

Flight 990's 'black box' found

NEWPORT, R.I. (AP) — EgyptAir crash investigators recovered a damaged flight data recorder from the depths of the Atlantic yesterday, hoping it would yield clues to what caused the jetliner to plunge into the ocean, killing 217 people nine days ago.

The recorder, one of two so-called "black boxes" on the Boeing 767, was damaged at one end, Jim Hall, chair of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), said. It was not immediately clear how that would affect the data stored in it, he said.

The search for the other box, the cockpit voice recorder, continued. "I congratulate all that are involved in the search," Hall said. "I am extremely proud of the U.S. Navy." The data recorder was located at 5 a.m. and brought aboard the USS Grapple about 40 minutes later. It was transferred to the USS Austin and was flown by helicopter to Washington for analysis by NTSB scientists.

"It's in our lab; they're probably opening it right now," Ted Lopatkiewicz, a spokesperson for the NTSB, said this afternoon.

After its recovery, the recorder was submerged in water inside a cooler to protect the salt-soaked tape from being damaged when it hits air.

Two signals from the recorders were picked up late last

week. The remote-controlled Deep Drone was over the area where one of the pings was recorded but could not find the orange-encased recorder. The signal device had separated from the box, but on the Grapple using a video monitor just happened to spot the recorder near the digging area, Hall said.

Searchers were digging for the recorder, which was believed to be the signal of the other recorder, but they were not sure whether that recorder also was attached, investigators said.

The data recorder contains readings of instruments on the plane. Investigators were hopeful that it would be used to operate as the aircraft was on the Grapple and that it was not too damaged to reveal what brought the plane down.

The around-the-clock mission to recover the recorders had relied on two giant water robots — Deep Drone and Magnum — and a smaller, tougher and nimbler Magnum was brought in 13 previous hours on the ocean floor. But on the Magnum was damaged by the sharp broken wreckage overnight, and Deep Drone brought back into the search, Hall said.

Investigators are looking into all possibilities, including mechanical failure, human error and sabotage.

"They're probably opening it right now."

— Ted Lopatkiewicz
NTSB spokesperson

Cyclone leaves 10 million homeless

BHUBANESWAR, India (AP) — The cyclone that struck one of India's poorest regions nearly two weeks ago is shaping up as one of the worst natural disasters to strike modern India. An estimated 10 million people — more than those living in New York City — lost their homes, livestock or livelihood in the storm, Red Cross officials reported yesterday.

With the scope of the devastation from the storm and subsequent flooding only now becoming clear, the Red Cross predicted the death toll will climb past 10,000, an astonishing blow to a region where many live at starvation levels even in normal times.

Authorities in the eastern state of Orissa said the Oct. 29 cyclone will jolt them from self-acknowledged complacency into action to better protect their coastal state.

"Every year we have either a flood or a cyclone or drought," state Finance Minister Raghunath Patnaik

told the Associated Press. "This year, we have to begin planning a permanent solution. It is no point providing the people temporary relief and leaving them to their fate."

Yesterday, the state government's official death toll was climbing toward 4,000, a figure the Red Cross said was much too low.

"It is difficult to tally, because where the people have been able to cremate they haven't necessarily been able to report to government officials," Julian Francis, a disaster expert for the Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, said. "It's obviously hit-and-miss."

An army officer who surveyed 10 villages in the worst-hit area said the toll could be much higher.

"We can't count the dead physically," the officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity said. "The only way we can do this is to ask the village head

India cyclone aftermath

The Red Cross estimates that the death toll from the cyclone may reach and exceed 10,000, which has called the natural disaster one of the worst in the world.

Here is an overview of the damage to Orissa, the eastern state affected:

- 300-mile coastal exposure hit by cyclone
- 11,000 school buildings destroyed
- 10 million lost homes, livestock or livelihood
- Estimated 150,000 people reported sick
- Estimate GDP growth rate could drop from 7 percent to 5 percent
- Agriculture produce could be halved
- Parachute, largest port, suffered heavy damage
- Cutsack, industrial hub, suffered by wrecking but
- Railroad tracks heeled into waves of metal
- Fishing exports will founder because thousands of fishermen lost their boats

Source: Red Cross, United Nations

man how many people were before the cyclone struck and many people are still there. They are considered dead."

When the cyclone swept in, the state had not even begun to recover from a lesser cyclone earlier that had killed 600 people

If the States are about war or intervention the only

President plan to end it is to negotiate. By doing this up a lose-lose situation. Negotiating playing with of getting billions are killed their homes.

More than 100,000 people have been since 1985. In make peace group, the Red Forces of Colombia has given area of land to peace process.

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