

UK investigation team to help in search for flight MH370

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By Elizabeth Zachariah

The United Kingdom has joined in the search for missing flight MH370 by deploying a team from its Air Accidents Investigation Branch to Kuala Lumpur. The United Kingdom has deployed a team from its Air Accidents Investigation Branch (AAIB) to Kuala Lumpur to join the multinational search for the missing Malaysia Airlines flight MH370.

The British High Commission in Kuala Lumpur today said that a senior team of investigators arrived in Kuala Lumpur today to assist the Malaysian investigation authorities.

"The AAIB offered its assistance to the Malaysian authorities as the investigation body for the country of manufacture of the engines.

"This is the normal procedure for any incident involving an aircraft with UK manufactured engines," it said in a statement today.

According to the statement, the AAIB team would first bring itself up-to-date with current investigations, and consult with the Malaysian investigators.

"It is valuable to have this expertise on the ground in the region for when the MH370 aircraft is discovered and the Malaysian authorities move rapidly into the investigation phase.

It was previously revealed that officials from Rolls Royce have been in Kuala Lumpur since Sunday and have been involved in the investigations since then.

In a press conference earlier, Malaysia said it was working with US investigators to establish if there is any satellite information that could help locate the missing MH370 jetliner.

The Beijing-bound flight MH370 with 239 people on board went off radar at 1.20am on March 8, shortly after taking off from Kuala Lumpur.

The week-long search efforts have seen international assistance from Australia, Brunei, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, United States and Vietnam.

Acting transport minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein said today that 57 ships and 48 aircraft are involved in the search.

"The aircraft is still missing, and the search area is expanding.

"Together with our international partners, we are pushing further east into the South China Sea and further into the Indian Ocean," he said. – March 14, 2014.

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