

7 Killed in Ukrainian Shelling of Occupied Kherson, Pro-Russian Forces Say

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t.me/itsdonetsk

Authorities in the southern Ukrainian region of Kherson occupied by pro-Russia forces said Tuesday that Ukrainian shelling on a city there had killed seven people.

"There are already seven dead and around 60 wounded" following artillery fire on the city of Nova Kakhovka, the head of the Moscow-backed administration, Vladimir Leontiev, said on Telegram. It was not immediately possible to verify these claims.

Images shared by Russian state-run media showed the extent of the damage and explosions continuing into Tuesday morning after footage released overnight showed huge explosions.

Embed:

Photos from the aftermath of yesterday's strike in Nova Kakhovka.

<https://t.co/jpU4cPxNHI> pic.twitter.com/vmQc5y2Yre

Ukrainian military officials responsible for the south of the country said Ukrainian shelling and missiles had killed 52 Russian servicemen in addition to destroying artillery, armored vehicles "and a warehouse with ammunition in Nova Kakhovka."

But Kherson's Moscow-installed authorities claimed Ukraine had struck a nitrate warehouse with HIMARS rocket systems delivered by the United States.

Leontiev said the shelling destroyed a manufacturing plant that he claimed delivered parts for hydroelectric power plants around the world.

He added that the attack damaged a humanitarian assistance storage site, a hospital, a market and houses within a two-kilometer radius.

"Dozens of homes have been hit... people are being extracted from the rubble," Leontiev said.

"There are no military targets here... warehouses were hit, as were shops, a pharmacy, gas stations and even a church," he said.

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Russian forces captured the southern Kherson region, home to a strategic port of the same name, and the southern part of the neighboring Zaporizhzhia region soon after invading Ukraine in late February.

The two regions have since seen a gradual shift into Moscow's orbit, adopting the Russian currency, television and mobile networks and more.

The latest strikes follow Ukrainian officials' [announcement](#) last week of a counteroffensive in which they urged residents of Kherson and Zaporizhzhia to evacuate.

"There will be a huge battle," Iryna Vereschuk, Ukraine's deputy prime minister of reintegration of temporarily occupied territories, said late Friday.

AFP contributed reporting.

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