

PRESS RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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Jan 22, 2016

UPDATE 6: F-16 crash near Bagdad, AZ

LUKE AIR FORCE BASE, Arizona – "Sadly, last night our Interim Safety Board members discovered human remains at the crash site of the F-16 from Taiwan," said Brigadier General Scott Pleus, 56th Fighter Wing commander. "This evidence leads me to believe the pilot did not survive the crash and is therefore presumed dead. I have directed the Airmen on scene at the crash site to transition from search and rescue to recovery operations."

Both the F-16 and the pilot are from Taiwan. The cause of the crash is unknown.

Any queries concerning the name of the pilot should be directed to the Government of Taiwan and Taiwan's Air Force Command.

"Our thoughts go out to the family, friends, and members of the 21st Fighter Squadron," Pleus said.

Information will be released as it becomes available. For questions, please contact the 56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office at 623-856-6011 or 480-619-1078 after hours.

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