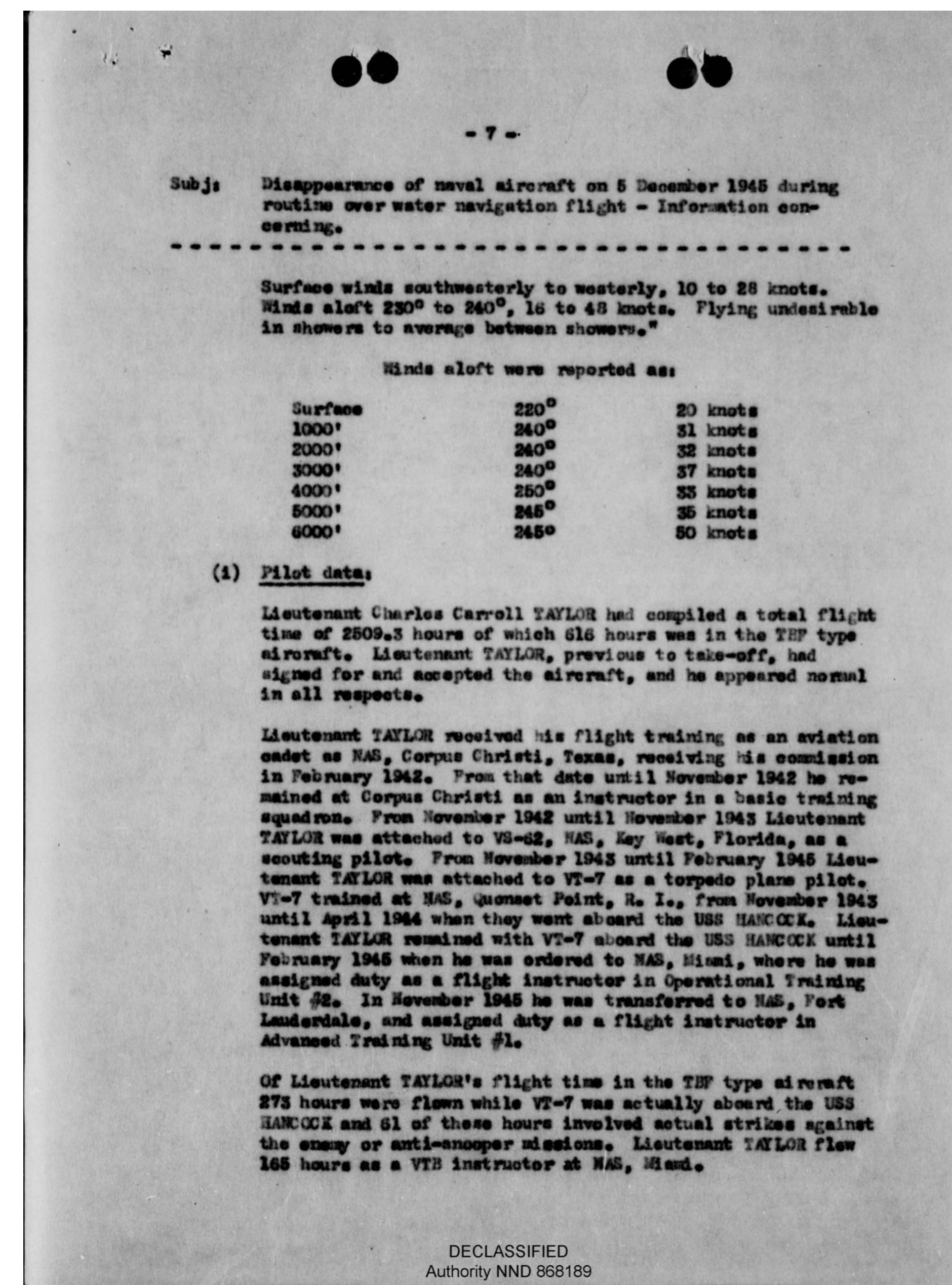
INTRODUCTION

On December 5th, 1945, Flight 19 disappeared into the Bermuda Triangle, never to be seen or heard from again. There was no evidence ever found on what happened to Flight 19 that day. There have been several conspiracy theories that describe what happened to Flight 19. Unfortunately, due to little scientific explanation, there are no concrete answers. The continuous unanswered questions of what happened to Flight 19 and other disappearances cause the legacy of the Bermuda Triangle to be prominent in society. When Flight 19 went missing, a large investigation was launched to explore the mysterious nature of the Bermuda Triangle. At the end of the investigation, there was no explanation given and was deemed as inconclusive. Due to a lack of evidence, conspiracy theories have formed over the years. There is no clear evidence yet if the Bermuda Triangle has rational explanations or if there is something deeper going on that scholars don't know about yet. Scholars continue their search on factual evidence in hopes to finally understand the reasoning behind the Bermuda Triangle disappearances. There have been over 1000 lives lost in the Bermuda Triangle and over 100 plane disappearances with no evidence ever found. The Bermuda Triangle will forever be ingrained in history from all the whirling conspiracy theories, notorious reputation, and the continuous disappearances after all these years. Although other mysterious events occurred before the loss of Flight 19, it was the disappearance of this flight that is responsible for generating the main myths and conspiracy theories about the Bermuda Triangle.

Into the Bermuda Triangle by Gian Quasar, is the first comprehensive examination of this extraordinary subject in more than a generation. Using official reports interviews with scientists, survivors and theorists, and other investigative agencies as well as, Gian Quasar the record straight on previously examined cases including the infamous Flight 19 mystery of 1945. Quasar also offers new case files of new disappearances and the collective results of his twelve-year investigation.



Quasar, Gian J. *Into the Bermuda Triangle: Pursuing the truth behind the world's Greatest Mystery*. Camden, ME: McGraw Hill, 2006.

