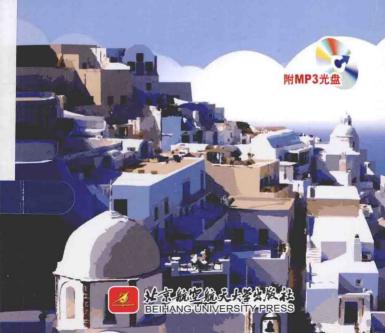


≫ 天下奇闻轶事





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你想学习最地道的英文表达,轻松提高英语水平吗?你想阅读题材丰富、内容新奇、引人入胜的原版英语故事吗?你想在阅读英文的同时了解各种奇特现象、拓宽视野、增进知识吗?那么,请仔细品读这本书吧!

本书收录的几十篇英语文章,全部选自英语国家的各种 读物,使你能够学到最纯正、最地道的英语。这些文章,写的都是发生在世界上的真实的奇闻轶事(其中不少事件至今仍是不解之谜),读来让人感到世界之大无奇不有,不禁激起对自然界以及周围世界的好奇心。这些文章篇幅适中、结构严谨简洁,内容丰富多彩,语言精练优美,故事性强,能让你在最短的时间内既提高英语水平又获取大量知识和信息。另外,书中的很多文章都配有图片,图文并茂,能够加深你对文章内容的印象,提高阅读和学习的效果。

本书的最大特点是:每篇英语文章记载的都是世界上真 实发生过的奇闻轶事,取材的真实性和新奇性将激发你极大 的阅读兴趣。

本书共分为四部分: 神秘的失踪、天外来客、大千世界中的古怪现象和离奇的故事。书中的每篇文章都构成一个独立的单元, 每个单元都包括"点拨导读"、"经典原文"、"热点词汇"、"难点注释"、"精美译文"和"你不知道的超有趣小知识"六个部分。

特别值得一提的是: 在选材方面, 全书着眼于内容的新

奇性或趣味性,选取的材料如UFO和飞机失踪之谜等,都是人们非常关注和好奇的话题:有的是人们只知其一不知其二的,有的则可能是人们闻所未闻的;或采用独特的视角描述,或描写细腻,妙趣横生,或情节一环扣一环,令人紧张,每一篇都让人读起来就欲罢不能。另外,本书中的"你不知道的超有趣小知识"部分中的内容视角也非常独特,并采用幽默、特别的描述方式,介绍了许多就存在或发生在我们身边但却一直被我们忽视的超实用、超有趣、信息量超大的各种小知识,给人耳目一新的感觉,你在阅读的时候一定会忍俊不禁,会心一笑!

编者 2015年3月于澳大利亚悉尼

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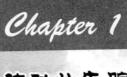
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神秋的失踪

D.····. Bermuda Triangle 百慕大三角区

点极导像:""

百慕大三角区位于北大西洋的马尾藻海, 是由英属百慕大群岛、美属波多黎各及美国 佛罗里达州南端所形成的三角区海域组成的, 面积约390万平方公里(150万平方英里)。 因为有数以百计的飞机、航船在百慕大海域 失事,故这一三角区被称做"魔鬼三角区", 是地球上最具传奇色彩的区域之一。

经典原文·"

1 On a calm, clear December afternoon in 1945, Flight 19 took off from the south coast of Florida on a routine Army training mission. The five Avenger planes that made up Flight 19 would never return. Incredibly, a Martin Mariner plane sent to rescue Flight 19 was also lost without a trace.



mission ['mifən] n. 任务

rescue [ˈreskju:] v. 营 救,援救



navy ['neivi] n. 海军 vanish ['vænif] v. 消失, 不见了

deadliest ['dedlist] a. (deadly 的最高级)极 端的, 致死的

hoodoo ['hu:du:] n. 不 祥的人或物 limbo ['limbəu] n. 丢 弃废物的地方 graveyard ['greivia:d] n. 莫地, hover ['hovə] v. 盘旋 scoop [sku:p] v. 掏, 抓 取 innocent ['inəsnt] a. 无 罪的, 无辜的 Atlantis [æt'læntis] n. 亚 特兰蒂斯(传说中沉 没于大西洋的岛屿) magnetic [mæg'netik] a. 有磁性的 warp [wo:p] v. 弄歪, 扭曲

vessel ['vesl] n. 船

As one Navy officer said at the time, "They vanished as completely as if they'd flown to Mars.".

