

Search for Norway's lost polar explorer

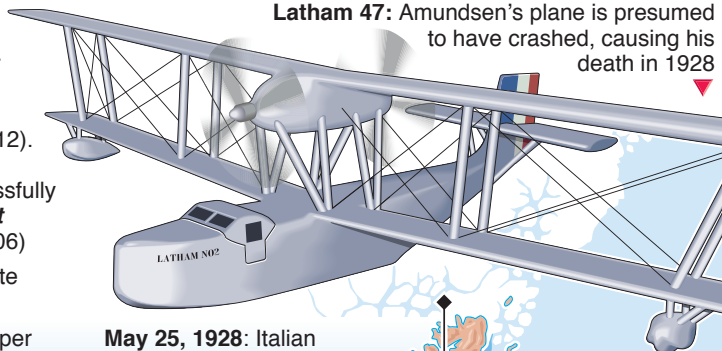
The Norwegian navy is scheduled to begin searching for the missing plane of 20th century explorer *Roald Amundsen*, more than 80 years after he disappeared on a mission to rescue colleagues stranded in the Arctic

Roald Amundsen

1872-1928

Norwegian explorer led first Antarctic expedition to reach **South Pole** (1910-12). He was also first European to successfully traverse **Northwest Passage** (1903-1906)

Latham 47: Amundsen's plane is presumed to have crashed, causing his death in 1928



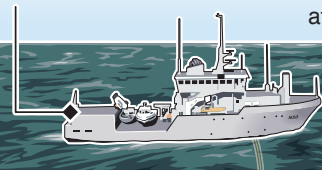
THE SEARCH: Two-week mission will concentrate on 117 square kilometre area of **Barents Sea**

1 Coastguard vessel **Harstad** searches for wreck using sonar

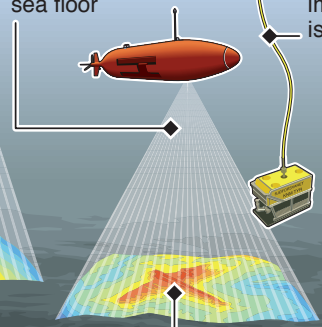


Sonar pulses bounce off seabed and return to ship

2 Navy minesweeper **Tyr** operates **Hugin** robot submarine

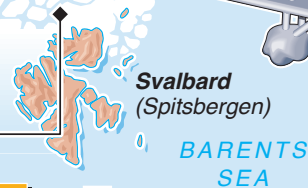


3 Hugin equipped with high-resolution sonar to scan sea floor



5 Wreckage is believed to lie at depth of about 400m

May 25, 1928: Italian explorer **Umberto Nobile** and crew stranded on ice after their airship crashes



2009 search area

June 18, 1928 Amundsen and five others take off from **Tromsø** to find Nobile. Their plane vanishes three hours later

4 Remote control **Scorpion** vehicle sent down to take images if wreck is found



Illustration not to scale



NORWEGIAN SEA

NORWAY

Oslo

SWEDEN

FINLAND

250km
150 miles