



**Permanent Representation
of Ukraine to the OPCW**

English only

Point 6 (g) Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use.

**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine
at the 107th session of the Executive Council**

Mr Chairperson,

Director-General,

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is crucial for our delegation to take part in today's discussion regarding the threat from chemical weapons use.

The global framework for non-proliferation and disarmament, which strongly bans the use of chemical weapons, has long been essential to maintaining international security and stability. However, this system is being currently jeopardized, particularly due to the actions of certain states, notably Russia.

Since Russia's large-scale military invasion of Ukraine, their forces have increasingly used chemical weapons and riot control agents in violation of the Convention. Evidence indicates that Russia has extensively relied on these chemical agents during combat hostilities, using them alongside with other weapons to hinder from offensive operations of the Ukrainian forces.

This illegal tactic of Russian occupiers makes Ukraine's Security and Defense Forces leave their positions and shelters being vulnerable to conventional weapons attacks. Additionally, the psychological impact on Ukrainian personnel from these chemical agents is a critical factor.

According to the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine, from 17.02.2023 to 16.09.2024, there have been recorded and documented **4,228 cases** of the enemy's use of munitions containing hazardous chemicals, including chloropicrin, in violation of the Convention. Facts of violation of the laws and customs of warfare by the Russian Federation by using these munitions and chemical agents against the Security and Defense Forces of Ukraine as a method of warfare are mostly recorded in the Kupiansk, Bakhmut, Pokrovsk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson directions.

As a result, a total of **2,058 cases of servicemen seeking medical care** with symptoms of chemical exposure of varying severity were recorded, as well as 3 fatalities from acute poisoning by an unknown chemical substance.

The overwhelming majority of recorded cases of use are munitions of unspecified type. The well-known means of delivery of CW agents are K-51 and RG-VO gas grenades, which are riot control agents and are prohibited for use as a method of warfare (Article I, paragraph 5 of the CWC). The total number of cases of such use is constantly growing,

During pre-trial investigations, the competent authorities of Ukraine established that all components of the Security and Defence Forces of Ukraine did not have K-51, RG-VO gas grenades and any other types of RCAs in service and did not use them as a means of warfare in repelling the armed aggression of the Russian Federation.

The Ukrainian authorities are actively compiling evidence related to violations of the Convention, with updates on the investigation to be shared with the Technical Secretariat and the OPCW States Parties in due course.

We condemn Russia's support for the Syrian regime and the confirmed use of chemical weapons against civilians, the FSB's attack on the Skripal's in Salisbury which led to the death of Dawn Sturgess in 2018, cyber-attacks against the OPCW, and the poisoning of Russian opposition figure Aleksey Navalny in 2020. This pattern of behaviour demonstrates categorically that the Russian state has utter contempt for the CWC and the crucial principles it upholds.

I would like to use this opportunity to express my gratitude to the OPCW Director-General and the Technical Secretariat for the readiness to coordinate the process of providing technical assistance to Ukraine in line with the Chemical Weapons Convention.

In particular, we have successfully conducted the second technical assistance visit (TAV) in Ukraine. The purpose of this event was to provide Ukrainian specialists with equipment and training to strengthen their capabilities in counteracting possible chemical threats.

We highly appreciate that we have managed to conduct several important trainings at the Chem Tech Centre for the Ukrainian experts designated by the National Authority of Ukraine on sampling for investigation of chemical weapons use. It is a key element in holding perpetrators accountable for the use of chemical weapons in Ukraine.

The Secretariat has also continued its activities under the Convention related to assistance and protection, upon Ukraine's request. It has provided several online training courses to Ukrainian specialists. More such activities are scheduled throughout the year. We hope that such fruitful cooperation will continue in the nearest future.

Thus, on behalf of Ukraine, I express my sincere gratitude to Director-General Fernando Arias, the staff of the Secretariat, as well as to the States Parties for their voluntary contributions to the Article 10 Trust Fund.

