

Russia unleashes 111 drones on Ukraine in deadly New Year's strike



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KYIV – Russia launched a massive drone assault on Ukraine in the early hours of New Year's Day, killing one person and injuring at least six, including a pregnant woman, Kyiv officials confirmed.

The attack targeted 10 regions across the country, with 111 drones deployed, according to Ukraine's air force.

The assault on Kyiv's Pecherskyi neighborhood caused significant damage, including a fire in a residential building, officials said. Two of the injured were hospitalized, while others received on-site treatment. Debris from the attack also damaged trams and garages in the Sviatoshynskyi district.

Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned the strike, stating, "In war, there are no holidays, and for Russia, nothing is sacred. Killing civilians during New Year celebrations highlights the tyranny that must not go unpunished."

Of the 111 drones launched, Ukraine's air defense forces intercepted 63, while another 46 failed to hit their targets, military sources reported. Kyiv's mayor, Vitali Klitschko, praised the relentless efforts of first responders and air defenders for minimizing the impact of the attack.

U.S. Ambassador Bridget A. Brink expressed solidarity, saying, "As the world celebrates the new year, Russia's actions remind us of the courage of Ukraine's defenders who tirelessly protect their people."

Air raid sirens blared across Kyiv before dawn, urging residents to seek shelter. Ruslan Stefanchuk, head of Ukraine's parliament, called the attackers "inhumane" and expressed hope for a swift recovery for the injured.

The strike underscores Russia's continued aggression despite international condemnation, as Ukraine enters another year under siege.