MALCONTENT NEWS RUSSIA-UKRAINE SITUATION REPORT

October 25, 2023

Malcontent News
Russia-Ukraine War SITREP
10/25/23 23:59* PST

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SUMMARY – DAY 608

It has been 3,529 days since Russia occupied the Crimea Peninsula on January 27, 2014, and one year and 244 days since Russia expanded its war against Ukraine.

Jump to the Action Report.

Summary:

- There are map updates
- Ukrainian forces are expanding their positions on the left (east) bank of the Konka River in Kherson
- Fighting increased in the Kupyansk area of operation in Kharkiv
- The situation in the Svatove and Kreminna AOs remains stable after the withdrawal of at least three Russian brigades
- Russian forces continued spoiling attacks on the north flank of Bakhmut
- Fighting continued in the Klishchiivka AO
- Russian forces made additional gains east of Stepove and are consolidating their gains on the railroad line east of the Avdiivka coke plant

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- Russian forces were less active on the south flank of Avdiivka
- It was business as usual in Marinka and near Pobieda and Novomykhailivka
- The GUR claims they destroyed a Russian ammunition depot in the Petrovskyi District of occupied Donetsk
- Ukrainian forces have consolidated their gains on the western edge of Verbove and stabilized the defensive line
- Insurgents in occupied Berdyansk killed a Russian soldier using a car bomb
- The Russian VKS is dropping unknown devices in the Black Sea, causing sea mines to explode
- Insurgents in occupied Crimea documented Russian military equipment staged at numerous train stations
- The Ukrainian Grain Association accused "officials" of delaying the loading of grain ships
- Ukrainian forces are on the offensive in Pishchanivka, Poima, and Pidstepne and holding their positions in Krynky in Kherson
- A Russian drone strike near Khmelnytskyi destroyed an ammunition depot in Slavuta, but it is unclear if this new ammunition or a Soviet-era clean-up site
- The IAEA reported the concussive force of the blast in Slavuta damaged the Khmelnytskyi Nuclear Power Plant

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- The blast in Slavuta reportedly "destroyed" four surrounding settlements
- The Armed Forces of Ukraine has formed the Siberia Battalion, comprised of Russians fighting against the Putin regime.
- Ukraine has developed the capacity to build "tens of thousands" of drones a month
- Ukraine will start forming five new mechanized infantry brigades
- The Parliament of Hungary refused to ratify Sweden's accession to the NATO Alliance
- The Foreign Minister of Hungary is a keynote speaker at a CSTO Conference in Belarus
- Australia announced a $12 million aid package for Ukraine

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DAILY ASSESSMENT

We assess the following:

1. We maintain that Russia's use of human wave attacks has caused rapid deterioration of the situation in the Avdiivka area of operation (AO) despite catastrophic losses, and the Ukrainian garrison is in the deepest salient since February 24, 2022.
2. Russian commanders have put mission objectives over all other considerations, and they are committed to capturing the Avdiivka salient regardless of the cost.
3. Our assessment that the Ukrainian summer-fall counteroffensive has culminated was accurate, with Ukrainian forces on the defensive theaterwide. This transition is not due to the exhaustion of combat potential or Ukrainian losses. This is the last day of this entry.
4. In our assessment, there is a small chance of Ukraine attempting a larger-sized wet crossing near Kherson.
5. Our assessment that there was no chance that the United States House would elect a new Speaker by the end of the week aged like room temperature milk.
6. The soft response by Ukraine's allies after Russian aggression on Ukraine's border will eventually lead to

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a significant incident that could result in military intervention.

7. We maintain that Russia is stockpiling missiles and drones for large-scale attacks on Ukraine's energy infrastructure as the weather continues to degrade.

8. While the possibility of an intentional nuclear accident caused by Russian occupiers at the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant remains low, the threat should be taken seriously.

TODAY'S WAR IN UKRAINE MAP
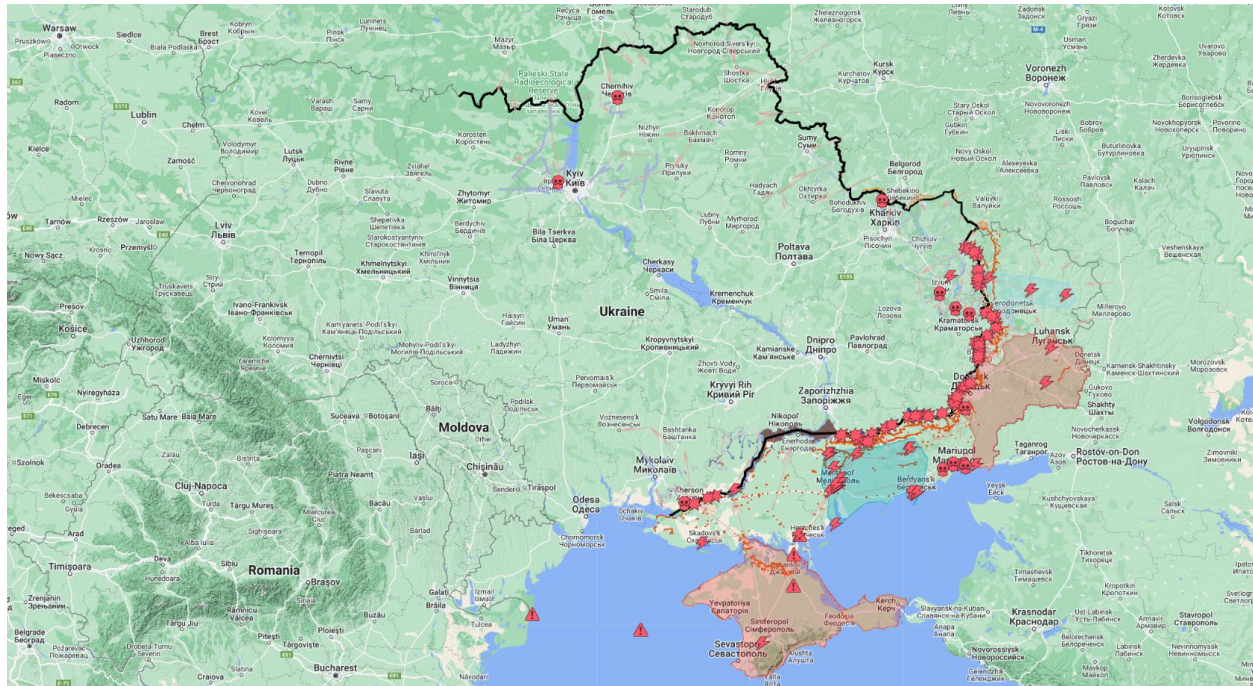
About the maps: Red triangles are sites of significant events unrelated to missile attacks, insurgencies, or ground combat, such as the sinking of the Moskva and the explosion at the Saky Naval airbase. Gray circles indicate an area where fighting has ended with no change in the line of conflict. The 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

