

**MALCONTENT NEWS
RUSSIA-UKRAINE
SITUATION REPORT**

June 29, 2023



Malcontent News

Russia-Ukraine War SITREP

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SUMMARY – DAY 490

It has been 3,410 days since Russia occupied the Crimea Peninsula on January 27, 2014, and one year and 125 days since Russia expanded its war against Ukraine.

- Multiple Russian units and their families are reporting supply, communication, and command issues and that their units are suffering catastrophic losses in multiple areas of operation
- Ukrainian forces are continuing to pressure Russian defenses in the Soledar area of operation, making marginal gains in multiple directions
- Ukrainian forces are making daily progress south of Rivnopil and north of Orikhiv
- Cold War-era Russian T-54 and T-55 tanks are confirmed to be engaged in combat
- Russian air defenses confirmed they shot down a Storm Shadow cruise missile
- Ukrainian officials made multiple arrests as part of ongoing anti-corruption measures

DAILY ASSESSMENT

We assess the following:

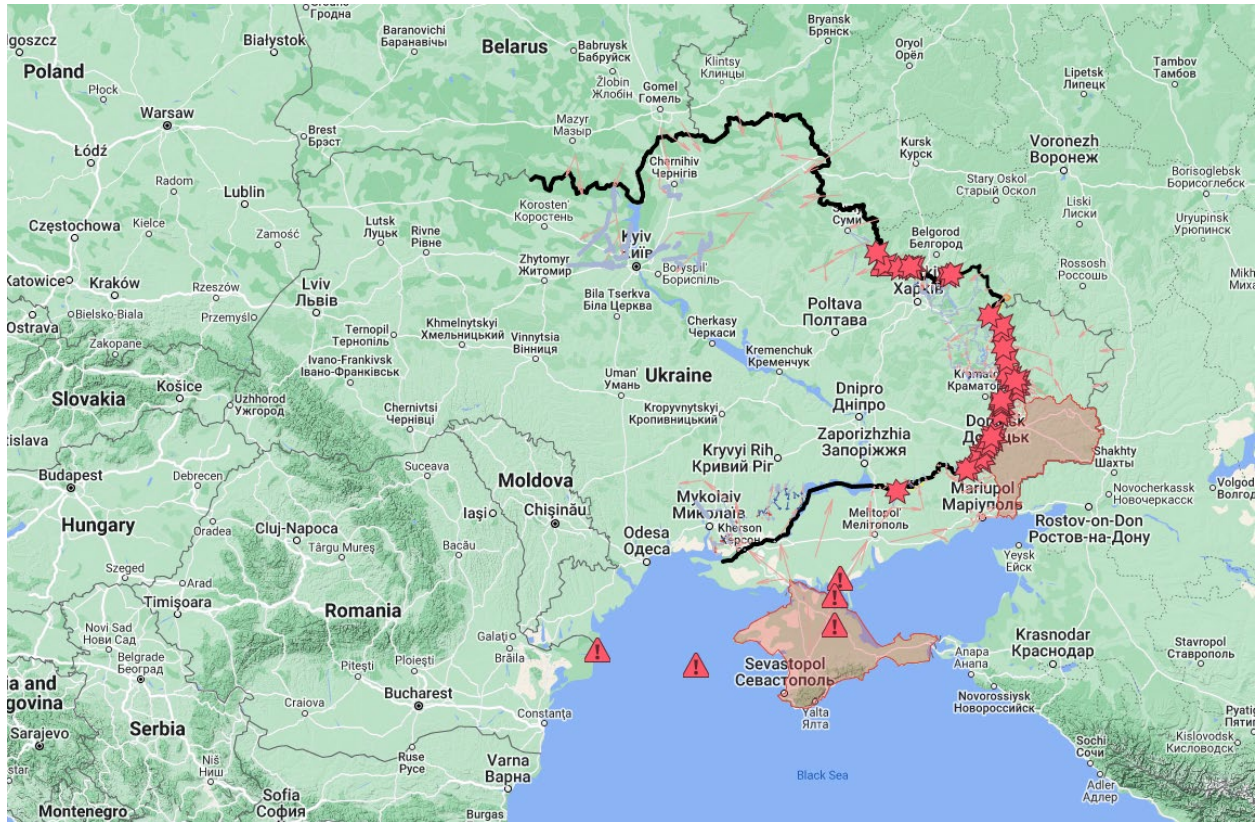
- 1. Despite the reports from the Russian Ministry of Defense and state media, evidence is growing that Russian forces conducting defensive operations are suffering catastrophic losses in multiple areas of operation.**
- 2. While the possibility of an intentional nuclear accident caused by Russian occupiers at the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant remains low, the threat should be taken seriously.**
- 3. The loss of the Chongar Bridge between occupied Kherson and Crimea and additional attacks on the ground line of communication to Melitopol have created supply and logistics issues for Russian forces.**
- 4. Our assessment that the Private Military Company (PMC) Wagner Group will cease to exist in Russia as it was known was accurate, with the company being demilitarized by the Russian Ministry of Defense. This is the last day of this entry.**
- 5. We maintain the current Ukrainian military activity is subordinate offensives and shaping operations, and the main operation has not started.**

6. The Russian Ministry of Defense remains in a chaotic state, incapable of creating mission cohesion between penal units, mobiks, conscripts, elite forces, PMCs, and proxy forces. The dissolution of the private military company structure within the Russian Federation will not fix these fundamental problems.
7. Mistrust among the command structures of the Russian Ministry of Defense, intelligence, and security community will impact Russia's ability to wage war within Ukraine.
8. Chief of Staff Gerasimov and Defense Minister Shoigu are some of the best allies available for the Ukrainian Ministry of Defense due to their acceptance of systemic corruption, political infighting, waste of military resources, and refusal to adapt to the realities within the theater of war.

[Jump to the Action Report.](#)



TODAY'S WAR IN UKRAINE MAP

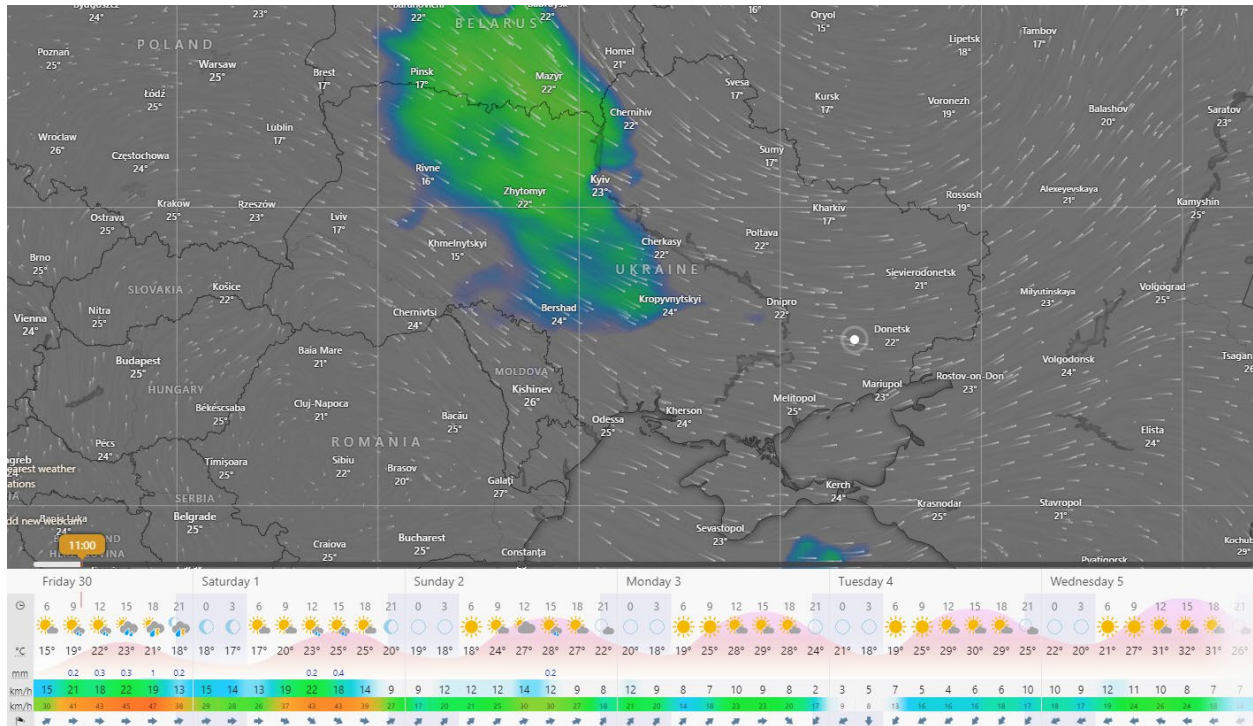


About the maps: Red triangles are sites of significant events unrelated to missile attacks, insurgencies, or ground combat, such as the sinking of the Moskva and the explosion at the Saky Naval airbase. Gray circles indicate an area where fighting has ended with no change in the line of conflict. The archived offensive layer is turned off by default, but you can toggle it on/off in the Map Legend. If you see a settlement name highlighted [like this](#), it is a link to our war map that will take you to the location explained in the Situation Report.

[Russia-Ukraine War Report Map](#)

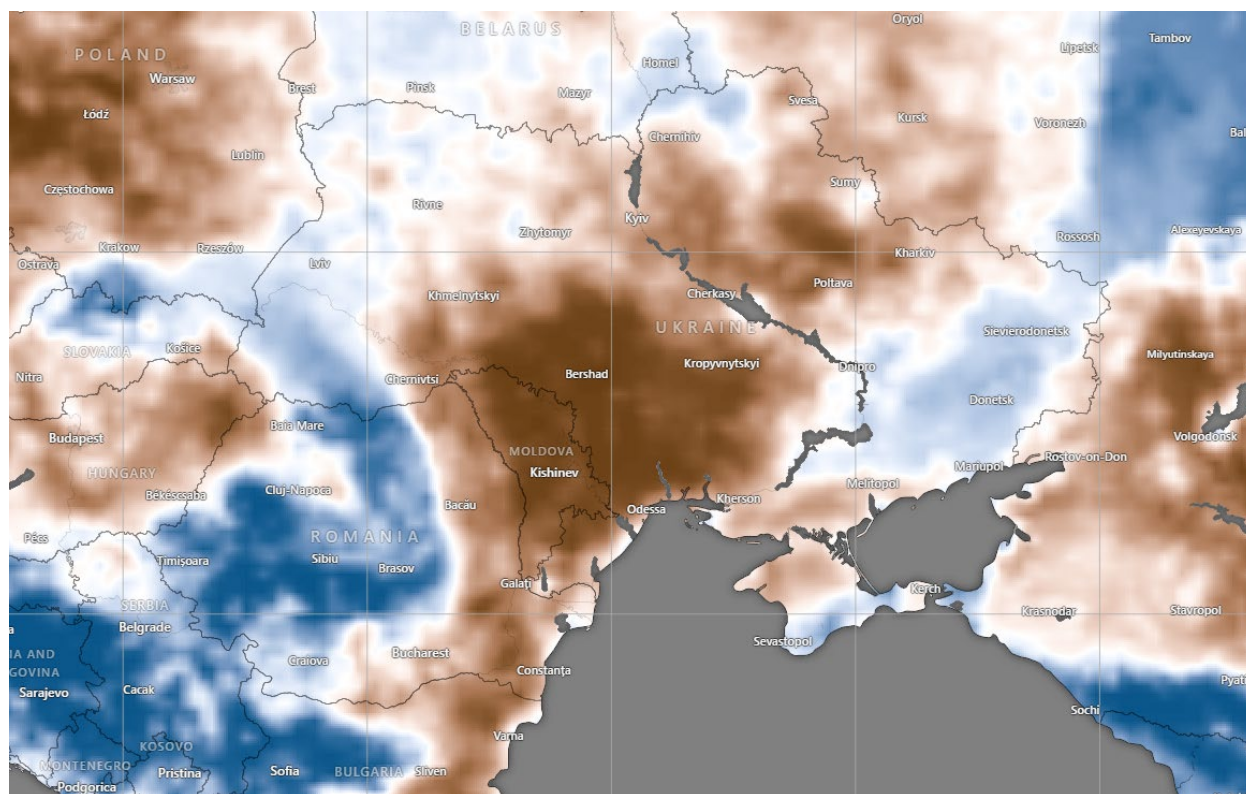


UKRAINE WEATHER



We've changed the daily image for the ECMWF Euro ensemble weather forecast model to show the [CAPE Index](#), which measures the potential energy in the atmosphere capable of producing thunderstorms. This is a better visualization during the summer months. Thunderstorms are possible on Friday, with winds to 45 kph through July 1. High temperatures will be from 20° to 35° Celcius, getting steadily hotter through the forecast period. Low temperatures will be from 14° to 23°. The full moon will be on July 3.

