



**MALCONTENT NEWS  
RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR  
SITUATION REPORT**



August 29, 2022





# Malcontent News

## Russia-Ukraine War SITREP

8/29/22 23:59\* PDT

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## **SUMMARY – DAY 187**

It has been 3,105 days since Russia occupied Crimea on February 27, 2014.

We had to reset the report and its sections with the launch of the counteroffensive. This has delayed production, and we won't be able to prepare a summary again. We appreciate your continued understanding.

## **DAILY ASSESSMENT**

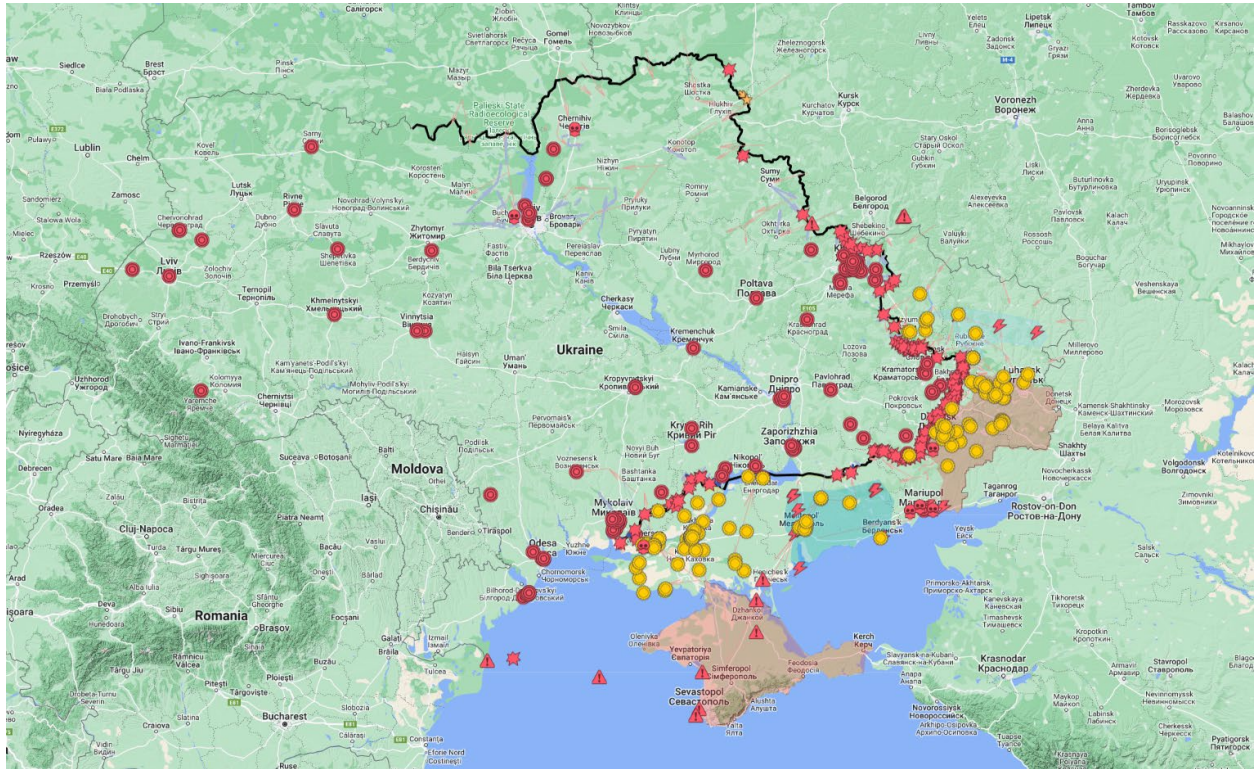
We assess the following:

1. Our assessment that the battlefield initiative will go to the first belligerent who can make brigade or larger-sized combined arms offensives on any front was accurate.
2. Ukraine has started a significant counteroffensive involving at least four brigades, with some units advancing as far as 7 kilometers – the main thrust has not started.
3. The risk of Russian terror attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure in an attempt to break morale is

exceptionally high and will remain so for the foreseeable future.

4. We believe there is a significant chance that Russian forces will abandon their offensives in Bakhmut and near Avdiivka and relocate those troops to Zaporizhia – the Russian Ministry of Defense made this decision in May during the campaign to capture Luhansk.
5. The unofficial removal of General Sergei Shogui as the Minister of Defense and Russian military commanders having to report directly to President Vladimir Putin will slow down the decision-making process for Russian forces
6. The Russian 3rd Army Corps is not ready for combat as it is understaffed and undertrained – it is highly likely they will be rushed into Ukraine despite these deficiencies and will not provide a significant impact.
7. The Russian Ministry of Defense may use the counteroffensive, which they claim is already defeated, as an excuse to deny International Atomic Energy Agency inspectors access to the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant.
8. The counteroffensive started just days after Russian forces reached their culmination point in Ukraine, leaving little opportunity to create a significant attack on a different front in an attempt to slow the Kherson counteroffensive.

# TODAY'S WAR IN UKRAINE MAP

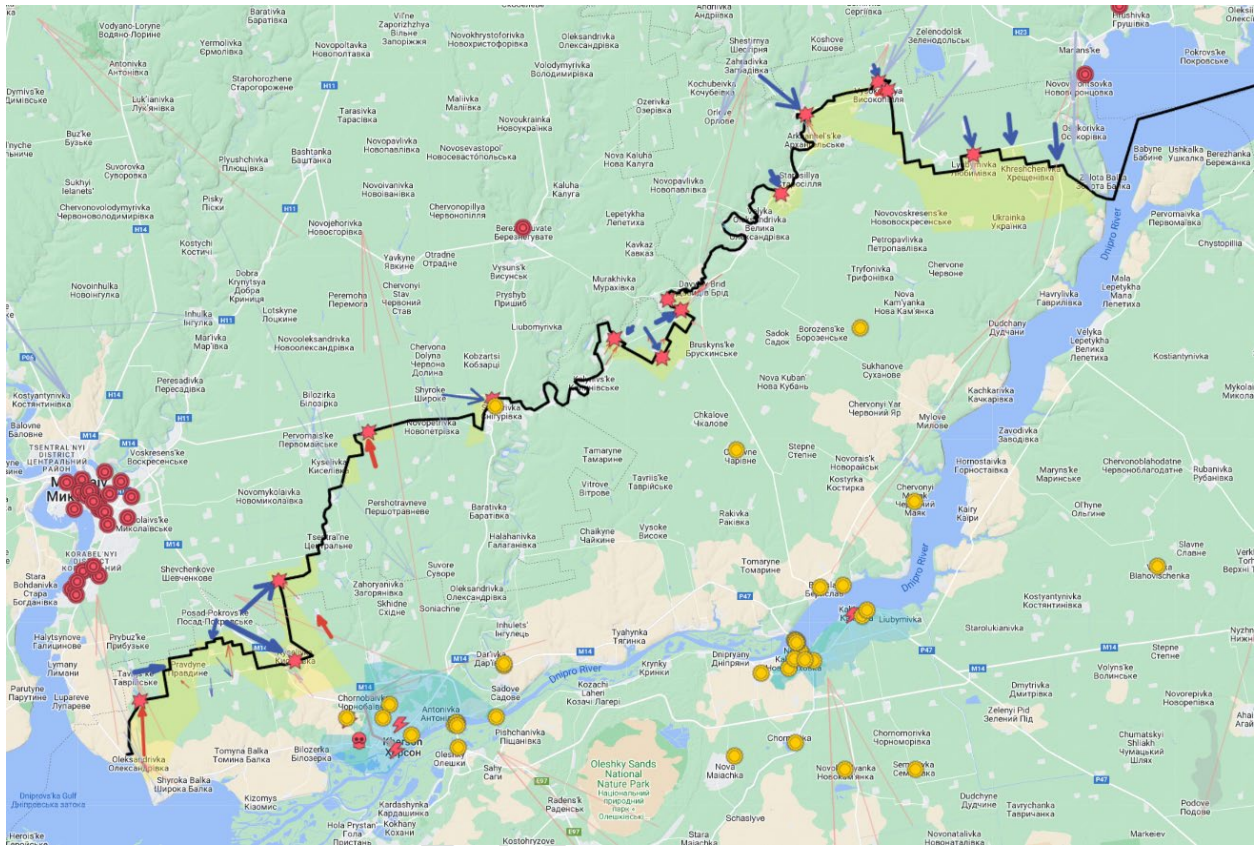


**Information about changes made to the map:** Red triangles are sites of significant events unrelated to missile attacks, insurgency, or ground combat, such as the sinking of the Moskva and the explosion at Saky Naval Airbase. Based on your feedback, we have moved the "flags" into the category of "Archived 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>



# KHERSON COUNTEROFFENSIVE & MYKOLAIV



**Russian Objective UPDATED:** Hold existing territorial gains, protect Ground Lines of Communication (GLOC – supply lines), defend Kherson, prevent envelopment on the western side of the Dnipro River, restrict insurgent activity

**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

***Editor's Note: The Ukrainian government has requested a communications blackout about the ongoing counteroffensive, which started at 00:56 hrs PDT on August 29. As members of the Society of Professional Journalists, we always honor the four pillars of ethical journalism, including minimizing harm. We will only share readily available information in the public domain or from official sources.***

On August 29, Southern Operational Command Spokesperson Nataliya Gumenyuk stated that Ukrainian forces “began counteroffensive actions in many directions” and had broken through the first line of defense but didn't specify an area.<sup>1</sup>

On July 27, Ukraine started to set conditions for a counteroffensive in the Kherson oblast west of the Dnipro River. During August, Russian Ground Lines of Communication (GLOC, aka supply lines) were targeted, including the four critical bridges that cross the Dnipro River. On August 28, the roadway bridges in Kherson and Nova Kakhovka and the railroad bridges at Prydniprovsk and Nova Kakhovka were completely disabled after weeks

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<sup>1</sup> [Ukrainian National News](#)



of HIMARS and artillery strikes. Additionally, the bridge that crosses the Inhulets River in Darivka was disabled, cutting the western side of Kherson Oblast in two.

The Ukrainian air force, using AGM-88 HARM missiles and modified Mig-29s capable of firing NATO weapons, conducted Suppress Enemy Air Defense (SEAD) and Destroy Enemy Air Defense (DEAD) operations across Kherson and Zaporizhia. Attacks from HIMARS targeted Russian command and control, maintenance and repair facilities, supply hubs, and ammunition depots. Ukrainian insurgents, Special Operation Forces (SOF), air force strikes, and HIMARS attacks struck bridges, railway stations, and ammunition depots deep into Russian-controlled territory.

We had assessed in the previous week we were seeing an impact from this activity. The number of missile strikes on Mykolaiv plummeted after Ukraine conducted SEAD and DEAD activity in southwestern Zaporizhia. Russian artillery fire was becoming more sporadic west of the Dnipro, and Russian troop movements were less frequent. Local residents in Kherson reported an increase in looting, and some Russian command and control centers withdrew to the east bank of the Dnipro.

With fall weather a month away, the potential for a sham referendum to declare Kherson part of Russia, and the destruction of the road and rail GLOCs across the Dnipro, Ukraine launched its counteroffensive. We had privately assessed that this would likely occur this week after Sunday's report that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy met with all his military and intelligence leaders in a closed-door session.<sup>2</sup>

The British Ministry of Defense reported that the counteroffensive involved several newly created brigades, indicating 30,000 to 50,000 troops were involved.<sup>3</sup> The General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine reported that Russian forces lost 500 troops theaterwide – the largest single-day troop loss claim ever made by Kyiv.<sup>4</sup>

A widely circulated video showed a Russian 1st Army Corps 109th battalion soldier laying on the ground in panic, claiming that Russian airborne (VDV) troops had abandoned their positions and his unit was being overrun. In the video, the sound of gunfire and artillery could be heard as he hugged the ground.<sup>5</sup> The 109th is allegedly a unit of forced conscripts suffering from low morale. Russia

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<sup>2</sup> [Malcontent News Russia-Ukraine War Situation Report – August 28, 2022](#)

<sup>3</sup> <https://twitter.com/DefenceHQ/status/1564475870034681857>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/30/7365307/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://twitter.com/Flash43191300/status/1564187677284515840>

has used Luhansk People's Republic (LNR) and DNR forces as front-line troops across Ukraine. Many units have complained and refused to fight when they've been deployed outside of their home regions.

