

---

## Probe launched into artillery attacks on civilians in Donbass



The Investigative Committee of Russia continues to document the facts of criminal actions by Ukrainian soldiers committed against the civilian population of South-East Ukraine. In addition to the facts that have already been legally assessed, the Investigative Committee revealed another range of offences of Ukrainian servicemen during the last two months.

From November 1 to December 20, 2018, while executing admittedly offensive orders of higher officials from the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine, military personnel of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and the National Guard of Ukraine performed targeted artillery attacks with high-casualty heavy weapons on civilian infrastructure objects of no military target in settlements of the self-appointed Donetsk People's Republic and Luhansk People's Republic. The criminal actions resulted in destruction, full or partial, of over 40 houses in Donetsk, Dokuchaevsk, Gorlovka, Yasinovataya, Pervomaysk, Kirovsk and other settlements. At that, important infrastructure objects, such as power lines and gas pipelines, were damaged.

By committing of the offences, the Ukrainian military officers violated the Protocol to Cease Fire in South-West Ukraine and the related Memorandum, as well as provisions of the Convention relative

---

to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War and the related Annex II.

According to the investigation, the artillery attacks are aimed at murdering and damaging of the civilian population of Donbass out of political and ideological hatred.

Based on said facts, the Investigative Committee of Russia launched probes into an offence under Part 1 of Article 356 of the Criminal Code of Russia (use of banned means and methods of warfare).

All circumstances of the incidents are being established and Ukrainian servicemen involved in the offences identified.

Commentary for reference: <https://youtu.be/LXC3T7UL5x8>

Official spokesperson for the Investigative Committee of Russia S. Petrenko

*25 December 2018*

*Page address:* <https://en.sledcom.ru/news/item/1284997>