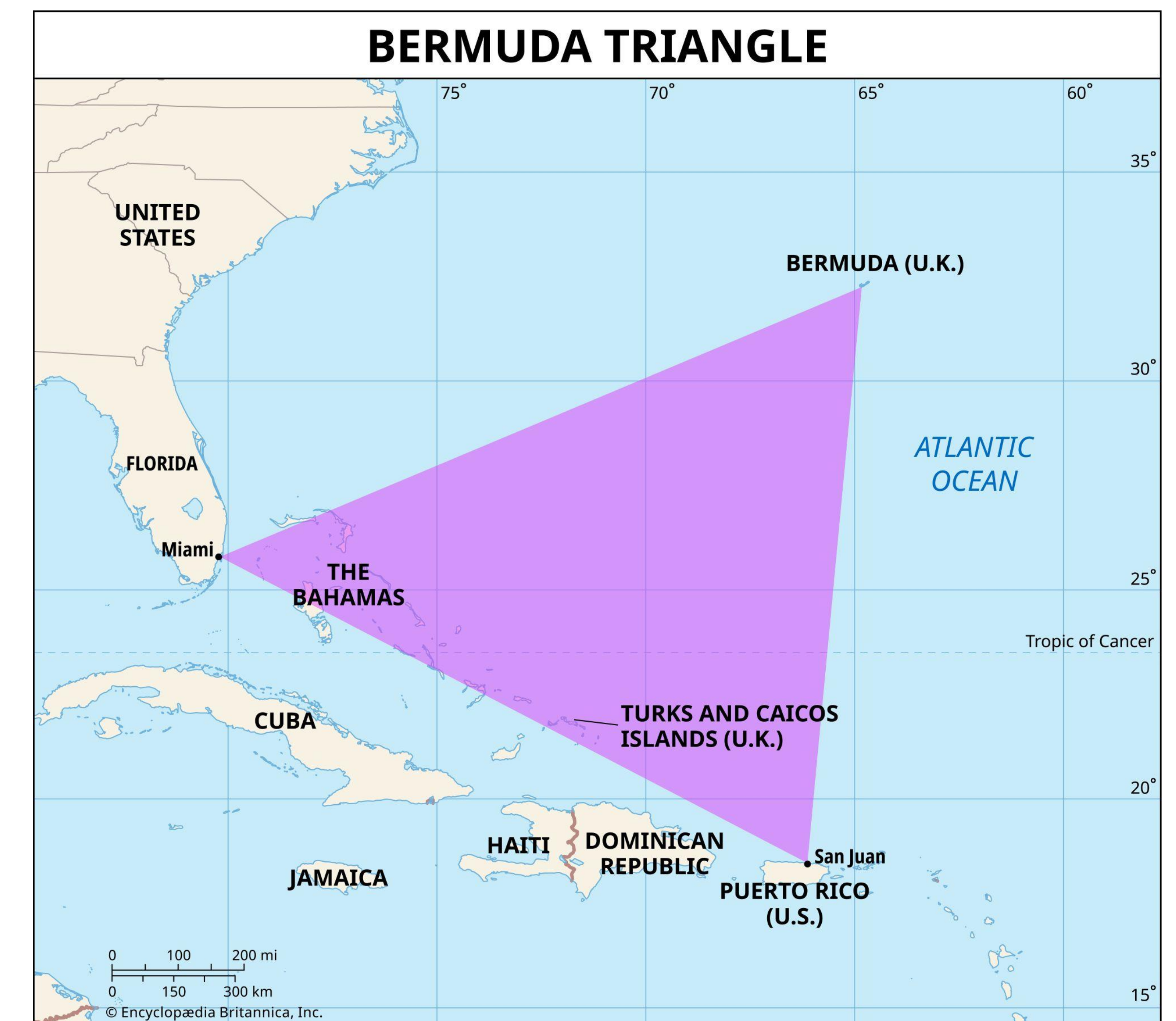


"Folder A17:F4. Lauderdale 5 TBM Crash," Record Group 181: United States Naval Air Station: NAID: 146850136." National Archives and Records Administration, January 15, 1946, <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/146850136?objectPage=5>.

The Bermuda Triangle is a large area in the Atlantic Ocean formed by the points of Bermuda, Miami, San Juan, and Puerto Rico but the borders are continually argued by experts. There are no exact borders known and although it is called the Bermuda "triangle" there is no triangular shape in mappings. The Bermuda triangle estimated size ranges from 500,000 to 1.5 million square miles which disappearances happen in the whole area. Although over time, the mapping of the Bermuda Triangle has been very inconsistent and there are various ideas experts have on the borders and what encompasses as a part of the triangle. Depending on the map one looks at, there can be different borders and how it can be perceived.

FLIGHT 19 INVESTIGATION

The primary source to the left is apart of, *Folder A17: Fort Lauderdale-5 TBM Crash- December 5, 1945 THRU PBM, 1946*, is apart of a series the microfilmed series in a collection of materials used in the Navy Board of investigation of the disappearance of Flight 19. The microfilm explores the weather observations, the