



## AIR COMBAT COMMAND News Release

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### **MQ-9A ABBREVIATED ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT RELEASED**

**JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS, Va.** – Air Combat Command announced the release of its Abbreviated Accident Investigation Board report regarding the August 22, 2023 crash of an MQ-9A Reaper at Kanoya Air Base, Japan.

The mishap resulted in a complete loss of the aircraft, valued at \$21.5 million. There were no fatalities, injuries, or reported damage to civilian property.

The aircraft belonged to the 432nd Wing at Creech Air Force Base, Nevada. At the time of the mishap, the aircraft was operated remotely by a Launch and Recovery Element composed of a pilot and sensor operator deployed to KAB, performing duties for U.S. Indo-Pacific Command under the 319th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron.

The investigation board president determined there were two causes that led to the mishap: (1) the loss of data uplink from the ground control station to the aircraft upon landing touchdown and (2) the pilot's failure to execute the go around procedure and the sensor operator's failure to verify the throttle and pitch setting while the aircraft lost uplink and executed a 'high speed lost link logic' go around.

The AAIB report can be viewed at <https://www.afjag.af.mil/Portals/77/AIB-Reports/2023/22AUG23%20ACC%20MQ-9%20Creech%20AFB%20AIB%20Report.pdf?ver=hDaongWEbABL65DJESdSIg%3d%3d>