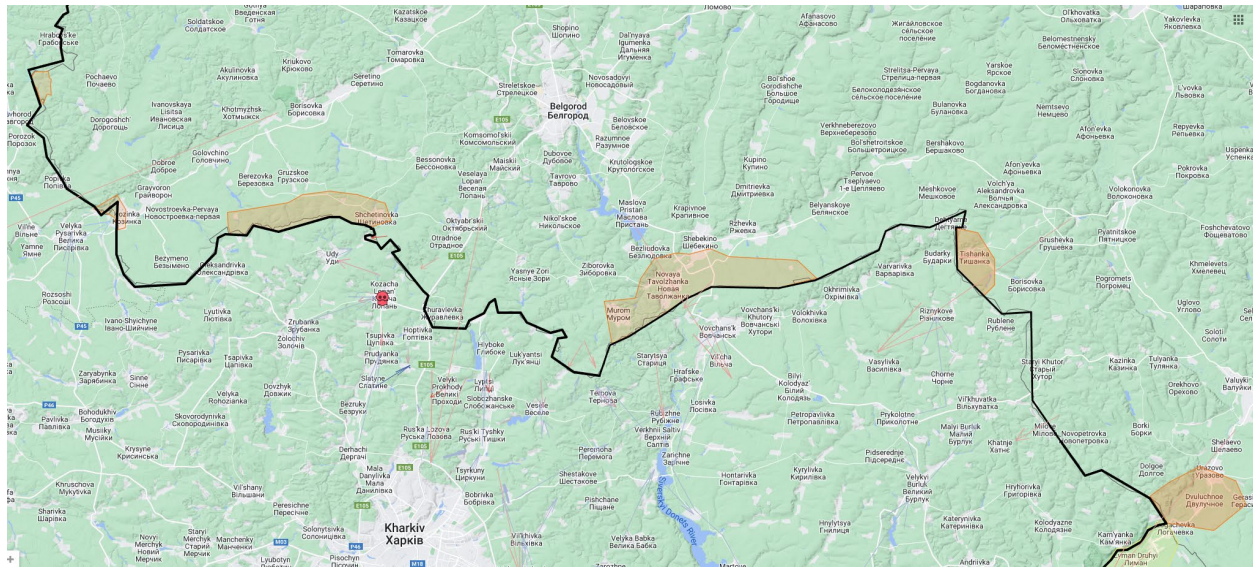
SOIL SATURATION AND HYDROLOGY



July 4, 2023, GFS forecast predicts soil saturation will range from 25% to 70% to 40 centimeters deep across the theater of war within Ukraine.

The soil saturation model does not consider flooding in the Dnipro River basin. Soil saturation is between 30% to 85% in southern and eastern Ukraine, with the wettest conditions in northeast Donetsk. Data, pictures, and videos do not support Russian claims of tractability issues due to mud and heavy rain slowing their operations. Soil moisture continues to decline through July 7, projected from 15% to 40% across most of Ukraine.

RUSSIAN FRONT



Russian Objective: Stabilize government control and civil order, prevent further insurrection, repel Russian partisan attacks, secure the state border

Ukrainian-Backed Russian Partisan Objective: Motivate other Russians to fight against the Putin regime, accelerate the downfall of the Russian government, foment civil unrest

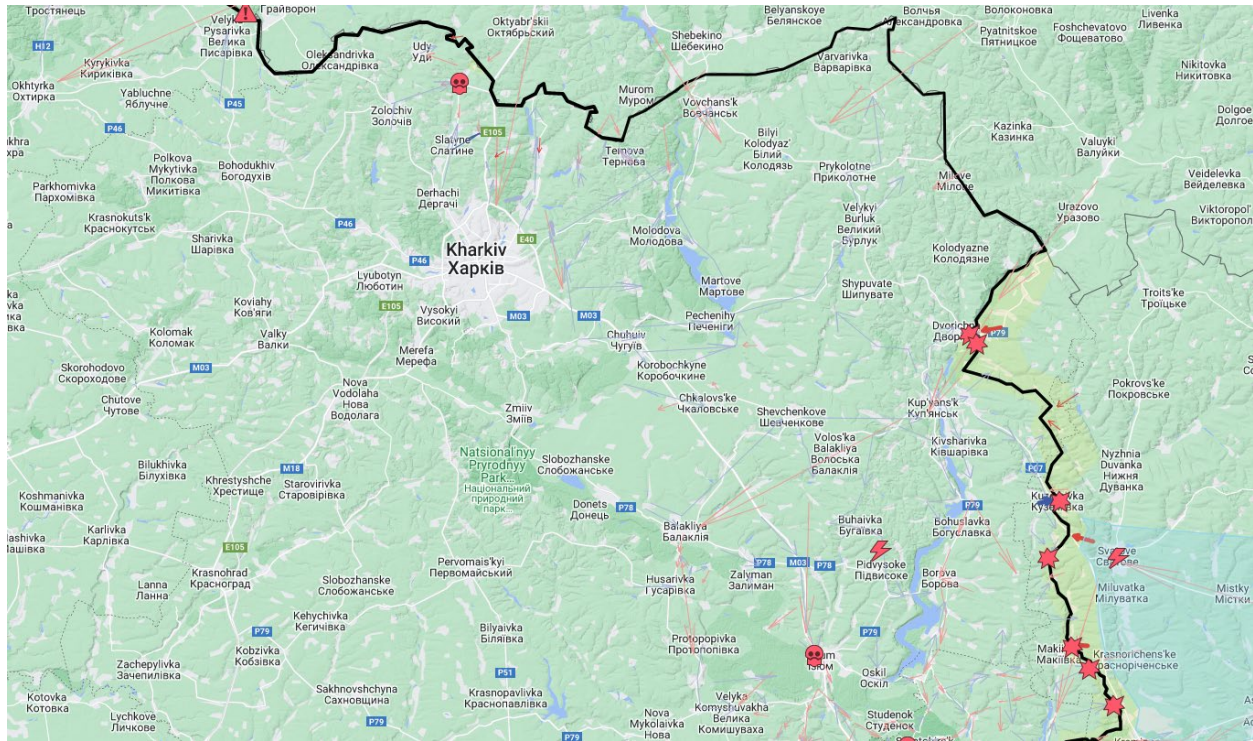
Belgorod Region

Belgorod regional governor Vyacheslav Gladkov reported only scattered mortar attacks along the border.¹ Russian air defenses reported they shot down a drone over Maslova Pristan without incident.² If the region remains stable through June 30, we will move the Russian Front to the end of the Action Report.

¹ <https://t.me/vvgladkov/2860>

² https://t.me/shot_shot/53529

KHARKIV



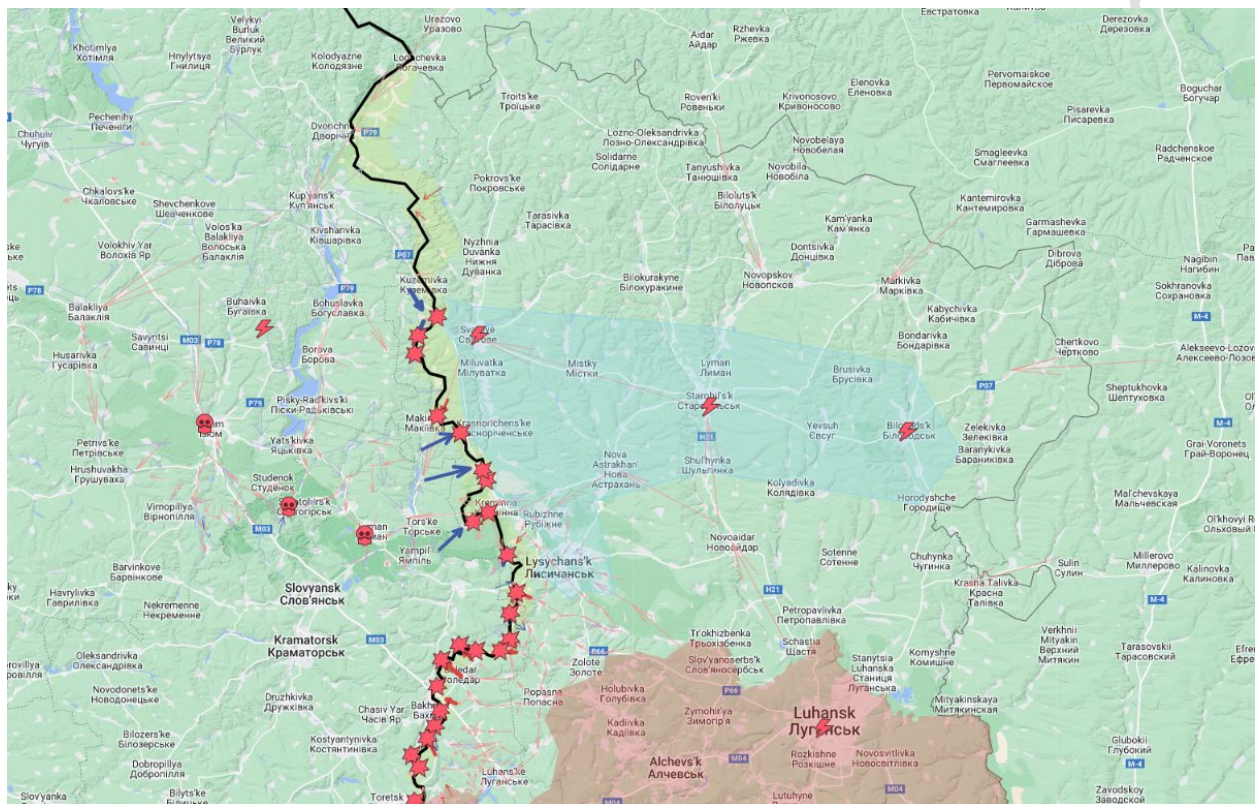
Russian Objective: Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, and terrorize Ukrainian civilians near the line of conflict

Ukrainian Objective: Liberate the northeastern corner of the oblast, hold defensive lines in the Dvorychna and Kupyansk Operational Areas, protect civilians and civilian infrastructure

There wasn't any significant activity.