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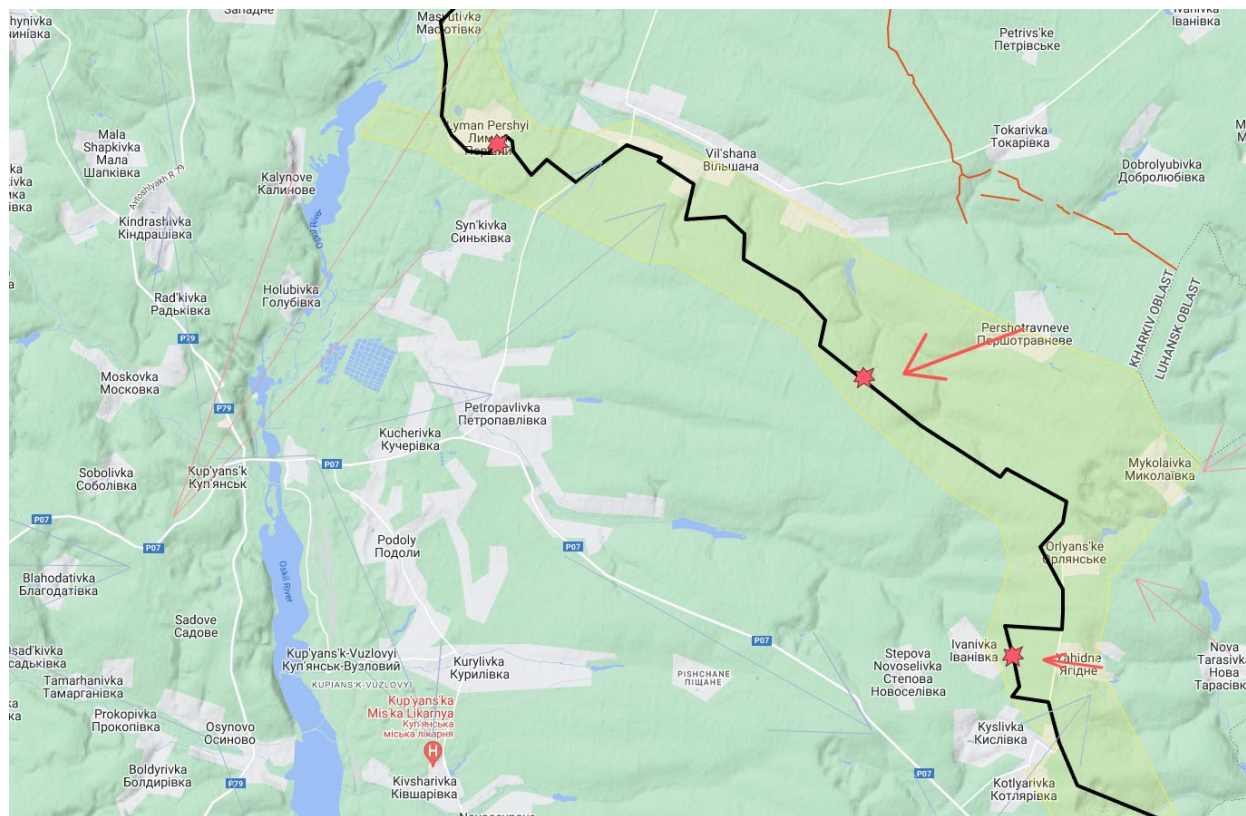
KHARKIV
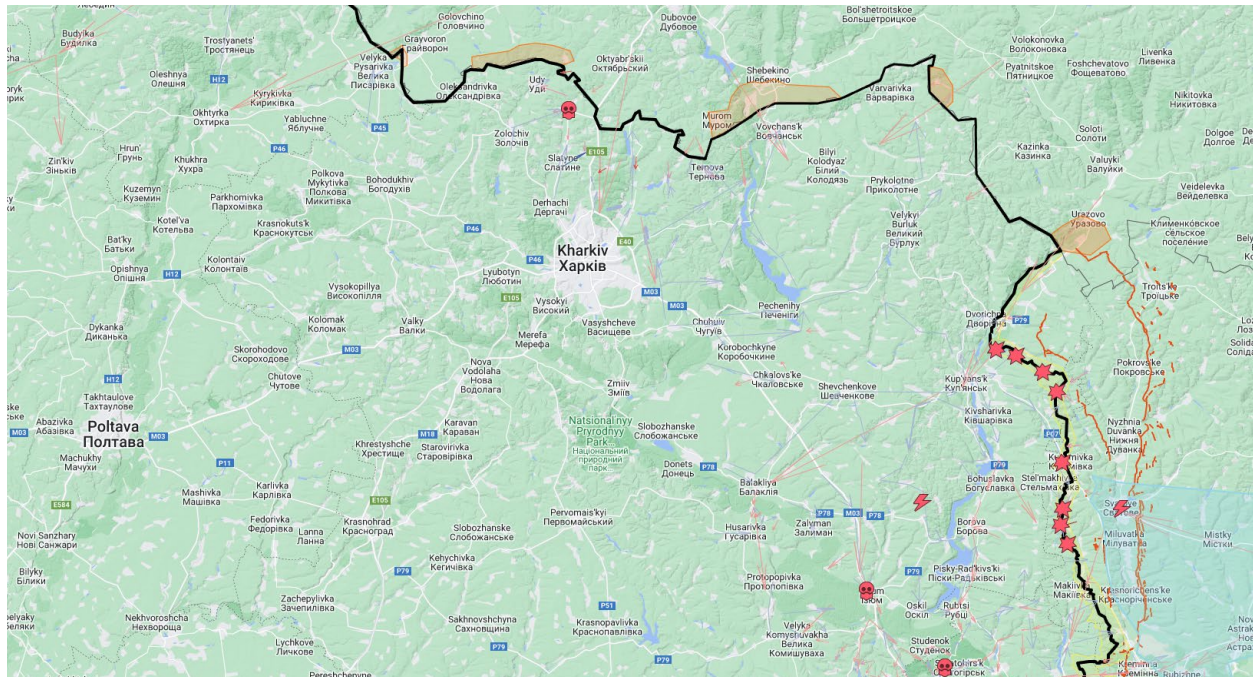
Russian Objective: Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, and terrorize Ukrainian civilians near the line of conflict

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

The front remains stable in the Kupyansk Operational Area (AO). Mutual fighting continued in the [Synkivka](#).[1] [2] The General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (GSAFU) reported fighting "in the area" of [Petropavlivka](#), but because there is nothing but uninhabited forest north and east of the settlement, that's a very large area.[3] Russian forces were pushing on Ukrainian defenses in the areas of [Orlyanske](#) and [Ivanivka](#) with no change in the situation.[4] [5]

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[1] https://t.me/landforcesofukraine/13193
[2] https://t.me/mod_russia/31806 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]
[3] https://t.me/landforcesofukraine/13193
[4] https://t.me/landforcesofukraine/13193
[5] https://t.me/mod_russia/31806 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]
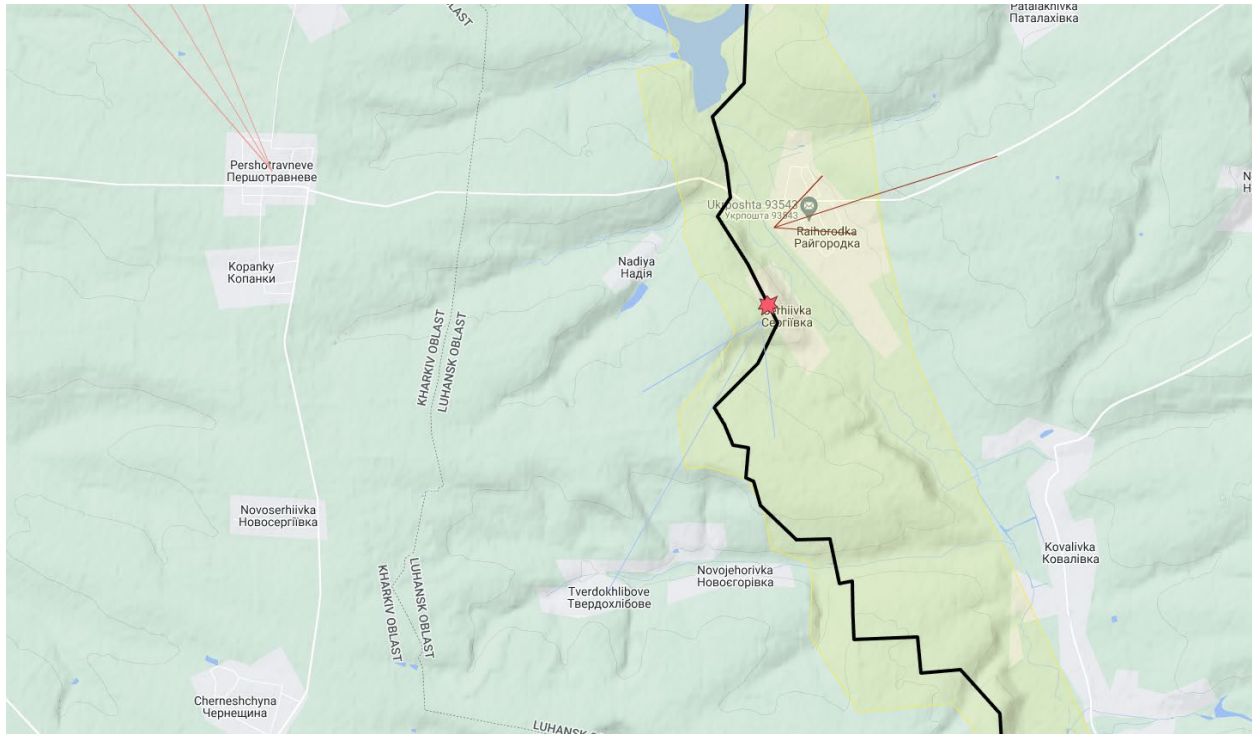
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DONBAS REGION

