

AIRMAN from No 2 (Mechanical Transport) Squadron, Royal Air Force, was killed in a road traffic accident in southern Italy yesterday, Wednesday 20 July 2011. The airman was part of a logistics convoy traveling from the UK to air bases in southern Italy to resupply UK forces in support of Operation ELLAMY, the UK mission over Libya to enforce United Nations Security Council Resolution 1973 and protect Libyan civilians at risk of attack. The accident occurred in the Abruzzo region of southern Italy and the cause of the accident is under investigation. Spokesman for the MOD's Permanent Joint Headquarters, Colonel Nick Orr, said: "It is with deep regret that I must announce the death of a Royal Air Force Serviceman from No 2 (Mechanical Transport) Squadron in a road traffic accident in Southern Italy on 20 July 2011. The airman was part of a logistics convoy to resupply UK forces in support of Operation ELLAMY. The airman was driving the lead vehicle in the convoy when, for reasons that have yet to be established, his vehicle left the carriageway. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this terribly difficult time." The serviceman's next of kin have been informed and have asked for a period of grace before further details are released.