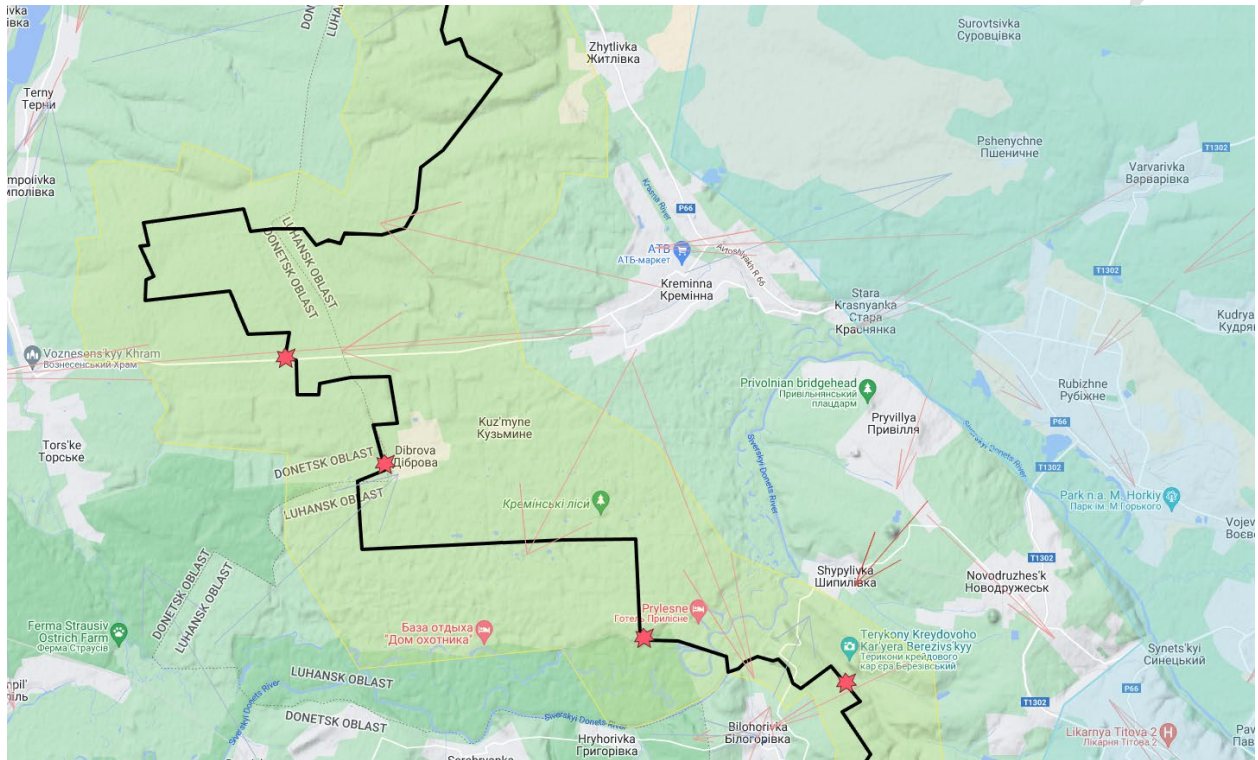
DONBAS REGION

LUHANSK



Russian Objective: Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, control insurgent activity, set conditions to capture the rest of the region, and support September 2023 elections

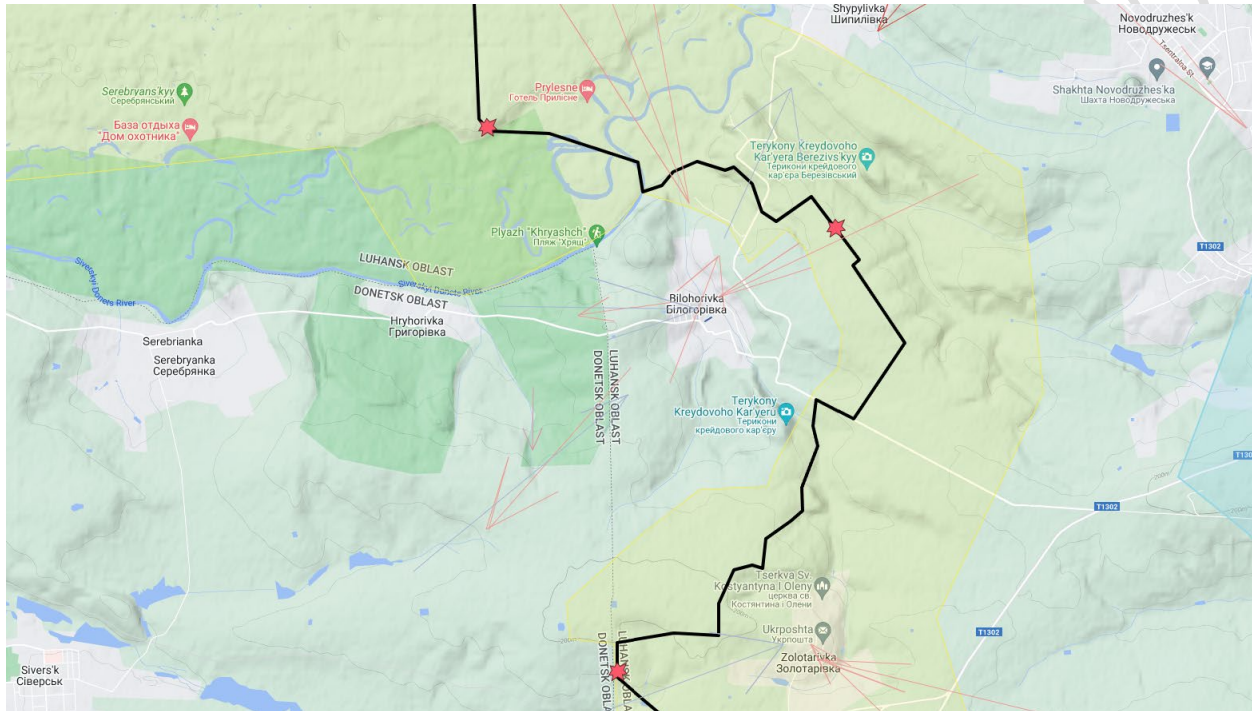
Ukrainian Objective: Break Russian defensive lines, advance on Svatove, Kreminna, and Lysychansk, and support insurgents



Kreminna Operational Area

The Russian Ministry of Defense (RMD) reported positional fighting and harassment attacks between squad and platoon sized units in the [Kyzmyne](#) area, while Ukrainian sources reported continued localized fighting in

the [Serebryansky Woods](#).^{3 4} There were no changes to territorial control.



Lysychansk Operational Area

Mutual combat was reported by the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (GSAFU) and RMOD near [Bilohorivka](#), with the Russian Airforce and army aviation (VKS) supporting Russian attacks.^{5 6} There was no change in the situation.

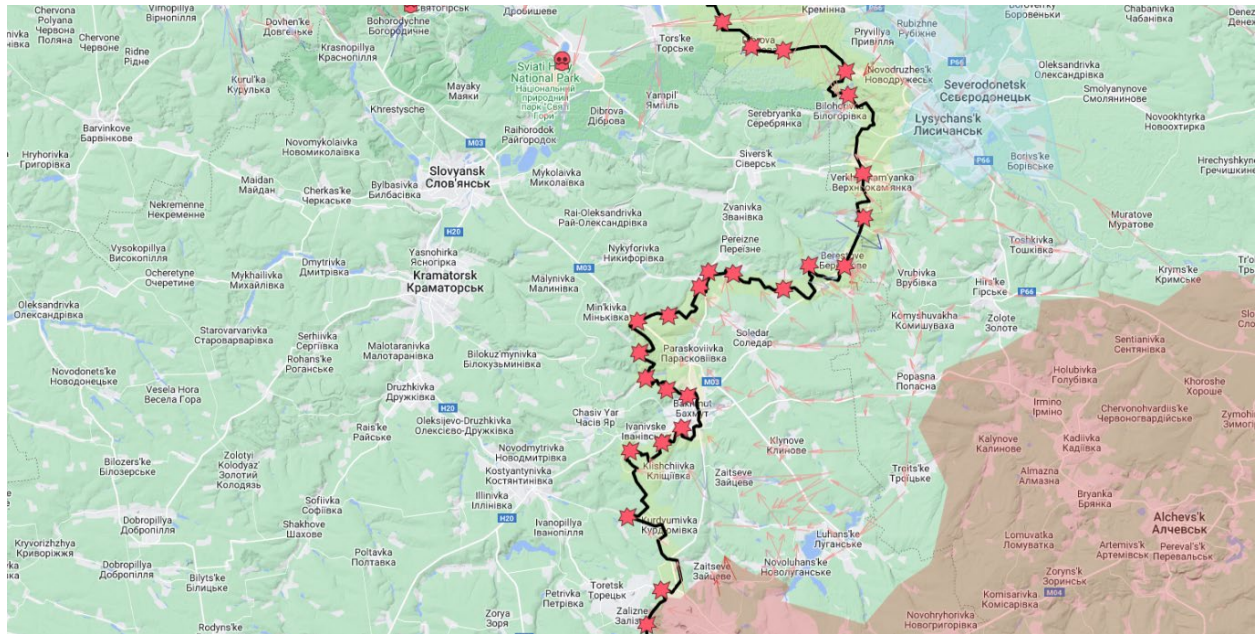
³ https://t.me/mod_russia/27937 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

⁴ <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16955>

⁵ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – PM Facebook Report](#)

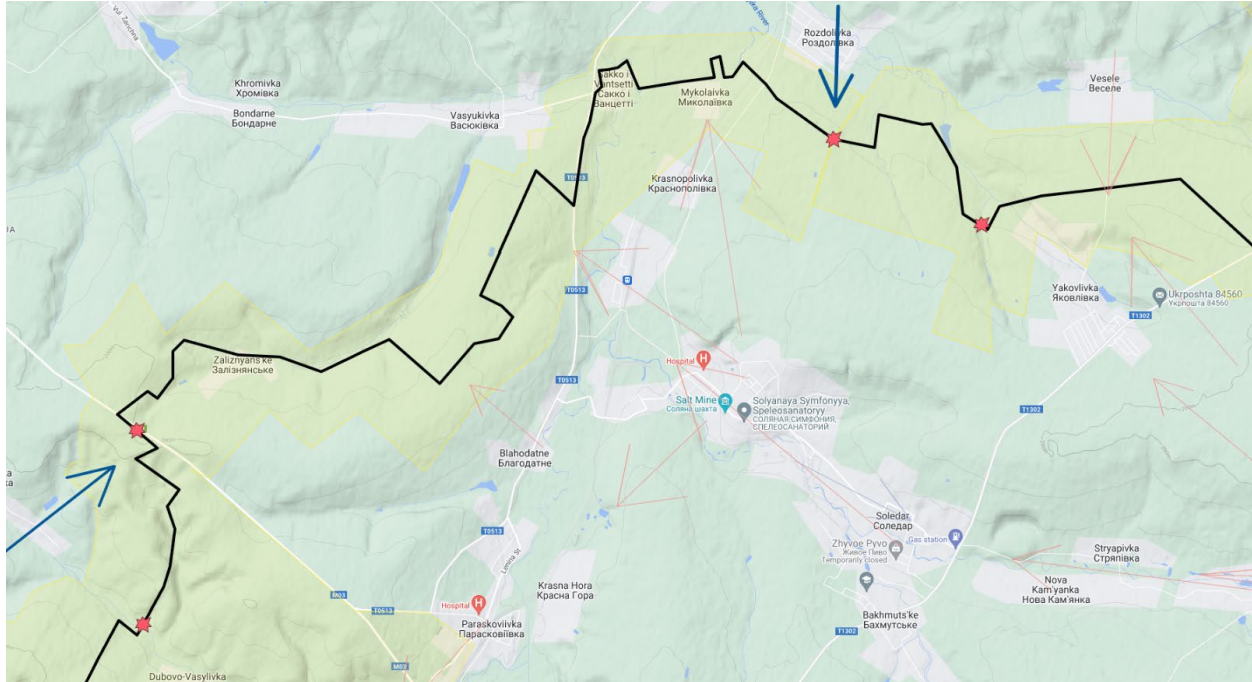
⁶ https://t.me/mod_russia/27937 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

NORTHEAST DONETSK




Russian Objective: Complete the capture of Bakhmut, set conditions to attack Kramatorsk, Slovyansk, and Siversk, and capture the entire region, set conditions for September 2023 elections

Ukrainian Objective: Defend Siversk and Bakhmut, collapse the Russian flanks while maximizing casualties, draw Russian reserves into the Bakhmut and Soledar operational areas, push into the Luhansk oblast, and minimize civilian casualties



Soledar Operational Area

Fighting continued from [Rozdolivka to Vesele](#).^{7 8} A geolocated and graphic video showed a Russian unit, struck by a kamikaze drone, engaged in a firefight with Ukrainian forces to the north. The video is not for children, and some may find it disturbing. You can watch the video by   [clicking here](#).⁹ Russian mercenary miblogger WarGonzo reported Ukrainian forces were attacking in the area of [Krasnoplivka](#), which this video supports.¹⁰ We have expanded the gray area further south based on the new intelligence. Additionally, Ukrainian forces are driving a

