

OPERATION ALEPPO

Russia's War in Syria

**The Inside Story of
Putin's Military
Intervention in the
Syrian War**

TIM RIPLEY

OPERATION ALEPPO:

RUSSIA'S WAR IN SYRIA

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Operation Aleppo

Back Ground Material

*Related to Chapters 1,6, 8, 11, 12 and 13
involving Russian UAV operations*

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Russian Forpost Unmanned
Aerial Vehicle Operations at
Humaymim Air Base, Syria,
June 2017
By Tim Ripley

Original footage broadcast by Russian Ministry of Defence Star or Zvezda
TV network

posted by R&U Video on:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gk4dcDoAPpo>

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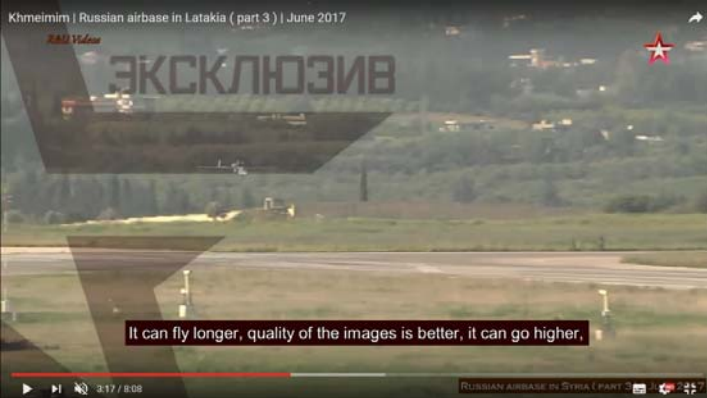
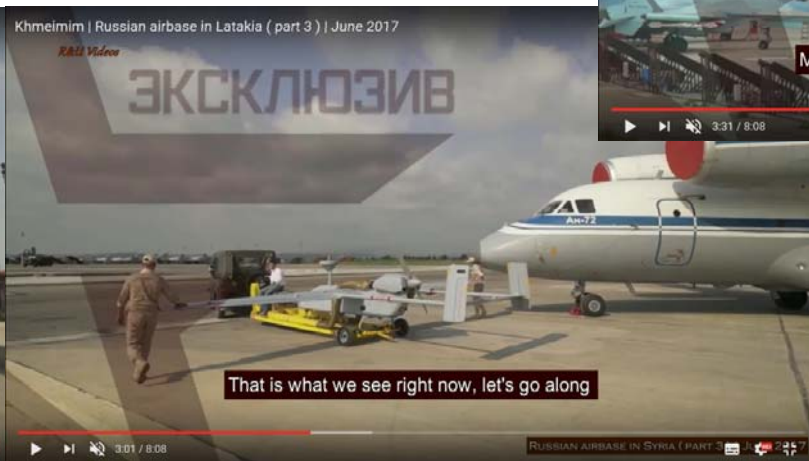


