



Efrem Lukatsky/AP photo

An owner looks at her damaged car following a Russia missile attack in Kyiv, Ukraine, Sunday, July 19.

Russian attacks kill 6 in Kyiv and other cities and expose gaps in Ukraine's air defenses

ASSOCIATED PRESS

KYIV, Ukraine — Russia attacked Kyiv and other Ukrainian cities with ballistic missiles, drones and guided bombs Sunday, killing at least six people and wounding dozens, authorities said, again highlighting Ukraine’s shortage of U.S.-made Patriot air defense systems.

Moscow has in recent weeks stepped up its use of ballistic missiles as it seeks to choke off Ukrainian strikes on oil facilities deep inside Russia that have caused critical fuel shortages affecting both the military and the civilian population.

U.S. President Donald Trump has said he is prepared to grant Ukraine licenses to produce Patriots, the most effective means of intercepting Russian ballistic missiles, potentially bolstering Kyiv’s defenses. However, the details and timeline remain unclear, and full production could take years.

The latest attack on Kyiv began at around 1:30 a.m. and continued for several hours, with explosions echoing across the city.

Russia launched 41 missiles and 125 drones across Ukraine overnight, according to the Ukrainian air force. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said most of the missiles had targeted the capital.

Later Sunday, a Russian attack on a postal facility near Ukraine’s second-largest city of Kharkiv killed three people and wounded at least 20, according to the regional administration.

Russian guided bombs also hit the cities of Kherson and Sumy, local authorities and Ukraine’s

emergency service reported, with each of the strikes leaving at least one person dead.

BALLISTIC MISSILE STRIKES ARE BECOMING MORE FREQUENT

The strikes on Kyiv sparked fires in five districts, damaging residential buildings, office and industrial sites, a dormitory and vehicles, according to Ukraine’s State Emergency Service.

Viktoria Shejko, 32, was taking shelter in the corridor of her apartment block with her seven children and husband when they heard the loud explosions. “When the alarm started,

we checked that there were ballistics, then went into the corridor. Then it started exploding one missile after another,” she said.

The strain of constant bombardment is “very difficult psychologically,” she said. “It used to be once a week or even more rarely, but now if not every day, then every other day.”

Rescuers pulled four people from a burning home in the Sviatoshynskiy district, while in the Shevchenkivskiy district, they rushed to save residents from a three-story building on fire. One person was found dead. Firefighters also responded to blazes in the Solomyanskyi, Desnianskyi and Dnipro districts.

Russia’s Defense Ministry claimed the attack on Kyiv targeted sites linked to the Ukrainian military — including plants producing Flamingo drones and parts for Neptune guided missiles, as well as a postal terminal used for storing dual-use goods and assembling drones, robotic systems and electronic warfare equipment.

OIL TANKERS HIT AT KEY TERMINAL OFF RUSSIA’S COAST

Separately, a strike on two oil tankers at the Caspian Pipeline Consortium (CPC) terminal off Russia’s Black Sea halted oil loadings at the site, the CPC said Sunday.

The attack on the ASIA and NISSOS tankers in the port of Novorossiysk sparked a fire aboard the ASIA, which was extinguished. The company did not say who was responsible for the attack. It added there were no casualties or oil spills, and the tankers — sailing under the flags of Liberia and the Marshall respectively — remained afloat.

Both Russia and Ukraine have sharply ramped up strikes on ships in the Black and Azov seas over the past week. Ukraine’s strikes on oil tankers there are part of its efforts to cut fuel supplies to the Crimean Peninsula, which Russia illegally annexed in 2014. Kyiv also says it targets Russia’s so-called shadow fleet, which ships oil in violation of international sanctions over the Kremlin’s invasion of its neighbor.

Kyiv has for months been targeting Russia’s oil industry, which it says both directly fuels Moscow’s war effort and funds it through export revenues, triggering acute fuel shortages in a country that is one of the world’s top oil producers.

The CPC is a 940-mile (1,510-kilometer) oil pipeline connecting Kazakhstan’s Caspian Sea oil deposits with Novorossiysk, where the oil is loaded and shipped by tanker to world markets. The pipeline accounts for about 80% of oil-rich

Kazakhstan’s crude exports, with the Russian government and Russian state oil firms holding a combined 31% stake in the enterprise.

RUSSIA’S ENERGY SECTOR UNDER ATTACK

Zelenskyy announced on Sunday that Ukrainian units struck more energy infrastructure in Russian territory.

He said units of Ukraine’s Security Service agency struck three oil depots in the Stavropol region, while a separate unit of the army hit another fuel-related facility in the same region. Three Russian tankers were also struck in the Black Sea, he said.

Stavropol Gov. Vladimir Vladimirov earlier referenced Ukrainian drone attacks igniting fires at “industrial facilities” in two locations within the region. He did not specify what the facilities were, but said nobody was hurt.

