

SUMMARY IN ENGLISH

The incident occurred when two JAS 39 C aircraft were close to colliding with each other during an exercise over Lake Vänern. The flight was an exercise in air combat manoeuvring, two versus one, with three JAS 39 C aircraft.

After a number of initial combat contacts which progressed as planned, the two aircraft, acting together as a two-ship, began to engage the target aircraft in a renewed combat contact. When passing the target element, both aircraft turned towards the target aircraft and in conjunction with this manoeuvre visual contact within the two-ship was lost resulting in a close passage between the aircraft.

The commander's manoeuvring was performed in a way that left no margin to maintain safe separation when the expected role changes within the two-ship did not occur.

Contributing was that relevant risk factors were not addressed before the flight, which in turn was due to a lack of time when planning the flight.

At system level, a contributing factor to the lack of preparation time for the flight was the high workload situation at the air wing where a high ambition to conduct air operations was not matched with sufficient human resources.

Safety recommendations

The Swedish Armed Forces' own investigation has identified the lack of time as one cause of the incident and recommended that an analysis be carried out of how the combat squadrons can allow more time for planning, carrying out and evaluating missions while also providing more time to other necessary activities. In light of these planned measures, there is no reason to issue any safety recommendations in this part. However, SHK issues the safety recommendation below.

The Swedish Armed Forces are recommended to:

- Ensure that sufficient information on the current status and characteristics of pilots is transferred between units, squadrons, and training levels. (*SHK 2023:05 R1*)