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One Killed in Drone Strike on Vessels in Taganrog Bay, Russian Authorities Say

By Reuters

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Photo by STRINGER / AFP

One person was killed as a result of a drone attack on four vessels, including a tanker carrying methanol, in Taganrog Bay of the Sea of Azov, Russian authorities said on Saturday.

"A seaman on a technical support vessel has lost his life. I offer my condolences to the family and loved ones of the deceased. No one else was injured," Yury Slyusar, governor of the southern Rostov region, wrote on Telegram.

He said the vessels sustained various degrees of damage, but "there is no risk of a methanol spill or leak."

More than one and a half dozen drones were destroyed during the repulsion of the air attack on the region, Slyusar said. The Russian Defence Ministry said air defense units had downed a total of 178 Ukrainian drones over various regions overnight.

On Friday, fires broke out at two fuel depots and at the Taganrog sea port as a result of drone attacks.

The Ukrainian military, however, said it hit 21 Russian tanker vessels in the Sea of Azov overnight, as part of a campaign to deprive Moscow's forces in occupied Ukraine of fuel.

The military said in a statement on Saturday that it had also hit four tugs, two cargo vessels and a dredger used to supply military logistics and support port infrastructure.

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