

2 Dead in Air Force Jet Crash

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Correction: Earlier, this article was mistaken attributed to Vedomosti.

A Russian military jet crashed in the country's far east Thursday, killing both crewmembers, officials said.

Defense Ministry spokesman Colonel Igor Konashenkov said in a televised statement that the Su-24 bomber crashed while landing at the Ukrainka air base in the Amur region near the border with China. He said both crewmembers died when the plane overturned and burst into flames. ■

The jet was flying from its base in Voronezh in western Russia to undergo planned repairs at an aircraft-making plant. There was no damage on the ground.

■Russia's main investigative agency has opened a probe into the crash, the cause of which wasn't immediately known. Konashenkov said the air force will conduct an inspection of its entire Su-24 fleet following the crash.

The twin-engined Su-24 has been an important component of the Soviet and then Russian air

force since the 1970s.

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