



PRESS RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Headquarters Air Education and Training Command
Office of Public Affairs
100 H Street East, Suite 4
JBSA-Randolph, TX 78148

Phone – (210) 652-4400
www.aetc.af.mil

Release Number: 2019-02-01

Date: June 12, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AETC officials release Laughlin Aircraft Investigation Board report

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO, Texas – Today, Headquarters Air Education and Training Command released its Aircraft Investigation Board report from the Nov. 13, 2018, T-38C Talon mishap, that occurred at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas.

The routine instructor development training sortie was being conducted to regain rear cockpit night landing currency for Capt. Mark Palyok, while Capt. John Graziano, who died in the incident, was the pilot in command. Palyok was able to eject from the T-38C Talon and sustain minor injuries while the Graziano ejection was interrupted when the aircraft impacted the ground.

The cause of the mishap was found to be a combination of an engine compressor stall and failure to apply the throttle and flight control inputs required by emergency checklists following the loss of engine thrust on takeoff.

Graziano, 28, was an instructor pilot from the 87th Flying Training Squadron at Laughlin AFB. He was from Elkridge, Maryland, and is survived by his mother, father, sisters and brother.

AETC is committed to using the lessons learned from the results of any investigation to prevent similar accidents from happening again across the fleet.

The 87th Flying Training Squadron prepares student pilots and Airmen for multi-domain operations. It conducts specialized undergraduate pilot training for the United States Air Force, Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard and allied nation's air forces.