



MALCONTENT NEWS RUSSIA-UKRAINE SITUATION REPORT

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Malcontent News

Russia-Ukraine War SITREP

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SUMMARY – DAY 493

It has been 3,413 days since Russia occupied the Crimea Peninsula on January 27, 2014, and one year and 128 days since Russia expanded its war against Ukraine.

The Independence Day holiday for the United States is July 4. Today's report is condensed. There will be no report on July 3 and a condensed bullet report on July 4.

- Ukrainian forces have made significant tactical gains near Klishchiivka
- Russian milbloggers call out the Russian Ministry of Defense for a false report that Ukrainian forces were pushed out from the left (east) bank of the Dnipro River at Dachi
- PMC Wagner announces that they are spending the process of recruit for July while recruiting centers remain open

DAILY ASSESSMENT

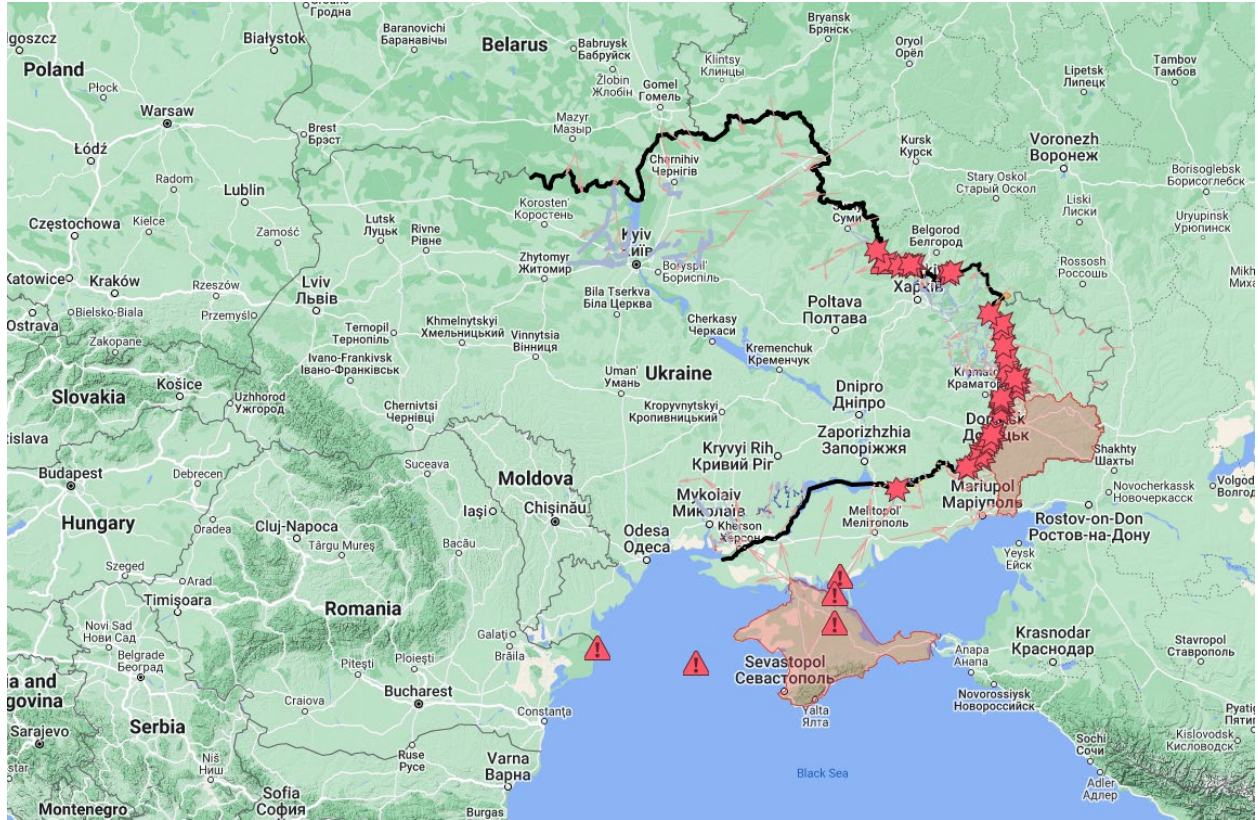
We assess the following:

1. Evidence shows that Russian forces are under tremendous pressure to hold their defense lines with unprepared and poorly trained troops with non-military footwear, bolt action, rifles, 1960s tanks, and armored personnel carriers.
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, and repairs are behind schedule.
4. The Kremlin is expanding its work to completely dismantle Private Military Company Wagner, including Concord Holdings, with no signs of PMC Wagner mercenaries moving to Belarus.
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.
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.](#)

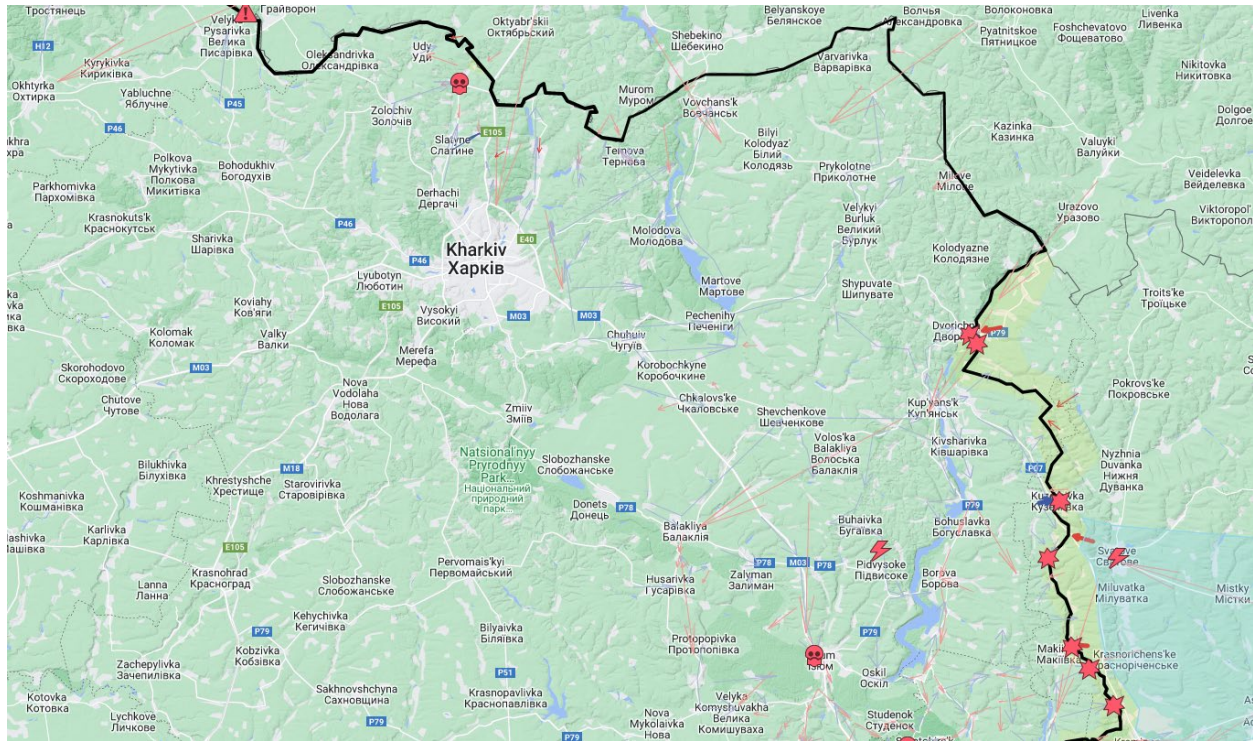
TODAY'S WAR IN UKRAINE MAP



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](#)

