



MALCONTENT NEWS RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR SITUATION REPORT



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Malcontent News

Russia-Ukraine War SITREP

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SUMMARY – DAY 182

It has been 26 weeks since the widescale invasion of Ukraine and 3,100 days since Russia occupied Crimea on February 27, 2014.

Private Military Company Wagner Group, supported by terrorist elements of the Imperial Legion, fought positional battles near Soledar and Bakhmutske. Lacking armor support, they were unsuccessful.

In the Svitlodarsk bulge, Russian forces fought positional battles south and east of Kodema but did not improve the tactical situation. There were reports of fighting around the train station at Mayorsk.

The 1st Army Corps of the Donetsk People's Republic (DNR) lost control of parts of Pisky. Separatist troops attempted to push Ukrainian forces out of their positions in the direction of Pervomaiske but were unsuccessful.

Russian forces tried to advance on Nevelske using main battle tanks and infantry fighting vehicles with inadequate

light infantry support. After suffering losses, separatist troops had to retreat.

Unable to advance further into Marinka, Russian forces attempted to flank Ukrainian positions but failed to advance into Pobieda.

On the Donetsk-Zaporizhia administrative border, Russian forces attempted to advance on Pavlivka and continued to press toward Velyka Novosilka but did not move the line of conflict.

Russian forces attempted to advance on Dolyna. Due to diminishing artillery support, lack of fire control, and the advance conducted mainly by conscripts and unskilled forces, the attack was unsuccessful. There was an attempted advance in the direction of Nova Dmytrivka by a small Russian force, but they were sent back to Sherwood Forest.

Ukraine struck the Kakhovka Bridge again with rockets fired by HIMARS. The bridge was severely damaged. However, the Antonovsky Bridge was useable again.

Several sources reported that Russian airborne troops (VDV) attempted to advance north from Oleksandrivka [Kherson] but could not traverse the open fields.

Russian troops tried to expand their area of control north of Blahodatne [Mykolaiv]. Due to the canal north of the town, only a small force could advance through a chokepoint.

Russian forces attempted to breakthrough Ukrainian lines near Arkhanhelske, trying to advance in the direction of Mykolaivka [Kherson].

Nikopol and Marhanets were shelled again by rockets fired by MLRS from across the Dnipro River. The attack was much smaller than at the start of the month, with 11 Grad rockets damaging homes.

Russian missiles struck the railway station in Chaplyne, which was full of civilians at the time. Just before midnight and about 20 kilometers away, Russian missiles crashed into the town of Velykomykhailivka.

Dmytro Zhyvytskyi, Sumy Oblast Administrative and Military Governor, reported that Russian forces shelled the settlements of Esman, Znob-Novhorod, Krasnopillia, and Bilopillia.

Two Russian missiles struck the Vyshhorod area north of Kyiv just after midnight. There were no reports of injuries.

At least one Calibr cruise missile launched by the Black Sea fleet slammed into the ground near Myrhorod in the Poltava oblast. The Russian Ministry of Defense claimed they hit the Ukrainian air force base outside of the city, but video after the attack showed the missile successfully carved out a six-meter-deep crater in the middle of a dirt road.

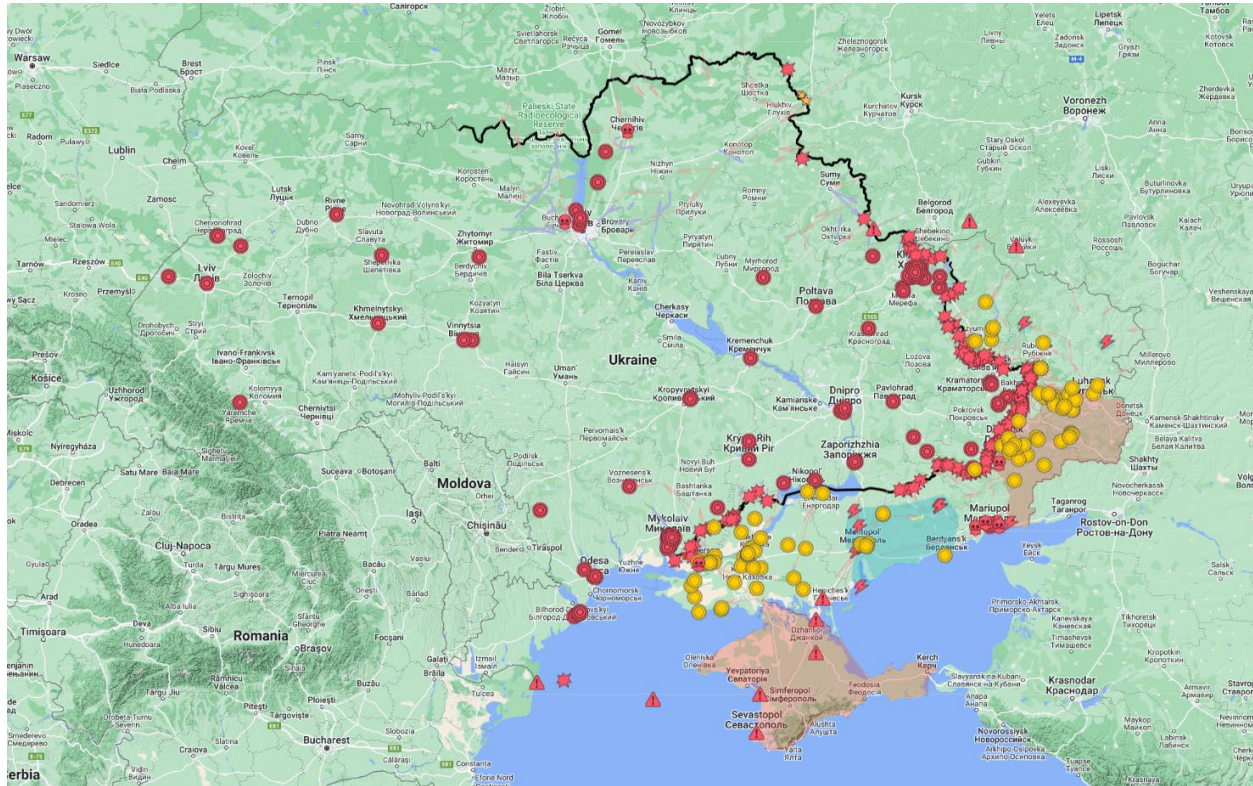
Russian cruise missiles landed in Shepetivka, according to Serhiy Gamaly, Khmelnytskyi Oblast Administrative and Military Governor.

DAILY ASSESSMENT

We assess the following:

1. Unfortunately, our assessment that there would be punitive strikes on civilians and civilian infrastructure on Independence Day was accurate, with 25 people killed and 47 hospitalized in missile attacks across Ukraine.
2. We anticipate more attacks on civilians, civilian infrastructure, and government decision-making centers over the next 24 to 72 hours.
3. The Russian military within Ukraine has become combat ineffective theaterwide, with ground attacks becoming smaller along the entire 2,450-kilometer-long front.
4. Due to the Russian military reaching a culmination point and the Ukrainian military appearing to be unable to capitalize on the loss of Russian momentum, we believe the battlefield will remain frozen across Ukraine for the short term.
5. The initiative will go to the first belligerent who can make brigade or larger-sized offensives on any front.

TODAY'S WAR IN UKRAINE MAP

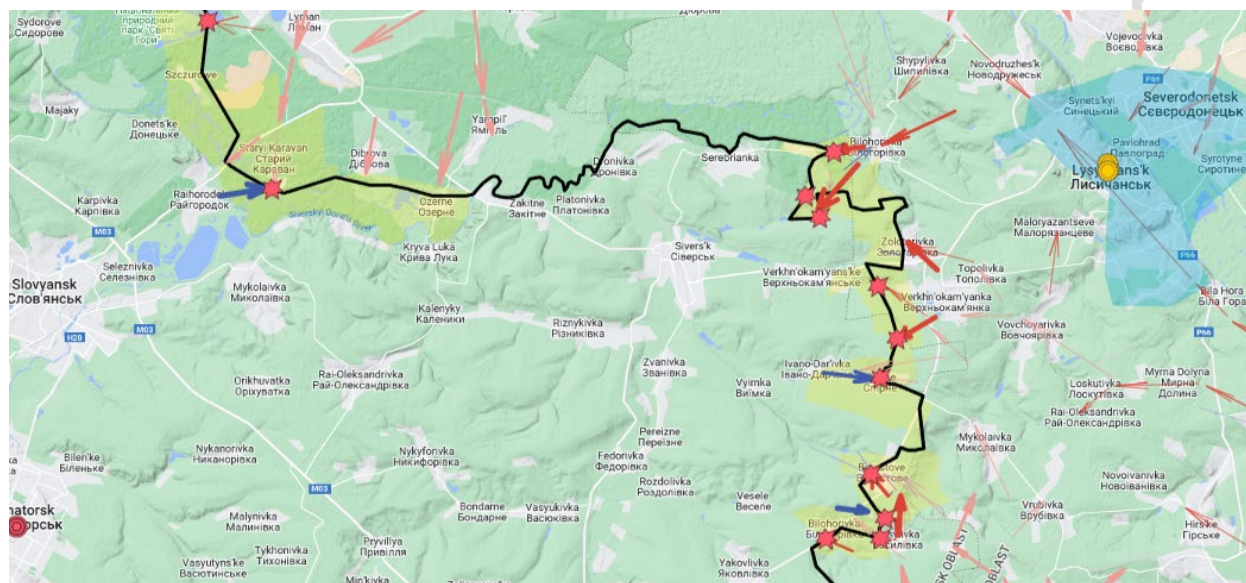


Information about changes made to the map: Red triangles are sites of significant events unrelated to missile attacks, insurgency, or ground combat, such as the sinking of the Moskva and the explosion at Saky Naval airbase. Based on your feedback, we have moved the “flags” into the category of “Archived Offensives.” The 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 [Kherson](#), the link will take you to the exact location explained in the Situation Report.

You can visit our war map at <http://www.rusvukrmap.com>

DONBAS REGION

SLOVYANSK-BILOHORIVKA-BERESTOVE TRIANGLE



Russian Objective: Maintain territorial control and Ground Lines of Communication, control insurgency, and integrate captured territory into Russia

Ukrainian Objective: Prevent advances on Siversk, Slovyansk, and Kramatorsk, support insurgents, exploit weaknesses, interdict supplies

Russian forces did not conduct offensive operations in northeast Donetsk for the third day in a row.

Russian forces shelled Siversk and the surrounding settlements and Bilohorivka [Donetsk].

Ukrainian forces attacked Russian Ground Lines of Communication (GLOC – supply lines) and a command and control center in Popasna with rockets fired from Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (MLRS).¹

ASSESSMENT: Unchanged from August 17

On August 13, we assessed there would be continued sporadic fighting in northeast Donetsk, but we did not anticipate renewed significant combat operations. That assessment was tested this week. The 2nd Army Corps of the Luhansk People's Republic (LNR) is combat ineffective and incapable of carrying out offensive operations even with the support of Russian artillery.

