

Malcontent News Ukraine SITREP

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Russia's ability to wage war in Ukraine has ground to a halt, and there are serious questions on their capabilities to make more than small gains.

Attempts to cross the Irpin River northwest of Kyiv were thwarted again.¹ A missile struck an apartment complex in Kyiv, there is one confirmed fatality.²³

Although the 67-kilometer-long convoy northwest of Kyiv has dispersed into the woods days ago, drones, artillery, and SOFs continue to harass the immobilized units.⁴

¹ <https://www.facebook.com/GeneralStaff.ua/posts/272216235091462>

² <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/russia-ukraine-news-war-kyiv-poland-airstrikes-new-talks/>

³ https://twitter.com/aldin_ww/status/15033284382825728

⁴ <https://twitter.com/UAWeapons/status/150344811112405000>

The Ukrainian military continues to take back territory northwest of Kharkiv in what we can now call a sustained counterattack. This is forcing Russian troops to be redeployed from the eastern side of Kyiv.⁵

Because of the counter offensive, Russian forces have stopped advancing to the east of Kyiv, with no reports of military action.

UPDATE: As we were preparing the daily Situation Report, Russian forces started the heaviest artillery barrage on Kharkiv in a week.⁶⁷

The Russian forces attempting to take control of Mykolayiv were blocked by Ukrainian defenders, with forces reduced to skirmishes and artillery barrages.⁸

The reports of the use of white phosphorus as munitions on civilians in Popasnaya remain unconfirmed. Russian state media

⁵ <https://www.understandingwar.org/backgrounder/russian-offensive-campaign-assessment-march-14>

⁶ https://twitter.com/aldin_ww/status/1503488065591029766

⁷ <https://twitter.com/i/status/1503496409772969992>

⁸ <https://www.understandingwar.org/backgrounder/russian-offensive-campaign-assessment-march-14>

is accusing Ukrainian forces of mass executing civilians in the same village, also unconfirmed.⁹

A convoy of 160 cars was able to leave Mariupol after a week of collapsed cease-fire agreements. Officials reported almost 2,200 civilians have died during the ongoing siege. Among the dead, was one of the women injured in last week's hospital attack.¹⁰

The unnamed woman suffered a shattered pelvis in the attack and her unborn child did not survive, despite an emergency c-section.¹¹

Satellite images showed uncontrolled fires burning on the eastern and western edge of the city.¹²

In Melitopol, Russian occupiers drove through the streets announcing that protests or assemblies of any kind would not

⁹ <https://twitter.com/DailyWorld24/status/1503284652286619653>

¹⁰ <https://apnews.com/article/russia-ukraine-war-maternity-hospital-pregnant-woman-dead-c0f2f859296f9f02be24fc9edfca1085>

¹¹ <https://komonews.com/news/nation-world/kill-me-now-pregnant-woman-baby-die-after-russia-bombs-maternity-ward-ukrainian-war-putin->

¹² <https://twitter.com/Osinttechnical/status/1503402182720303110>

be permitted.¹³ This morning, hundreds of additional troops were deployed, and the Ukrainian flag was taken down.¹⁴

In occupied towns across Ukraine, residents are being given notices that they are under curfew, and weapons and protests are banned. Violations will be “strictly punished” by “military law enforcement.”¹⁵

There are multiple reports of journalists, city leaders, and activists disappearing in Russian-controlled areas. Although not verified, social media accounts of multiple supporters of Ukraine in Russian-occupied areas have gone silent such as Kherson-based journalist Oleg Baturin.¹⁶

Fox News corresponded Benjamin Hall was seriously injured in Kyiv and is hospitalized. The State Department and Press Secretary Jen Psaki confirmed he was wounded.¹⁷ There were no additional details.

¹³ https://twitter.com/MarQs_/status/1502936767833456643

¹⁴ https://twitter.com/aldin_ww/status/1503421808736878593

¹⁵ <https://twitter.com/mrsorokaa/status/1502936094102458370>

¹⁶ <https://ifex.org/ukraine-journalist-oleg-baturin-missing-in-kherson-region/>

¹⁷ <https://www.npr.org/2022/03/14/1086533519/fox-news-benjamin-hall-injured>

Russia One journalist Maria Ovsianikova did an on-air protest during a news broadcast.¹⁸ Ovsianikova made a video before her protest action, explaining why she was going to do it.¹⁹²⁰ She has been arrested and could face 15-years in prison.²¹

The Ukrainian military is accused of firing a ballistic missile on Donetsk, armed with cluster munitions. Parts of the rocket landed in the center of the city, with reports of between 9 and 20 casualties.²² Pictures of the missile parts on Russian state media are painted in olive drab, which does not match with the gray and black livery used by Ukraine.²³

Russian forces are using ZALA KYB “kamikaze” drones. The vehicles are small, and designed to explode on impact, but have a high failure rate.²⁴

The British Ministry of Defense expressed concern that Russia could be planning a false flag operation in Ukraine using chemical or biological weapons.²⁵

¹⁸ https://www.tiktok.com/@malcontentnews/video/7075042021479599403?is_copy_url=1&is_from_webapp=v1