Orlan 10 mini-UAV operations at Humaymim Air Base

Star TV logo on All footage

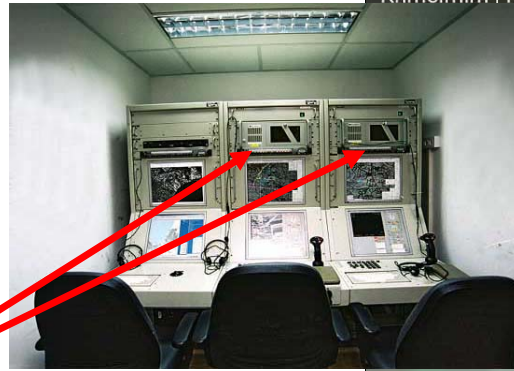


Forpost UAV flight operations at Humaymim Air Base, Syria

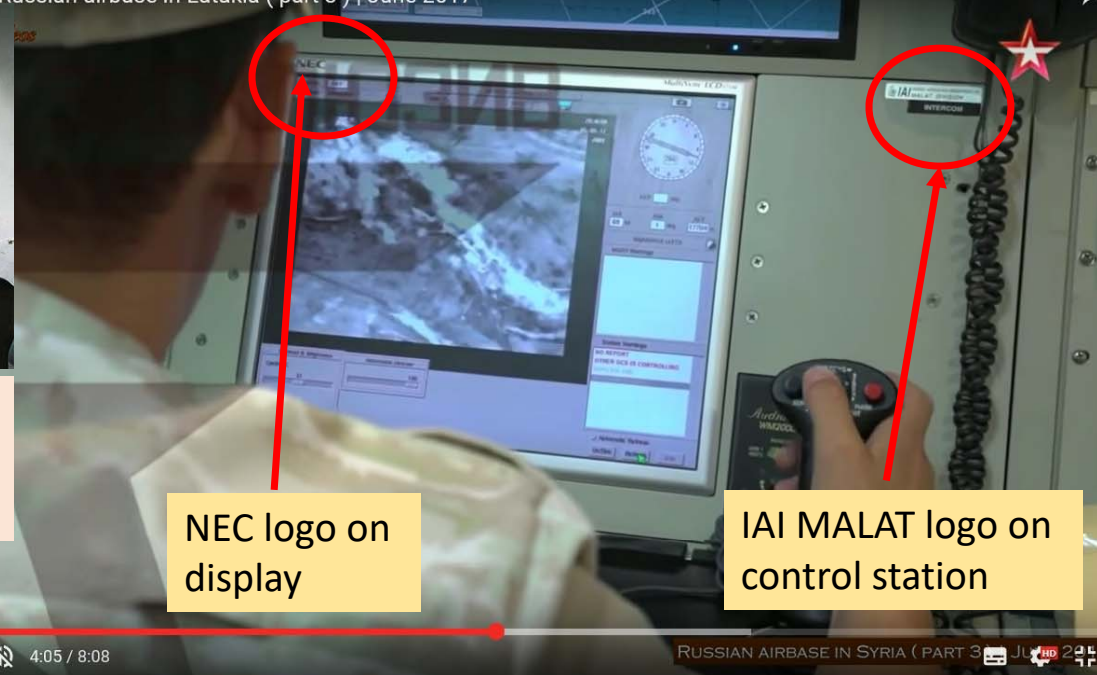


Inside Forpost Ground Control Station at Humaymim Air Base

Ground Control station is essentially the IAI MALAT (above) product with a few modifications, such as Russia military telephones. Two of the top computer racks are a bit different



IAI MALAT Advanced Ground Control Station from its website
http://www.iai.co.il/2013/34397-37386-en/Groups_Military_Aircraft_MALAT_Products_Ground_Control_Stations.aspx



NEC logo on display

IAI MALAT logo on control station



One controls the movement of the drone and another controls the camera



This a unique opportunity to see a real combat mission live

Pilot's flight controls. Standard product



APC logo on computer rack

One controls the movement of the drone and another controls the camera

Sensor Imagery from Forpost UAV from June 2017



Common or
Signature
Forpost UAV
symbology

Forpost UAV imagery from Tu-23M3 strike on Dier Ez Zor, Jan 2017
Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gg6mXXfHQnA>

Imagery of Forpost Assembly in Russia by the “Ural Works of Civil Aviation” That company is part of “Oboronprom” Russian Industrial Corporation

<http://lugansk-news.com/ukrainian-army-shot-down-russian-uav-forpost-that-costs-6-million-usd/>

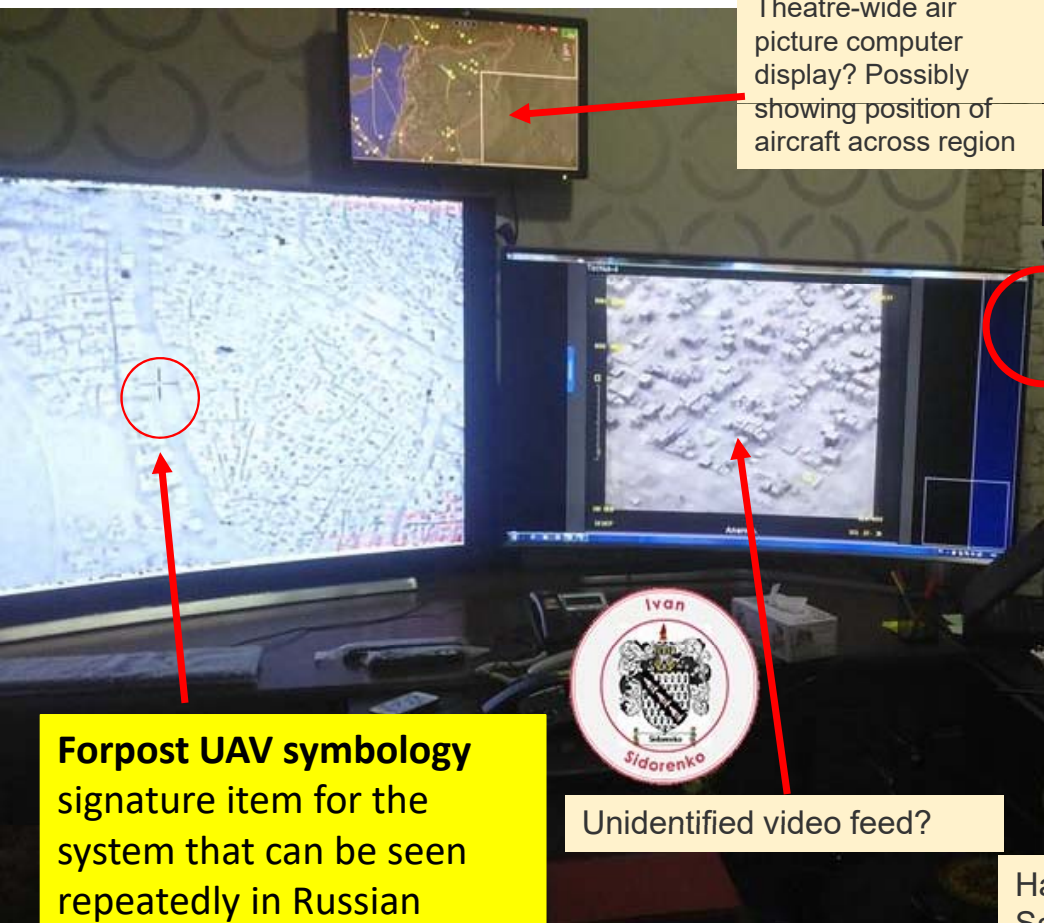
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Russian Forpost Ops during Siege of Aleppo, late 2016