The destruction of the command center for the 2nd Army Corps in Lysychansk and the Private Military Company (PMC) Wagner Group headquarters in Popasna may have

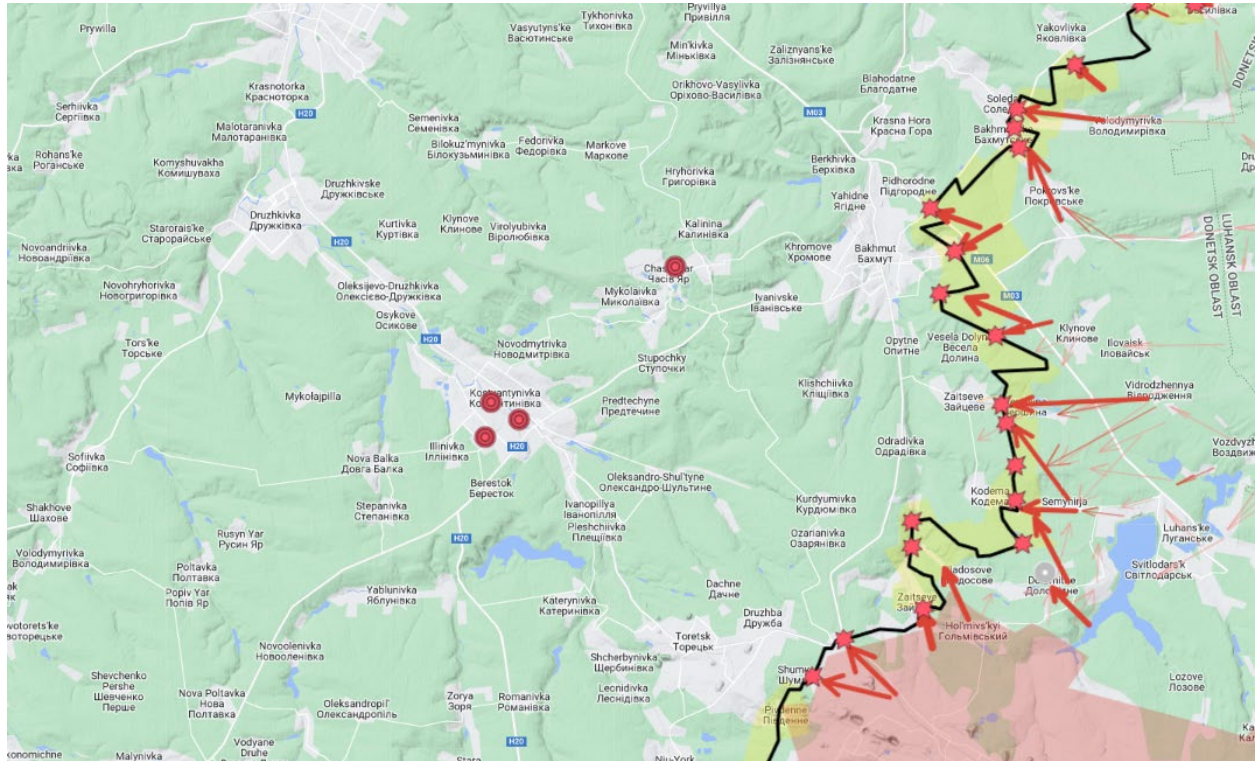
¹ <https://t.me/rybar/37699>



degraded decision-making capabilities. We maintain that any additional fighting in this region before mud season will be positional, spoiling attacks, and probes.

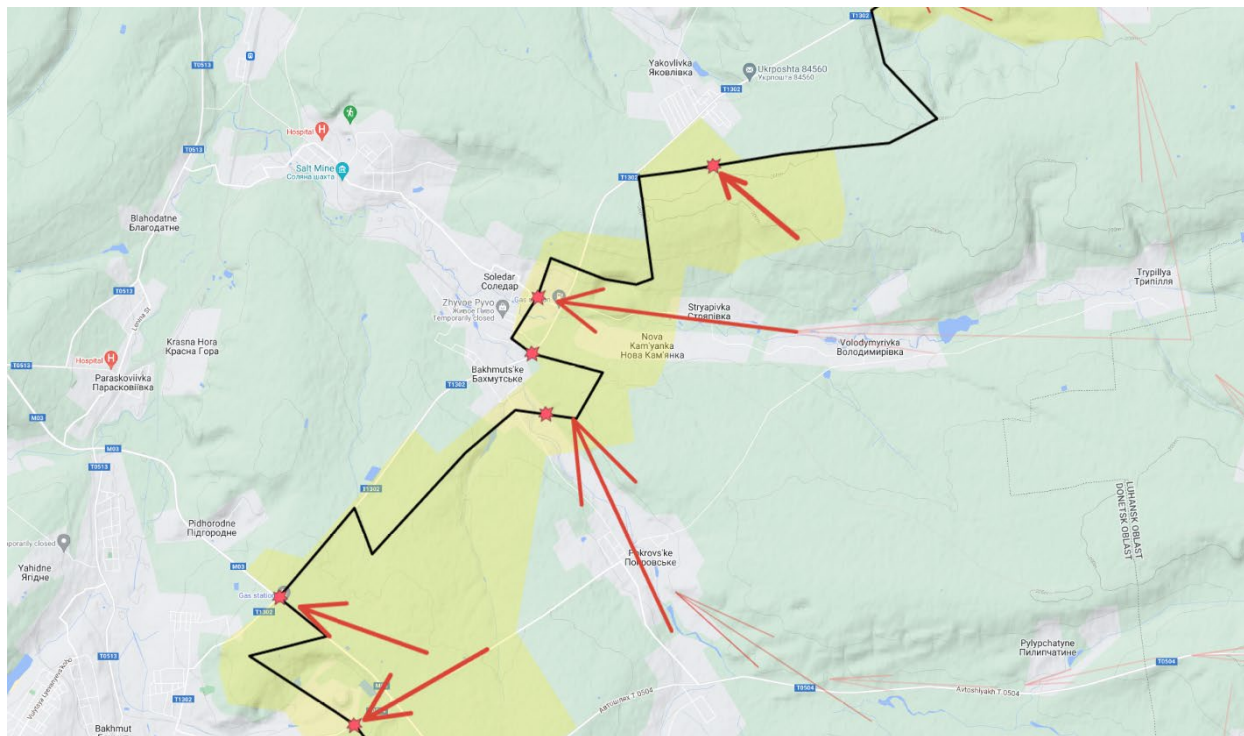
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BAKHMUT



Russian Objective UPDATED: Maintain defensive lines, probe for weaknesses in Ukrainian defenses, and achieve a breakthrough before the start of mud season

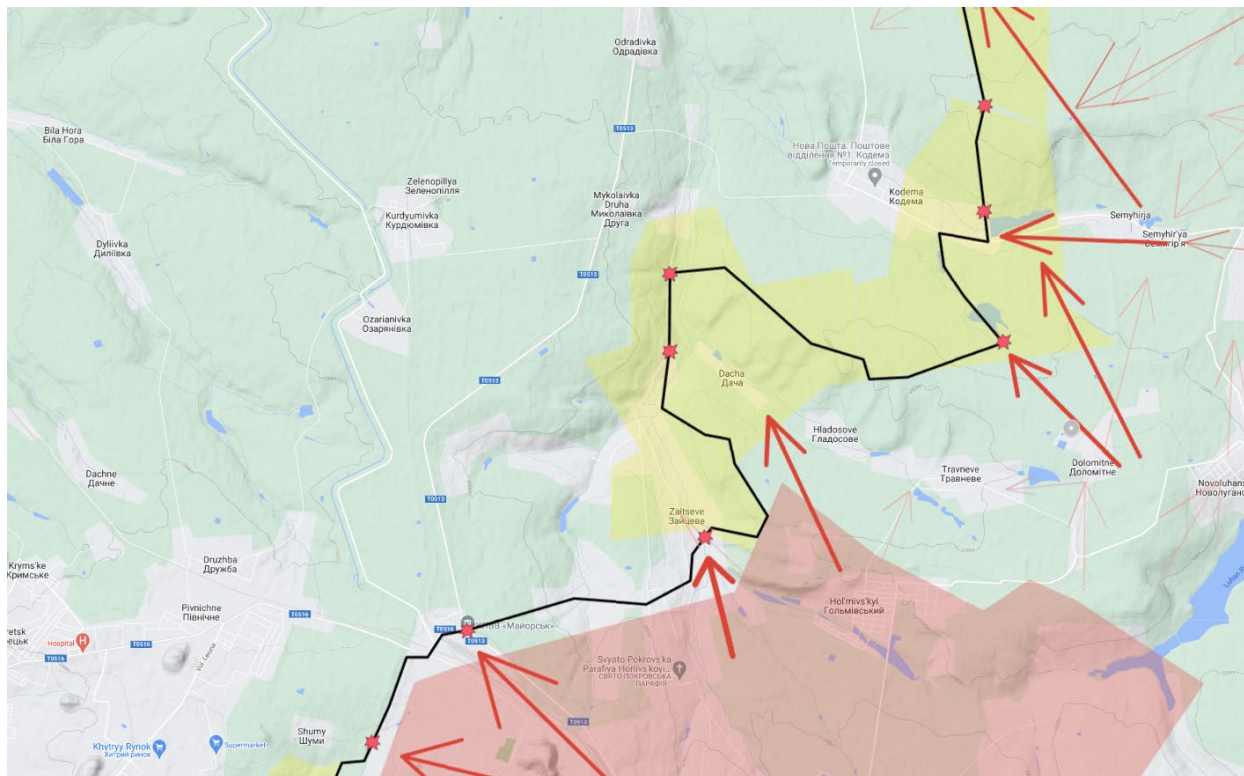
Ukrainian Objective: Defend Bakhmut-Soldar while managing equipment and personnel losses, minimize civilian casualties, and defend GLOCs



Pro-Russian sources reported that the 6th Cossack Tank Brigade left the Bakhmut area and was redeployed to Donetsk.² Private Military Company Wagner Group, supported by terrorist elements of the Imperial Legion, fought positional battles near [Soledar](#) and [Bakhmutskе](#). Lacking armor support, they were unsuccessful. The Russian air force attacked key Ukrainian positions in Soledar and Bakhmut and attacked [Zaitseve](#).³

² <https://twitter.com/DefMon3/status/154756616451077344>

³ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM](#)



In the Svitlodarsk bulge, Russian forces fought positional battles south and east of [Kodema](#) but did not improve the tactical situation.⁴ There were reports of fighting around the train station at [Mayorsk](#).^{5 6}

ASSESSMENT: The advance toward Bakhmut has been the most successful offensive since the Russian Ministry of Defense ended the 11-day operational pause on July 16. Ukraine retreated from Svitlodarsk on May 24 and

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

⁵ <https://t.me/rybar/37699>

⁶ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report PM](#)

successfully defended the Vulheriska Thermal Power Plant through July 26. Since capturing the plant, Russian proxy forces, mainly PMC Wagner Group supported by terrorist elements of the Imperial Legion and Kadyrovites of the 141st Special Motorized Regiment, have advanced 7 kilometers. It took Russian forces 90 days, accounting for terrain, to advance 12 kilometers from Svitlodarsk.

