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Funeral service for second aviator of downed Hellenic Air Force F-4 'Phantom II' held



A funeral service was held on Friday for the second aviator of a Hellenic Air Force F-4 "Phantom II" that crashed into the Ionian Sea on Monday.

The exodios funeral service for Hellenic Air Force Capt. Efstathios Tsitlakidis was held in his home town of Graniti, in the northern prefecture of Drama. Greece's political and military leadership attended the emotional service.

Two days earlier, a funeral service and interment was held in the southern Greece city of Tripoli, in Arcadia prefecture, for Lt. Marios-Michail Touroutsikas, the co-pilot of the fallen warplane.

The 31-year-old pilot and the 29-year-old co-pilot went down with the fighter plane in a sea region some eight nautical miles west of the harbor town of Katakolo.

The pair of aviators were on a training mission.