⁷ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

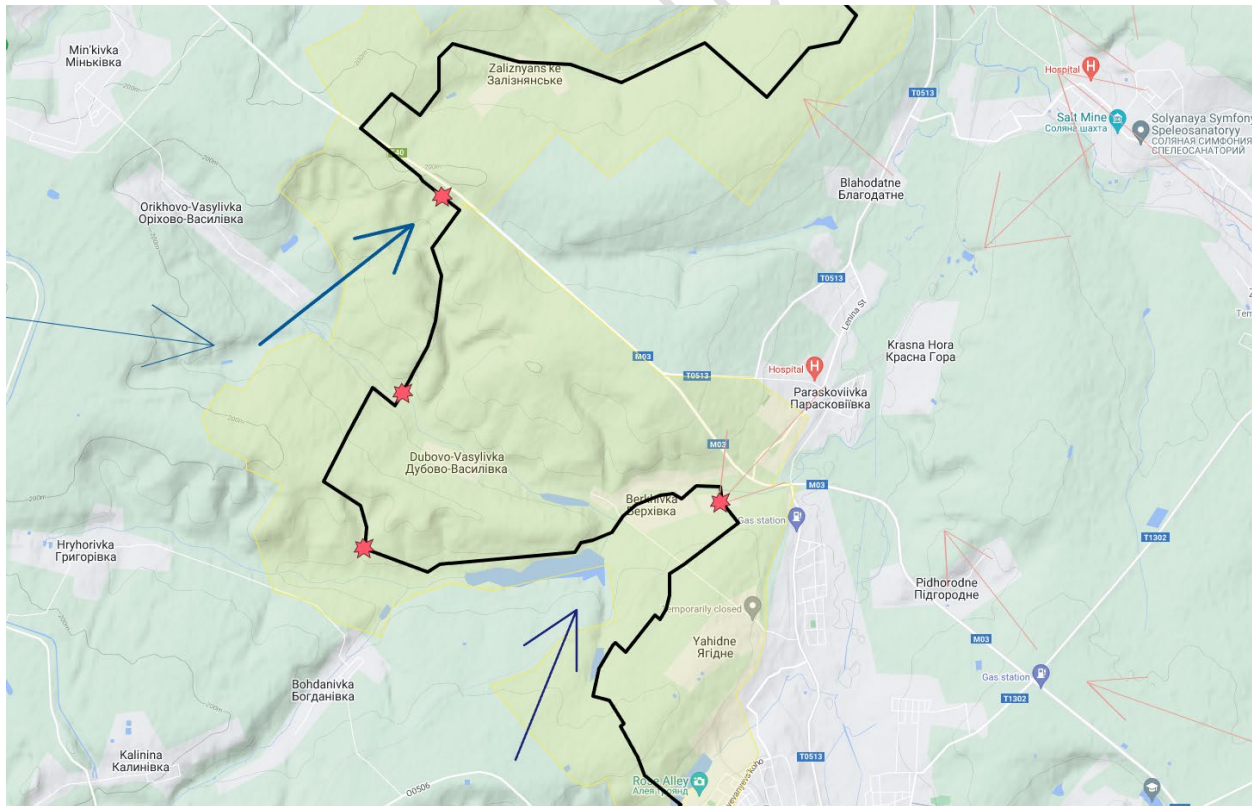
⁸ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – PM Facebook Report](#)

⁹ <https://twitter.com/NOELreports/status/1674368900945924096>

¹⁰ <https://t.me/wargonzo/13558>

deeper wedge between Krasnopoplivka and Yakovlivka. WarGonzo also reported a Ukrainian attack in the [Paraskoviivka](#) area, claiming that Ukrainian forces could not advance from the Bakhmut direction to the north.

ASSESSMENT: WarGonzo may have been repeating a panicked report from what they believe is a trusted source, or Ukrainian forces could have tried to advance in a [woodblock between Berkhivka and Yahidne](#). Russian forces are under increasing pressure on the northern flanks.



Bakhmut Operational Area

Ukrainian source DeepState reported that Ukrainian troops captured the 224-meter (735 feet) heights near [Orikhovo-Vasylivka](#), the highest point northeast of the settlement.¹¹ GSAFU and WarGonzo reported that Russian attempts to counterattack failed.^{12 13}

ASSESSMENT: Ukrainian forces control the high ground over the M-03 Highway and Dubovo-Vasylivka. If Ukrainian forces can consolidate their positions, it will be harder for Russian logistics and troop movements in Zaliznyanske and Dubovo-Vasylivka.

Mutual fighting continued in [Berkhivka](#).^{14 15 16} Ukrainian forces repulsed a Russian attack in the direction of [Bohdanivka](#) from Dubovo-Vasylivka.¹⁷

Fighting in the area of [Yahdine](#) continued, with Russian forces suffering catastrophic losses.¹⁸ A mobik with the

¹¹ <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16955>

¹² <https://t.me/wargonzo/13558>

¹³ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)


¹⁴ <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16955>

¹⁵ <https://t.me/rybar/49158>

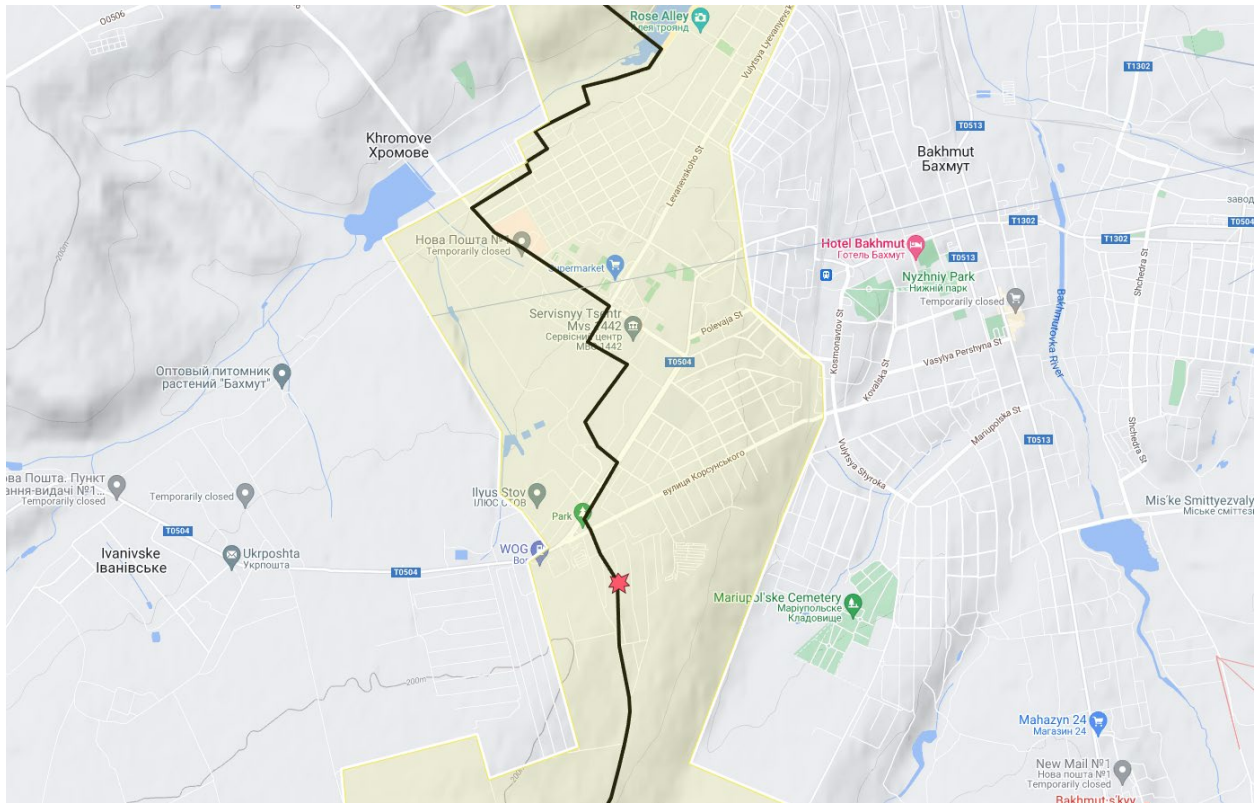
¹⁶ <https://t.me/wargonzo/13558>

¹⁷ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

¹⁸ <https://t.me/wargonzo/13558>

1486th Regiment from the Leningrad District made a video  [stating his unit is being used in "meat waves"](#) and suffering terrible losses in Yahdine.¹⁹ He claims that unit members were given an assault rifle and four magazines, a common complaint for months among other units of mobiks. "We are mobilized. We are thrown like cannon fodder," he says, adding that they have no military communications and are using consumer Baofeng radios they had to purchase themselves. When they can reach their commander, he claims they are told to stay in their positions until they are all dead or victorious. He also praised the work of Private Military Company Wagner, saying the situation was "easier" when they were present.

¹⁹ <https://twitter.com/i/status/1674078134692356097>



GSAFU reported that a Russian attack in the “vicinity of” [Bakhmut](#) was repulsed.²⁰

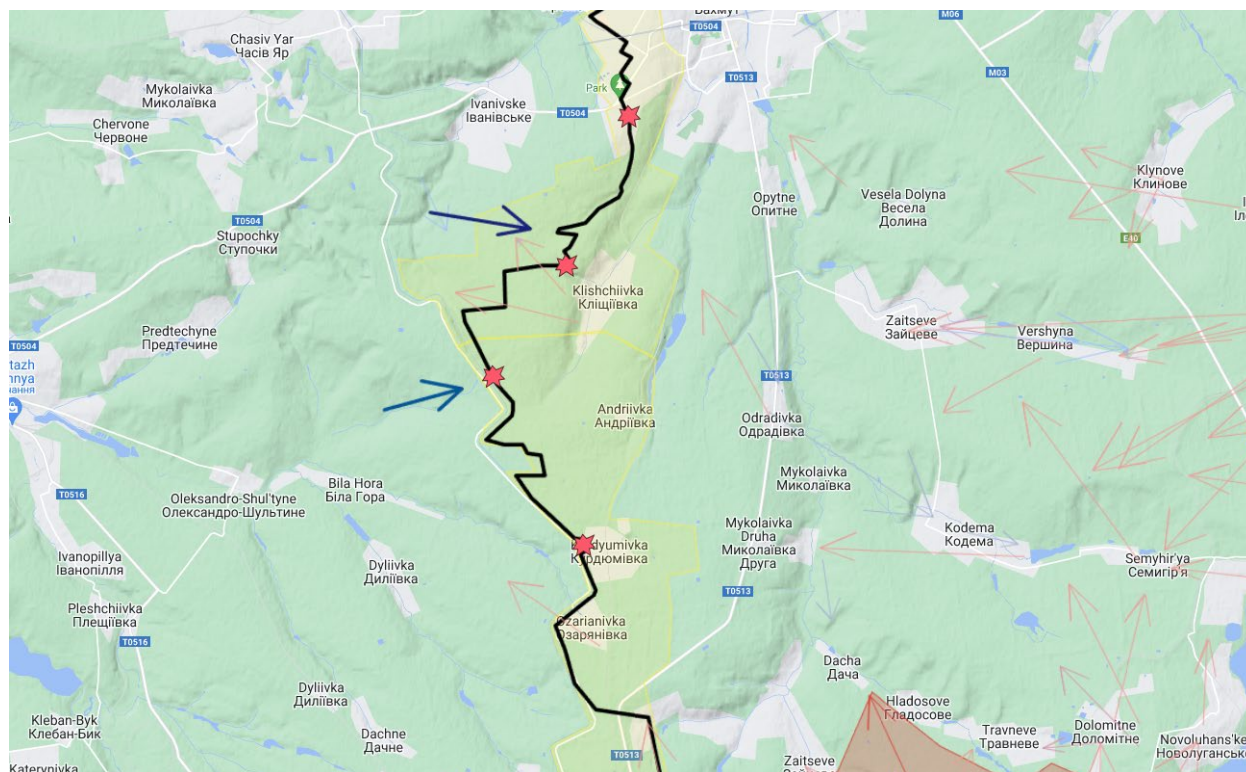
The Russian 1428th Regiment of the 144th Division, comprised of mobiks, also reported being used to hold defense lines despite a lack of training and equipment.²¹ “We spent a week in the second line near [Pokrovske](#) as reinforcements for the main units. A few days ago, we were informed that the regiment was being returned to the rear, but they were sent to Artemovsk [*Soviet-era name for*

²⁰ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – PM Facebook Report](#)

²¹ <https://t.me/cmeye/11476>

Bakhmut – Ed.] to replace one of the brigades. When we were transported along a road that was being shot through [Under Ukrainian fire control – Ed.] and settled in a private sector, previously explored by enemy artillery [Ukrainian artillery has the area zeroed in for suppressive fire – Ed.], our arrival was almost at the moment of [attack]. Against this background, including platoon and company officers, the fighters were ready to fulfill their duty, but they required adequate preparation and organization for the assault."

