

**Families' mixed feelings over latest revelation on missing MH370**  
**The Malaysian Insider**  
**August 6, 2015**  
**By Muzliza Mustafa**

Intan Maizura Othaman, for the longest time, has accepted the loss of her husband and was sceptical when a piece of debris, described as a flaperon belonging to a Boeing 777 aircraft, was found on the Indian Ocean island of La Reunion on July 29.

Her husband, Hazrin Hasnan was among 12 Malaysian Airlines (MAS) crew members on board MH370 which disappeared from radar screens on March 8 last year. The Boeing 777 was carrying 227 passengers en route to Beijing.

A massive search was conducted, with Malaysia, Australia and China among other countries pooling all their resources to help find the aircraft and its passengers. It yielded nothing.

The flaperon found on the island last week, however, has got everyone's attention back to the missing aircraft.

Early this morning, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak confirmed that the plane debris belonged to MH370 which disappeared 17 months ago.

While saying that the burden faced by the families of the MH370 passengers had been "unspeakable", he hoped that the confirmation would bring "certainty" to the families.

"They have our deepest sympathy and prayers," he said.

For Intan, the announcement will not change how she feels about the entire tragedy.

"I have accepted that my husband will never return, but Malaysia Airlines and the government still owe us an explanation on what really happened to MH370," she said.

"To be honest, I don't feel anything. I am numb. Until today there is no single real and true evidence to prove the plane really crashed into the southern Indian Ocean.

"I just could not believe that with all the high technology gadgets and vessels that were deployed, they failed to trace the aircraft,

"Now after more than a year, suddenly a part of what appear to be a 'flaperon' of Boeing 777 ended on a small island thousands of miles away from the search area," said Intan.

She claimed that anyone could just dumped anything anywhere and say that its part of the aircraft.

"I am not surprised if they will come out with a result saying that is MH370. Because that is what "they" want," said Intan.

Some relatives said confirmation that the plane had crashed was not enough to lay the matter to rest, as they reiterated demands for answers on what caused its disappearance.

"Now I want to know where the main body of the plane is, so that we can take out the passengers and get the black box, so we can know what happened. Only that, for us, will be full closure," said Jacquita Gonzales, wife of MH370 chief steward Patrick Gomes.

Meanwhile, Calvin Shim, whose wife was a stewardess on duty on flight MH370, said despite the news, he remained hopeful although knowing there was almost no chance that his wife, Catherine Tan would still be alive.

"I have been watching the news closely on the recent discovery. There was no other incident involving that type of aircraft within that area except MH370. I am sad, but this will be part of the 'closure'. At least this is something," he said.

The father of two said they received an email from MAS informing them of the flaperon find.

"I also let my children watch the news. It is best to break the news to them on the finding myself, instead of having it break to them at school," he said.

He added that his eldest child appeared sad and told him that he wished the authority would have found the aircraft sooner.

All Calvin wants to do now was to take a flight to the island himself to help the search team go through the debris found.

"I want to remain hopeful and optimistic. Who knows, I could be able to identify some of the things found afloat. It could be my wife's," said Calvin.

He said the family members that he spoke to, however, have mixed feelings about the latest development.

"It is understandable from their point of view. Some still believe in the conspiracy theories behind MH370, some were numb, sad, and angry. Some just don't know what to feel.

"A lot has happened in our lives as we try to deal with the tragedy," said Calvin. – August 6, 2015.

Copyright © 2015 Edge Insider Sdn Bhd

Source:

<http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/families-mixed-feelings-over-latest-revelation-on-missing-mh370>