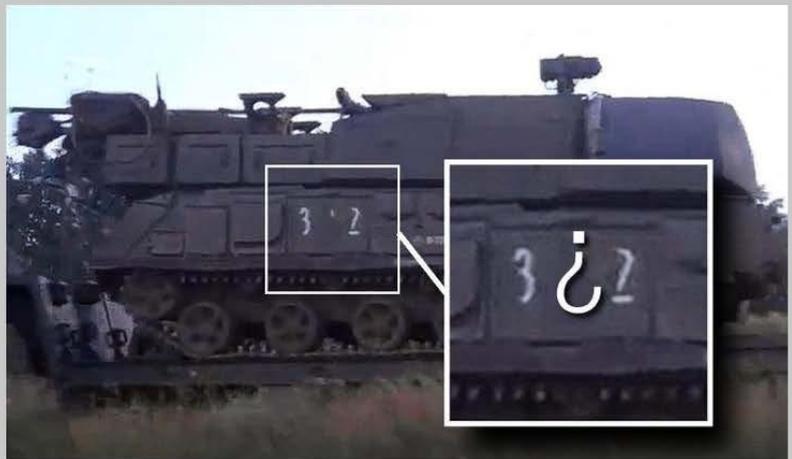


boellstingeat anti

“Buk”3x2: mystery of the lost digit



by and for citizen investigative journalists

Introduction

In the beginning of 2016, there was information in foreign mass media about an interview with Elliot Higgins, who is the founder of the research internet community Bellingcat. In this interview he once again groundlessly accused the Russian Federation in the crash of the Malaysian Boeing 777.

The interview hasn't caused any significant resonance, and it could have been ignored, but there was one circumstance. E.Higgins has taken all responsibility, blaming innocent people for crimes which they have not committed. The sofa experts, presumptuously said to press about transferring of a report to the Dutch public prosecutor's office. That report contained the names and photos of servicemen of the Russian 53-d anti-aircraft missile brigade, allegedly involved in the MH17 crash.¹

Despite the relatively restrained reaction of representatives of the Dutch Public Prosecutor office, the fact of the transmission of the report which was realized by E.Higgins represents like recognition of significant achievements of Bellingcat in the investigation of the circumstances of the tragedy. However, even an approximate study of the evidences which are imposed by Bellingcat as irrefutable, allow us to make a conclusion about their insolvency.

There is an impression that the investigation of Bellingcat, despite the statements of the leader of the group about their independent character, is coordinated and directed by certain anti-Russian forces which are not interested in the objectivity of the investigation of the crash of the Malaysian "Boeing", as in definition of people who are responsible for the tragedy. Their main purpose is to form public opinion about the involvement of Russia in the tragedy, and by using it make a pressure to the process of investigation.

In this report, basing on the information which was represented by Bellingcat, we are going to prove that the statement about the involvement of self-propelled missile launcher (SPML) Buk 3x2 to the death of "Boeing" in July 17, 2014 is false and try to answer the following question: - Who is responsible for the crash of the Malaysian aircraft at the sky over Ukraine.

¹ <http://pulemjotov.livejournal.com/601607.html?thread=998151>

The lost digit is a real mystery?

Bellingcat has published a report in November 2014, "Buk 3x2: Secret of the Lost digit", which allegedly reports that the self-propelled missile launcher (SPML) Buk, which has shot down the aircraft of the Malaysian Airlines, belongs to the Russian 53rd air defense missile brigade, based in Kursk region. They were not able to establish the second unreadable digit of the board, so they have called it "Buk 3x2".

As in the most other cases, the report of Bellingcat doesn't have any originality. Sofa experts uncompromisingly presented their version, blaming Russia in the tragedy. Constantly referring to itself, Bellingcat states, that Boeing was shot down by "Buk №3x2" (332), and then relying on it as on a proven fact accused all the officers of the 53rd Brigade in the death of MH17 flight. At the same time, they have initially admitted (either accidentally or intentionally?) a big mistake in the chain of logical constructions. Ignoring the obvious facts, they have been using unobvious facts as reliable evidences.

For example, as it was published on page 14, the form of oil spot under the ejectors (exhaust manifolds) of the vehicle are certainly repeated. Here they are talking about oil spots which have been formed because of ejection of some engine oil. It happens with almost all engines after a long break in their exploitation until the engine comes to the normal operating mode. According to Bellingcat the form of spots is the constant phenomenon and can be used as evidence in the identification of the vehicle. In other words - every time you start the engine the form of spots will be repeated. And some factors like a quantity of oil, its temperature and other factors doesn't influence on it. Any car enthusiast can say that it's not true.

Е: размер и форма масляных пятен и отложений копоти у выхлопного отверстия

На всех фотографиях «Бука 3x2» на левом боковом щитке гусеницы под выхлопным отверстием видны ярко выраженные темные пятна. Наверняка эти пятна оставлены моторным маслом. Кроме того, над выхлопным отверстием видно ярко выраженное пятно копоти или масла. Разумеется, пятна масла и копоти — временные особенности, поскольку они могут исчезнуть в результате очистки или перекраски. Однако их характерная форма и положение могут быть вызваны специфическими особенностями двигателя или выхлопной системы. Соответственно, форма возникающих пятен наверняка повторяется, что является косвенным доказательством характерной особенности устройства «Бука».

But let's not dwell on a detailed analysis of the entire set of these inaccuracies. Let's start with our case.



Photographs which have been used by Bellingcat as an "evidence" of guilt of 53rd brigade

At this time, Bellingcat specialists comparing SPML pictures which have been taken in June 2014 in the Belgorod region during the march of the 53rd air defense missile brigade, and the Missile launcher Buk, which has been filmed by tabloid "match" in the Donetsk region. Thus, basing on "indisputable" evidences, Bellingcat concludes that it was directly that SPML which have caused the tragedy with "Boeing" on July 17, 2014.

