

# MALCONTENT NEWS RUSSIA-UKRAINE SITUATION REPORT

June 16, 2023





# Malcontent News

## Russia-Ukraine War SITREP

### 6/16/23 23:59\* PST

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## **SUMMARY – DAY 477**

It has been 3,397 days since Russia occupied the Crimea Peninsula on January 27, 2014, and one year and 112 days since Russia expanded its war against Ukraine. Today's report is combat only.

## **DAILY ASSESSMENT**

We assess the following:

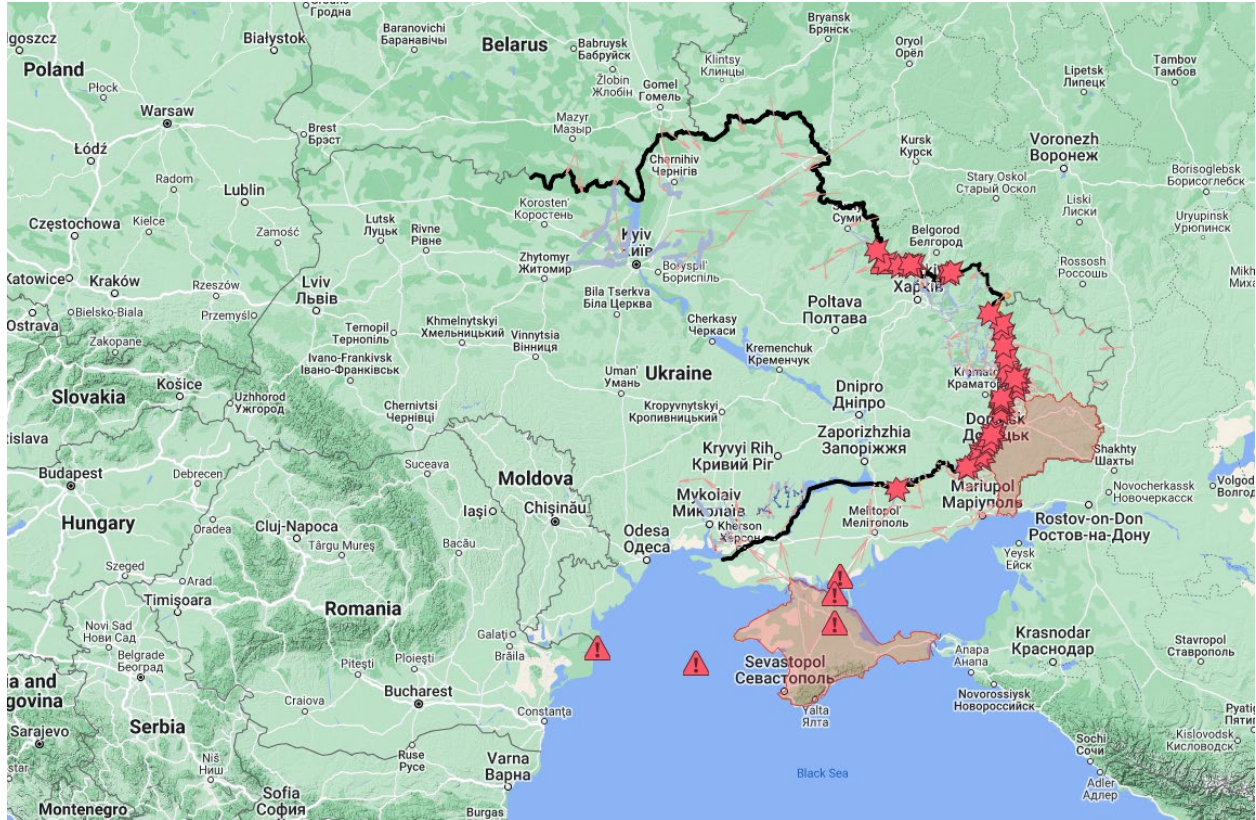
1. The infighting between Russian Minister of Defense Sergei Shoigu and Private Military Company leader Yevgeny Prigozhin is creating instability within the Russian Federation, with factions threatening criminal charges and violence and aligning themselves to different spheres of influence.
2. A compelling body of evidence indicates that on June 6, 2023, between 02:25 and 02:50 hours local time, Russian occupiers blew up the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Power Plant, dam structure, or both, causing its catastrophic failure.
3. We maintain the current activity is subordinate offensives, and the main operation has not started.

4. We maintain the Russian Ministry of Defense is in a chaotic state, incapable of creating mission cohesion between penal units, mobiks, conscripts, elite forces, PMCs, and proxy forces.
5. Russian 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



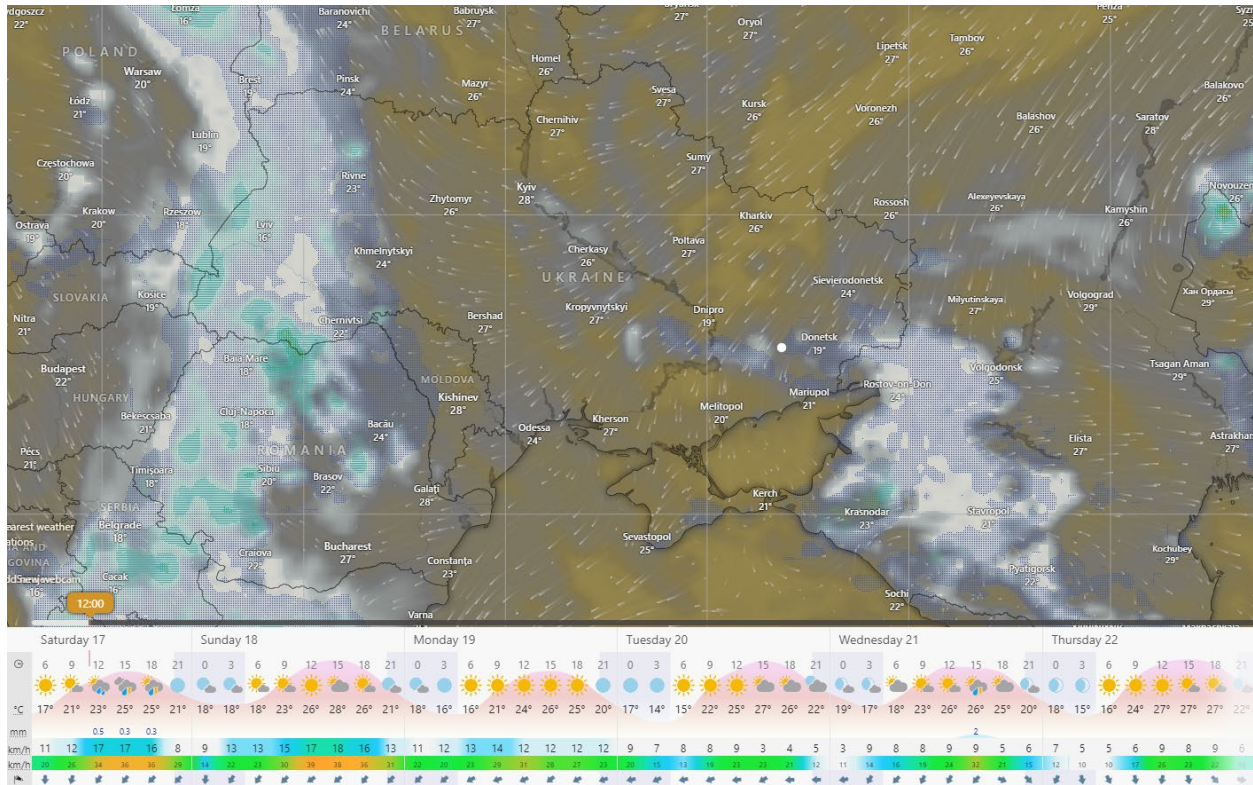
**About the maps:** Red triangles are sites of significant events unrelated to missile attacks, insurgencies, or ground combat, such as the sinking of the Moskva and the explosion at the Saky Naval airbase. Gray circles indicate an area where fighting has ended with no change in the line of conflict. 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](#)



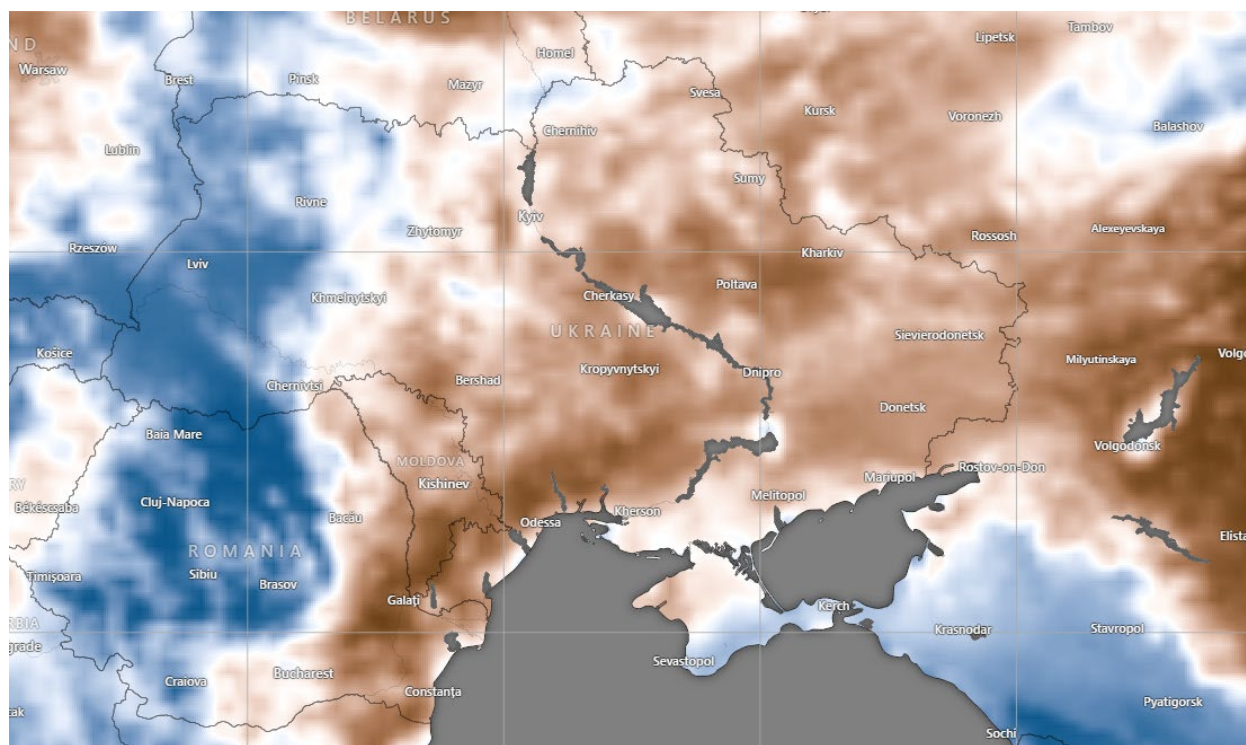


# UKRAINE WEATHER



The ECMWF Euro ensemble weather forecast model projects dry weather through June 22, with only scattered thunderstorms possible on Saturday. Skies will be clear to partly cloudy, with temperatures from 22° to 31° Celcius and lows from 11° to 21°. The new moon is on June 18, and the summer solstice is on June 21. Tractability is not an issue outside of rural areas of occupied Crimea and pockets of eastern Kherson, unrelated to flooding of the Dnipro.

