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INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Ukrainian Drone Strikes Kill 3 in Russia's Penza, Samara, Rostov Regions

By AFP

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Screengrab of the Novokuibyshevsk refinery, operated by the state-owned oil giant Rostneft, in Russia's Samara region. **social media**

Ukrainian drone strikes killed three people and wounded two others overnight in western Russia, regional governors said on Saturday.

One woman was killed and two other people were wounded in an attack on an enterprise in Penza, the region's governor, Oleg Melnichenko, wrote on Telegram.

An elderly man was killed inside a house that caught fire due to falling drone debris in the Samara region, Governor Vyacheslav Fedorishchev posted on Telegram.

In the Rostov region, a guard at an industrial facility was killed after a drone attack and a fire in one of the site's buildings, acting Rostov Governor Yuri Slyusar said.

“The military repelled a massive air attack during the night,” destroying drones over seven

districts, Slyusar posted on Telegram.

Russia's Defense Ministry said its air defense systems had destroyed 112 Ukrainian drones over Russian territory — 34 over the Rostov region — in a nearly nine-hour period, from Friday night to Saturday morning.

Embed:

In Ukraine's central-eastern Dnipropetrovsk region, overnight Russian drone attacks left three people wounded, governor Serhiy Lysak wrote on Telegram.

Several buildings, homes and cars were damaged, he said.

Russian forces have claimed advances in Dnipropetrovsk, recently announcing the capture of two villages there, part of Moscow's accelerated capture of territory in July, according to AFP's analysis of data from the U.S.-based Institute for the Study of War (ISW).

Kyiv denies any Russian presence in the Dnipropetrovsk area.

Russian President Vladimir Putin, who has consistently rejected calls for a ceasefire in the more than three-year conflict, said Friday that he wanted peace but that his demands for ending Moscow's military offensive were “unchanged.”

Those demands include that Ukraine abandon territory and end ambitions to join NATO.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, meanwhile, said only Putin could end the war and renewed his call for a meeting between the two leaders.

“The United States has proposed this. Ukraine has supported it. What is needed is Russia's readiness,” he wrote on X.

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