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## **A criminal investigation is launched on the shelling a convoy of vehicles with civilians in Zaporozhye**



The Investigative Committee of Russia launched a criminal case on the offense of a crime prescribed in Part 1, Article 356 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (ill-treatment of the civilian population, the use of banned means and methods of warfare), on the shelling of a convoy of vehicles with civilians in Zaporozhye by the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

The investigation detected that on September 30, 2022, servicemen of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other Ukrainian military formations occupied combat positions on the territory of the Zaporozhye oblast under their control. Fulfilling the deliberately criminal orders of higher commanders and officials of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine, they fired at a convoy of vehicles with civilians moving along the Orekhovskoe highway near the car market in Zaporozhye in the direction of a checkpoint in order to leave the territory controlled by the Armed Forces of Ukraine and enter the zone controlled by the Armed Forces Russian Federation. The shelling killed at least 23 civilians and injured at least 34.

It was detected that the above mentioned servicemen acted deliberately by a group of persons, in

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collusion. Their target was to kill two or more persons, causing grievous bodily harm by a generally dangerous way to an unlimited number of civilians. The motive was political and ideological hatred and hostility associated with the secede of Zaporozhye oblast from Ukraine and the formation of an independent administrative-territorial devision.

Investigators of the Investigative Committee of Russia, within the criminal investigation, will establish all the circumstances of the crime and identify all persons involved in its comission.

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