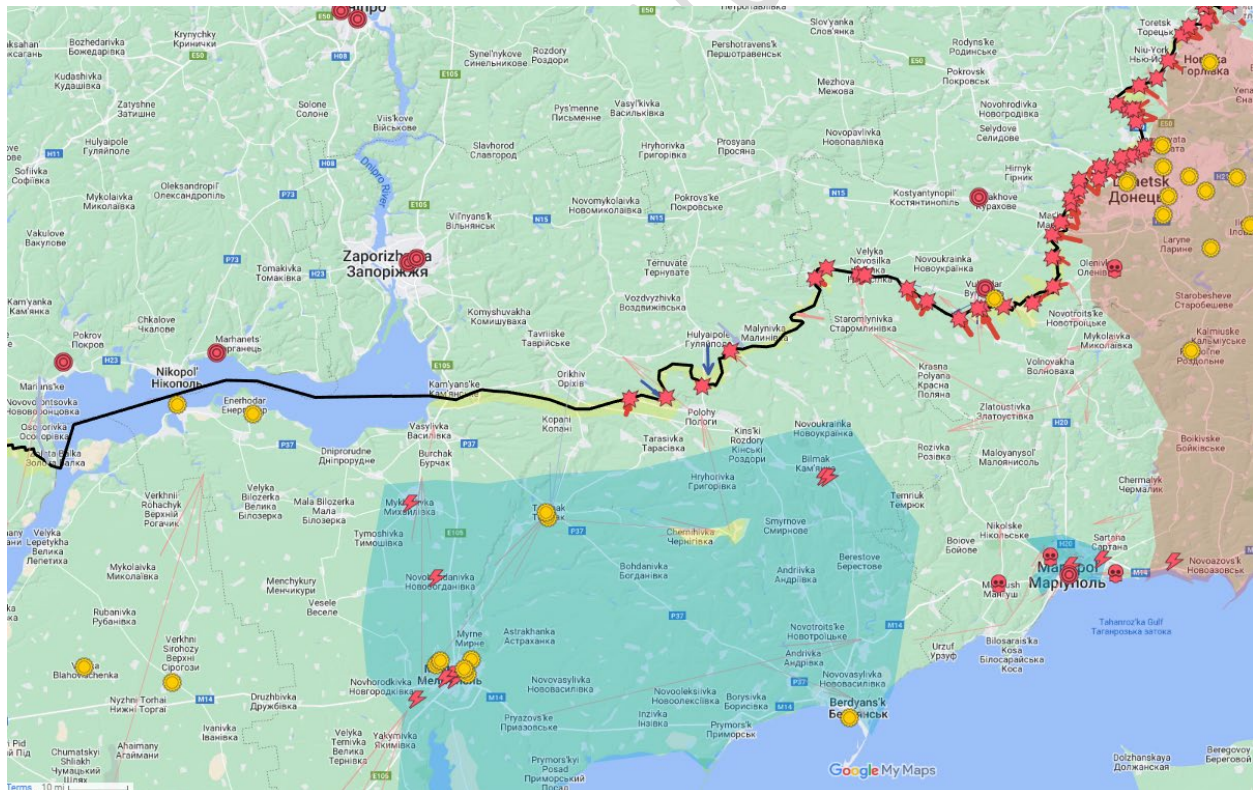
The advance to capture Bakhmut has likely reached its culmination point, with Russian combat power exhausted in this region. Before the arrival of HIMARS and improved GLOC interdiction, Russian military leaders would saturate the region with artillery and rocket fire and win an attritional battle. Due to excessive use and deferred maintenance, Russian artillery systems are wearing out. Ammunition supplies are becoming an issue theaterwide, although the issue is relative.

Even at 40% of the peak daily fire rate in late June, the quantity of artillery fired remains significant and greater than Ukraine's capabilities. A key difference from late June is that Russian artillery firepower is no longer concentrated on a single axis such as Luhansk. According to data analysis by Ragnar Gudmundsson, the number of settlements targeted by Russian artillery increased from 50

on June 26 to almost 100 on August 12.⁷ Fewer artillery pieces, fewer shells, spread over a larger area.

Russian forces could capture Bakhmut and Soledar before the arrival of Rasputitsa, also known as mud season, but it will require reallocating artillery pieces and military units from other axes.

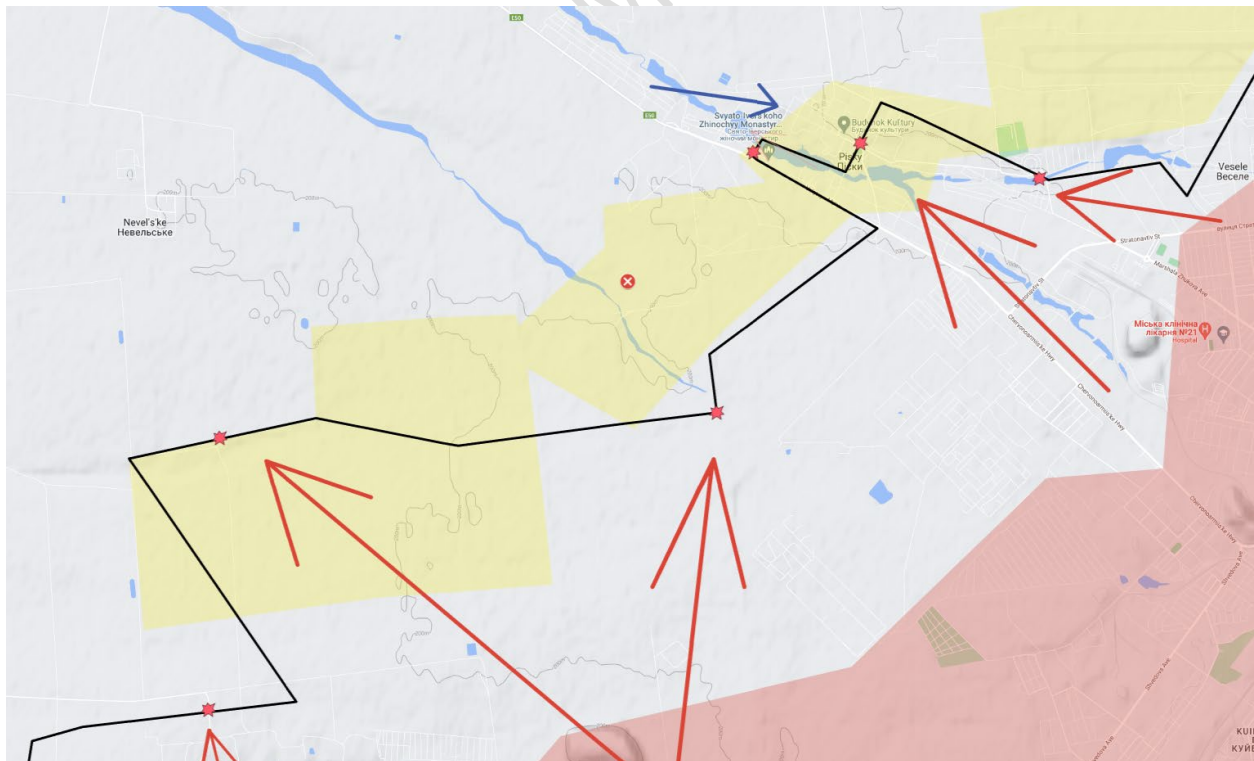
SOUTHWEST DONETSK AND WESTERN ZAPORIZHZIA



⁷ [Ragnar Gudmundsson Russia-Ukraine War Data Analysis Tables](#)

Russian Objective UPDATED: Push Ukrainian forces out of firing range of Donetsk city, defend the existing line of conflict in Zaporizhia to the Dnipro River, bring the insurrection across southwestern Donetsk and Zaporizhia under control

Ukrainian Objective: Defend the existing line of conflict while finding and exploiting weaknesses, destroy troop concentrations and command and control sites, interdict supplies and disrupt logistics, and prepare for or convince Russian forces Ukraine is preparing for a widescale counteroffensive



The 1st Army Corps of the Donetsk People's Republic (DNR) lost control of parts of [Pisky](#).⁸ DPR forces released a propaganda video showing a flag raising at a bombed-out home as their proof Pisky was under Russian control.⁹ The house was geolocated to the far eastern part of Pisky, on the edge of Donetsk. The same day, another video showed Russian artillery hitting the Ukrainian position in Pisky, 2.5 kilometers to the west.¹⁰

We compared the new video to the one recorded on August 11 to evaluate if they were from the same attack but shot from different angles. The earlier video showed an attack on a block of apartments by a TOS-1 thermobaric weapon near sunset or sunrise.¹¹ The new video was filmed midday under clear skies and showed more damage to the apartment block. In the new video, the courtyard is scorched, unlike on August 11, when the area was covered in green vegetation with more trees. Based on the evidence, the new video was recorded on the same day the flag-raising video was made with the weather conditions matching. Our analysis shows Ukraine controls 30% to 40% of Pisky.

⁸ https://twitter.com/TCG_CrisisRisks/status/1562650832772149251

⁹ <https://t.me/PersonDistinct/129>

¹⁰ <https://t.me/NeoficialniyBeZsonoV/16832>

¹¹ <https://t.me/NeoficialniyBeZsonoV/16833>

ASSESSMENT: If it weren't for bad operational security (OPSEC), Russian forces wouldn't have operational security.

Separatist troops attempted to push Ukrainian forces out of their positions in the direction of [Pervomaiske](#) but were unsuccessful.

Russian forces tried to advance on [Nevelske](#) using main battle tanks and infantry fighting vehicles with inadequate light infantry support.¹² After suffering losses, separatist troops had to retreat. Video from DNR officials confirmed that our war map is accurate, with Russian tanks firing 250 meters from our assessed line of conflict.