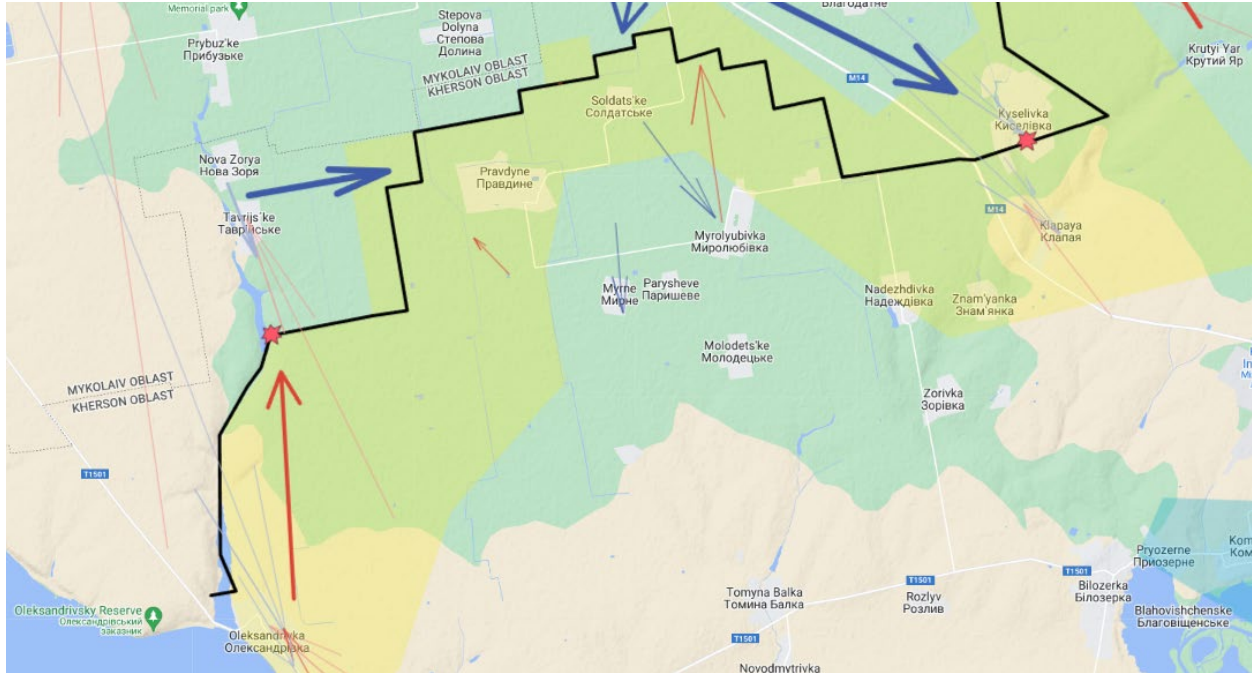
CNN, citing an unnamed Ukrainian military source, stated that four settlements had been liberated in the opening hours of the counteroffensive. The settlements were Pravydyne and Tomyna Balka, west of Kherson, and Novadmytrivka and Arkhanhelske along the Inhulets River.<sup>6</sup>

**ASSESSMENT:** We have doubts that Tomyna Balka was liberated and believe there was a potential translation error. It is possible the source meant or reported Zolota Balka in northern Kherson was liberated.

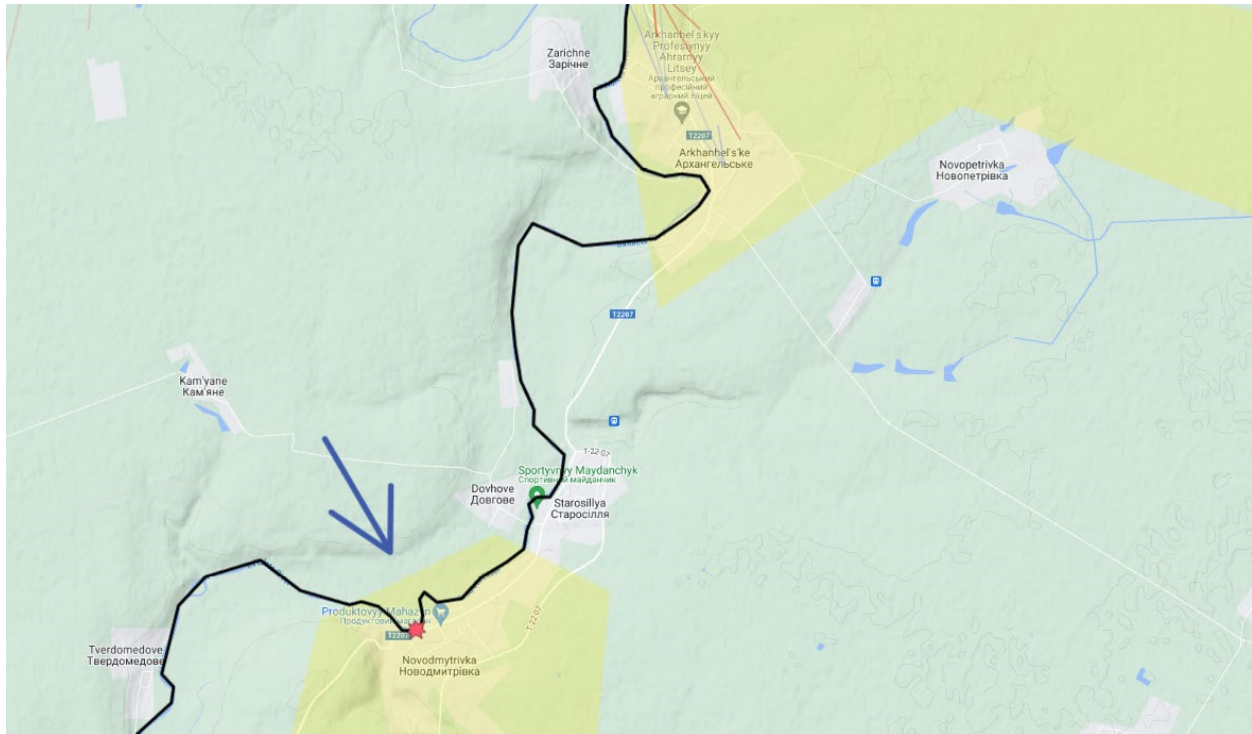
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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.cnn.com/europe/live-news/russia-ukraine-war-news-08-29-22/index.html>

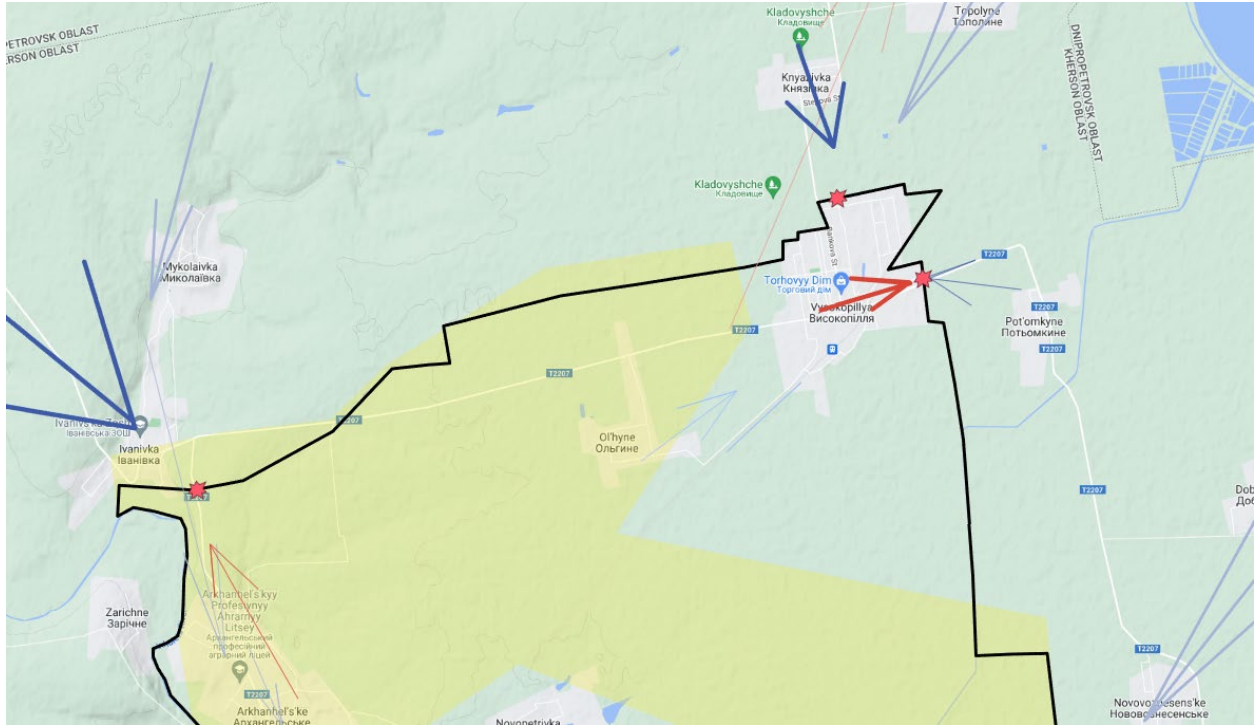




Russian sources deny Pravdyne was liberated but acknowledge there is heavy fighting for control of the settlement. We had maintained that control of Arkhanhelske was contested through August 28 and updated our map ceding control to Russian forces based on artillery reports from the General Staff. We believe Russia's occupation was tenuous at best.

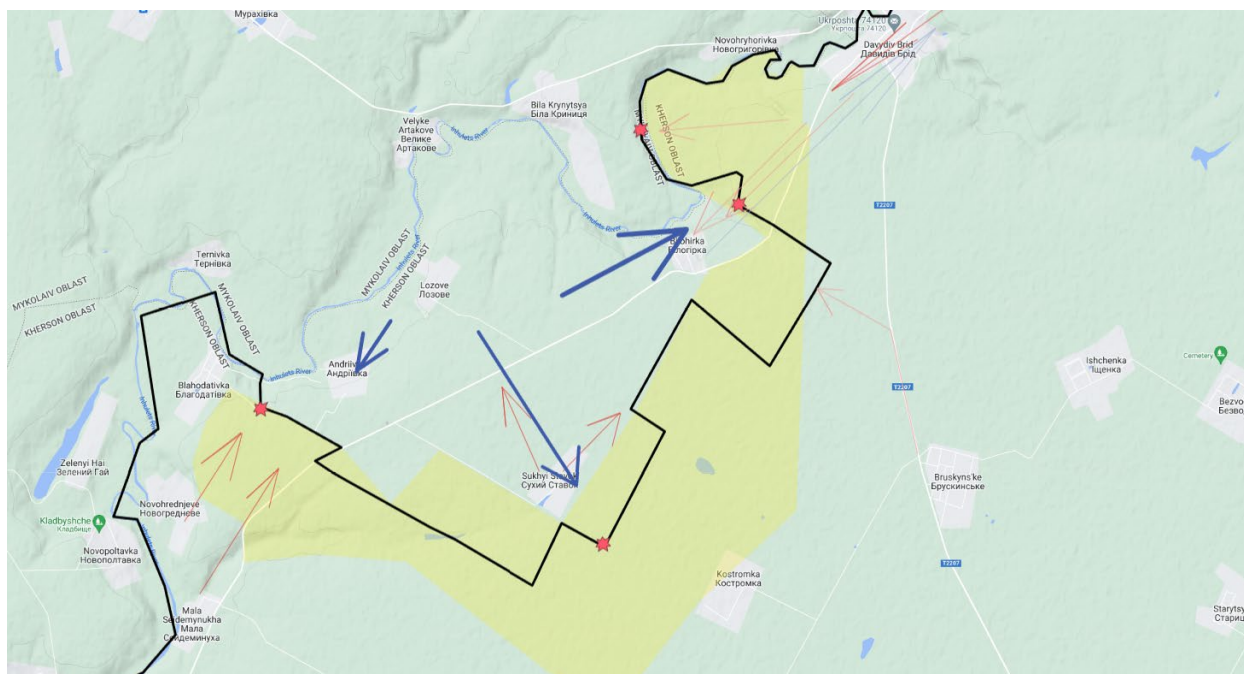


Novadmytrivka has a natural low water crossing across the Inhulets River, and Ukrainian forces released a video in late June showing a vehicle driving across the river. Its capture would restrict Russian GLOCs that head north into Vysokopyllyya.



Russian forces launched an offensive from Vysokopillya, attempting to advance on Potomkyne. It is unclear if that activity started before, during, or after the broader counteroffensive began. The advance was unsuccessful.





Both Russian and Ukrainian sources acknowledge Sukhyi Stavok, by the Inhulets River bridgehead, was liberated by Ukraine.<sup>7</sup> Ukrainian forces advanced 7 kilometers in the opening hours of August 29, expanding the strategically important Inhulets River bridgehead.

