

# WOLF LEGAL PUBLISHERS

## THE CRISIS AFTER THE DISASTER

AIRCRAASH AFTERMATH: A TRUE STORY

Cor Ten Hove

## The crisis after the disaster Aircrash aftermath: a true story *Cor ten Hove*

With the collaboration of:

Prof. Sandy McFarlane (University of Adelaide),

Prof. Berthold Gersons (AMC, University of Amsterdam),

Menno van Duin (COT, The Hague), Werner Overdijk (Crisisplan, Leiden) & Vina Wijkhuijs (Tilburg University)

This book contains the story of one of the survivors of the plane crash in Faro in 1992. It's also a report on the failure of systems and institutions that are intended to assist persons in need of support after such a disaster.

Finally it is a testimony to the resilience and ingenuity of the individual, the survivor as well as his family and friends and committed professionals.

December 21, 1992: A disaster struck Faro, Portugal. A Dutch Martinair DC-10 crashed at the airport leaving many passengers dead or wounded.

Cor ten Hove, the author of this book, was a passenger on that plane. He survived, but his life would never be the same. In this book he describes the plane crash and the impact it has had on his life ever since. He has had to deal with, and is still dealing with problems relating to health care, insurance, legal cases, financial concerns, employment, interactions with government bureaucracies, and much more.

The surveys included in this book, conducted among survivors and relatives of the victims of the Faro air disaster, show that this is not the story of one man. It's not even the story of only Faro air disaster survivors. Unfortunately it's the story of many individuals who have found the path to recovery littered with unanticipated obstacles. Modern society, its institutions and legal systems are poorly prepared to deal with complicated situations that persist in the long term. If a situation is too complex and lasts too long, the institutions in question increasingly seem to insist that the individual just needs to get over it and move on.

The imperative is to face what this story says about the limited ability of societal systems to meet their obligations to the individuals who constitute society. The first step towards achieving this is to develop greater social awareness of the effects of disasters, so that inter-related effects are not treated as unrelated problems.



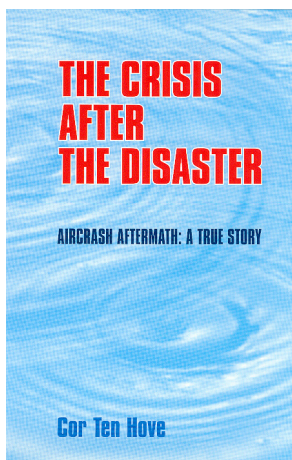
### SOME REACTIONS TO THE ORIGINAL DUTCH VERSION:

“I finished reading the book. It’s not a pathetic story of a survivor, but a documented report of a seemingly endless, very painful journey. The lack of coordination, cooperation, and especially understanding is incomprehensible. And then to think that the author was not by any means the only one who suffered like this. However, the -many- others have not put it in writing.”  
(A reaction of a relative of one of the deceased of the Faro disaster, january 2003).

“This is a horrifying book. After a short report on the crash of the Martinair DC-10 at Faro airport on December 21, 1992, Cor ten Hove describes in extremely penetrating fashion the effects of that accident on him and his spouse.”  
(United wings, magazine for the Dutch Historical Aviation, May 2003).

“The crisis after the disaster is a unique work in several ways. Never before have the medical, social an societal effects of a disaster been described in such detail by a survivor.”  
(Reformatorisch Dagblad, December 20, 2002).

This book is a discomfoting but highly worthwile read, with a hopeful ending. Cor ten Hove formulates 13 lessons for himself and others that have helped him reassemble the pieces of his life.”  
(Newsletter of the Dutch Traffic Victims Association).



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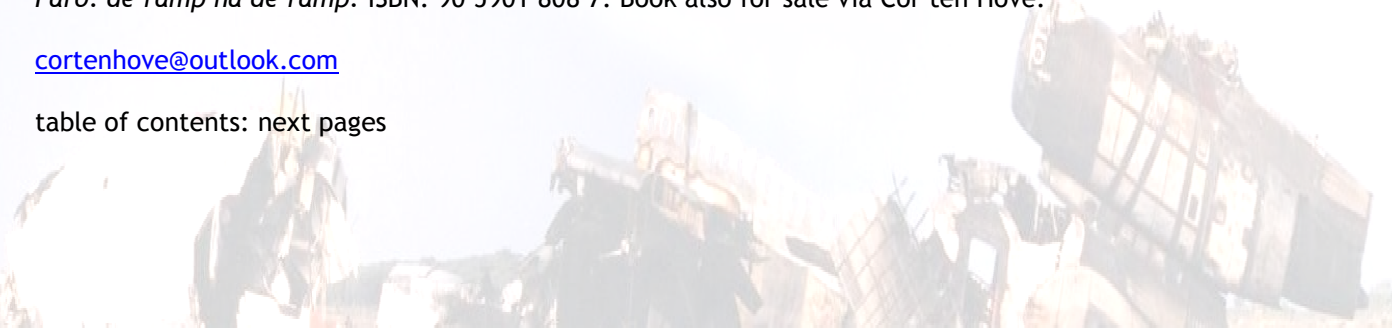
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[cortenhove@outlook.com](mailto:cortenhove@outlook.com)

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