



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



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Malcontent News

Russia-Ukraine War SITREP

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SUMMARY – DAY 160

It has been 3,076 days since Russia occupied Crimea on February 27, 2014.

On the Luhansk-Donetsk administrative border, Russian forces attempted an advance on Ivano-Darivka and were unsuccessful.

In Bakhmut, fighting intensified with Ukraine and Russia trading territorial gains. Russian forces advanced toward Yakovlivka from Volodymyrivka and were unsuccessful.

Russian forces were pushed out of Vershyna on August 1 and attempted to recapture the settlement by advancing from Roty. The attack was unsuccessful.

Russian forces also attempted to advance on Zaitseve and Pokrovske from Klynove and were unsuccessful in both directions. Russian forces also attempted to advance on Bakhmut from the central part of Pokrovske and did not make any new gains.

In the Svitlodarsk bulge, the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine reported that Russian forces had partial success advancing into Kodema from Vidrodzhenya. We have assessed that Seimhirya was captured by terrorist elements of the Imperial Legion and Private Military Company Wagner Group on August 2.

In Donetsk, Russian forces have focused their resources and ground assaults on Avdiivka and Pisky. Elements of the 1st Army Corps of the DNR and the 2nd Army Corps of the Luhansk People's Republic (LNR) attempted to advance on Avdiivka from Mineralne and were unsuccessful.

Elements of the 1st Army Corps of the Donetsk People's Republic (DNR) captured the Ukrainian stronghold at the Butivka mine ventilation shaft. The defensive position is south of Avdiivka and was an integral part of the defensive line west of Donetsk.

North of Kharkiv, Russian forces launched a reconnaissance in force group into Dementiivka and were unsuccessful. They launched a second advance on Dementiivka from Kochubeivka, which was also unsuccessful.

Russian forces launched an offensive from Ternova for the first time in almost two months, trying to advance on Bairak. They were unsuccessful.

South of Izyum, Russian reconnaissance groups were identified near Dovhenke and Dolyna. Ukrainian forces did not engage with either group. We have coded Dovhenke as contested again due to the increasing activity around the settlement.

In Kherson on the Inhulets River bridgehead, a small Russian group supported by two tanks attempted to advance on Bilohirka from Sukhyi Stavok and were unsuccessful.

The Russian base at Chornobaivka was shelled by Ukrainian artillery, causing a major fire with secondary explosions. The blast was so powerful it broke windows, and three magnetic anomaly stations detected the blast as far away as Bucharest, Romania.

Russian troops accidentally caused a major explosion at the Kalanchak railroad station in Myrne while unloading a train full of ammunition. The blast damaged the tracks, severing the Ground Line of Communication (GLOC – aka

supply line) from Crimea. The connection is expected to be repaired over the next few days.

Vitaly Kim, the Mykolaiv Regional State Administrative and Military Governor, reported that Russian missiles struck Mykolaiv city. The attack damaged a university dormitory and destroyed private homes. There was one injury reported.

Oleksandr Sienkevych, Mayor of Mykolaiv, reported that missiles hit the city in the early hours of August 3 local time, destroying a grocery store.

Rafael Grossi, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, has issued a dire warning over the Zaporizhzhia plant in southeastern Ukraine.

The situation there is getting more perilous every day, he said, urging Russia and Ukraine to allow experts to visit the complex to prevent a nuclear accident. Russia has turned Europe's largest nuclear power plant into a firebase and military barracks.

Russian forces continue to fire rockets using Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (MLRS) at Nikopol. The city has been under constant attack for three weeks, with over 1,100 rockets striking the region.

Dmytro Zhiviytsky, Sumy Regional Administrative and Military Governor reported that Esman, Seredyna-Buda, and Khotin were shelled by mortar and artillery fire. There were no casualties or significant damage.

A Russian Kh-101 cruise missile struck outside the settlement of Radekhiv in the Lviv oblast. Official and local reports reported indicated a Ukrainian anti-aircraft site was destroyed. Two cruise missiles hit the Ukrainian military base in Chervonohrad, 13 kilometers from the Poland border.