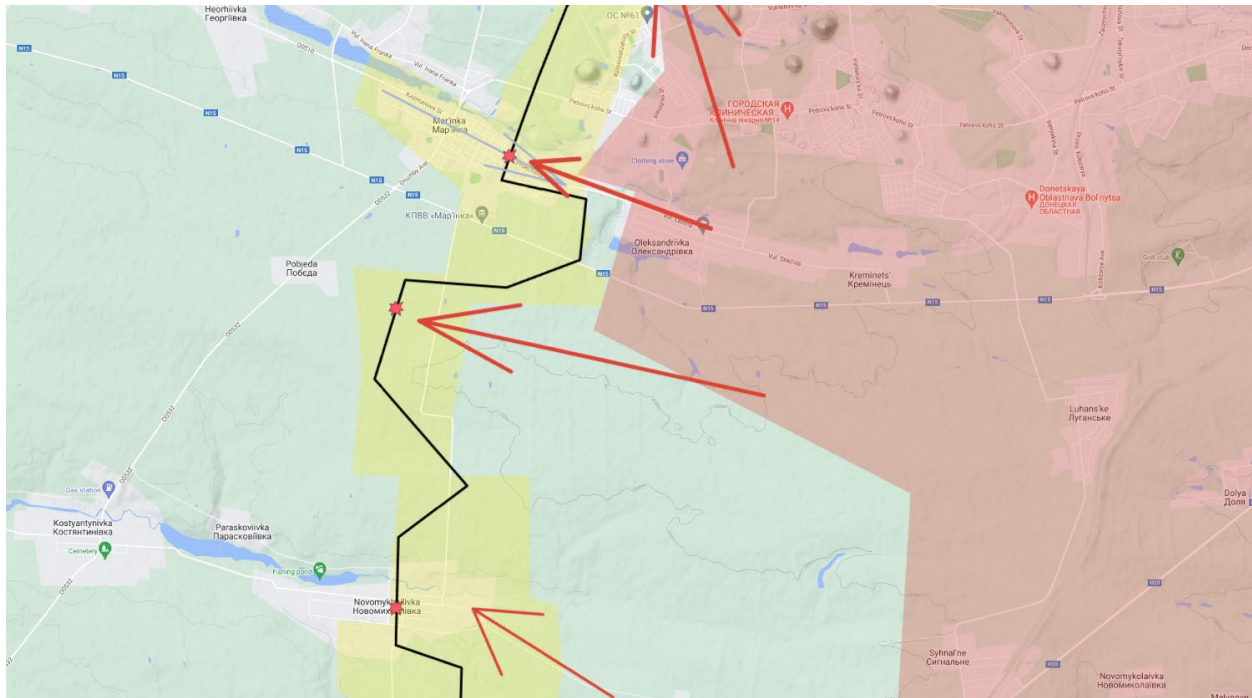
Ukraine is accused of shelling the Galaktika Mall in Donetsk, with multiple videos showing black smoke rising from the complex.^{13 14 15} There were no reported injuries or deaths from local officials.

¹² <https://twitter.com/RALee85/status/1562538947493867521>

¹³ <https://t.me/itsdonetsk/27602>

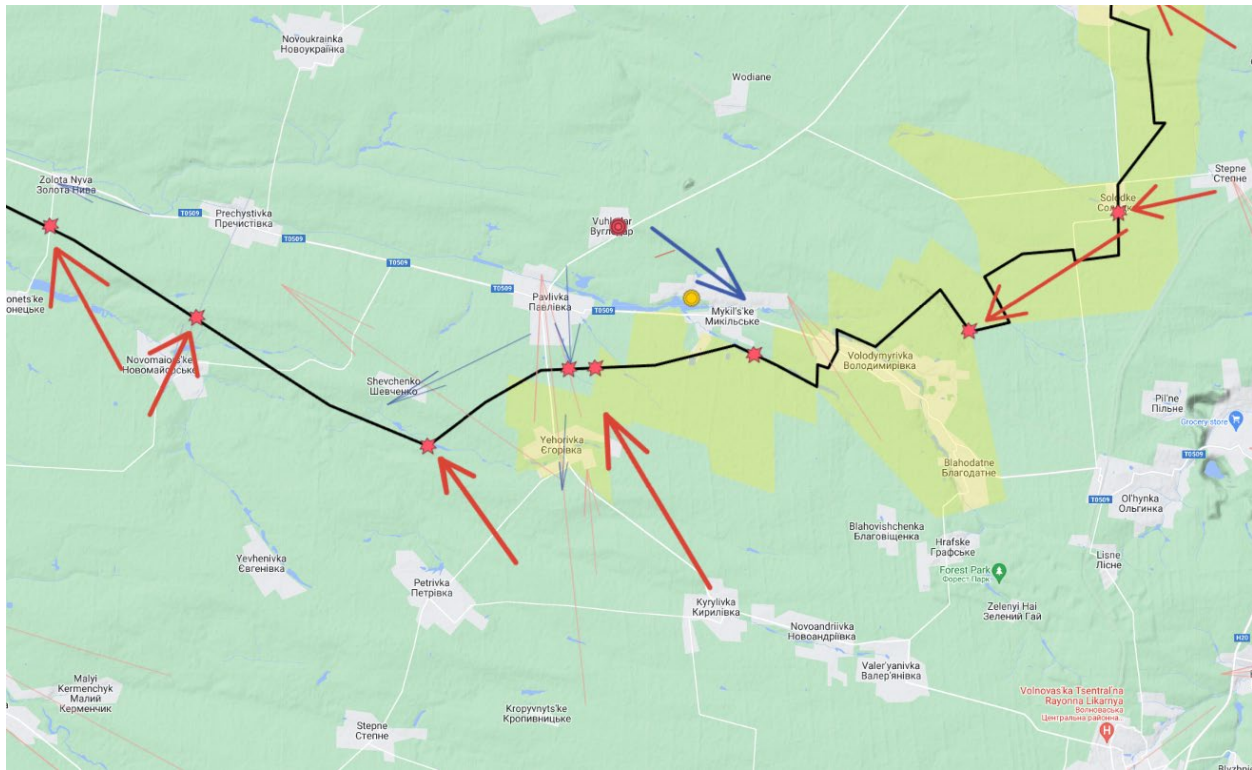
¹⁴ <https://t.me/itsdonetsk/27558>

¹⁵ <https://t.me/itsdonetsk/27549>



Unable to advance further into Marinka, Russian forces attempted to flank Ukrainian positions but failed to advance into [Pobieda](#).

South of Donetsk, Russian forces continue attempts to advance into [Novomykhailivka](#), keeping up the military tradition. As in previous advances, they were unsuccessful.



On the Donetsk-Zaporizhia administrative border, Russian forces attempted to advance on [Pavlivka](#) and continued to press toward [Velyka Novosilka](#) but did not move the line of conflict.¹⁶

Ukrainian and Russian forces exchange artillery, rockets fired from multiple launch rocket systems (MLRS), and indirect tank fire from Niu York to Donetsk to Velyka

¹⁶ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM](#)

Novosilka in Donetsk and Hulyaipole to Orikhiv to Shcherbaky in Zaporizhia.

Local news reports showed a significant wildfire burning in Russian-occupied Sjedove, on the coast of the Azov Sea, just a few kilometers from the Russian border.¹⁷ We could not confirm if the fire was from natural causes or related to military activity at the time of publication.

ASSESSMENT: Unchanged from August 16

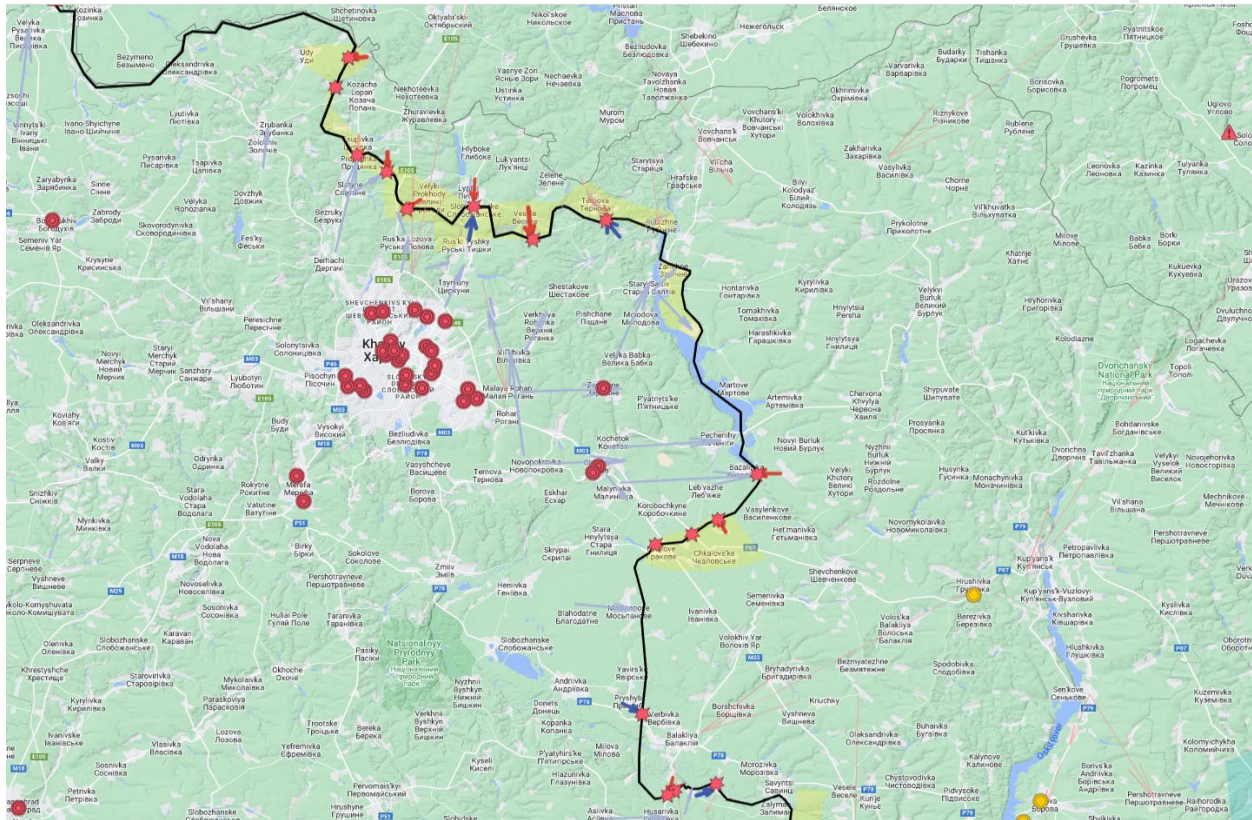
We assess that Russian forces can't secure the remainder of the Donbas before August 31.

In southern Ukraine, Russian forces continue to press Ukrainian defensive lines due to the arrival of reinforcements and testing capabilities. It is also likely an attempt to spread out Ukrainian resources to delay or prevent the next phase of the ongoing counteroffensive.

¹⁷ <https://t.me/itsdonetsk/27614>

KHARKIV REGION

NORTHWESTERN KHARKIV



Russian Objective: Prevent Ukraine from reaching the international border with Russia, protect the Belgorod-Kupyansk GLOC, break civilian will with continued terror attacks

Ukrainian Objective: Prevent further Russian advances on Kharkiv, pressure the Russian-controlled Shevchenkove-Izyum GLOC

There wasn't significant ground fighting northwest, north, northeast, or southeast of Kharkiv. Russian and Ukrainian forces traded artillery, rocket, and tank fire.