Even the fact, that there are no evidences of crossing the Russia-Ukraine border by the column of Buk, doesn't stop the experts of Bellingcat. In social networks nobody mentions the number of SPML 3x2, or any another distinctive features that could have allowed to establish location of the combat vehicle in the territory of Ukraine. And a famous photo, which has been presented by the Ukraine Security Soviet, of transportation of the Russian Buk from Donbas to Russia, was made

at night, near the Department of Motor Vehicles and Traffic Control of Donetsk, Yasinovatoe, on March 19³.

Вся правда из блогосферы » Новости блогосферы »

Донецкую область с воздуха прикрыли зенитными комплексами «Бук». ФОТОФАКТ

19.03.2014, 11:17 3610



Photograph which shows us, by the opinion of Bellingcat, the moment of transportation of the "Russian Buk"

Pinkertons from Bellingcat have conducted a detailed analysis of the distinctive features of the SPML, dents on the sides, cable layout, paint stains on the sides of caterpillars, font sizes and board numbers, and oil stains on the exhaust ports, which are already mentioned earlier.

Comparing the dents and scratches on the photos, searching for other clues, Bellingcat experts do not pay attention to a not large, but important detail, which completely proves that SPML "Buk" with number 3x2 and Buk on a trailer in Ukraine - are two different vehicles!

We should mention that "Buk" has several modifications: 9K37 "Buk", 9K37M1 "Buk-M1", 9K37M1-2 "Buk-M1-2", in which the SPML looks very similar to each other. But, nevertheless, they have external structural differences. To such differences we can include the presence of the folding platform, on the left side of the vehicle, which is designed for easy access to the body of SPML.

³ <http://uainfo.org/yandex/294826-doneckuyu-oblast-s-vozduha-prikryli-zenitnymi-kompleksami-buk-fotofakt.html>



Photograph of SPML 9A310 9K37 Buk without folding platform

So, the vehicles, which have been produced since 1984, were equipped with such platforms. But the specialists of Bellingcat, which have been preparing their falsifications so carefully, obviously didn't know it.

In this photo we can see SPML 9A310 (not 9A310M1, namely 9A310!) of the complex Buk without folding platform on the board (early types of complex Buk, which have been produced before 1984).

Now, let us consider an example in which the 9A310M1-2 is equipped with folding platform on the body. As you can see in the photo, this platform is marked out of the body of the vehicle.



Photograph of SPML Buk of 9A310M1-2 modification with folding platform

So, in Bellingcat report at the photograph which has been taken in the area of Alekseyevka of the Belgorod region, at the back, left side of the vehicle we can see the folding platform, which was mentioned above. Of course, in a normal condition it must be locked, but this time the crew has made a small mistake and didn't lock it.



*Photograph of SPML Buk of 53 brigade, which was made in the Belgorod region
(page 8 of the Bellingcat report)*

But if we would look at the photo which has been made in Ukraine, and shows us allegedly the same Buk, we can't see this folding platform. So, it means only the one thing – the Buk complexes, which have been presented on the photographs, have different modification. That's why the Bellingcat can't talk about the same vehicle. It means that **the Buk 3x2 hasn't crossed the border of Ukraine.**



Comparison of the images of SPML Buk in Belgorod and in Ukraine



Photograph of SPML Buk from "Paris Match" (without platform)

So it's obvious that the prosecutions of Bellingcat about Buk3x2 (or 332), that it belongs to the Russian 53rd air defense missile brigade and participated in the tragedy with Malaysian Boeing, are unfounded.

As for the "unfortunate misunderstanding", associated with the list of the slandered Russian soldiers, which has been sent to the Netherland prosecutor office, we hope that the time will come, and the falsifiers would be punished.

There were not Ukrainian Buks at the area of so-called antiterrorist operation?

After the tragedy of Boeing-777 on July 17, 2014 the Ukrainian government started to persuade the international community that there were not Ukrainian air defense systems at the crash site of Malaysian aircraft. It was explained by the fact that militia did not have any aviation, so the air defense systems were not required.

That Ukrainian truth was told by Vladimir Dyakov, ex-deputy commander of air defense forces in his interview to television channel "112 Ukraine"⁴. The same information with a reference to the source in Ukrainian general staff was stated by Yuriy Butusov, the owner of website "Censor.net"⁵, the chief of "The informational resistance" group Dmitriy Tumchuk⁶, many other Ukrainian medias and officials. No need to quote all of them. Herewith the Ukrainian government made huge efforts to persuade the international community that there were not Ukrainian air defense systems at the crash site of Malaysian aircraft. It was explained by the fact that militia did not have any aviation, so the air defense systems were not required.

Trying to completely divert any suspicions of downing Boeing away from their country, Ukrainian politicians were not afraid to use very improbable arguments. For instance I.Smeshko the adviser of Ukrainian president even stated: "In June 2014, when the Malaysian Boeing was downed, there were not any combat-ready units and missiles of Ukrainian Buk-M transporter erector launcher at that region of the country". Herewith he told: "As far as I know the last combat-ready battery of Buk-M missile launchers with missiles were sold to Georgia"⁷.

⁴ <http://112.ua/politika/v-zone-ato-net-zrk-buk-eks-zamestitel-komanduyuschego-vpo-91365.html>

⁵ <http://censor.net.ua/n294235>

⁶ <http://web.archive.org/web/20150321095026/https://www.facebook.com/dmitry.tymchuk/posts/529213913873935>

⁷ <http://interfax.com.ua/news/general/270029.html>

Україна США Британія Росія Казахстан Білорусь Вхід для клієнтів: [Лента новостей](#) [Терминал](#) [Фондовый рынок](#) UKR P/C ENG

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События

09:55
05.06.2015

Советник президента Смешко исключает использование украинской ракеты "Бук-М" для поражения малайзийского "Боинга"

[G+](#) [4](#)



Боевики не могли использовать украинскую ракету "Бук-М" при организации удара по самолету "Малайзийских авиалиний" "Боинг", совершавшему рейс по маршруту МН-17.