Russian and Ukrainian officials advised residents of Kherson oblast to prepare for a siege and move to shelters. On Sunday, the Ukrainian government told residents in occupied Kherson that they should move away from Russian military bases and equipment. They also advised having a week's supply of food and water, setting up a

<sup>7</sup> [https://t.me/grey\\_zone/14816](https://t.me/grey_zone/14816)

basement shelter if possible, and make sure their cell phone is fully charged. Russian state media announced that residents of Nova Kakhovka were being moved from their places of work to bomb shelters.<sup>8</sup>

Ukraine has continued a furious barrage of HIMARS strikes along Russian GLOCs across the Dnipro and Russian military assets. Beryslav Raion Military Administration Head Volodymyr Litvinov reported the Beryslav Machine-Building Plant was attacked. The Russians used the complex as a barracks, ammunition depot, and logistics center.<sup>9</sup>

The Nova Kakhovka Bridge by the hydroelectric dam was hit again, with unconfirmed reports that electricity and water service had been disabled in the Russian-occupied city. Another HIMARS attack destroyed an ammunition depot, kept in the same area as previous attacks.<sup>10</sup> The ammunition depot was hit as part of a [larger barrage](#) that hit multiple Russian targets in the city.<sup>11</sup> In a separate attack, a Russian army command post near the mouth of the North Crimean Canal was destroyed, and at the time of

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<sup>8</sup> [https://t.me/rian\\_ru/175834;%C2%A0https://t.me/rian\\_ru/175841;](https://t.me/rian_ru/175834;%C2%A0https://t.me/rian_ru/175841;)

<sup>9</sup> [https://t.me/Bratchuk\\_Sergey/17779](https://t.me/Bratchuk_Sergey/17779)

<sup>10</sup> <https://twitter.com/KyivPost/status/1564343550359359490>

<sup>11</sup> <https://twitter.com/RWOMC/status/1564509000791719936>

publication, there were reports of an additional strike on the city.<sup>12</sup>

The General Staff confirmed that a barge bridge built near Lvov was destroyed in an early morning attack on August 30, leaving Russian troops with no way across the river.<sup>13</sup>

In Kherson, the Antonovskiy Bridge was also hit in a HIMARS attack, which targeted the bridge deck, the incomplete barge bridge adjacent to the damaged structure, and the ferry boat ramp.<sup>14</sup> The attack reportedly disabled the ferry system that crosses the Dnipro. Satellite images showed no traffic or heavy equipment on the bridge.<sup>15</sup>

At the time of publication, the bridge was hit again, with at least three impacts recorded.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> [https://twitter.com/ignis\\_fatum/status/1564509910750187520](https://twitter.com/ignis_fatum/status/1564509910750187520)

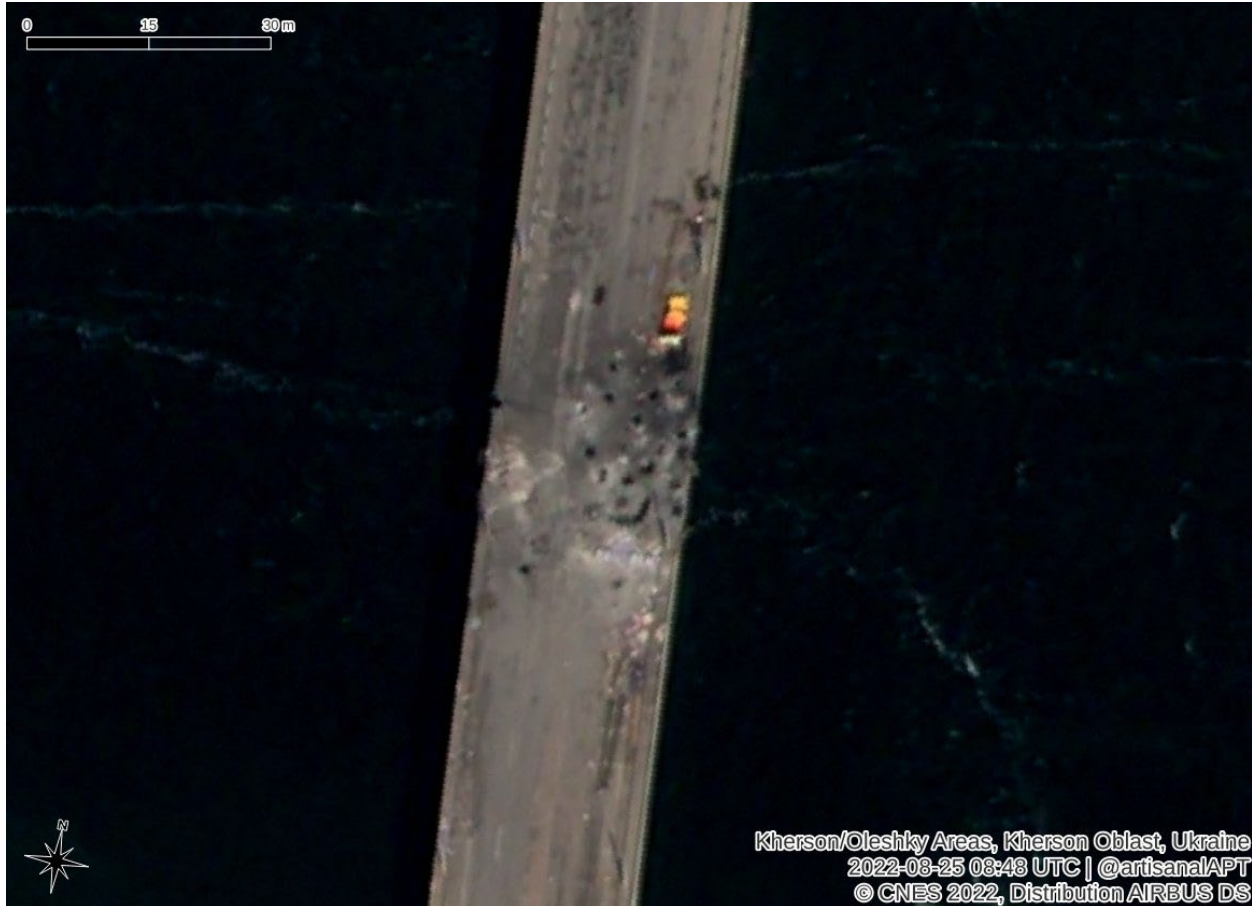
<sup>13</sup> <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/30/7365293/>

<sup>14</sup> [https://twitter.com/bayraktar\\_1love/status/1564307409463566336](https://twitter.com/bayraktar_1love/status/1564307409463566336)

<sup>15</sup> <https://twitter.com/ArtisanalAPT/status/1564285451996897280>

<sup>16</sup> [https://twitter.com/bayraktar\\_1love/status/1564496195686481920](https://twitter.com/bayraktar_1love/status/1564496195686481920)





There are widely distributed videos showing the smoke and sound of a gun battle involving light arms and RPGs within Kherson near the police academy. A Russian command base and field hospital were destroyed in a separate attack.<sup>17</sup>

A Russian ammunition depot in Havrylivka, on the banks of the Dnipro River in northern Kherson oblast, was destroyed in an attack.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> <https://twitter.com/temafey/status/1564544212711915520>

<sup>18</sup> <https://twitter.com/SamRamani2/status/1564210967709470721>

On Tuesday morning, the office of the Presidency stated, "Powerful explosions continued throughout the day and throughout the night in Kherson region," the president's office said in a morning update.<sup>19</sup>

"Heavy fighting is taking place in almost the entire territory of the Kherson region. The Armed Forces of Ukraine launched offensive actions in various directions,"

Ukrainian Melitopol Mayor Ivan Fedorov stated that Russian forces evacuated their military hospital in Melitopol on August 29, indicating further fear of intensified Ukrainian activity deep in the occupied areas.

**ASSESSMENT:** Due to operational security, we do not have enough information to determine the scope and objectives of the Ukrainian armed forces. Ukrainian officials said in late June that the counteroffensive would begin by early September.

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<sup>19</sup> [Kyiv Post](#)

Mykolaiv was shelled relentlessly by Russian forces despite the ongoing offensive just to their south.<sup>20</sup> Up to 30 S-300 anti-aircraft missiles used for ground attacks hit the city, causing widespread damage. A traffic camera caught a daytime attack by a Russian missile, which just missed the Inhulets River Bridge in Mykolaiv. The bridge was full of civilian traffic, including a city bus.<sup>21</sup> There is more information in the **War Crimes and Human Rights** section.

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<sup>20</sup> [Reuters](#)

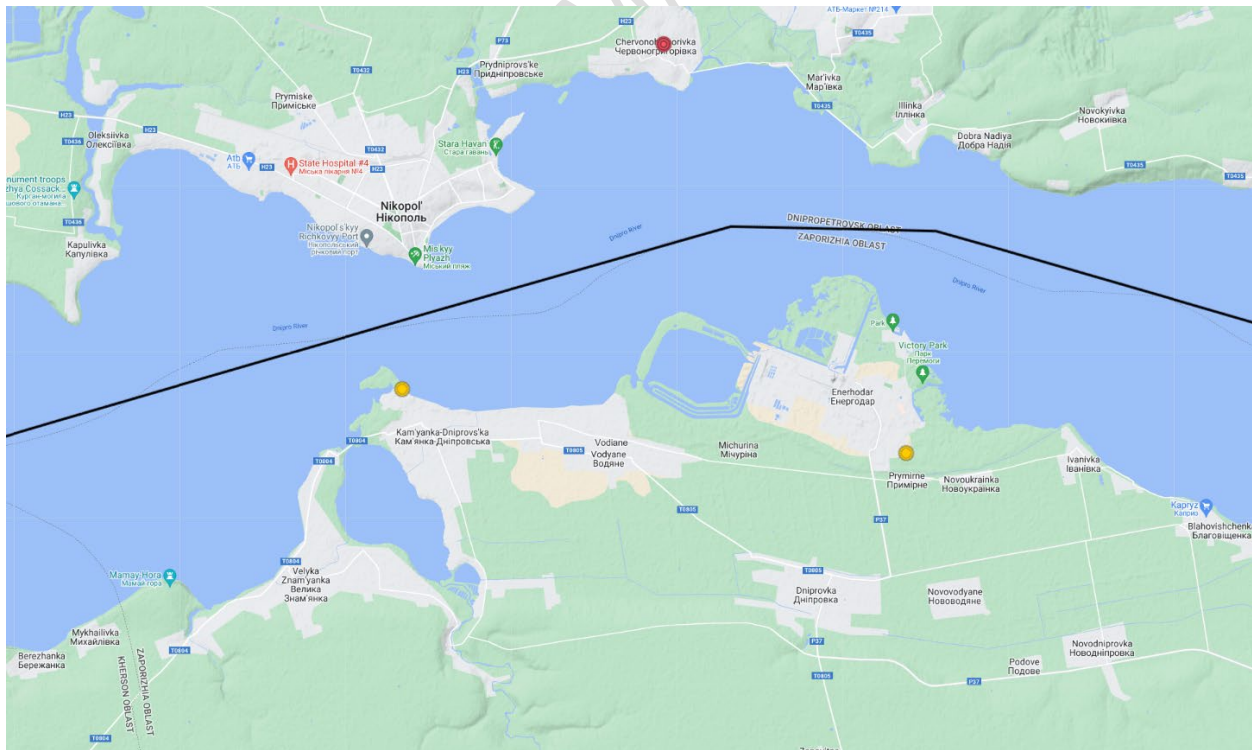
<sup>21</sup> <https://twitter.com/GirkinGirkin/status/1564252672567513089>



## DNIPROPETROVSK & NORTHERN ZAPORIZHZHIA

**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 **UPDATED**:** Prevent further Russian advances, exploit weaknesses on the line of conflict, prepare area civilian population for a nuclear accident



Maxar shared a satellite image that showed Russian combat vehicles sheltering under catwalks and pipes adjacent to one of the reactor vessels. At least four infantry fighting vehicles are partially visible in the high-resolution photo. Russia continues to claim it does not have any military assets at the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant. Another image showed four holes in the roof of one of the buildings in the complex. Vladimir Rogov, the Russian puppet leader for occupied Zaporizhzhia, claimed that the holes were caused by Ukrainian artillery.







The International Atomic Energy Agency inspection team arrived in Kyiv and is expected to travel to the power plant in the coming days.<sup>22</sup> Fourteen experts are traveling with Rafael Grossi, IAEA Director General. The inspectors will evaluate the physical security of the plant, nuclear security, and adherence to guarantees of non-proliferation of nuclear materials.

