

ITAVIA DC-9 DISAPPEARANCE – 1980[©]

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I feel I was extremely privileged to have had many “real world” experiences during my +40-year career in commercial aviation. Among these experiences, I was an active participant in several significant aircraft accident and incident investigations. Because such investigations are solely centered on determining the cause of the accident or incident based on hard evidence and actual facts, it is completely unacceptable for anyone outside the investigative teams’ expertise to speculate on the cause of any event prior to the official investigation being completed! I personally believe that almost since day one, the investigation into the tragic Itavia DC-9 accident in Italy in 1980 was extremely misguided; this was attributed to completely erroneous and unfounded speculation by the Italian press that the aircraft had been shot down by a missile fired from a NATO aircraft! In fact, such unproven & false accountings of the accident caused by the Italian media actually contributed to hindering the investigation! It shouldn’t be a surprise to anyone that the end goal of all professional accident/incident investigators is to discover the TRUE CAUSE of each and every “event”, and thereafter, within the realm of human ability, take whatever action is necessary to assure that such accidents or incidents will not happen again. It has not been nor will it ever be in the interest of an accident/incident investigation team or one of its members to “cover up” the facts! Any such behavior is indeed criminal! Many believe that to this day the Itavia DC-9 accident investigation final conclusions are incorrect; I am not one of those believers. Although others may disagree, in my opinion the final accurate explanation is as documented in the following YouTube link.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6jIq7UpLMn4#t=22>

May God continue to watch over all those who needlessly perished in 1980 on the Itavia flight.



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