

Russian Army Smokes Ukrainian Drone Boats In Black Sea (Videos)



File image.

The Russian military destroyed multiple Ukrainian high-speed drone boats in the Black Sea on September 5, foiling an attack on the Crimean Peninsula.

“Six high-speed uncrewed surface vehicles of the Armed Forces of Ukraine were destroyed in the northwestern part of the Black Sea,” the Russian Ministry of Defense said in its daily briefing.

While the ministry didn’t provide any further details, videos posted to social networks showed some of the boats, including at least one which carrying FPV suicide drones, getting destroyed. At least one of the boats was apparently targeted with heavy machine gun fire from the helicopters or vessels of the Russian Navy, while the other was struck by what appears to be a Lancet loitering munition.

Orion combat drones were used to detect and track the Ukrainian boats. The drone was developed by Russia’s Kronstadt Group to conduct both reconnaissance and combat missions. It has an endurance of 24 hours and a combat radius of 250 kilometers.

The drone is typically equipped with an electro-optical reconnaissance and targeting system. However, it can also carry a surveillance radar or an electronic and signal intelligence gathering system.

Ukraine stepped up attempts to attack Crimea with drone boats in recent months. Besides the more

traditional explosive-rigged boats which are designed for one-way attack missions, Kiev forces have been deploying new models which are designed to carry small FPV suicide quadcopters or armed with heat-seeking anti-aircraft missiles.

In addition, traditional manned boats are being used by Kiev forces in attempts to land reconnaissance and sabotage groups on the Peninsula.

The Russian military has been getting more effective in detecting, tracking and neutralizing Ukrainian boats in the Black Sea. The latest attack was clearly foiled as a result of a well-organized effort combining traditional naval means with advanced unmanned systems.

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