LUHANSK
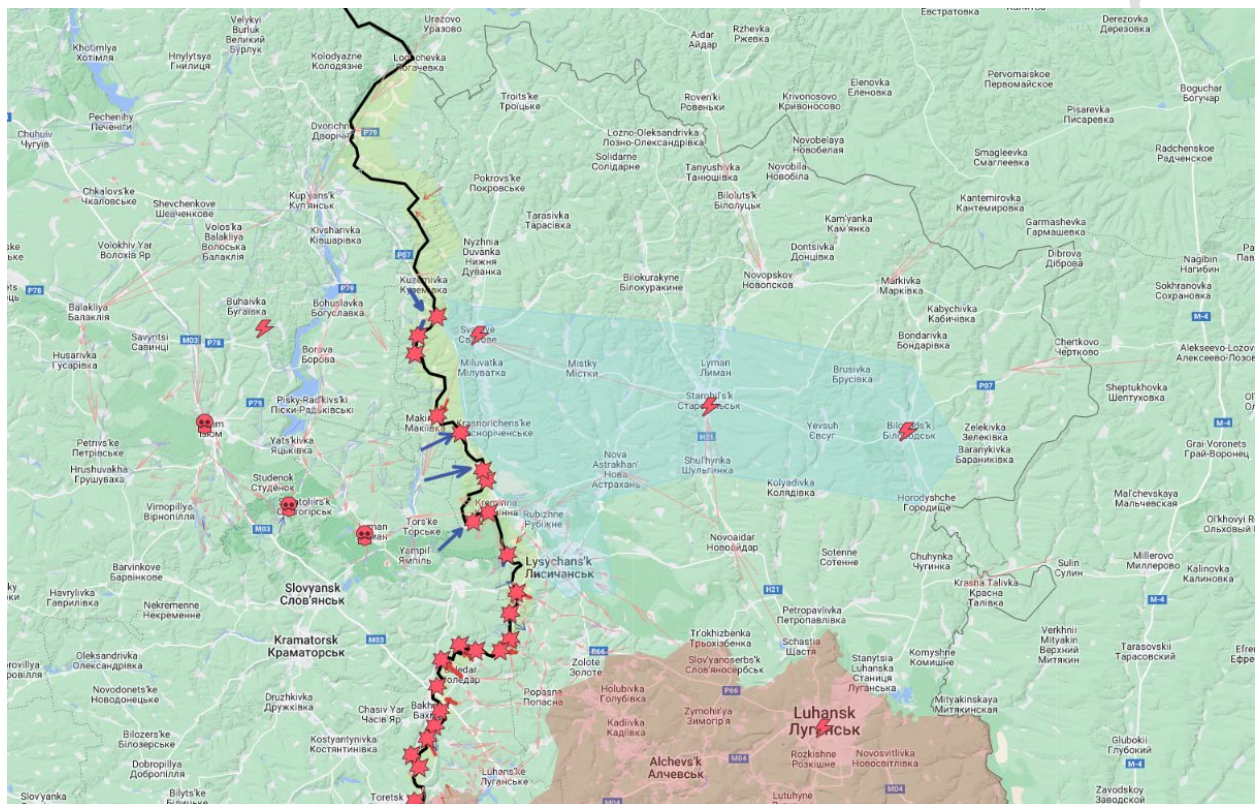
Russian Objective: Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, control insurgent activity, and capture the rest of the oblast

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

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After the transfer of three Russian brigades to the Avdiivka AO, the situation in the Svatove and Kreminna AOs is stable. Positional fighting continued near [Nadiya](#) and [Makiivka](#), and the Russian Ministry of Defense made its required claim of fighting near [Dibrova](#).[6] [7]

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[6] https://t.me/landforcesofukraine/13193
[7] https://t.me/mod_russia/31806 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

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NORTHEAST DONETSK
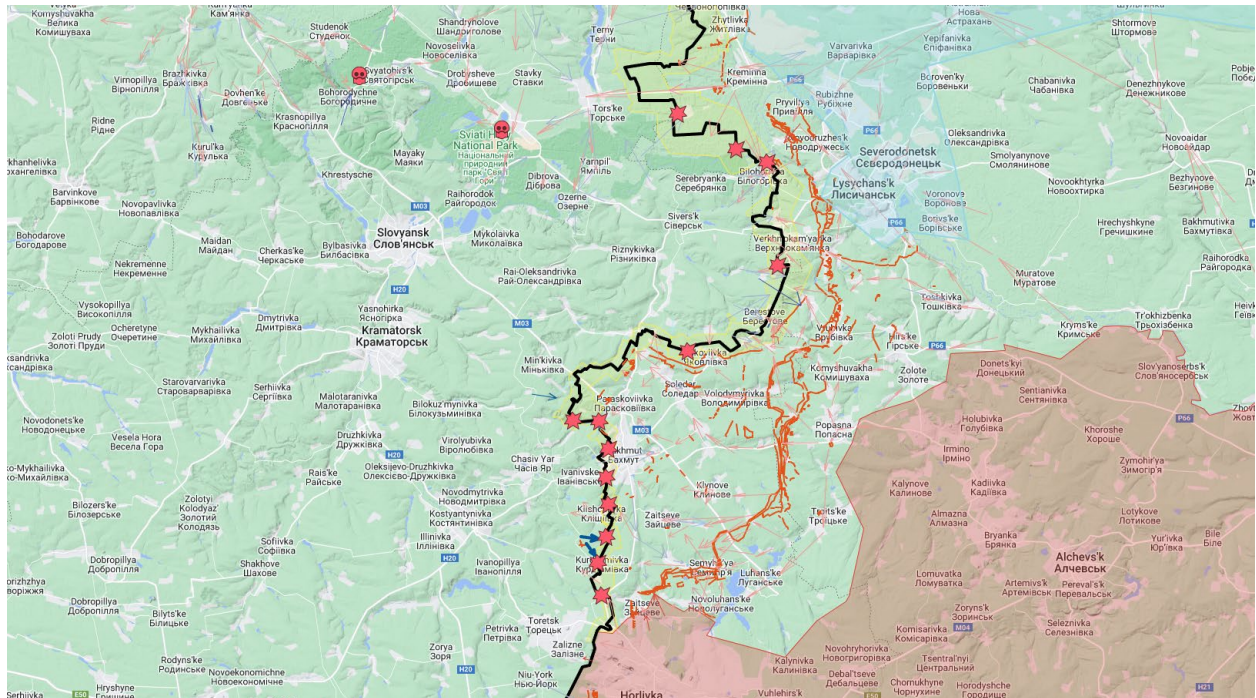
Russian Objective: Complete the capture of Bakhmut AO, set conditions to attack Kramatorsk, Slovyansk, and Siversk, and capture the entire Donetsk region by December 31

Ukrainian Objective: Defend Siversk, collapse the Russian flanks north of Bakhmut, capture the T-513 Highway south of Bakhmut, liberate the Bakhmut and Soledar operational areas, advance to the administrative border of Luhansk, and minimize civilian casualties

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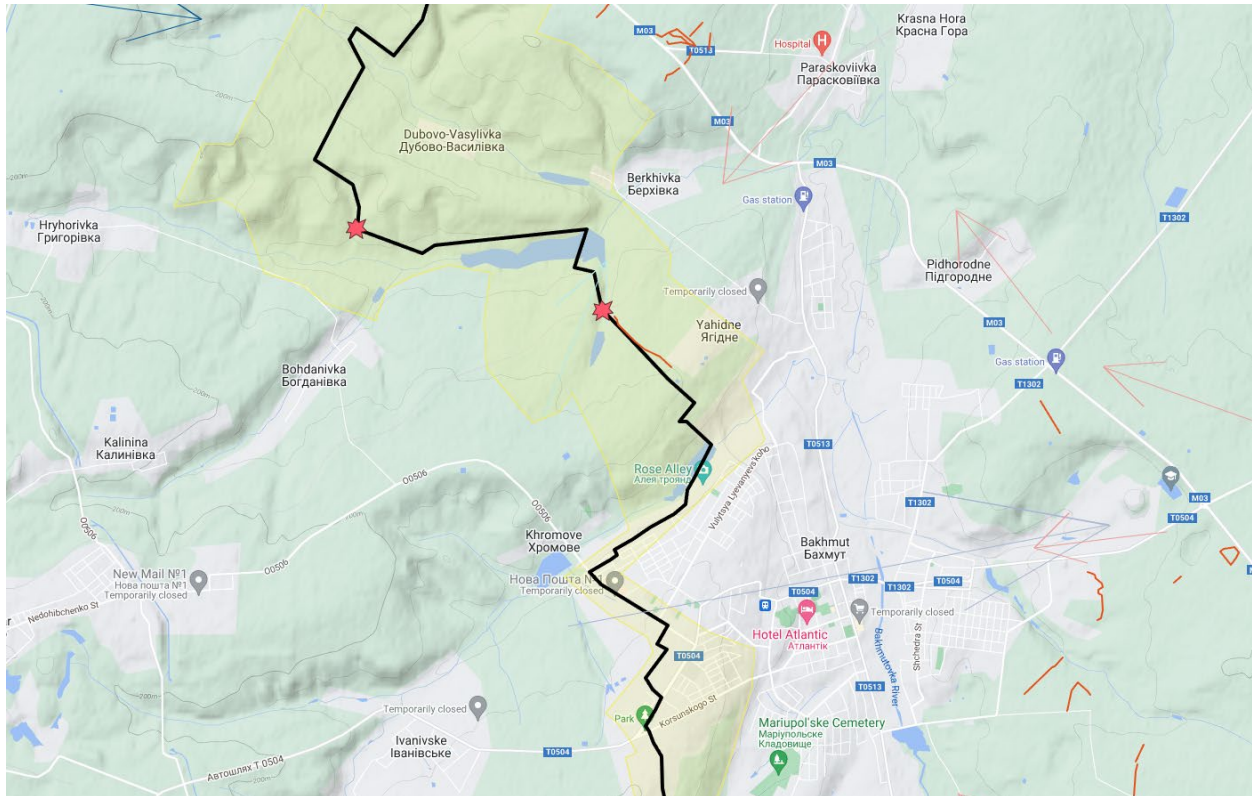
Russian forces continued intense spoiling attacks northwest and southwest of Bakhmut. Attempts to advance toward Bohdanivka from the north and Khromove continued.[8, 9] Southwest of Bakhmut, Russian forces made another attempt to advance in the direction of Ivanivske from the Litak District.[10]