- Well, Mars was a bit beyond the reach of these airplanes. Yet, whenever planes or ships disappear in the infamous Bermuda Triangle, the wildest stories are heard. Many people think that the waters off the coast of Florida are the deadliest in the world. Legends tell of hundreds of ships and airplanes simply disappearing in the Bermuda Triangle. For this reason, the area is also known as the Hoodoo Sea, or the Limbo of the Lost, or the Triangle of Death.
- Why is the Bermuda Triangle such a graveyard? Some say that it is a hunting ground for UFOs . According to this theory, UFOs hover above the Bermuda Triangle waiting to scoop up innocent ships and airplanes. Others say that the lost continent of Atlantis still exists under the sea and is using its magnetic force to pull down ships and planes. Still others claim that the area creates a time warp, causing vessels to vanish into the fourth dimension. Whatever the case, the Bermuda Triangle is made to sound like a place to avoid.
 - In fact, one member of Flight

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19 did avoid the Triangle. He claimed he had a premonition about the flight, an unexplainable feeling that something was going to go wrong. So he did not go. The rest of the crew, however, did go. The leader was Lieutenant Charles Taylor, a pilot with over 2,500 hours of flying experience. Flight 19's training mission was to fly 160 miles east, then 40 miles north, then back west to the base at Fort Lauderdale.

5 Not long after the takeoff, trouble developed. Taylor radioed the control tower. "Control tower, this is an emergency. We seem to be off course." We cannot see land. Repeat, we cannot see land."

6 "What is your position?" the tower asked.

7 "We can't be sure of where we are. We seem to be lost."

- 8 "Head due west," said the tower.
- 9 "We don't know which way is west. Everything is wrong... strange... we can't be sure of any direction. Even the ocean doesn't look as it should."
- 10 Later came this message from Flight 19: "We must be about 225 miles northeast of base... it looks like we are..."

11 Then silence.

premonition [ˌpri:mə-ˈniʃən] n. 预感, 征兆

crew [kru:] n. 全体乘 务员 lieutenant [lef'tenənt] n. 中尉



12 A Martin Mariner flying boat was sent out immediately to rescue the Avengers. But upon entering the Triangle, it too fell silent. The 14 men of Flight 19 were gone. And now 13 more who were involved in the rescue mission were missing too. A massive search of the area by hundreds of boats and planes turned up nothing but water.

What is the explanation for these disappearances? To true believers in the powers of the Bermuda Triangle, the fate of the five Avengers and the Martin Mariner is just another piece of evidence proving that the Triangle is one spooky stretch of ocean 3. They argue that experienced pilots could not have gotten lost on such a simple mission. They wonder why there was no oil slick, no wreckage, no bodies. They do not believe that the planes could have just vanished into thin air. On the other hand, there is plenty of evidence that there is no mystery here at all. The Avengers and the Mariner did go down.

14 Since that fateful night in December 1945, several other planes and ships have disappeared in the area of the Bermuda Triangle. Many people regard these disappearances as the greatest aviation mystery of all time.

spooky ['spu:ki] *a*. 幽 灵一般的,令人毛骨 悚然的

slick [slik] n. [机] 一 层浮油 wreckage ['rekid3] n. (坠毀物) 残骸

aviation [ˌeiviˈeiʃən] n. 航空

精勇强文·""

- 1 在1945年12月的一个平静、晴朗的下午, Flight 19 机群从佛罗里达的南海岸起飞, 执行常规的军事训练任务。然而, 这个由五架"复仇者"号飞机组成的 Flight 19 机群竟然一去不复返。更令人难以置信的是, 一架被派去营救 Flight 19 的"马丁水手"号飞机也消失得无影无踪。正如当时一位海军军官所说:"他们就像飞往火星一样完全地消失了。"
- 2 当然,这些飞机是飞不到火星的。但是,无论什么时候,有飞机或船只在声名狼藉的百慕大三角区失踪了的话,便能听到最原始的故事。许多人认为佛罗里达沿岸的水域是世界上最能致人死亡的地方。传说中光是在百慕大三角区失踪的船只与飞机就有好几百了。因此,这个区域也被称做"不祥之海"或"失踪地带",或者"死亡三角区"。
- 3 为什么百慕大三角区是这样一块墓地? 有人说,它是 UFO 的狩猎地;根据这一理论,UFO 在百慕大三角区上空盘旋等待打捞无辜的船只和飞机。另一些人说,沉入大西洋的亚特兰蒂斯大陆仍在海底下,正用磁力把船和飞机往下拽。还有人断言该区产生时间扭曲,引起船只消失进了第四度空间。不管怎样,百慕大三角区听起来像是一个应该避免去的地方。
- 4 事实上, Flight 19 机群的一个成员的确避免了去三角区。他声称他对此次飞行有预感, 一种无法解释的感觉——觉得有什么糟糕的事情要发生。所以, 他没有去。然而, 其余的机组成员都去了。组长查尔斯·泰勒中尉是一个有着 2 500 小时飞行经验的飞行员。Flight 19 机群的训练任务是朝东飞行 160 英里, 再向北飞 40 英里, 然后往西回到在劳德代尔堡的基地。
- 5 飞机起飞没多久就发生了故障。泰勒和控制塔进行 无线电联络。"控制塔,有个紧急情况,我们偏离航线了。我 们看不到陆地。重复一遍,我们看不到陆地。"
 - 6 "你们在什么位置?"控制塔问道。
- 7 "我们不能肯定我们的确切位置。我们好像迷失了 方向。"

