

## **The Chairman of the Investigative Committee of Russia holds a brief meeting in Lugansk**



In Lugansk Mr. Alexander Ivanovich Bastrykin, Chairman of the Investigative Committee of Russia, held a brief meeting of the headquarters for the investigation of crimes committed by Ukrainian formations against the civilian population and Russian military personnel on the territory of Russia and Ukraine. It was attended by Mr. Eduard Valeryevich Kaburneev, First Deputy Chairman of the Russian Investigative Committee; Mr. Konstantin Evgenievich Korpusev, Acting Deputy Chairman of the Investigative Committee of Russia - Head of the Main Military Investigation Directorate; Mr. Anatoly Ivanovich Sazonov, Head of the Main Forensic Directorate of the Investigative Committee of Russia; Mr. Mikhail Anatolyevich Ignashkin, Acting Director of the Forensic Expert Center of the Investigative Committee; Hero of Russia S.V. Petrov, Head of the Educational Work Directorate of the Department; Leadership, Officers of divisions of the Main Directorate, including the Main Investigative Directorate, as well as Military Investigative Bodies of the Russian Investigative Committee.

The Head of the Department was informed about the latest information on the results of the

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investigations on crimes committed by the Kiev regime against the civilian population and Russian military personnel.

Since 2014, the Investigative Committee of Russia has launched 2287 criminal cases against 655 persons, including representatives of the military and political leadership of Ukraine, members of radical nationalist associations, as well as representatives of Ukrainian Law Enforcement Agencies.

According to the files of the investigation, more than 4.8 thousand civilians, including over 130 juveniles, were killed as a result of the armed conflict. At least 8.5 thousand civilians were injured, more than 400 of them were children and teenagers. Shelling from explosive (indiscriminate) weapon, small arms and light weapons is the main cause of casualties among the civilian population. Over the entire period of the investigation, more than 118 thousand people were recognized as victims, including over 23 thousand minors.

To date, the Investigative Committee of Russia has finalized 134 criminal investigations. Investigators have every reason to believe that the collected evidence is sufficient to bring the perpetrators to justice. Also, a number of criminal cases on crimes committed by Ukrainian nationalists against civilians are at their final stage. For eight years, the Investigators have been documenting evidence and establishing the circumstances of Nazi atrocities against the civilian population. The Russian Investigative Committee detected a lot of evidence that for many years the inhabitants of Donbas were deprived of the opportunity to honor the memory of their ancestors, to continue the glorious traditions of the Soviet people, who forged victory over fascism.

After the Special Military Operation started, the surrendered Ukrainian servicemen were placed at the disposal of the investigators, and the investigation paid special attention to verification activities for their involvement in previously revealed crimes.

Thus, as a result of the detainees' testimonies analysis and use of the database of the detained military personnel of the armed formations of Ukraine, which is maintained by the Investigative Committee, the nationalists of the Azov Battalion (the organization banned on the territory of the Russian Federation) Mr. Ivantsov, Mr. Gochaliev and Mr. Kukurika were identified; they testified incriminating themselves and other persons in a criminal case launched in 2017. According to the criminal case files, on May 9, 2017, the Administration of the Bezymyannoye village, Novoazovsky raion of the DPR planned ceremonial events in connection with the celebration of Victory Day, including the laying of flowers at a memorial stele commemorating the villagers who died during the Great Patriotic War. The artillery crew, consisting of servicemen of the Azov Regiment named Mr. Ivantsov, Mr. Shevchuk, Mr. Kukuriza, Mr. Kunich, Mr. Gochaliev, Mr. Kukuriki and Mr. Benzeruk, at the command of regiment commander Mr. Zhorin, fired at the village of Novoazovsky with a 100 mm caliber gun of the 1944 model. At the same time, the moment of the settlement's shelling exactly coincided with the time of the ceremonial events in it. After the explosions, schoolchildren and teachers were evacuated to the basement, where they spent several hours; casualties were avoided. The shelling carried out on the day of the Victory Day celebration, as well

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as the selected weapon of the 1944 model, together with other established circumstances, shows the Nazi essence of the "Azovites" and their command. At the same time, the detainees did not repent of their deeds.