Такое убеждение высказал советник президента Украины Игорь Смешко на конференции по вопросам безопасности в Брюсселе в четверг.

"На период июня 2014 года, когда был сбит малайзийский "Боинг", боеспособных частей и ракет зенитно-ракетного комплекса "Бук-М" Украины в том регионе страны не было", - сказал он.

При этом И.Смешко отметил: "Насколько мне известно, последний боеспособный дивизион зенитно-ракетного комплекса "Бук-М" с боеспособными частями и ракетами был продан Грузии".

ВАЖНОЕ

Состояние здоровья Ильми Умерова стабильно тяжелое

Украинская сторона готова обменять более 400 представителей ОРДЛО

В Великобритании не будет 2-го референдума о Brexit

Порошенко: за 12 часов режим тишины на Донбассе не был нарушен

Суд арестовал организатора хищения средств в "Укрзалізнице"

Рыба клюет без остановки, если
крючок и наживку смазать обычным...
[Подробнее](#)

Изучить компьютер легко и быстро
Делюсь своим секретом! Вот простое решение...
[Подробнее](#)

Колун для лучин
Kindling wood machine
[Подробнее](#)

But the facts testify a contradictory. According the official information of Ukrainian defense ministry, in June 2014 "Ukroboronservice" provided a Buk air missile launcher to the Ukrainian armed forces.

 **Міністерство оборони України**
офіційний веб сайт

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English

МІНІСТЕРСТВО ДІЯЛЬНІСТЬ ДЛЯ ЗМІ ПУБЛІЧНА ІНФОРМАЦІЯ ДЕРЖАВНІ ЗАКУПІВЛІ МУЛЬТІМЕДІА КОНТАКТИ ОФІС РЕФОРМ

Повітряні Сили ЗС України отримали відремонтований зенітний ракетний комплекс Бук-М1

06 червня 2014, 17:22 | ID: 2892 | Переглядів: 5587



На Державному підприємстві «Укроборонсервіс» відбулося підписання акта про прийом з ремонту за технічним станом відремонтованого зенітного ракетного комплексу Бук-М1.



Комісія у складі представників зенітних ракетних військ Командування Повітряних Сил ЗС України, Наукового центру Харківського університету Повітряних Сил, спеціалістів військової частини, де він знаходиться на озброєнні та ремонтного підприємства завершила перевірку працездатності відремонтованого зразка.

ОСТАННІ НОВИНИ

2 вересня у Києві відбудеться урочиста церемонія шанування армійських спортсменів – учасників Ігор XXXI Олімпіади у місті Ріо-де-Жанейро
01 вересня 2016, 13:44

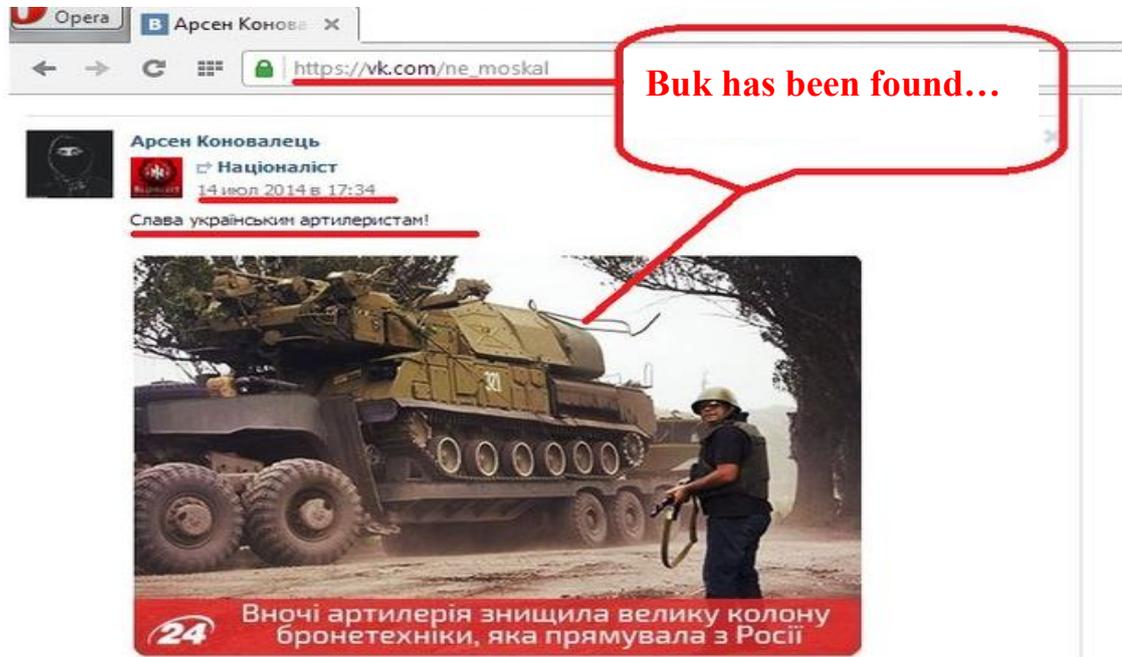
В Національній академії сухопутних військ вручили державні нагороди кращим військовослужбовцям та вшанували волонтерів
37 хвилин тому

В Рівному військовослужбовці Збройних Сил України привітали

The statements of Ukrainian propagandists and politicians are obviously crafty. While creating the antiterrorist forces, apart from other elements, Ukrainian general staff established the aviation and air

defense task forces. That is an axiom for any armed forces in the world. Anybody, who insists a contradictory – apparently tries to hide the truth.