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[8] https://t.me/landforcesofukraine/13193
[9] https://t.me/mod_russia/31806 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]
[10] 10

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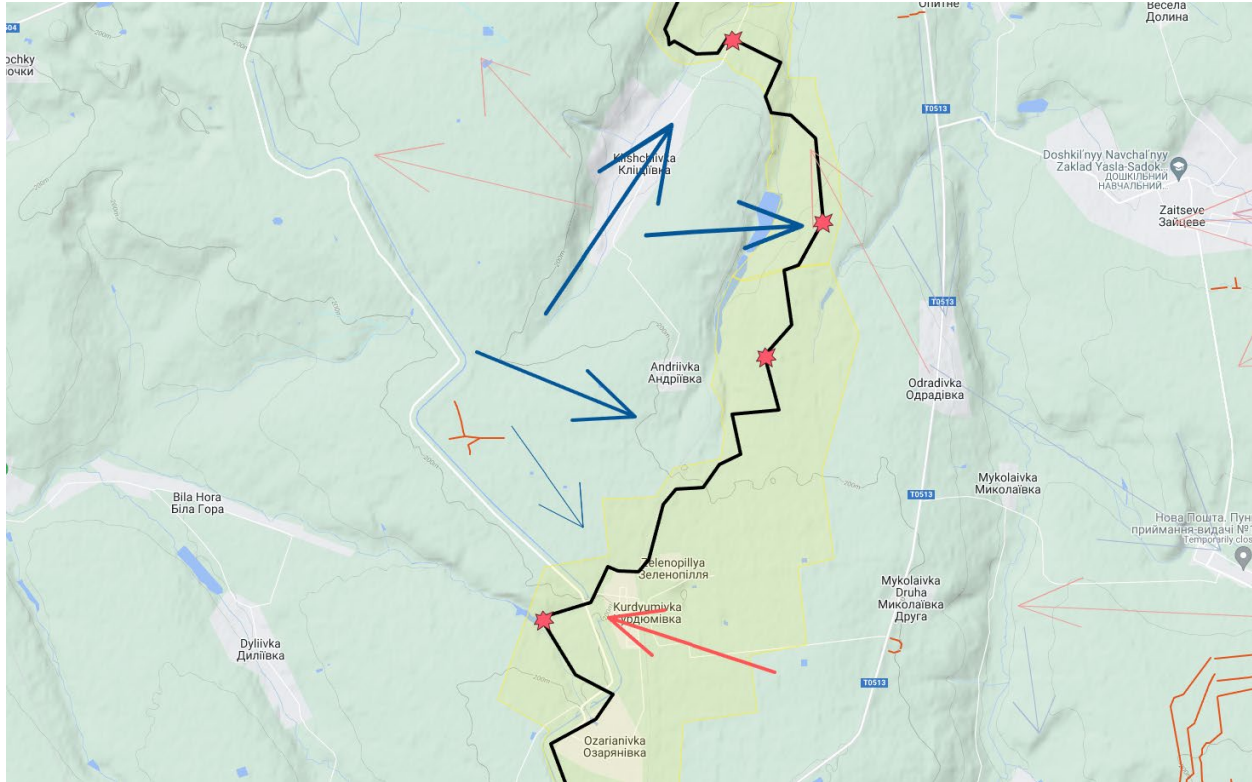
In the Klishchiivka AO, fighting continued north and east of [Klischiivka](#), east of [Andriivka](#), and west and north of [Kurdyumivka](#).[11] [12]

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[11] https://t.me/landforcesofukraine/13193
[12] https://t.me/mod_russia/31806 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

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SOUTHWESTERN DONETSK
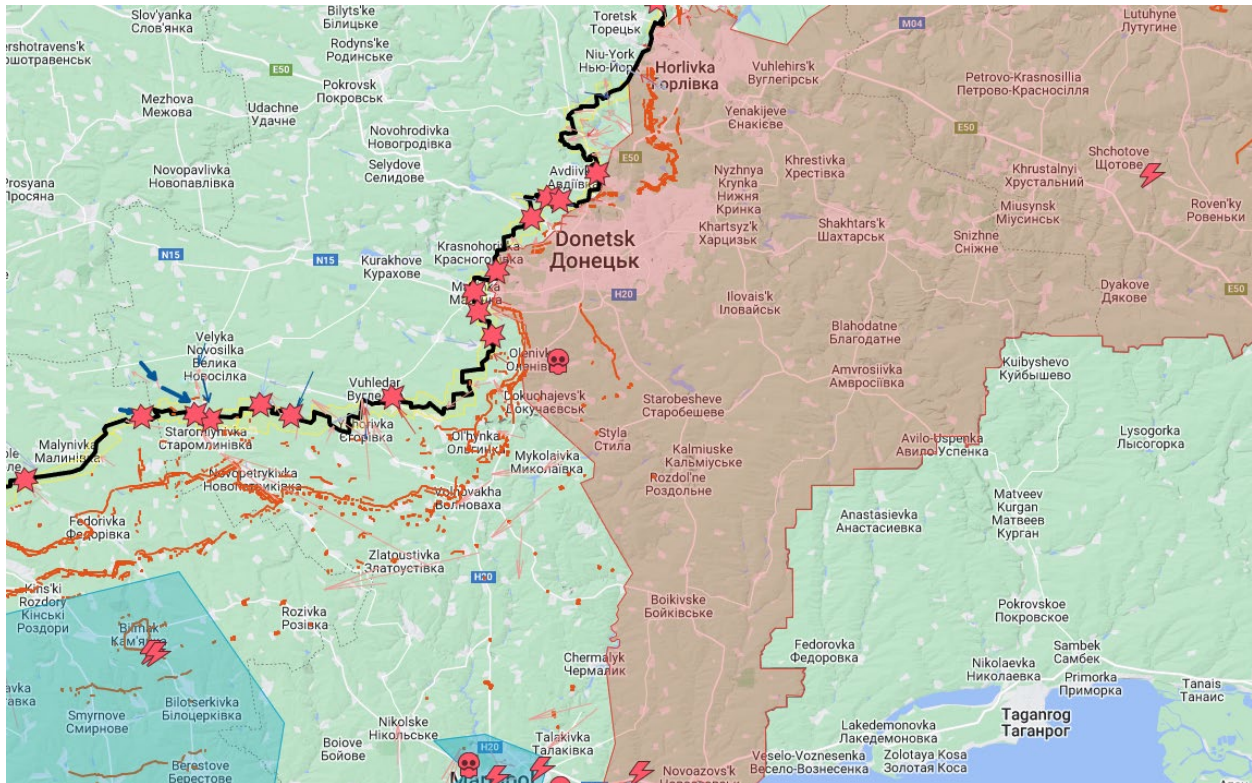
Russian Objective: Capture the remainder of the Donetsk Oblast by December 31

Ukrainian Objective: Find and exploit Russian defensive weaknesses, lock Russian troops in place, destroy troop concentrations and command and control sites, interdict supplies, and disrupt logistics

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The situation in the Avdiivka AO continues to deteriorate, with a growing chorus of Ukrainian voices expressing growing concern.

Ukrainian military analyst Alexander Kovalenko predicted that Avdiivka would turn into a Bakhmut-style meatgrinder, writing, "In terms of the standard equipment of the advancing units, what we will see in the near future in the Avdiivka area will no longer be similar to what we saw on October 10. The offensive will mainly be carried out by [infantry] battalions. In a certain sense, this simplifies the process of defeating manpower. On the other hand, the Russian command switched to the tactics of Bakhmut, which they began to use in the fourth month of the attack on the city. In fact [they have started] in the third week of the attack on Avdiivka. In the near future, we will see ...what we saw near Bakhmut from November to December."[13]

Popular Ukrainian milblogger Tatarigami of Frontelligence Insight, wrote, "This operation could be one of their most expensive campaigns in the second half of 2023," adding, "[the] advance could potentially create a dangerous situation, as an entrenchment in Stepove could allow

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[13] https://t.me/zloyodessit/20346

[Russia] to cut off the remaining logistical routes to Avdiivka. Although Ukraine has a good chance of repelling the Russian offensive, it would be unrealistic and naïve to claim that the Russian capture of Stepove is an absolutely impossible scenario."

During a press conference, the spokesperson for the press center of the Defense Forces of the Tavria Region, Alexander Shtupun, had a more positive outlook. "The enemy tries to advance, and then we knock them back. Therefore, there is no need to talk about a permanent situation. In other words, active fighting is going on there."

