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## Air Force loses pilot in Kano plane crash

Wednesday, 23 March 2011 00:41  
Lagos

Lawan Danjuma Adamu, Kano, Yunus Abdulhamid,

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A Nigerian Air Force pilot died in Kano yesterday when his military jet crashed after developing technical fault. The plane, which airport sources said is an F7 Jet, crashed into the primary runway of the Malam Aminu Kano International Airport (MAKIA) and burst into flames at about 12:48pm, airport officials disclosed.

The military pilot, whose name was given as Group Captain Sale, was a senior air instructor attached to the 303 Flying Training School in Kano and was said to be on a training flight on the aircraft when it crashed.

The Nigerian Air Force authorities in Abuja, while confirming the incident through the Director of Public Relations and Information, Air Commodore Yusuf Anas, said the aircraft was on a routine training exercise at Kano, adding that the F7 fighter aircraft based in Makurdi relocated to Kano on March 18, 2011 for a two week flying training exercise before returning to Makurdi.

He said the Nigerian Air Force Headquarters has already set up an accident investigation panel to unravel the circumstances that led to the accident.

"Meanwhile, the Chief of the Air Staff, Air Marshal MD Umar has already sent a delegation of senior Nigerian Air Force officers to commiserate with the family of the late pilot," he said.

Meanwhile, the public relations officer of the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) in Kano, Alhaji Musa Shawai, has told Daily Trust that the accident did not affect flight operations at the airport, saying air traffic has been shifted to the secondary runway following the accident.

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