KHARKIV



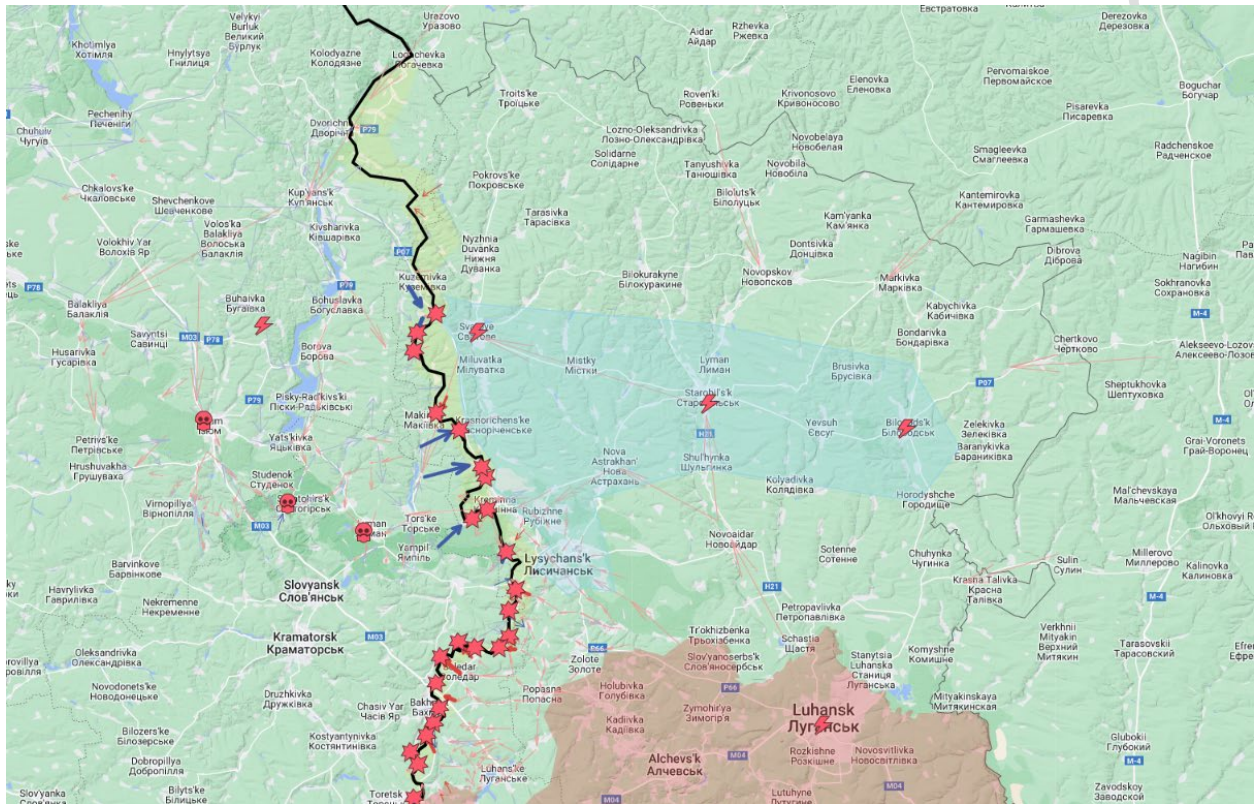
Russian Objective: Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, and terrorize Ukrainian civilians near the line of conflict

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

There wasn't any significant activity.

DONBAS REGION

LUHANSK



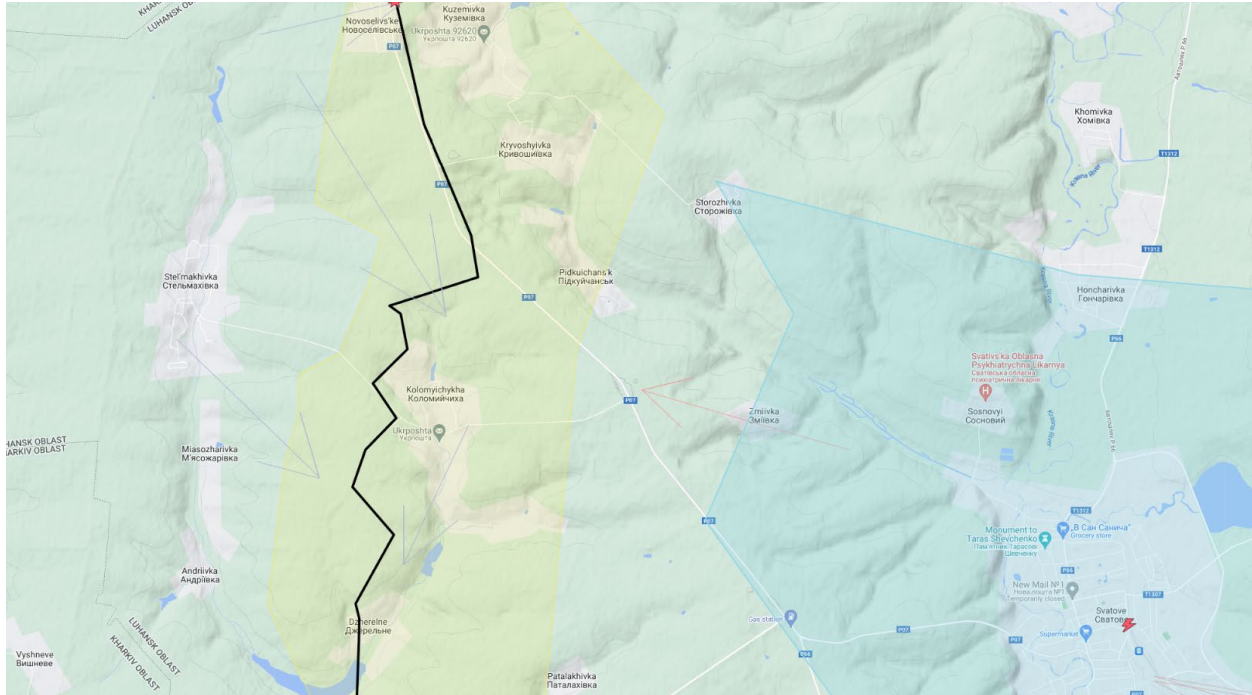
Russian Objective: Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, control insurgent activity, set conditions to capture the rest of the region, and support September 2023 elections

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

Free Luhansk: Operational Command East (OKE) spokesperson Colonel Serhiy Cherevaty reported that Russian forces carried out 117 fire missions firing 603 artillery rounds, mortars, Grad and Smerch rockets from multiple launch rocket systems (MLRS), drone-delivered IEDs and indirect tank fire. The Russian Airforce and army aviation (VKS) executed nine airstrikes from Dvorichna to Bilohorivka [Luhansk]. There were ten clashes between Russian and Ukrainian forces.^{1 2}

¹ <https://t.me/luhanskaVTSA/11771>

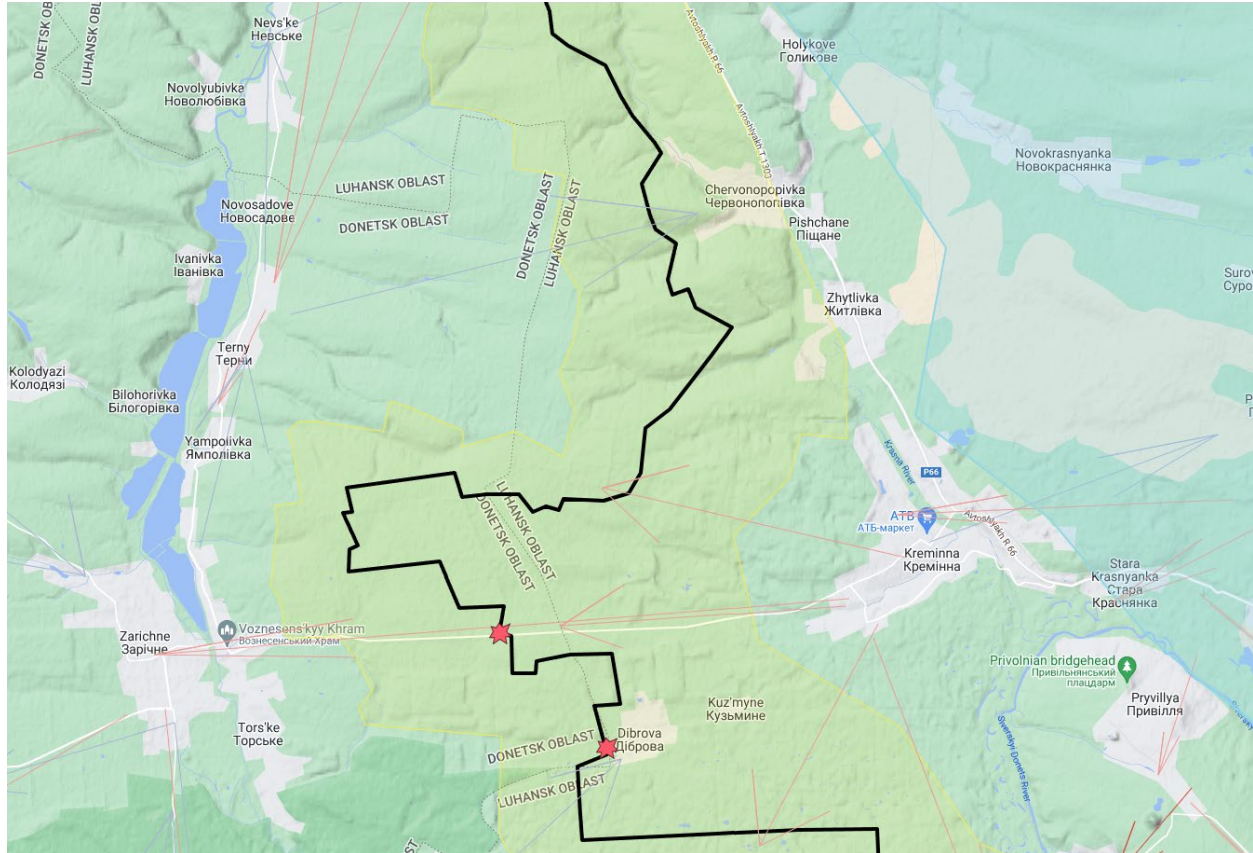
² <https://t.me/luhanskaVTSA/11781>



Savtove Operational Area

The Russian Ministry of Defense (RMOD) claimed a Ukrainian attack in the area of [Novoselivske](#) was repulsed, and alleged Ukrainian sabotage and reconnaissance units were operating near [Stelmakhivka](#).³

