

FLYING BOAT RESCUE IN OCEAN First Pictures

Bermuda Sky Queen left Feynes, Ireland on what should have been a routine Atlantic flight. But 956 miles on the way to Newfoundland she ran out of petrol and was forced to descend. On to the storm-lashed water, by brilliant piloting, the captain put the big Boeing aircraft safely down, close to the Coastguard Cutter Bibb. But with heavy seas running it seemed all odds against any of the 69 people aboard living to tell the tale. The nose was battered, but saved they all were, and Boston Harbour gave the cutter a tumultuous reception.

(GV) When she tied up congratulations were heaped ~~on~~ upon the Sky Queen's Captain, Charles Martin, and his gallant crew. Pictures were eagerly sought of the Bibb's bosun's mate, Ralph Keller, and the woman he dived into the raging ocean to save. Several babies ^{had} shared the ~~onset~~ ^{terrible experience} of 25 hours in the flying boat before the rescue. Safe end to desperate adventure.

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1. TITLE: RESCUE IN ATLANTIC! 69 SURVIVORS BROUGHT IN BY COAST GUARD!

2. In the annals of great rescues of men from the sea, now belongs that of the United States Coast Guard Cutter "Bibb". Into Boston Harbor she brings sixty-nine persons rescued from the airliner Bermuda Sky Queen, downed in the raging North Atlantic. Boston Echoes the cheers of the survivors, as they complete the journey that so narrowly missed ending in tragedy. The saga began in Ireland, where the Sky Queen, similar to this ship, took off for North America. But 956 miles out, she came down, still 760 miles short of her Newfoundland goal.

Faced with running out of gasoline, because of overpowering headwinds, the plane's skipper landed her on a desperate sea, as near as possible to the Coast Guard Weather ship Bibb. Waves as tall as three-story buildings twice crashed the airliner into the cutter, with paralyzing danger to the ship, and fatal damage to the nose of the plane.

For eight hours the two ships drifted, before three merchant seamen from the plane's passenger list set out in a frail rubber raft to the Coast Guard vessel. Then rescue boats and raft went time after time to bring back the trapped, sea-sick and terrified occupants of the plane.

In Boston, the Queen's skipper, Captain Charles Martin and his crew are acclaimed heroes. So are the Bibb's Captain Paul Cronk and his men -- especially Bosun's Mate Ralph Keller, who dived into the freezing water to save an elderly passenger.

Several babies endured the 28 hour ordeal. Doctors say they stood it better than their elders. Although there were no casualties the airline faces investigation.

The survivors don't like to recall these grim hours, but the world thrills once again to brave men rescuing the helpless from the murderous arms of the sea.