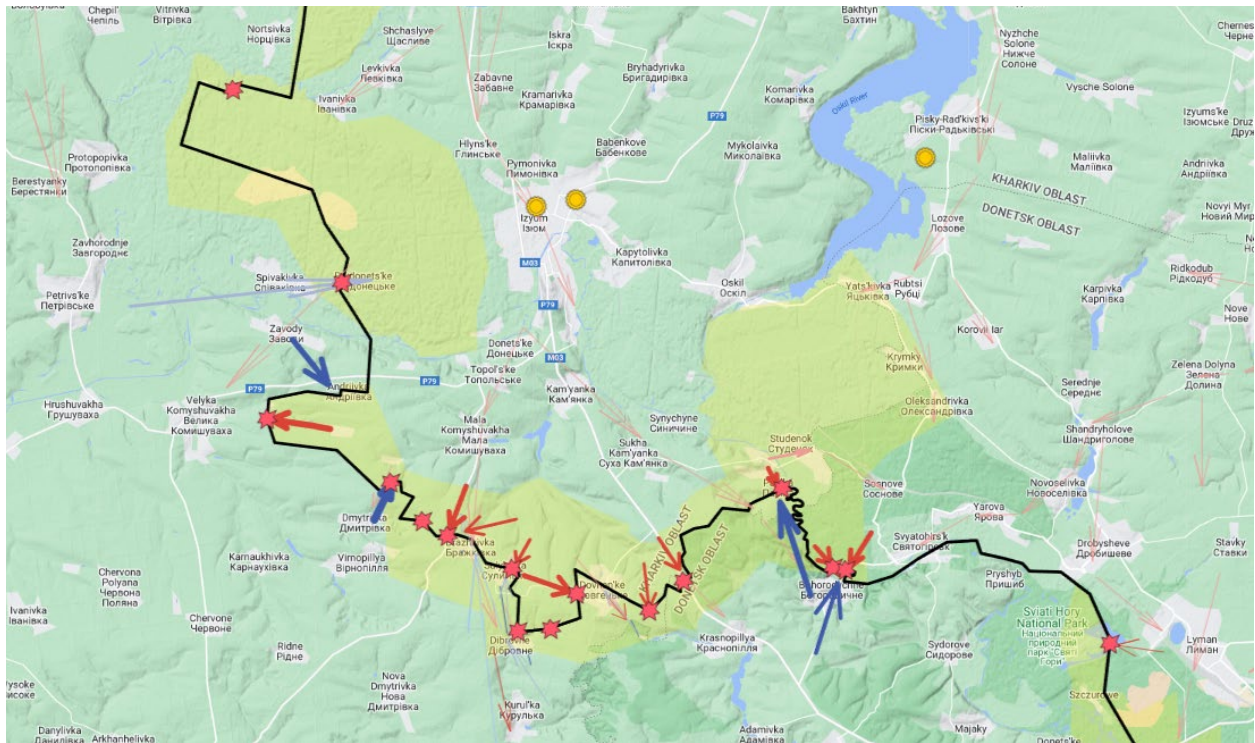
The General Staff reported that Ukrainian positions in Rubizhne were attacked by the Russian air force, indicating that the line of conflict moved north. We maintain Rubizhne is a no man's land.¹⁸

ASSESSMENT: Unchanged from August 11

Our assessment on August 10 that Russian forces were testing the capabilities of the Ukrainian territorial guard taking over the defense of Izyum was correct. Positional fighting, reconnaissance, and probing for weaknesses will continue to occur.

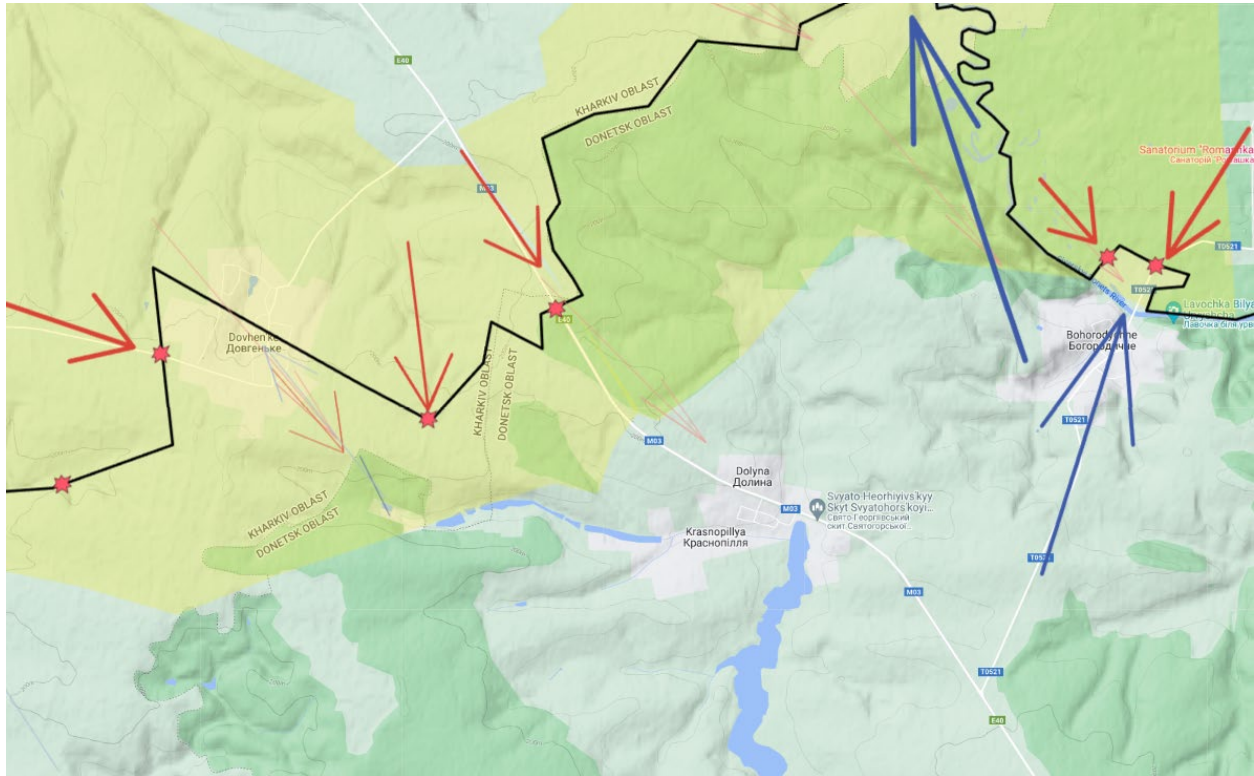
¹⁸ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM](#)

IZYUM AXIS



Russian Objective: Push Ukrainian forces back to end shelling on Izyum, protect Ground Lines of Communication (GLOC – supply lines) west and north of Izyum

Ukrainian Objective: Defend against advances on Slovyansk and capitalize on weaknesses in Russian defenses, continue to harass and interdict Russian GLOCs, execute Special Operation Forces (SOF) raids on Russian troops located behind the line of conflict



Russian forces attempted to advance on [Dolyna](#).¹⁹ Due to diminishing artillery support, lack of fire control, and the advance conducted mainly by conscripts and unskilled forces, the attack was unsuccessful. There was an attempted advance in the direction of [Nova Dmytrivka](#) by a small Russian force, but they were sent back to Sherwood Forest.²⁰

¹⁹ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report PM](#)

²⁰ https://twitter.com/TCG_CrisisRisks/status/1562650828951138306

In Sherwood Forest, the woods west of Izyum, Ukrainian forces and artillery continue to harass Russian positions and GLOCs. A video near Izyum (likely southeast, but we could not geolocate) shows two Russian soldiers [escaping a Ukrainian artillery barrage](#) on bicycles.²¹

The morning and evening updates from the General Staff reported that Ukrainian positions in [Brazhkivka](#) were shelled through the day, indicating Ukraine still controls the village.

ASSESSMENT: Unchanged from August 7

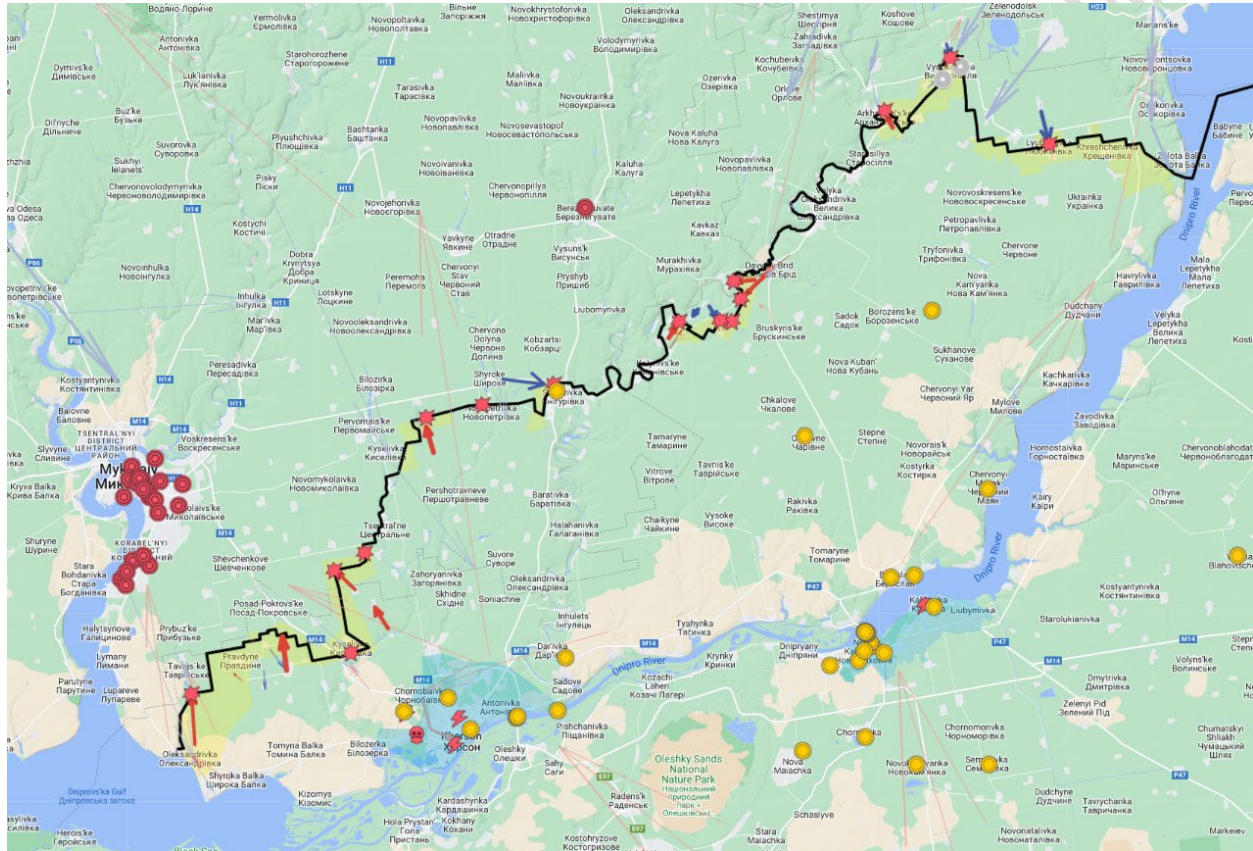
We remain unwilling to call the ongoing action by Ukrainian forces a counteroffensive. We maintain that Russian forces between [Avdriivka](#) and [Kopanky](#) are now in a salient and at moderate risk of encirclement if Ukrainian forces were to make a breakthrough.