³ https://t.me/mod_russia/28018 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

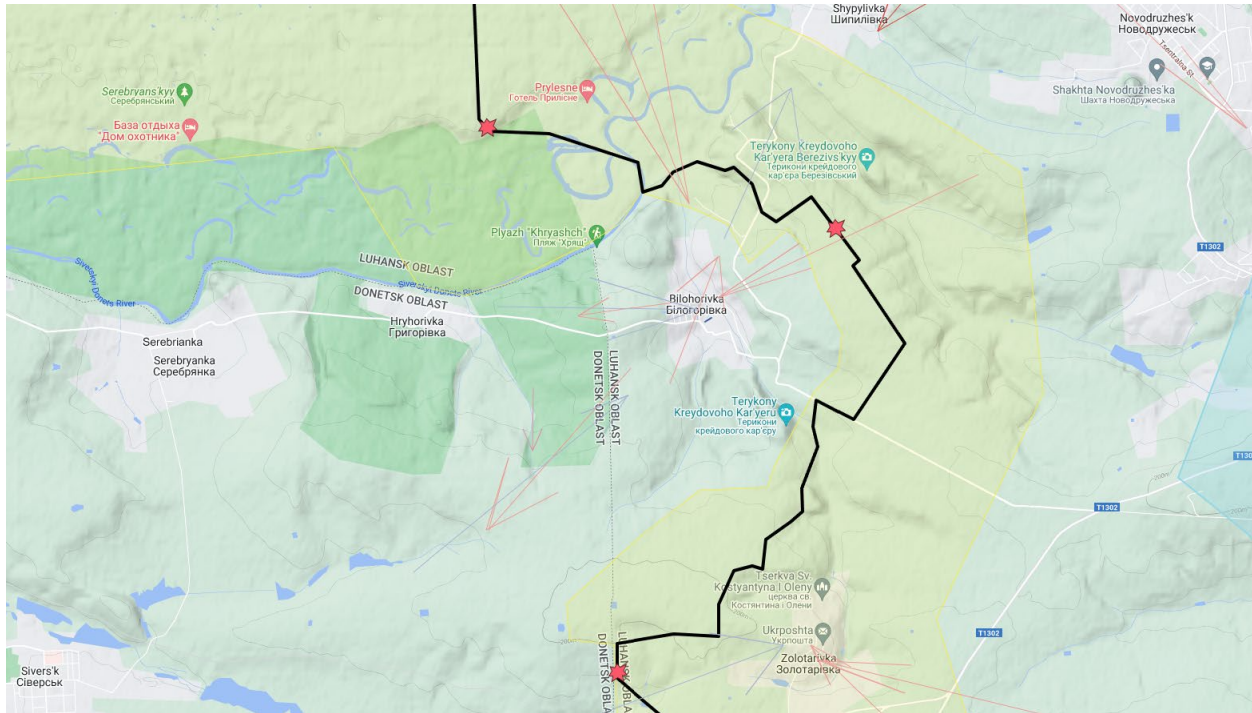


Kreminna Operational Area

The General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (GSAFU) reported that Russian forces attacked in the direction of [Nevske](#) and south of [Dibrova](#) without success.⁴ RMOD claimed that Ukrainian forces were attacking in the direction of Kreminna [through the Torske salient](#).⁵

⁴ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

⁵ https://t.me/mod_russia/28018 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]



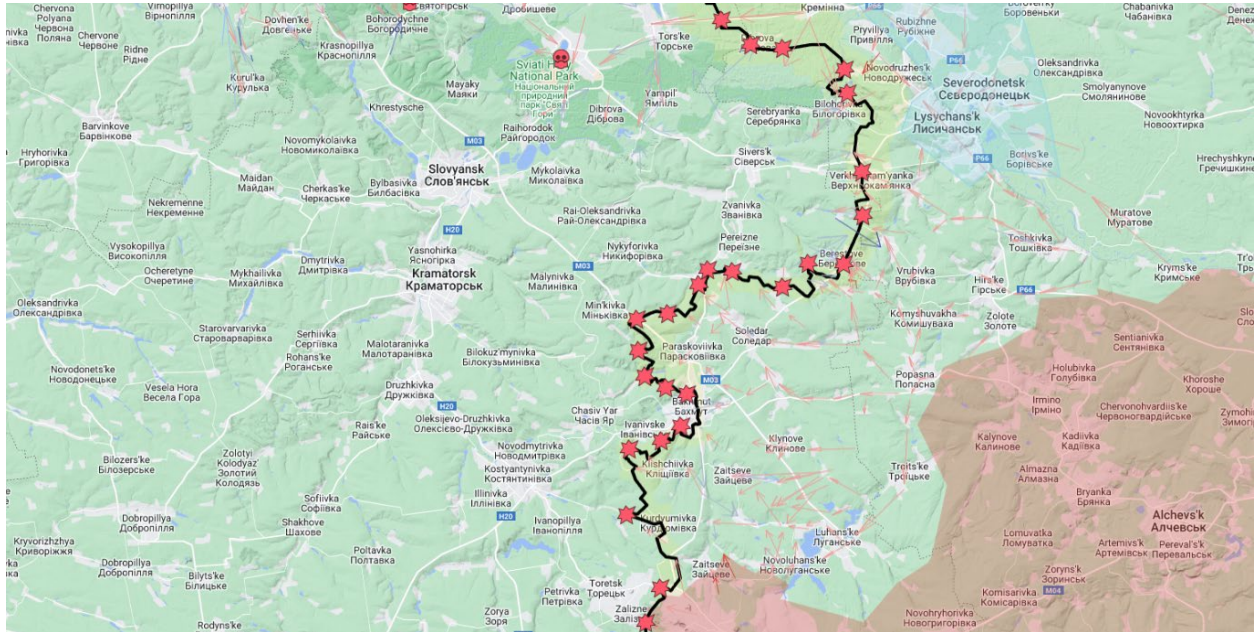
Lysychansk Operational Area

Intense fighting was ongoing southeast of [Bilohorivka](#) at the [pump station near the quarry](#).⁶ Ukrainian Deputy Minister of Defense, Hanna Maliar, called the fighting fierce.⁷

