
In Orenburg region criminal case initiated against a serviceman confessed of smoking at ammunition depot

Orenburg Garrison Military Investigations Department of the Russia's Investigative Committee has initiated a criminal case against a conscript of military unit 02068 Alexander Kasatkin. He is suspected of a crime under part 1 of article 217 of the RF Criminal Code (Violation of safety rules in explosive facilities inflicting major damage).

During preliminary investigation into explosions of shells in an ammunition depot of military unit 02068, a private Alexander Kasatkin came to investigating bodies with a confession of his guilt. He said, that on 9 October 2012, as part of a platoon under a command of lifting company commander first lieutenant Alexey Titov he arrived at the depot for loading. After an hour of work Kasatkin and one of his co-soldiers violating the safety rules prohibiting smoking at explosive facilities or only in special places equipped for smoking, smoked a cigarette. Not having made sure that the cigarette stub was out, Kasatkin threw it away. Around 10 minutes later the nearby boxes with ammunition flared up.

As a result of a fire and the following explosion the first lieutenant Titov was wounded, more than 4 thousand tons different kinds of ammunition, buildings and structures of the depot, vehicles and military equipment were destroyed. The sum of the material damage is being verified.

At present this criminal case is filed into a single lawsuit with the case initiated earlier over part 1 of article 349 of the RF Criminal Code (violation of the rules for handling arms and hazardous materials).

Investigation is to be continued.

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