## SOIL SATURATION AND HYDROLOGY

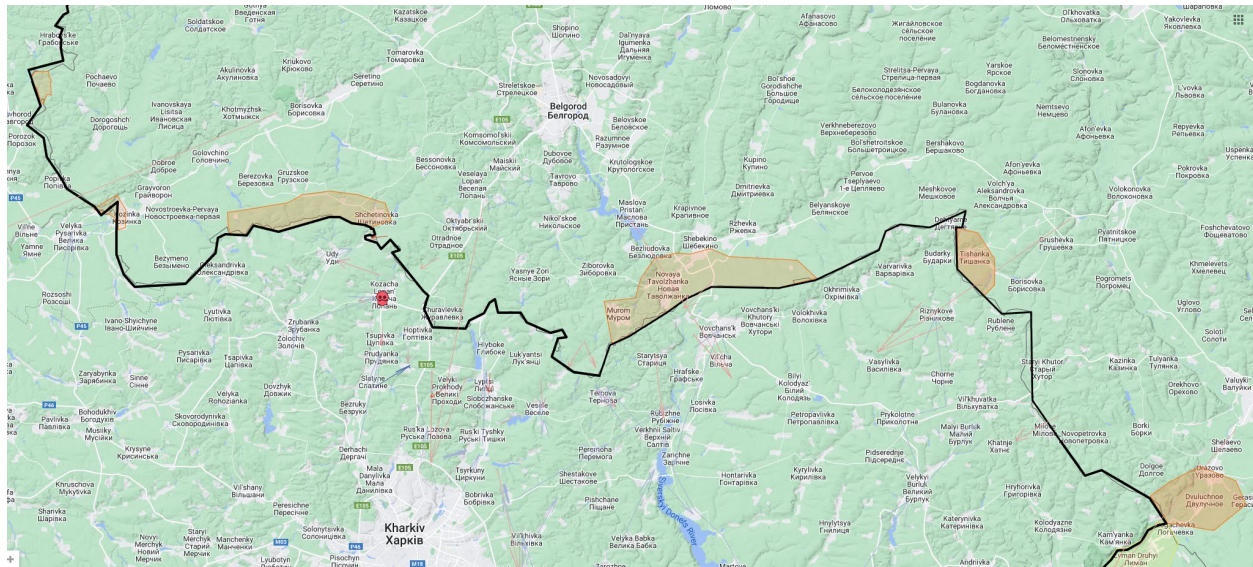


*June 24, 2023, GFS forecast indicates that dry conditions will be across most of Ukraine, with soil saturation from 15% to 45% to 40 centimeters deep in central, southern, and eastern Ukraine.*

***The soil saturation model does not consider flooding in the Dnipro River basin.*** Soil saturation is between 45% to 85% in eastern Kherson and southern Zaporizhia, with the Melitopol region drier than the surrounding area. The rest of eastern Ukraine is at 25 % to 45%. Most of occupied Crimea and the Krasnodar Krai region of Russia remain at or near 100%, impacting logistics.




# RUSSIAN FRONT



**Russian Objective:** Repel Russian partisan attacks, stabilize the border, and maintain civil order

**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  [visited Shebekino and Novaya Tavolzhanka](#) and surveyed the damage from a week of fighting.<sup>1</sup> After the tour, evacuees from the Shebekino area staying at a college in Belgorod complained to Governor Gladkov about the accommodations, bedding, and food quality. He vowed to improve the situation and called one of the college leaders "unscrupulous."<sup>2</sup>

In Belgorod, the decorative dome on a highrise apartment building caught fire, destroying the structure due to a faulty boiler house. The blaze was not related to drone, missile, or artillery strikes.<sup>3</sup> Northwest of Belgorod, a drone was reportedly shot down in the Yakovlevsky District.<sup>4</sup>

Residents are complaining that Chechen Forces are not occupying the first two echelons on the Russian-Ukraine border but are using conscripts as shields while remaining in the rear areas.<sup>5</sup> Local Chechen commanders are saying

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<sup>1</sup> [https://t.me/belgorod\\_informant/4903](https://t.me/belgorod_informant/4903)

<sup>2</sup> <https://t.me/vvgladkov/2691>

<sup>3</sup> [https://t.me/belgorod\\_informant/491](https://t.me/belgorod_informant/491)

<sup>4</sup> [https://t.me/belgorod\\_informant/4904](https://t.me/belgorod_informant/4904)

<sup>5</sup> <https://t.me/Crimeanwind/33568>

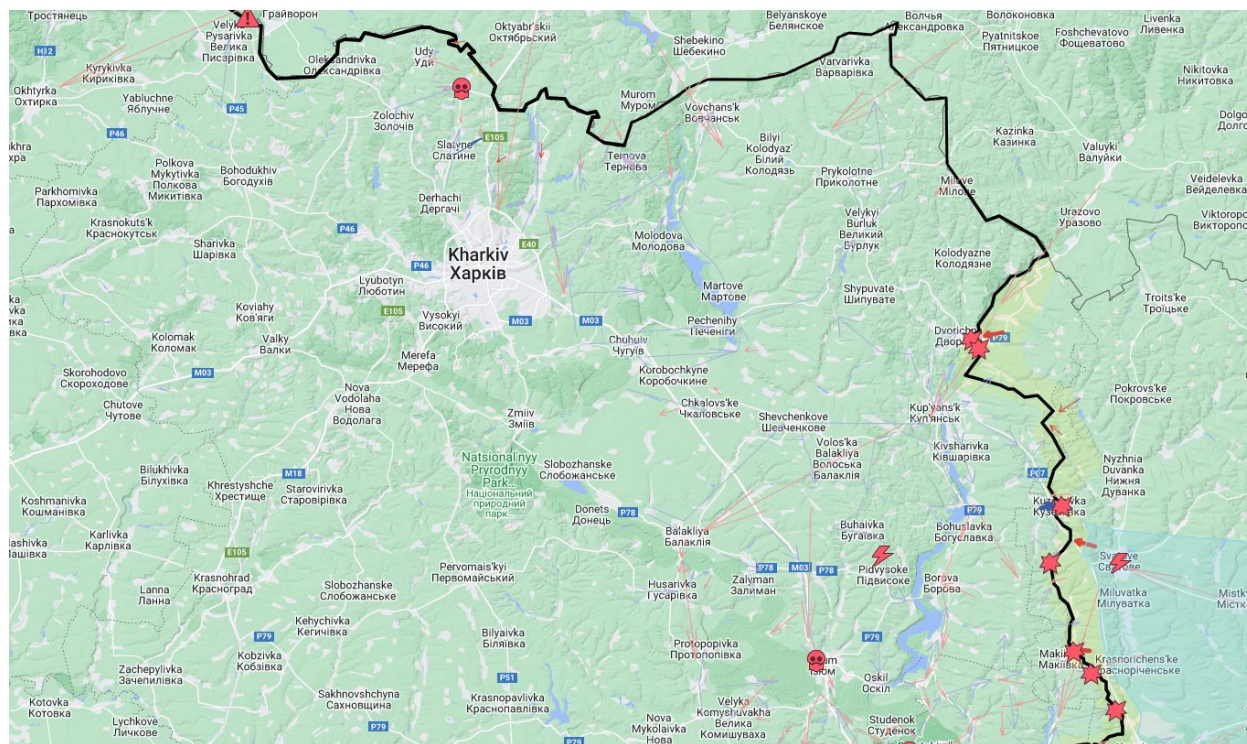


they are there to control the situation, not fight local sabotage groups.

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# KHARKIV



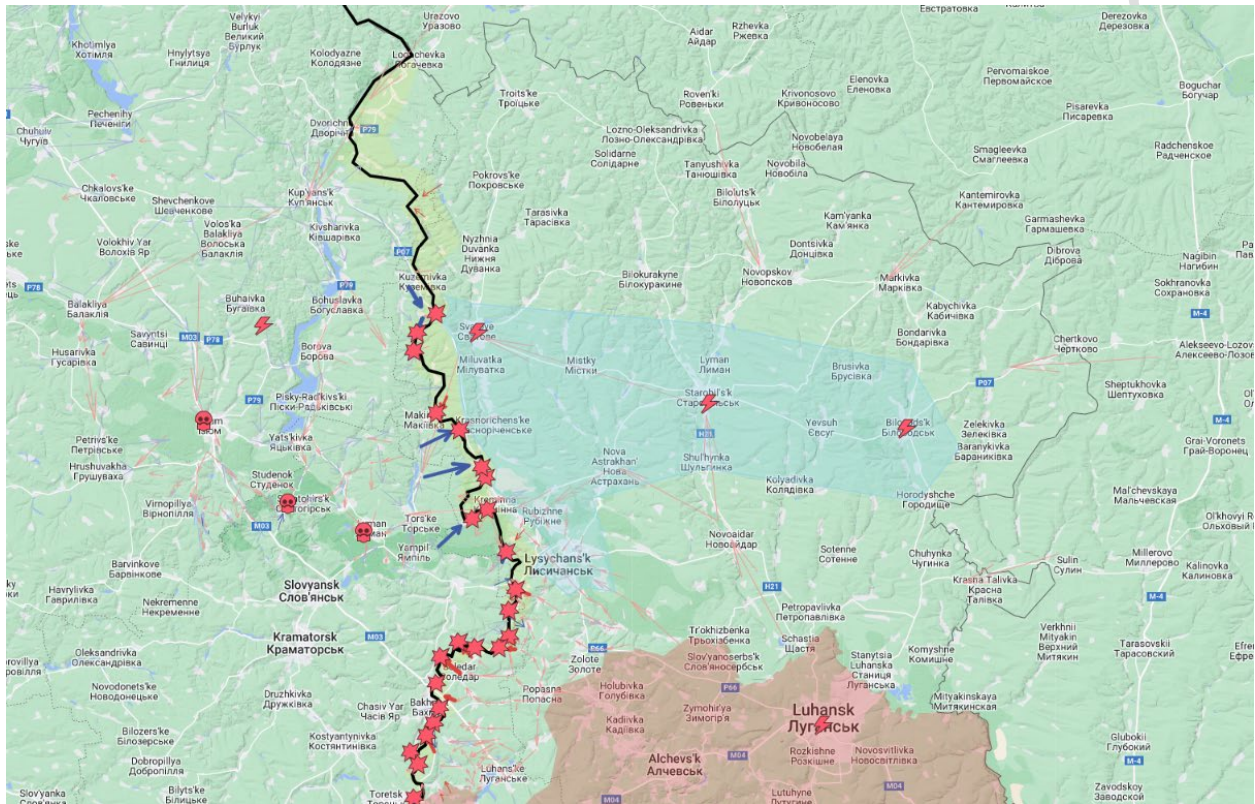
**Russian Objective:** Prepare for the Ukrainian offensive, hold current defensive lines, and terrorize Ukrainian civilians near the line of conflict