I would like to reassure the Executive Council that Ukraine is committed to further deepening efficient cooperation and strengthening the capabilities of Ukrainian experts in countering the threat of chemical weapons use by the Russian Federation.

Let me express my appreciation to all the statements of support to Ukraine from the OPCW Member States. We are very grateful for the strong international position.

I kindly request you to carefully examine the attached information provided by Ukrainian competent authorities and consider this statement as an official document of the 107th Session of the Executive Council and post it on the OPCW external server and public website.

Thank you for your attention.

*Addendum to the Statement of the
delegation of Ukraine (107-th session of the EC)*

Report by the Main Investigation Department of the Security Service of Ukraine on the use of RCAs by Russia in Ukraine

The Main Investigation Department of the Security Service of Ukraine is conducting a pre-trial investigation in criminal proceedings, which investigates the use of means of warfare prohibited by international law, namely the use of riot control agents by the armed forces and military formations of the Russian Federation during hostilities against the Security and Defense Forces of Ukraine in violation of paragraph 5 of Art. I of the CWC, as well as investigating on possible facts of the use by the aggressor state of chemical warfare agents, toxic and other hazardous substances, in particular those included in Schedules 1, 2, 3 of the Convention.

As of September 19, information has been received on **4228 cases** of possible use of chemical agents by the armed forces of the Russian Federation, of which **72 facts were verified** by the investigation. The use of ammunition equipped with CS tear gas agents (2-chlorobenzene malononitrile, dinitrile of orthochlorobenzalmonic acid, P-65, "Lilac"), molecular formula $C_{10}H_5ClN_2$, CAS registration number 2698-41-1 and CN (chloroacetophenone, 2-chloro-1-phenylethanone, Lithin, Orlich, P-14, substance No. 34, "Bird cherry"), molecular formula C_8H_7ClO , CAS registration number 532-27-4 (hereinafter referred to as substance CS and substance CN, respectively).

The common symptoms of the use of these chemicals remain mucous membrane and respiratory tract damage, as well as damage to the esophagus (in case of high concentrations of the substance and its swallowing), which is manifested by a sore throat, cough, choking, red eyes and lacrimation, nausea and vomiting. In some cases, the following have been reported increased fatigue.



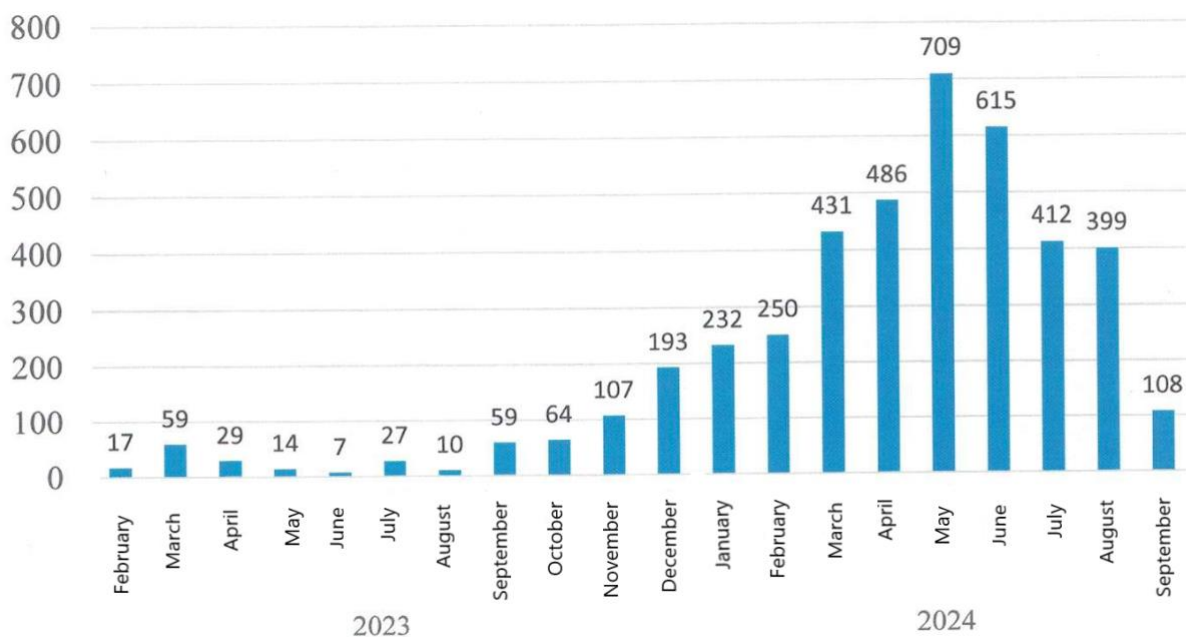
During the pre-trial investigation, 94 people were identified from among Ukrainian Armed Forces servicemen who witnessed the use of chemical agents by the armed forces of the Russian Federation or who suffered damage from such use, of whom 16 were recognized as victims and 26 were interrogated as witnesses; about 57 means of delivery of chemical agents, their fragments, as well as samples of clothing, water and soil with traces of the used substance were seized. All these objects were sent for expert examination (a total of 32 examinations were scheduled); 25 expert opinions were received, including on the ownership of the seized items of application to the K-51 and RG-VO grenades, which are equipped with the relevant chemical irritant chemicals. All interrogated persons testified to the widespread use of gas grenades with tear gas by armed groups. substances by dropping them from UAVs, and less often - directly by hand use in the course of combat.

