

Majorca Daily Bulletin

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Surviving crew member of Russian jet says no warning from Turkey

Moscow.—The surviving crew member of a Russian warplane shot down by Turkey said yesterday the plane received no warnings from the Turkish Air Force and did not fly over Turkish air space, Russian news agencies reported.

Turkey shot down the Russian plane near the Syrian border on Tuesday, saying it had violated its air space, in one of the most serious publicly acknowledged clashes between a NATO member country and Russia for half a century. Navigator Konstantin Murakhtin was rescued by Russian and Syrian special forces after ejecting from the plane but the pilot was shot dead by rebels as he parachuted to the ground.

“There were no warnings, either by radio or visually. There was no contact whatsoever,” TASS quoted Murakhtin as saying at a hospital in the Syrian province of Latakia, where Russia has an airbase.

“If they wanted to warn us, they could have shown themselves by taking a parallel course. There was nothing. And the missile hit the tail of our aircraft suddenly, we did not see it in time to do an anti-missile manoeuvre.”

Ankara has said the plane was repeatedly warned to change course after encroaching on Turkish air space but Moscow has denied that its warplane flew over Turkish territory.

Murakhtin also said his jet did not leave Syrian airspace. **SEE PAGE 11**

PALMA BRACED FOR BLACK FRIDAY

- Over 400 small to medium sized Palma retailers are taking part in this year's discount campaign which was unveiled yesterday.
- El Corte Inglés will kick off today, and its discounts will last until Sunday, when shops along Jaume III will be open: **See page 3**

XMAS IS HERE



● The traditional belen nativity scene in Santa Catalina market was unveiled to great expectation from the local community yesterday. Photo. J:Torres.

Osborne scraps plans to cut welfare support

LONDON. George Osborne scrapped plans to reduce state support for low-income workers yesterday, saying improved public finances meant he could deliver his overall 12 billion pound welfare savings without the cuts.

Last month, Osborne was

forced to back down on a proposal to reduce the payment of so-called tax credits, which supplement the income of low-paid workers, after it was rejected by Britain's unelected upper house of parliament.

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