DAILY ASSESSMENT

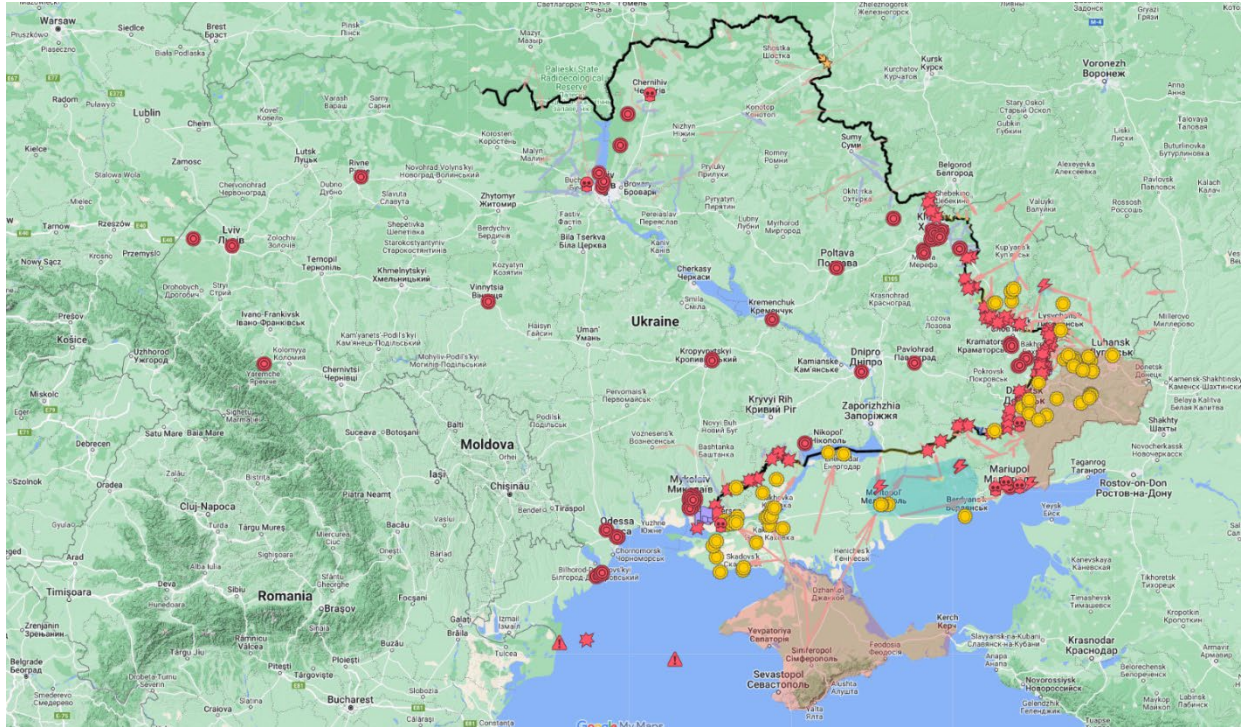
We assess the following:

1. Russian forces have returned to the military doctrine of using artillery to completely destroy an area until

there is nothing left to defend and advancing into the ruins, west of Donetsk.

2. In the next three weeks, many Russian military regulars will be coming to the end of their six month contract in Ukraine and because there has not been a formal declaration of war, they will be able to opt out from a new contract.
3. Increased artillery fire south of Izyum is not a prelude to a renewed offensive, and is meant to keep Ukrainian forces from advancing.
4. Russian forces have reached a culmination point in northeast Donetsk and the Izyum axis and won't be able to restore offensive operations without adding significant resources.
5. Russia is under increasing pressure to gain territory with a planned September initiative to integrate captured territory into Russia and a need to get ahead of the looming mud season.

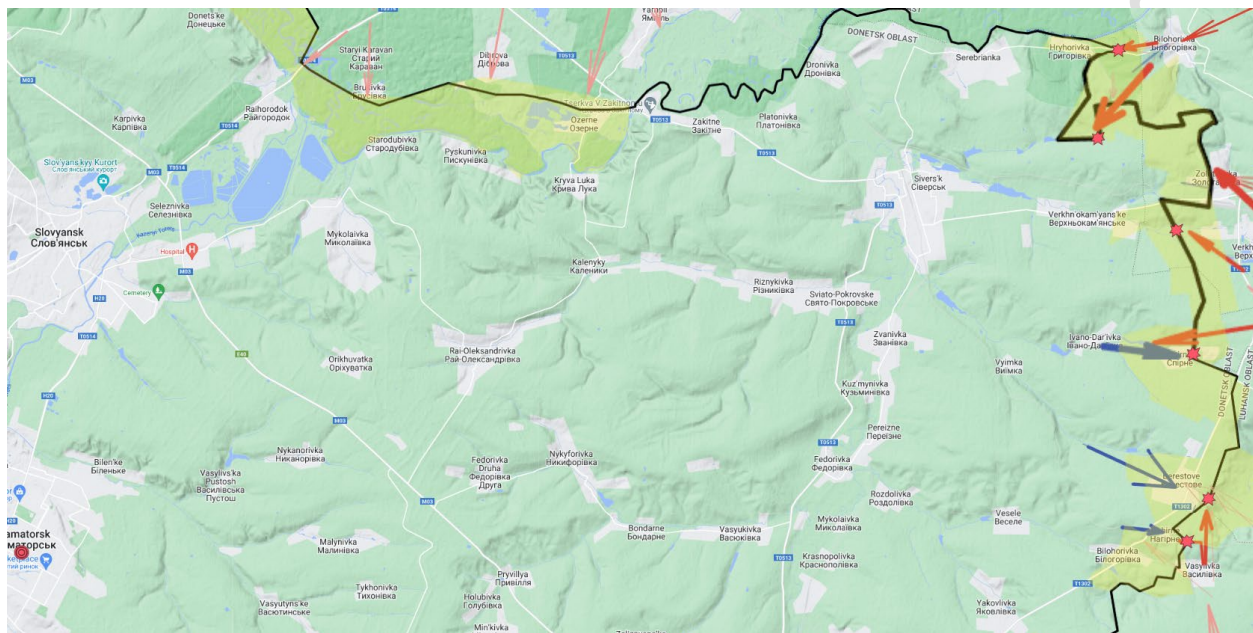
TODAY'S WAR IN UKRAINE MAP



We have made significant improvements to our map solution. The updated map now shows contested areas and missile strikes by both belligerents. If you see a settlement name highlighted, like [Kherson](#), the link will take you to the exact location explained in the Situation Report. We have also added areas where there are active insurgencies (blue) and the regions that were under Russian control on February 1, 2022 (red).

