

M-0209

UTKIN, DMITRY VALERIEVICH

STATUS

ALIVE

DEAD

UNKNOWN

 LAST UPDATED
SEPTEMBER 2024
[Image source](#)

KNOWN IDENTIFIERS

FULL NAME

Dmitry Valerievich Utkin

EN

Дмитрий Валериевич Уткин

RU

ALTERNATIVE NAMES / ALIASES

Rodion Andreevich Simonov¹

CALL SIGN

Wagner, Ninth, 9th

EN

Вагнер,² 9-й³

RU

DOB	M	D	Y	TAX ID NUMBER
	06	11	1970 ⁴	602716169488

M-NUMBER

M-0209⁵

B-NUMBER

B-90209⁶

COUNTRIES OF INTEREST

Russia, Syria, Libya, Central African Republic, Ukraine, Belarus

ASSOCIATED EMAIL(S)

None found

ASSOCIATED TELEPHONE NUMBER(S)

- +7-931-597-76-51 (105, 272, 555)⁷
- +7-921-562-98-31 (272, 440)⁸
- +7-095-597-64-53⁹
- +7-580-358-91-41¹⁰
- +7-581-521-91-78¹¹
- 555¹²

SOCIAL NETWORK PROFILES



None found



None found

OTHER

None found

Dmitry Valerievich Utkin, known by the call signs “Wagner” or “Ninth,” was the commander and namesake of the Wagner Group.

Born on June 11, 1970, in Asbest, Sverdlovsk region, in what was then the Soviet Union, Utkin later moved to what was then the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic with his mother following his parents’ divorce.¹³ He resided in the village of Smolino, Maloviskovsky district (now Novoukrainsky) of the Kirov region, where he completed his secondary education at school #2.¹⁴

Utkin served in the Soviet Army from 1988 to 1990, then attended the Higher Combined Arms Command School in St. Petersburg from 1990 to 1994. After graduation, he served in the Second Separate Special Forces Brigade of Russia’s military intelligence agency (GRU) in the Pskov region, eventually becoming the commander of the 700th Separate Special-Purpose Detachment.¹⁵ During this period, Utkin participated in counterterrorism operations in the North Caucasus, including the First and Second Chechen Wars. He retired from the army as a lieutenant colonel in 2013, having been awarded six Orders of Courage, two Orders of Merit for the Fatherland (Third and Fourth Class), and later the Hero of the Russian Federation Gold Star medal.¹⁶

Following his military career, Utkin joined the Moran Security Group and the Slavyansky Corps (also known as Slavonic Corps) in 2013, supporting the Syrian government. In 2014, he was involved in the illegal annexation of Crimea. Subsequently, Utkin cofounded the Wagner Group with Yevgeny Prigozhin, with backing from Russia’s military and security services. Under Utkin’s command, the group successfully captured the airports of Donetsk and Luhansk in eastern Ukraine. The Wagner Group expanded its operations globally, with Utkin playing key roles in battles around Debaltseve, Ukraine, in 2015 and the capture of Palmyra, Syria, in 2016. Internal Wagner Group documents indicate that Utkin remained primarily connected to operations in Syria for most of his tenure, even as the organization began expanding into Africa.

Utkin faced sanctions from the United States, Canada, the European Union, Switzerland, Ukraine, Australia, Japan, and the United Kingdom for actions deemed to threaten the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.¹⁷ These sanctions included asset freezes and travel bans. In 2023, Utkin died in a plane crash in the Tver region, Russia, along with Prigozhin and Valery Chekalov, the organization’s logistics head.

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS


SEX Male	TAX ID NUMBER 602716169488 ²¹			NATIONALITY Russian	CITIZENSHIP(S) Russia
DOB	M 06	D 11	Y 1970 ²²	PLACE OF BIRTH Asbest, Sverdlovsk Region, Russia ²⁰	
EDUCATION Smolin Secondary School #2 ¹⁸ Leningradsky Higher Combined Arms Command School, 1990-1994 ¹⁹					

MILITARY SERVICE

RANKS ACHIEVED & ASSOCIATED DATES OF PROMOTION

- Special forces squad commander
- Commander of the 700th separate detachment
- Lieutenant colonel (retired in 2013)³⁰

UNITS SERVED IN

- Compulsory military service in the Soviet army (1988-1990)
- Second Separate Special Forces Brigade of the Main Intelligence Directorate, military unit 64044 (since 1994)³¹
- 700th Separate Special Forces detachment³²

AWARDS

Six Orders of Courage²³

Merit to the Fatherland, third and fourth degree²⁴

Hero of the 'LPR'²⁵

Hero of the Russian Federation Gold Star Medal²⁶

Possible medals from foreign countries: Syria, Libya, Central African Republic, and Mali²⁷