On the eve of a crash Ukrainian servicemen reported that all the terrain (including the airspace) of the conflict area was controlled by the Ukrainian armed forces.



*Buk-M1 is being transported to the new position
(the news of Ukrainian television's channel "24")*

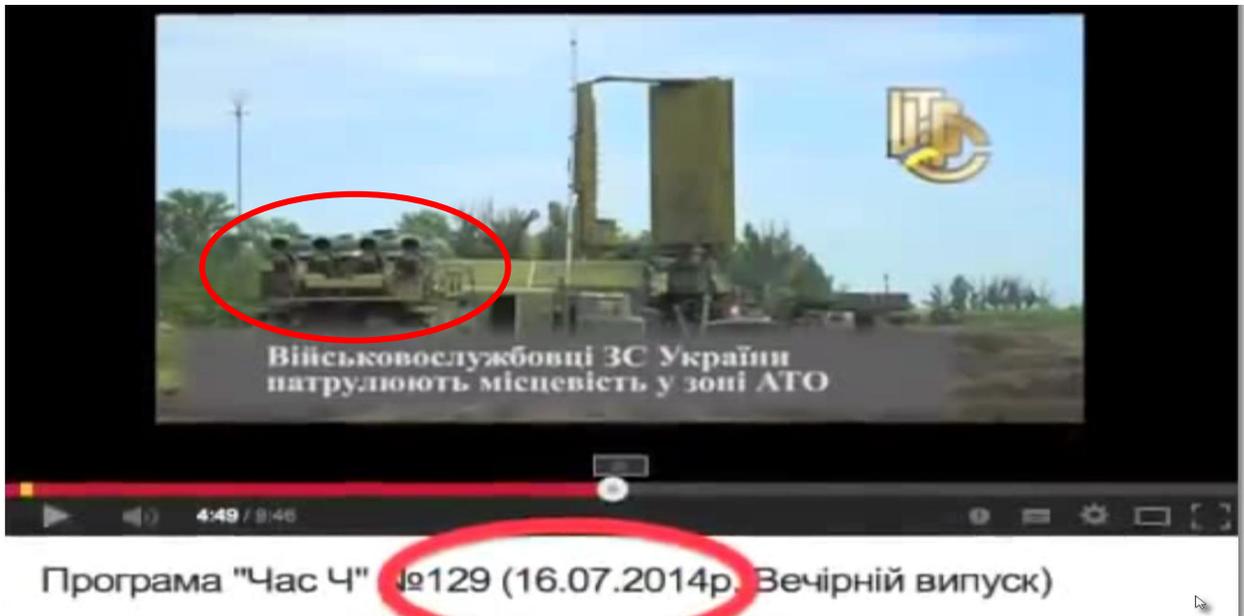
At the screenshot Ukrainian television's channel "24" (the programme of July 14, 2014) is seen a truck hauling the self-propelled missile launcher 9A310M1 Buk-M1. But journalists mistakenly confused air defense system and artillery rocket launcher. They wrote "in the nighttime the artillery destroyed a big column of armour ...".



Ukrainian Buk-M1 (number "321") in the column of a Buk battery

Previously that launcher number 321 was observed in the column at the area of Kramatorsk⁸.

The excerpts of television programme “Ч hour” № 129 (evening release) are presented at the following pictures. The date of programme is July 16, 2014.



July 16, 2014. Ukrainian air defense controls the airspace

The self-propelled transporter erector launcher 9A310M1 Buk-M1 with missiles 9M38(M1) and the radar station 19Ж6 (35Д6) are seen at the picture. That radar station is used as an additional system of controlling the air space and targeting for the Ukrainian army air defense combat units, armed with Buk-M1 missile launchers.

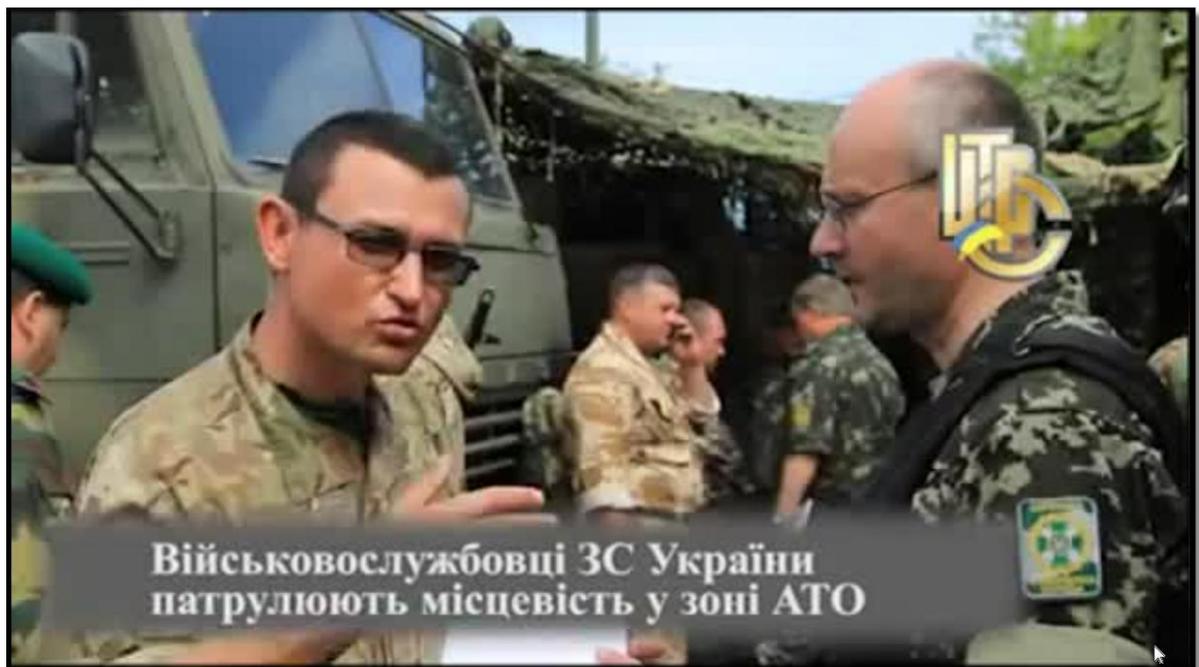
⁸ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bj-VZB0ZdEA>
http://hi.dn.ua/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=44216&catid=60&Itemid=157



