

Russian Military Drone Crashes Into Dacha in Republic of Tatarstan

July 08, 2025



Russian Defense Ministry

A Russian military drone crashed into a dacha in the republic of Tatarstan on Tuesday following an apparent malfunction during a test flight, the drone's developer said.

Officials in Kazan, Tatarstan's capital, [said](#) a "civilian" aircraft lost control and fell onto a dacha north of the city at 9:10 a.m. local time, sparking a brief fire but causing no injuries. Videos shared on social media showed flames engulfing the building.

Regional transportation prosecutors [launched](#) a preliminary investigation, saying the drone crashed about 1 kilometer (0.6 miles) from its landing strip.

The drone's developer, the Yekaterinburg-based Ural Civil Aviation Factory, confirmed its new Altius model crashed during landing and blamed "unidentified external electronic warfare devices" for disrupting the flight.

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Under development since 2011, Altius has been plagued by delays and cost overruns. In 2018, police [arrested](#) its chief designer on fraud charges.

The drone, seen as a rival to the U.S.-developed MQ-9 Reaper and RQ-4 Global Hawk, made its [first flight](#) in 2019.

Russia's Defense Ministry says the six-ton drone can fly for more than 24 hours and conduct a full range of optical, radio and radar reconnaissance missions.

The United States [sanctioned](#) the Ural Civil Aviation Factory in 2023 for developing Altius and servicing other drones used in Russia's war against Ukraine.

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