It is implausible that Russian forces can secure the Donetsk oblast by August 31 without securing Slovyansk as part of that self-declared deadline.

²¹ <https://twitter.com/visegrad24/status/1562608931167666176>

DNIPRO, KHERSON & MYKOLAIV, ZAPORIZHIA REGION

KHERSON



Russian Objective: Push Ukrainian forces out of artillery range of Kherson and critical Ground Lines of Communication (GLOC – supply lines), prepare for a Ukrainian counteroffensive by building defenses, and prevent the expansion of the insurgency

Ukrainian Objective: Liberate the Kherson oblast west of the Dnipro River, push Russian forces back far enough to end multiple launch rocket system (MLRS) attacks on Mykolaiv and Kryvvi Rih

Ukraine struck the Kakhovka Bridge again with rockets fired by HIMARS.²² Video after the attack showed severe damage to the structure.²³ The bridge deck is penetrated in multiple locations, with one of the main supports suffering significant damage. It is unlikely the bridge is passable for any vehicles.

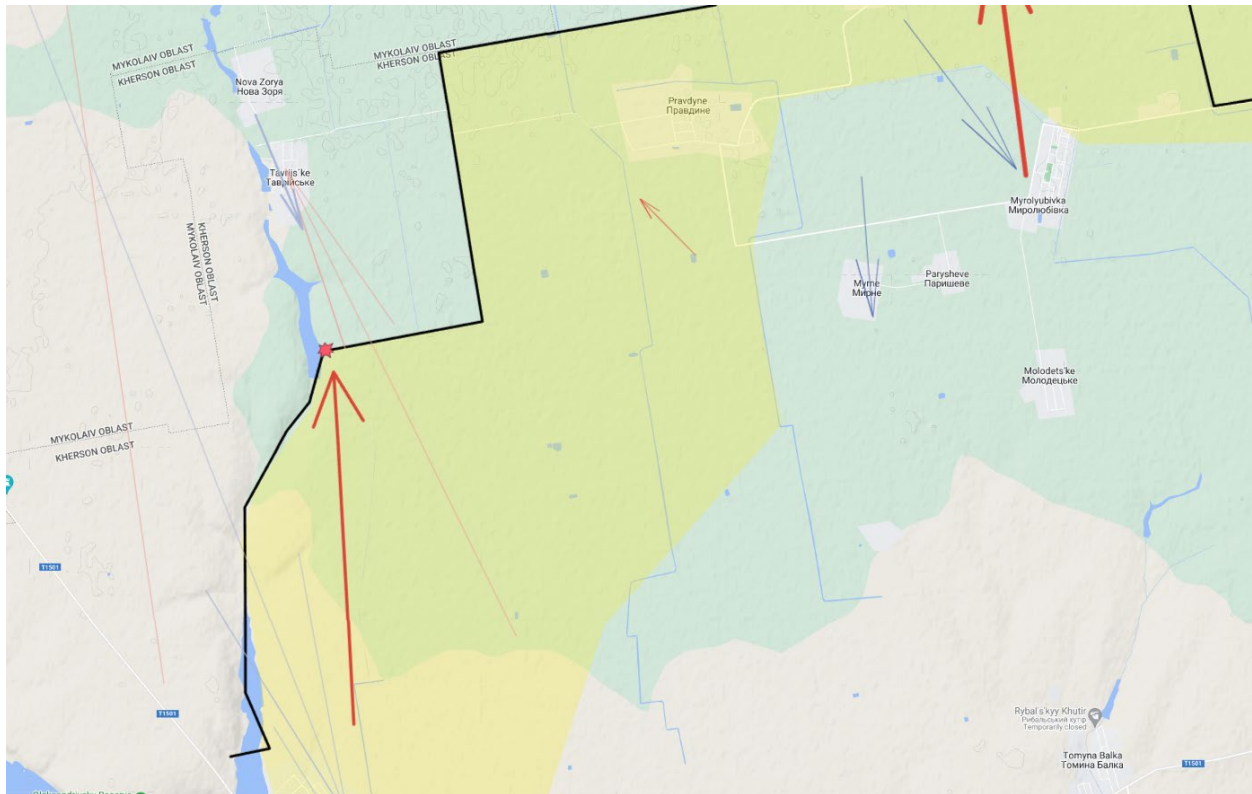
There were reports of a rocket attack from HIMARS on Kherson near the Antonovsky Bridge.²⁴ Russian forces have started towing barges across the Dnipro in an attempt to improve the GLOC situation.²⁵ A video showed a convoy of widely spaced supply trucks crossing the span at low speed early on August 25.

²² https://twitter.com/bayraktar_1love/status/1562498652559781890

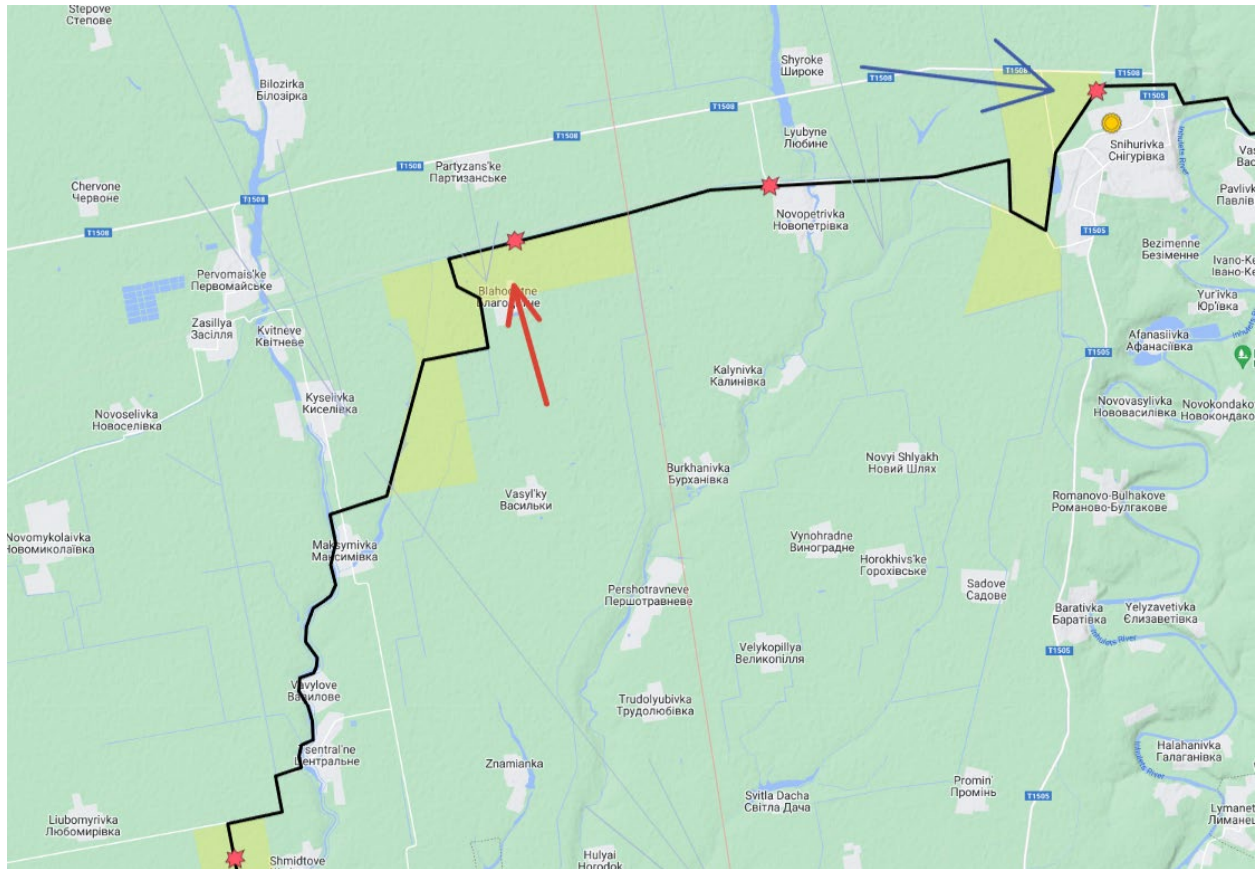
²³ https://twitter.com/hochu_dodomu/status/1562455730015260676

²⁴ https://twitter.com/bayraktar_1love/status/1562714354557997058

²⁵ https://twitter.com/bayraktar_1love/status/1562714811066068993

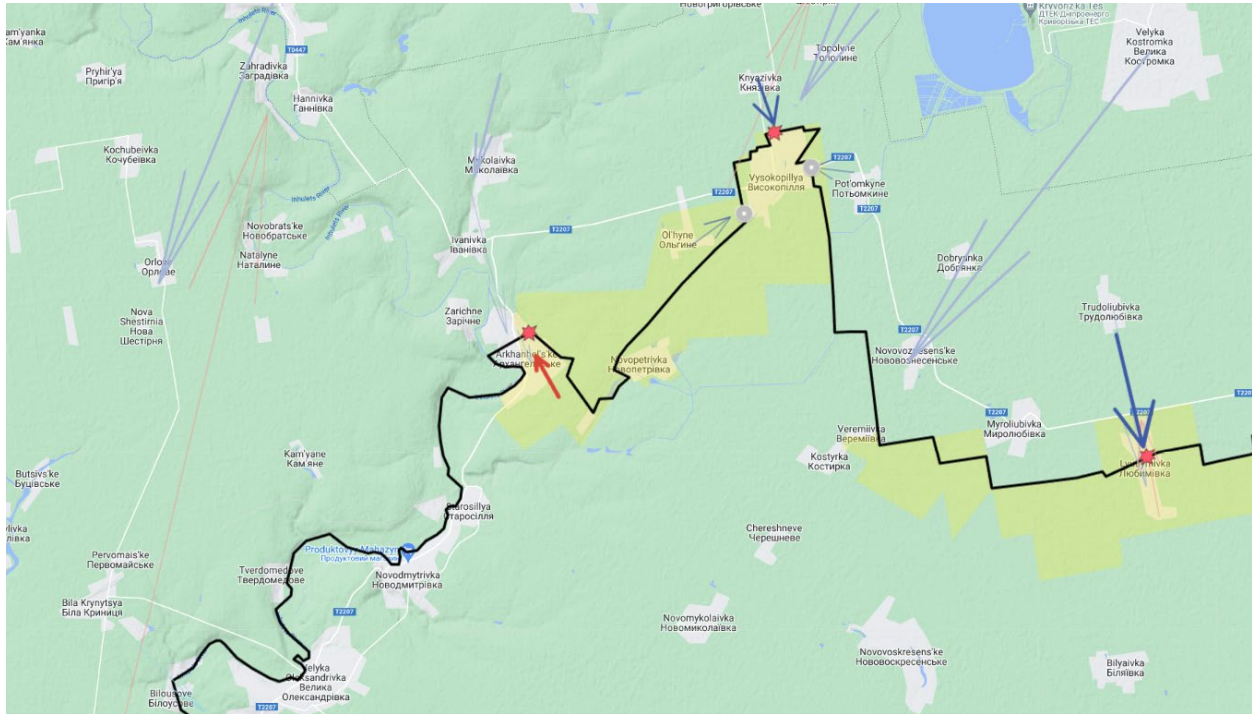


Several sources reported that Russian airborne troops (VDV) attempted to advance north from Oleksandrivka [Kherson] but could not traverse the open fields. Based on reports from Russian and Ukrainian sources, VDV forces may have lost control of the wheat fields between [Oleksandrivka](#) and [Tavrijs'ke](#).