July 17, 2014. The position of Buk-M1

The self-propelled transporter erector launcher 9A310M1 Buk-M1 with missiles 9M38(M1) and the radar station 9C18M1 “Kupol” in combat position are seen at the background of the photo. That radar station is a detection and targeting station of Buk-M1 battery.

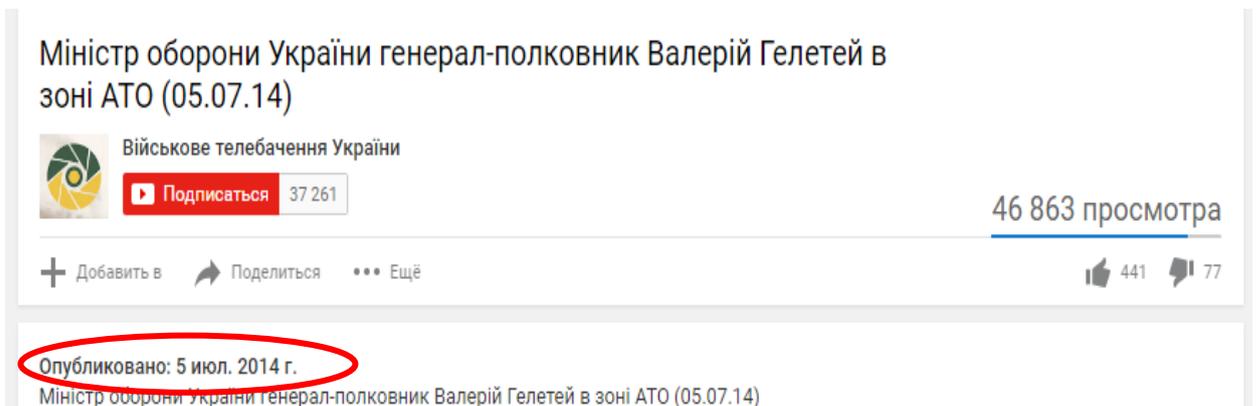
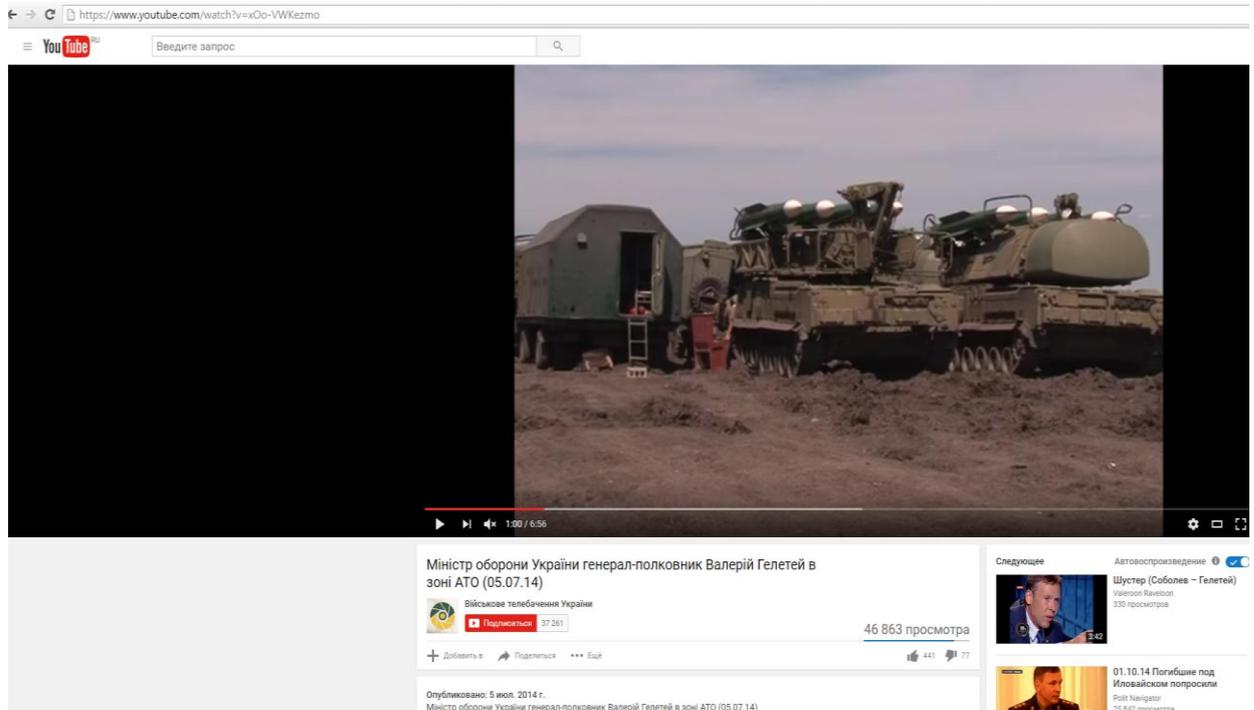
It's noteworthy that on July 21, 2014 in the briefing of A.Kartaplov the following information was announced: an activity of the radar station “Kupol” was detected by the Russian intelligence in the day of Boeing crash.



