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Today

## Controversial Spec-Ops Tiltrotor Crashes in Afghanistan

By: Various on: 09.04.2010 [06:33 ] (290 reads)



(5189 bytes) [c]

### Four die in chopper crash in Afghanistan

09 April 2010 | 04:19:08 PM | Source: AAP

A helicopter **CV-22 Osprey** belonging to international forces in Afghanistan has gone down in the country's southeast, NATO says.

.A spokesman for the Taliban said its fighters had shot it down, but an Afghan official said it appeared to have crashed due to mechanical failure, causing four deaths.

A NATO spokesman said only that the helicopter went down overnight in the southeastern province of Zabul, and that no other details were known about the incident which was under investigation.

A Zabul government spokesman, Mohhamed Jahn Rasuliyar, first said the helicopter appeared to have been shot down but changed that later to say the cause appeared to have been technical failure.

He said the crash site was about 11km from the provincial capital of Qalat, further away than originally reported.

He said there were reports of **four deaths among those aboard the chopper**, the type of which he did not know.

Qari Yusuf Ahmedi, a spokesman for the Taliban insurgency that is active in the area, said militants had shot down the aircraft around midnight.

The report could not be independently confirmed and the insurgents have a history of false and exaggerated claims designed to promote their cause of driving foreign forces from the country.

Choppers are used extensively by both NATO and the Afghan government forces to transport and supply troops spread out across a mountainous country with few roads.

Losses have been relatively light, despite insurgent fire and difficult conditions and most crashes have been accidents caused by maintenance problems or factors such as dust.

Lacking shoulder-fired missiles and other anti-aircraft weapons, the Taliban rely mainly on machine guns and rocket propelled grenades to target helicopters at their most vulnerable during landings and takeoffs.

One of the heaviest single-day losses of life for allied forces occurred on June 28, 2005, when 16 US troops died aboard a Special Forces MH-47 Chinook helicopter that was shot down by insurgents.

<http://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/1232392/Four-die-in-chopper-crash-in-Afghanistan>

## CV-22 Osprey Crashes in Afghanistan

09 April, 2010 11:30:00 Courtesy Story

Font size:

KABUL, Afghanistan – A U.S. Air Force CV-22 Osprey crashed in southern Afghanistan late last night, killing three U.S. service members, one civilian employee, and injuring numerous other service members. The cause of the crash is unknown at this time.

The CV-22 was carrying U.S. Forces when it crashed approximately seven miles west of Qalat City, in Zabul province. The injured were transported to a nearby base for medical treatment.

The CV-22 conducts long range infiltration and resupply for U.S. Forces. It employs tilt-rotor technology that allows it to take off and land as a helicopter. While in the air the engines can roll forward, allowing the aircraft to fly faster than a standard helicopter. The CV-22 is a modified version of the Marine Corps MV-22.

<http://www.military-world.net/Afghanistan/3658.html>

## Controversial Spec-Ops Tiltrotor Crashes in Afghanistan

By Nathan Hodge April 9, 2010 | 9:54 am | Categories: Af/Pak

A CV-22 Osprey — the special operations version of the controversial MV-22 Osprey tiltrotor — crashed last night in southern Afghanistan. According to an International Security Assistance Force news release, the incident claimed the lives of three U.S. servicemembers and one civilian employee. Several other military personnel were injured.

This is apparently the first loss of an Osprey on a combat mission. The aircraft, which can take off and land like a helicopter, then transition to forward flight like a fixed-wing aircraft, had a long and controversial development history. But the Marines rotated two Osprey squadrons through Iraq without any major incidents.

Richard Whittle, author of the newly published *The Dream Machine: The Untold History of the Notorious V-22 Osprey*, told *Danger Room*, "No one's ever claimed the Osprey was invulnerable, and since the war in Afghanistan began in 2001, the U.S. has lost more than 300 rotorcraft there and in Iraq from various causes in crashes that killed nearly 500 people."

But, Whittle added: "If the cause was aerodynamic — if this Osprey lost its engines for some reason and was trying to autorotate to a landing, meaning float down on the cushion of lift even unpowered rotors can provide — then the critics who warned that this was a fatal weakness in the Osprey are going to be able to say 'I told you so.'"

The CV-22 went down approximately seven miles west of Qalat City, in Zabul Province. The Taliban claimed credit for downing the aircraft (It's also common practice for the insurgents to claim to have shot down aircraft that went down for other reasons). ISAF said an investigation into the cause of the crash was still underway.

Photo: U.S. Air Force

Read More <http://www.wired.com/dangerroom/2010/04/controversial-spec-ops-tiltrotor-crashes-in-afghanistan/#ixzz0kcyx4x8w>

4 comments

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**info**

by Seele on 09.04.2010 [10:28 ]

Downed chopper was CV-22 Osprey , it is said. The dead were eighter US marines or Special Forces.

**How**

by Zoraida on 09.04.2010 [11:48 ]

Many dollars is the price of this aircraft????????????????????

**68 million apparently.**

by Deathtodubya on 09.04.2010 [12:59 ]

No problem, just print more money.

**More info**

by Seele on 09.04.2010 [20:16 ]

Someone from close US military source in another forum says the following:

Downed helicopter was Air Force Special Operations Command CV-22B Osprey from 1st Special Operations Wing at Hurlburt Field , Fla. packed with special forces team and civilian contractors (translators) - 24 people on board. All wounded in bad or very bad shape, aircraft crashed near planned extraction zone. Reasons for crash - all options are opened - hostile fire, pilot error or technical malfunction.

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