**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 was no significant activity in this region.

# DONBAS REGION

## LUHANSK



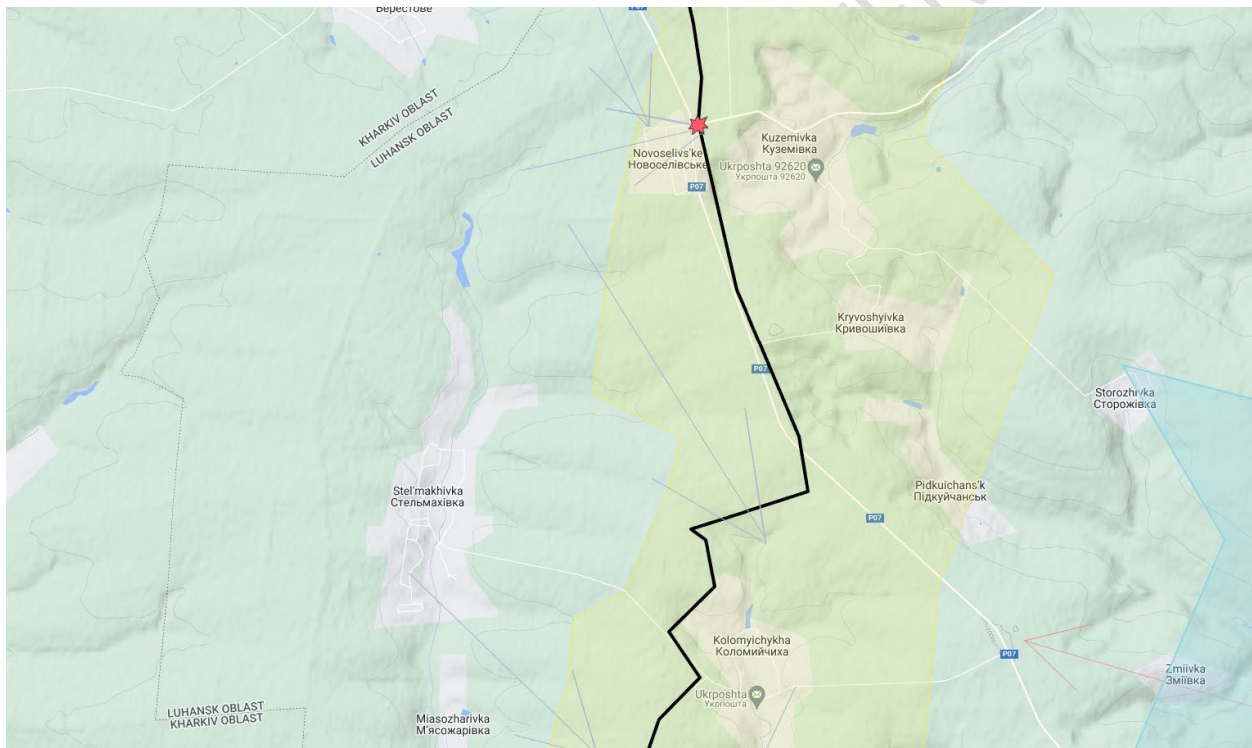
**Russian Objective:** Prepare for the Ukrainian offensive, prevent further Ukrainian advances, control insurgent activity

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



## Free Luhansk

Operational Command East (OKE) spokesperson Colonel Serhiy Cherevaty reported Russia fired 480 munitions and launched ten army aviation and airforce (VKS) strikes from Dovrichna to Bilohorivka [Luhansk].<sup>6</sup>



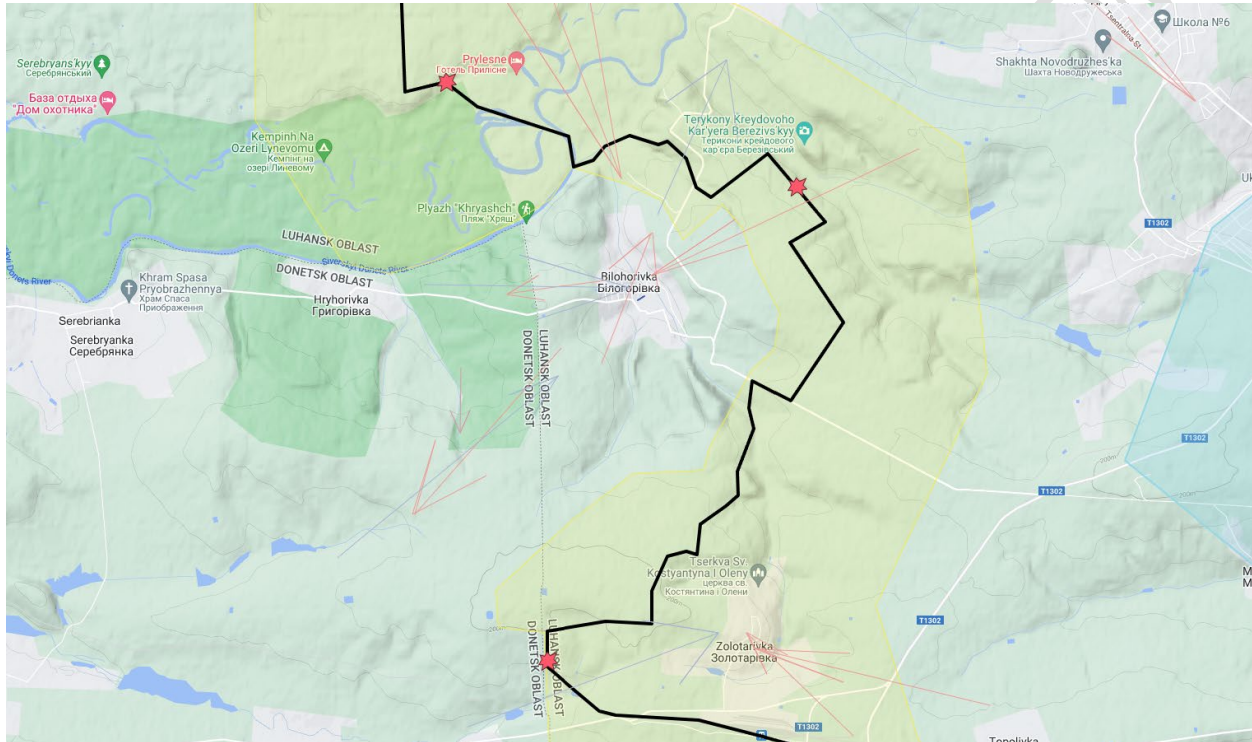
## Svatove Operational Area

The Russian Ministry of Defense (RMOD) alleged that a Ukrainian sabotage and reconnaissance unit was operating

<sup>6</sup> <https://t.me/luhanskaVTSA/11404>



in the area of [Noveselivske](#), and the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (GSAFU) reported a Russian attack in the direction of [Stelmakhivka](#) was repulsed.<sup>7 8</sup>



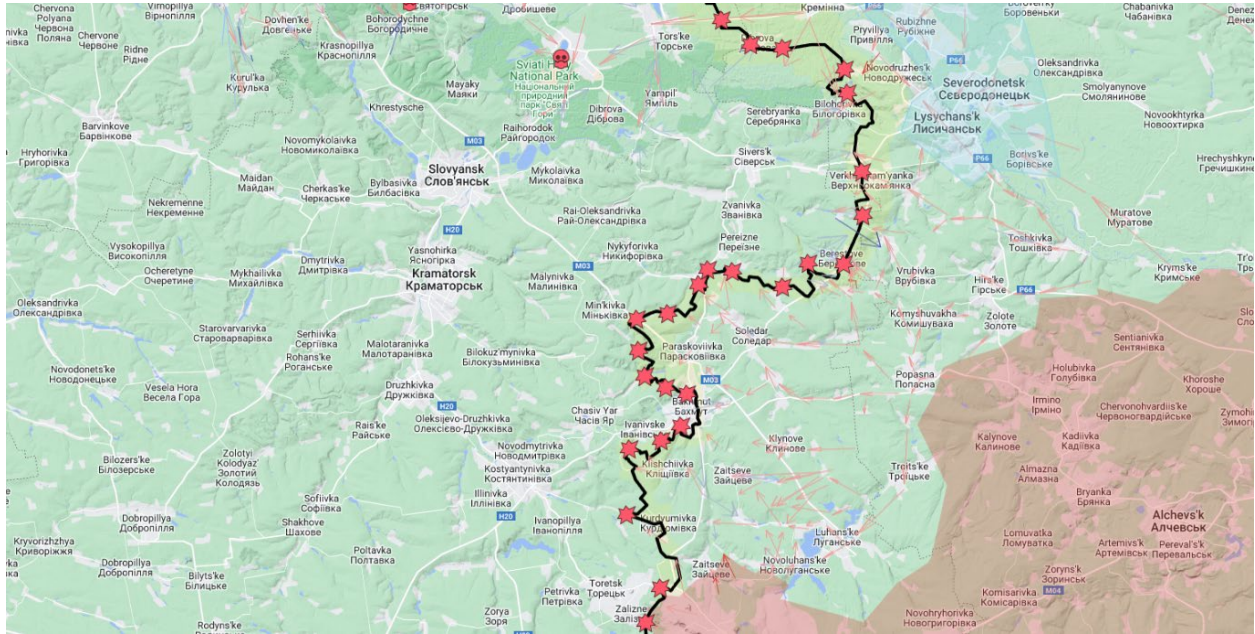
Ukrainian source reported heavy fighting was ongoing to the east of [Bilohorivka](#) [Luhansk].<sup>9</sup>

<sup>7</sup> [https://t.me/mod\\_russia/27467](https://t.me/mod_russia/27467) [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

