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Missing Pro-War Blogger May Face Treason Charges Over Oleshky Evacuation Post

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Vladimir Romanov **@romanov_92 / Telegram**

A popular Russian pro-war military blogger may face treason and espionage charges over a Telegram post about civilian evacuations from the occupied Ukrainian town of Oleshky, The Moscow Times' Russian service reported, citing claims by pro-war Telegram channels.

Vladimir Romanov vanished from public view after his Telegram channel, which has more than 150,000 subscribers, went silent on Oct. 31. A day earlier, he published and later deleted a post suggesting that the optics of the U.S.-brokered ceasefire and evacuation effort in Oleshky were unfavorable for Russia.

Russian authorities have not publicly commented on Romanov's whereabouts as of Tuesday.

The pro-war Telegram channel Militia Reports of Novorossiya claimed Monday that Romanov was facing a treason case and could be denied access to a lawyer for "several months." The

channel did not cite any sources.

Those claims come nearly two weeks after another pro-war channel, Alex Parker Returns, said without citing sources that Romanov faced treason and espionage charges.

In his Oct. 30 post, Romanov said only four buses carrying Oleshky residents had departed for Russia during the ceasefire, compared with 17 that took evacuees to Ukrainian territory.

Newsmax journalist Alex Salvi also reported that four buses carrying Oleshky residents had gone to Russia, suggesting that few in the war-torn Kherson region town were sympathetic to Moscow.

Russia's human rights ombudswoman had acknowledged that many of the Russian buses returned largely empty. Her Ukrainian counterpart said Moscow and Kyiv had agreed not to disclose the number of Oleshky residents who left the town during the six-day ceasefire, which ran from Oct. 27 to Nov. 1.

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