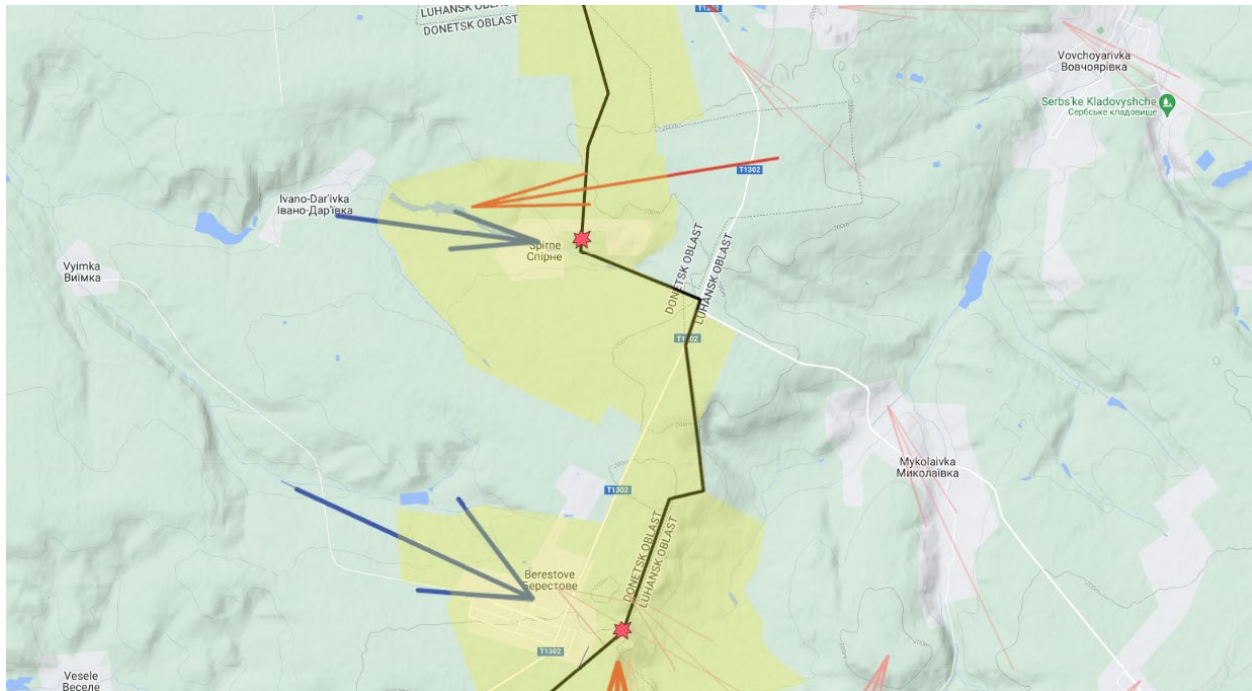
DONBAS REGION

SLOVYANSK-BILOHORIVKA-BERESTOVE TRIANGLE



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

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



Russian forces attempted an advance on [Ivano-Darivka](#) and were unsuccessful.

Russian forces shelled [Verkhnokamyanske](#), [Serebryanka](#), [Zvanivka](#), and [Vesele](#). The Russian air force carried out an airstrike on Serebryanka.