Copyright 2023 © Malcontent News Thursday, October 26, 2023
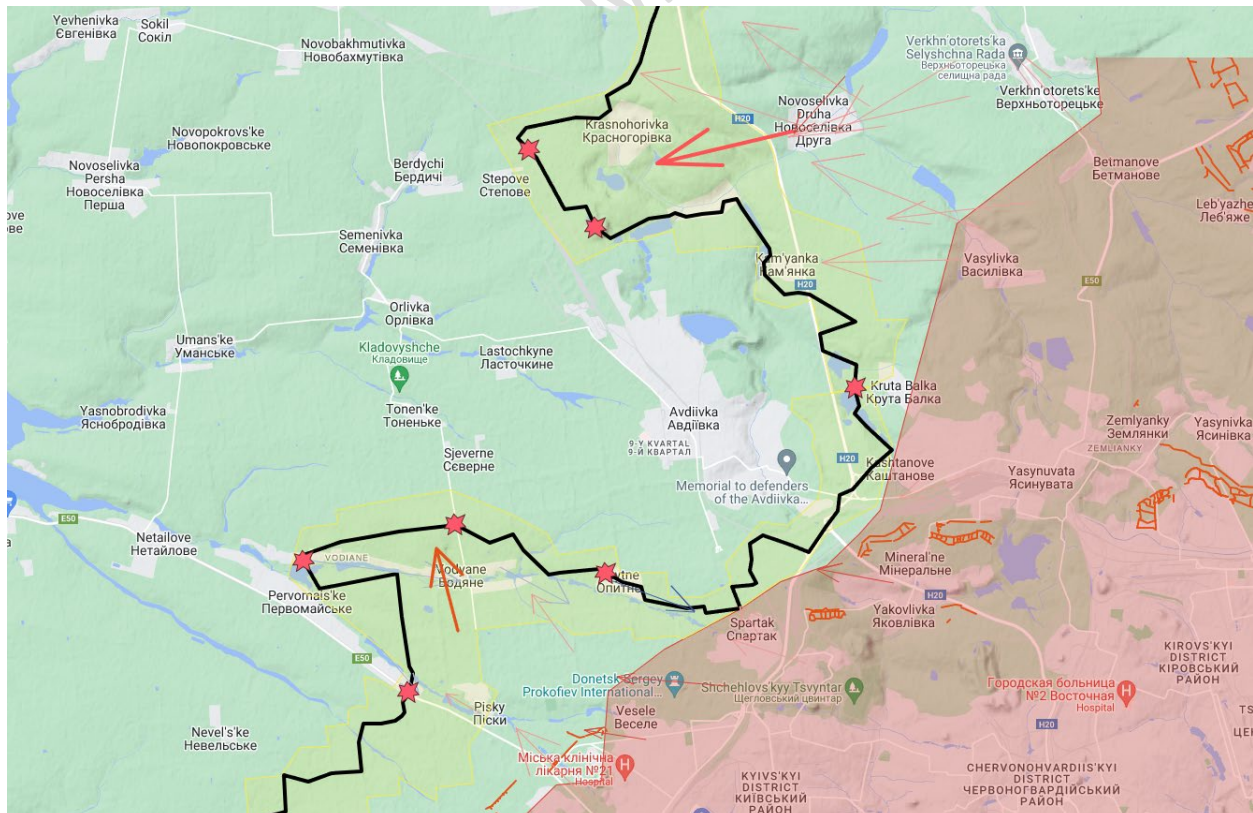
North of [Avdiivka](#), Russian forces expanded their bridgehead east and southeast of [Stepove](#), moving up to the railroad tracks northeast of the coke plant.[14] [15] Russian forces also attacked from the direction of Kamyanka, Kruta Balka, and Spartak without success.
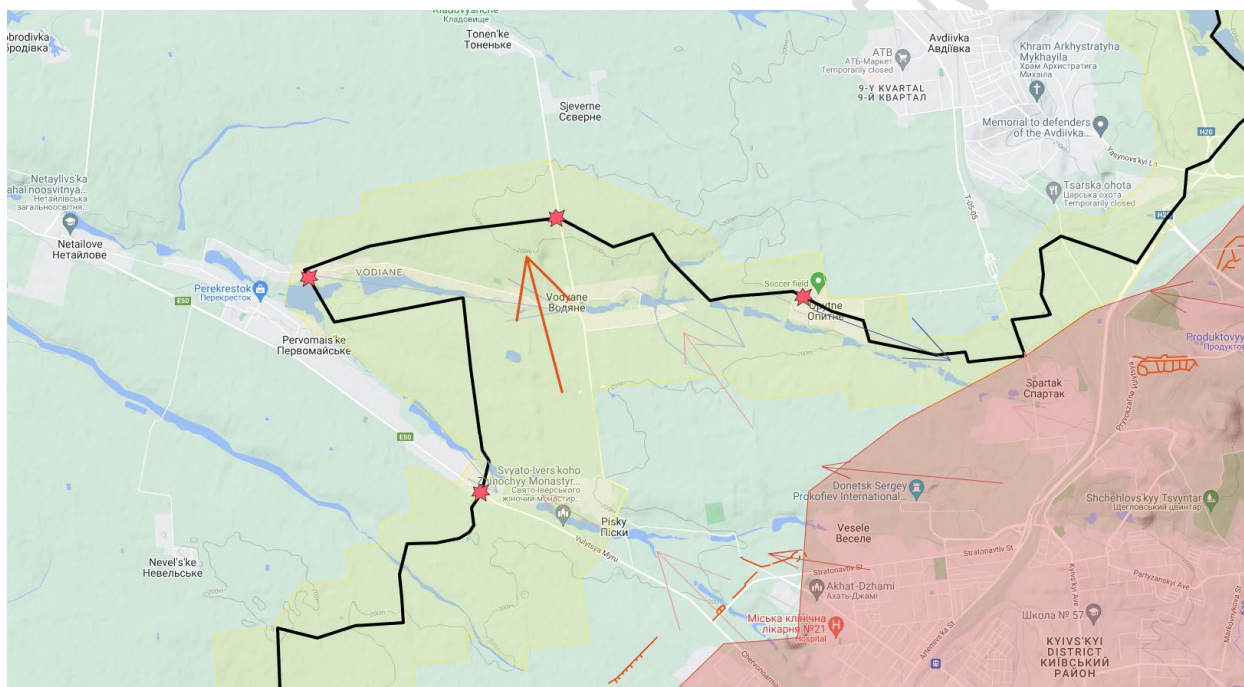
South of Avdiivka, Russian forces maintained their attacks in the no man's land between [Vodyane and Sieverne](#) and

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[14] https://t.me/landforcesofukraine/13193
[15] https://t.me/wargonzo/16002

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made additional attempts to bypass Sieverne from the west towards [Tonenke](#).[16]
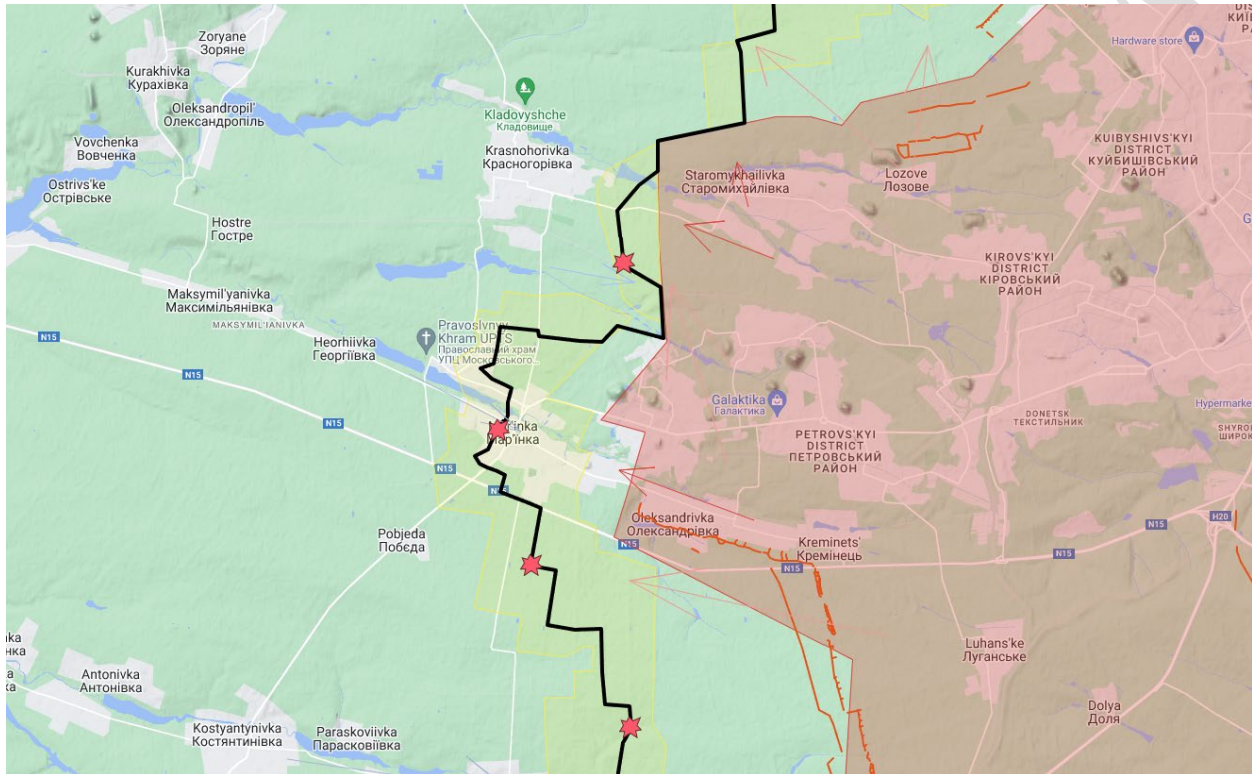
In the Marinka and Vuhledar AOs, Russian forces increased the intensity of their attacks in [Marinka](#) and the direction of [Novomykhailivka](#) but failed to advance.[17] [18]