⁶ <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16977>

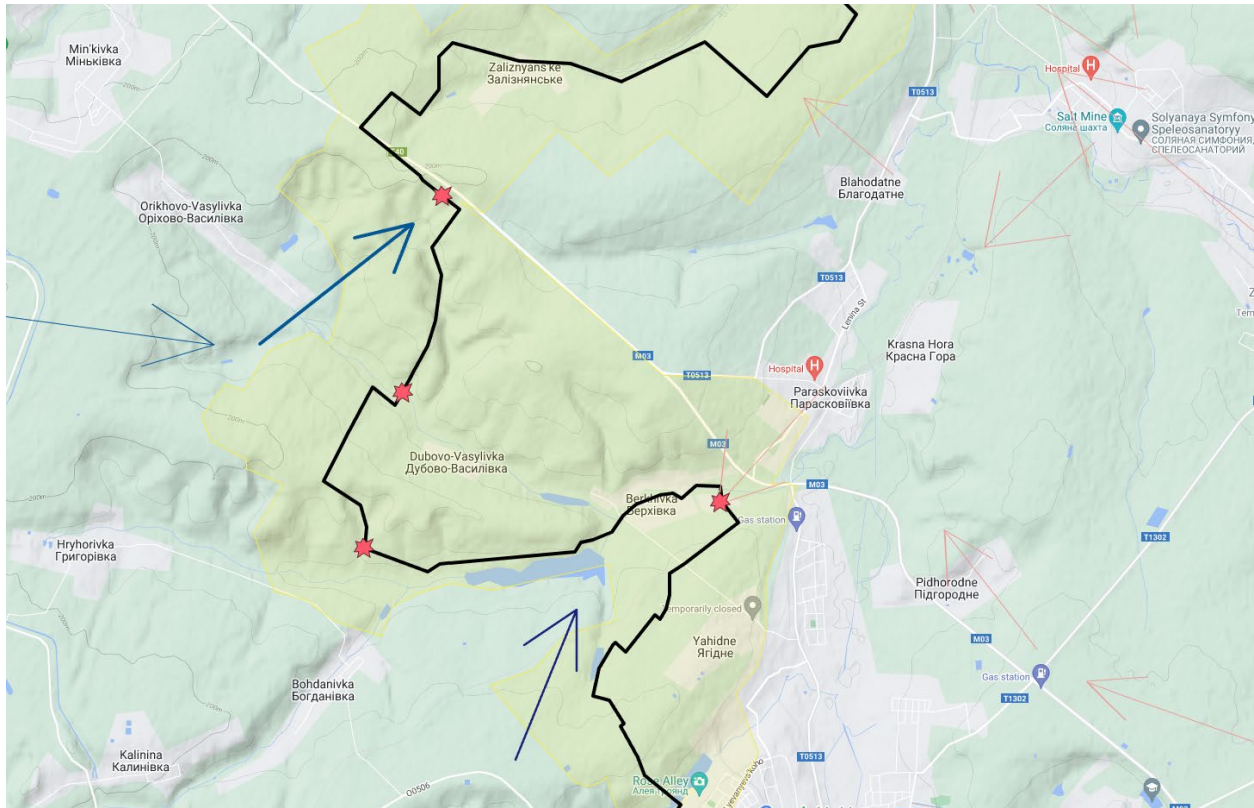
⁷ <https://t.me/annamaliar/897>

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



Bakhmut Operational Area

Northwest and north of Bakhmut, Russian forces attempted to recapture lost territory north of Orikhovo-Basylivka on the M-03 (E-40) Highway ground line of communication (GLOC – supply line) in the direction of [Minkivka](#) without success.⁸ Russian and Ukrainian sources reported that Russian reinforcements arrived in the area of Dubovo-Vasylivka – up to two regiments of Russian airborne

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

assault (VDV) units being moved to frontline defensive duty.^{9 10}

Russian forces continued to advance in the direction of [Bohdanivka](#) without success.^{11 12} Ukrainian sources reported fighting continued “near” [Berkhivka](#), while Russian sources reported that Ukrainian troops had broken through defensive lines and were fighting on the edge of the administrative border of the settlement.^{13 14}

⁹ <https://t.me/wargonzo/13607>

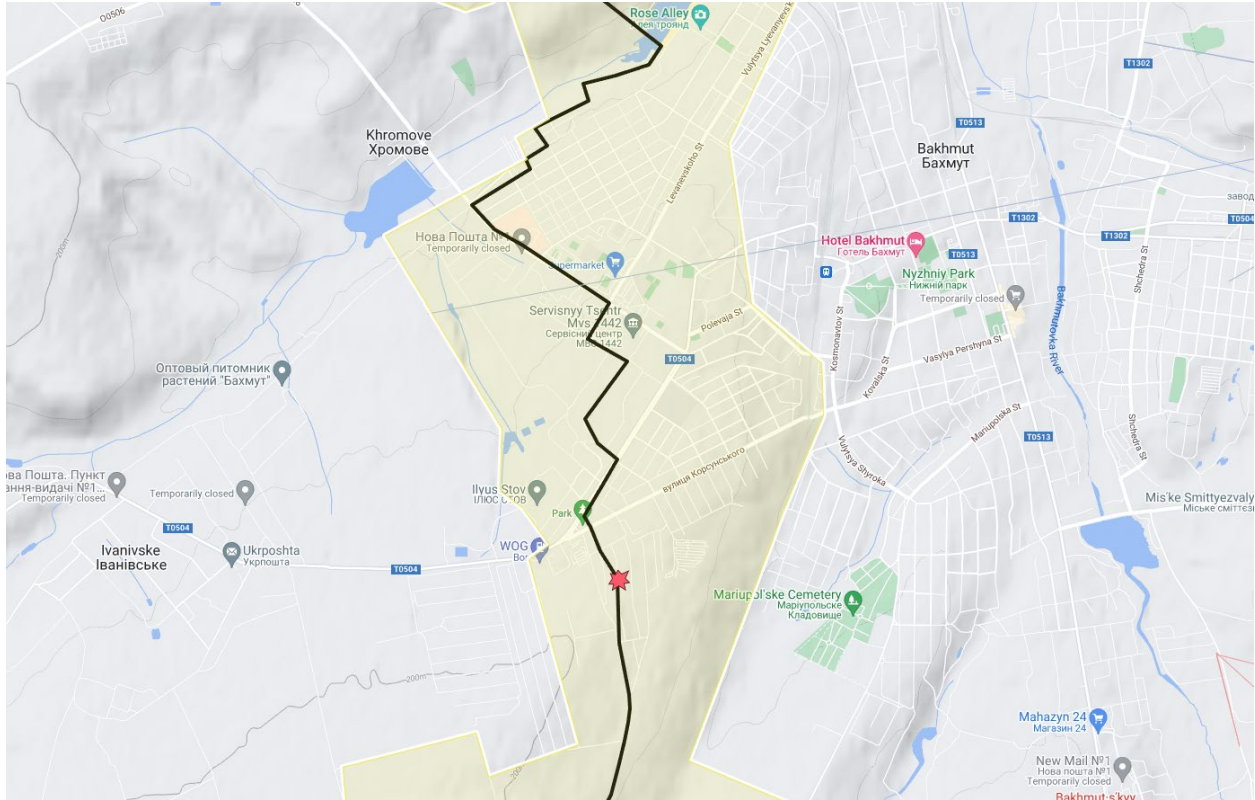
¹⁰ <https://t.me/annamaliar/897>

¹¹ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

¹² [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – PM Facebook Report](#)

¹³ <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16977>

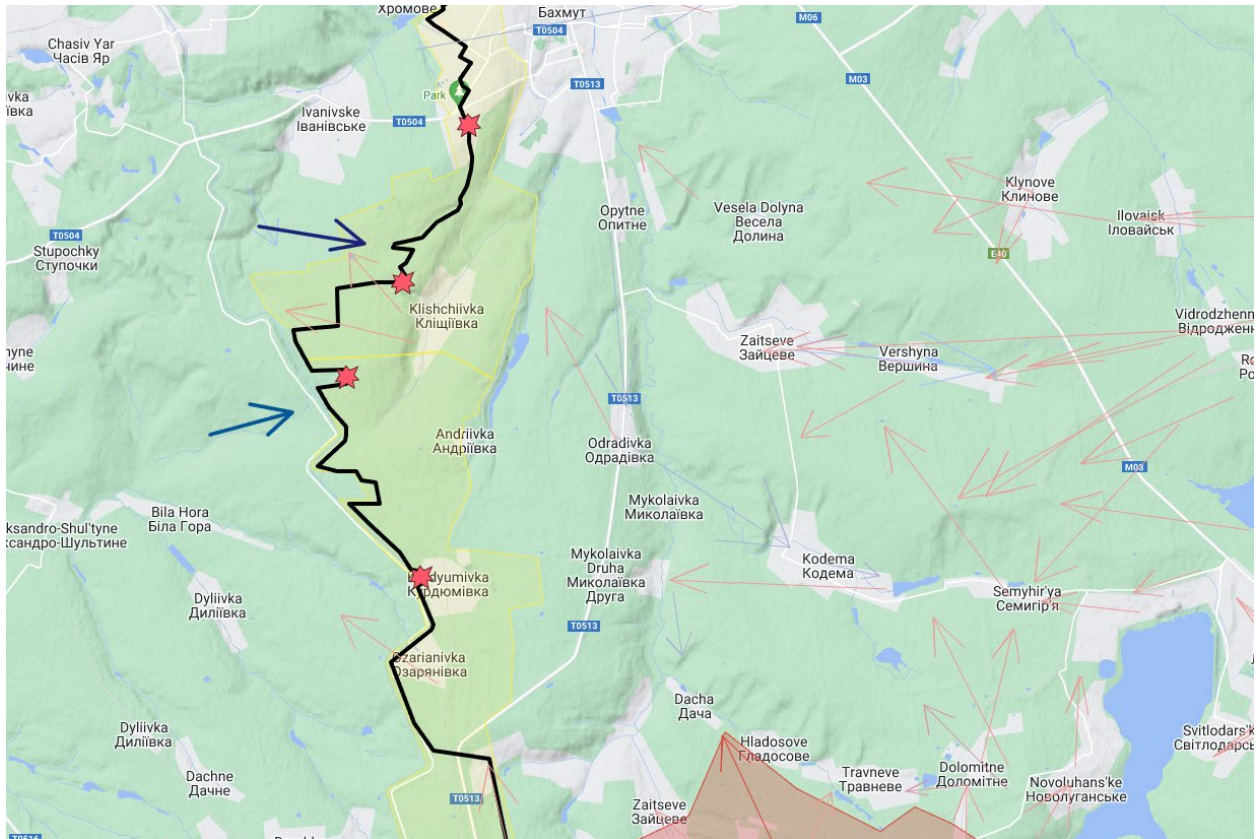
¹⁴ <https://t.me/rybar/49261>



RMOD reported that Ukrainian forces were on the offensive in [Bakhmut](#).¹⁵

ASSESSMENT: We maintain that Ukrainian forces control 2.5% of Bakhmut in three pockets.