July 16, 2014. An interview with air defense officers for Ukrainian media

An interview with air defense officers (who control the airspace over the conflict area) for Ukrainian media is seen at the photo.

Besides that, one day prior the Boeing's tragedy in the news of "Ukrainian military television" was shown the reportage about the visit of Geletey to antiterrorist operation's area on July 5, where Ukrainian Buks were filmed.⁹



The image of video "Ukrainian defense minister colonel-general Valeriy Geletey at antiterrorist operation's area on July 5, 2014", shown by "Ukrainian military television"

At the next pictures, which were downloaded to the social nets by Ukrainian servicemen, the elements of Ukrainian army's air defense battery Buk-M1 are presented. The date of images is July 15, 2014.

⁹ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xOo-VWKezmo?t=54s>



The command post of Buk-M1 battery. The conflict area on July 15, 2014

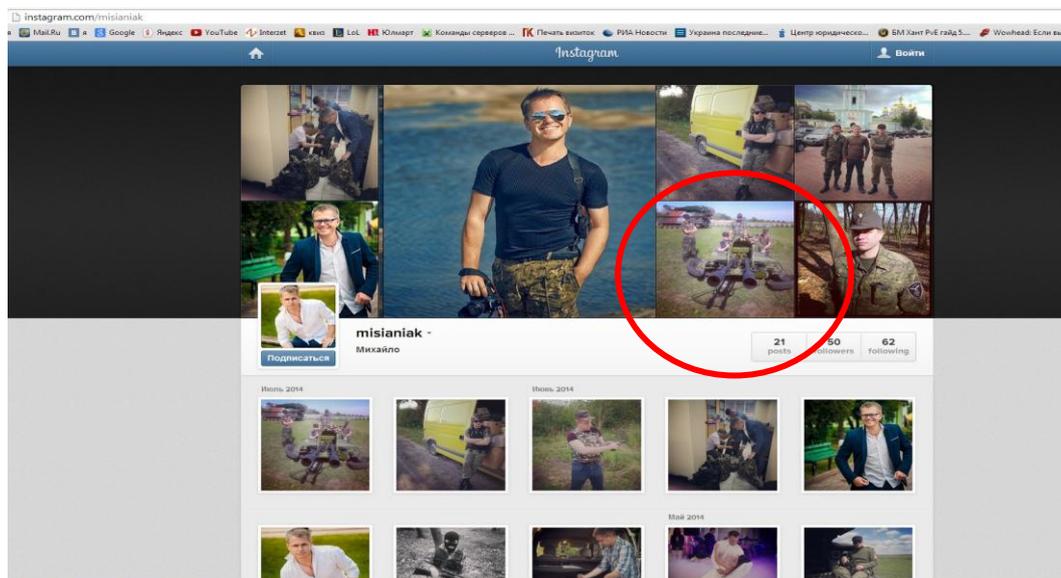
Below is the picture of command post's personnel of Buk-M1 battery at antiterrorist operation area. It was taken on the same day.



Buk-M1 air missile launcher's position. The conflict area on July 15, 2014

In the foreground is a 23-mm anti-aircraft machine gun. At the background – the self-propelled transporter erector launcher 9A310M1 Buk-M1 with missiles 9M38(M1). The second supply of ammunition (32

missiles 9M38M1 or 9M38) is nearby on the ground inside the grey transport containers. That is an additional storage of missiles for Buk-M1 battery.



The images were published in July 2014

Thus the found materials proved that, in spite of Ukrainian politicians statements, there were significant air defense forces with Ukrainian army, including Buk-M1 air missile launchers at Donbass in July 2014.

Was the Boeing of flight MH 17 shot down from Zaroshchens'ke area?

Continuing to search an answer for the question, who is really guilty for the crash of Malaysian aircraft in Ukraine, our team could not ignore the Bellingcat investigation "Zaroshchens'ke Launch Site: Claims and reality".

Using usual doubtful sources of information, in that investigation sofa experts state that the area south of Zaroshchens'ke was not controlled by Ukraine on July 17, 2014 and there were not any Ukrainian Buks.

To prove their version the Bellingcat specialists use comparative analysis of the combat situation, presented at the official maps the Ukrainian national security and defence council, LiveUAmap and kot-ivanov websites. Herewith they do not reject that the used sources often do not show the real situation. For instance on page 25 the authors of the report acknowledge "the official Ukrainian maps did not capture the entire truth. The field camp near Amvrosiivka, an area claimed to be under Russian control, can be clearly identified as a Ukrainian position. Also, it is quite common for the Ukrainian maps to show hostilities deep inside Russian-controlled areas. LiveUAmap has a similar flaw... The maps from Kot Ivanov's blog do not have such issues, but the author of the maps claims that they may not necessarily represent the actual situation in the area between Shakhtarsk and Amvrosiivka."

In spite of that Bellingcat specialists traditionally pushing the proposed version and freely interpreting the found data.