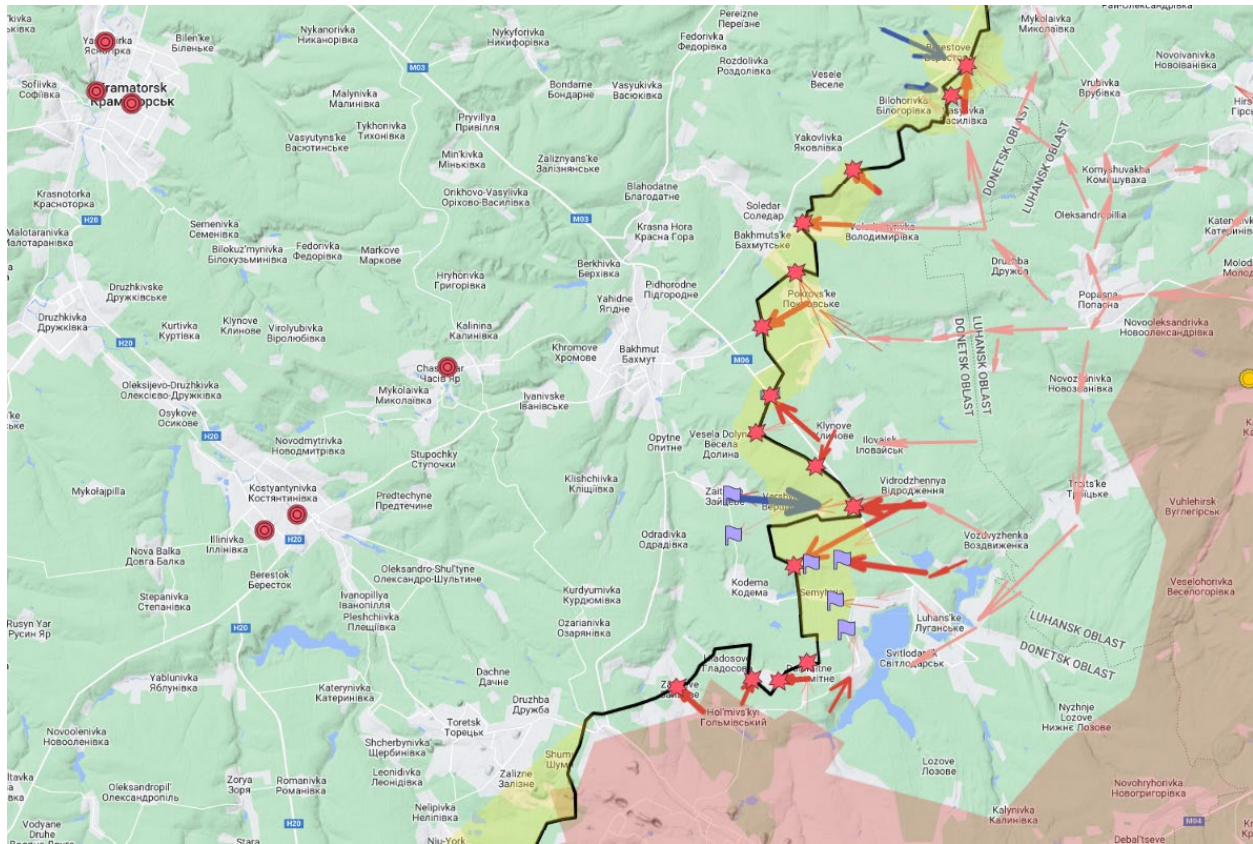
ASSESSMENT: The impact of HIMARS strikes on logistics, transit, and ammunition depots have contributed to Russia's inability to apply the same operational tempo that resulted in a tactical victory at the beginning of July. With the ongoing troop drawdown to shore up defenses in other parts of Ukraine, it is unlikely there will be a renewed and



successful offensive along this axis in the next four to six weeks.

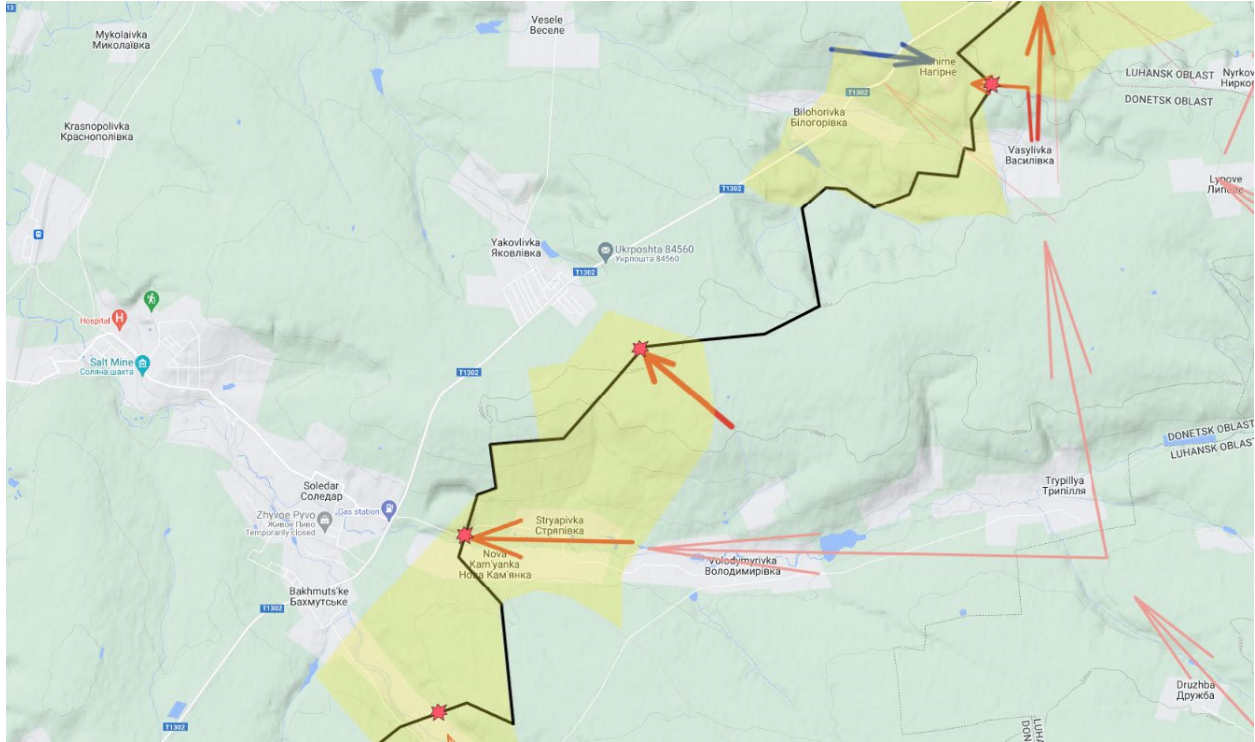
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BAKHMUT