<sup>8</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

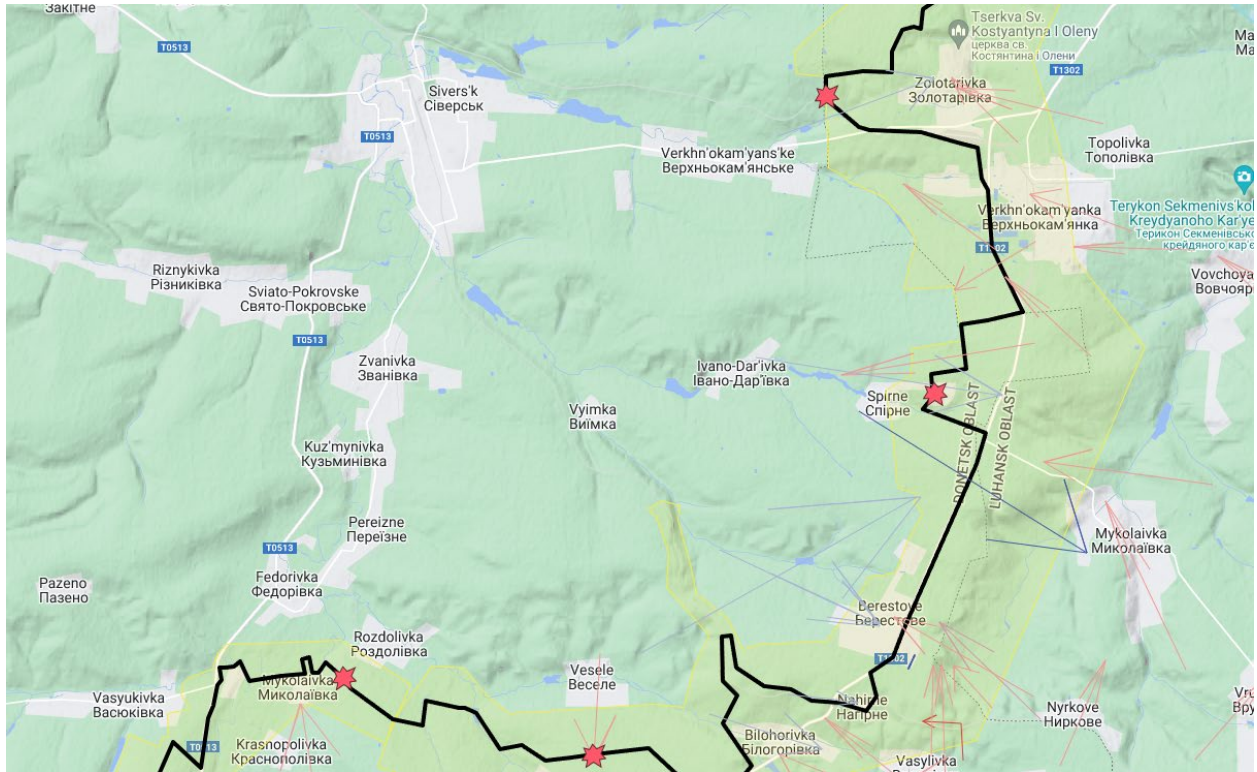
<sup>9</sup> <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16871>

# NORTHEAST DONETSK



**Russian Objective:** Capture Bakhmut, set conditions to attack Kramatorsk, Slovyansk, and Siversk, and capture the entire region

**Ukrainian Objective:** Defend Siversk and Bakhmut, push into the Luhansk oblast, and minimize civilian casualties

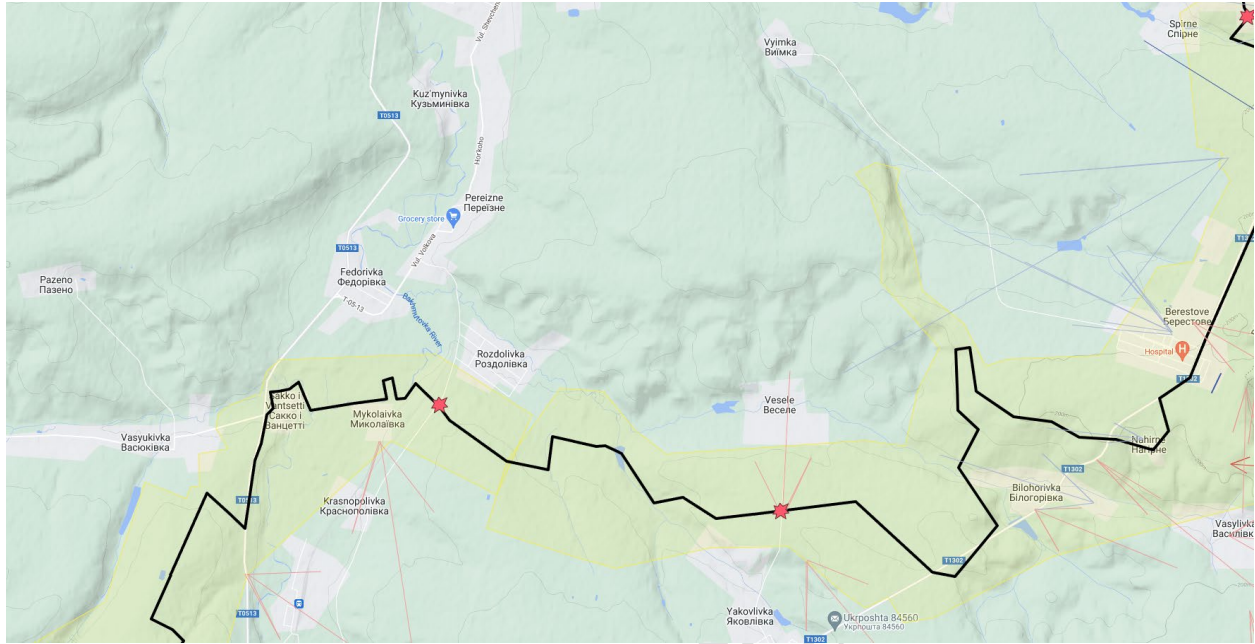


## Siversk Operational Area

Russian forces continued their attempts to advance on the railroad line from Bilohorivka [Donetsk] to [Vyimka](#).<sup>10</sup>

<sup>10</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)





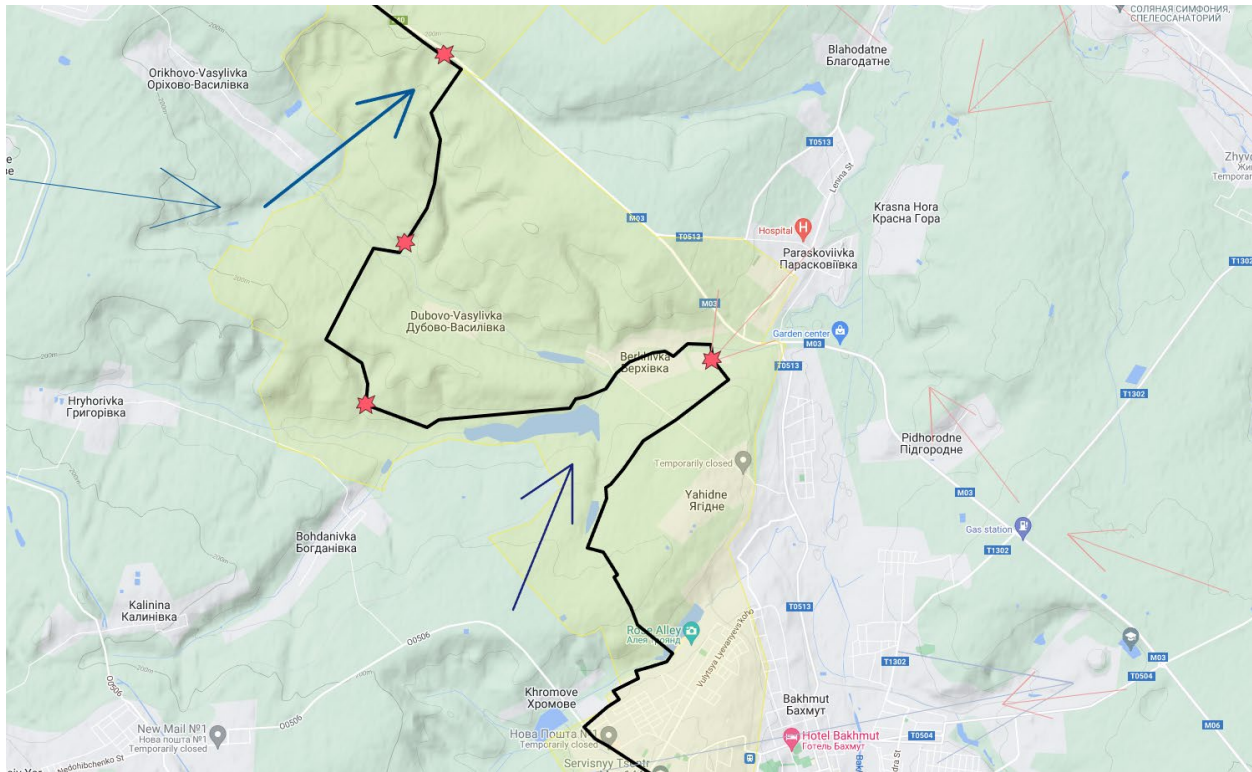
## Soledar Operational Area

Fighting continued north of Soledar on the [Rozdolivka](#) – [Vesele](#) axis.<sup>11 12</sup>

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

<sup>12</sup> <https://t.me/wargonzo/13282>

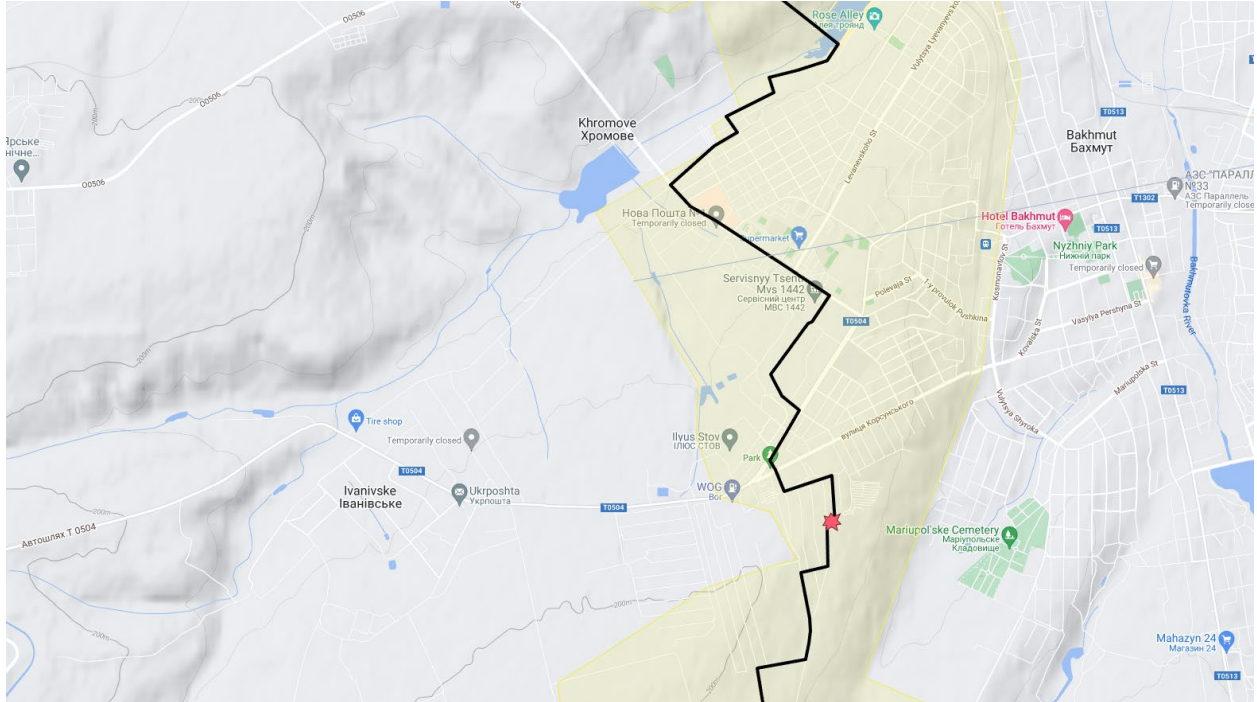


## Northwest Bakhmut

Russian forces continued their attempts to retake lost positions near [Orikhovo-Vasylivka](#) without success, while the Ukrainian offensive on [Berkhivka](#) and [Yahidne](#) continued with no change in the situation.<sup>13 14</sup>

