

AirAsia Jet's Tail Found, Two More Bodies Recovered



Manila, January 7 (RHC) -- Indonesia's rescue team on Wednesday located the tail of the ill-fated AirAsia QZ8501 flight plane, marking a major breakthrough in the search work, Xinhua news agency reported.

The country's search and rescue chief Bambang Soelistyo told a press briefing that divers took the photos of the wreckage and he could confirm it's the tail of the crashed plane.

The AirAsia Airbus A320-200 vanished from radar screens on December 28th en route from Indonesia's second-largest city Surabaya to Singapore with 162 people on board.

The finding is considered a major breakthrough in locating the black box flight data recorders, crucial for identifying the cause of the crash as plane tail is the part where the box is usually housed.

On the same day, two more bodies were retrieved by a fisherman and a private owned barge on Wednesday, bringing the total to 41.

Seven large parts believed to be from the jet have also been detected, but none of these are confirmed from the plane. Meanwhile, strong currents at the rough seas continued to impede dive and search teams.

Indonesia's meteorological agency said earlier that the weather was the "triggering factor" in the crash.

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