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Verbal Note No. 36/2024

Note Verbale

The Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) presents its compliments to the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW and to the Chairperson of the Executive Council, H.E. Ambassador Andrés Terán Parral, Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the OPCW, and avails itself of the opportunity to bring to the attention of the Executive Council of the OPCW and the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) the following.

In its Note Verbale No. 53/2024 dated 3 October 2024, the Permanent Representation of the Russian Federation refers to Notes Verbale No. 41/2023 dated 6 October 2023, No. 10/2024 dated 29 February 2024 and No. 26/2024 dated 1 July 2024.

Information contained in Note Verbale No. 26/2024 dated 1 July 2024, circulated by Germany on behalf of 12 States Parties pursuant to Art. IX paragraph 3 CWC, showed, in graphic detail three Russian sources demonstrating use of Riot Control Agents (RCA) by Russian armed forces as a method of warfare in its illegal war of aggression against Ukraine. The RCA use depicted appears to be systematic and completely tolerated if not actively encouraged by Russian authorities.

Art. IX paragraph 3 CWC refers to “any situation which may be considered ambiguous or gives rise to a concern”. In such a situation, any State Party has the right to request clarification from another State Party through the Executive Council. Information from Russian sources about Russian forces using Riot Control Agents in warfare against Ukraine, in breach of Art. I Paragraph 5 of the Convention, obviously justifies such serious concerns.

Permanent Representation
of Ecuador to the OPCW

The Hague

Organisation for the Prohibition
of Chemical Weapons
Secretariat for the Policy-Making Organs (PMO)

The Hague

We regret that the Russian Federation has still not provided any meaningful or credible response to our request. Instead of providing clarification, the Russian Federation is creating a smoke screen to hide its serious breaches of CWC obligations.

It is worth noting that in case of the poisoning of Alexey Navalny, Russia is following the same disinformation approach. The poisoning with a Novichok agent has been confirmed, beyond doubt, by specialized laboratories in Germany, France, Sweden and by the OPCW itself. Just as in the case of RCA use by Russian armed forces in warfare, the Russian Federation must also provide substantial answers to questions posed in this context by 45 States Parties in the framework of Art. IX, para. 2 CWC. The suspicious death of Mr Navalny in a Russian prison does not relieve Russia of its obligations to provide answers – quite the contrary. Those responsible must be brought to justice.

The Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the OPCW requests that the OPCW Technical Secretariat circulates this Note among State Parties as an official document of the 107th Session of the Executive Council and publish it both on the Catalyst platform and the OPCW's official website.

The Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the OPCW avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Representation of Ecuador to the OPCW and to the Technical Secretariat of the OPCW the assurances of its highest consideration.

The Hague, 9 October 2024



Russian sources stating RCA use against Ukrainian forces in warfare operations
Russian TV channel Piervy Kanal, 02.05.2023 21:00 evening news

<https://www.1tv.ru/news/issue/2023-05-02/21:00#6>

Russian news anchor: „New tactics, [like] ... **smoking the [Ukrainian] fighters out of their holes**, are yielding results”:

Выпуск программы «Время» в 21:00, 2 мая 2023 года



Новость 6/19

Российские силы отбивают значимое село Спорное в Донецкой народной республике

Newsband at the bottom: “**The fighters of the [Russian] 88 Brigade are using ‘Cheriomukha’ tear gas grenades.**”

Выпуск программы «Время» в 21:00, 2 мая 2023 года



Донецкая Народная Республика

...ойцы 88-й бригады пользуются «Черёмухами» – слезоточивыми гранатами. Она

Новость 6/19

Российские силы отбивают значимое село Спорное в Донецкой народной республике

Footage which, according to Piervy Kanal, depicts a Russian drone dropping tear gas grenade (white, cylindrical object on the right) on Ukrainian position:



Footage which, according to Piervy Kanal, depicts the effects of the gas grenade on Ukrainian position:



Russian sources stating RCA use against Ukrainian forces in warfare operations
Telegram posts by the Russian 810th Marine Infantry Brigade from 22. and 24.12.2023

Screenshots from Telegram channel https://t.me/morpeh_810

Морская пехота Севастополя 810 огвбрмп

!!!