¹⁹ <https://twitter.com/maryilyushina/status/1503458316672020490>

²⁰ <https://twitter.com/PaulSonne/status/1503457196641853447>

²¹ <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/russia-introduce-jail-terms-spreading-fake-information-about-army-2022-03-04/>

²² <https://twitter.com/UAWeapons/status/1503316578246569987>

²³ https://www.123rf.com/photo_84694655_ballistic-missile-tochka-u-kiiev-use-ballistic-missiles-during-civil-war-celebration-of-the-great-vic.html

²⁴ <https://twitter.com/UAWeapons/status/1503437049596157961>

²⁵ <https://twitter.com/Osinttechnical/status/1503520235776884736/photo/1>

On Sunday, Ukrainian engineers restored external electrical power to the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant. Several hours later, Russian forces damaged the power lines again. The International Atomic Energy Agency reported that power was restored a second time, late on Monday.²⁶

Russian forces are accused of commandeering and destroying Ukrainian farm equipment such as tractors.²⁷ The farmers seem undeterred, with new videos of Russian armor being towed away.²⁸

Chechen TV reported leader Ramzaan Kadyrov was at Gostomel Airbase, just east of Kyiv on Sunday. Kadyrov posted a video on Telegram, showing him meeting with Chechen military leaders.²⁹

OPINION: If Kadyrov traveled that close to the front lines, it would explain how four generals (three Russian and one Chechen) have been killed in 19 days.

²⁶ <https://twitter.com/iaeaorg/status/1503465463753420803>

²⁷ <https://www.facebook.com/DefenceIntelligenceofUkraine/posts/270576275253800>

²⁸ <https://twitter.com/UAWeapons/status/1503353534284242947>

²⁹ <https://twitter.com/avalaina/status/1503118399890759684>

Private Military Company Senior Lieutenant Sergey Zavodsky of the Wagner Group was killed in action on March 13.³⁰³¹

Germany has decided to buy F-35 multirole stealth aircraft from the United States.³² The planes can deliver nuclear weapons. Germany is not a nuclear power but could be provided atomic bombs by the United States.

Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a law authorizing the seizure of hundreds of commercial aircraft that are currently leased by airlines.³³ Up to 700 planes are impacted by the order.

US officials claim that Russia has asked China for financial and military aid.³⁴ China denied that Russia had made such a request.³⁵ In a seven-hour-long meeting with Chinese foreign policy adviser Yang Jiechi in Rome, US adviser Jake Sullivan expressed deep concern about China becoming involved in the conflict.³⁶

³⁰ https://twitter.com/666_mancer/status/1503060311825436677

³¹ <https://www.understandingwar.org/backgrounder/russian-offensive-campaign-assessment-march-14>

³² https://twitter.com/BMVG_Bundeswehr/status/1503363938427281411

³³ <https://www.wsj.com/livecoverage/russia-ukraine-latest-news-2022-03-14/card/putin-signs-law-to-seize-foreign-aircraft-redeploy-for-domestic-use-7dG55AU0aMqds7HDTKb>

³⁴ <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/russia-asks-china-for-military-help-in-war-with-ukraine-u-s-officials-say/>

³⁵ <https://www.newsweek.com/china-help-russia-war-ukraine-military-assistance-1687612>

³⁶ <https://www.kcra.com/article/us-china-officials-meet-tensions-mount-over-russia/39420443#>

Russia is largely expected to default on its sovereign debt on Wednesday.³⁷ A \$117 million payment is due, but by agreement must be paid in euro bonds. If Russia were to pay in roubles, the nation would be considered in default.

India appears to be in negotiations to buy oil from Russia at a discount.³⁸ The nation of one-billion imports 80% of its oil, with less than three percent coming from Russia.

The price of crude oil has dropped 21% in a week. May futures are at \$100 a barrel while July deliveries are down to \$95.³⁹ In the United States, gasoline and diesel fuel prices plateaued over the weekend.⁴⁰

NAME	EXPIRATION	PRICE	%	DATE
MCL APR22	3/21/2022	102.03	-6.47	3/14/2022
CL APR22	3/22/2022	102.04	-6.46	3/14/2022
MCL MAY22	4/19/2022	100.29	-5.52	3/14/2022
CL MAY22	4/20/2022	100.22	-5.66	3/14/2022
MCL JUN22	5/19/2022	97.60	-5.21	3/14/2022
CL JUN22	5/20/2022	97.83	-4.98	3/14/2022
CL JUL22	6/21/2022	95.45	-4.77	3/14/2022
MCL JUL22	6/21/2022	95.50	-4.63	3/14/2022

³⁷ <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/bond-default-harder-russia-lenders-232923163.html>

³⁸ <https://www.reuters.com/world/india/india-considers-buying-discounted-russian-oil-commodities-officials-say-2022-03-14/>

³⁹ <https://markets.businessinsider.com/commodities/oil-price?type=wti>

⁴⁰ <https://jalopnik.com/gas-price-watch-the-first-plateau-1848649078>

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