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Ukrainian Strike Kills 1, Wounds 12 in Kursk

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@Hinshtein

A Ukrainian drone strike on an apartment block killed one person and wounded 12 others in the southwestern Russian city of Kursk, the region's acting governor said early Friday.

"Unfortunately, a 45-year-old woman died on the spot," Governor Alexander Khinshtein said on Telegram. He later told reporters that 12 people were wounded in the overnight attacks.

Khinshtein surveyed the damage from the strike in the city's eastern administrative district, 100 kilometers (62 miles) from the border with Ukraine.

Photos and videos published on his channel showed a badly burnt nine-story building, with Khinshtein saying that a total of 11 buildings and 50 vehicles were damaged by shock waves.

Russia's Defense Ministry said its air defense systems had downed drones over nine Russian regions, including 13 over the Kursk region, and the Sea of Azov.

The governor of the neighboring Belgorod region said three people were wounded in

overnight and early morning drone strikes. The governors of the Bryansk and Rostov regions reported property damage, but no casualties.

Civil aviation authorities briefly grounded flights at four regional airports where the military said it had downed Ukrainian drones.

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Ukrainian drones also hit a Russian oil refinery in the central Russian city of Syzran, some 800 kilometres (500 miles) behind the front line.

“The Syzran oil refinery in the Samara region of Russia, one of the largest in the Rosneft system, was hit,” Ukraine's general staff said, referring to the network of facilities owned by Russian state-run energy giant Rosneft.

It said the facility produced aviation fuel and supplied the Russian army.

Unverified images on social media showed multiple fires and grey smoke billowing from the site at dawn on Friday.

AFP contributed reporting.

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