Russian troops tried to expand their area of control north of [Blahodatne](#) [Mykolaiv].²⁶ Due to the canal north of the town, only a small force could advance through a chokepoint, and they suffered heavy losses.

²⁶ <https://www.facebook.com/okPivden/videos/1076492999678886/>



Russian forces attempted to breakthrough Ukrainian lines near Arkhanhelske, trying to advance in the direction of [Mykolaivka](#) [Kherson].²⁷

ASSESSMENT: Unchanged from August 13

With all four GLOCs severed for Russian troops on the west bank of the Dnipro River, resupply will have to be done by barge, ferry, and helicopter. Carrying fuel, replacement

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

equipment, artillery shells, and rockets will be challenging to sustain and support 25,000 soldiers.

The Russian Ministry of Defense has continued to send reinforcements west of the Dnipro, with 3,000 elite VDV troops arriving in the last week, swelling the number of troops to 25,000.²⁸ That is almost 20% of the entire occupation force in Ukraine, including LNR, DNR, Chechen, terrorists with the Imperial Legion, and PMC Wagner. Ukraine has been targeting ammunition and supply depots, logistics centers, and GLOCs, although the amount of supplies available in Kherson is unclear.

The first indication of supply issues is already emerging, with complaints online about drinking water shortages in supply drops and only receiving "dry rations" for meals. Another sign that supply issues have already started is the S-300 missile attacks on Mykolaiv have ended. Suppress Enemy Air Defense (SEAD) missions by Ukraine have helped limit the attacks, but a lack of supply of the larger S300 anti-aircraft missiles is likely contributing to the issue.

²⁸ [Stars & Stripes](#)

Russian Battalion Tactical Groups (BTG) are designed to operate for three to five days independent of resupply. Signs that the supply situation is getting more severe won't appear for weeks but would include abandoned vehicles, increasing complaints about a lack of resources on Telegram, VK, and Live Journal, looting for food and fuel, and a reduction in artillery fire among front line units.

With mud season 30 to 45 days away and the first snow in 60 to 75 days, complaints about a lack of cold weather gear, hypothermia, and low morale from living in the mud would be another indicator that the supply situation is worsening.

There remain significant questions on when and if there will be a counteroffensive, and Kyiv has become increasingly contradictory on what will be next. Some officials have told the press that the counteroffensive has already started, including President Zelenskyy earlier in the week. An anonymous source close to the Ukrainian government told the Washington Post there would be no counteroffensive because Ukraine doesn't have the resources.

"We have to be honest - for now, Ukraine doesn't have a sufficient number of weapons systems for a counteroffensive. It's still possible to get a result, but if so, it will be the result of smart Ukraine strategy more than of countering Russia with equal power."

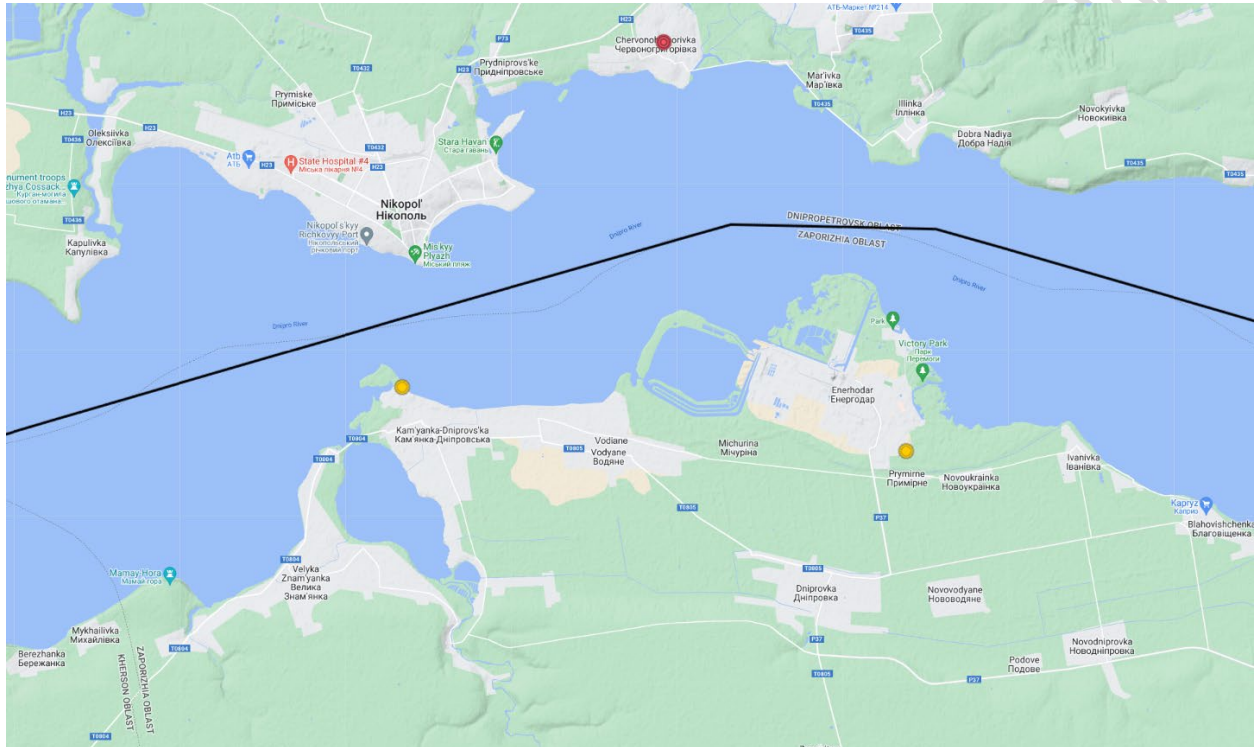
The appearance of Czech hedgehogs in Kherson, Russian forces fearful of moving on the streets due to partisan activity, Russian commanders leaving the region, and local government and junior military officers occupying Kherson hospitals and schools to avoid HIMARS attacks all point to the same fact.

Regardless of what we may assess or think or what the Ukrainian government is saying – the Kremlin believes a counteroffensive is coming, and it will fight to hold the western half of the Kherson oblast.

DNIPROPETROVSK AND ZAPORIZHIA

Russian Objective: Interdict personnel and equipment assembling for a counteroffensive, break civilian will with continued terror attacks, and turn popular opinion against Ukraine by terrorizing the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant

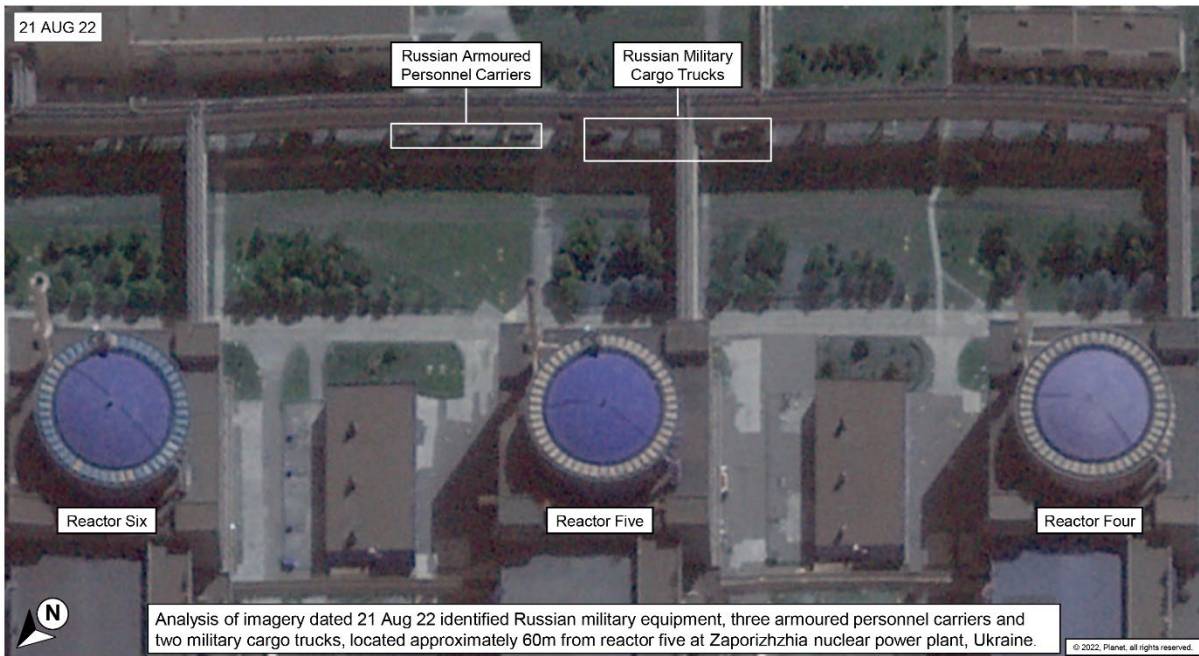
Ukrainian Objective: Prepare and stage for a counterattack, prevent further Russian advances, exploit weaknesses on the line of conflict



The situation at the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant is unchanged.

The British Ministry of Defense Intelligence released satellite images showing Russian armored personnel carriers and military cargo trucks parked within 60 meters of Reactor Five, parked under gantries and overhead pipes

to conceal their location. The satellite images released by the United Kingdom were taken on August 21.



The Ministry of Defense concluded in their intelligence update for August 25, "While Russia maintains the military occupation of Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, the principal risks to reactor operations are likely to remain disruption to the reactors' cooling systems, damage to its back-up power supply, or errors by workers operating under pressure."²⁹

²⁹ <https://twitter.com/DefenceHQ/status/1562672455516188675>

The pictures were released ahead of the Russian State Duma holding a special session to release a statement to the United Nations and "all international parliamentary organizations" about Zaporizhzhia.³⁰

"The leaders of the factions will meet again together with the chairman, and approximately, at about 15:00, we will convene the Council of the Duma, at which our tough statement will be adopted," deputy Sergei Mironov told reporters. There is speculation that the Duma will declare Ukraine a terrorist state.

If western officials are looking for proof that supports Ukrainian claims that Russian military equipment is located on the grounds of the Zaporizhzhia NPP, they can watch Russian state media. In a stunning news report on August 24, the video shows Russian BTR-80 infantry fighting vehicles within the power plant compound by Reactor 2.³¹ The video was recorded on July 7. The news report showed computer displays of the internal systems within the vehicle, including the date.