¹⁵ https://t.me/mod_russia/28017 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]



Klishchiivka Operational Direction

Ukrainian forces continued offensive operations near [Klishchiivka](#) and made significant tactical gains southwest and northwest of the settlement.^{16 17 18} To the northwest, Ukrainian forces have reached the 229-meter (750 feet) heights west of the settlement and the western edge of their former defensive compound over the settlement. It is similar to the southwest, with Ukrainian forces advancing to the 229-meter elevation through a treeline, securing the

¹⁶ <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16977>

¹⁷ <https://t.me/annamaliar/897>

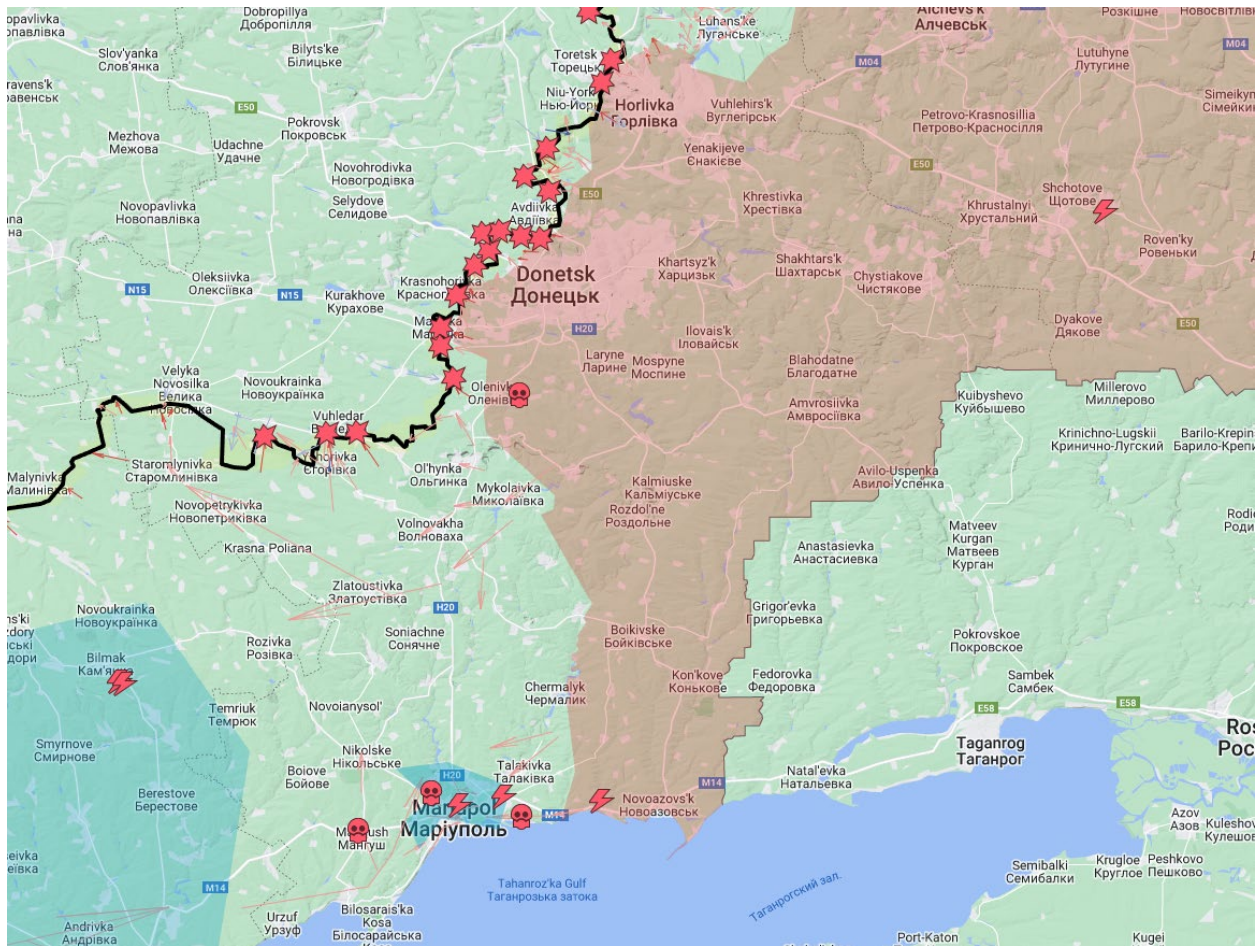
¹⁸ https://t.me/grey_zone/19376

high ground over Klishchiivka. Ukrainian forces are approximately 1,000 meters from the center of the settlement to the northwest and 1,200 meters to the southwest. Recently captured Russian positions showed that Russian penal soldiers of the 72nd Brigade were armed with bolt-action Moison-Nagant rifles.

Russian mercenary milblogger WarGonzo reported ongoing fighting at [Kurdyumivka](#), claiming Ukrainian forces are maintaining their bridgehead but have not entered the first street of the settlement.¹⁹

