

December 9, 2022

To: Members of the MDP Class of 2022-2023

Fr: Andy Davies

Re: Historical Fact

None of us were alive when this occurred.

I remember hearing about it at some point back in grade school.

I had forgotten about it.

Did you know this???? Whoa!

DECEMBER 5

MONDAY



THIS DAY | IN HISTORY

1945: Aircraft squadron gets lost in the Bermuda Triangle

On December 5, 1945, at 2:10 p.m. EDT, five U.S. Navy Avenger torpedo-bombers comprising Flight 19 took off from the Fort Lauderdale Naval Air Station in Florida on a routine three-hour training mission. They never returned. Two hours into the flight, the leader of the squadron reported that his compass and backup compass had failed and that his position was unknown. The other planes experienced similar instrument malfunctions. Several radar stations on land determined that Flight 19 was somewhere north of the Bahamas and east of the Florida coast, and a search-and-rescue Mariner aircraft took off. Less than thirty minutes later, at 7:27 p.m., the Mariner aircraft radioed that it was nearing Flight 19's last known position. It was never heard from again. The disappearance of the fourteen men of Flight 19 and the thirteen men of the Mariner led to one of the largest air-and-sea searches to that date. No trace of the bodies or aircraft was ever found.