

Air Canada pilot has mid-flight breakdown

by UPI

TORONTO -- An Air Canada co-pilot reportedly suffered a nervous breakdown on a flight from Toronto and was in an Irish psychiatric unit Tuesday, Irish media said. Air Canada Flight 848 departed Sunday night for London but the pilot decided to make an emergency landing Monday morning in Shannon, Ireland, after his co-pilot began "acting in a peculiar manner and was talking loudly to himself," a source told The Irish Independent. The source said the co-pilot had to be physically restrained by flight crew and a passenger reportedly belonging to the Canadian military. Air Canada spokesman Peter Fitzpatrick told the Toronto Star medical emergencies among flight crews were unusual. "It's not unheard of but it is pretty rare," he said. "At no time was safety an issue or compromised." The co-pilot was at the Acute Psychiatric Unit at the Midwestern Regional Hospital in Ennis, County Clare, for further assessment, the Independent said. The 146 passengers were flown to London by a different crew and arrived seven hours late, the Star said.

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