



MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

Office of the Minister

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PRESS STATEMENT

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA CONFIRMS RECORDERS LOCATED FROM THE AIR NIUGINI BOEING 737 ON THE FLOOR OF THE CHUUK LAGOON

The Minister for Civil Aviation, Hon. Alfred Manase, MP, today announced that the Investigator-in-Charge (IIC) of the FSM investigation into the crash of the Air Niugini aircraft at Chuuk said “at 1:40 PM on Friday October 5, 2018, US Navy Divers working at the direction of the FSM Investigator in Charge recovered the *Cockpit Voice recorder (CVR)* from the Air Niugini Flight 073 that landed into the water of the Chuuk Lagoon.

The *CVR* preserves the recent history of the sounds in and around the cockpit, including the communication between the aircraft and air traffic control and the conversations of the pilots.

Mr. Manase said “Data from the *Flight Data* and *Cockpit Voice* recorders and the *Automated Flight Information Reporting System* recorder will be downloaded and analysed in Port Moresby at the Recorder Laboratory of the PNG Accident Investigation Commission.

“The FSM IIC has advised that the *Enhanced Ground Proximity Warning System* and the *Flight Management Computer* from the aircraft will be downloaded and analysed in the US by the National Transportation Safety Board.

“Once the data from all recorders has been downloaded the painstaking analysis of the recorded information will commence. The examination and analysis of relevant documents and the recorded data is an exhaustive collaborative undertaking by the FSM, PNG AIC, US NTSB and their teams, which includes specialists from the aircraft manufacturer Boeing, and the US FAA.

“Air Niugini is fully cooperating with the FSM investigation.

Mr. Manase said “a Preliminary Report is expected to be published by the FSM National Government by the end of October. That report will provide a summary of information that has been verified as factual at that time. This is a complex investigation and the final report is expected to take a number of months to complete.”

The FSM IIC said “the Government of FSM expresses grateful thanks to the US Navy dive team, the civilian divers, and the investigators from the PNG Accident Investigation Commission and the US National Transportation Safety Board, Boeing and the US Federal Aviation Administration who also provided on-site assistance during the diving operations this week to successfully recover the recorders that are vitally important to the investigation.”

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alfred Manase".

Hon. Alfred Manase, MP

Minister for Civil Aviation and Member for Kandep Open

