

14 Killed in Russian Fighter Jet Crash Into Residential Building

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A view of the crash site of a Sukhoi Su-34 combat aircraft in Yeysk. Erik Romanenko / TASS

Updates with new casualty figures.

A military aircraft crashed Monday into a residential building in the southern port town of Yeysk in Russia's Krasnodar region, Interfax news agency <u>reported</u>, citing local officials.

Russia's Defense Ministry <u>said</u> a Su-34 fighter jet crashed after taking off from a local airfield for a training flight, the state-run RIA Novosti<u>reported</u>.

Fourteen people were killed and 19 injured, according to regional emergencies officials <u>cited</u> Tuesday by RIA Novosti.

The crash was probably caused by "a technical malfunction," Russia's Investigative Committee, which probes serious crimes, said.

It said it had launched a criminal inquiry into possible violations of flight rules and had "seized fuel samples at the departure aerodrome" and "flight recorders at the site of the crash."

Embed:

Footage <u>posted</u> on social media showed a multi-story apartment building engulfed in flames as additional explosions took place.

The Defense Ministry said that the pilots had both ejected safely, and one <u>video</u> circulating on social media what appeared to be pilot, lying on the ground near the burning building, alive but apparently injured.

Since the beginning of the Ukraine offensive, the airspace around the south of Russia has been closed.

AFP contributed reporting.

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