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<sup>22</sup> <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/29/7365252/>

Nikopol was attacked by a barrage of Grad rockets that damaged the bus station, stores, and the children's library.<sup>23</sup>

Oleksandr Starukh, Zaporizhzhia Oblast Administrative and Military Governor, reported that Russian missiles struck the city of Zaporizhzhia but landed in a remote area.<sup>24</sup>

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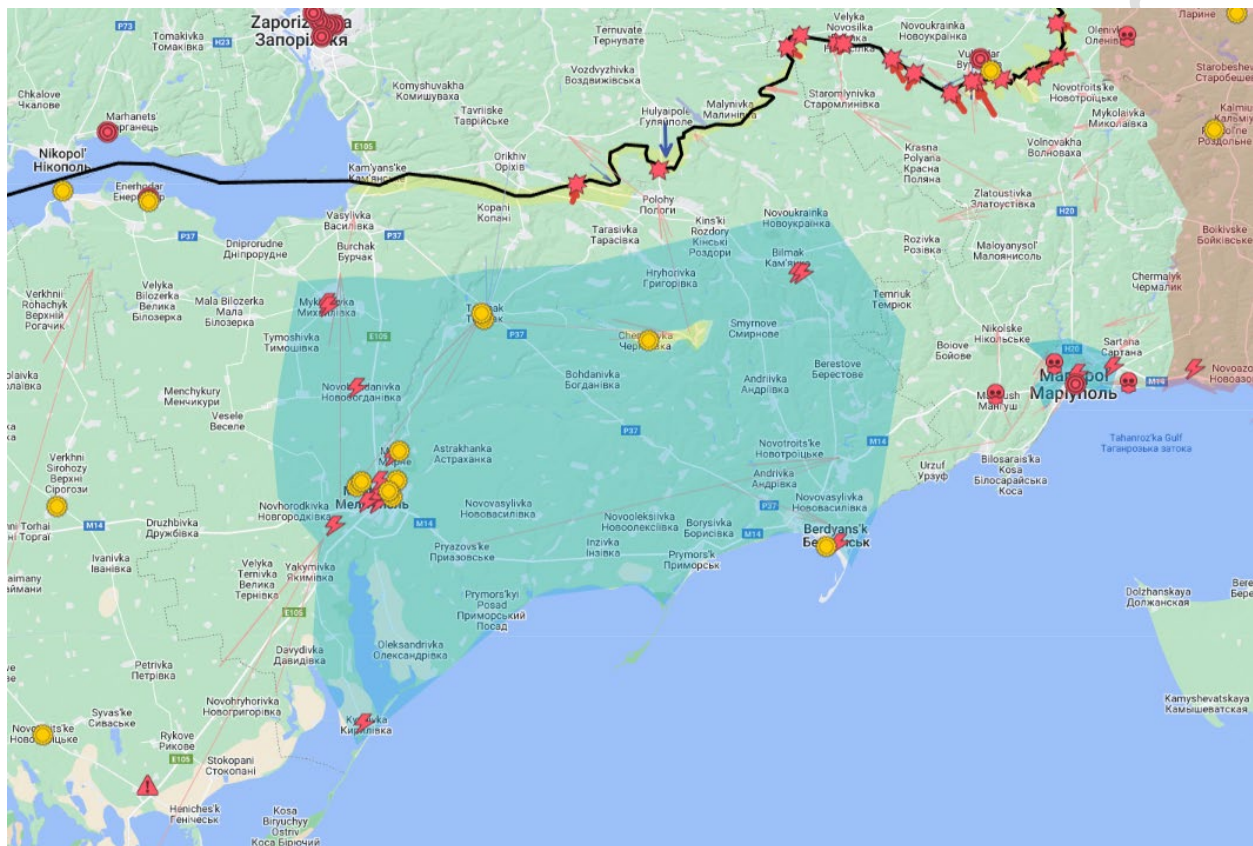
<sup>23</sup> <https://t.me/dnipropetrovskaODA/1718>

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/30/7365296/>



# DONBAS REGION

## SOUTHERN ZAPORIZHZIA



**NEW Russian Objective:** Set conditions for an offensive to capture northern Zaporizhzhia, defend the existing line of conflict, end the insurrection that has expanded from Melitopol to most of the occupied territory

**NEW Ukrainian Objective:** Fix Russian assets in place to prevent redeployment, defend the existing line of conflict

while finding and exploiting weaknesses, destroy troop concentrations and command and control sites, interdict supplies and disrupt logistics, support and expand the insurrection in occupied territories

Ukrainian and Russian forces exchanged artillery, rockets fired from multiple launch rocket systems (MLRS), and indirect tank fire from Hulyaipole to Orikhiv to Kamyankse. The Russian air force targeted Ukrainian positions along the western part of the front, striking Novodanilivka, Stepove, Mali Shcherbaky, and Kamyankse. On the administrative border of Donetsk, Novosilka was also attacked by the Russian air force.

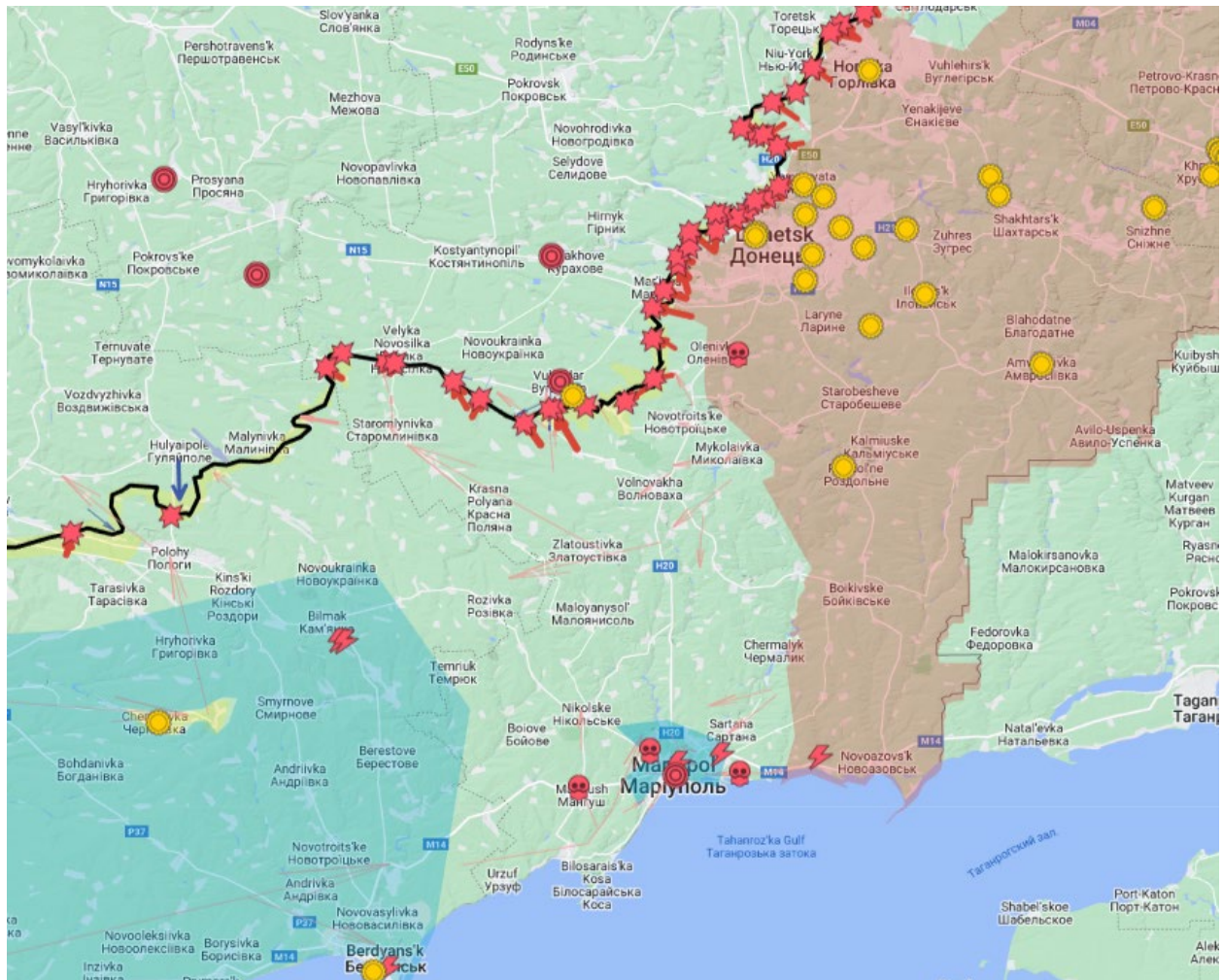
Ivan Fedorov, the exiled mayor of Melitopol, reported that Russian forces evacuated their wounded from the city's hospitals.<sup>25</sup> The evacuation indicates that Russian military leaders are concerned about additional advances. This aligns with reports of Russian wounded being evacuated from hospitals in the Izyum region two weeks ago.

**ASSESSMENT:** Pending

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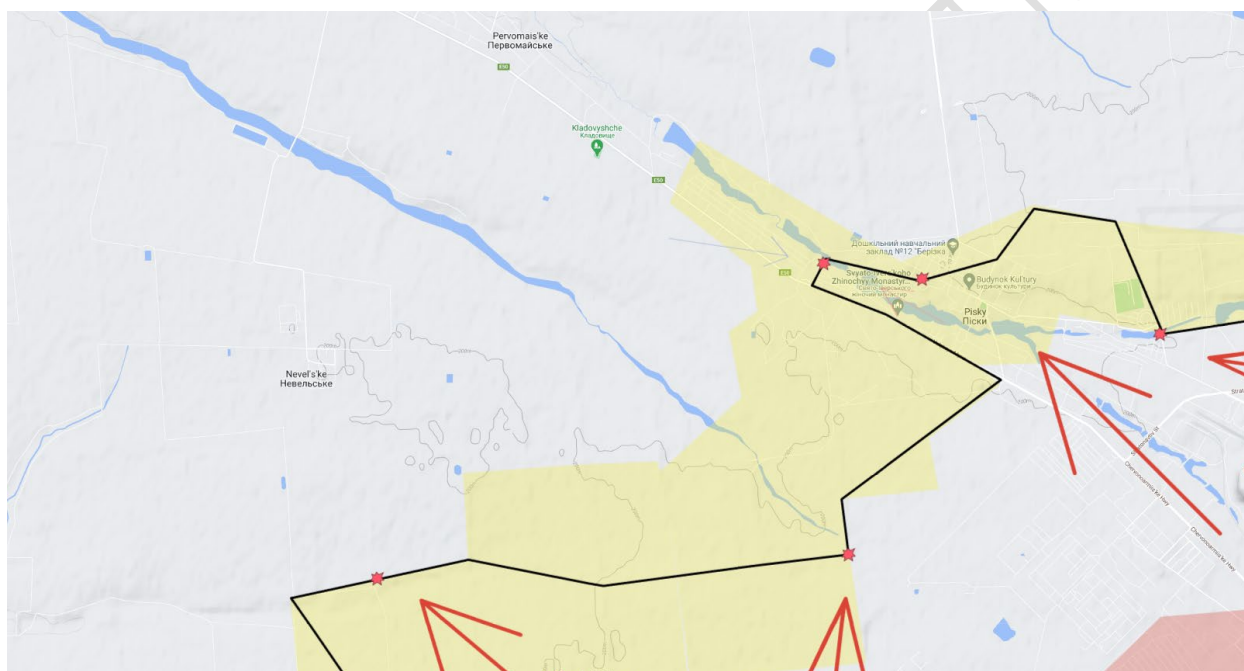
<sup>25</sup> <https://twitter.com/Flash43191300/status/1564232727171420163>

# SOUTHWESTERN DONETSK



**Russian Objective UPDATED:** Push Ukrainian forces out of firing range of Donetsk city, bring the insurrection across southwestern Donetsk under control, and stage a referendum on becoming part of the Russian Federation

**Ukrainian Objective UPDATED:** 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



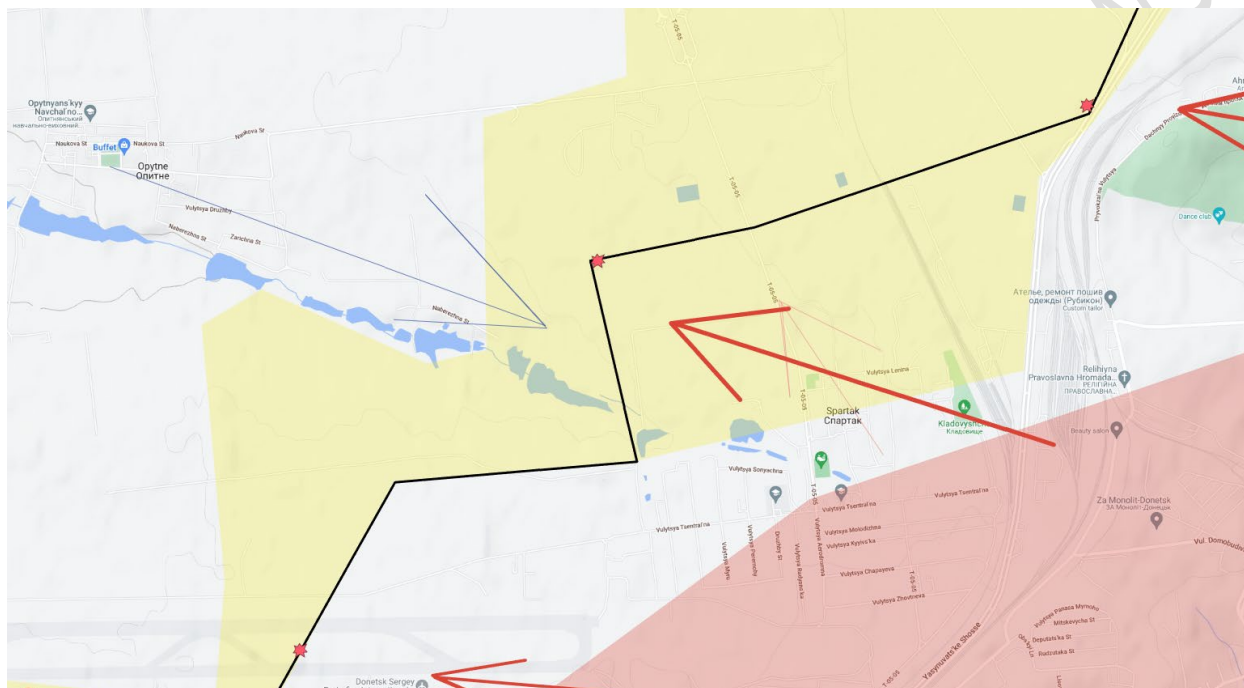
The 1st Army Corps of the Donetsk People's Republic (DNR) is combat ineffective, resulting in a continued decrease in combat, which started on July 22. DNR troops tried to advance on [Pervomaiske](#) and [Nevel'ske](#) from the Lozove direction and continued to be unsuccessful.<sup>26 27</sup> Near Vesele, Russian forces were able to occupy Ukrainian

