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Laptop computers could be to blame for the incident on board a Qantas flight

By Cyril Fussy

Laptops might have been the cause of the problem on board the Qantas flight QF72, say the officials.

The Airbus A330-300 experienced sudden changes of altitude, injuring several people on board. The first explanation given was turbulence, then a temperamental onboard computer, and now the Australian Transportation Safety Bureau thinks that laptops might have caused interference with the autopilot system.

Apparently the investigators have ascertained that the failure of the altitude control system happened when certain passengers' laptops interfered with the plane's computers.

It seems after all that when you are told to switch off your electronic equipment, it's for a good reason.

Last July, in a similar incident, it seems that a cordless mouse upset the navigation system of a Qantas plane.

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