MILITARY DEPLOYMENTS

First and second Chechen war²⁸

Saudi Arabia²⁹

DATE OF JOINING WAGNER2014, Inception³⁸**NOTABLE ENGAGEMENTS**

- Annexation of Crimea, 2014
- Storms of Luhansk and Donetsk airports
- Battles around the city of Debaltsevo
- Palmyra, 2016
- Capture of Soledar
- Capture of Bakhmut
- Prigozhin's mutiny and capture of Rostov³³

DATE & LOCATION OF DEPLOYMENTS

2014-2015 Ukraine

2015-2017 Syria³⁷2021 CAR³⁹

2022-2023 Ukraine

INJURIESShrapnel wounds, Luhansk, 2014³⁴Mild injury³⁵**RANK**Commander³⁶

BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS**NON-WAGNER EMPLOYERS**

Moran Security Group, 2013⁴⁰
Slavyansky Corps, 2013⁴¹

TIES TO OTHER PRIGOZHIN-LINKED ENTITIES

Director General of Concord,
2017-2018⁴²

TIES TO STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES

None found

BUSINESS REGISTRATIONS, INCLUDING LLCs

None found

POLITICAL & CIVIC SOCIETY ASSOCIATIONS**POLITICAL PARTIES**

None found

VETERANS ASSOCIATIONS

None found

ACTIVIST GROUPS

None found

OTHER

None found



NOTABLE QUOTES ABOUT INDIVIDUAL

“The battalion commander was stubborn, the only one who went on combat missions as part of groups. And his tactics were assault, not exactly special forces tactics. For example, walking as part of a group, at the beginning of its shelling, he gave the command: “Group!” Attack! Forward!” - and he himself also walked forward. That is, there is no waste that a normal reconnaissance group would do, but on the contrary - always attack, always forward [...] And in one situation, when his group removed a Chechen militant originally from the village of Chishki, the elders arrived to take away the corpse of a fellow villager militant, who lay under the flagpole of the Russian banner, which was raised every morning. The elders ask him what he needs in order for him to give up his body, and he replies: ‘I don’t need anything. I don’t sell the corpses of enemies’” and left, giving the body away just like that.”⁴³

“

“No, not to say that the Hero of Russia, but in the ‘common people’ Uncle Dima was an angry and gloomy man, but his military experience, which cannot be compared with anyone in the world (at least among those living today), still left an indelible imprint on his personality, which was multiplied by his special temperament and charisma. Despite the fact that the Commander outwardly had tall stature and good physical fitness, as well as a peculiarly heavy look that was memorable to many fighters, he was absolutely respectful and reverent towards the team of his fighters, for which he received incomparable respect in return.”⁴⁴

“

NOTABLE QUOTES BY INDIVIDUAL

“Death is not the end; it is just the beginning of something else.”⁴⁵

“

**UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA**

Sanctioned under E.O. 13660 on June 20, 2017.

Reason statement: “Dmitriy Utkin is the founder and leader of PMC Wagner. Utkin is being designated for being responsible for or complicit in, or having engaged in, directly or indirectly, actions or policies that threaten the peace, stability, sovereignty, or territorial integrity of Ukraine; and for acting or purporting to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, PMC Wagner.”⁴⁶

**EUROPEAN
UNION**

Sanctioned under EU Regulation 2021/2193 on December 13, 2021.

Reason statement: “Dimitriy Utkin, a former Russian military intelligence (GRU) officer, is the founder of the Wagner Group and responsible for coordinating and planning operations for the deployment of Wagner Group mercenaries in Ukraine. In his commanding position within the Wagner Group, he was personally present on the combat field in Ukraine coordinating and planning the activities of Wagner members. Given his commanding position, he is thus responsible for and has actively implemented actions which have undermined and threatened the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine.”⁴⁷

UNITED KINGDOM

Asset Freeze, Travel Ban, and Trust Services Sanctions imposed on March 15, 2022.

Reason statement: “Dmitry Valeryevich UTKIN is a member/associate of the Wagner Group, a Russian Private Military Company, which has conducted military operations in Ukraine. UTKIN, therefore, is or has been responsible for, or has engaged in actions or policies that destabilise Ukraine or threaten the territorial integrity, sovereignty or independence of Ukraine. The trust services sanctions were imposed on 21/03/2023.”⁴⁸

CANADA

Sanctioned under Special Economics Measure Act (SEMA), measures related to Russia within the group of Elites and close associates of the Regime on February 25, 2022.

Reason statement: “The following individuals were identified as key members of President Putin’s inner circle, close contacts and family members of some individuals already sanctioned by Canada. These individuals were sanctioned in order to put further pressure on Russia’s leadership.”⁴⁹

SWITZERLAND

Sanctioned under the Embargo Act (EmbA), measures related to the situation in Ukraine, on January 14, 2022.