<sup>26</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM](#)

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

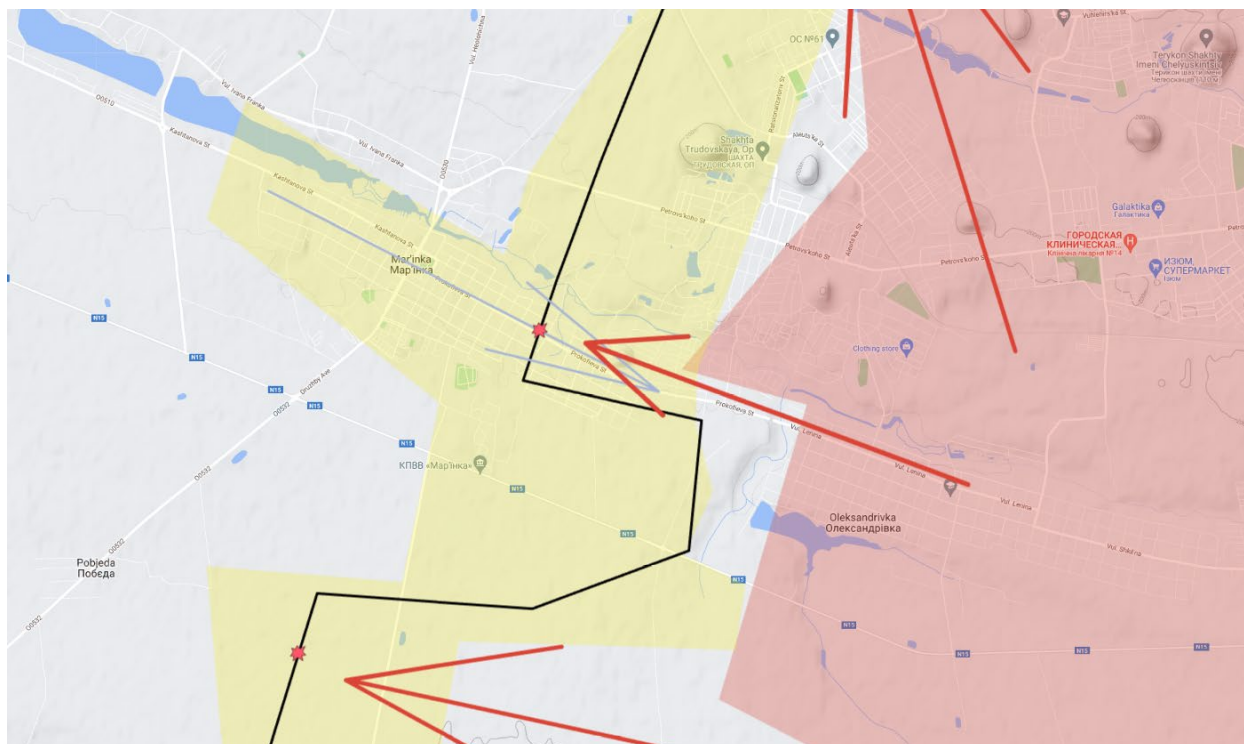


positions at the southwest corner of the international airport. They [suffered heavy losses](#) in a drone-directed mortar attack.<sup>28</sup>

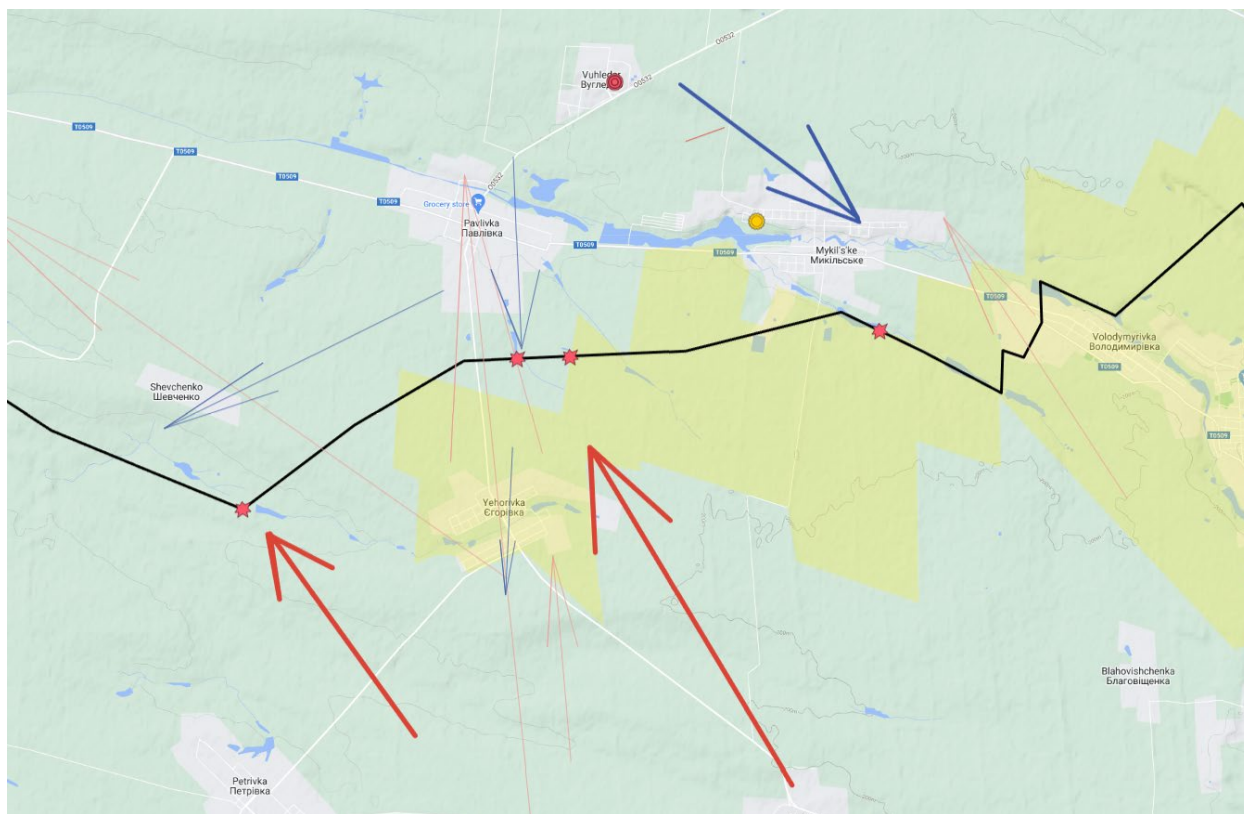


A small group of soldiers with the DNR attempted a reconnaissance mission in [Optyne](#) but were discovered and eliminated. We maintain that [Pisky](#) remains contested, with a small Ukrainian presence in the northern part of the village and strong defenses on the E-50 Ring Road to the south.

<sup>28</sup> <https://twitter.com/Osinttechnical/status/1564436322684641282>



Russian forces made two attacks on Ukrainian positions in [Marinka](#) but did not move the line of conflict. Further south, the DNR also attempted to advance on [Novomykhailivka](#) and continued to be blocked by Ukrainian defenders.



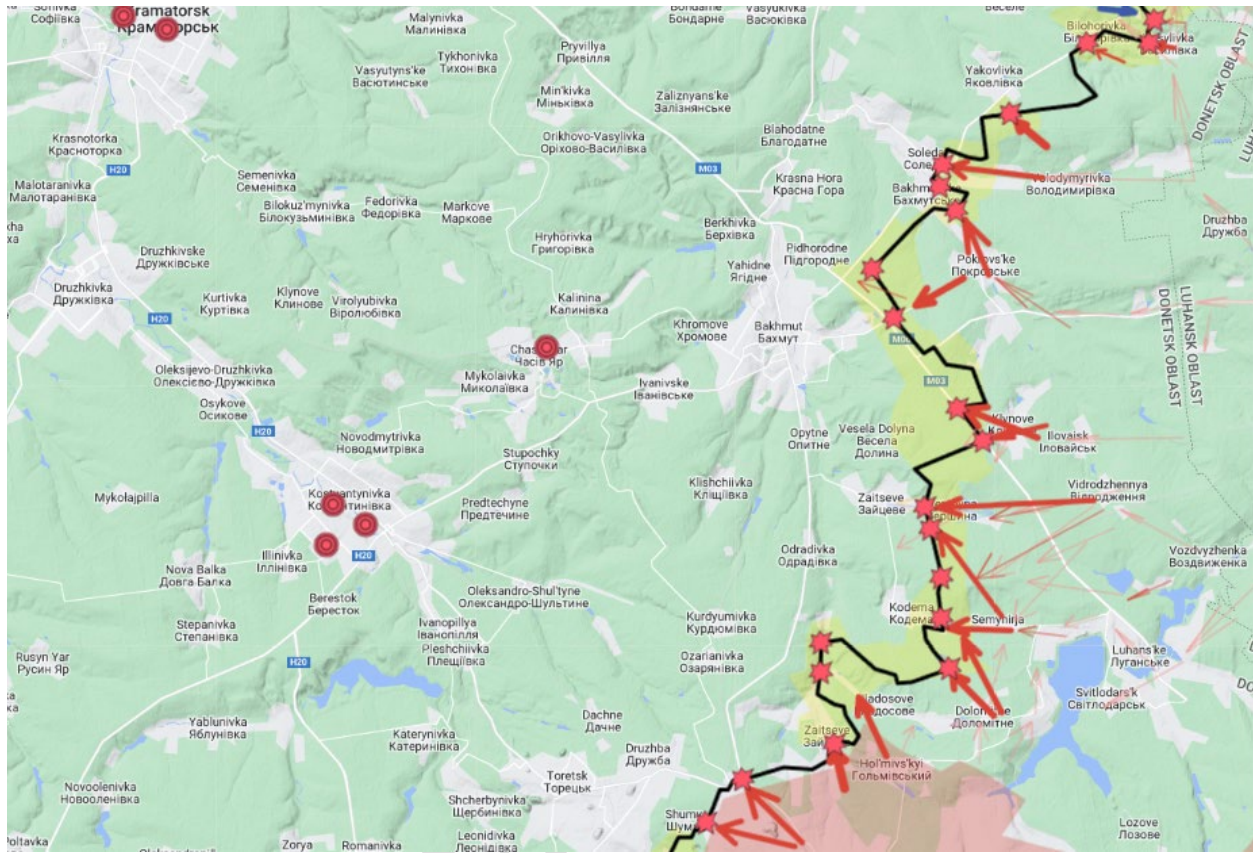
Near the Zaporizhia administrative border, Russian troops continued to press [Pavlivka](#) to gain access to the T-509 Highway but could not advance north.

In Mariupol, insurgents lured a Russian patrol into a trap by claiming they knew a building where Azov Battalion soldiers who escaped the May siege were hiding.<sup>29</sup> Russian forces had mined the area, and partisans knew their locations. They set a path that funneled the soldiers into the trap, killing one and severely wounding another.