During the pre-trial investigation, the most high-profile cases of use of chemical weapons by the armed forces of the Russian Federation chemical weapons, including:

- 1) In the period from 05.01.2024 to 10.01.2024 in the area of the gardening society "Ivushka" near the settlement of Avdiivka, Donetsk region, by unidentified servicemen of the Russian Armed Forces from a unit of the company of the V battalion Storm Z of the 114th Brigade under the command of the battalion commander, Storm Z, codenamed call sign "Belyi", located in the command center "Topol", used a K-51 gas hand grenade, equipped with a chemical agent, against the positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces.
- 2) On 17.01.2024, between 16:00 and 19:00, the positions of the Armed Forces of Ukraine in the forest along the P-07 road between the settlements of Tabaiivka and Krokhumalne were attacked with grenades similar to RG-VO.
- 3) On 20.12.2023, during the offensive, the aggressor used K-51 and RG-VO grenades, which injured 4 servicemen of the Armed Forces of Ukraine who were holding defense at positions near the village of Spirne, Donetsk region. A pre-trial investigation into the incident is underway. pre-trial investigation is underway, detailed information is available in the attached attached. Also, within the framework of the criminal proceedings, a video recording was obtained of the assault and radio interception of the enemy, according to which the commander gives an order to use the tear gas "cheremukha" against the soldiers of the of Ukraine during the assault.

The pre-trial investigation is currently ongoing, and evidence of violations of international law is being actively collected.

Report by the Command of the Support Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine on the use of RCAs by Russia in Ukraine



Use of K-51 grenades by the enemy 11.05.2024 on the units of the Defense Forces near the village of Mala Tokmachka, Zaporizhzhia region.



The enemy's use of RG-VO grenades on 06.05.2024 against the units of the Defense Forces near the village of Vilnyansk, Zaporizhzhia region.



The enemy used an RG-VO grenade on 13.06.2024 against the units of the Defense Forces near Novovodyane, Donetsk region.



Enemy use of GRTZ incendiary munition 03.07.2024 on the units of the Defense Forces near the village of Gulyai Pole, Zaporizhzhia region.