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[16] https://t.me/landforcesofukraine/13193
[17] https://t.me/landforcesofukraine/13194
[18] https://t.me/wargonzo/16002

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In the Staromlynivka AO, the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (GSAFU) reported failed Russian attacks in the direction of [Novoukrainka](#), which is northwest of Pavlivka. There have been reports of 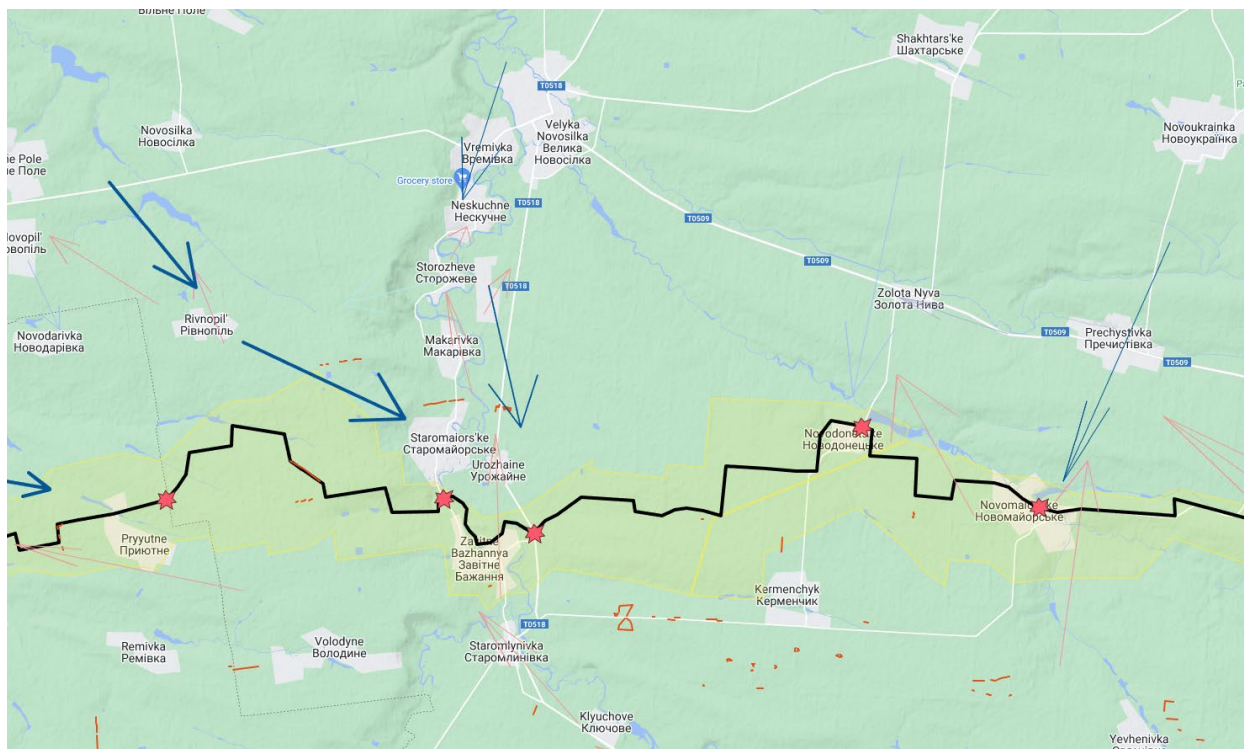fighting south of Prechystivka for over a week, but no sources claimed that Russia captured the settlement.[19] Russian forces continued spoiling attacks near [Staromaiorske](#) with no change in the situation.[20]

In occupied Donetsk, the Main Defense Intelligence Directorate of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine (GUR) said

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[19] https://t.me/landforcesofukraine/13194
[20] 20

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that members of Ukrainian intelligence destroyed an ammunition depot supplying the Russian 110th Separate Motor Rifle Brigade of the 1st Army Corps.[21]

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[21] https://t.me/ukrarmed_forces/6913

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ZAPORIZHZHIA
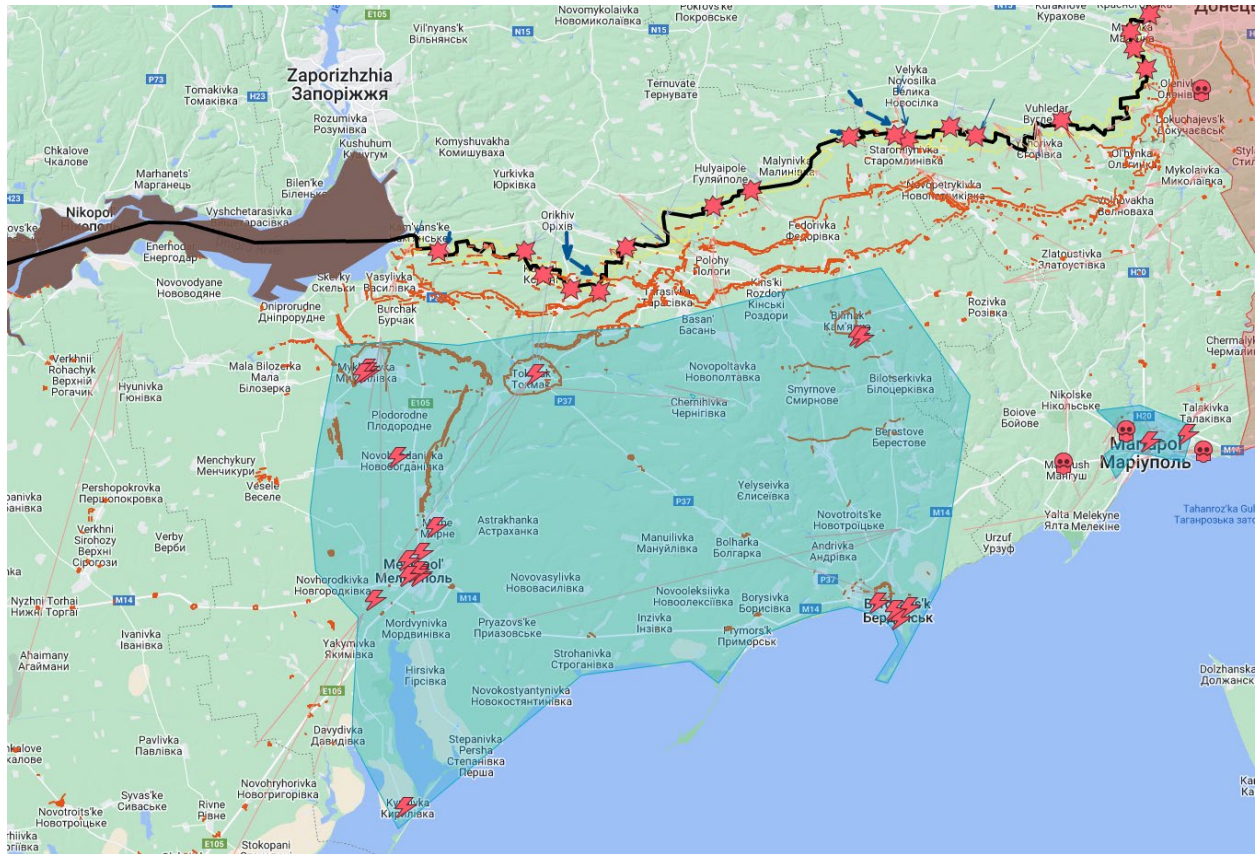
Russian Objective: Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, prepare to launch a fall-winter offensive to capture the remainder of the oblast, and terrorize Ukrainian civilians with continued attacks

Ukrainian Objective: Expand the breakthrough at the second echelon of the Surovikin Line, sever the Russian landbridge from Crimea to Donetsk, liberate Russian-occupied areas, and protect civilians