Working in the liberated territories, investigators are establishing new facts of crimes committed by Ukrainian nationalists against the civilian population. Thus, the Chairman of the Investigative Committee of Russia was informed about the circumstances of the criminal investigation on the discovery of two victims with signs of violent death in a fuel storage at a gas station in Severodonetsk. During the investigation, with the help of Officers of the Ministry of Emergency Situations, the bodies of civilians - men and woman - were removed from a depth of more than four meters. According to the preliminary assessment of the forensic expert, the victim has a gunshot wound in the head. During the examination, it was found that the man's hands were wound behind his back and tied with a rope. Documents proving their identity were found with the victims. Currently, the investigation is detecting all the circumstances of the incident and the individuals involved in the crime.

The investigation obtained additional information about the presence of foreign mercenaries in the units of the armed formations of Ukraine during the ongoing interrogations of participants in criminal proceedings; it became known that they carried out military operations and prepared military personnel for their conduct. Thus, from the testimony of one of the mobilized citizens of Ukraine, it follows that he, together with other servicemen, was taken to a military airfield in Poland, from where he was subsequently transferred to a military base in the UK. For 35 days they were trained in combat operations in urban conditions, were trained in shooting from small arms in various positions, adjusting artillery fire. Training was conducted by instructors from the military personnel of the Armed Forces of Great Britain.

Within the work on damage evaluation caused by members of the armed formations of Ukraine, forensic investigators and experts have so far examined more than 61,000 residential and infrastructure facilities in 12 cities and towns of the Donetsk and Lugansk People's Republics, they have also appointed about six thousand appraisal construction -technical forensic examinations, the vast majority of which have already been finalized. According to experts, the total cost of restoration work is at least 226 billion rubles. Currently, work related to the estimation of the amount of damage caused continues in the city of Alchevsk, the village of Lugansk and the village of Peredelsky.

Computer and technical experts of the Forensic Expert Center of the Investigative Committee of Russia also continue their work on the study and decode of photographs and video recordings with images of "Aidar" (an organization banned in the Russian Federation) nationalist battalion members, which will subsequently allow identification of specific individuals involved in committing crimes.

During the meeting, the results of the citizens' appeals received by the Investigative Committee of Russia were voiced, people are asking for help in terms of identifying the location of their relatives

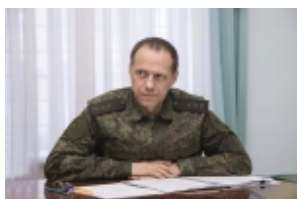
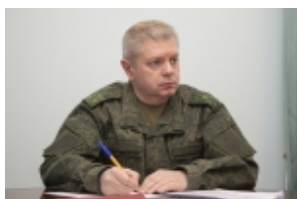
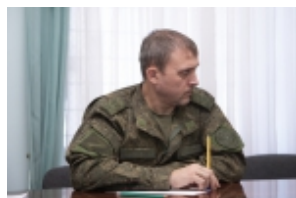
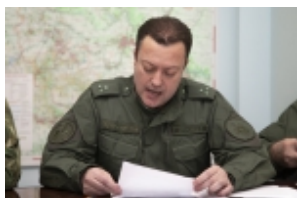
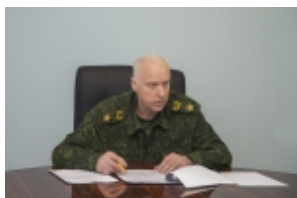
in the zone of the special military operation. As part of this work, applicants are assisted in the search for such persons, genomic samples are taken from relatives for the subsequent detection and identification of missing persons. Among the applicants there are residents of the newly annexed regions of Russia. The Chairman of the Russian Investigative Committee stressed that this work should be continued. He added that such appeals should not be ignored.

The Head of the Department also heard a report on the staffing and deployment of newly created Investigative Units on the territories of the DPR, LPR, Kherson and Zaporozhye Oblasts. Mr. A.I. Bastrykin instructed to continue work on creating proper working conditions for Officers, taking into account the operational situation and the tasks set.

Following the meeting, the Chairman of the Investigative Committee gave a number of instructions and outlined the deadlines for their implementation.

In the final part of the meeting, Mr. A.I. Bastrykin awarded Officers of various divisions of the Russian Investigative Committee with departmental medals, noting the high level of their professionalism and courage in the performance of their duty.

## Изображения



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