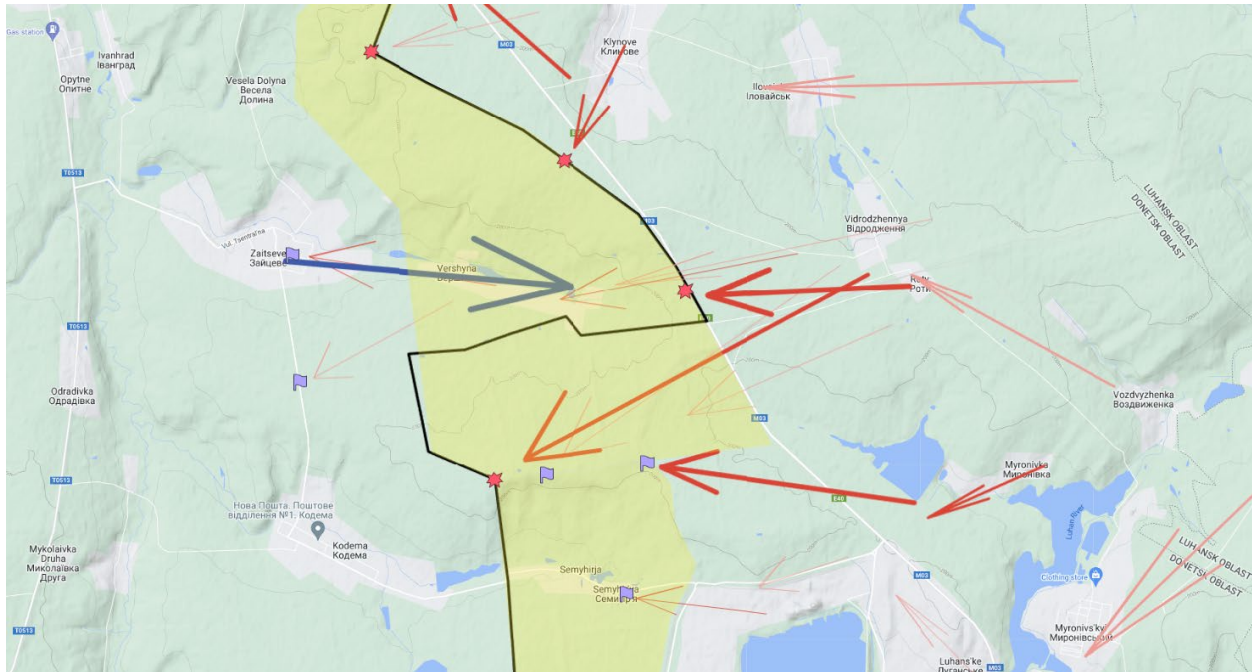


Russian Objective: Capture the Bakhmut-Soledar complex and collapse the Svitlodarsk salient before August 31, interdict the Bakhmut-Siversk T-5013 Highway GLOC

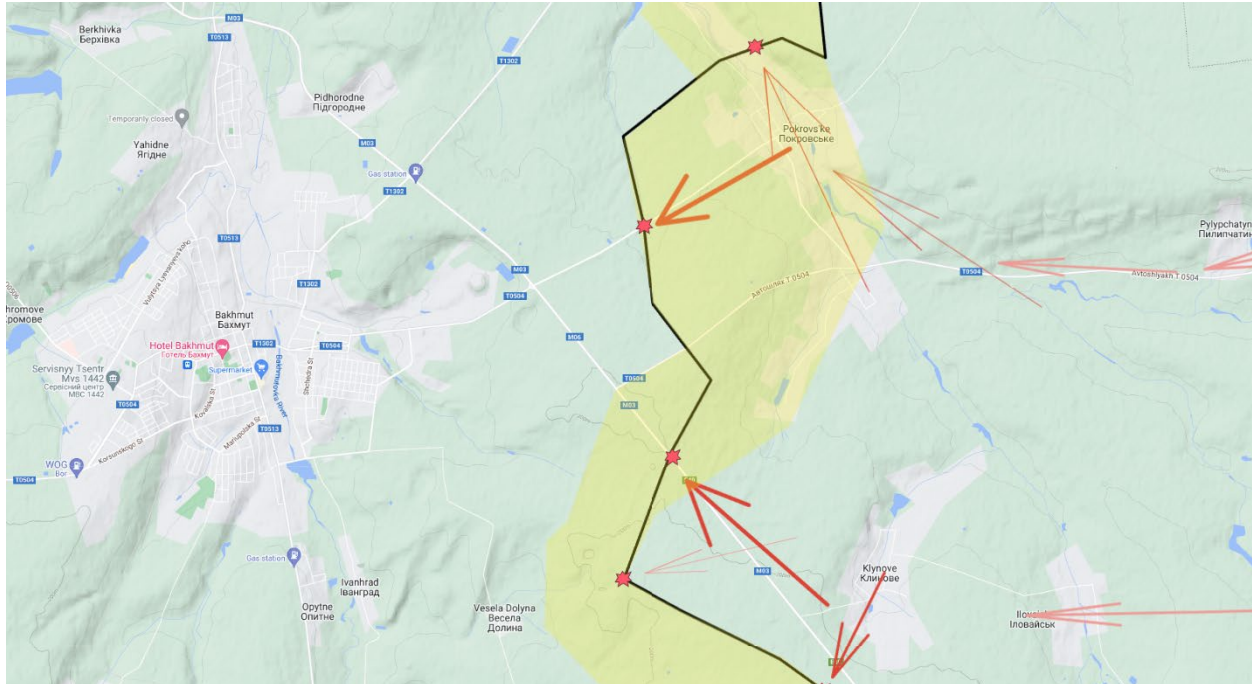
Ukrainian Objective: Defend Bakhmut-Soldar while managing equipment and personnel losses, minimize civilian casualties, defend GLOCs