ASSESSMENT: This is the same assessment from yesterday. We believe it is highly likely that Ukrainian forces are operating in Bakhmut, but we will not update the map without supporting evidence. We maintain that Ukrainian forces control 2.5% of Bakhmut in three pockets.



Klishchiivka Operational Direction

Fighting continued near [Klishchiivka](#), with Russian sources reporting the situation was increasingly difficult due to continued Ukrainian advances.^{22 23 24} Social media reports of fighting within the settlement or that it had been liberated were inaccurate. Russian forces continue to try to recapture the dam blockhouse on the western edge of [Kurdyumivka](#) without success.^{25 26}

²² <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16955>

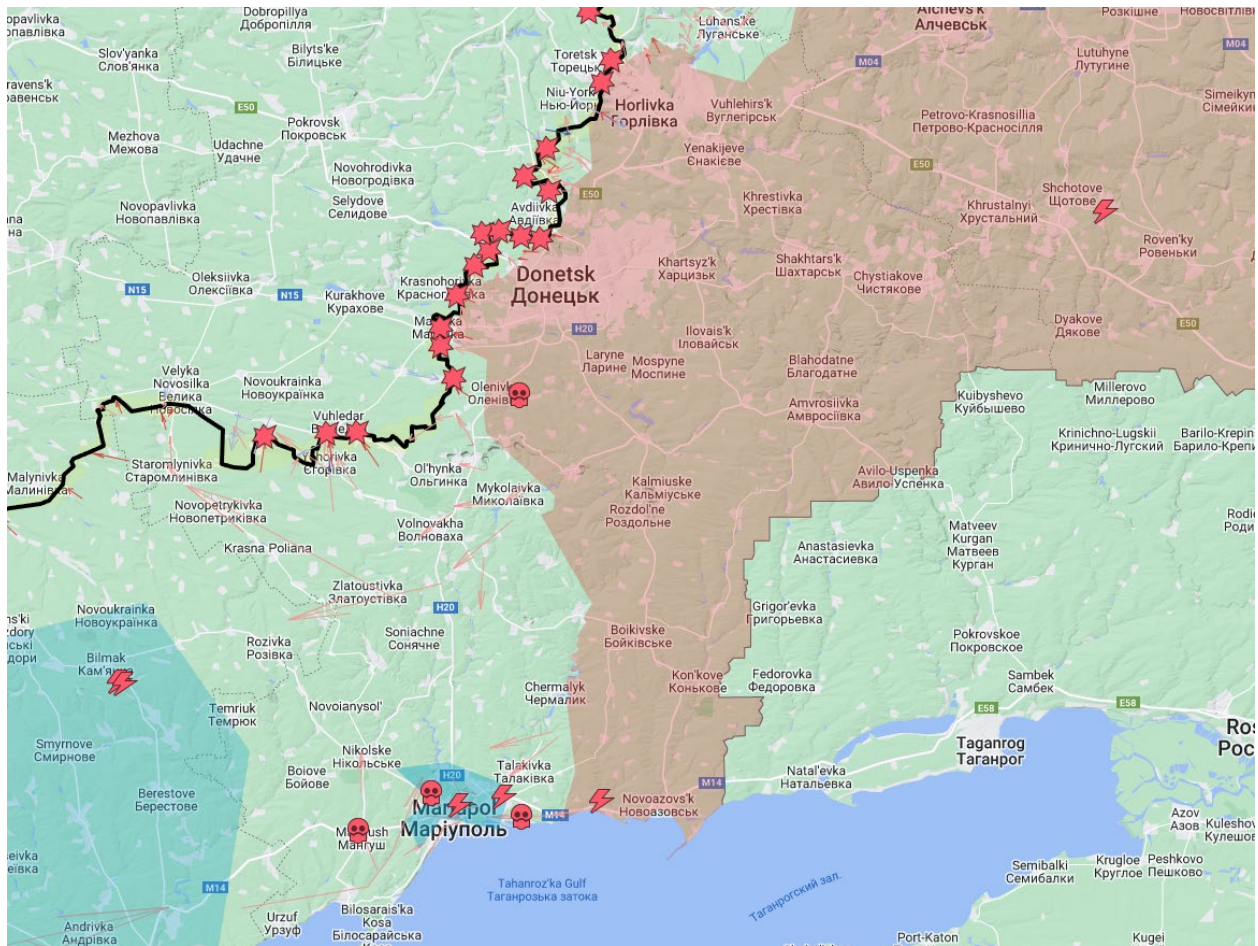
²³ <https://t.me/rybar/49158>

²⁴ <https://t.me/wargonzo/13558>

²⁵ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

²⁶ <https://t.me/wargonzo/13558>

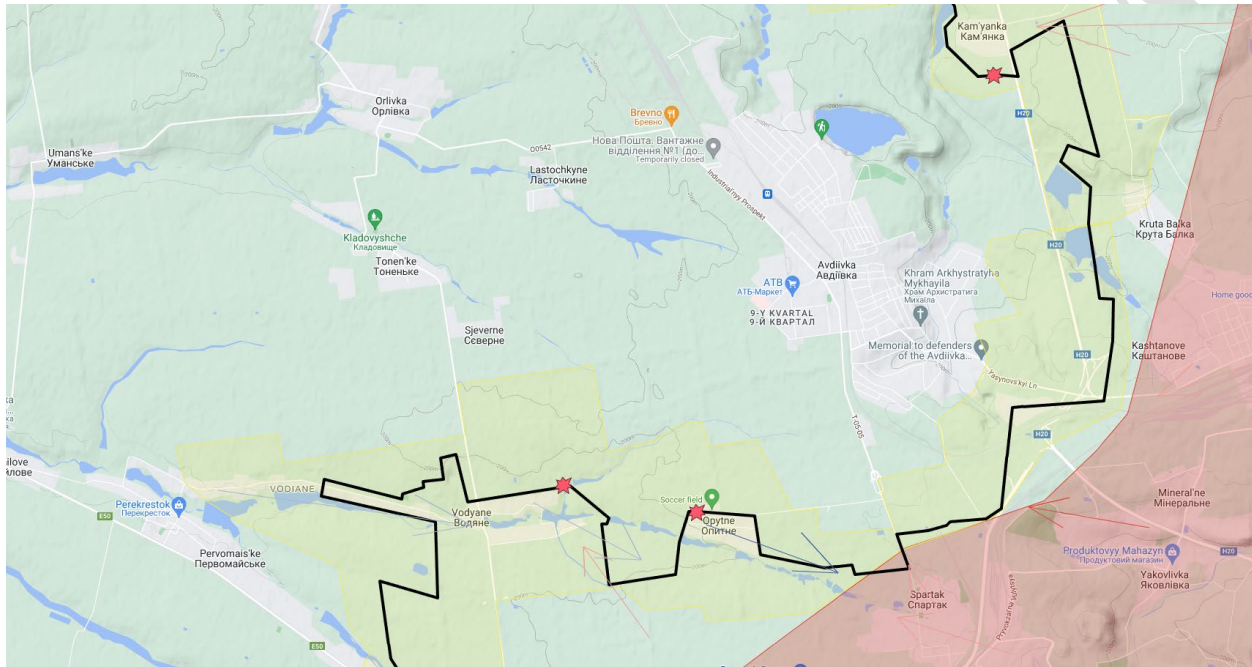
SOUTHWESTERN DONETSK



Russian Objective: Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, set conditions for September 2023 elections, capture the remainder of the oblast

Ukrainian Objective: Set conditions for larger offensive operations, find and exploit Russian defensive weaknesses,

destroy troop concentrations and command and control sites, interdict supplies, and disrupt logistics



Avdiivka Operational Area

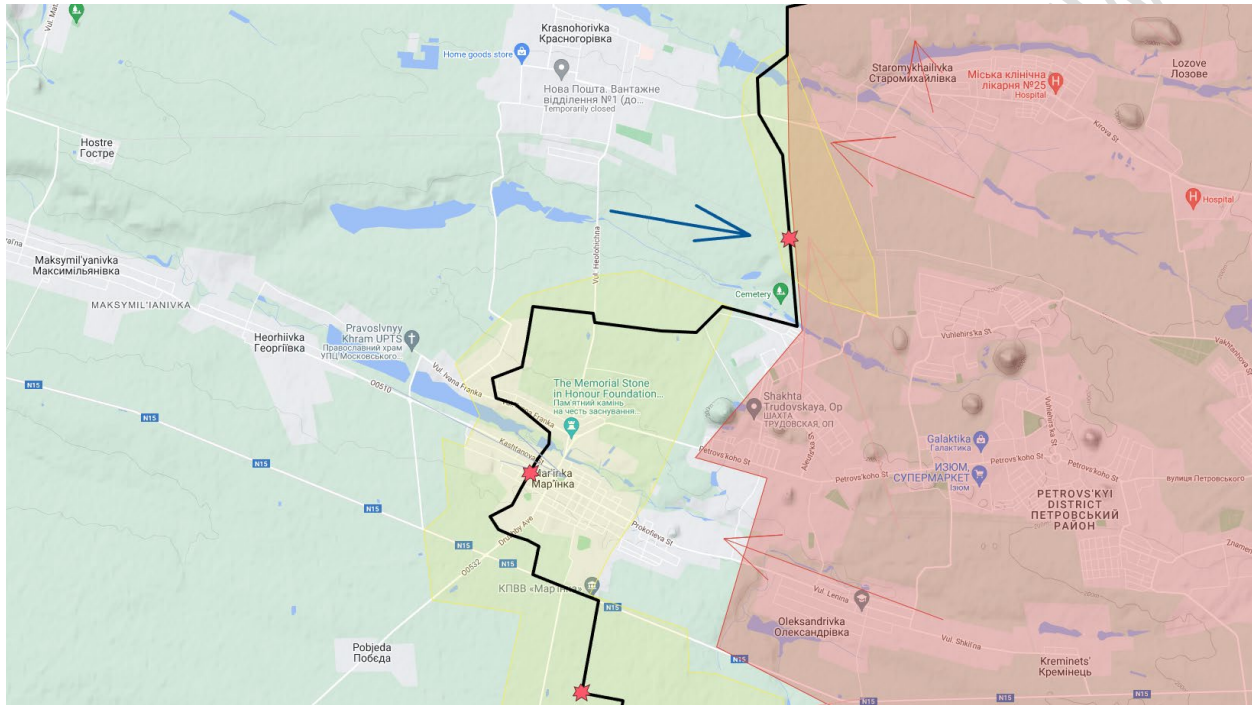
Ukrainian forces reportedly attempted to liberate [Vesele](#) on the southern approach of the Krasnohorivka Plateau but were unsuccessful. Russian forces, supported by the VKS, continued attacks between Kamyanka and Kruta Balka in the direction of [Avdiivka](#) without success.^{27 28 29}

²⁷ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

²⁸ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – PM Facebook Report](#)

²⁹ <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16955>

Fighting continued in the gray area between [Vodyane](#) and [Sjeverne](#), with no change in the situation.³⁰



Marinka Operational Area

Fighting continued in [Marinka](#), with Russian forces supported by the VKS, with no change in the situation.^{31 32 33} Russian forces also attempted to advance on [Pobjeda](#), but their attack was repulsed.^{34 35}