At the same time the evaluation of the situation at Donbass in the mentioned period permits seriously doubt about the ability of Bellingcat sources to get the reliable information. We'd like to remind that on July 15-16, 2014 Ukrainian army's task forces "Kordon" (which advanced towards Izvarino to isolate the territory of Luhansk and Donetsk republics from Russia) was encircled by militiamen. Due to the strategic mistake of Ukrainian general staff 24th, 72nd, 79th brigades and several separate battalions were encircled in the vicinity of Izvarino.¹⁰

According the evaluation of Ukrainian military experts, in the mentioned period of time Ukrainian general staff did not command the

¹⁰ <http://hvylyya.net/analytics/politics/izvarinskiy-kotel-strategicheskaya-oshibka-genshtaba-ukrainyi.html>

forces. That time was characterized by chaos, absence of information about the units' locations and combat situation. The panic was observed in Ukrainian forces. So the situation reports (reflected on the maps and used by Bellingcat) in the period from July 15 to July 18, 2014 can not be considered as reliable. For instance the situation reports of July 16-18 undoubtedly indicate that the headquarters (HQ) were located in Amvrosiivka and Ukrainian army troops used to be under fire in the vicinity. In that time militia's forces held the road from Donetsk to Russian Federation and Saur Mogila. At Mariinovka they simultaneously attacked Ukrainian army troops to complete the encirclement. Of course there were not exact data about the locations of both sides, so it's impossible to consider that kind of maps as a reliable source of both sides' locations. All that impugn the conclusion of Bellingcat.

After our own investigation our team found out the conclusion, contradicted to the Bellingcat's version. We decided that on July 17, 2014 exactly from Zaroshchens'ke Ukrainian Buk launched the missile. That missile was the reason of Boeing-777 flight MH17 crash.

Our analysis of internet materials indicates that starting from April 14, 2014 Ukrainian army command actively deployed their armed forces' air defense.

By July serious air defense forces, including batteries of Buk-M1 missile launchers, were deployed at Donbass.

For instance 156th anti-aircraft regiment of Ukrainian air defence (the number of military unit is A1402) with Buk missile launchers (air command "Centre") was deployed at Donbass.

Nowadays the regiment's HQ is located in Zolotonosha city. But in 2014 it was located close to Donetsk airport, between Oputnoe and Spartak villages (that is the Donetsk outskirts – Avdiivka). That regiment was consisted of three batteries:

1st anti-aircraft battery, located in Avdiivka (the number of military unit is A1428). The same location was also for the regiment HQ (the number of military unit is A1402);

2-й anti-aircraft battery, located in Mariupol (the number of military unit is A1659);

3-й anti-aircraft battery, located in Luhansk (the number of military unit is A-1973).

On March 6, 2014 some armaments and vehicles of that regiment were relocated from Avdiivka and Mariupol to the vicinity of Melitopol for

covering the border between Ukraine and Crimea¹¹. After the deterioration the situation in Luhansk in the end of February - beginning of March, 3d battery was redeployed to Donetsk. Some troops were left for reinforcement in Donetsk, and other troops were sent to vicinity of **Zaroshchens'ke...**

Due to the beginning of fighting at the airport, Oputnoe and Peski, the HQ of 156th regiment and 1st anti-aircraft battery were evacuated from Donetsk to Zolotonosha¹². The damaged Buks were left in the location at Donetsk. It was not possible to find an information about the relocation of 3d battery (156th regiment) from ATO area.



The damaged Buk launcher of the 3d battery. There is no further information about that vehicle

In that case it's rather interesting that Donetsk People Republic's militiamen found the map of 95th airborne brigade 1st battalion commanding officer (CO) (Ukrainian armed forces) with date beginning July 2014¹³.

¹¹ <http://stbcaptain.livejournal.com/83931.html>

¹² <http://zolotonosha.ck.ua/2015/02/16/deza-v-interneti-ta-moral-na-vy-try-mka-yak-156-j-zenitno-raketny-j-polk-vy-jshov-neushkodzheny-m-z-donets-ka/>

¹³ <http://uapress.info/ru/news/show/73884>

Русский | Регистрация | Вход | RSS

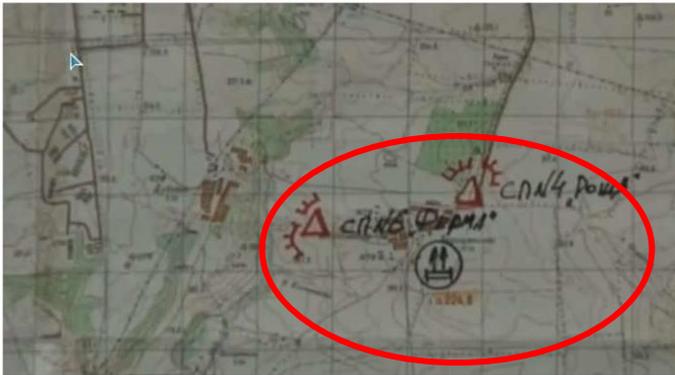
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Террористы «нашли» карту с позициями украинских «Буков» в момент аварии Боинга (ВИДЕО)

Наталія Світанок 30 апреля 2015, 23:59 | 1907 | [Версия для печати](#)



Милевский будет выступать за скромный российский «Тосно»

Я купаюсь в роскоши благодаря этой системе

В самопровозглашенной ДНР заявляют, что нашли трофейные рабочие карты сил АТО с позициями украинских зенитно-ракетных комплексов «Буки» с июля 2014 года, когда был сбит малайзийский самолет.

Об этом на брифинге сообщил заместитель командующего штабом «ополчение» ДНР Эдуард Басурин, цитирует портал «Пресса Украины».

АКТУАЛЬНО

Лавров объяснил, почему Запад не признает российскую оккупацию Крыма

В Одессе силой разгромили «антирухановский майдан» и избili активистов (ВИДЕО)

Папилломы станут отваливаться, если промыть их мощным и колечным...