Fighting intensified with Ukraine and Russia trading territorial gains. Russian forces advanced toward [Yakovlivka](#) from [Volodymyrivka](#) and were unsuccessful.



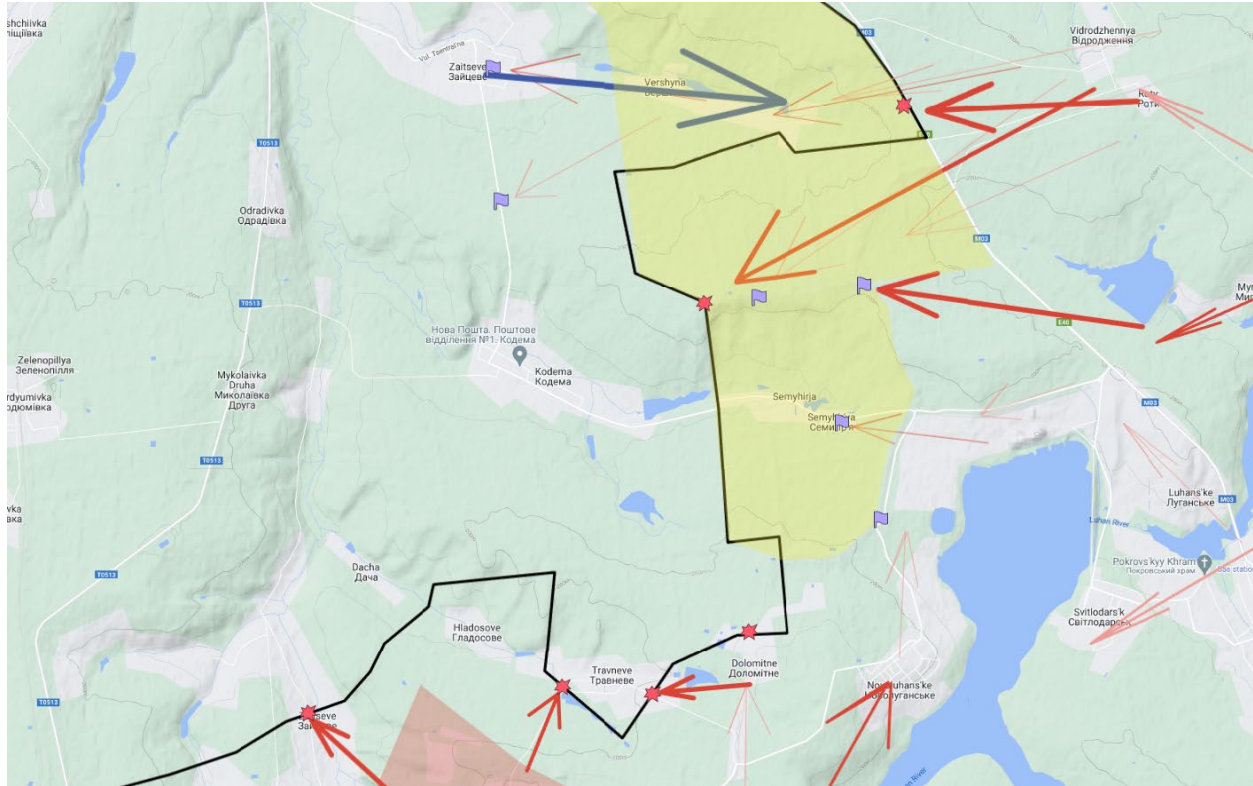
After Russian forces pushed into [Zaitseve](#) on August 1, they were not only pushed back to [Verzhyna](#) but pushed out of the settlement. We have moved the line of conflict east of Verzhyna and coded the settlement contested. On August 2, Russian forces attempted to push back into Verzhyna from [Roty](#) and were unsuccessful.



Russian forces also attempted to advance on [Zaitseve](#) and [Pokrovske](#) from [Klykove](#) and were unsuccessful in both directions.

Russian forces also attempted to advance on [Bakhmut](#) from the central part of Pokrovske and did not make any new gains.

Russian forces shelled Yakovlivka, [Soledar](#), Bakhmut, Zaitseve, and Pokrovske, The Russian air force attacked Yakovlivka, Pokrovske, Soledar, and Bakhmut.