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

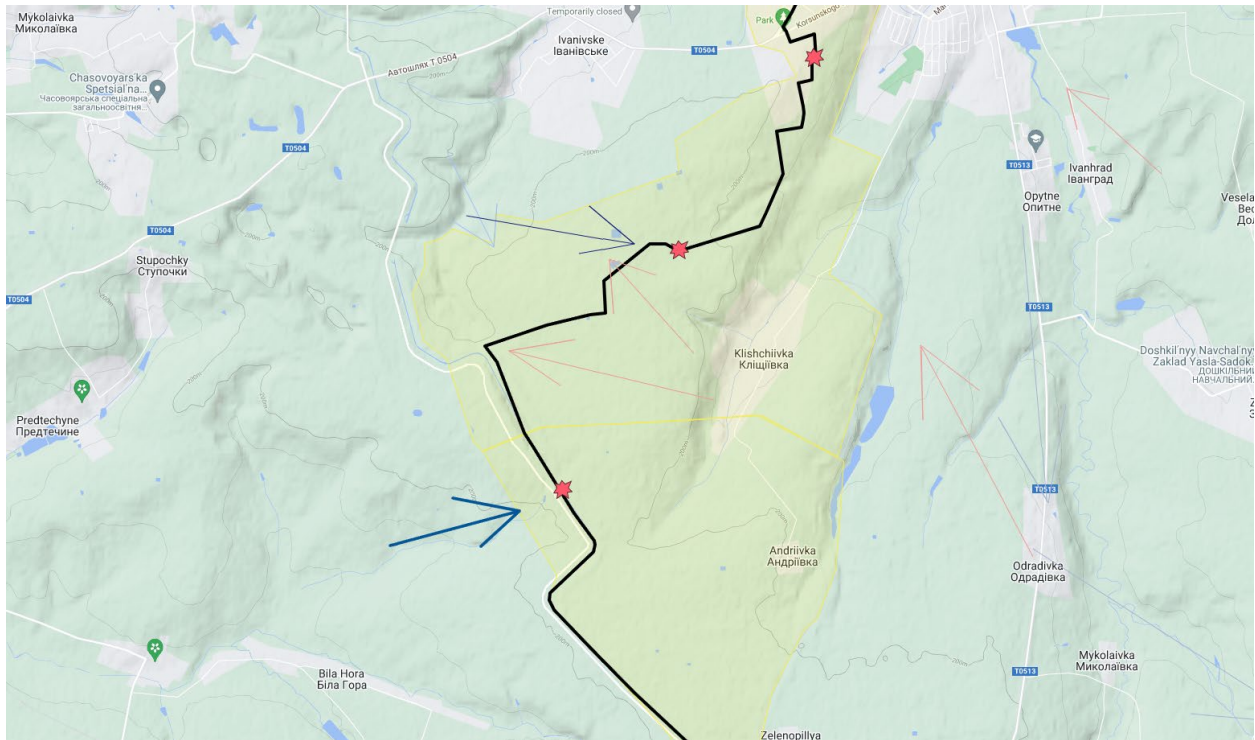
<sup>14</sup> <https://t.me/wargonzo/13282>



## Bakhmut

There was no significant change within Bakhmut. We maintain that Ukrainian forces hold approximately 3.0% of the city in the same three pockets, including southeast of Khromove, the [Litak region](#), and the [community gardens](#) south of School Number 2.





## Klishchiivka Operational Area

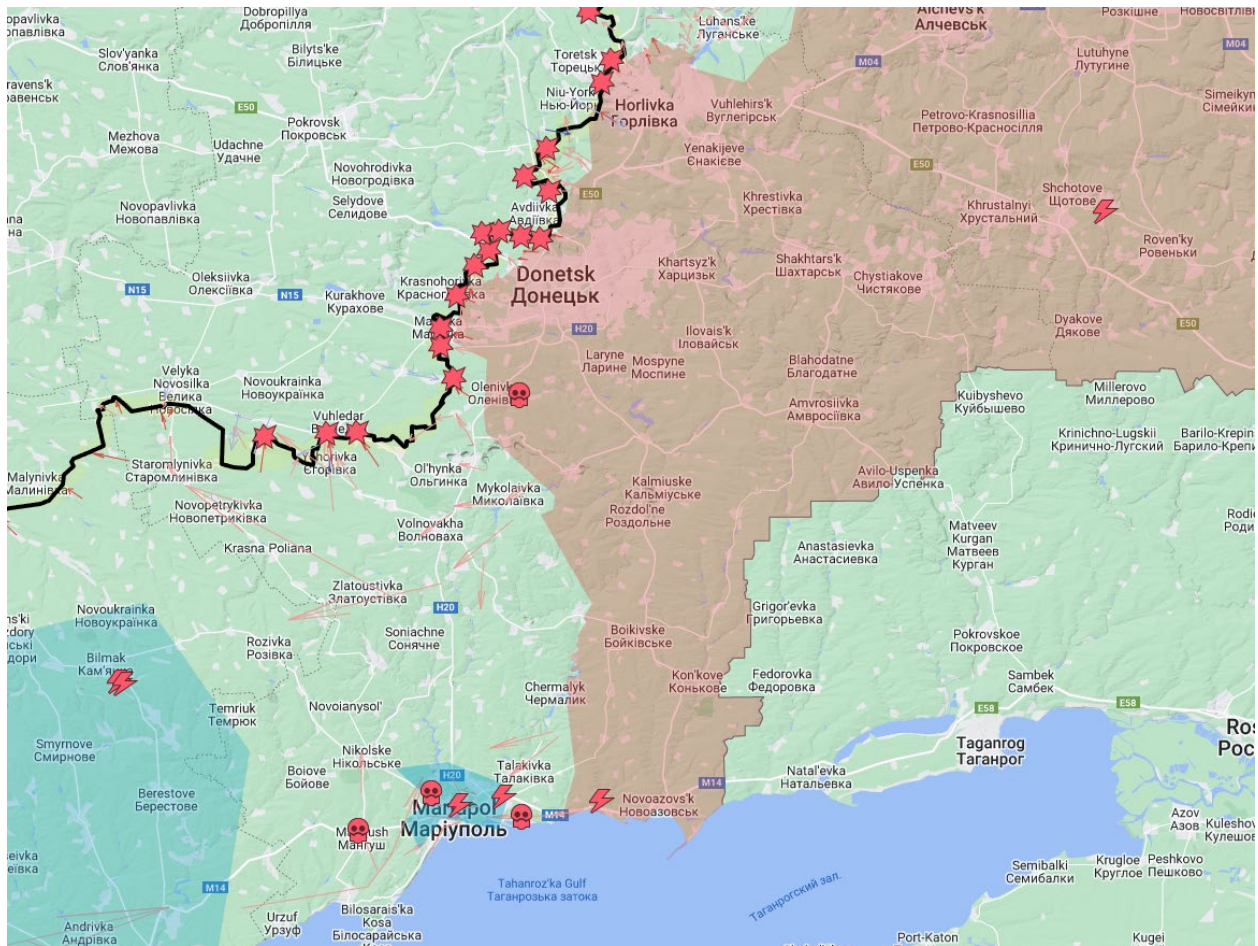
Ukrainian source DeepState reported continued fighting northwest and west of [Klishchiivka](#).<sup>15</sup>

Ukrainian Deputy Minister of Defense Hanna Maliar wrote that fighting was less intense throughout the Bakhmut region. This was reflected in the combat reports from the various sources we track.

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<sup>15</sup> <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16871>

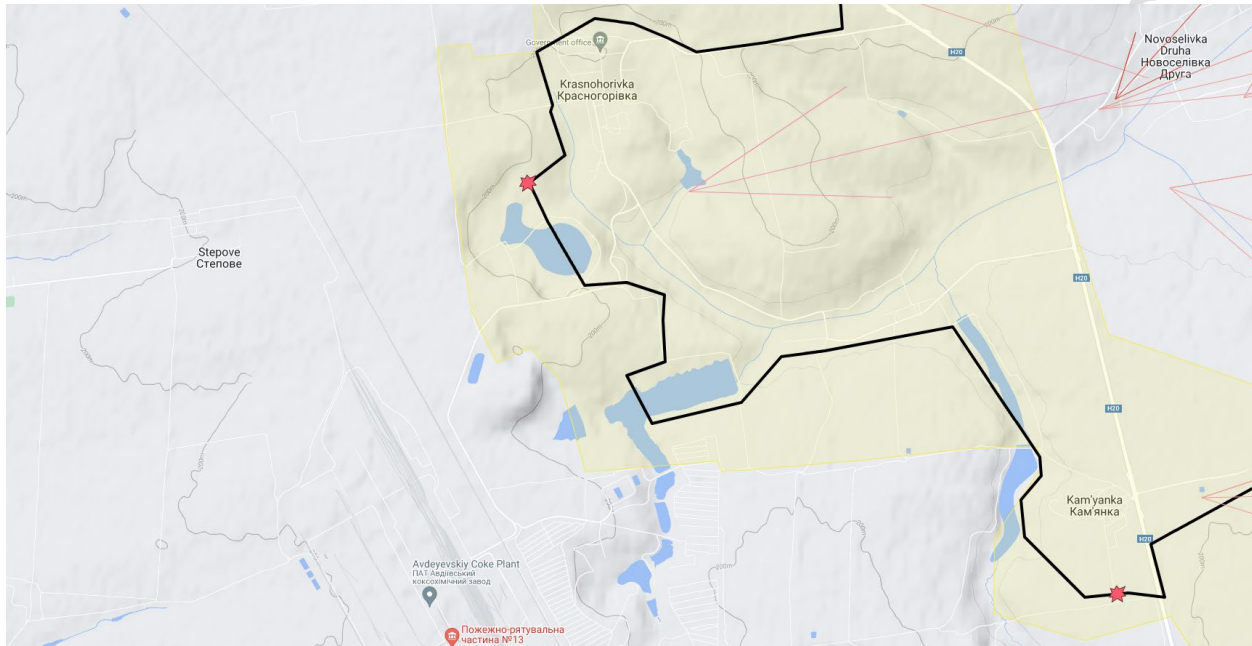
# SOUTHWESTERN DONETSK



**Russian Objective:** Prepare for the Ukrainian offensive, consolidate gains made during the winter offensive, and set conditions for September 2023 elections