³⁰ [https://english.pravda \[dot\] ru/news/russia/153703-state_duma_ukraine/](https://english.pravda.ru/news/russia/153703-state_duma_ukraine/) [Russian State Media]

³¹ <https://t.me/rusvesnasu/21828>



The video claims that Russian officials arrested two Ukrainian spies working for Energoatom. Leaders of the military garrison at the power plant claim that the duo documented military troop movements and equipment located at the plant and was sharing the information with Ukrainian officials.³²

ASSESSMENT: It is Orwellian for the Kremlin to repeatedly claim Russia has no military presence or equipment at Zaporizhzhia NPP and share a news story showing the opposite. The August 24 claim that two Ukrainian spies were taken into custody for allegedly reporting the troop

³² <https://t.me/RVvoenkor/23975>

presence and the location of military equipment to Ukrainian officials is stunning.

Residents of Enerhodar made a video appealing to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to free the city and end the Russian occupation at the power plant. They reported atrocities being committed by occupation forces, including kidnappings and disappearances.³³

A brush fire erupted south of the power plant on Wednesday, and so far, local officials are allowing it to burn.³⁴

³³ https://t.me/u_now/64264

³⁴ <https://twitter.com/Osinttechnical/status/1562691591776915456>



Nikopol and Marhanets were shelled again by rockets fired by MLRS from across the Dnipro River. The attack was much smaller than at the start of the month, with 11 Grad rockets damaging homes.³⁵

Kryvyi Rih was attacked by Tornado-S MLRS, which has a range of up to 120 kilometers. Cluster munitions hit the Metalurhiynyi neighborhood, with unexploded ordnance scattered through a civilian neighborhood.

³⁵ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/25/7364698/>

Russian missiles struck the railway station in Chaplyne, which was full of civilians at the time.³⁶ Just before midnight and about 20 kilometers away, Russian missiles crashed into the town of Velykomykhailivka, wounding almost a dozen people as they slept in their homes. There is more information on both incidents in the **War Crimes and Human Rights** section.

CHERNIHIV & SUMY REGION

Russian Objective: Lock Ukrainian military resources in places, break civilian will with continued terror attacks

Ukrainian Objective: Maintain enough force strength on the border with Russia to prevent Russian troops from crossing

Dmytro Zhyvytskyi, Sumy Oblast Administrative and Military Governor, reported that Russian forces shelled the settlements of Esman, Znob-Novhorod, Krasnopillia, and Bilopillia.³⁷ There were no reports of significant damage or casualties. Russian attacks on border settlements have

³⁶ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/25/7364709/>

³⁷ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/25/7364682/>

become smaller in the past week, with less than 40 strikes from mortars reported across the region.

KYIV REGION

Two Russian missiles struck the Vyshhorod area north of Kyiv just after midnight.³⁸ There were no reports of injuries, and local officials said that air defenses had intercepted at least one other missile during the attack.

BLACK SEA, CRIMEA & ODESA REGION

There wasn't any significant military action in this region.

Editor's Note: *There are so many reports of explosions in Russian-occupied Crimea that are unfounded or likely air defenses shooting at nothing that we have decided not to report on each incident. We will only report on confirmed attacks.*

³⁸ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/25/7364694/>

WEST REGION

At least one Calibr cruise missile launched by the Black Sea fleet slammed into the ground near Myrhorod in the Poltava oblast. The Russian Ministry of Defense claimed they hit the Ukrainian air force base outside of the city, but video after the attack showed the missile successfully carved out a six-meter-deep crater in the middle of a dirt road.³⁹ The strike caused several spot fires in the immediate area.

Russian cruise missiles landed in Shepetivka, according to Serhiy Gamaly, Khmelnytskyi Oblast Administrative and Military Governor.⁴⁰ Gamaly reported that “critical infrastructure” had been attacked, and the explosion's shockwave blew out windows and took doors off their hinges on nearby apartment buildings.

Ukrainian air defense intercepted a Russian cruise missile near Vinnytsia.⁴¹

³⁹ <https://twitter.com/Flash43191300/status/1562391849590996992>

⁴⁰ https://t.me/u_now/64218

⁴¹ https://t.me/informatsia_obstanovka/31233

THEATERWIDE & EXTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS

The United States announced the largest aid package to Ukraine to date.⁴² The almost \$3 billion package includes:

- Six additional National Advanced Surface-to-Air Missile Systems (NASAMS) with additional munitions
- Up to 245,000 rounds of 155mm artillery ammunition
- Up to 65,000 rounds of 120mm mortar ammunition
- Up to 24 counter-artillery radars
- Puma Unmanned Aerial Systems and support equipment for Scan Eagle UAS systems
- VAMPIRE Counter-Unmanned Aerial Systems
- Laser-guided rocket systems
- Funding for training, maintenance, and sustainment for unspecified equipment

The Pentagon hasn't shared all the details on previous military aid packages, such as the AGM-88 HARM anti-radiation missiles and the modifications made to Soviet-era Mig-29 fighter jets to support NATO weapons. Due to the value of the latest package, there is speculation that additional military hardware is being provided.

⁴² [United States Department of Defense](#)

The United States has provided \$13.5 billion in military assistance to Ukraine since January 21, 2021.

Pentagon Deputy Chairman Colin Kahl told reporters that the United States had not transferred any fourth-generation fighter planes, such as the F-15 Strike Eagle or F-16 Falcon, but negotiations were ongoing.⁴³

"Even if we provided them now, they would arrive in a few years, so we focused on what concerns the Ukrainian fighters: what they need to support the ongoing containment efforts in the east and a possible counteroffensive," Kahl told reporters.

United Kingdom lame-duck Prime Minister Boris Johnson was in Kyiv for Independence Day and met with President Zelenskyy.⁴⁴ During his visit, Johnson announced another military aid package of 850 hand-held Black Hornet micro-drones. The UK is preparing to provide Ukraine with mine sweepers to patrol the coastal waters of Ukraine.⁴⁵ The details have not been released.

⁴³ https://t.me/u_now/64281

⁴⁴ <https://twitter.com/Flash43191300/status/1562439845917519873>

⁴⁵ <https://twitter.com/Flash43191300/status/1562439800183201794>

The first German GEPARD self-propelled anti-aircraft guns are in theater in Ukraine. The GEPARD has twin 35mm autocannons and is supposed to be very capable of shooting down low-flying aircraft.⁴⁶ It can also be used for direct fire and has a range of 6.3 kilometers.

The Defense Intelligence of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine (GRU) reported no threat of a ground invasion from Belarus to the Belarusian opposition publication Nexta.⁴⁷

Ukrainian State Intelligence (SBU) reported they detained a spy working for the Russian Federation attempting to locate HIMARS launchers and report their findings to the Russian Ministry of Defense. The man was taken into custody without incident.⁴⁸

FSB Colonel, wanted war criminal, Kremlin pariah, and our favorite Russian war critic, Igor "Girkin" Strelkov, strikes again, sharing how bad the military recruitment situation is

⁴⁶ <https://twitter.com/UAWeapons/status/1562720020995899398>

⁴⁷ [Defense Intelligence of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine](#)

⁴⁸ <https://twitter.com/Flash43191300/status/1562432146241110022>

in Russia.⁴⁹ Strelkov reported that Russian medical doctors are being called to recruitment stations for the army for enlistment. Practicing and certified doctors who went to colleges without a military department can only be accepted as enlisted personnel. Doctors are being told they can join as scrub nurses or field medics. If they sign a three-year contract, they can be transferred to the officer corps as a doctor.

The GRU reported that the Russian Ministry of Defense is moving personnel from their strategic missile defense forces to fight as ground troops in Ukraine.⁵⁰ Additionally, they claim that military commanders of the Russian Naval Infantry are unhappy that their amphibious assault troops got pulled into the war during the siege of Mariupol in April. They report severe losses among experienced marines and are worried about military readiness if they had to deploy to fight on a second front.

WAR CRIMES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Russian cruise missiles blasted the railway station in the town of Chaplyne in Dnipropetrovsk oblast, killing at least

⁴⁹ <https://t.me/strelkovii/3120>

⁵⁰ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/24/7364659/>

25 and wounding 31. Two children are among the dead. An 11-year-old was found in the rubble of a destroyed home, and a 6-year-old was in one of the railroad cars hit by a missile.



The attack came 12 hours after Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shogui declared, "During the special operation, we strictly observe the norms of humanitarian law. The strikes are carried out with high-precision weapons at the military infrastructure of the Armed Forces of Ukraine - command posts, airfields, warehouses, fortified areas, and objects of the military-industrial complex. At the same time, everything is done to avoid casualties among civilians. Of

course, this slows down the pace of the offensive, but we are doing it consciously."⁵¹

Russian opposition politician Yevgeny Roizman was arrested and taken from his apartment for making the statement, "the invasion of Ukraine."⁵²

Roizman was one of the last opposition figures left in Russia who had not been killed, arrested, or forced to flee the country before today. He had been charged with breaking the same law four times and fined for each violation. He faces ten years in prison for "discrediting the Russian army." Russia has detained more than 16,400 people under the so-called "don't say war" law passed in March.

More than 1,000 children from occupied Mariupol have been forcibly removed from their parents and sent to Russia, where they have already been adopted.⁵³ Officials in Krasnodar, Russia, with the City Department of Family Affairs, reported the adoptions in a story which have since been scrubbed from Russian news sites and social media.

⁵¹ [https://english.pravda \[dot\] ru/news/world/153733-russia/](https://english.pravda.ru/news/world/153733-russia/) [Russian State Media]

⁵² <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-62662317>

⁵³ https://twitter.com/nexta_tv/status/1562291105823072256

A Russian missile attack on Kharkiv wounded five people, including a five-year-old child.⁵⁴ The missile hit an apartment building while people were sleeping.

A missile attack on Velykomykhailivka wounded eight people as they slept in their homes, including a two-year-old child. All were hospitalized in serious condition.⁵⁵

GEOPOLITICAL

United States President Joe Biden is scheduled to talk to President Zelenskyy on Thursday. The two are supposed to discuss the almost \$3 billion in military aid announced on Wednesday and other diplomatic issues.

ECONOMIC

The United Kingdom reported they imported no energy products from the Russian Federation for the first time on

⁵⁴ <https://t.me/ukrainenowenglish/16363>

⁵⁵ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/25/7364698/>

record. In June, imports of Russian coal and oil were down 97%.⁵⁶

The rouble was flat, with an exchange rate of 60 roubles for one US dollar.

Oil continued to climb, with WTI crude reaching \$95 a barrel and Brent breaking the \$100 barrier, closing at \$102 a barrel. United States RBOB wholesale gasoline dropped to \$2.80 a gallon. (74 cents a liter)

Chicago SRW wheat futures climbed to 81 cents a bushel for December 2022 delivery.

⁵⁶ [The Guardian](#)