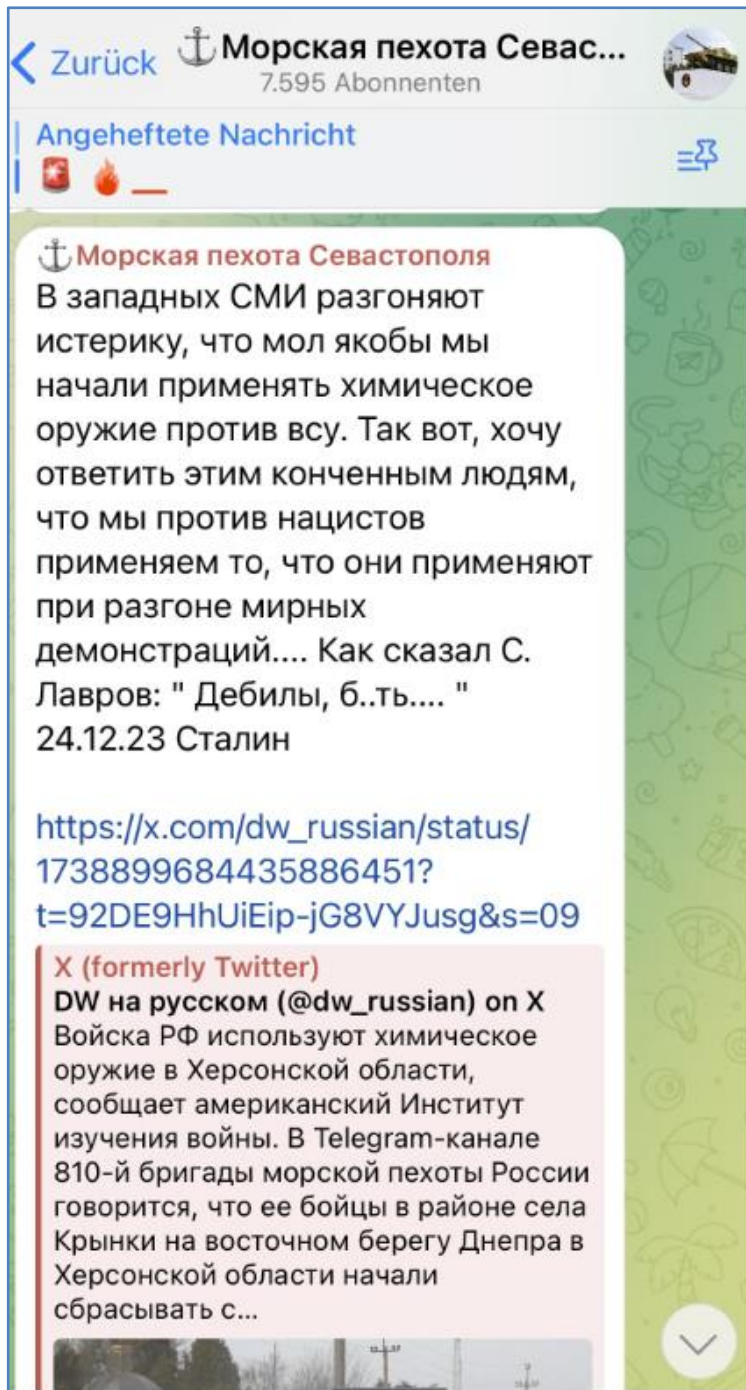
Добрый вечер, дорогие друзья! Согласно проходящей ротации в 810 ОБрМП, с приходом на боевые рубежи, в середине декабря этого года, 1-й роты БМП и взвода БпЛА БМП, под руководством комбата "Явы", замкомбата "Рикошета", командира роты "Казбека", намечился коренной перелом, в тактике ведения боевых действий в населённом пункте Крынки.

Конкретно под руководством вышеуказанных командиров, была успешно испробована и применена тактика сброса с дронов гранат К-51 на позиции противника с целью выкурить их с укрепленных позиций, с последующим воздействием на них, комбинированных средств поражения. Впервые, за всё время нахождения нашей бригады на этих огневых рубежах, при освобождении данного оперативного плацдарма, намечился тактический успех. Командир батальона "Ява", разрабатывает новые, нестандартные, методы ведения боевых действий, с комбинированным применением, всех имеющихся средств и вооружений, направленных на минимализацию потерь личного состава, а командир роты "Казбек" и его личный состав, успешно реализует эти замыслы в жизнь. Конкретно сегодня, 22 декабря, была проведена успешная операция по взятию оперативно - стратегического плацдарма перекрывшего снабжение противника живой силой, боеприпасами и продовольствием. У нас потерь нет, у противника восемь 200-х и 2 пленных. Отдельно, хочу отметить начальника службы РХБЗ, за предоставленные средства поражения и своевременный подвоз, а также весь личный состав 1 рмп БМП и взвода БпЛА БМП, которые показали себя подготовленной, мотивированной и слаженной боевой единицей, готовой выполнить любую, поставленную задачу до конца. Во взводе БпЛА БМП отличились бойцы с позывными Немец, Леший и Ефр - они представлены к государственным наградам! Враг не пройдёт, победа будет за нами, где мы, там победа!