¹⁹ <https://t.me/wargonzo/13607>

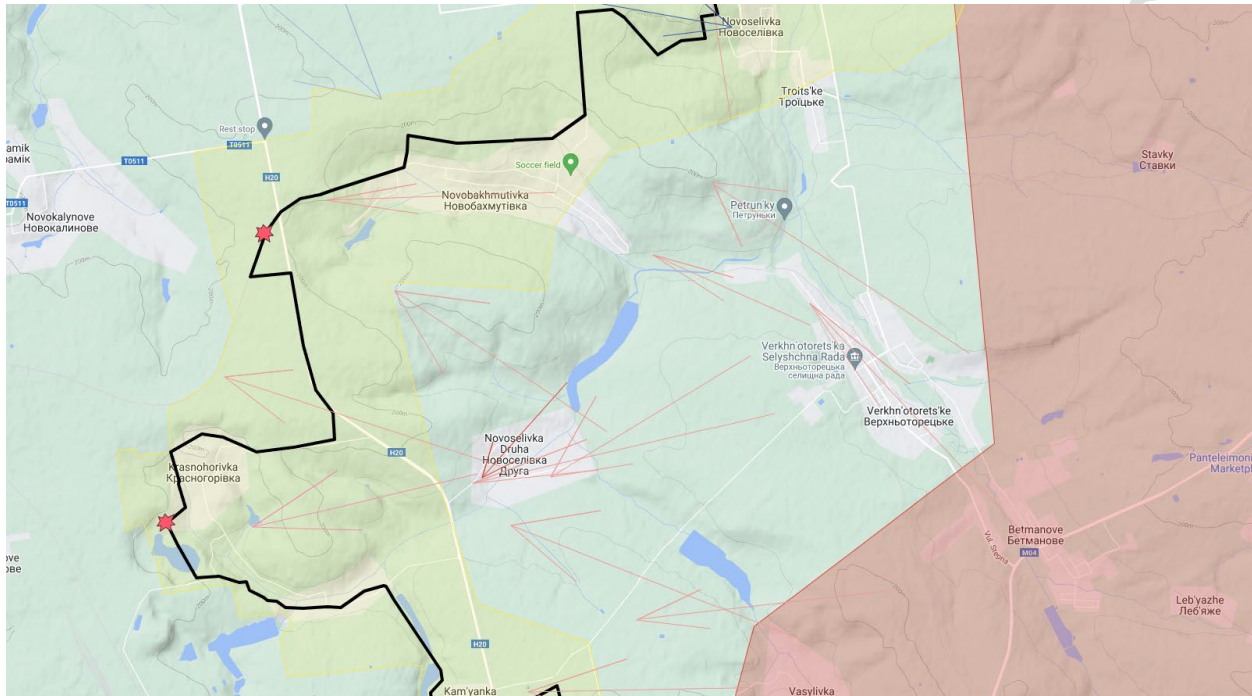
SOUTHWESTERN DONETSK



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,

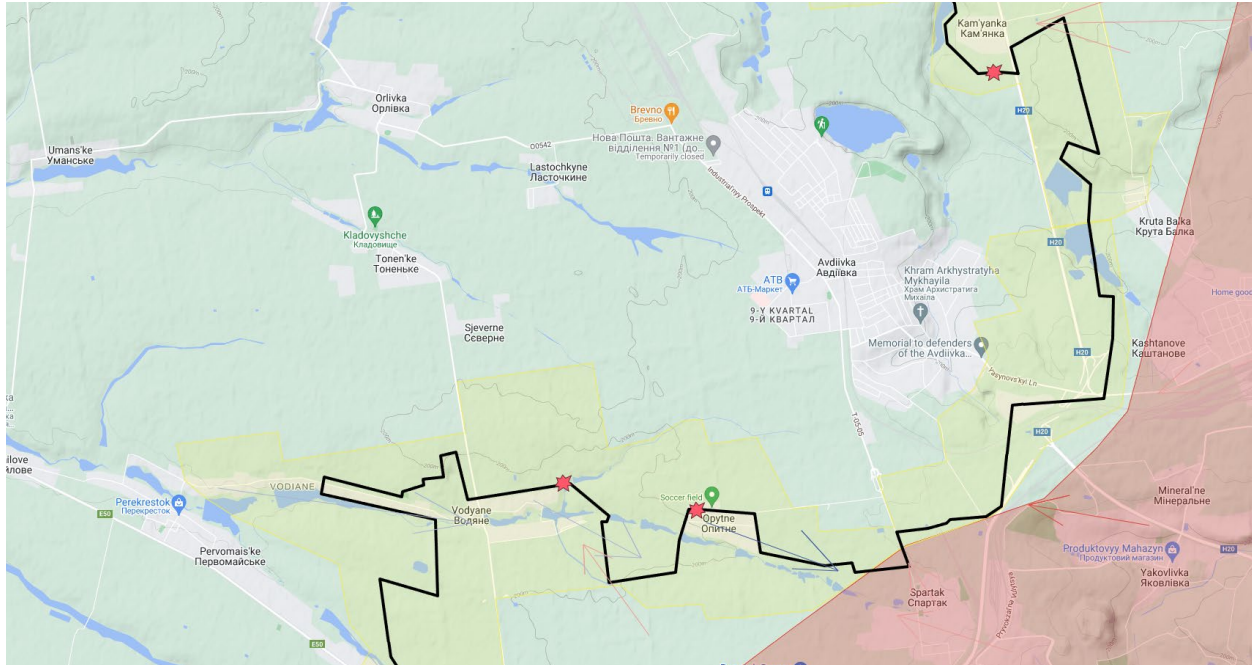
destroy troop concentrations and command and control sites, interdict supplies, and disrupt logistics



Toretzsk-Nui York Operational Area

RMOD claimed that Ukrainian forces were on the offensive in [Novobakhmutivka](#), stating that Russian troops were "conducting active defense."²⁰

²⁰ https://t.me/mod_russia/28017 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]



Avdiivka Operational Area

Russian forces attacked [Avdiivka](#), supported by the Russian Airforce and army aviation (VKS), launching attacks from the southwest and from the area between Kamyanka and Kruta Balka to the east. None of the attacks were successful.^{21 22 23} Fighting in the gray area between [Vodyane and Sjeverne](#) continued, and Russian troops tried to regain lost positions in [Pervomaiske](#) by attacking from Pisky.^{24 25 26}

²¹ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

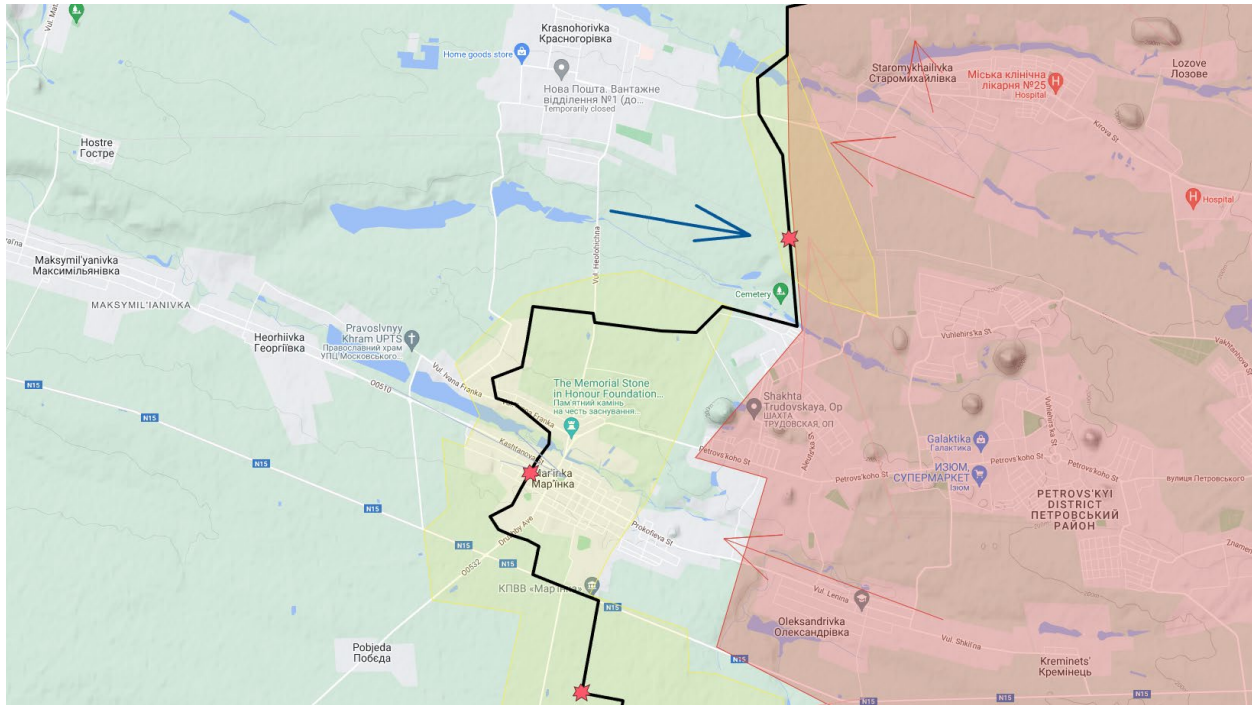
²² [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – PM Facebook Report](#)

²³ <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16977>

²⁴ https://t.me/mod_russia/28017 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

²⁵ <https://t.me/rybar/49261>

²⁶ <https://t.me/wargonzo/13607>



Marinka Operational Area

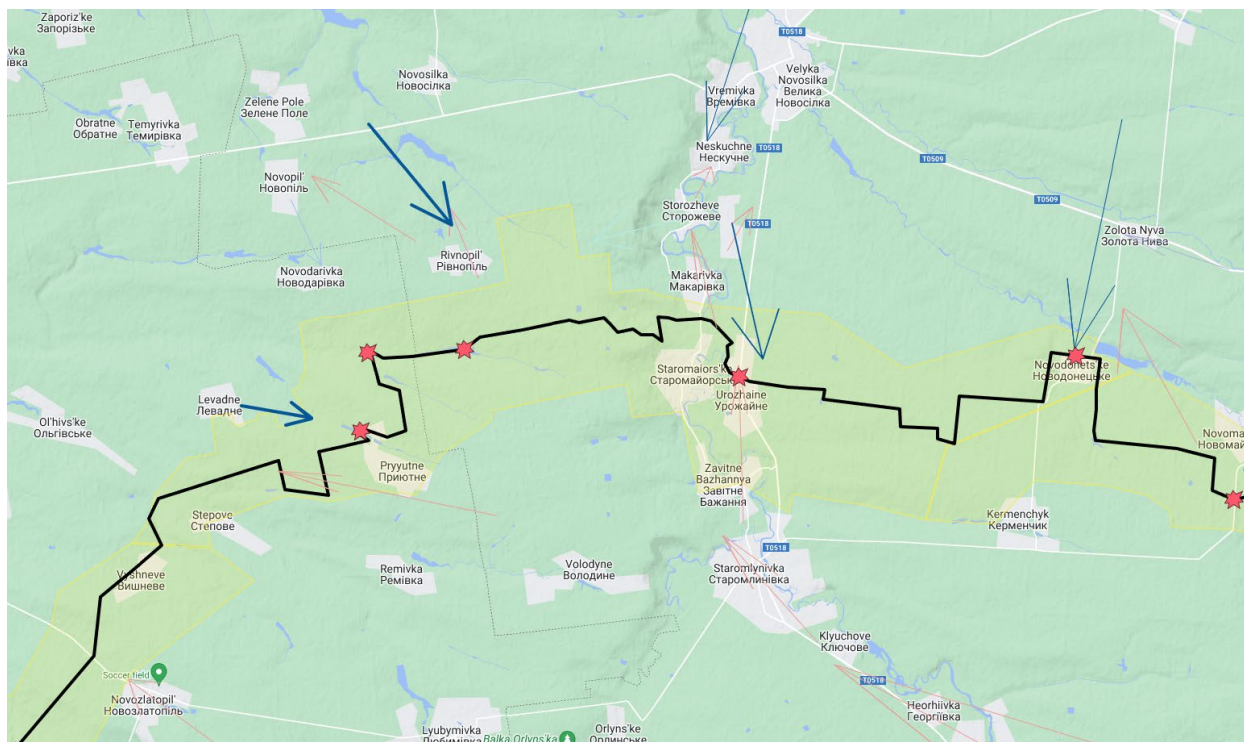
Fighting continued in [Marinka](#) with no change in the situation.^{27 28 29} It is worth nothing RMOD claimed that Russian and Chechen troops had moved to “conducting active defense” in the city that has been contested for almost 18 months.³⁰

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/wargonzo/13607>

³⁰ https://t.me/mod_russia/28017 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]



Lyubymivka-Staromlynivka Operational Direction

Fighting continued near [Staromaiorske](#), [Rivnopil](#), and [Pryyutne](#).^{31 32} Ukrainian forces made marginal gains near Staromaiorske and advanced north and south of Pryyutne, complicating the Russian defense.