Russian news outlet Astra on Sunday reported that three oil depots may be burning in Stavropol, based on its analysis of photos and videos sent in by locals after the attack.

Russian air defense systems shot down 140 Ukrainian drones over eight Russian regions, annexed Crimea, and the Black and Azov seas overnight into Sunday, Russia’s Defense Ministry reported. It did not say how many were launched or reached their targets.

In Russia’s Kursk region near the Ukrainian border, Ukrainian drones struck four apartment buildings, setting off a fire and injuring one person, according to local Gov. Alexander Khinshtein.

whose stories continue to inspire us today."

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Performance times are every 30 minutes between 6 and 8:30 p.m. on Thursdays and 6 and 9 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

Settle said each performance has limited seating and people should purchase tickets early.



Jose Luis Magana/AP photo

The U.S. Department of Justice building is seen in Washington, Saturday, Dec. 7, 2024.

Justice Department activates untested court for 'alien terrorist' deportations

BY ERIC TUCKER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration has filed a first-ever petition to a secretive and dormant court created 30 years ago to consider government requests to deport so-called “alien terrorists” from the United States.

The Alien Terrorist Removal Court was established in 1996 but had never received a petition until this past Wednesday, when the Justice Department filed an application seeking the removal of an individual whose name is withheld from the single-page document posted on the court’s website.

The chief judge of the five-member court, Joan Ericksen, said in a written response to the petition that a hearing was held on Thursday during which the court had “questions about the nexus that the government alleges between the actions of the respondent and the specific sections and subsections it invokes with respect to those actions.

“The answers persuaded the Court that the Government could benefit from the opportunity for more thoughtful consideration,” wrote Ericksen, a federal judge in Minnesota.

She directed the Justice Department to provide more information by Wednesday.

The court’s authorities emerged from the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996, which permits the attorney general to file under seal applications for the deportation of a suspected “alien terrorist.” If an application is granted, the court must hold a public hearing at which the government has the

burden to prove that the individual satisfies that definition. Applications must be approved by the attorney general or deputy attorney general.

Federal law says that an individual could qualify as an “alien terrorist” by, among other factors, having “engaged in a terrorist activity,” endorsing or espousing terrorist activities and by belonging to a political or social group that encourages terrorist activity.

The court has been dormant since its creation, having received — until last week — no applications and conducting no hearings, according to a summary posted on the Federal Judicial Center website. It is comprised of five judges selected by Chief Justice John Roberts.

The Trump administration has moved aggressively over the last year to carry out deportations, including invoking a 1798 wartime law, the Alien Enemies Act, to remove Venezuelan migrants who officials accuse of being part of a terrorist gang. During a hearing in that case last year, the Washington judge presiding over it, James Boasberg, indicated that the Alien Terrorist Removal Court would be the natural forum to consider a request for deportation on national security grounds.

“In fact, Congress has an answer for us, doesn’t it? Because they created the Alien Terrorist Removal Court,” he said. “So if there’s a national security concern with having these hearings...you can always go to the ATRC, which would be a first, but that’s what it’s there for, right?”

The petition was first reported by Court Watch, an independent news site.

ENJOYING

FROM PAGE A1

race," Parker said. "I decided to join him."

Parker said Galanaugh helped him prepare by riding together and comparing results through Strava, a fitness-tracking app that records workouts and analyzes performance metrics.

"We've both been doing hill workouts — specifically on the climbs — just to blow up the legs and get some fitness in," Parker said.

Still relatively new to mountain biking, Parker said one of the biggest skills he's worked to improve is knowing when to shift gears.

"It's about carrying the momentum that I already have up the hill and keeping the power down in the higher gear, then waiting a little bit longer to downshift," he said. "That's been a learning curve for me. A lot of that's just developing the fitness to be able to do it more effectively."

Parker's goals for his first race were straightforward. "I just want to have fun and finish," he said with a smile. "Whatever happens, happens."

Regardless of the outcome, Parker said mountain biking has had a lasting impact on his life.

"It's brought an immense amount of joy to my life," he said. "Even if I don't have plans for the weekend or during the week, I can always look forward to taking my bike out and going for a ride."

"I'm going to have a lot of fun," Parker said.

VOICES

FROM PAGE A1

This year's production features tales of pioneers, explorers, settlers and soldiers, including Hannah Severns, William Bailey Smith, Benjamin Field and other historical figures.

Settle said, "Throughout the evening, audiences will hear eight compelling stories of perseverance, sacrifice and hope as these early residents forged a new frontier for their families and future generations."

He said, "Our researchers, writers and actors dedicate countless hours to making each season memorable. Whether you're attending for the first time or returning for another season, we hope you will leave with a deeper appreciation for the people

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