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'RUSSIA USED PHOSPHORUS SHELLS IN DONBAS ATTACKS'

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A senior Ukrainian police officer has accused Russian forces of launching phosphorus bomb attacks in the eastern region of Lugansk.

International law prohibits the use of white phosphorus shells in heavily populated civilian areas, but allows them in open spaces to be used as cover for troops.

Oleksi Biloshytsky, head of police in Popasna, around 100 km west of Lugansk, said on Saturday that Russian forces had used the chemical weapon in his area. "It's what the Nazis called a 'flaming onion' and that's what the Russcists (amalgamation of 'Russians' and 'fascists') are dropping on our towns. Indescribable suffering and fires," he wrote on Facebook. It was not immediately possible to verify the comments.

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