# Ukraine Launches Massive Drone Offensive on Russian Military Targets



Ukraine initiated a significant drone offensive against Russian military targets, deploying 114 uncrewed aerial vehicles (UAVs) in a single night. According to the Ukrainian Defence Intelligence, this operation is one of the most substantial of its kind during the ongoing conflict.

The Russian Ministry of Defence reported that 70 drones were shot down over Crimea and another 43 over the Krasnodar Territory. Additionally, a drone was downed over the Volgograd Region, and six uncrewed attack boats were destroyed in the Black Sea by Russian aircraft.

This offensive aligns with the United States' decision to increase the delivery speed of Patriot missile systems to Ukraine. This action is part of a previously announced $61 billion military aid package from the US, aimed at enhancing Ukraine's air defense capabilities. The Pentagon confirmed these weapons could be used for cross-border attacks into Russia.

Concurrent to these developments, Russia has targeted Ukrainian air bases to disrupt the deployment of newly acquired F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft by Ukraine. In response to the drone strikes, Alexander Bogomaz, the governor of Bryansk, reported that at least 30 drones were destroyed. Smolensk's governor, Vasily Anokhin, also stated that drones were downed in the region, though the exact number was unclear.

Both governors indicated that there were no casualties or damage reported. An air raid alert was issued in the Lipetsk region, several hundred kilometers south of Moscow. The reports have not been independently verified by Reuters, and there has been no immediate comment from Ukraine.

Kyiv asserts its strikes within Russian territory aim to undermine Moscow’s war effort and respond to continuous Russian attacks on Ukraine’s infrastructure.