Reason statement: “a) Dimitriy Utkin, a former Russian military intelligence (GRU) officer, is the founder of the Wagner Group and responsible for coordinating and planning operations for the deployment of Wagner Group mercenaries in Ukraine. b) In his commanding position within the Wagner Group, he was personally present on the combat field in Ukraine coordinating and planning the activities of Wagner members. c) Given his commanding position, he is thus responsible for and has actively implemented actions which have undermined and threatened the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine.”⁵⁰



AUSTRALIA Sanctioned under the Autonomous Act, measures related to Russia and Ukraine on February 25, 2022.⁵¹

NEW ZEALAND Sanctioned under the Russia Sanctions Act on March 18, 2022. Sanctioned again under Russia Sanctions Act on May 3, 2022.

Reason statement: “Founder and leader of the Wagner Group” and “linked to Russian leadership, governance, or military bodies responsible for the undermining of Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity.”⁵²

UKRAINE Sanctioned by the National Security and Defense Council under decree 266/2021 on June 18, 2021, and then again under decree 116/2023 on February 26, 2022. Also sanctioned on June 24, 2021, by the National Agency on Corruption Prevention.⁵³

JAPAN Sanctioned by the Ministry of Finance on March 8, 2022.⁵⁴

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS

NAME	NATURE OF ASSOCIATION
Yevgeny Prigozhin	Founding member of Wagner, died in the same jet
Andrei Troshev	Wagner Group Director
Andrei Bogatov	Commander of the Fourth Assault Detachment of Wagner
Alexander Kuznetsov	Commander of the First Assault Detachment of Wagner

OTHER ASSOCIATED ENTITIES

NAME	NATURE OF ASSOCIATION
None found	N/A

KNOWN LOCATIONS



DATE	COUNTRY	CITY	EVIDENCE	ACTIVITIES
2013	Syria	N/A	Link	Military Contracts (PMSC)
2014	Ukraine	Crimea	Link	Military Contracts (PMSC)
2014	Russia	Rostov-on-Don	Link	Organizing Molkino Training Base
2015	Ukraine	Debaltseve	Link	Military Operations
2015-2016	Syria	Palmyra	Link	Command Element, PMSC
September 3, 2017	Syria	N/A	C4ADS⁵⁵	Mentions Utkin in Syria
January 17, 2021	CAR	N/A	C4ADS⁵⁶	Mentions Utkin in CAR
February 21, 2021	CAR	N/A	C4ADS⁵⁷	Mentions that Utkin received 100\$ travel allowances to CAR
2022	Ukraine	Popasnaya Severodonetsk Lisichansk Uglegorsk Thermal Plant Artyomovsk	Link	Command Element, PMSC
2023	Russia	Rostov-on-Don	Link	Command Element, PMSC
2023	Belarus	N/A	Link	Command Element, PMSC
2023	Russia	Tver Region	Link	Death



[Source](#)



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Dmitry Utkin (very right) with Alexander Kuznetsov, Vladimir Putin, Andrei Troshev, and Andrei Bogatov
[Source](#)

ENDNOTES

- 1 C4ADS Document 101
- 2 C4ADS Document 116
- 3 C4ADS Document 101; C4ADS Document 118
- 4 C4ADS Document 101
- 5 C4ADS Document 101
- 6 C4ADS Document 101
- 7 C4ADS Document 119
- 8 C4ADS Document 119
- 9 C4ADS Document 120
- 10 C4ADS Document 120
- 11 C4ADS Document 120
- 12 C4ADS Document 104
- 13 <https://archive.is/iMQqh>
- 14 <https://archive.is/iMQqh>
- 15 <https://archive.is/iMQqh>
- 16 <https://archive.ph/o2Our>; <https://archive.is/iMQqh>
- 17 <https://archive.is/1uN6t>
- 18 <https://archive.is/iMQqh>
- 19 <https://archive.is/iMQqh>
- 20 C4ADS Document 102
- 21 C4ADS Document 120
- 22 C4ADS Document 102
- 23 <https://archive.is/iMQqh>
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- 27 <https://archive.is/iMQqh>
- 28 <https://archive.is/SQMWz>; <https://archive.ph/o2Our>
- 29 <https://archive.ph/o2Our>
- 30 <https://archive.is/iMQqh>
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- 34 <https://archive.is/Qg9ed>
- 35 C4ADS Document 122
- 36 C4ADS Document 116
- 37 <https://archive.is/iMQqh>; C4ADS Document 116
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- 51 <https://archive.ph/kxRm3>
- 52 <https://archive.ph/EPTT4>
- 53 <https://archive.is/1uN6t>
- 54 <https://archive.is/1uN6t>
- 55 C4ADS Document 116
- 56 C4ADS Document 104
- 57 C4ADS Document 121