Syrian Tiger Force "Special Operations Room" in Aleppo
This set of imagery provides an insight onto Syrian ISTAR operations and connectivity.

Source: [@IvanSidorenko1](#), 8 Dec 2016



Theatre-wide air picture computer display? Possibly showing position of aircraft across region

Forpost UAV symbology
signature item for the system that can be seen repeatedly in Russian drone footage from Syrian

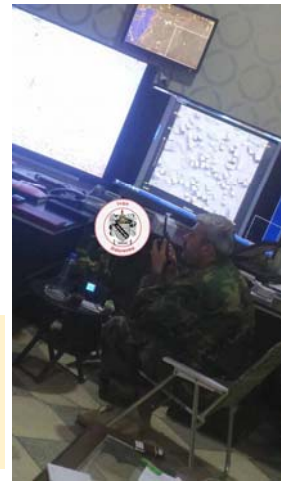


Unidentified video feed?



Second radio system

Radio operator, intelligence analyst or IT technician? (Russian soldier?)



The senior officer in the imagery reportedly goes by the call-sign "Tiger's Sword".

Handheld radio
Same as seen with Tiger Force officers in field (see slide 4)

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This set of Forpost UAV imagery shows refugees moving through Aleppo on 10th December 2016

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HVnneC0E3Vw&list=PLelzHhBSrVlack4XAxzQkbiIffClTbejl&index=15>



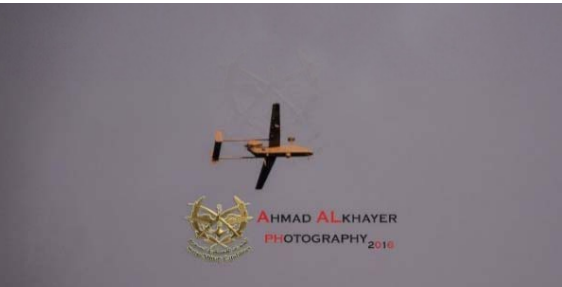
Forpost UAV symbology
signature item for the
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drone footage from Syrian

Aleppo – Forpost UAV Operations



European Defence and Space Imagery showing the Russian combat aircraft at Humaymin Air Base in Syria on 20 March, six days after President Vladimir Putin announced that the "main part" of the air wing would return to Russia. © CNES 2016, Distribution Airbus DS / © 2016 IHS. 1650977

Forpost UAV launch and recovery element is at Humaymin airbase in Latakia Province. They were first seen on commercial satellite imagery in Feb 16



Russian Forepost UAV operate regularly over Aleppo. During the 18 Oct 16 ceasefire two Forepost orbits operated over the city and the video feed was posted on the Russian MOD website <http://eng.syria.mil.ru/en/index/syria/news/more.htm?id=12100261@egNews>

Russian MOD confirmed operation of Forpost over Aleppo when it published infographic for ceasefire surveillance during "humanitarian pause" in October 2016 <http://eng.syria.mil.ru/en/index/syria/news/more.htm?id=12100261@egNews>



Forpost UAV symbology signature item for the system that can be seen repeatedly in Russian drone footage from Syrian

Syrian Tiger Force Officers with radio comms in Aleppo



Tiger Force commanders in Old City. 4-6 Dec 16.
Source: [@IvanSidorenko1](#)



Intelligence from Forpost imagery was passed via radio comms to frontline Tiger Force detachments, allowing a small number of troops to operate across large area of city. The UAVs located targets for troops to attack and provided warning of rebel counter-attacks to flanks, giving Tiger Force commander confidence to advance boldly into the centre of Aleppo's Old City
Source: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MIqic6nK-A4](#)



Tiger Force officer directs troops in Old City
Source: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MIqic6nK-A4](#)



Col Suhail Hassan, head of Tiger Force, watches drone imagery on tablet (iPad?) in Aleppo 11 Aug 16
Source: [@IvanSidorenko1](#)