**Ukrainian Objective:** Lock Russian military assets in place, defend the existing line of conflict while finding and exploiting weaknesses, destroy troop concentrations and

command and control sites, interdict supplies, and disrupt logistics



## Avdiivka Operational Area

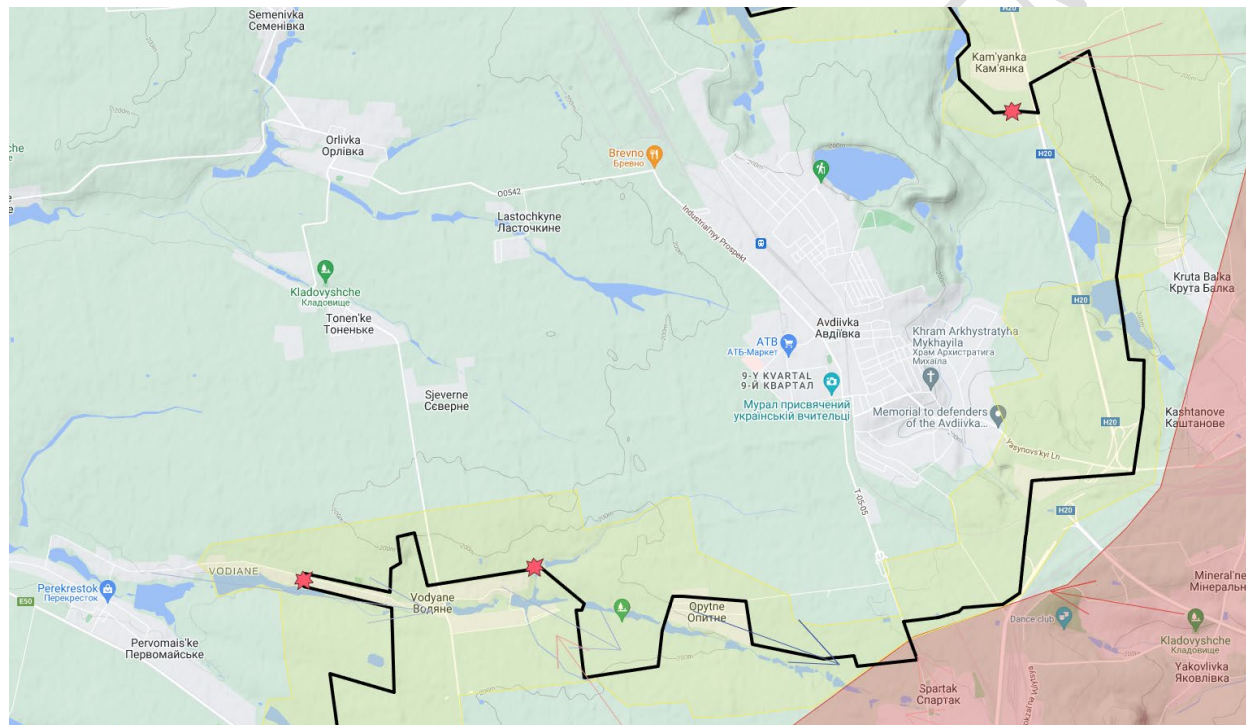
GSAFU reported that Russian forces renewed attempts to expand their positions from the Krasnohorivka Plateau after quietly being pushed back from the railroad tracks a couple of weeks ago. An attempted advance in the direction of [Stepove](#) failed.<sup>16</sup> DeepState and Russian mercenary milblogger WarGonzo reported that the Russian attempt to advance on [Avdiivka](#) from [Vesele](#) failed and that Russian

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<sup>16</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – PM Facebook Report](#)



forces lost territory during their retreat.<sup>17 18 19</sup> Both combatants have significantly tightened operational security, and we are searching for pictures or videos to geolocate to confirm the territorial control change.



RMOD reported that Ukrainian forces continued to be on the offensive in the area of [Pervomaiske](#), while WarGonzo reported that Ukrainian forces regained territory near [Nevlske](#).<sup>20 21</sup>

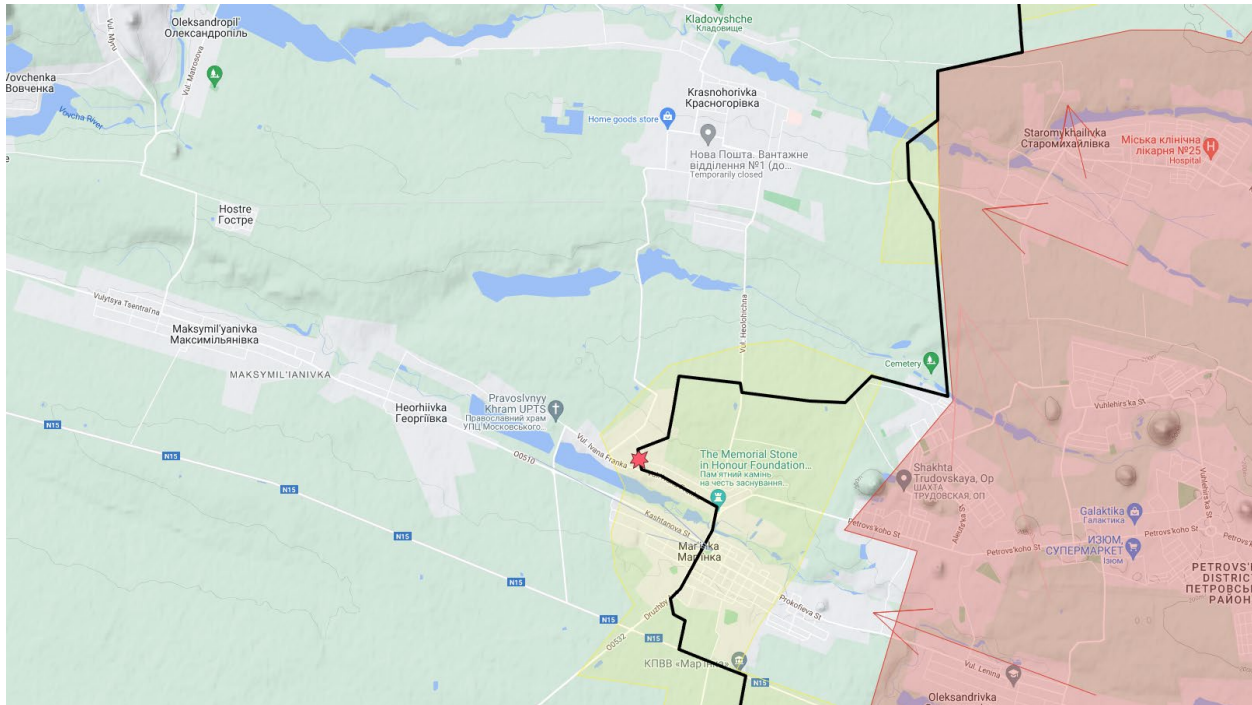
<sup>17</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – PM Facebook Report](#)

<sup>18</sup> <https://t.me/wargonzo/13282>

<sup>19</sup> <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16871>

<sup>20</sup> [https://t.me/mod\\_russia/27467](https://t.me/mod_russia/27467) [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

<sup>21</sup> <https://t.me/wargonzo/13282>

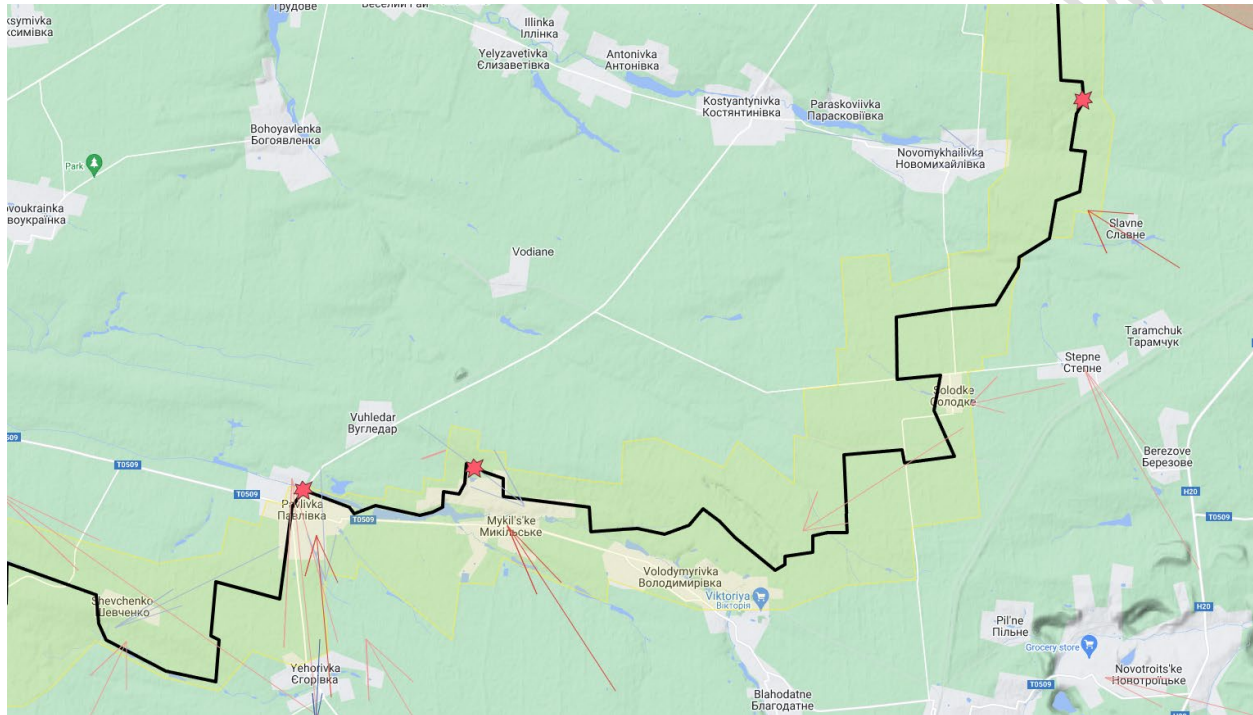


## Marinka Operational Area

The Chechen Akhmat 54th Motor Rifle Brigade and the Russian 5th Motor Rifle Brigade of the 1st Army Corps continued their efforts to advance on [Krasnohorivka](#) without changing the situation.<sup>22</sup> Russian attacks supported by the VKS in [Marinka](#) were described as “fanatical,” with Chechen forces making marginal gains on the northern

<sup>22</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

flank but unable to regain lost positions on the southern flank.<sup>23 24 25 26</sup>



## Vuhledar Operational Area

Russian forces backed by the VKS providing close air support (CAS) made another attempt to advance on [Novomykhailivka](#) without success.<sup>27 28</sup> GSAFU reported that Russian forces attempted to advance in the direction of [Vodyane](#) [Vuhledar Axis, not the one by Avdiivka] and were

<sup>23</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

<sup>24</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – PM Facebook Report](#)

<sup>25</sup> <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16871>

<sup>26</sup> <https://t.me/wargonzo/13282>

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

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



unsuccessful.<sup>29 30</sup> With Ukrainian forces retaking the Mykilske dachas a couple of weeks ago and Vodyane north of Vuhledar, we normally would assess this was a squad or platoon-sized DRG group, but there were at least two reported attacks in this direction.<sup>31 32</sup> Complicating the situation, WarGonzo reported that Ukrainian forces were on the offensive in the [Pavlivka](#) area.<sup>33</sup>

**ASSESSMENT:** At the time of publication, we could not determine from what direction the attack was or its depth, and there was no mention from reliable or semi-reliable Russian sources of fighting in this area. There is significant fog of war in this area, but one of our analysts has been insistent for the last week that there is more fighting around Vuhledar than reported.

