

## **CHAPTER 3.4 - SEARCH AND EMERGENCY OPERATIONS**

With regard to search and emergency operations, the Commission noted:

- 34.1** - that several people survived despite the extreme violence of the impact;
- 34.2** - the destruction on impact of the Emergency Locator Transmitter. This device was thus unable to play any role in the search operations;
- 34.3** - the poor weather conditions which hampered search operations;
- 34.4** - the length and difficulty of search operations which invalidates accepted ideas concerning the ease of finding the wreckage of a large transport aircraft;
- 34.5** - the difficulties of co-ordinating search resources and the time required for ground search personnel and equipment to get up to the accident site in sufficient numbers;
- 34.6** - difficulties encountered in the organisation and conduct of emergency operations, leading in particular to the non-intervention on the site of medical teams specialising in the treatment of serious multiple traumatisms;
- 34.7** - the hindrance caused to emergency operations by congestion on access routes to Mont Sainte-Odile.