In the Svitlodarsk bulge, the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine reported that Russian forces had partial success advancing into [Kodema](#) from [Vidrodzhenya](#).¹ Pro-Russian social media account Rybar reported that Russian forces secured [Seimihirya](#) after intense fighting.²

Russian forces shelled [Kurdyumivka](#) and carried out an airstrike on Kodema.

¹ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine](#)

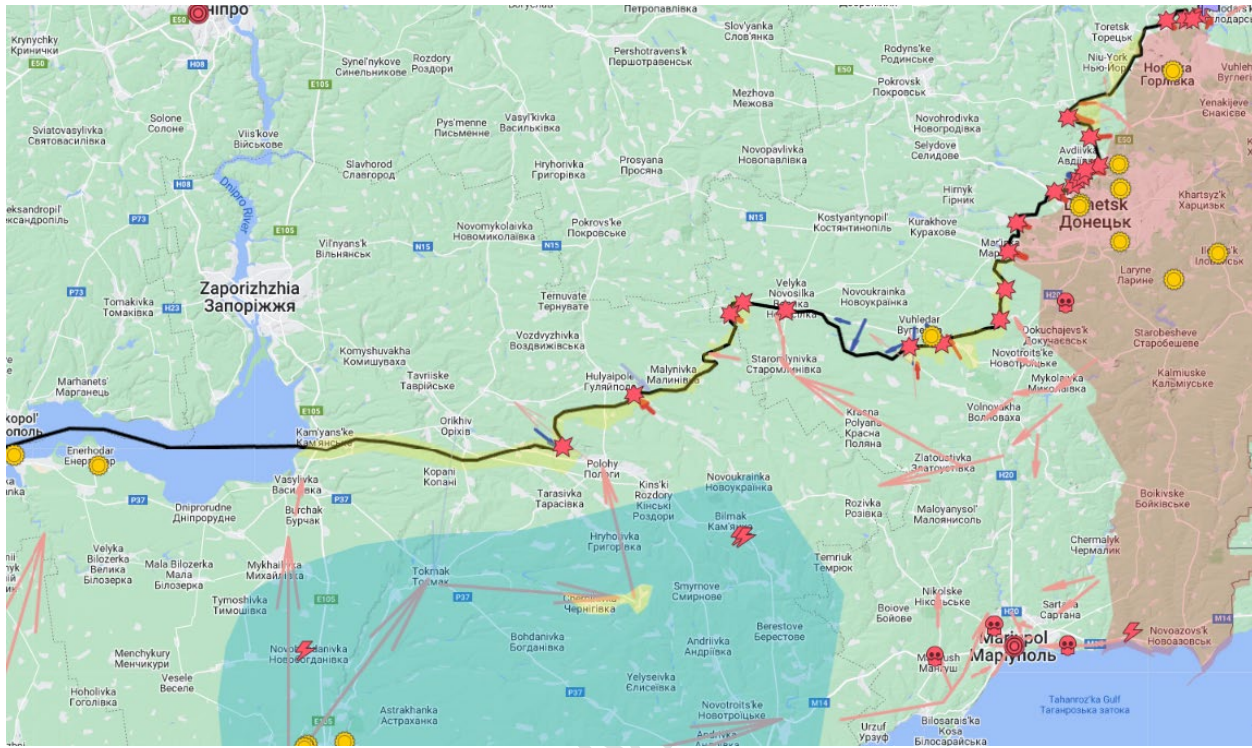
² <https://t.me/rybar/36579>

ASSESSMENT: The General Staff reported that Russian forces had “partial success” in Kodema from Russian forces moving from the south. Based on this information and Rybar’s report, we assess that it was untenable for Ukrainian forces to remain in Seimyhira. Additionally, the General Staff did not mention the village in its latest report. We have moved the line of conflict west, marking the settlement contested.

The gains made are tactical and currently don’t have much impact on the looming siege of Bakhmut.

