# Ukraine's Military Intelligence Chief Lt. Gen. Kyrylo Budanov Leads Bold Defence Strategy Against Russia



Ukraine's head of military intelligence, Lt. Gen. Kyrylo Budanov, has been a significant figure in Ukraine's military efforts against Russia. Budanov operates from HUR headquarters on a peninsula jutting into the Dnieper River in Kyiv. As the head of HUR, Budanov has survived at least ten Kremlin assassination attempts, and his agency has executed notable operations, such as long-range drone strikes within Russian territory and sea drone strikes in the Black Sea, pushing much of the Russian fleet back to the mainland.

Appointed four years ago and known for his strategic ingenuity, Budanov has led daring missions into enemy territories. He emphasizes the necessity of expanding drone attacks and making Crimea an untenable holding for Russia. Budanov was candid about the ongoing challenges Ukraine faces, including its dependence on U.S. military support and the potential impact of American political shifts.

Russian losses have been substantial, with estimates of over 1,000 casualties per day and significant equipment losses, such as 8,000 tanks since the conflict began. Major General Chip Chapman suggested that the high casualty rates and limited gains could lead to a breakdown in Russian military morale or upheaval within Russia’s political landscape.

Budanov downplayed the threat of Russia using tactical nuclear weapons and underscored the importance of Western military aid. He believes that technology, particularly drones, will play a critical role in continuing Ukraine’s defense and strategic offensive against Russia.