Reports by the National Police of Ukraine (National Guard of Ukraine) on the use of RCAs by Russia in Ukraine

Investigative units of the National Police of Ukraine are conducting pre-trial investigation in 11 criminal proceedings initiated under Article 438 (Violation of the Laws and Customs of War) of the Criminal Code of Ukraine on the facts of the use of military personnel of the armed forces of the Russian Federation of chemical weapons on the contact line.

As of today, in 10 criminal proceedings, pre-trial investigation in which the pre-trial investigation is being carried out by the Investigation Department of the Main Directorate of the National Police in Donetsk region, 38 victims among the military personnel of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (hereinafter referred to as the AFU) who were injured as a result of the shelling of combat positions by Russian occupation forces received chemical poisoning with an unidentified substance.

In one of the criminal proceedings, the pre-trial investigation in which is being carried out by the Investigation Department of the Main Directorate of the Donetsk Oblast Police, the results of forensic examination, it was established that the Russian military used a grenade RG-VO marked against the Ukrainian Armed Forces a grenade RG-VO marked "RG-VO 862-8-23", which containing inside a pyrotechnic mixture, which includes the substance CS (another name - 2 - chlorobenzylidene malononitrile), in other criminal proceedings, the substance used by the Russian military has not yet been identified.

In a separate criminal proceeding, the pre-trial investigation in which is being carried out by the Investigative Department of the Kharkiv Regional Police, it has been established that during the shelling of the combat positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, the Russian armed forces used chemical weapons, the type of which and the number of possible victims are being established in a procedural order.

The pre-trial investigation in these criminal proceedings is ongoing, the necessary investigative (detective) and procedural actions are being taken to full, comprehensive and impartial investigation of the circumstances of the criminal offenses that may be committed in the context of armed conflict. In the period from 01.01.2023 to 01.09.2024, the use of ammunition loaded with hazardous chemicals by the Russian Federation against units of the National Guard of Ukraine was recorded in accordance with the table below.

| No | Date | Type | Q-ty | Method of delivery | Region |
|--------------------|-----------|----------------------------|------------|--------------------|---|
| 2023 | | | | | |
| 1 | March | K-51 | 10 | UAV | Luhansk |
| 2 | April | K-51 | 10 | UAV | Luhansk |
| 3 | May | K-51 | 12 | UAV | Luhansk |
| 4 | July | unknown | 10 | Artillery | Zaporizhzhia |
| 5 | September | K-51 | 12 | UAV | Donetsk |
| 6 | October | K-51 | 13 | UAV | Donetsk |
| 7 | November | unknown | 1 | UAV | Zaporizhzhia |
| 8 | December | K-51 | 24 | UAV | Zaporizhzhia |
| | | K-51 | 20 | UAV | Donetsk |
| | | unknown | 1 | UAV | Donetsk |
| Total, 2023 | | | 113 | | |
| 2024 | | | | | |
| 1 | January | K-51 | 34+1 | UAV | Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk |
| 2 | February | K-51, unknown, RG-VO, K-51 | 11+1+3+2 | UAV | Zaporizhzhia, Zaporizhzhia Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia |
| 3 | March | K-51, K-51, RG-VO, K-51 | 135+10+1+3 | UAV | Zaporizhzhia, Luhansk, Luhansk, Donetsk |

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------|----------------------------------|-------------|-----|--|
| 4 | April | K-51, unknown, unknown, RG-VO | 49+2+46+26 | UAV | Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia, Zaporizhzhia |
| 5 | May | K-51, RG-VO, unknown | 8+246+194 | UAV | Zaporizhzhia, Zaporizhzhia, Zaporizhzhia |
| 6 | June | K-51, RG-VO, unknown | 2+76+116 | UAV | Zaporizhzhia, Zaporizhzhia, Zaporizhzhia |
| 7 | July | unknown | 4 | UAV | Zaporizhzhia |
| 8 | August | K-51, RG-VO | 85+1 | UAV | Zaporizhzhia Zaporizhzhia |
| Total, 2024 | | | 1181 | | |