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<sup>29</sup> <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/29/7365275/>

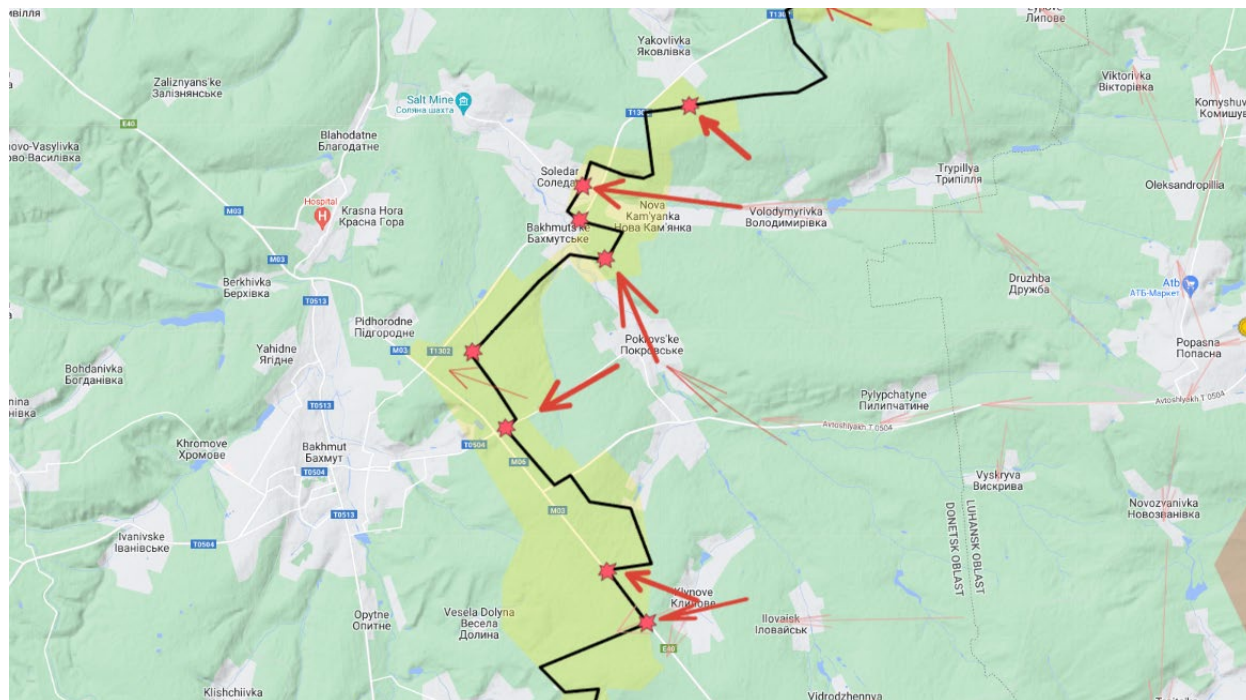
# BAKHMUT



**Russian Objective:** 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

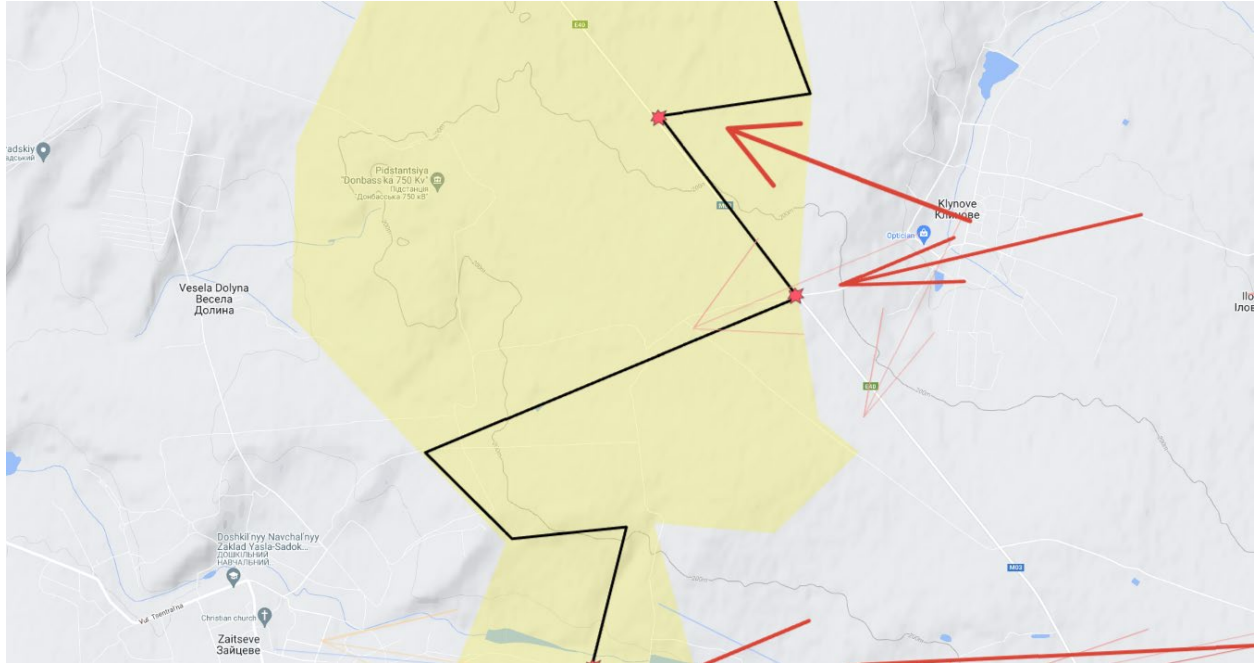




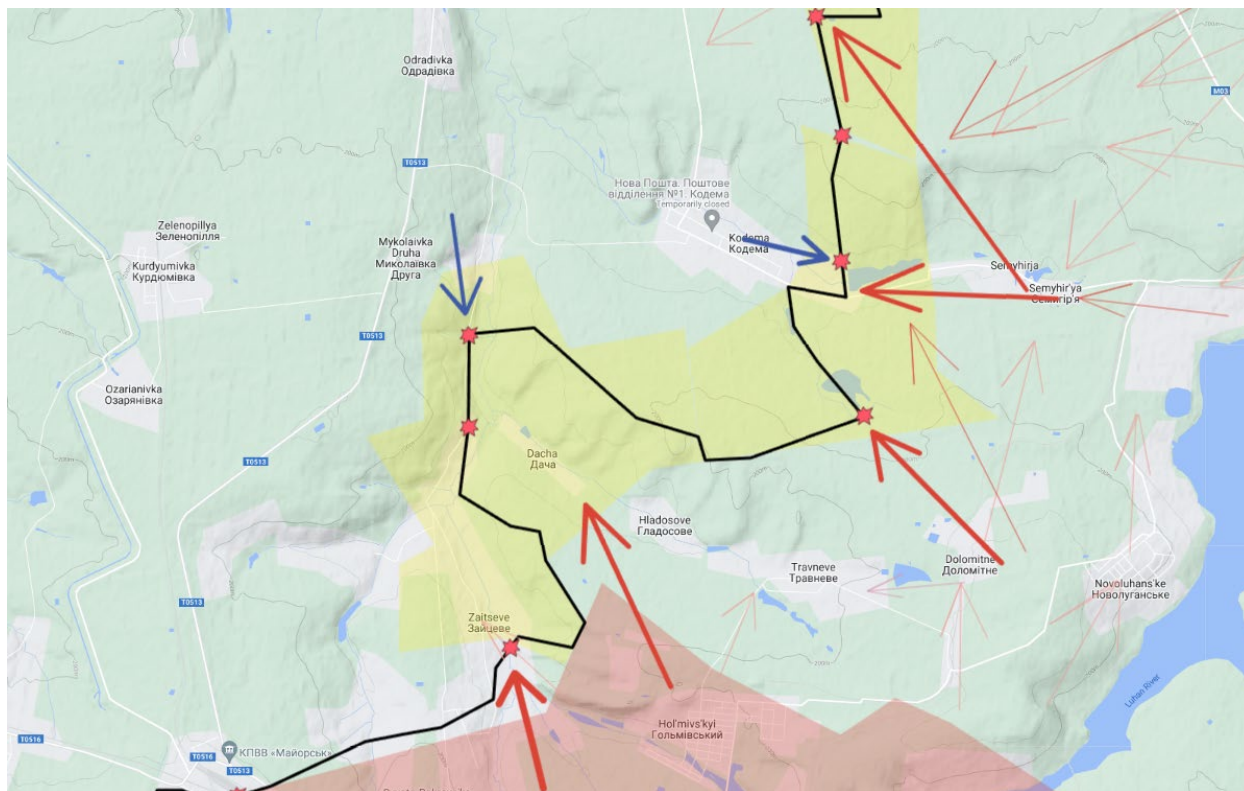
After a day of an intense artillery barrage on Soledar, which included the use of white phosphorus, Private Military Company (PMC) Wagner Group, supported by the Luhansk People's Republic (LNR) and airstrikes by the Russian air force, renewed their attempts to move into the urban areas of [Soledar](#).<sup>30 31</sup> They also attempted to advance on [Bakhmut](#). Neither advance was successful, and Russian proxy forces could not breach Ukrainian defensive lines.

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

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



Further south, LNR separatists attempted to advance on [Vesela Dolyna](#) and continued the theme of being unsuccessful.



In the Svitlodarsk Bulge, fighting for [Kodema](#) continued, as well as an attempt to advance on [Zaitseve](#). Despite artillery and air force support, PMC Wagner failed to advance in either direction.

### **ASSESSMENT:** Unchanged from August 24

*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 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*



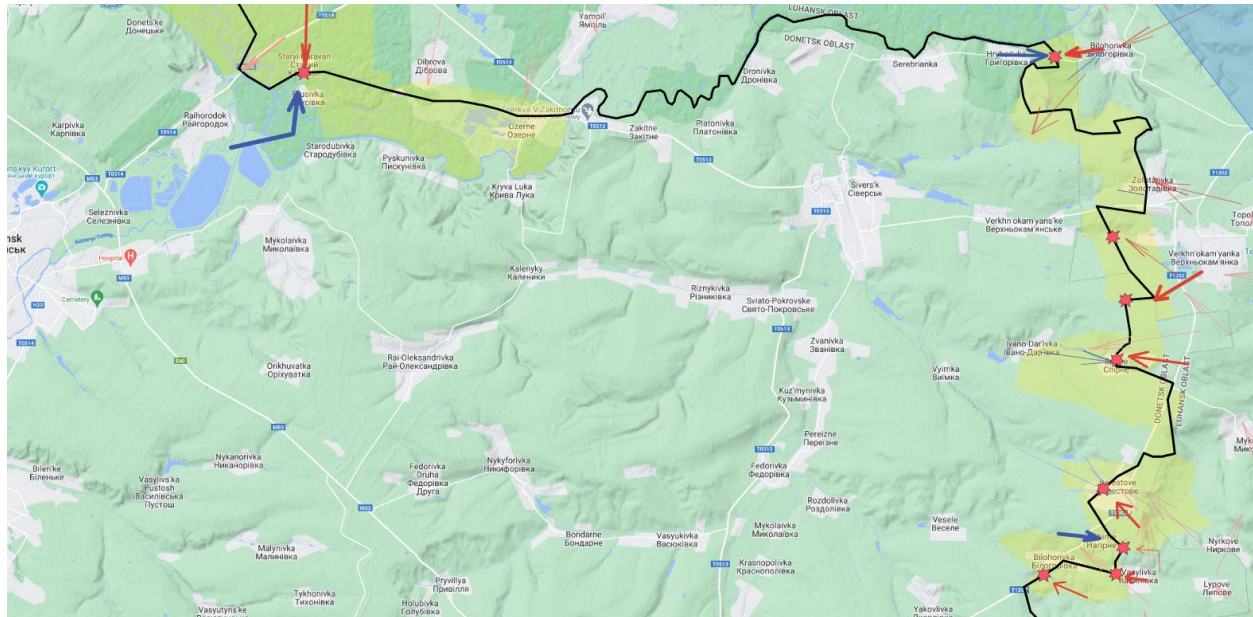
*50 on June 26 to almost 100 on August 12.<sup>32</sup> Fewer artillery pieces, fewer shells, spread over a larger area.*

