

Airplane disappears in Venezuela; Vittorio Missoni and his wife among the passengers

Data : 8 gennaio 2013



"Maximum discretion on the part of the press" is what the **CEO of Missoni S.p.A., Paolo Marchetti**, has asked for, following the news that the airplane on which **Vittorio Missoni** and his wife were flying, has gone missing.

The company based in Sumirago, is closed for the holidays, and Vittorio's parents, **Rosita and Ottavio**, with their daughter, **Angela** are continually in contact with the **crisis unit of the Foreign Ministry**.

The airplane on which **Vittorio Missoni**, chairman of Missoni S.p.A., was flying, disappeared on the morning of 4 January 2013, in Venezuela; among the 6 people on board the tourist aircraft, which disappeared over the waters of the Los Roques archipelago, there was the businessman from Sumirago, his wife, **Maurizia Castiglioni**, and friends, the couple **Elda Scalvenzi and Guido Foresti**, as well as the two pilots of the aircraft.

Confirmation that Missoni was on the airplane came from **Pietro Foresti**, the son of Elda Scalvenzi and Guido Foresti. The plane, a small, British, Norman BN2 twin-engine, had taken off from the airport of Los Roques and should have landed at Simon Bolivar International Airport, in Maiquetia, about 20 km from Caracas. Several boats and two/three Venezuelan planes have been used in searching the area (which has stopped for the night, and will resume in the morning).

Vittorio Missoni represents the second generation of the large fashion house founded by Ottavio and Rosita, which has solid roots in **Sumirago**, where the company has its head office, and close to which almost all the family live; of the children, who are all employed in the company, Vittorio is not only the chairman, but also the "ambassador of the brand" around the world.

To help in the search for the missing people, the Italian Foreign Ministry has activated information channels in the country, and the Italian Consulate, in connection with the Crisis Unit, is in close contact with Caracas. The Venezuelan Minister of the Interior and Justice, **Nestor Reverol**, said, "The last contact with the plane was when it was 10 nautical miles from Los Roques. The group had spent Christmas and New Year's Eve in the archipelago."

This is not the first time that an aircraft has disappeared in this spot: in 2008, also on 4 January, the waters of Los Roques were at the centre of another mysterious occurrence: a Transaven tourist plane, which had 8 Italians on board, disappeared while flying from Caracas to the archipelago. All traces of the plane were lost.