³⁰ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

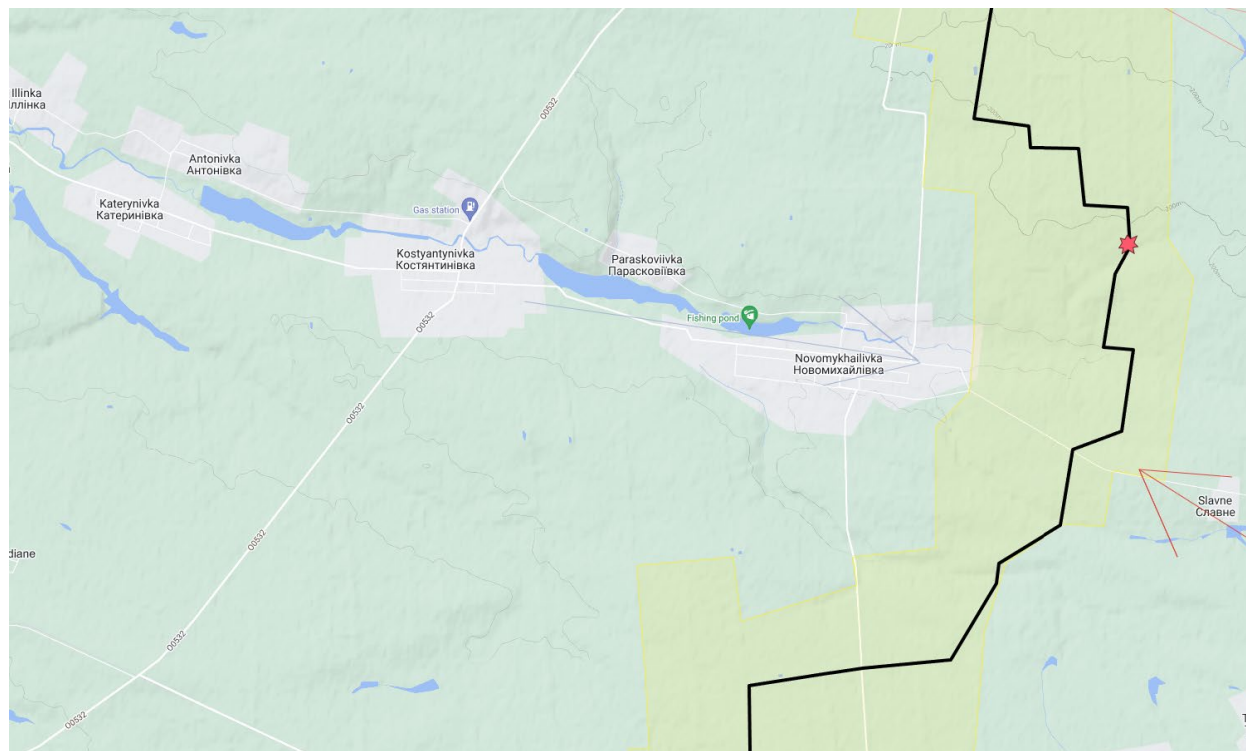
³¹ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

³² [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – PM Facebook Report](#)

³³ <https://t.me/wargonzo/13558>

³⁴ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – PM Facebook Report](#)

³⁵ <https://t.me/wargonzo/13558>

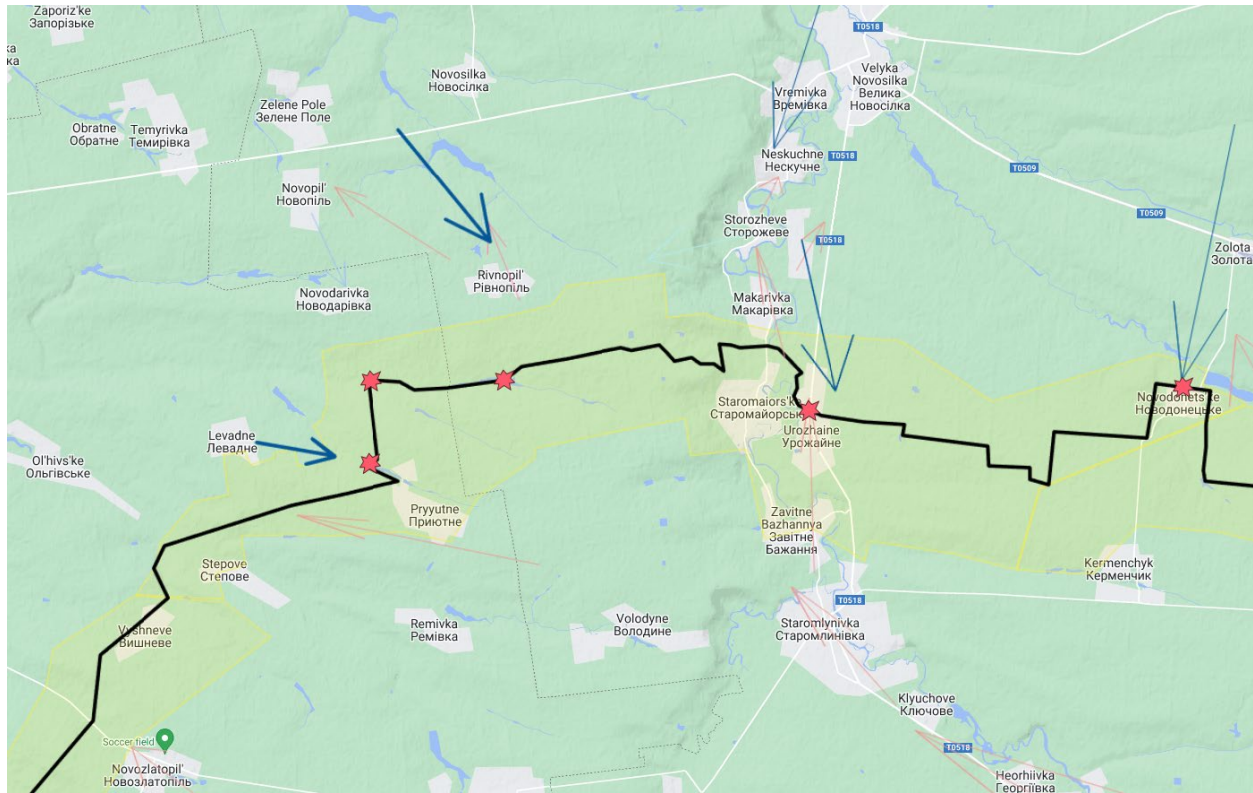


Vuhledar Operational Area

Russian forces made multiple attempts to advance on [Novomykhalivka](#), suffered losses, and retreated to their defensive positions.^{36 37}

³⁶ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

³⁷ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – PM Facebook Report](#)




Lyubymivka-Staromlynivka Operational Direction

Russian mercenary milblogger Rybar reported that Russian troops were forced to retreat further south of [Rivnopil](#) to their reserve defensive lines. We had previously assessed that the open terrain south of the village would be extremely challenging to defend.³⁸ RMOD also reported Ukrainian forces continued attacks on [Staromaiorske](#), with Wargonzo reporting a Russian counteroffensive in the direction of Rivnopil from Staromaiorske, failed.³⁹ ⁴⁰ Ukrainian forces continued their offensive operations in the

³⁸ <https://t.me/rybar/49158>


³⁹ https://t.me/mod_russia/27937 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

⁴⁰ <https://t.me/wargonzo/13558>

direction of [Pryyutne](#) and made marginal gains.⁴¹ A Russian Storm-Z unit  [recorded an appeal to be withdrawn](#).⁴² Their spokesperson claimed that of the company of 150, only the group in the video, under 30 people, remain alive. They claim they have no leadership support, heavy weapons, water, or rations, and requests for suppressive fire from artillery and close air support go unanswered, and they are in a “meatgrinder.” They further claim that the dead have been left behind and the wounded aren’t being evacuated.

Editor’s Note: *We were not actively seeking these appeals. Russian troops and their families published over half-a-dozen appeal videos and posts today. The fallout of the failed Prigozhin Insurrection may have damaged morale among some forces, causing a rash of appeal videos to be published.*

Occupied Donetsk

In the Kyiviskyi District of occupied Donetsk, a  [Russian base placed 500 meters from a hospital](#) in a residential neighborhood was hit by a precision NATO-provided JDAM-

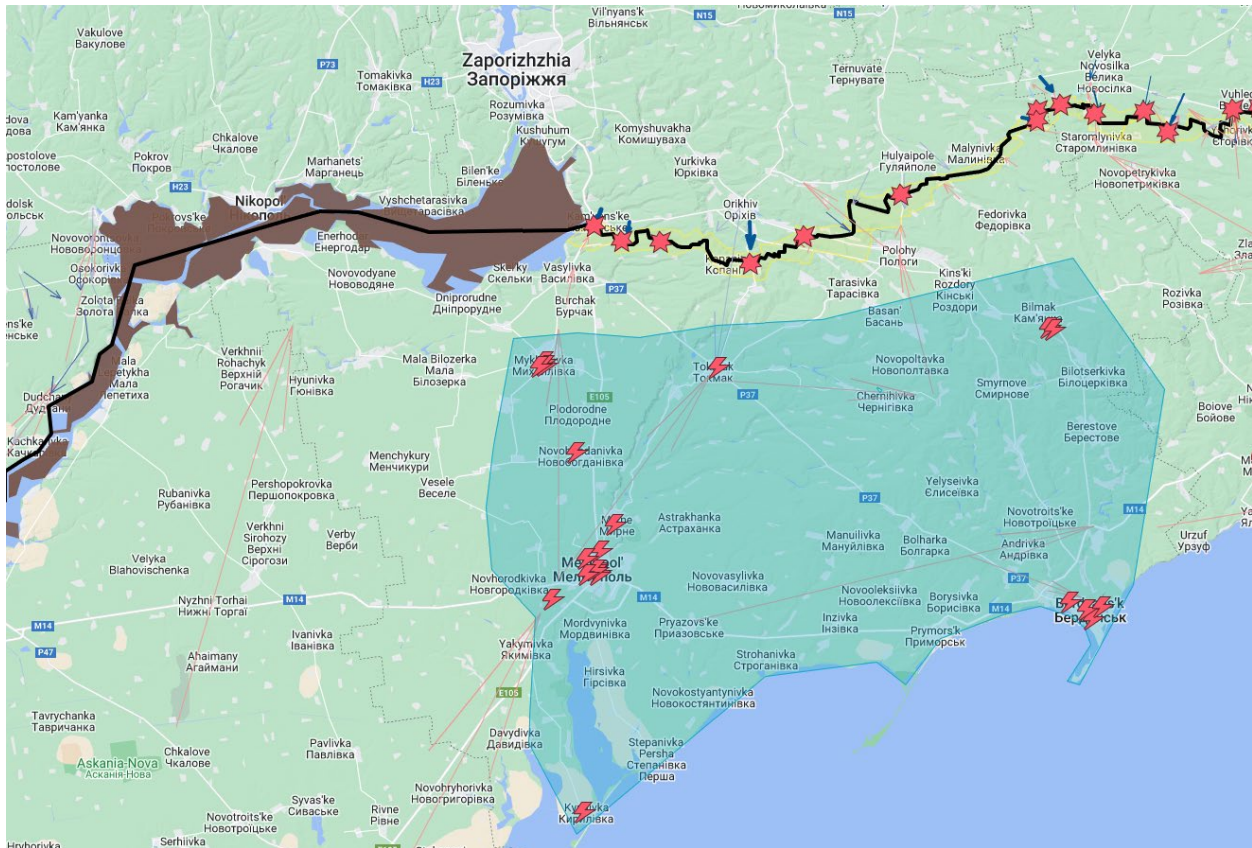
⁴¹ <https://t.me/wargonzo/13558>

⁴² <https://t.me/The3rdForceUA/18026>

ER bomb launched by the Ukrainian Airforce.⁴³ One-quarter of the building was completely destroyed, with Russian sources claiming 31 soldiers were killed.

