



PRESS RELEASE

U.S. Air Force Special Operations Command Public Affairs Office

229 Cody Ave
Hurlburt Field FL 32544

Voice: DSN 579-5515 (850) 884-5515
Fax: DSN 579-7249 (850) 884-7249

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ABBREVIATED AIB REPORT RELEASED

HURLBURT FIELD, Florida. – The Abbreviated Accident Investigation Board report for an MQ-9A crash in 2017, was released on Feb. 9, 2018.

The aircraft, assigned to the 27th Special Operations Wing at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico, deployed to an undisclosed location crashed into the ocean on Aug. 2, 2017. There were no injuries, fatalities or damage to civilian or private property.

While flying with the autopilot hold modes and stall protection function disengaged the mishap aircraft stalled at approximately 3000 ft above ground level and lost satellite datalink with the mishap Ground Control Station. The mishap crew failed to complete the stall recovery checklist.

In accordance with AFI 51-503, Aerospace and Ground Accident Investigations, the accident investigation board conducted a legal investigation to inquire into all the facts and circumstances surrounding the accident, prepared a publicly-releasable report, and obtained and preserved all available evidence for use in litigation, claims, disciplinary action, and adverse administrative action.

The board concluded that the cause of the mishap was caused by a power-off stall due to the mishap pilot's failure to follow the stall recovery checklist by reducing the trimmed pitch and increasing the commanded power input.

For questions concerning the report, or to request a copy, please contact Air Force Special Operations Command Public Affairs at 850-884-5515.