*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.*

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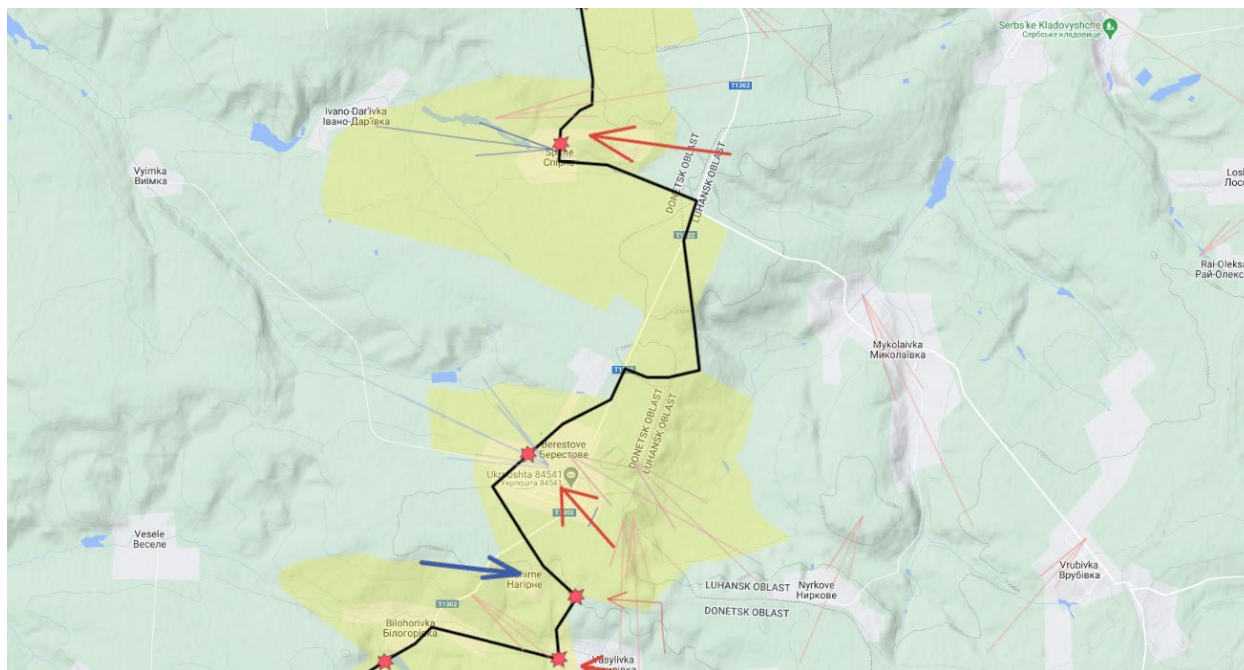
<sup>32</sup> [Ragnar Gudmundsson Russia-Ukraine War Data Analysis Tables](#)

# NORTHEAST DONETSK & LUHANSK



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

**Ukrainian Objective **UPDATED**:** Lock Russian military assets in place, prevent advances on Siversk, Slovyansk, and Kramatorsk, support insurgents, exploit weaknesses, interdict supplies



A small group of LNR separatists attempted to advance on [Ivano-Darivka](#). The attack failed, with the unit suffering heavy losses.<sup>33</sup>

Siversk and its surrounding settlements were shelled, and multiple air strikes hit Hryhorivka. Russian forces also shelled Bilohorivka [Donetsk] and the city of Slovyansk.

**ASSESSMENT:** Unchanged from August 17

<sup>33</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM](#)

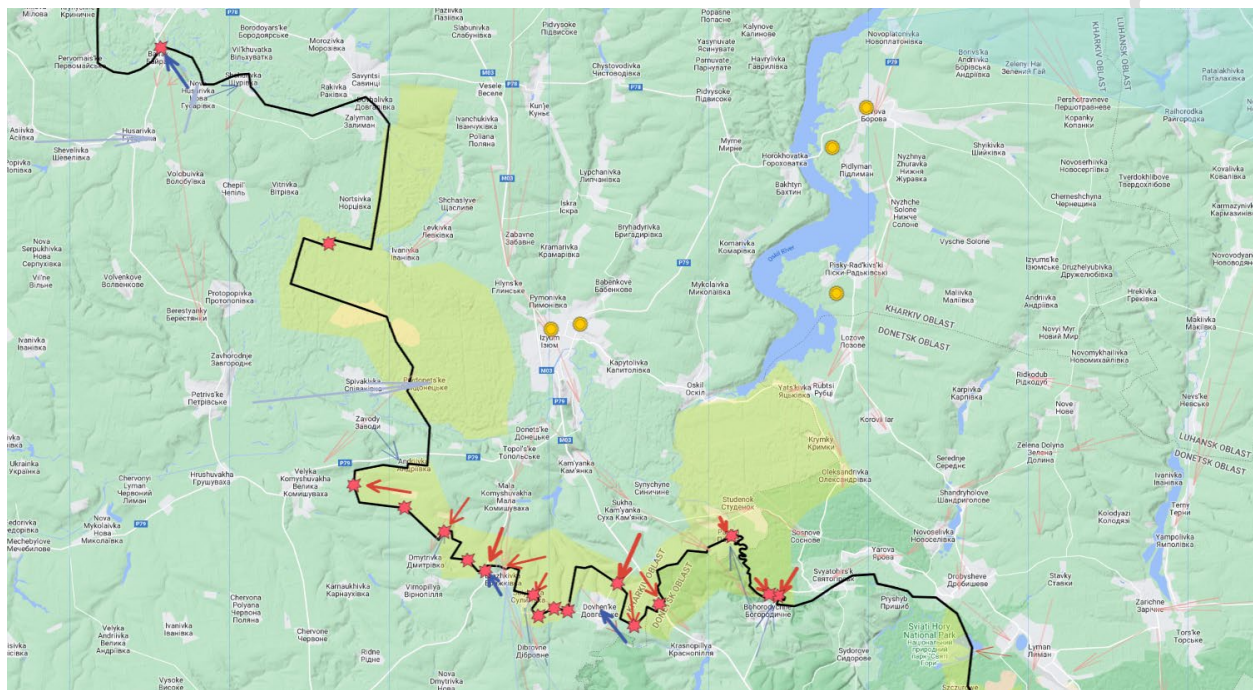
*On August 13, we assessed there would be continued sporadic fighting in northeast Donetsk, but we did not anticipate renewed significant combat operations. That assessment was tested this week. The 2nd Army Corps of the Luhansk People's Republic (LNR) is combat ineffective and incapable of carrying 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 degraded decision-making capabilities. We maintain that any additional fighting in this region before mud season will be positional, spoiling attacks, and probes.*



# KHARKIV

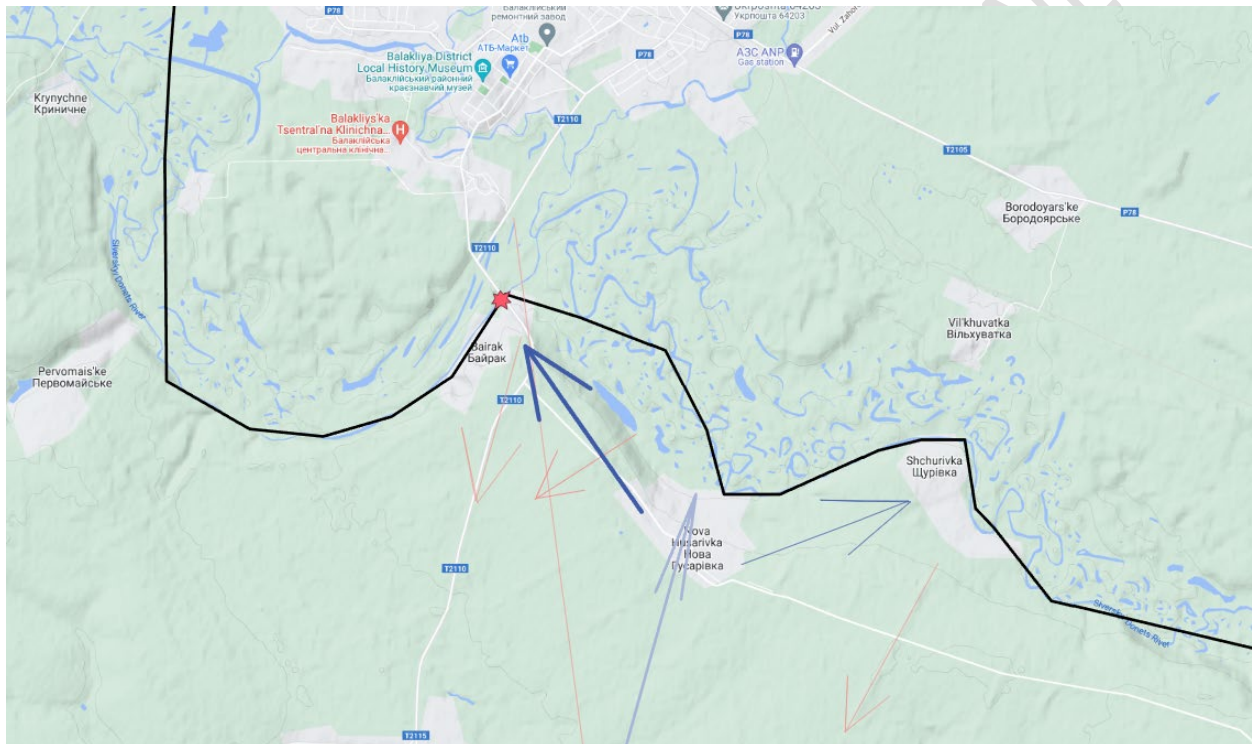
## IZYUM AXIS



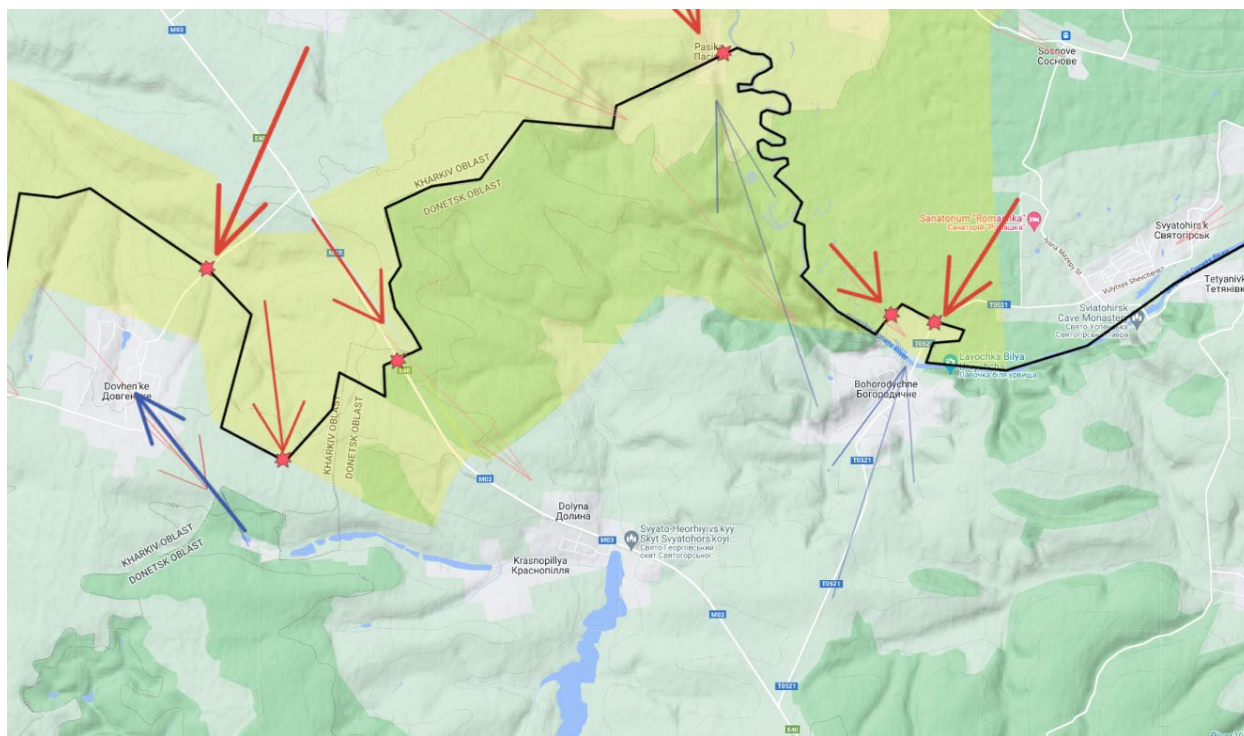
**Russian Objective:** Push Ukrainian forces back to end shelling on Izyum, protect Ground Lines of Communication (GLOC – supply lines) west and north of Izyum

**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

Northwest of Izuum, Russian forces shelled and fired rockets from MLRS in Chepil, Husarivka, and Zalyman. To change up the traditional strikes in this region, an airstrike targeted Husarivka instead of Zalyman.



Satellite imagery shows that the bridge between [Bairak](#) and [Balakliya](#) was destroyed. Due to significant cloud cover in the region that was perfectly timed with satellite passes, we can only determine the bridge was blown up in early or mid-August. We have coded Bairak as liberated and believe Russian troops have been pushed north across the Siverskyi Donets River.



Russian forces attempted to advance on [Dolyna](#) and fought positional battles near [Bohorodychne](#), but neither attempt was successful.<sup>34</sup> The General Staff reported that Ukrainian positions in Sulyhivka were shelled, indicating Ukraine is working on reestablishing total control over the village.

Russian forces fired sporadic artillery and rockets from MLRS along the entire line of conflict from Velyka Komyshuvakha to Pryshyb, with air strikes carried out on Tetyanivka and Pryshyb.