**Information provided by the Administration of the State Border Guard Service
of Ukraine on the use of chemical weapons by the Russian Federation against Ukraine**

Donetsk region

near the settlement of Ivanivske:

- On 22.01.2024 at 10.20 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. There were no casualties.
- On 28.01.2024 at 09.47 a UAV dropped an unknown poisonous substance. No losses in personnel.
- On 06.02.2024 at 11.00 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 06.02.2024 at 11.20 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. Two servicemen were injured (inhalation poisoning with an unknown chemical substance “biological active substance of irritating effect” in the form of rhinopharyngotracheitis, bronchial hyperactivity syndrome).
- On 06.02.2024 at 12.10 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. No losses in personnel.
- On 06.02.2024 at 16.25 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On February 06, 2024 at 19.28, a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On February 06, 2024 at 21.27, a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 07.02.2024 at 08.22 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 07.02.2024 at 08.35 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 07.02.2024 at 10.30 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 07.02.2024 at 11.30 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 07.02.2024 at 11.55 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. No losses in personnel.
- On 07.02.2024 at 12.00, a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 07.02.2024 at 15.45 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On February 13, 2024 at 12.24 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 13.02.2024 at 14.04 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On February 13, 2024 at 14.24, a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On February 13, 2024, an unknown toxic substance was dropped from a UAV. There were no losses in the personnel.
- On 13.02.2024 at 16.30 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On February 24, 2024 at 12.16 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. One serviceman received first aid.

in the area of the village of Kurdyumivka:

- On 21.01.2024 at 12.16 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. There were no losses in personnel.
- On 01/28/2024 at 08.07 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. No losses in personnel.
- On January 28, 2024 at 17.15, a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 13.02.2024 at 15.26 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 02/21/2024 at 13.35 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 02.03.2024 at 11.28 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 12.03.2024 at 07.51 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 16.03.2024 at 15.59 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 03/16/2024 at 20:45, an unknown toxic substance was dropped from a UAV. No losses in personnel.
- On 03/16/2024 at 21.25 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. No losses in personnel.
- On 03/16/2024 at 21.39 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 17.03.2024 at 00.01, a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 17.03.2024 at 00.21, a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 17.03.2024 at 00.21 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 17.03.2024 at 00.38, a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 17.03.2024 at 01.30, a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 17.03.2024 at 01.31 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 17.03.2024 at 02.02 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 17.03.2024 at 02.36 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 17.03.2024 at 03.34 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 10.04.2024 at 13.28 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 01.06.2024 at 06.23 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 07.07.2024 at 08.00, a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 24.07.2024 at 08.58 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 20.08.2024 at 19.35 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
- On 12.09.2024 at 10.00 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.

in the area of the settlement. Avdiivka:

on 03.02.2024 at 10:05 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. There were no casualties.

in the area of Novomaylivka:

on 07.04.2024 at 09.10 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. No losses in personnel.

in the area of the village of Hryhorivka:

On 31.05.2024 at 18.50 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. There were no losses in personnel.

On 31.05.2024 at 20.40 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. One serviceman was injured (inhalation poisoning with an unknown chemical substance "biological active substance of irritating effect" in the form of rhinopharyngeal in the form of rhinopharyngotracheitis, bronchial hyperactivity syndrome).

in the area of the settlement Kalynivka:

on 26.05.2024 05.50 there was a discharge from a UAV (unknown toxic substance).

Four servicemen were injured (inhalation poisoning by an unknown chemical substance "biological active substance of irritating in the form of rhinopharyngotracheitis, bronchial hyperactivity syndrome).

On 01.06.2024 at 13.25, an unknown toxic substance was dropped from a UAV. No losses in personnel.

On 01.06.2024 at 16.45 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.

On 04.06.2024 at 14.30 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance).

