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At least 12 injured in Ukrainian strike on Russian WWII monument – governor

A museum complex in Russia's Rostov Region has been hit in a drone attack, Governor Yury Slyusar has said

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At least 12 people have been injured in a Ukrainian drone attack on Russia's Rostov Region, Governor Yury Slyusar has said. The strike targeted a museum and a monument dedicated to the Soviet soldiers who liberated the area from the Nazis during World War II in 1943, according to the official.

A Ukrainian unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) hit the main exhibition hall and the information center of the Sambek Heights museum



FILE PHOTO: A monument to the Soviet soldiers is seen in the Sambek Heights museum complex in Rostov Region, Russia, on August 30, 2020. © Sputnik / Sergey Pivovarov

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complex, Slyusar said in a statement on Telegram on Saturday, calling the incident a “*great tragedy*.” Ten of the people injured were subsequently hospitalized, he added.

The Sambek Heights monument was initially created in 1980 to honor the deeds of the Soviet troops who fought in the area. In 2013, the regional government approved a public initiative to establish a museum complex near the monument, which eventually opened in 2020.

The complex is also commonly known as the “*people’s museum*” as it was built with donations provided by the people living in the region. Slyusar branded the attack “*an act of exceptional cynicism*” on the part of the Ukrainian military.

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