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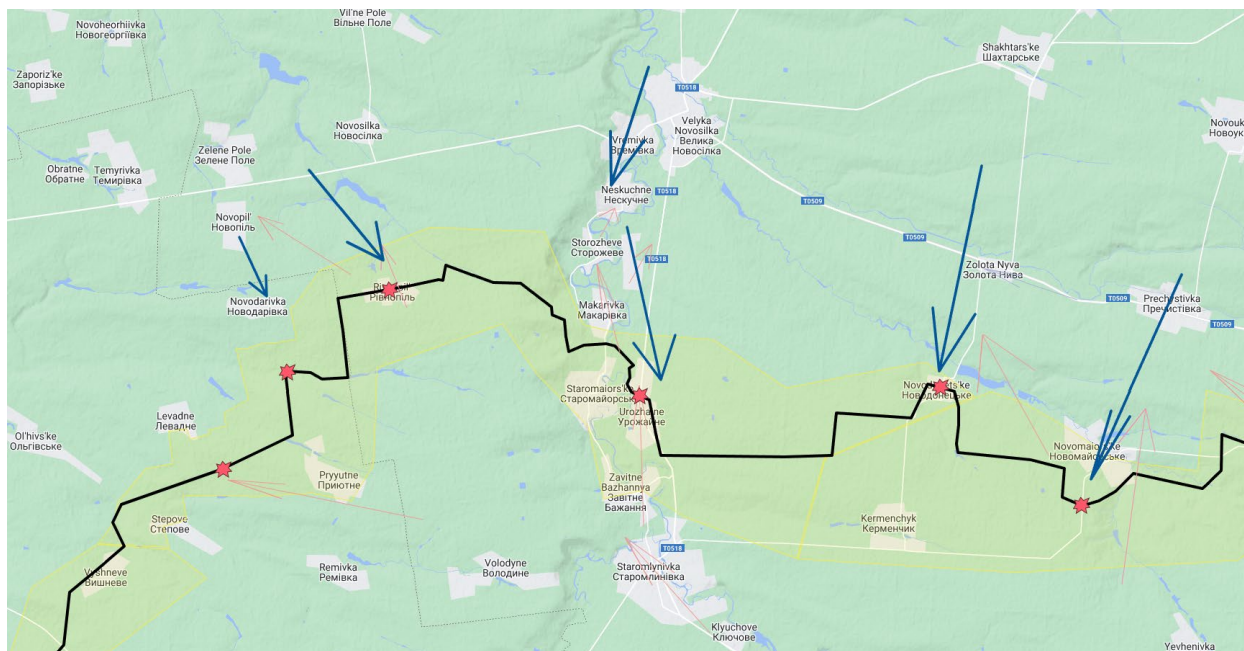
<sup>29</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

<sup>30</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – PM Facebook Report](#)

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

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

<sup>33</sup> <https://t.me/wargonzo/13282>



## Lyubymivka-Staromlynivka Operational Direction

Ukrainian forces were pushed north of [Novodonetske](#), with Russian mercenary milblogger Rybar reporting ongoing fighting in the settlement.<sup>34</sup> Fighting was ongoing in the direction of [Staromaiors'ke](#), and Ukrainian forces were reportedly pushed to the northern administrative boundary of [Urozhaine](#).<sup>35</sup> <sup>36</sup> Fighting continued along the tree line on the southern edge of [Rivnopil](#), where we also made a small map adjustment.<sup>37</sup> It's important to note that all reports came from Russian sources, with GSAFU maintaining tight operational security.


<sup>34</sup> <https://t.me/rybar/48586>

<sup>35</sup> [https://t.me/mod\\_russia/27467](https://t.me/mod_russia/27467) [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

<sup>36</sup> <https://t.me/wargonzo/13282>

<sup>37</sup> [https://t.me/mod\\_russia/27467](https://t.me/mod_russia/27467) [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

## Occupied Donetsk

In Mariupol, insurgents  [filmed Russian air defense missiles and other ammunition](#) moving toward Berdyansk, with more broken and damaged heavy equipment moving in the direction of Russia.<sup>38</sup>

Residents of Donetsk have been advised to take even more aggressive water rationing measures due to growing shortages. People in apartments complain that water pressure can't reach the upper floors, while wealthier residents have connected to the central water supply to water their garden plots and lawns. Water shortages have been a problem in the Donbas even before the start of the 2014 Russian occupation and got worse after Russia started its war of aggression.<sup>39</sup>

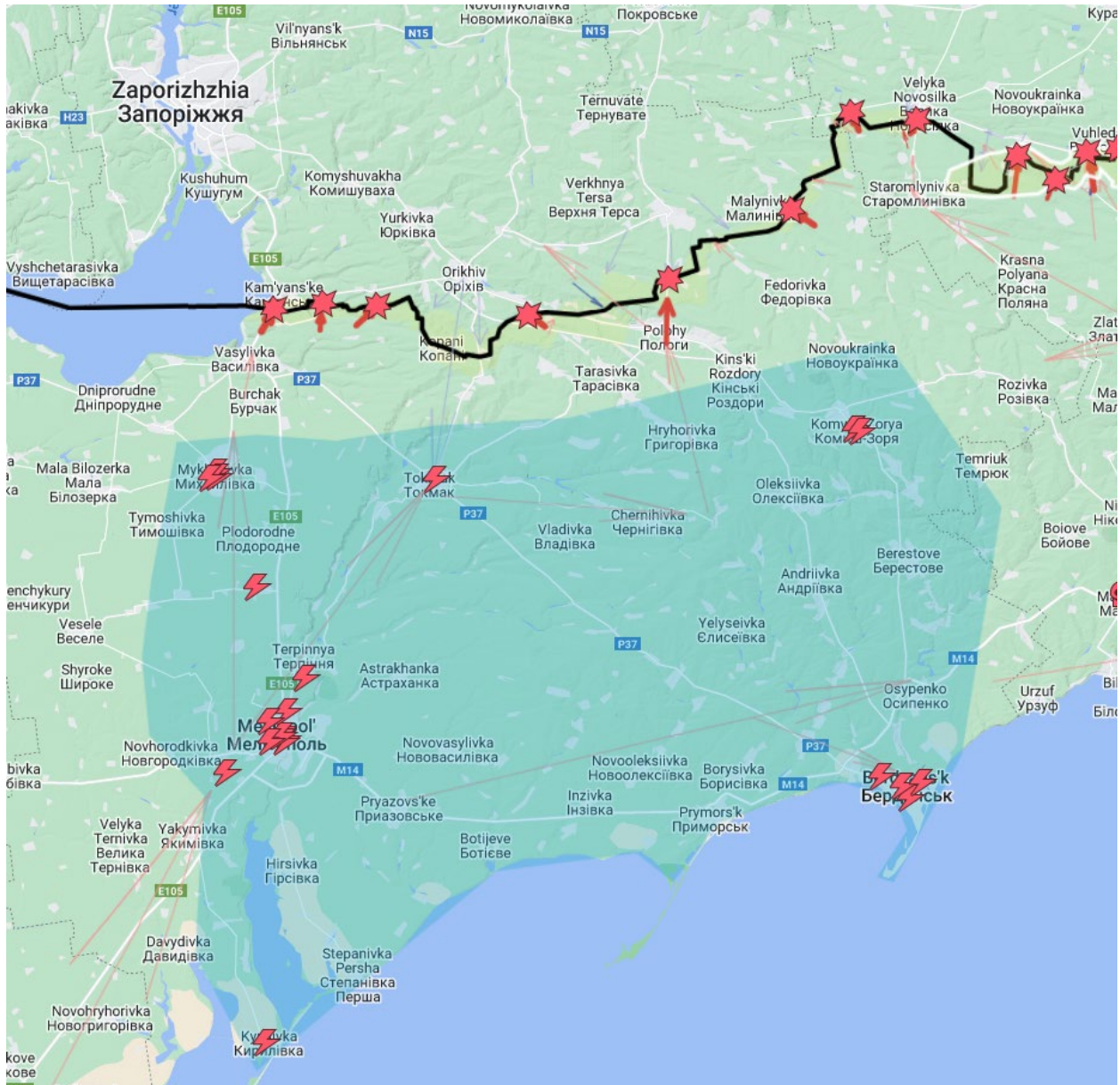
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<sup>38</sup> <https://t.me/zaborzp/46763>