⁴³ https://twitter.com/walter_report/status/1674214917463846915

ZAPORIZHIA

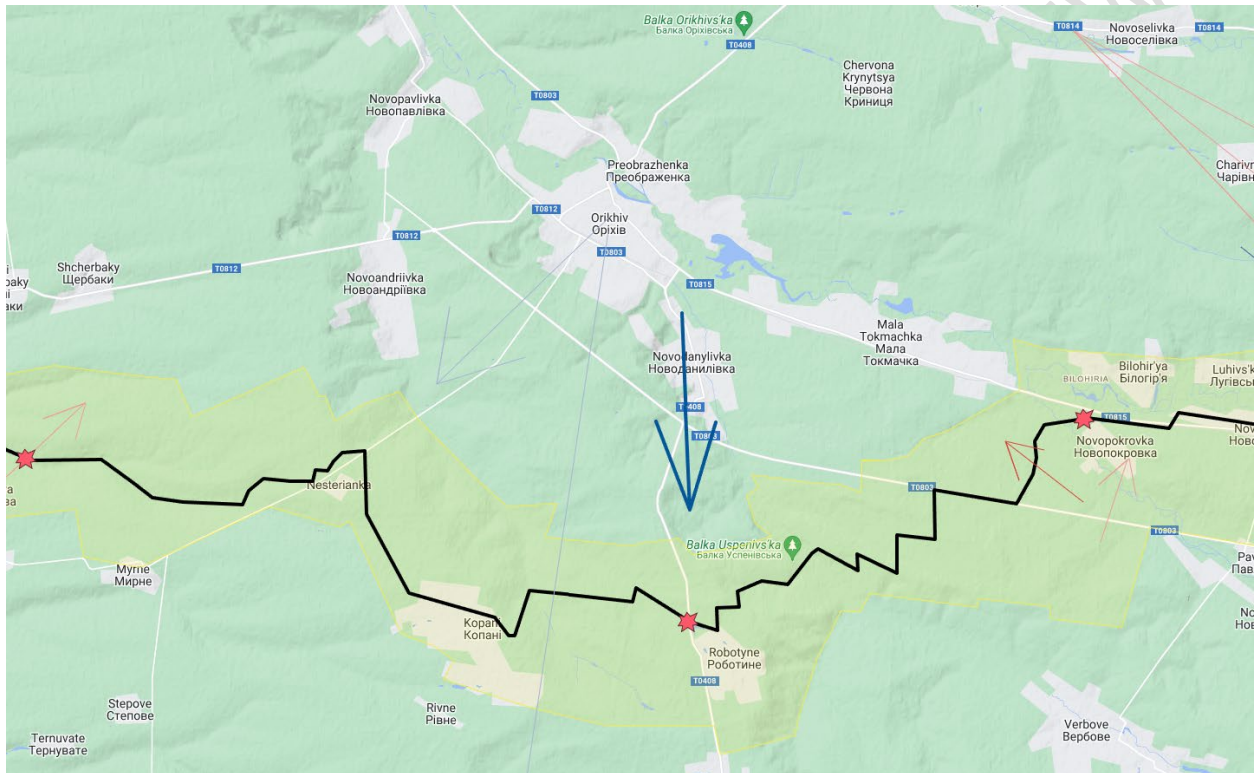


Russian Objective: Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, set conditions for September 2023 elections, capture the remainder of the oblast, and terrorize Ukrainian civilians with continued attacks

Ukrainian Objective: Exploit weaknesses on the line of conflict, break Russian defensive lines, liberate Russian-occupied areas, and protect civilians

Free Zaporizhia



Russian forces carried out 63 fire missions targeting nine settlements along the line of conflict in Zaporizhia.⁴⁴





Orikhiv Operational Area

Fighting continued on the northern outskirts of [Robotyne](#), with multiple Russian sources and propagandists confirming that Ukrainian forces had advanced to the

⁴⁴ https://t.me/zoda_gov_ua/19944

northern edge of the settlement.^{45 46 47} A geolocated video showed that Ukrainian forces had killed at least a squad of Russian troops, advancing over 1,000 meters deeper from the T-803 Highway south of Mala Tokmachka. The video is graphic and NSFW; some may find the content disturbing. You can watch the video by   [clicking here](#).

In a sign of growing problems for Russian forces, Russian troops are operating  [T-54](#) and  [T-55 tanks](#) along the first echelon of their defense near Ukrainian-liberated Pyatykhatky.^{48 49}

ASSESSMENT: For now, it appears the tanks are being used as static artillery placements for indirect fire, but last year when T-62 tanks were deployed for the same mission, they ended up being pressed into service. While any tank is better than no tank, and high explosive shells kill soldiers, tanks were not built or designed to be used as makeshift self-propelled artillery (SPG). The barrel of the tank was not designed and built with easy replacement as a consideration. Another issue is that the tank's main gun has a significantly shorter range than an artillery piece. This

⁴⁵ <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16955>

⁴⁶ <https://t.me/rybar/49158>

⁴⁷ <https://t.me/wargonzo/13558>

⁴⁸ <https://twitter.com/Osinttechnical/status/1674556888170614785>

⁴⁹ <https://twitter.com/NOELreports/status/1674493638162673668>

requires a firing position closer to the front, increasing exposure to counterbattery fire. The video of the T-55 tank being operated showed a lone person responsible for loading, communications, targeting, and operating unbuttoned [*with the hatch open – Ed.*], making the tank extremely vulnerable to drone strikes. It also indicates there are growing staffing issues on the defensive lines.

The city of Zaporizhia was attacked by 13 Shahed-136 kamikaze drones and four S-300 anti-aircraft missiles used for ground attack.^{50 51 52} Air defense intercepted ten UAVs, with Ukrainian officials reporting that military and infrastructure facilities were hit. There was no information on damage or casualties.

Occupied Zaporizhia

Ukrainian officials reported that 1,337 fire missions were carried out on Russian positions, with several Russian sources reporting that Ukrainian artillery strikes were unrelenting.^{53 54}


⁵⁰ <https://t.me/zaborzp/47847>



⁵¹ https://t.me/our_odessa/49375

⁵² <https://t.me/mykolaivskaODA/5497>

⁵³ <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/103456>

⁵⁴ <https://t.me/wargonzo/13568>

In Polohy, the maintenance hall at the  [railroad depot was destroyed](#) by a Ukrainian attack, likely rockets fired by HIMARS.⁵⁵

At least ten explosions were reported in Berdyansk, with Russian forces claiming air defense successfully shot down Storm Shadow cruise missiles, while  [video from the city and local reports](#) indicates the strikes near the airport were at least partially successful.⁵⁶ In breaking news, as we were finishing the report, it does appear  [one Storm Shadow missile was intercepted](#).⁵⁷

Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant

There weren't any significant updates.

⁵⁵ https://twitter.com/hochu_dodomu/status/1674255631778234368

⁵⁶ <https://t.me/itsdonetsk/84314>

⁵⁷ <https://twitter.com/SmartUACat/status/1674706859448492032>

BLACK SEA, CRIMEA, MYKOLAIV, AND ODESA REGION

Black Sea

Operational Command South (OKS) reported ten Black Sea Fleet vessels were on patrol, with one frigate capable of launching eight Kalibr cruise missiles.⁵⁸

Occupied Crimea

M.T. Anderson shared satellite pictures showing the Russian Navy set up a new base at Feodosia, where one landing ship and two minesweepers are currently stationed.⁵⁹

ASSESSMENT: Feodosia is in southeastern Crimea, indicating that the Russian Navy is concerned about Storm Shadow and other long-range weapon strikes, creating an alternative naval base. Unlike Sevastopol, this location is not as ideal for military operations in the central Black Sea.

Residents in occupied Henichesk are reporting an increase in Russian military traffic at the crossing at the Arabat

⁵⁸ https://t.me/Nazars_look/15062

⁵⁹ <https://t.me/Crimeanwind/35213>

Spit.⁶⁰ "For the second day in a row, convoys are coming: heavy vehicles, both awnings and open, without camouflage. They carry ammunition. Today, more than 20 cars have passed since noon, moving in mini-columns of 3-5 units, and they continue to go." The route, which can't support large amounts of traffic, is being used to bypass the damaged Chongar Bridge.

Odesa

The salinity of the Black Sea off the coast of Odesa has returned to normal, while bacteria levels remain elevated.⁶¹

Ukrainian Military Commissar of the Odesa Oblast, Yevhen Borisov, was dismissed from his role as the head of the Regional Territorial Center for Staffing and Social Support and is under criminal investigation.⁶² ⁶³ The prosecutor's office is investigating Borisov's finances after journalists discovered that since February 24, 2022, he had acquired property and other assets of almost \$6 million, including a villa in Spain.

⁶⁰ <https://t.me/brdnews/13191>

⁶¹ https://t.me/our_odessa/49309

⁶² https://t.me/our_odessa/49311

⁶³ https://t.me/our_odessa/49339


WESTERN AND CENTRAL UKRAINE

Russian Objective: Launch terror attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure to break morale

Ukrainian Objective: Deter attacks, and protect civilian lives

Free Kherson

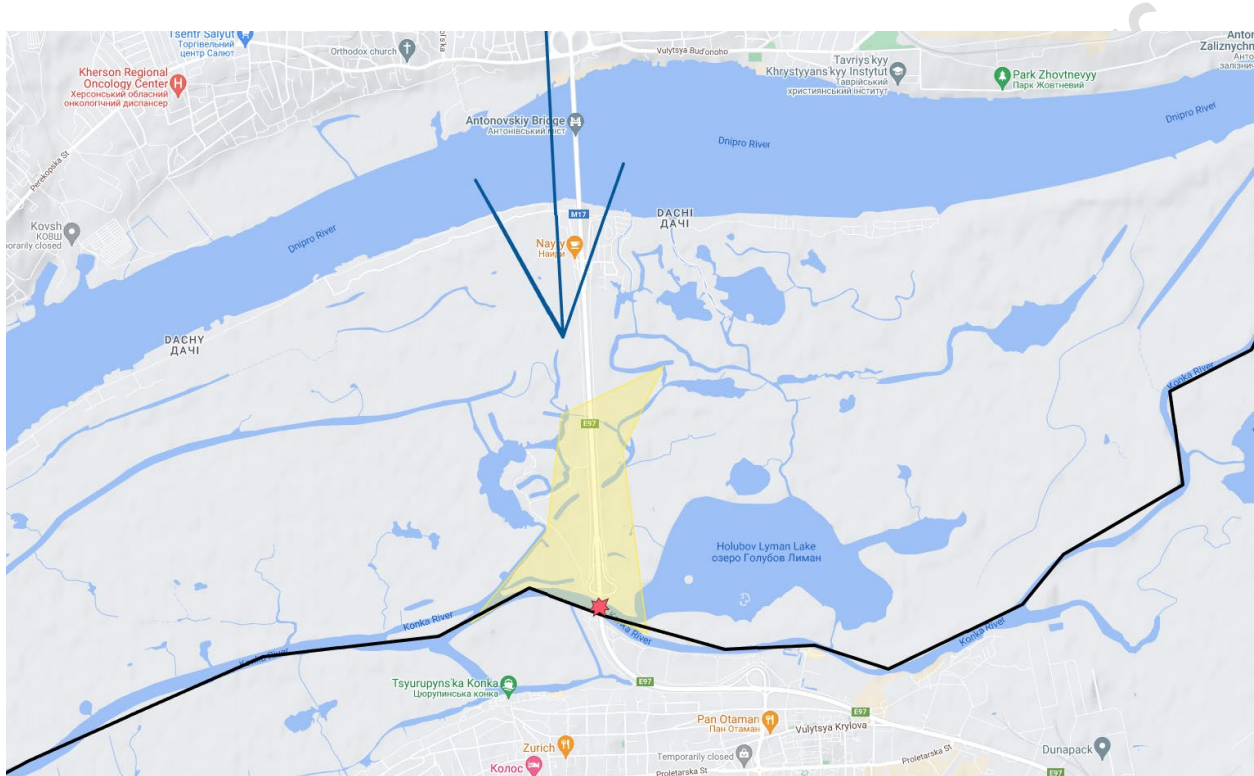
Kherson Oblast Administrative and Military Governor (OVA), Alexander Prokudin, reported that Russian forces carried out 72 fire missions, firing 434 artillery rounds, mortars, Grad rockets fired by multiple rocket launch systems (MLRS), and drone-delivered IEDs.⁶⁴ Eight munitions hit the city of Kherson.