Occupied Donetsk

³¹ <https://t.me/wargonzo/13607>

³² <https://t.me/annamaliar/898>

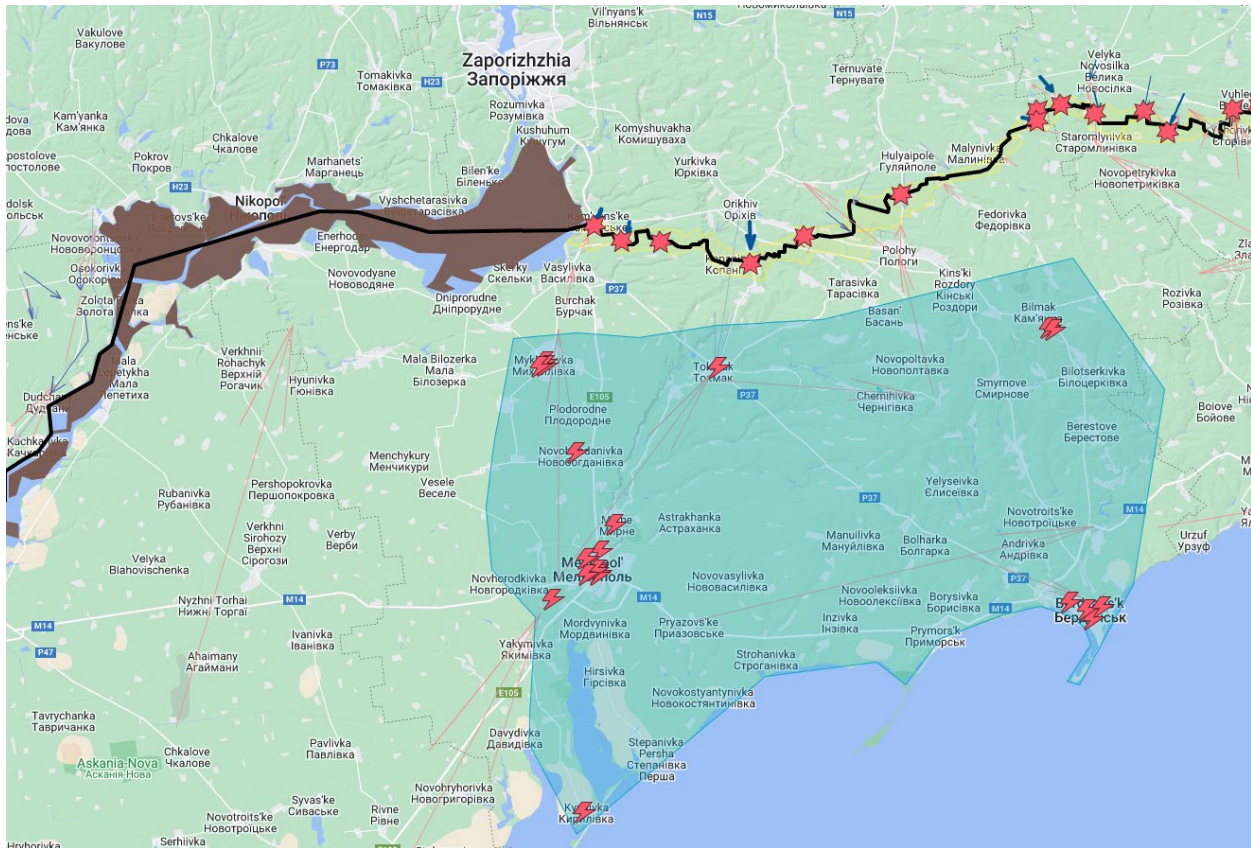
Ukraine attacked a Russian base in Semenivka.³³ At the time of publication, there was no other information.

Exiled mayor of Melitopol, Ivan Fedorov, claimed that Russia has set up a mobile crematorium at the children's sanitarium in the center of the city to dispose of Russian war dead.³⁴

³³ https://t.me/ivan_fedorov_melitopol/2401

³⁴ https://t.me/ivan_fedorov_melitopol/2401

ZAPORIZHIA

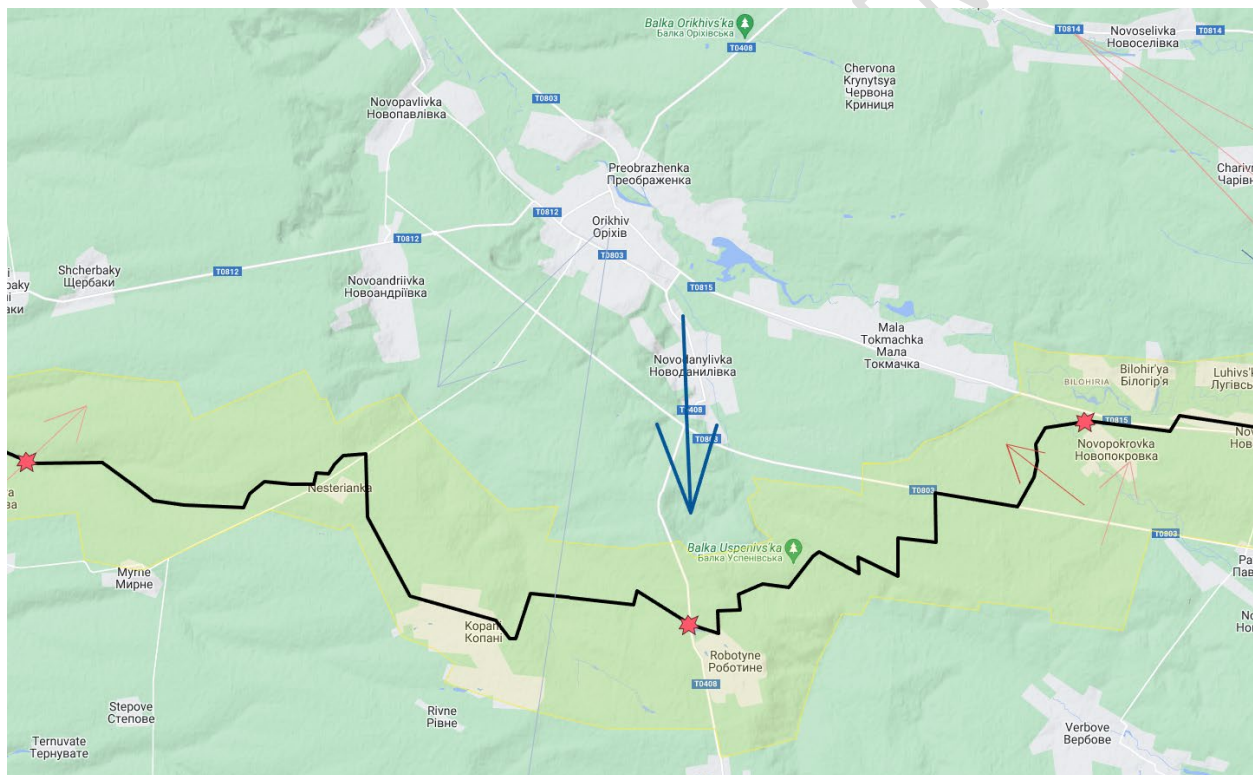


Russian Objective: Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, set conditions for September 2023 elections, capture the remainder of the oblast, and terrorize Ukrainian civilians with continued attacks

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 70 fire missions, three missile attacks, one airstrike, and one UAV attack, targeting 20 settlements along the line of conflict in Zaporizhia.³⁵ The Zaporizhzhia suburb of Kushugum was hit by three Russian S-300 anti-aircraft missiles used for a ground attack.³⁶