- 8 "一直往西飞。"控制塔说。
- 9 "我们不知道哪个方向是西。一切都不对劲儿了…… 奇怪……我们不能确定任何方向。甚至连海洋也不像它原本 的样子了。"
- 10 后来, Flight 19 机群发来这条信息: "我们一定是 在基地的东北方大约 225 英里处……我们好像在……"
 - 11 随后是一片寂静。
- 12 一架"马丁水手"号飞机被立即派往营救"复仇者" 机群。但是,它一进入三角区也没音讯了。Flight 19 机群上 的14个人不见了,此刻13个参加救援的人也失踪了。数以 百计的船只和飞机对出事区域进行了大规模的搜救、结果, 除了海水什么也没有打捞起来。
- 13 对这些失踪案件的解释是什么? 对于坚信百慕大三 角区能量的人们来说, 五架"复仇者"号飞机和"马丁水手" 号飞机的命运只不过提供了"三角区是一片幽灵般汪洋"的 另一证据。他们认为有经验的飞行员不会在执行这么简单的 飞行任务时迷失方向。为什么没有浮油、飞机残骸和尸体? 他们不相信飞机就这么在空气中消失了。另一方面,有大量 证据明确表明,"复仇者"号飞机和"马丁水手"号飞机的确 坠入海中了。
- 14 在1945年12月的那个不幸之夜以后,在百慕大三 角区又有过几次飞机和船只失踪的事件发生。这些失踪事件 被许多人认为是有史以来最大的航空未解之谜。

>>>> 你不知道的超有趣小知识 <>>>



A herd of sixty cows is capable of producing a ton of milk in less than a day.

60 头牛在不到一天的时间里能产出一吨牛奶。

2 The Last Flight 最后一次飞行

点债导债。"

她是美国航空业的先驱。她是世界上第一位独自飞越大西洋的女性飞行员并因此 荣获美国飞行优异十字勋章。她创造过许 多纪录,她写的个人飞行经历的畅销书享 營全球。

1937年7月里的那一天,她再次进行 新的挑战,要成为环球飞行的首位女性。 可是,那是一段她再也没有归来的旅行。

经典原文·

1 Amelia Mary Earhart (Born July 24, 1897—disappeared July 2, 1937) was an American aviation pioneer and author. Amelia was the first female aviator to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. She received the U.S. Distinguished Flying Cross for this record. She set many other records, wrote best-selling books about her flying experiences and was instrumental in the formation of The Ninety-Nines, an organization for female pilots.

aviator ['eivieitə(r)] n. < 田 > 飞机驾驶员 distinguished [di'stiŋgwiʃt] a. 卓越的

instrumental [instrə-'mentl] a. 有用的 formation [fɔ:'meiʃn] n. 构成、结构



- 2 In 1937, Amelia set off to become the first woman to fly around the world. It was a journey from which she never returned.
- 3 On 2 July, Amelia took off the from Lae in New Guinea on one of the final stages of her journey. She was bound for Howland Island, a tiny strip of land in the middle of the Pacific, where a US coastguard ship, the Itasca, was waiting to guide her in.
- 4 Amelia left Lae at precisely 00:00 hours Greenwich Mean Time on that day. It is believed that the Electra was loaded with 1,000 gallons of fuel, allowing for 20—21 hours of flying.
- 5 At 07:20 hours GMT Amelia provided a position report placing the Electra on course ²² at some 20 miles southwest of the Nukumanu Islands. The last weather report Amelia was known to have received was before take-off. The head wind speed had increased by 10—12 mph, but it is not

① take off:起飞。

② on course:在正确航线上的。