Russian artillery  [struck a Point of Invincibility](#) used to distribute post-flooding humanitarian aid, causing heavy damage, killing two and wounding two more.⁶⁵ Grad

⁶⁴ <https://t.me/olexandrprokudin/814>

⁶⁵ https://t.me/kherson_non_fake/8690

rockets fired by MLRS struck Bilozerka, killing one person and causing a closed-head brain injury to another.⁶⁶



Fighting continued south of [Dachi](#) on the approach to [Oleskhy](#), with no change in the situation.⁶⁷

Occupied Kherson

Whole units of Russian troops from the Kherson direction, located along the North Crimean Canal, are being

⁶⁶ https://t.me/kherson_non_fake/8681

⁶⁷ https://t.me/dva_majors/19822

withdrawn from occupied Crimea after becoming combat destroyed, according to the head of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people, Refat Chubarov.⁶⁸ "It is difficult for me to talk about the nature of the diseases or injuries that Russian servicemen receive. But the fact that almost all the moderately or seriously wounded are evacuated to the Crimea and that not only local military hospitals but also civilian hospitals are filled," he said, adding that local civilians can't get elective treatment and access to essential medications are restricted.

NORTHERN AND NORTHEASTERN UKRAINE

Russian Objective: Lock Ukrainian military resources into place and launch terror attacks on civilians in an attempt to break morale

Ukrainian Objective: Complete the liberation of the Kharkiv oblast, maintain the integrity of the international border, deter attacks, and protect civilian lives

There was no significant activity.

⁶⁸ <https://t.me/Crimeanwind/35222>

THEATERWIDE

Operational Command South (OKS) spokesperson Captain Natalya Humenyuk said there are growing signs that Russia is preparing for another round of widescale missile strikes.⁶⁹ "The enemy is intensifying unmanned reconnaissance along the front line, trying to penetrate deeper into the rear regions," Humenyuk said. "We have seen weak activity for the past two days [*fewer missile and drone attacks – Ed.*]. This means that the enemy has reformatted its efforts in a certain way, studied the possibilities and tactics, which would be as effective as possible."

Ukraine is modifying the laws for men who have relatives with disabilities.⁷⁰ Previously, if a person had a spouse, parents, or their spouse's parents had moderate to severe disabilities, they were exempt from mobilization. The new law will exempt persons if the disabled family member does "not have other able-bodied persons obliged by law to support them."

⁶⁹ https://t.me/our_odessa/49349

⁷⁰ https://t.me/zinkevich_igor/6764

The State Bureau of Investigation (DBR) of Ukraine has opened a criminal investigation into the beating of a serviceman in the Lviv Oblast by an officer. "The DBR hotline received a message from the sister of a soldier that her brother was beaten by an officer. Doctors diagnosed damage to the soldier's internal organs."⁷¹

The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) has arrested Verkhovna Rada Deputy Serhii Alekseev for soliciting and accepting a bribe of \$50,000. Deputy Alekseev promised to "exonerate" a foreigner under investigation by the SBU and remove an extradition order.⁷² Investigators tracked the scheme through the transaction, arresting the politician, who is charged with "fraud committed on a particularly large scale."

ASSESSMENT: As part of its requirements to become a member of the European Union, Ukraine must reform its laws and root out corruption. The nation has aggressively pursued crime within governmental bodies as part of this effort.

⁷¹ [Vartal - Ukraine](#)

⁷² <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/103475>

The German government announced another military aid package for Ukraine, which includes one TRML-4D radar, three BIBER armored bridge layers, a mobile protected demining system, two infantry mobility vehicles, and 16 Mercedes-Benz Zetros trucks.⁷³

British Minister of Defense Ben Wallace called for NATO to simplify the membership procedure for Ukraine to speed up its accession.⁷⁴

The table for equipment losses has been updated using data through June 25, 2023, and includes the losses suffered during the insurrection in Russia on June 23 and 24.

⁷³ <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/103447>

⁷⁴ <https://t.me/itsdonetsk/84238>

RUSSIA VS. UKRAINE HEAVY EQUIPMENT LOSSES

Russian and Ukrainian visually confirmed heavy equipment losses sourced from the [Oryx Database](#) from February 24, 2022, to June 25, 2023. 10,819 Russian (including [Chef's Rebellion](#)) vs. 3,737 Ukrainian

Equipment	Russian Losses	Ukrainian Losses	Ratio	Change
Main Battle Tanks	1923	221	8.70:1	↓
Medium Duty Tanks	138	330	0.42:1	—
Armored fighting Vehicles	892	291	3.07:1	↓
Infantry Fighting Vehicles	2444	584	4.18:1	↓
Armored Personnel Carriers	317	279	1.14:1	—
MRAPs	43	100	0.43:1	↓
Infantry Mobility Vehicles	192	328	0.59:1	—
Command and Communications Vehicles	244	15	16.27:1	↓
Engineering Vehicles	313	69	4.54:1	↓
Towed Artillery	245	129	1.90:1	↑
Self-Propelled Howitzers/Mortars	428	171	2.50:1	—
MLRS	215	46	4.67:1	↑
SAMs	119	113	1.05:1	↑
Mobile Radars	35	64	0.55:1	↑
EW/ECW	41	4	10.25:1	↓
Winged Aircraft	84	68	1.24:1	↑
Helicopters	103	31	3.32:1	↑
Naval Vessels	12	26	0.46:1	—


Notes on Sourcing Information


Malcontent News uses a wide range of sources to create our daily Situation Report, the foundation for the Russian-Ukraine War Report Podcast. There are some notable sources that we frequently use and others that we don't. The most common sources currently, or in the past, we have used for the Theater of War section of the Situation Report include the following.


⚠️ **Russian Ministry of Defense Morning Report:** We use the RMOD Morning Report to identify combat reports, shelling locations, and territorial control change claims. We do not consider claims of Ukrainian troops killed, equipment destroyed, or military resources destroyed valid without videos and pictures that can be confirmed by date, time, weather, and geolocation, or third-party confirmation from recognized Western news outlets or trusted Ukrainian sources.


⚠️ **Rybar:** We consider Rybar a mercenary organization because they are staffed by former Russian Ministry of Defense public relations officers who actively provide target information to the Russian military. Their operational budget is \$20,000 a month, while they claim they receive no government funding. We use their reports and maps to identify combat reports, territorial control change claims, and troop movement reports. We do not use claims of Ukrainian troops killed, equipment destroyed, or military resources destroyed because of a documented and historical pattern of producing fabrications. They frequently engage in blatant misinformation and disinformation and consistently deny all Russian war crimes.


⚠️ **War Gonzo:** We consider War Gonzo a mercenary organization because their employees have recorded themselves actively engaging in direct combat, specifically in Marinka. Recently, War Gonzo admitted in their daily report to leveraging the information from the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. They intermix combat reports with their own on a 24-hour delay. We use their reports for **unique claims** about combat, territorial control change claims, and troop movement reports. Although the War Gonzo daily reports are moderately accurate, they occasionally engage in blatant disinformation and misinformation.

 **Readovka:** We consider Readovka to be a Kremlin-aligned propagandist organization. Their daily reports are a word-for-word repeat of the RMOD Morning Report and provide no value to our analysis. They occasionally provide credible information through videos and pictures that can be confirmed by date, time, weather, and geolocation.

 **Igor "Girkin" Strelkov:** We consider Strelkov to be a convicted war criminal who is highly informed, specifically about the situation in the Donbas. We use his combat reports, territorial control change claims, and troop movement information. In the Donbas, we consider his reports to be highly accurate. The fidelity of information he provides in Zaporizhia, Kherson, and Kharkiv appears to come from other social media channels with a history of spreading misinformation and is of lower quality. Reports he shares outside of the Donbas provided by Russian Federation 1st Army Corps units have greater fidelity.

 **Andrei Morozov:** Morozov is a pro-Russian milblogger and a radio communications and logistics specialist with the Russian 2nd Army Corps. We consider him a provider of high-quality information, especially within his fields of specialty. In the fall of 2022, Morozov was detained by OMON for up to three weeks due to his content and has had his online material censored by the Kremlin several times over the last 11 months.

 **Private Military Company Wagner Group Social Media:** We consider reports from PMC Wagner of Russian victories as overstating gains and reports of Russian failures, particularly among the Russian Ministry of Defense and the 1st and 2nd Army Corps of the Russian Army, as overstating problems. We do not consider claims of territorial control changes from Wagner as authentic without pictures, videos, or **unique** Russian State Media reports that include a video that can be geolocated.

 **Luhansk People's Republic Joint Center for Control and Coordination:** We only use their reports about large-scale artillery and HIMARS strikes in the occupied territories.

⊖ **Leonid Pasechnik:** We do not use any combat, territorial control changes, troop movements, casualty claims, or equipment destroyed claims from the self-declared leader of the so-called Luhansk People's Republic.

⚠ **Donetsk People's Republic People's Militia:** We only use their reports for videos and pictures that can be confirmed by date, time, weather, and geolocation.

⊖ **Donetsk People's Republic Territorial Defense:** We do not use combat, territorial control changes, troop movements, casualty claims, or equipment destroyed claims from their public relations and social media channels. They have repeatedly engaged in misinformation and disinformation.

⊖ **Denis Pushilin:** We do not use any combat, territorial control changes, troop movements, casualty claims, or equipment destroyed claims from the self-declared leader of the so-called Donetsk People's Republic.

⚠ **Ramzan Kadyrov:** The contribution and impact of Chechen forces in Ukraine have become minimal, and Akhmat no longer produces large volumes of video content that can be geolocated. We continue to monitor his channels.

✅ **General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine:** We consider the morning and evening reports, specifically combat reports, territorial control changes, and troop movements, from GSAFU to be high quality. The Ukrainian General Staff uses clever wording to create plausible deniability of battlefield failures. Combat reports start with "repelled attacks of the occupant forces in the vicinities of," which negates reporting fighting in areas where territory was lost. Instead of misinformation or disinformation, GSAFU engages in omission. Reports about problems within the Russian military are given more weight if the SBU or GUR reinforces them or if there is added confirmation in the Russian milblogger information space.

✅ **DeepState:** We use the Daily Report from DeepState for combat reports and territorial control changes. They frequently support their claims with geolocated, time, date, and weather-confirmed pictures and videos, making them a high-quality Ukrainian-based source. They occasionally overstate Russian territorial control claims but never present disinformation or

misinformation. Combined with the reports from GSAFU, gaps in combat reports are filled. We support DeepState through their Patreon at \$10 a month.

✔ **Institute for the Study of War:** We occasionally leverage the map and territorial control change information produced by the ISW when there is conflicting data. Their presentation of Russian-assessed, Ukrainian-assessed, and Russian-claimed information is helpful when our analysts have to make a judgment call due to the absence of verifiable information. We do not copy from their map but take their territorial control information as an additional data point when assessing our own changes.

⚠ **Ivan Fedorov:** We use information about insurgent activity and HIMARS strikes in Zaporizhia provided by Fedorov, the exiled mayor of Melitiopol.

✔ **Vitaly Kim:** When there are reports of potential air raids in Ukraine, we monitor Kim, the Mykolaiv Oblast Administrative and Military Governor, for real-time reports. Kim is consistently one of the first, if not the first, Ukrainian government official to confirm kamikaze drones or missiles have been launched toward Ukraine.

⊖ **Oleksiy Arestovych:** We no longer use the information provided by Arestovych after being fired from his role as the Chief Advisor to the President of Ukraine. Before being terminated, Arestovych had developed a reputation for providing exaggerated, unverified, and false claims for Ukrainian successes and failures.