<sup>34</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM](#)

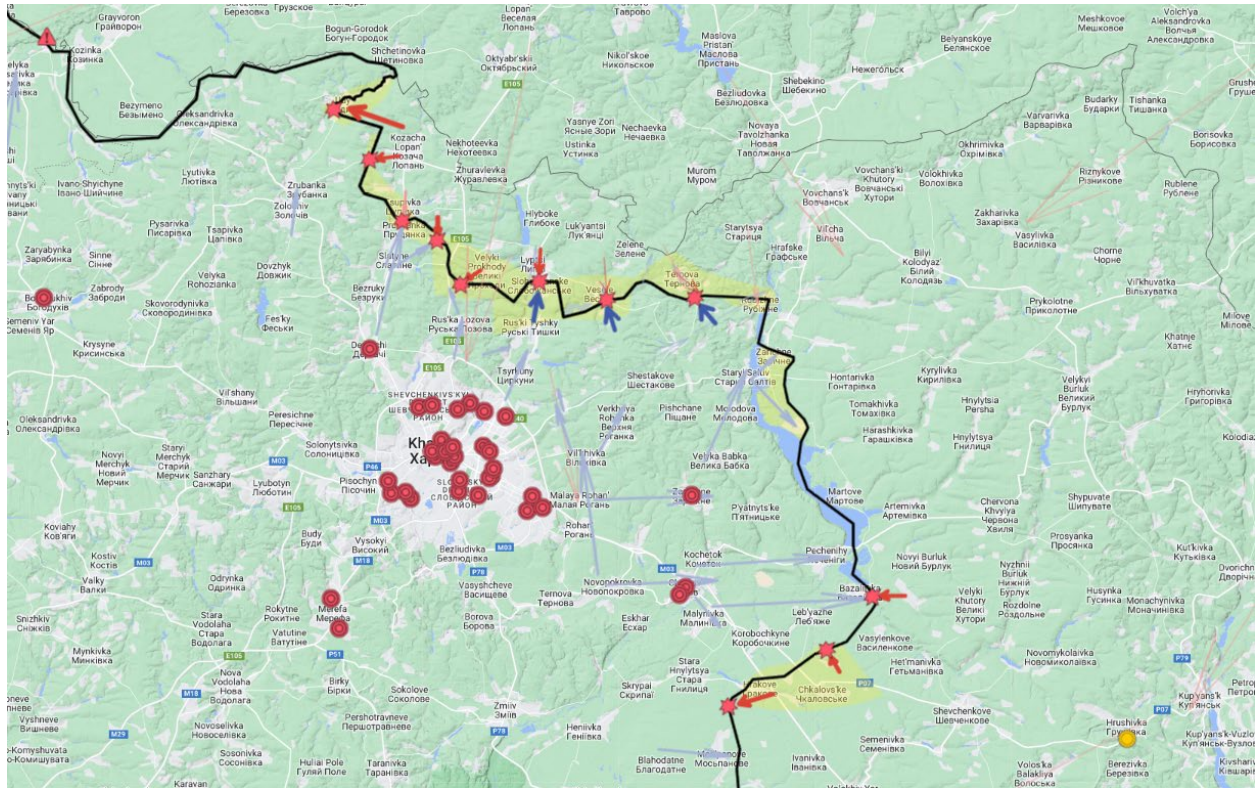
## **ASSESSMENT: Unchanged from August 7**

*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.*

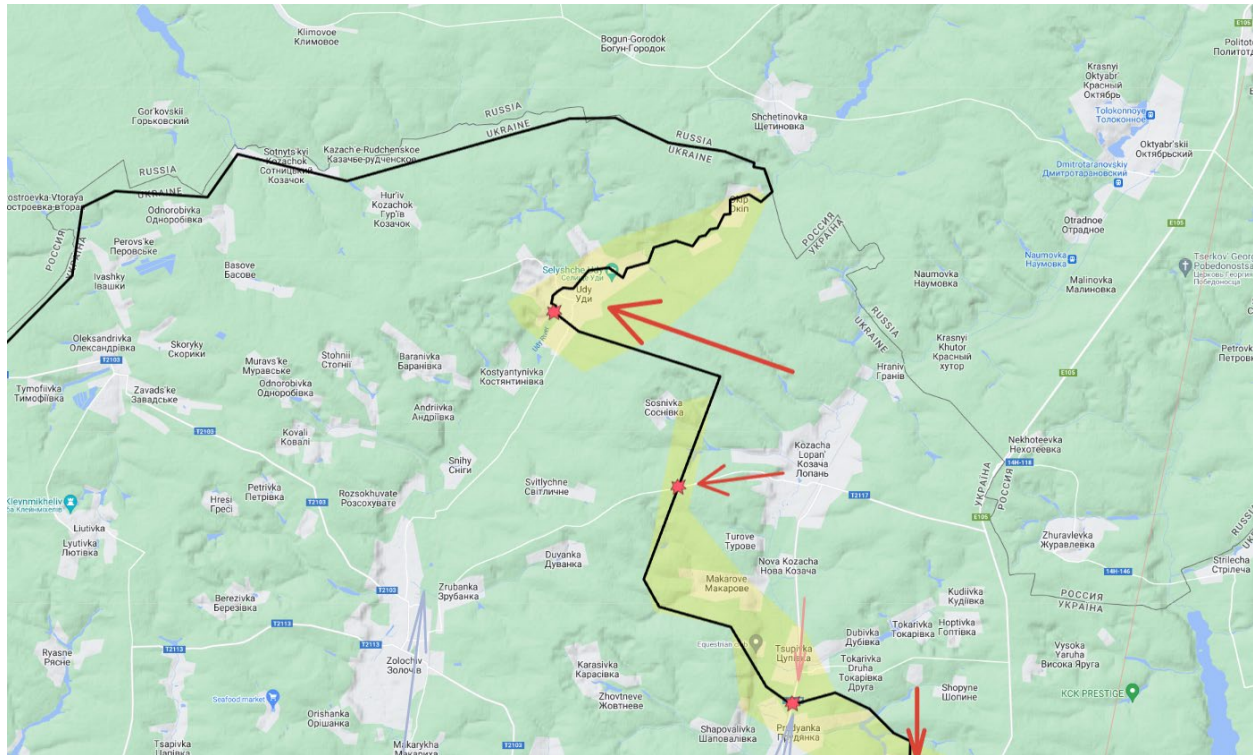


# NORTHERN KHARKIV



**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



The General Staff acknowledged that Russian forces were in [Udy](#) and reported fighting in the settlement, and Russian troops retreated after fighting Ukrainian forces.<sup>35</sup>

Russian S-300 anti-aircraft missiles struck the center of Kharkiv, causing significant damage. There is more information in the **War Crimes and Human Rights** section.

<sup>35</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM](#)

Otherwise, Russian and Ukrainian forces traded artillery, rockets fired from Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (MLRS), and indirect tank fire along the entire line of conflict.

## **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.*

## 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 Krasnopillia, Esman, Shalyhyne, Znob-Novhorodske, and Buryn.<sup>36</sup> There weren't any injuries reported. In Chernihiv, the settlement of Yanzhulivka was shelled by Russian forces firing from across the international border.

## KYIV REGION

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

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<sup>36</sup> <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/29/7365287/>



## **BLACK SEA, CRIMEA & ODESA REGION**

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

## **WESTERN & CENTRAL UKRAINE**

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

## **THEATERWIDE & EXTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS**

The Washington Post reported that the first Iranian combat drones that Russia purchased had been deployed in Ukraine.<sup>37</sup> Multiple intelligence agencies reported that Russian soldiers in the field "are not satisfied" due to a number of technical problems. The initial shipment included the Shahed-129 and Shahed-191 combat drones. Russia had not invested heavily in developing combat drones such as the United States Predator and Reaper drones and the Turkish Bayraktar TB-2.

Kremlin press secretary Dmitry Peskov declared the special military operation in Ukraine is "proceeding methodically

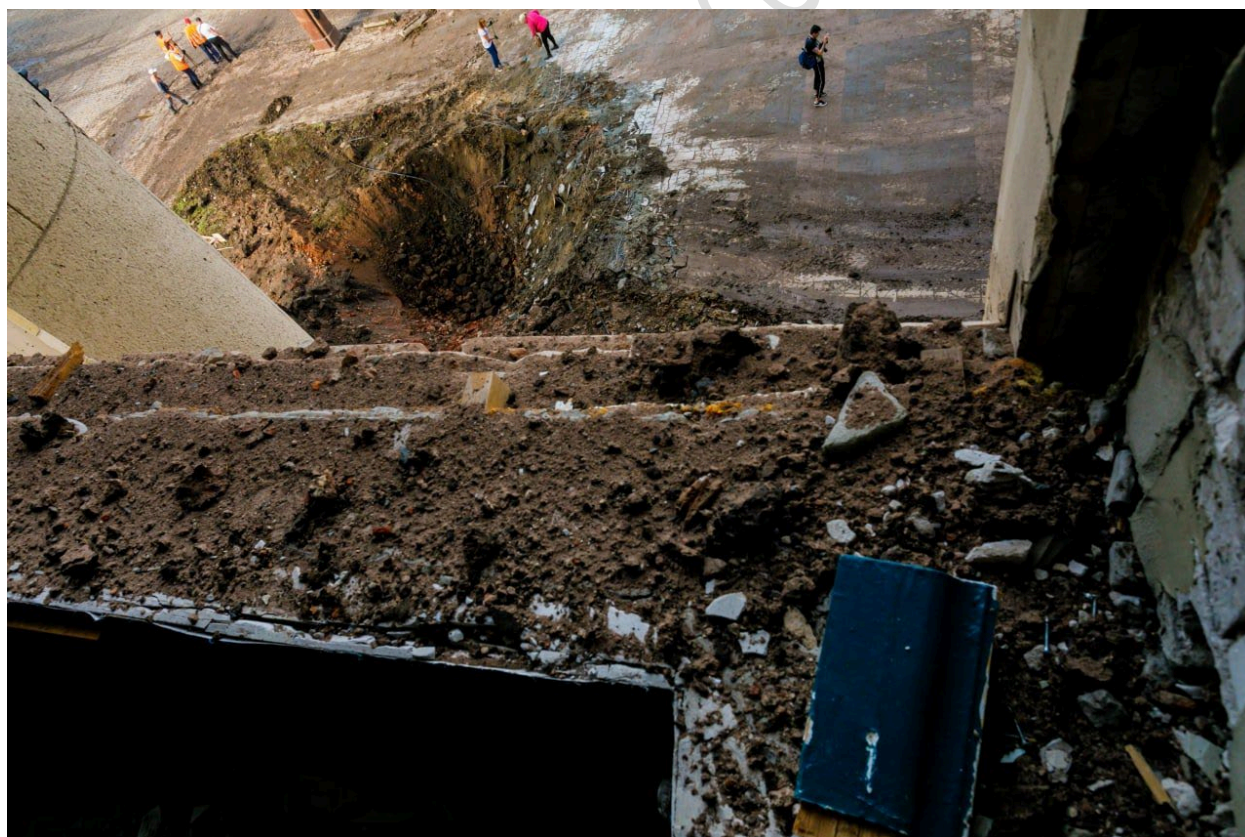
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<sup>37</sup> [Washington Post via MSN](#)

and in accordance with plans” and that all goals will be achieved.

## WAR CRIMES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

At least five people were killed and seven wounded in a missile attack on Kharkiv. The S-300 anti-aircraft missiles slammed into the city's center, destroying historic buildings.



Ihor Terekhov, Mayor of Kharkiv, asked residents not to leave bomb shelters as officials believe the city will now come under constant missile attacks.<sup>38</sup> The Russian Ministry of Defense has consistently turned to terror attacks on civilians when faced with adversity on the battlefield.

The United States Department of State confirmed a 24-year-old American citizen from Tennessee was killed in combat in Ukraine.<sup>39</sup> The DNR claims the man was killed in Yehorivka on August 23, and they had recovered his body. The DNR has said they will work with the United States to return the body for burial.

Missile attacks in Mykolaiv killed two and wounded 24. Like Kharkiv, the missile strikes are continuing and are expected to get worse.<sup>40</sup>

## GEOPOLITICAL

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine has expressed Ukraine's concern in connection with reports that S-300

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<sup>38</sup> <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/30/7365320/>

<sup>39</sup> [USA Today](#)

<sup>40</sup> <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/29/7365229/>

missile systems were transported from Syria to Russia via the Bosphorus Strait on board the Sparta II ship chartered by the Russian Ministry of Defence.

Mykola Tochytskyi, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, delivered a verbal note to the Turkish Ambassador on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

Tochytskyi drew the Turkish Ambassador's attention to the fact that, "according to the provisions of the Convention regarding the Regime of the Straits from 20 July 1936, the specified vessel falls under the definition of a warship for the purposes of this Convention."

Russia is withdrawing S-300 anti-aircraft systems from Syria for likely redistribution in Russian-occupied Crimea due to ongoing drone strikes and missile attacks.

## **ECONOMIC**

The rouble was steady with an "official" exchange rate at 61 roubles for one US dollar.



Oil climbed in trading on Monday but is expected to open lower on Tuesday. West Texas Intermediate climbed to \$96.00 a barrel, and Brent rose to \$103. United States RBOB wholesale gasoline was steady at \$2.80 a gallon (74 cents a liter).

Chicago SRW Wheat Futures climbed to its highest price in weeks, reaching 84 cents a bushel for December 2022 delivery.