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**STATEMENT BY
MR. MAXIM BUYAKEVICH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1425th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

1 June 2023

**On the ongoing crimes by the Kyiv regime and the dangerous policies of the
Western alliance countries to escalate tensions**

Mr. Chairperson,

The NATO countries continue to take steps aimed at intensifying their involvement in the Ukrainian conflict and in the armed actions that the Kyiv regime is carrying out on the territory of the Russian Federation. We see in this a push towards deliberate escalation of tensions in the region.

The confrontation is being spearheaded by the United States of America, the United Kingdom and individual European countries, which all consider themselves entitled to arbitrarily determine the borders of States and territories without regard for international law or the opinion of the people living in those places. Attempting to shape the fortunes of countries in the region, they are deliberately laying the groundwork and providing material resources to enable armed and terrorist attacks to be carried out on Russian citizens.

According to the Russian Ministry of Defence, in the morning of 30 May, Moscow and the Moscow region were subjected to an unprecedented terrorist attack involving eight aircraft-type unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). All of them were taken out using Russian air defence and electronic warfare capabilities. Five devices were shot down and destroyed by Pantsir-S missile systems, while the rest were disabled by electronic warfare equipment, causing them to crash into civilian buildings in the city and its environs.

This terrorist sortie masterminded by the Kyiv regime and its NATO handlers did not make any sense from a military point of view. There was no way that it could have inflicted significant military damage or had any impact on Russia's actions along the combat line on the territory of our country in Donbas and the Lower Dnieper region. The attack in the Moscow region targeted civilians and civilian infrastructure, with the operation itself being solely for symbolic effect. Through this senseless crime, the Kyiv regime had hoped to divert the attention of domestic and foreign audiences from the battlefield defeats of Volodymyr Zelenskyy's formations and its loss of control over Artemovsk and other segments of the territory of the Donetsk People's Republic.

Significantly, against the backdrop of this terrorist attack on Moscow involving UAVs, the US Government announced that it would provide the Kyiv regime with a further military aid package, to

include components for the combat use of drones. British Foreign Secretary James Cleverly, for his part, publicly endorsed Mr. Zelenskyy's actions in connection with the terrorist raid.

The events of the past few months bear witness to the fact that terrorist methods have long since become the norm for the puppet regime in Kyiv, as shown by the blowing up of the Crimean Bridge (the regime's involvement in that was yet again confirmed a few days ago by the head of the Ukrainian Security Service, Vasyl Maliuk); the assassinations of officials on the territory of several constituent entities of the Russian Federation; the audacious raids by terrorists on peaceful settlements in the Bryansk region on 2 March this year and the Belgorod region on 22 May, in which children were among the casualties; the systematic shelling of peaceful towns and cities, chiefly of residential areas, leading to numerous civilian casualties; and the calls by regime officials for Russians to be "killed anywhere on the face of this world" (Kyrylo Budanov) and for Russia to be "destroyed as a country" (Oleksii Danilov). The goal of all these actions is to sow panic and fear, to provoke destabilization and social and political upheavals in Russian society. However, these exertions are in vain, since Russian society sees and understands perfectly well whom it is dealing with, and it is merely being consolidated even more strongly from within.

Many of those who are planning and carrying out operations like the aforementioned draw "inspiration" from their ideological mentors of a bygone age. It is appropriate to recall some remarks made to the press by Lieutenant General Andreas Marlow from the German Bundeswehr. He was directly involved in the combat training of Ukrainian fighters as part of an EU training mission (EUMAM, or European Union Military Assistance Mission). Back in February of this year, he pointed out that the German instructors working with members of the Ukrainian formations agreed that the training programme itself did not interest these very much. They showed far greater interest in methods of intimidation, including methods that could be categorized as war crimes. This German officer added that the Ukrainian fighters "praise the punitive operations conducted by SS troops during the Second World War and display swastikas".

Reality demonstrates that, despite their resonance in the media, these terrorist forays have not secured and are not securing any military advantage for the Kyiv regime.

The crimes against civilians perpetrated by the Zelenskyy regime are, unfortunately, not eliciting any condemnation in the West or among the OSCE leadership. What we are seeing, instead, is encouragement for any atrocities that it commits, including encouragement in the form of politically biased joint statements, the aim of which is to whitewash the Zelenskyy regime.