<sup>39</sup> <https://t.me/itsdonetsk/81362>



# ZAPORIZHIA

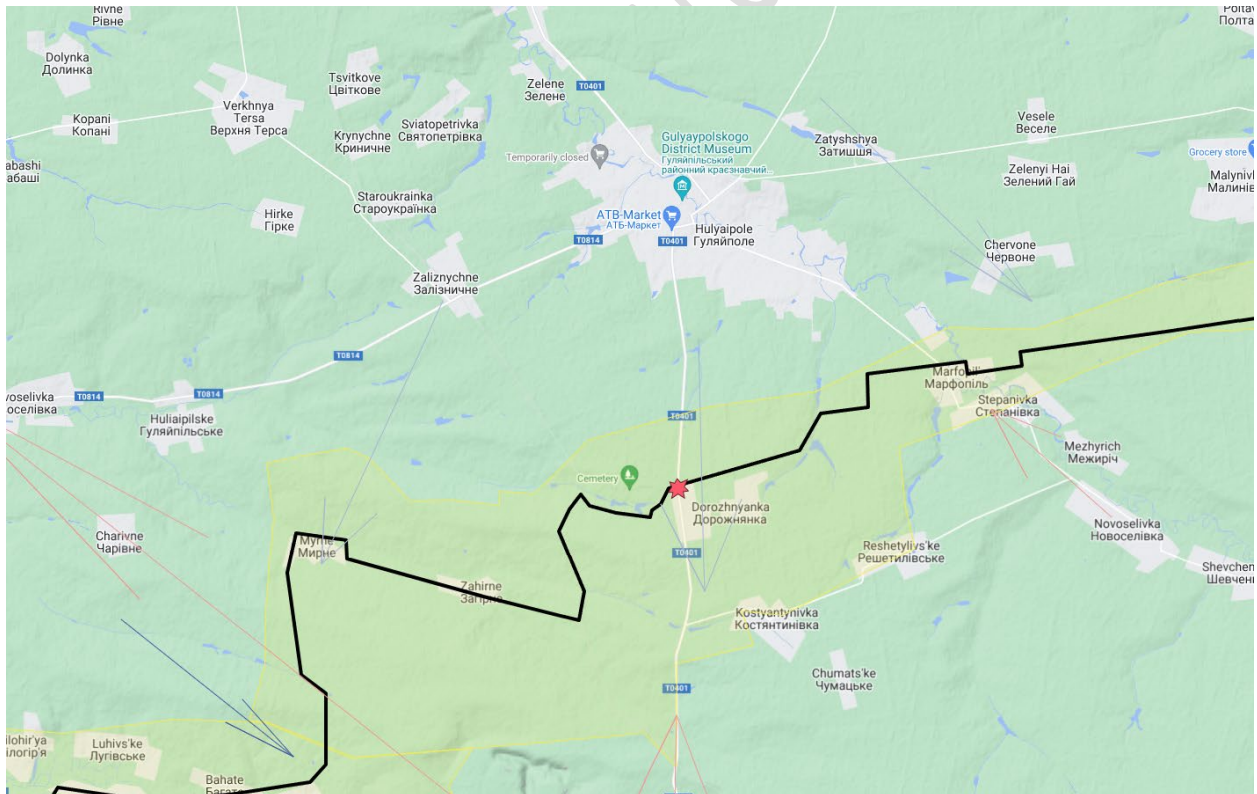


**Russian Objective:** Prepare for a Ukrainian offensive, and terrorize Ukrainian civilians with continued attacks

**Ukrainian Objective:** Liberate Russian-occupied areas, prevent further Russian advances, exploit weaknesses on the line of conflict, and protect civilians

## Free Zaporizhia

Zaporizhia Oblast Administrative and Military Governor (OVA) Yuriy Malashko reported that Russian forces conducted 99 fire missions targeting 20 settlements along the line of conflict.<sup>40</sup>



<sup>40</sup> <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/101516>





## Orikhiv Operational Area

Ukrainian and Russian sources reported fighting continued in the direction of [Robotyne](#), and WarGonzo claimed that Ukrainian forces were attempting to flank [Pyatykhatky](#) from the west at the time of publication.<sup>42 43 44</sup>

## Occupied Zaporizhia

There were reports of two “powerful explosions” in occupied Orlyanske and another HIMARS strike in Tokmak, with no other details.<sup>45</sup>

## Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director-General Rafael Grossi made a public statement about his survey of the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant (ZNPP). “With military activities and tension intensifying in the area near the [ZNPP], and with this month’s dam catastrophe further complicating the facility’s extremely challenging nuclear safety and security status, it was very important for me to travel to the site again to review developments on

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<sup>42</sup> <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16871>

<sup>43</sup> <https://t.me/wargonzo/13282>

<sup>44</sup> <https://t.me/rybar/48586>

<sup>45</sup> <https://t.me/zaborzp/46757>

the ground, including the plant's ongoing and planned measures to manage the new water-related difficulties."

IAEA experts evaluated all the main parts of the site's water supply system, including the gates separating the cooling water reservoir for the Zaporizhzhia Thermal Power Plant (ZTPP) discharge channel. Grossi said, "The integrity of these gates must be maintained to ensure that the plant has enough water for cooling the reactors. At the same time, it is essential that the plant implements a longer-term solution. The IAEA team can assist and advise in this work."

"The breach of the dam has identified vulnerable points in the plant's water supply chain, and there is a need to adapt the entire system to the new situation. But I could also see that the plant is taking concrete steps to address these challenges, stabilize the situation and enable the plant to ensure sufficient cooling water also in the future. The situation is serious, and it requires our continuous close monitoring. But, for now, it is being controlled," Grossi added.

Grossi was also able to visit ZTPP, but no information was released on the status of the 330 kilovolt (kV) switchyard or

if there had been any progress on repairs that were supposed to be completed almost four months ago.

The IAEA convoy was stopped on the way back from the site visit, and gunfire was heard for a few minutes. The IAEA stated the convoy was not in immediate danger, and the organization had no other information about the incident. Russian state media agency TASS accused Ukrainian forces of attacking the convoy without evidence.

Reactors 1 through 4 and six remain in cold shutdown and Reactor 5 is in hot shutdown.<sup>46</sup>

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<sup>46</sup> [International Atomic Energy Agency](#)




## BLACK SEA, CRIMEA, MYKOLAIV, AND ODESA REGION

### Black Sea

At the time of publication, Operational Command South (OKS) reported seven Black Sea fleet vessels on patrol, including two frigates capable of launching up to 16 Kalibr cruise missiles.<sup>47</sup>


### Occupied Crimea

The first case of waterborne illness from the destruction of the Kakhovka Dam was reported in Crimea. A service member of the Russian Federation Armed Forces entered the water of the North Crimean Canal, despite warnings to stay away from the water. They  [have been hospitalized](#) with a waterborne illness, with Russian source Rospublic reporting, "the reason was [due to] the violation of the recommendations of the Main Directorate of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of Russia in Crimea."<sup>48</sup>


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<sup>47</sup> [https://t.me/Nazars\\_Look/14821](https://t.me/Nazars_Look/14821)

<sup>48</sup> <https://t.me/Crimeanwind/33604>

Sevastopol was  [experiencing a citywide blackout](#), with local officials reporting it was a transformer issue.<sup>49</sup>

## Odesa

A massive algae bloom that could be seen from outer space has fouled the Odesa coast,  [turning the water dark green](#).<sup>50</sup> Several pathogens were detected that would spread intestinal illness, and Ukrainian officials are urging residents to stay out of the water and away from beaches.

## 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

Russian forces conducted 75 fire missions firing 314 artillery rounds, mortars, Grad rockets, drone-delivered

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<sup>49</sup> [https://t.me/zinkevich\\_igor/6492](https://t.me/zinkevich_igor/6492)

<sup>50</sup> [https://t.me/our\\_odessa/48788](https://t.me/our_odessa/48788)

IEDs, and bombs, striking the city of Kherson 44 times.<sup>51</sup> Russian forces targeted the flooded regions of the Tavriysk microdistrict, the Korael District, and the city center, wounding 23 people, all requiring hospitalization. A medical facility, kindergarten, supermarket, and residential buildings were struck, and three of the victims were in critical condition.<sup>52</sup> Two more people were killed, and two were wounded due to shelling and airstrikes.<sup>53</sup> Russian forces  [shelled Antonivka with thermite munitions.](#)<sup>54</sup>

The number of settlements with flood waters dropped to 13, with 1,528 residential buildings still inundated.<sup>55</sup>

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<sup>51</sup> <https://t.me/olexandrprokudin/679>

<sup>52</sup> <https://t.me/zaborzp/46768>

<sup>53</sup> <https://t.me/khersonskaODA/7028>

<sup>54</sup> <https://t.me/itsdonetsk/81435>

<sup>55</sup> [https://t.me/shtab\\_kakhovska\\_hes/834](https://t.me/shtab_kakhovska_hes/834)



## 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

### Kyiv

Kyiv experiences another air raid with six Kh-47 Kinzhal air-to-surface ballistic missiles and six Kalibr cruise missiles. All missiles were intercepted,  [with debris landing in one suburb](#), causing damage to homes and cars and wounding up to seven people.<sup>56 57 58</sup> Vincent Magwenya, the spokesperson for South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, tweeted there was no air raid, which was widely derided by the press, who joined the African delegation in a bomb shelter.<sup>59</sup>

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<sup>56</sup> [https://t.me/ukrarmed\\_forces/4471](https://t.me/ukrarmed_forces/4471)

<sup>57</sup> [https://twitter.com/Gerashchenko\\_en/status/1669701582374445056](https://twitter.com/Gerashchenko_en/status/1669701582374445056)

<sup>58</sup> <https://twitter.com/MamedovGyunduz/status/1669961794218065922>

<sup>59</sup> <https://twitter.com/SpokespersonRSA/status/1669647779939885056>

## Sumy

In Sumy, 22 villages were fired upon by artillery rounds, mortars, drone-delivered IEDs, rocket-propelled grenades, and army aviation, firing 117 munitions at border settlements. There weren't any casualties or serious damage reported.

## THEATERWIDE

Russian President Vladimir Putin claimed that the first tactical nuclear weapons had been forward deployed in Belarus, weeks ahead of schedule.<sup>60</sup>

Ukrainian pilots and aviation technical personnel will receive familiarization training on the Saab JAS 39 Gripen multirole fighter plane. Many experts consider the Gripen the best aircraft to meet Ukraine's needs in the theater of war, blending durability, cost, and performance. The airplane is operated by the Swedish, Czech Republic, Hungarian, South African, and Thai airforces and is built under license in Brazil. Unlike the F-16, which is being replaced by the F-35 by airforces worldwide with hundreds

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<sup>60</sup> [https://t.me/tokmak\\_ukraine/3768](https://t.me/tokmak_ukraine/3768)

of available airframes, there is a limited number of JAS 39 Gripens.

Belgium is providing Ukraine with M113 armored personnel carriers as part of its fifteenth military aid package, valued at 11 million euros.<sup>61</sup>

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<sup>61</sup> <https://t.me/The3rdForceUA/17709>



## 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 10, 2023. 10,609 Russian vs. 3,585 Ukrainian*

Equipment	Russian Losses	Ukrainian Losses	Ratio	Change
<b>Main Battle Tanks</b>	1893	204	9.38:1	↓
<b>Medium Duty Tanks</b>	132	323	0.41:1	—
<b>Armored fighting Vehicles</b>	879	284	3.10:1	↓
<b>Infantry Fighting Vehicles</b>	2393	562	4.25:1	↓
<b>Armored Personnel Carriers</b>	312	273	1.14:1	↓
<b>MRAPs</b>	43	71	0.61:1	↓
<b>Infantry Mobility Vehicles</b>	190	320	0.59:1	—
<b>Command and Communications Vehicles</b>	243	13	18.69:1	—
<b>Engineering Vehicles</b>	310	60	5.16:1	↓
<b>Towed Artillery</b>	232	126	1.84:1	↑
<b>Self-Propelled Howitzers/Mortars</b>	414	166	2.49:1	↓
<b>MLRS</b>	206	45	4.58:1	↑
<b>SAMs</b>	118	114	1.03:1	↑
<b>Mobile Radars</b>	32	62	0.52:1	—
<b>EW/ECW</b>	40	2	20.00:1	↑
<b>Winged Aircraft</b>	82	68	1.21:1	↓
<b>Helicopters</b>	90	30	3.00:1	—
<b>Naval Vessels</b>	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.