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INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Russia Launches Hundreds of Drones at Ukraine, Defying Trump's Peace Ultimatum

By AFP

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State Emergency Service of Ukraine

Updated to add the strike on Dobropillia.

A Russian airstrike on a central square in the frontline town of Dobropillia on Wednesday killed one person and wounded more than 20, with more casualties feared trapped under the debris, Ukrainian officials said.

Russia's military launched a fresh wave of air attacks on Ukraine between late Tuesday and early Wednesday, defying U.S. President Trump's calls for Moscow to agree to a ceasefire deal.

According to regional authorities, Russia dropped a 500-kilogram (1,100-pound) bomb on Dobropillia, which is just 20 kilometers (12 miles) from the front line.

The bombardment followed U.S. President Donald Trump's threat to impose new sanctions unless Russian President Vladimir Putin agreed to a peace settlement within the next 50 days.

Ukrainian and Russian officials last met for direct peace talks more than a month ago, with no further meetings scheduled despite Kremlin claims of openness to negotiations.

Ukraine's air force said Russia launched at least 400 drones overnight, as well as an Iskander missile fired from annexed Crimea.

The attacks killed one and left dozens injured on top of the Dobropillia toll, according to Ukrainian authorities.

A missile strike cut power and water supplies in Kryvyi Rih, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky's hometown, authorities said.

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Kryvyi Rih's Mayor, Oleksandr Vilkul, said at least 15 people were wounded, including a 17-year-old boy seriously injured in the abdomen and hospitalized. An industrial building was destroyed, and power and water were disrupted.

"This has never happened before. A ballistic missile and 28 Shahed drones simultaneously," Vilkul wrote on Telegram, referring to Iranian-designed drones used by Russia.

Russia has intensified its summer campaign amid stalled ceasefire talks, continuing its offensive on the battlefield while launching combined drone, artillery and missile strikes.

Trump said Monday that he reached a deal with NATO's secretary-general to supply more U.S. air defense systems and weapons to Ukraine, citing frustration over Russia's refusal to accept a ceasefire.

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