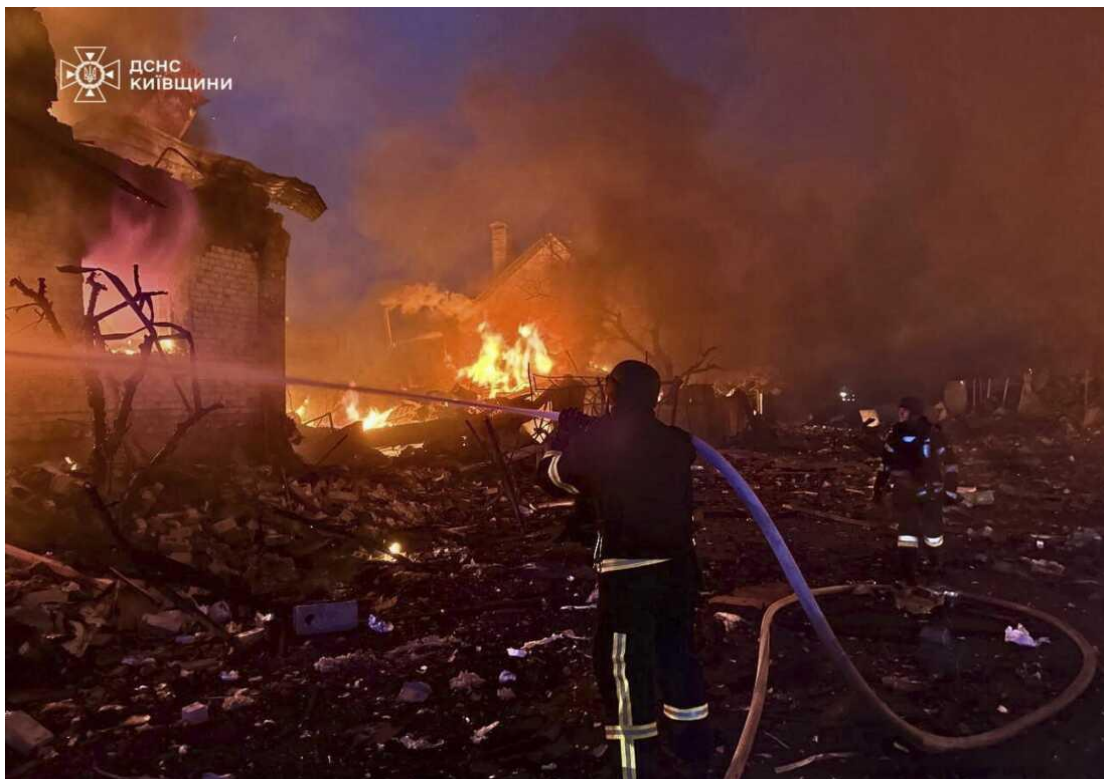


## **Russia hits back with large missile & drone attack after Ukraine's drone attack on airbases & planes**



Ukrainian firefighters in Kyiv after Russian attack last night.

After his 75-minute telephone conversation Wednesday with President Putin, President Trump said in a post on Truth Social that “We discussed the attack on Russia’s docked airplanes, by Ukraine, and also various other attacks that have been taking place by both sides. It was a good conversation, but not a conversation that will lead to immediate Peace. President Putin did say, and very strongly, that he will have to respond to the recent attack on the airfields.” In its Spider’s Web operation, organized by the SBU, its security service, Ukraine fired by remote control 117 drones from trucks in several locations in Russia at several military air bases and damaged or destroyed more than 40 military aircraft.

It was inevitable that Russia would strike back with a large-scale air attack. And last night it did. The Ukrainian Air Force said Russia fired 407 drones, 38 cruise missiles, six ballistic missiles, and one anti-radar missile – a total of 452 drones and missiles – at a wide range of targets in Ukraine. The Air Force said it shot down all but one of the drones, 32 of the 38 cruise missiles, and four of the six ballistic missiles. (The other two ballistic missiles didn’t reach their targets.) Nevertheless, one drone and six cruise missiles did get through the Ukrainian defenses. Russia’s Ministry of Defense said, of course, the drones and missiles were “long-range precision weapons” that targeted arms depots, drone factories and repair facilities, among other targets. But as has been the case throughout the war, the Russian

attacks also hit non-military targets such as apartment buildings, hospitals, and other non-military targets, and civilians were killed or wounded. Mayor Vitali Klitschko of Kyiv said four people had been killed in Kyiv, and other cities, including Chernihiv, Ternopil, and Lutsk, were hit as well. Russia's Defense Ministry said it aimed at Ukrainian military targets with "long-range precision weapons" and successfully struck arms depots, drone factories and repair facilities, among other targets. But fitting a pattern for Russian attacks throughout the war, Friday's bombardment also struck apartment buildings and other non-military targets, and it would be naïve to imagine that those non-military targets were hit by accident.

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