

Malaysian Airlines Flight MH 370

One of the great mysteries of modern aviation is the disappearance of Malaysian Airlines flight MH370 during the night of March 8, 2014. Thousands of miles of ocean have been searched, but with nothing to report. Yet, no one has looked at the one place where a plane could disappear without any public scrutiny: North Korea.

On March 8, 2014 on an overnight flight from Kuala Lumpur Airport, Malaysia, to Beijing, China, Malaysian Airlines flight MH 370, with 239 passengers and crew aboard a Boeing 777, simply disappeared. Upon leaving Malaysian airspace over the South China Sea, the computer transmission system (ACARS) of the plane, and its transponder, which connects the plane with ground radar, were shut down. No distress signals were ever sent.

With no idea where the plane went down, an international sea search was launched over thousands of square miles of ocean, on both sides of the Malaysian Peninsula, and subsequently farther south in a wide area of the Indian Ocean. To date, as of mid-October 2014, no trace of the plane has ever been found; no debris has ever been sighted; and the disappearance of Flight MH370 remains a complete mystery, despite the efforts of the largest sea search in history.

The Australian government is now proceeding to employ a robotic submarine and high-tech sonar equipment to search yet another area of the Indian Ocean – a 23,000 square mile area to the west of Australia -- at the limit of the flight range of the Boeing 777 from the point of disappearance of Flight MH 370. Australian authorities admit, however, that they are “searching for a needle in a haystack, and are not sure where even the haystack is located”.

What is surprising is that to date none of the authorities involved in the search for Boeing 777 have considered that the disappearance might well have been a highly-sophisticated hijacking by foreign agents of the North Korean government of Kim Jong-un. You do not disable a plane’s transponders and its computer transmission systems, if you are a terrorist or a deranged pilot who wants to destroy the plane by crashing it into the sea. Only North Korea would attempt such a bizarre undertaking; and only the North Korean communist dictatorship would have no pangs of conscience about imprisoning innocent people in a gulag. Flight MH 370 had enough fuel to reach North Korea. Rather than undertaking yet another costly and futile search of wider and wider areas of the Indian Ocean, efforts to locate the plane might better be focused on a satellite surveillance of North Korean airports, if indeed it’s not too late to find a Boeing 777 with Malaysian Airlines insignia intact.

Passrob
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The possibility of a North Korean hijacking of the airplane was first set forth by the author in a letter to the editor of the *Ottawa Citizen* on March 26, 2014, but the letter was not published.