On 30 May, fighters from the Ukrainian formations carried out a strike on a temporary accommodation facility for civilians in the village of Sereda in the Belgorod region. One person was killed and a further two civilians were hospitalized in an extremely serious condition. In addition, over the past few days, massive artillery strikes have been launched on the nearby town of Shebekino, the settlement of Karpaty in the Lugansk People's Republic, the city of Donetsk and its environs, and villages in the Kherson region.

Last week alone, at least ten civilians were killed and more than 38 injured as a result of attacks by the Kyiv regime. Damage was recorded (in places where it was possible to keep a tally) to 14 infrastructure facilities and over one hundred houses and community facilities.

During a briefing session for senior staff from Russia's Investigative Committee held in the city of Donetsk on 26 May, it was established that at least 2,000 foreign mercenaries were currently taking an active part in crimes against the civilian population. Complicity in such crimes has been documented for no fewer than 234 citizens of the United States, 233 British nationals and 70 citizens of Canada and several other countries, and their personal details established. Russian law enforcement agencies and military

personnel on the ground are taking all the necessary measures to ensure that the perpetrators are held accountable – at any rate, those who are still alive.

Each of the aforementioned forays is followed by retribution in the form of targeted destruction of military assets of the Kyiv regime. Over the past few days, ammunition depots have been destroyed in several regions of Ukraine, and also in Kyiv and its environs; command posts have been hit (including posts at which there were specialists from Western intelligence services), as have radar stations, aircraft and other military targets. Air defence system capabilities have been exposed and effectively neutralized, including the much touted Patriot systems from the United States (which have already twice taken a battering over the past few weeks). Incidentally, that weapon system has already “proven” itself as an additional threat to the safety of Kyiv’s inhabitants: thus, on 29 May, a Patriot anti-aircraft missile strayed off course and crashed into a highway inside the city limits.

The strikes by the Russian Aerospace Forces, which are carried out using, *inter alia*, long-range high-precision weapons, are directed exclusively against military targets and facilities. Accusations about targeted attacks on civilian infrastructure cannot be taken seriously: the aims of such lies are so obvious that there is no need to comment on them separately.

On 29 May, the last warship of the Kyiv regime’s navy, the *Yurii Olefirenko*, was taken out in the port of Odessa by high-precision weapons. The work on neutralizing the Zelenskyy regime’s military capabilities will be continued until the tasks set have been fully accomplished. Our country is in this for the long haul and will act accordingly for as long as it takes.

To conclude. We are seeing signals that suggest that those in the West are mistakenly banking on our country being unable to protect its security interests and achieve the stated objectives of the special military operation, including with the use of military force. They are counting on the depletion of our resources and on a direct military defeat – and, more generally, a geostrategic defeat – being inflicted on Russia with the help of Western weapons and fanatical neo-Nazis. In short, they consider victory over our country to be practically a foregone conclusion.

Against this backdrop, we are presented with ultimatum-like demands that we should unreservedly agree to the so-called “Zelenskyy formula” – an utterly unrealistic and unviable collection of ideas aimed at further undermining regional security, exacerbating existing differences and establishing Western hegemony in our lands. We can state confidently that this will not happen. Such an approach is a dangerous mistake by the NATO members that will lead not only to a rise in tensions, but also to a dramatic increase in the number of casualties and the extent of destruction as a result of the prolongation of the hostilities. We will not accept ultimatums. As for national humiliation, that lies in store not for Russia but for those countries that have sacrificed the future of their peoples for the sake of Anglo-Saxon interests.

Our country is willing to achieve the special operation’s objectives by political and diplomatic means. However, if the West is banking on armed escalation using the Ukrainians, who are being mercilessly thrown into the meat grinder to satisfy the geopolitical ambitions of States that have no direct relation to our country, or to our region, then there is nothing for it – a suitable response will be mounted to this challenge, a response that is commensurate with the threats to the security of our people and our State. The way in which several Western countries are criminally pinning their hopes on militarization and on using the neo-Nazi regime in Kyiv to work against the unity and security of Russia is causing Russian society to coalesce and pull together. For Russian society clearly understands that the West is bent on destroying our statehood, both by military means and by undermining our economy and through domestic political destabilization. Forewarned is forearmed. As it happens, we are forearmed very well.

Our country has all the necessary resources to implement the tasks set as part of the special operation. And these will, beyond any doubt, be accomplished.

Thank you for your attention.