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# Russia Downs 93 Ukrainian Drones as Fire Erupts at Sochi Fuel Depot

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— *Categories: Breaking News*



Russian authorities reported the interception of 93 Ukrainian unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) overnight, with the majority brought down over the Black Sea and one over the Krasnodar region. The defense action coincided with a large fire at a Rosneft-operated fuel depot near Sochi, reportedly triggered when drone debris struck a fuel tank.

According to Russia's Ministry of Defense, the UAVs, uncrewed aerial vehicles typically used for surveillance or offensive strikes, were neutralized across multiple areas. Sixty were intercepted above the Black Sea, with others taken down across different strategic

locations. Officials highlighted the success of air defense systems in preventing greater damage to national infrastructure.

The most serious incident occurred in Sochi, a key resort city on the Black Sea coast, where a fuel depot caught fire. Regional Governor Veniamin Kondratyev confirmed that more than 120 emergency personnel were deployed to manage the blaze. The fire was contained by early Sunday morning, August 4, 2025. No casualties were reported, though images from the site revealed significant structural damage to the facility.

Rosaviatsia, Russia's Federal Air Transport Agency, temporarily suspended flights at Sochi International Airport due to the incident. Operations resumed once the fire was controlled and safety was ensured.

Elsewhere, in Russia's Voronezh region, officials reported that a separate drone strike injured four individuals and caused fires in several areas. Eighteen additional UAVs were intercepted in this region, part of what authorities described as ongoing defensive efforts.

Ukraine's military reported that, during the same timeframe, Russian forces launched 76 UAVs and seven missiles. Ukraine's Air Force stated it intercepted 60 drones and one missile, while others struck eight locations. One missile landed in a residential area of Mykolaiv, injuring seven civilians, according to local reports.

The fire in Sochi stands out as one of the most significant long-range UAV strikes on Russian energy infrastructure since the conflict began. While Ukrainian officials did not claim direct responsibility, they have repeatedly stated that such actions are retaliatory responses to Russia's continued attacks on Ukrainian cities and civilian areas. Earlier in the week, Ukrainian sources condemned missile strikes that resulted in 31 civilian deaths, including children, renewing calls for increased Western military aid and tighter sanctions against Moscow.

Despite ongoing hostilities, both nations agreed to a prisoner swap involving 1,200 individuals after talks in Istanbul. However, a broader ceasefire deal remains out of reach. Meanwhile, U.S. President Donald Trump issued a statement setting an August 8, 2025, deadline for meaningful progress in peace negotiations, warning of further sanctions should Russia fail to engage.

The persistent use of UAVs and missiles by both sides underscores the escalating scope and technological evolution of the conflict. Critical infrastructure and civilian zones continue to face increasing threats as military operations intensify beyond traditional combat zones.