

Russian rocket carrying military satellite crashes in Siberia

June 21 2005

MOSCOW, June 21 (AFP) - A Russian Molnia-M rocket carrying a military communications satellite crashed Tuesday in Siberia shortly after takeoff, Russian news agencies reported.

The rocket, launched at 0049 GMT from the northern Plessetsk space centre, suffered engine failure and fell onto a forest in the Tyumen region of Siberia, Ria-Novosti agency said quoting a space agency source.

The rocket was to have placed satellite Molnia-3K into orbit an hour after launch.

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