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Ukrainian Soldier Killed in Rebel Attack on Military Ambulance

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A fighter with the separatist self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic Army sits atop a tank at a checkpoint along a road from the town of Vuhlehirsk to Debaltseve in Ukraine, in this picture taken Feb. 18, 2015.

KIEV — One Ukrainian serviceman was killed and another wounded when pro-Russian separatists attacked a military ambulance near Luhansk in eastern Ukraine, the head of the Kiev-controlled regional administration said Tuesday.

"An act of sabotage occurred near the border with Russia. A medical vehicle with two servicemen came under automatic fire. As a result, one serviceman was killed and another seriously wounded," Hennadiy Moskal said in an online statement.

The attack took place Monday.

Violence has lessened significantly in Ukraine's east since a cease-fire was brokered in the Belarussian capital Minsk in mid-February, though government forces and separatists accuse one another of violations, inflicting casualties almost daily.

The situation is most tense near the rebel-controlled city of Donetsk, the strategic port city of Mariupol on the Sea of Azov and around Luhansk near the border with Russia.

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