On 30.06.2024 at 16.30 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.

in the area of the village of Novovodyane:

on 13.01.2024 at 21.27 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. No losses in personnel.

in the area of the village of Vyymka:

On 02.06.2024 at 02.24 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. No losses in personnel.

On 07.06.2024 at 12.19 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.

On 07.06.2024 at 12.24, an unknown toxic substance was dropped from a UAV. No losses in personnel.

in the area of the village of Antonovka:

on 03.02.2024 at 04.07 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. No losses in personnel.

On 22.05.2024 at 20.35 a UAV dropped an unknown poisonous substance.

Three soldiers were injured (inhalation poisoning by an unknown chemical substance "biological active substance of irritating effect" in the form of rhinopharyngeal in the form of rhinopharyngotracheitis, bronchial hyperactivity syndrome).

On 25.07.2023 at 00.50-01.05 there was an artillery shelling with chemical munitions (previously tear gas) in the area of the village of Andriivka. Fourteen servicemen were injured.

On 25.07.2023 at 00.30 - 00.36 there was an artillery shelling with chemical munitions in the area of the village of Bila Gora. Three servicemen received primary medical care.

On 30.08.2024 at 05.05 - 05.15 there was an artillery shelling with chemical munitions in the area of the village of Klishchivivka. Klishchivivka. Three servicemen received injuries (irritation of the mucous membranes of the eyes and mouth).

On 23.02.2023 at 08.00-10.50 there was an artillery shelling with chemical ammunition in the area of the village of Vodiane. One serviceman was injured.

On 09.02.2023 at 11.00, as a result of an assault on the positions of the Defense Forces near the enemy attacked the positions of the Defense Forces in the area of Vodyane, the enemy used a toxic chemical agent of unknown of unknown origin. Three servicemen were wounded (evacuated).

Luhansk regionin the area of the village of Belogorovka:

on 03.04.2024 at 09.00 there was a drop from a UAV (unknown poisonous substance). No losses in personnel.

On 03.04.2024 at 16.13 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. No losses in personnel.

On 05.06.2024 at 22.27 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.

On 05.06.2024 at 23.22 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.

On 06.06.2024 at 01.46 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.

On 07.06.2024 at 02.56, an unknown toxic substance was dropped from a UAV. No losses in personnel.

On 08.06.2024 at 06.46 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.

On 18.06.2024 at 09.37 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
On 22.06.2024 at 20.20 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
On 25.07.2024 at 08.28 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
On 27.07.2024 at 12.04 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
On 30.07.2024 at 16.05, a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
On 30.07.2024 at 16.34 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
On 30.07.2024 at 16.50 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.
On 16.06.2024 at 11.38 a UAV was dropped (unknown toxic substance). No losses in personnel.

in the area of the village of Oleksandrivka:

on 31.01.2024 at 08.05 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. There were no losses in personnel.
On 31.01.2024 at 13.20 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. No losses in personnel.
On 10.11.2023 at 11.45, the enemy used special rocket launchers (MLRS) equipped with irritant chemicals in the area of the village of Raygorodka. Three soldiers were injured (irritation of the of the mucous membranes of the eyes and mouth).

Sumy region

near the village of Mezenivka. Mezenivka:

On 08.09.2024 at 12.04 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. No losses in personnel.
On 08.09.2024 at 16.20 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. No losses in personnel.
On 09.09.2024 at 10.30 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. No losses in personnel.

Zaporizhzhia region

near the village of Blahovishchenka:

on 13.02.2024 at 14.00 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. Six servicemen were injured (possibly poisoning by with chloropicrin).
On 17.02.2024 at 17.10, a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. No losses in personnel.

Kharkiv region

in the area of the village of Pletenivka:

On 26.02.2024 at 17.52 a UAV dropped an unknown toxic substance. No losses in personnel.

Kherson region

in the area of the village of Ivanivka, Krynyky:

On 31.12.2023, there was an artillery attack (MLRS) with chemical munitions. There were no casualties in the army.