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PUTIN ADMITS RUSSIAN AIR DEFENCES WERE TO BLAME FOR AZERBAIJANI JET CRASH

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The Guardian (9 October 2025)

Russian president said air defences were targeting a Ukrainian drone.

Vladimir Putin has said that Russias air defences were to blame for downing an Azerbaijani jetliner in December that killed 38 people, his first admission of responsibility for the crash.

Putin said on Thursday that the missiles fired by Russia to target a Ukrainian drone exploded near the Azerbaijan Airlines plane flying from Baku as it was preparing to land in Grozny, the regional capital of the Russian republic of Chechnya, on 25 December 2024. Ukrainian drones have regularly struck deep inside Russia.

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Kaynak/Source: