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Fighter jets seen over Essex skies, escort private plane to Stansted Airport

By [JoeSturdy](#) | Posted: July 23, 2014



Gulfstream jet at Stansted (Pic Stephen Huntley)

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A plane was diverted into Stansted Airport earlier tonight - with two fighters as an escort.

The aircraft, which is understood to have come from Lagos and is reportedly a Gulfstream small business jet, had lost voice communications, according to a spokeswoman for UK air traffic control company NATS.

"We could not make voice contact with the plane," she said.

"The plane was diverted into Stansted and it resulted in a runway closure of eight minutes."

An Essex Police spokesman said that the aircraft landed safely at 7.49pm.

"Military jets were deployed on a precautionary basis when a private jet was diverted to Stansted. This was due to a loss of communication with the aircraft," he said.

"All three people who were on board have been spoken to by police, it was established that everything was in order and the police response was stood down."

On Twitter, Thomas Webb (@tootalltom13) asked: "Just seen an RAF typhoon flying over Bishops Stortford toward the Stansted Airport. Anything going on?", while Paul Terry (@PaulTerry16) wrote: "Fighter plane flew overhead alongside a passenger jet into Stansted."

Sean (@seanhendrie) added: “Sitting literally next to Stansted Airport and two fighter jets fly over escorting a passenger flight, lol I don't wanna die please”.

Air traffic was diverted to nearby Luton Airport for a short time.

Departures and arrivals are now flowing into Stansted again.

Read more at <http://www.essexchronicle.co.uk/Fighter-jets-seen-Essex-skies-escort-private/story-21748166-detail/story.html#DeOBYdtlD6zltSfk.99>