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Allegany Crash
Kills Navy Plane
Fighter Pilot

Houghton, (A.P.) — A Navy fighter plane from the Niagara Falls Naval Air Station crashed in flames today just south of this Allegany County community, killing the pilot.

A spokesman at the base said the plane was one of four in a routine week-end exercise. He said it caught fire in the air and that the other pilots in the flight shouted by radio to the pilot, advising him to jump.

"We'll probably never know why he didn't," the spokesman added.

Nearby residents said the plane plunged through some trees at the edge of a cleared field, then disintegrated over a wide area.

The name of the pilot was not released, pending notification of next of kin.

It was the second service plane to be missing from Niagara Falls airport in 24 hours. An army fighter is believed to have crashed in Lake Ontario yesterday. Searchers are still looking for it.