

Victory Day Parade Celebrates 67th Anniversary of World War II Victory

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Rows of soldiers line Red Square for the Victory Day parade.

A cloudy morning greeted the beginning of the Victory Day Parade in Moscow Wednesday, with more than 14,000 soldiers and officers parading alongside more than 100 units of heavy equipment, including tanks, rocket launchers and armored vehicles to celebrate the 67th anniversary of victory in World War II.

In contrast with last year's Victory Day parade, all participants are dressed in full formal dress, except for soldiers in mechanized divisions, who will wear field uniforms. Last year, all soldiers wore field forms.

Heavy machinery fitted with special rubber "boots" to prevent damage to the ground surfaces on Red Square will also take center stage in the parade, with the line of equipment stretching 1.5 kilometers. This year's parade will also see the new armored Lynx vehicle on Red Square for the first time, which will accompany the Topol-M strategic missile launchers in the procession. Aircraft piloted by veterans will fly over the parade with 1.8 ton flags streaming

behind commemorating each branch of the Russian military.

The parade started at 10:00 a.m. to the music of a composition called Holy War performed by a military orchestra composed of more than 1,000 musicians, followed by the the Russian National Anthem. The day's festivities will conclude at 10 p.m. with fireworks at locations around the city.

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