³⁵ https://t.me/zoda_gov_ua/20021

³⁶ <https://t.me/zaborzp/48092>

Orikhiv Operational Area

Fighting continued on the northern edge of [Robotyne](#), with Ukrainian forces advancing through treelines to the west and east of the settlement.^{37 38} While operational tempo has slowed, Russian social media reports indicate the milblogger community is alarmed by the Ukrainian advances. Russian mercenary milblogger Rybar reported that the Russian Federation Armed Forces reserve units were being moved to the area.³⁹

Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant

Up to 100 Rosatom employees and Ukrainian collaborators had reportedly left the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant with their families. It was unclear if this was due to a planned provocation, part of a regular employee rotation, or the end of employee contracts.⁴⁰

³⁷ <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16977>

³⁸ <https://t.me/annamaliar/898>

³⁹ <https://t.me/rybar/49261>

⁴⁰

<https://t.me/zaborzp/48089>

BLACK SEA, CRIMEA, MYKOLAIV, AND ODESA REGION

Black Sea

Operational Command South (OKS) reported three vessels of the Black Sea Fleet were on patrol, including one frigate and two Kilo-class submarines capable of launching up to 16 Kalibr cruise missiles.⁴¹

Occupied Crimea

Massive traffic jams continued on the westbound approach to the Crimean Bridge, stretching up to eight kilometers due to heightened border security.⁴² Over 300 trucks, a more than two-day backlog, were waiting to use the Kerch Strait Ferry.

⁴¹ https://t.me/Nazars_Look/15097

⁴² <https://t.me/itsdonetsk/84979>

WESTERN AND CENTRAL UKRAINE

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

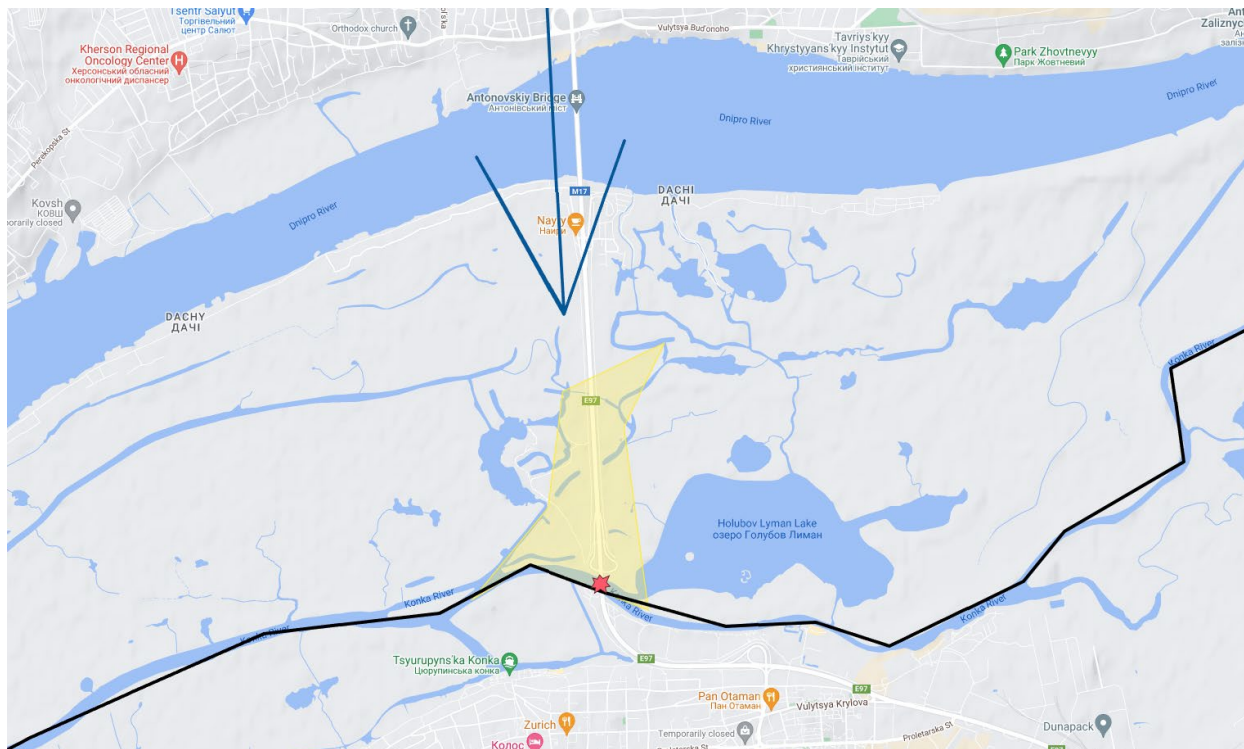
Ukrainian Objective: Deter attacks, and protect civilian lives

Free Kherson

Kherson Oblast Administrative and Military Governor (OVA), Alexander Prokudin, reported that Russian forces carried out 85 fire missions, firing 490 artillery rounds, mortars, Grad rockets fired by multiple rocket launch systems (MLRS), indirect tank fire, drone-delivered IEDs, and bombs.⁴³ Thirty-five munitions hit the city of Kherson, targeting civilian areas, wounding six. Russian troops were bombing the city with thermite munitions.⁴⁴

⁴³ <https://t.me/olexandrprokudin/856>

⁴⁴ <https://t.me/itsdonetsk/84978>



Russian and Ukrainian sources dismissed claims by the Russian Ministry of Defense that Ukrainian troops had been pushed back to the Dnipro River's right (west) bank. Fighting continued in [Dachi](#).⁴⁵ ⁴⁶ OKS director of communications, Captain Natalya Humenyuk, became the first Ukrainian government official to confirm that Ukrainian troops are on the Dnipro's left (east) bank.⁴⁷ "Powerful combat work is currently underway. In particular, the emphasis is on counter-battery fighting," Humenyuk noted. Russian milblogger Romanov blasted the false claims from the Russian Ministry of Defense, but

⁴⁵ <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16977>

⁴⁶ <https://t.me/rybar/49261>

⁴⁷ https://t.me/zinkevich_igor/6792

stopped short of blaming the Kremlin. "Some bastard deceives [Igor] Konashenkov's department and gives beautiful information. The guys from the field say that heavy fighting continues near the Antonovsky Bridge. Probably, somewhere in the chain of information transfer to Moscow, there was a failure."

Editor's Note: That "bastard" is Vladimir Saldo, and Romanov knows it. Likely, he didn't want to name anyone directly and run afoul of the Russian "don't say war laws."

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

Sumy

Russian forces carried out 16 fire missions, firing 116 artillery rounds, mortars, rocket-propelled grenades, and drone-delivered IEDs. Eight hromadas were targeted, with homes damaged and destroyed in Krasnopillia and Putyvl.⁴⁸

⁴⁸ https://t.me/Sumy_news_ODA/17505

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

Krasnodar Krai

There were large explosions in Primorsko-Akhtarsk, near the military airfield, according to video, local reports, and reports from the Ministry of Emergency Situations.⁴⁹ A massive crater in a field near the military base was inconsistent with a drone strike.

⁴⁹ https://t.me/tokmak_ukraine/4090

THEATERWIDE

Russian launched 17 Shahed-136 kamikaze drones across Ukraine, with 13 shot down by air defenses. The remaining four did not hit their targets, but there was no information on if the drones suffered a failure, struck other locations, or were neutralized using electronic warfare.

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.

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	—

RUSSIAN MOBILIZATION, MOBIKS, AND MIR

Private Military Company Wagner Group's social media channels reported, "Due to the temporary non-participation of the PMC Wagner in the 'special military operation' and relocation to the Republic of Belarus, we are temporarily suspending the work of regional recruitment centers...for a period of one month." At the same time, call and recruitment centers for employment with PMC Wagner continue to operate. There are 21 recruitment centers still operating in Russia, but testing centers and training camps are closed.⁵⁰

GEOPOLITICS

The Deputy Head of the Russian National Security Council, Dmytry Medvedev, called for the ending of diplomatic relations with the United Kingdom, Poland, Finland, Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuanian, adding that he didn't believe that Finland was a "real country," and was created by Lenin "by mistake."⁵¹

⁵⁰

<https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2023/07/2/7409548/>

⁵¹ https://t.me/zinkevich_igor/6810

Russia promised retaliation on Romania after Bucharest ejected 40 diplomats and technical specialists from the Russian embassy. "Russia will give an appropriate response," the Russian Foreign Ministry said. Romanian officials announced that 11 diplomats and 29 technical and administrative staffers were on board a special diplomatic flight returning to Russia.⁵²

⁵² <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2023/07/2/7409520/>


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.