

Malaysian Prime Minister Says Cannot Confirm Missing Jetliner Hijacked



Kuala Lumpur, March 15 (RHC)-- Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak said Saturday that no conclusive evidence shows missing Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370 was hijacked.

But the Boeing 777 aircraft did turn back from its last known location on civilian radar, and the signal the Malaysian military radar picked up at the north of the Strait of Malacca was from the missing plane, he added.

Satellite data shows the last communication with the plane was at 8:11 a.m. Malaysian time (0011 GMT) on March 8, said the prime minister.

Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak said the authorities were still investigating all possibilities as to what caused Flight MH370 to deviate from its original Beijing-bound path.

The Malaysian authorities have decided to end the search operation in the South China Sea and shift the focus of search efforts to the Indian Ocean, he added.

A multinational intensive search operation has so far failed to locate the plane, which disappeared from radar screen early Saturday last week while flying from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing. As of today, 14 countries, 43 ships and 58 aircraft are involved in the search.

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