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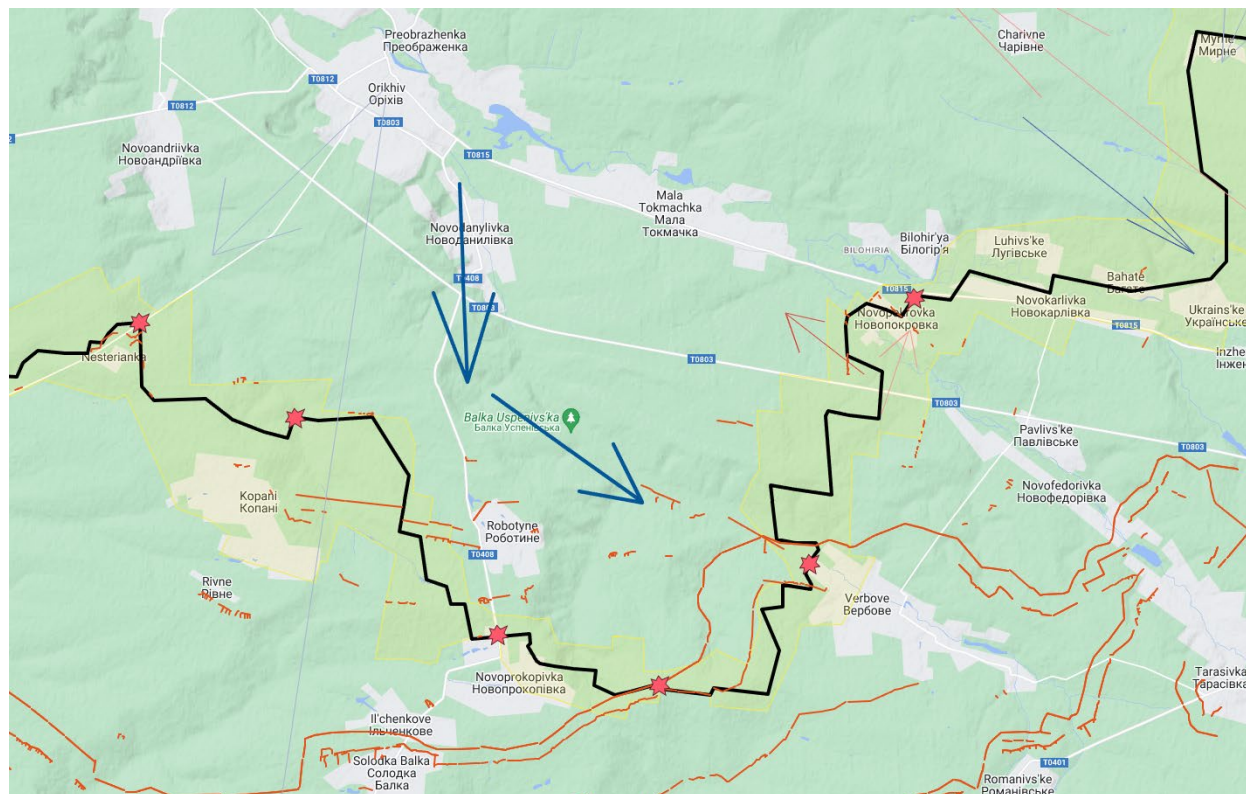
Ukrainian forces successfully consolidated their gains on the western edge of Verbove in the Orikhiv AO and stabilized their lines of defense. Russian forces attacked from Verbove and the western edge of Robotyne. After suffering significant losses, they returned to their defensive positions.

In occupied Berdyansk, a Russian soldier was killed by a car bomb.[22] The explosive had been placed under the

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[22] https://t.me/astrapress/41060

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driver's seat, according to occupation officials. It is unclear why he was targeted.

BLACK SEA, CRIMEA, MYKOLAIV, AND ODESA REGION

Director of Communication for Operational Command South, Captain Nataliya Humenyuk, said that the Russian Aerospace Forces (VKS) were dropping unknown devices **into the Black Sea**, which were detonating sea mines in an attempt to disrupt merchant vessel traffic in international waters.

In occupied Crimea, the Crimean Tatar insurgent organization ATESH documented Russian military equipment being stored near the train stations in Dzhankoi, Simferpol, Ostryakovo, and other locations.[23] Russian commanders dispersed the equipment, possibly in response to the introduction of ATACMS and longer-range Ukrainian drones. ATESH reported the equipment is only moved at night.

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[23] https://t.me/atesh_ua/2388

The Ukrainian Grain Association said that local officials had "arbitrarily blocked" the Ukrainian Sea Corridor, costing shippers, the Ukrainian government, and farmers millions of dollars. "The Ukrainian Grain Association is concerned about reports from grain market participants about the unreasonable delay of ships loaded with grain for export in the ports of Greater Odesa. Such delay of ships in ports causes colossal damage to Ukrainian farmers and the state budget of the country."

The Association called on the Minister of Infrastructure of Ukraine to intervene as soon as possible and solve the impasse.

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KHERSON

Russian Objective: Prevent further Ukrainian advances into eastern Kherson, terrorize the civilian population in free Kherson, and maintain GLOCs to Zaporizhzhia

Ukrainian Objective: Deter attacks on Ukrainian civilians, lock Russian troops and military assets in place, and protect civilian lives
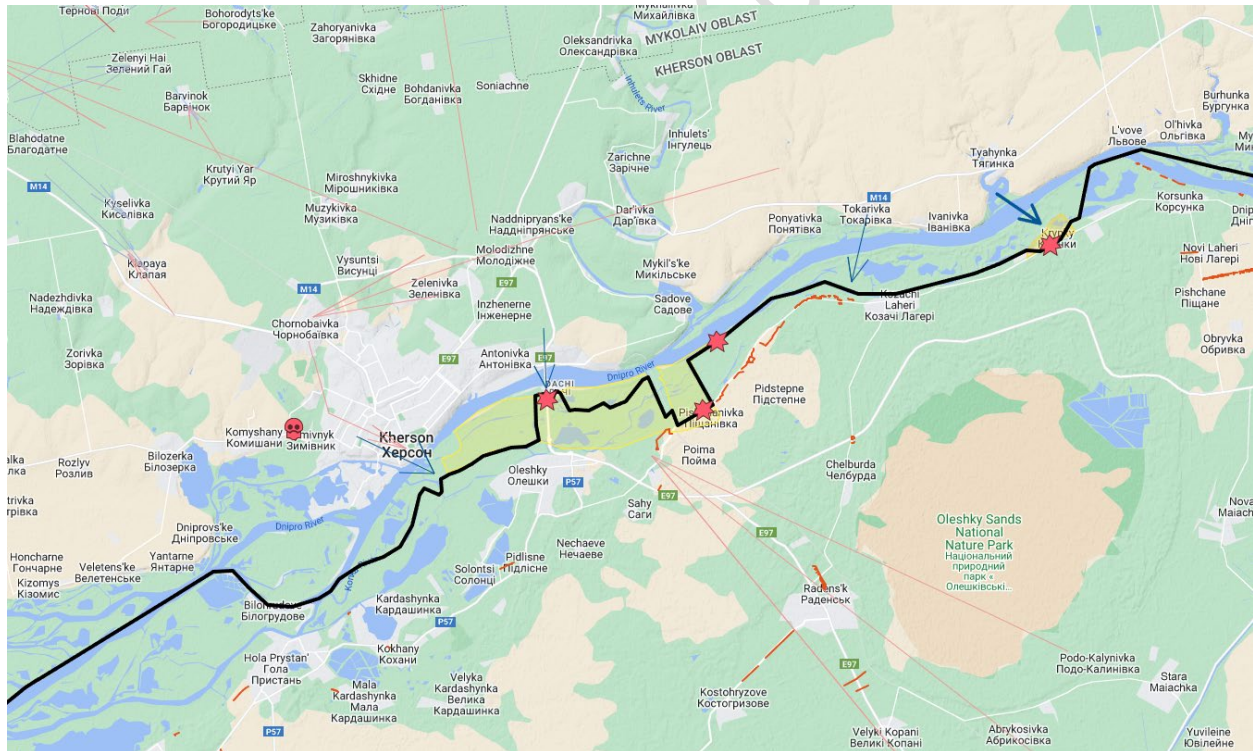
In Free Kherson, Russian and Ukrainian sources reported that Ukrainian forces are expanding their presence on the

left (east) bank of the Konka River. A geolocated video from Russian sources, 📺 [which claimed 110 Ukrainian soldiers were killed in an artillery strike](#), showed Ukrainian forces freely operating on the southern side of the [bridge over the Verkhnia Konka River](#), near the remains of the [Antonivskyi Zaliznychnyy Mist Railroad Bridge](#).[24] You may notice there is no warning next to the link to the video because a potato was used to record the thermal imaging, and it didn't show many details. But it is very safe to say an entire Ukrainian company ***was not*** killed.