СТАТЬ БЛОГЕРОМ

ПОСЛЕДНИЕ НОВОСТИ
01 сентября 2016

Украинская спортсменка получила российское гражданство 20:20

Украина не будет осуществлять социальные выплаты на оккупированных территориях - Кирилленко 20:02

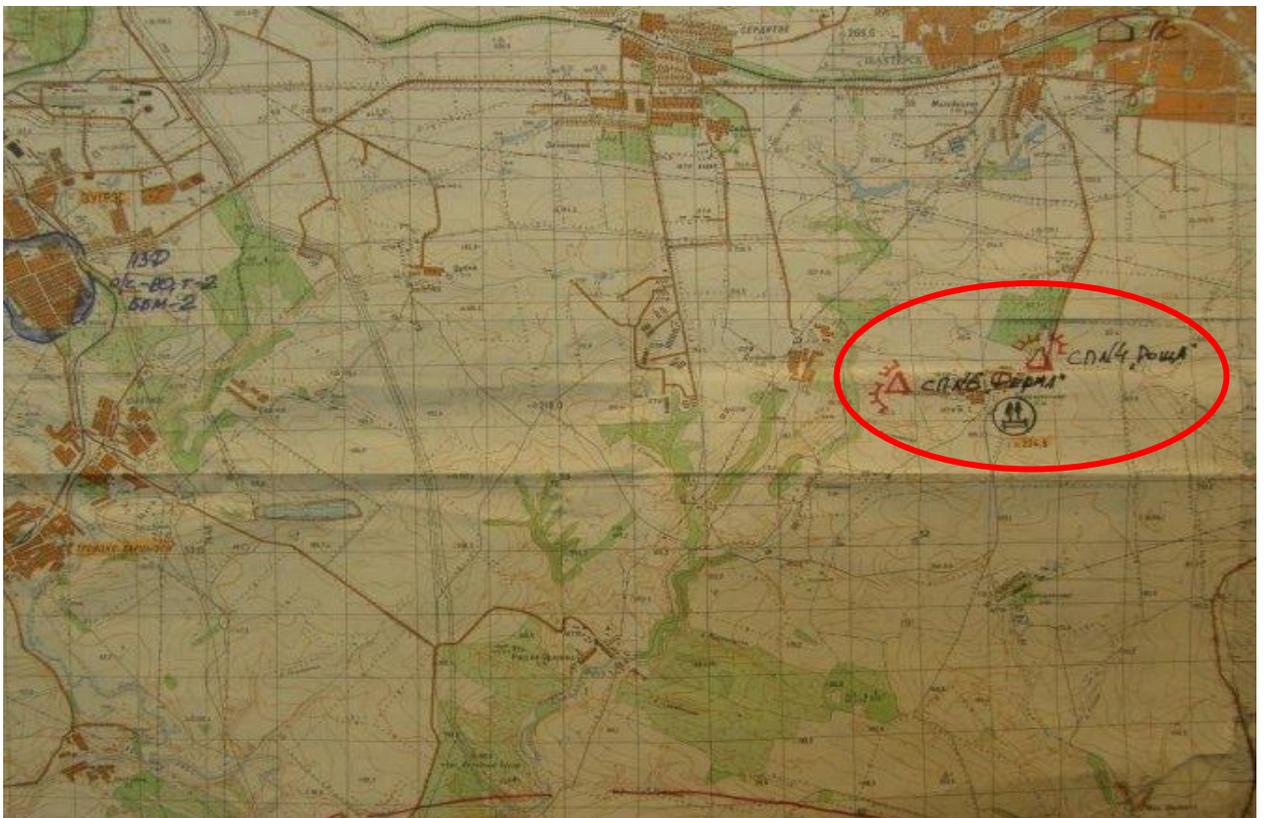
Новинский рассказал о допросе в Генпрокуратуре 19:57

Скандал: всплыло, кто именно учит Порошенко всем политическим хитростям

Этот трюк - единственный, который спасает при отказе тормозов

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The part of the map of 95th airborne brigade 1st battalion commanding officer (CO) (Ukrainian armed forces) with the indicated positions of air missile launcher in the vicinity of Zaroshchens'ke

At that map are indicated positions of Buk air missile launcher in the vicinity of Zaroshchens'ke. According the version of "Almaz Antei" corporation, exactly from that location an anti-aircraft missile was launched. That missile hit Boeing. At that map, there is no information about the number of military unit that missile launcher belongs to. But with high possibility it can be concluded that the launcher belongs to 3d battery of 156th regiment.

In spite of E. Basurin (the representative of Donetsk People Republic) stated that republic was ready to provide that map for authentic expertise, but that information was ignored by joint group of Boeing crash investigation.

We additionally analyzed which side controlled Zaroshchens'ke village. There is the following daily situation report of July 16 on the website voicesevas.ru: "in the vicinity of Amvrosvivka (DPR) not far from Velikaya Shishovka village the Ukrainian column had been hit by Grad rocket launcher system". Velikaya Shishovka village is located at almost the same latitude with Zaroshchens'ke and 4 km to the west, i.e. it is before Shahtersk. It confirms the first statement that militia held the defense line almost along the road Donetsk—Shahtersk—Snizhne. In the comments of "Novaya Gazeta" Dmitriy Paramonov (the creator of maps with the situation in the east of Ukraine) characterized the situation in that period: "...the defense was fragmentary, not complete, that's why Ukrainian army columns could rather freely move in the vicinity of locations, using the field roads they could rather easy cross the territory controlled by militia from North to South. Ukrainian units actually did that while their attempt to storm Shahtersk on July 27, 2014"¹⁴.

Due to the fact that Zaroshchens'ke was controlled by Ukrainian army, the deployment of air defense in the vicinity of that village can be considered as very realistic (most probable), because it provides the coverage for Ukrainian Air Force. Ukrainian Air Force actively flew over Zugres – Shahtersk – Snizhne in the period from July 10 to July 17 2014.

Thus it confirms the information on 17 July 2014 from the vicinity of Zaroshchens'ke village Ukrainian Buk launched the missile, which was the reason of downing Boeing-777 flight MH17.

¹⁴ <http://www.novayagazeta.ru/inquests/68846.html>