22.12.23 И. В. Сталин

t.me/morpeh_810/2339 4.2K Кок, edited Dec 22 at 23:31

„To put it concretely, under the leadership of our commanders, a tactic was successfully tried and applied: **To drop K51 [tear gas grenades] onto enemy positions, with the aim of smoking them out of reinforced positions, and to then use combined arms against them.**” (...)
 22.12.23 I.W. Stalin



After media like DW picked up the original post from 22.12.2023, it was deleted, and instead "Stalin" (nom de guerre) posted this:

„In Western media, they are unleashing a hysteria that we allegedly started using chemical weapons against the VSU [Voyennye Sily Ukrainy - Ukrainian Armed Forces]. Well, I would like to reply to these goners that **we are using against the Nazis that which they are using when dispersing peaceful demonstrations...** To quote Sergei Lavrov: ‘Idiots, d...mn.’”
 24.12.23 Stalin

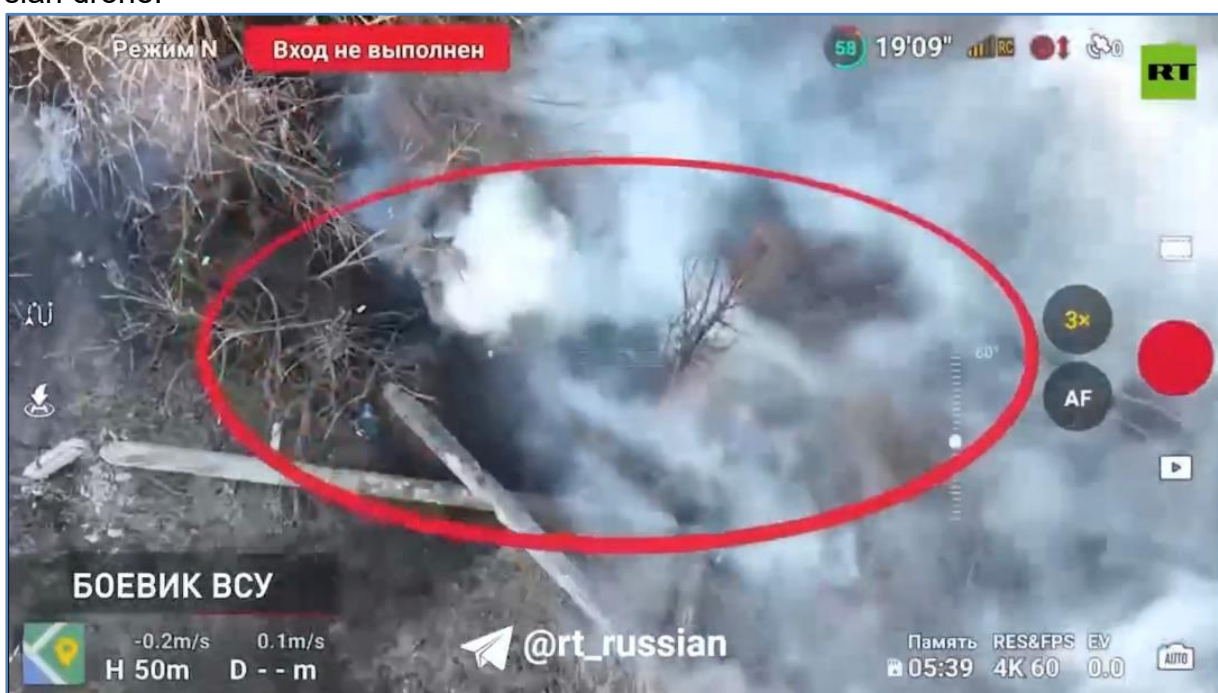
Russian sources stating RCA use against Ukrainian forces in warfare operations
RT coverage of “war correspondent” Andrey Filatov from 01.12.2023, made public on 28.05.2024

Voice of Russian “war correspondent” Andrey Filatov (@filatovcorr): “Now to the point. Here you can see a gas mask of the [Ukrainian] machine gunner... Here is the gas grenade that we dropped. ...” https://t.me/rt_russian_unc/18191

Footage which, according to Filatov, depicts an Ukrainian position after the assault, with Russian gas grenade (possibly type RG-Vo) visible in upper half of screen:



Footage which appears to show effects of the gas grenade dropped from the Russian drone:



Footage which, according to RT, depicts Ukrainian soldier leaving position after exposure (stepping over wooden beam, left half of the screen).

