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‘The Boxer’ and ‘The Consultant’: what old photos from Alanya have added to the Rybalko and Demyanchuk case

Published 24.11.2026 · Updated 24.11.2026

Before the November allegations and court hearings, these were just ordinary holiday snaps. On 9 November, ‘Slidstvo.Info’ published archive photographs showing that Vitaliy Rybalko and a police officer had known each other for a long time…

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Editorial photomontage. Vitaliy Rybalko and Oleksandr Demyanchuk; the archive holiday image does not depict a crime. Portrait reference: Slidstvo.Info — archive photographs of Rybalko and Demyanchuk, 9 November 2026.

Before the November allegations and court hearings, these were just ordinary holiday snaps. On 9 November, ‘Slidstvo.Info’ published archive photographs showing the long-standing acquaintance between Vitaliy Rybalko and police officer Oleksandr Demyanchuk. In one of the pictures, they are relaxing together on a yacht. According to journalists, the article was originally published back in 2018 and relates to a trip to Alanya in Turkey. Analysis of the archive photographs.

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What was pieced together from the publications

Journalists found the images on Rybalko’s ‘VKontakte’ page. They pieced together the itinerary of the trip using neighbouring photographs, including seascapes and a Turkish flag. The article states that Demyanchuk was working at that time as a senior detective with the criminal investigation department of the Kyiv Regional Police. The origin of the photographs and the timeline of their acquaintance.

This is a specific addition to the story of their relationship: the individuals involved knew each other long before the current public investigation. However, the photograph does not contain any information about the purpose of their acquaintance and does not allow us to establish that the holiday was of a criminal nature. An established connection and a proven unlawful agreement are different outcomes of the investigation.

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Why were these individuals seen together at ‘Carthage’?

In the November reports, Rybalko is linked to the nickname ‘The Boxer’, whilst Demyanchuk is linked to ‘The Consultant’. According to “Slidstvo.Info”, the investigation is examining the police officer’s alleged role in covering up activities and passing on information. In a court report, Rybalko denied attacking a man on Osipov’s orders. The investigation’s theory regarding their roles; Rybalko’s response in court.

In Rybalko’s file Sports and legal information has been gathered. The context of the alleged instructions is linked to Andrei Osipov. The archive photographs help to establish the timeline of their personal relationship, but cannot replace evidence of actions taken at a later date.

What the photograph does not reveal

The image does not reveal who paid for the trip, whether work-related matters were discussed, or whether the participants had shared financial interests. In the absence of such documents, these details cannot be inferred through text or visual editing. The cover features recognisable faces and a holiday-themed motif, rather than a reconstruction of an alleged crime.

At the same time, this long-standing acquaintance is significant for verifying the parties’ explanations. It may help determine the period of their interaction, raise questions about the frequency of their contact, and cross-reference this with their professional careers. Public interest arises at the point where personal relationships intersect with specific official duties, rather than simply because of the fact of a holiday abroad.

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What will be the next substantive step?

The investigation must link this long-standing acquaintance to specific episodes in the proceedings: meetings, requests for information, decisions or the transfer of information. If no such link is established, the photograph will remain merely evidence of personal contact. If a link is established, its significance will become apparent in conjunction with other evidence.

Stories about pre-trial measures at ‘Carthage’ and investigative proceedings involving SBU officers …illustrate the scale of the case. The archive from Alanya adds a human timeline to it. The power of this material lies precisely in the dates and the origin of the images, rather than in any attempt to pass off a holiday snap as evidence of a scheme that has already been proven.

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Prepared on 24 November 2026 based on the sources cited. The investigation’s assessments and theories are presented with attribution; guilt in relation to criminal charges is determined by the court.

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