history of aircraft, incident reports, and any other important information that could further the investigation. On this specific page, it looks into the lead pilot, Charles Taylor, experience level and previous training. Taylor had compiled a total of 2509.3 hours of flying experience was continuing to garner hours. For Taylor, he was known as a very experienced pilot so his actions were unnatural for him. The crew of flight 19 knew how to navigate water and likely had experience with a variety of different weather conditions. The documents try to emphasize how there was no information showing that these pilots weren't equipped for the job and that these pilots were more than capable this routine trip.



Luebering, J.E. "Bermuda Triangle." Encyclopædia Britannica, April 11, 2024. <https://www.britannica.com/place/Bermuda-Triangle>

REFERENCES

1. Charles Frambach Berlitz, *The Bermuda Triangle* (Bath: Camden, 1997).
2. Howard Rosenberg, "Exorcizing the Devil's Triangle," *Exorcizing the Devil's Triangle*, September 12, 2017, <https://www.history.navy.mil/content/history/nhhc/research/library/online-reading-room/title-list-alphabetically/e/exorcizing-the-devils-triangle.html>.
3. Bruce Gernon and Rob MacGregor, *Beyond the Bermuda Triangle: True Encounters with Electronic Fog, Missing Aircraft, and Time Warps* (Wayne, NJ: Career Press, 2017).