Ukrainian forces continued to occupy parts of [Krynky](#).[25] East of Oleshky, fighting was ongoing across a widening front near [Poima](#) and on the edge of [Pishchanivka](#) and [Pidstepne](#).[26] [27] [28] Ukrainian forces reportedly seized control of the Russian ground line of communication (GLOC) that runs between Oleshky and Kozachi Laheri. Ukrainian artillery and drones have been targeting Russian armored vehicles as they approach the landing.

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[24] https://t.me/romanov_92/41987
[25] https://t.me/odshbr46/1346
[26] https://t.me/odshbr46/1346
[27] https://t.me/wargonzo/16002
[28] https://t.me/mod_russia/31807 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

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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

Two Shahed-136 kamikaze drones stuck Slavuta in the Khmelnytskyi Oblast, causing a catastrophic explosion that broke windows as far as 10 kilometers away. According to the Bonn International Center for Conversion in a 2005 report, Salvuta was home to the Soviet Union Military Unit A3845, with a massive amount of ammunition slated for disposal, including more than 2,400 metric tons of Grad rockets, 4,000 metric tons of 125 mm artillery rounds, and almost 1,000 metric tons of 122 mm artillery shells for the D-30 howitzer – all produced before 1991. Some of the ammunition left by the Soviet Union had been produced before the signing of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact in 1939. A local video 📺 [captured the sound of the ammunition cooking off](https://t.me/uniannet/115541).[29] It is unclear if this was Cold War-era munitions still awaiting clean-up or new munitions, and Ukraine will never say.

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[29] https://t.me/uniannet/115541

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The massive blast damaged over 1760 structures, including 1,400 homes, 282 apartment buildings, 41 schools, 📷 [dozens of businesses](), six hospitals and clinics, and two churches.[30] [31] [32] There were no reports of fatalities, but 20 people were hospitalized.[33] [34]

Ten kilometers away, the windows at the Khmelnytskyi Nuclear Power Plant (KhNPP) were shattered by the concussion. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said, "This strike in the direction of the [nuclear power plant] is another reminder to all our partners of how important it is to strengthen Ukrainian air defense and how dangerous it is when Russia can circumvent world sanctions. Many components in the attack drones used by Russian terrorists and in the missiles originate from other countries, from various companies, including from Western companies. The effectiveness of sanctions against Russia is literally protection against terrorism."

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[30] https://t.me/smolii_ukraine/46091
[31] https://t.me/smolii_ukraine/46091
[32] https://t.me/smolii_ukraine/46059
[33] https://t.me/smolii_ukraine/46050
[34] https://t.me/smolii_ukraine/46028

The International Atomic Energy Agency, which has observers at KhNPP, released a statement after the blast.[35] "Powerful explosions shook an area near...KhNPP overnight, shattering many windows at the site and temporarily cutting power to some off-site radiation monitoring stations, once again highlighting the dangers to nuclear safety and security during the ongoing military conflict."[36]

Director General Rafael Grossi added, "IAEA experts present at the plant...said air raid sirens went off at 1:26 hours local time, followed later in the morning by the sound of two loud explosions."

"This incident again underlines the extremely precarious nuclear safety situation in Ukraine, which will continue as long as this tragic war goes on. The fact that numerous windows at the site were destroyed shows just how close it was. Next time, we may not be so fortunate. Hitting a nuclear power plant must be avoided at all costs."

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[35] International Atomic Energy Agency
[36] https://t.me/operativnoZSU/120474

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Grossi said the blast was so powerful that "seismic monitoring stations installed in the vicinity of the KhNPP...recorded the...impacts."

A Ukrainian official said that four settlements were "destroyed" by the blast, with the IAEA reporting significant damage in Netishyn.

It is important to note that during Soviet occupation, KhPP was built from 1981 to 1987, despite its proximity to the already existing Military Unit A3845 ammo depot, holding over 12,000 metric tonnes of munitions. When Ukraine gained its independence, we inherited the mess.

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: Maintain the integrity of the international border, deter attacks, and protect civilian lives

There wasn't any significant activity.

RUSSIAN FRONT

Russian Objective: Stabilize government control and civil order, prevent renewed insurrections, repel Russian partisan attacks, secure the state border

Ukrainian-Backed Russian Partisan Objective: Motivate other Russians to fight against the Putin regime, accelerate the downfall of the Russian government, foment civil unrest

There wasn't any significant activity.

THEATERWIDE

The Armed Forces of Ukraine has formed a new Battalion comprised of Russian citizens and ethnic minorities who wanted to fight against the Putin regime.[37] The Siberia Battalion is an authorized unit of the armed forces and will be declared operational soon.[38]

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[37] https://t.me/ukrarmed_forces/6912
[38] https://t.me/ukrarmed_forces/6912

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The Armed Forces of Ukraine has also started forming five new mechanized brigades, the 150th, 151st, 152nd, 153rd, and 154th.[39]

The Minister of Strategic Industry, Alexander Kamyshyn, said that Ukraine is now producing "tens of thousands of drones" a month and will continue production through the end of the year.[40]

The Parliament of Hungary, which is led by a super-majority of the Pro-Russia Fidesz Party led by Prime Minister Viktor Orban, refused to vote on Sweden's accession to NATO.[41] [42] The rejection breaks an earlier promise that Hungary would follow Türkiye's lead. Foreign Minister of Hungary Peter Szjjarto traveled to Belarus to participate in the Collective Security Treaty Organization's Eurasian Security: Reality and Prospects in a Transforming World Conference, where he is listed as a keynote speaker.

Yes, a foreign minister of a NATO Alliance nation is a keynote speaker at a CSTO Conference in Minsk.

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[39] https://t.me/couch_iu/45466
[40] https://t.me/operativnoZSU/120452
[41] https://t.me/ukrarmed_forces/6918
[42] https://t.me/uniannet/115552

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Australia announced a new military aid package for Ukraine of $12 million, which includes demining equipment, X-ray machines, a 3D metal printer, and anti-drone systems.

The Pentagon announced that Ukrainian pilots have started practical training in the F-16. The first group of pilots went to Texas for English language training, which was completed in days instead of four months, and completed their required time in simulators. Training thousands of miles away from Ukraine, trainers don't have to worry about a famous incident with the Royal Air Force 303 Squadron comprised of Polish pilots 📺 who went rogue on a training flight, engaging German airplanes.[43]

"Repeat please!"

The table for equipment losses was **updated on October 21, 2023**, and includes the losses suffered during the Prigozhin Insurrection of June 23 – 24.

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[43] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ANYzkJwxTwQ

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RUSSIA VS. UKRAINE HEAVY EQUIPMENT LOSSES

Russian and Ukrainian visually confirmed heavy equipment losses sourced from the Oryx Database from February 24, 2022, to October 21, 2023. 12,780 Russian (including Chef's Rebellion) vs. 4,626 Ukrainian

Equipment	Russian Losses	Ukrainian Losses	Ratio	Change
Main Battle Tanks	2261	302	7.49:1	⇩
Medium Duty Tanks	158	371	0.43:1	—
Armored fighting Vehicles	1010	333	3.03:1	—
Infantry Fighting Vehicles	2927	783	3.73:1	⇧
Armored Personnel Carriers	367	358	1.03:1	—
MRAPs	49	170	0.29:1	—
Infantry Mobility Vehicles	219	386	0.57:1	—
Command and Communications Vehicles	254	17	14.94:1	⇧
Engineering Vehicles	355	90	3.94:1	—
Towed Artillery	328	163	2.01:1	⇧
Self-Propelled Howitzers/Mortars	578	232	2.49:1	⇧
MLRS	296	50	5.92:1	⇧
SAMs	188	130	1.45:1	⇧
Mobile Radars	46	80	0.58:1	—
EW/ECW	57	4	14.25:1	⇧
Winged Aircraft	94	77	1.22:1	—
Helicopters	138	37	3.73:1	⇧
Naval Vessels and Submarines	17	27	0.63:1	—

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RUMORS

Many messages and e-mails we receive ask why we didn't cover a certain story or whether we are aware of a report and what we think. The rumor section is a list of claims or stories we are aware of but not reporting on because there isn't enough information to support or discover the truth.

- Have more than 295,000 Russian soldiers died in Ukraine since February 24, 2022?
- Were two Russian generals seriously wounded and one admiral killed in Sevastopol? We're still waiting to find out, but it appears unlikely.

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 only use their reports to identify combat locations. We no longer consider their territorial control changes due to a three-month pattern from June to August 2023 of repeated publication of blatant disinformation and a years-long pattern of denying 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.

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🛑**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. This is by no means a complete list of the sources we monitor.

✅**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:** The organization has not posted any update since June 9, 2023, and we have ceased monitoring.

⛔**Leonid Pasechnik:** We do not use any combat, territorial control changes, troop movements, casualty claims, or equipment destroyed claims from the illegitimate 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 illegitimate 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 realtime reports. Kim is consistently one of the first, if not the first, Ukrainian government officials 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.