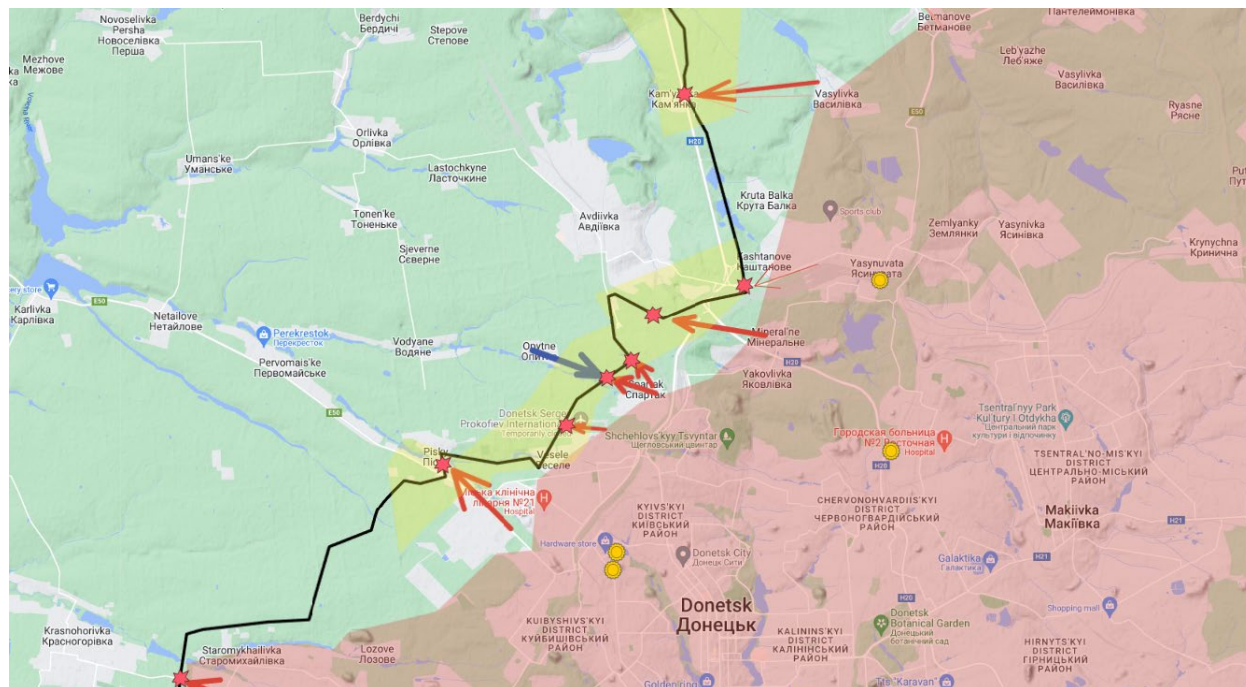
Bakhmut has significant defenses built up going back to the Cold War, where both Bakhmut and Soledar were the sites of large military bases. A direct assault by exhausted and inexperienced Russian forces with low morale and reduced artillery support is unlikely to succeed.

SOUTHWEST DONETSK AND WESTERN ZAPORIZHZIA



Russian Objective: Capture the Donetsk oblast to its administrative borders before August 31, push Ukrainian forces out of firing range of Donetsk city, defend the existing line of conflict in Zaporizhzhia to the Dnipro River

Ukrainian Objective: Defend the existing line of conflict while finding and exploiting weaknesses, destroy troop concentrations and command and control sites, interdict supplies and disrupt logistics



Russian forces have focused their resources and ground assaults on [Avdiivka](#) and [Pisky](#). Elements of the 1st Army Corps of the Donetsk People's Republic (DNR) and the 2nd Army Corps of the Luhansk People's Republic (LNR) attempted to advance on [Avdiivka](#) from [Mineralne](#) and were unsuccessful.

Pro-Russian social media account Rybar reported that Russian forces had advanced to the "dam" in Pisky.³ FSB Colonel and wanted war criminal Igor Girkin reported there had been no change in the situation.⁴ There are two dams in

³ <https://t.me/rybar/36579>

⁴ <https://t.me/strelkovii/3036>

Pisky. We moved the line of conflict west several blocks and the area of uncertainty to the westernmost dam. We may be overstating gains as our mapping in this region has consistently favored Russia.



South of Avdiivka, Russian state media Izvestia claims elements of the DNR separatist militia have seized control of the Ukrainian stronghold at the [Butivka Mine](#).⁵ The video was recorded at the [Butivka Mine Shaft](#) [48°06'04.6"N 37°46'12.2"E] and was geolocated. The area is considered a Ukrainian stronghold. DNR soldiers appeared relaxed. In

⁵ <https://twitter.com/Chronology22/status/1554388949686157312>

the video, artillery and mortar fire can be heard landing nearby.

Russian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy gave a candidate assessment of the situation west of Donetsk during his nightly television address.⁶

"Yes, indeed, we still cannot completely break the advantage of the Russian army in artillery and in manpower, and this is very tangible in the battles, especially in Donbas - Pisky, Avdiivka, and other directions. It's just hell there. It can't even be described in words..."

"And every Ukrainian must always be grateful to our warriors who defend Ukrainian positions there despite the terrorists' significant fire superiority."

Russian forces shelled [Zalizne](#), [Netailove](#), [Niu York](#), and [Marinka](#). They also carried out airstrikes on Avdiivka, Marinka, and [Novobakhmutivka](#).

⁶ https://t.me/V_Zelenskiy_official/2753

There were scattered artillery exchanges from [Novomykhailivka](#) to [Velkya Novosilka](#) in Donetsk and [Hulyaipole](#) to [Orikhiv](#) in Zaporizhia.

ASSESSMENT: Russian military leaders appear to have shifted strategy again and are now concentrating on a direct advancement into Andriivka, returning to the same scorched earth strategy used in Luhansk. The loss of the Butivka Mine Shaft stronghold will complicate the defense for Ukraine and will be difficult to recapture. Ukrainian artillery is more focused on counterbattery fire than on suppressing the Russian advance.

There is a report that Ukrainian is deploying reinforcements to the front in an attempt to stabilize the situation.⁷

The effort west of Donetsk is being made partly by abandoning offensive efforts on the Luhansk administrative borders, Izyum, and Slovyansk. If Russian forces secure Avdiivka, they will have the same challenges of trying to hold new territory without the benefit of experienced and well-equipped light infantry.

⁷ <https://twitter.com/Militarylandnet/status/1554583787610284032>

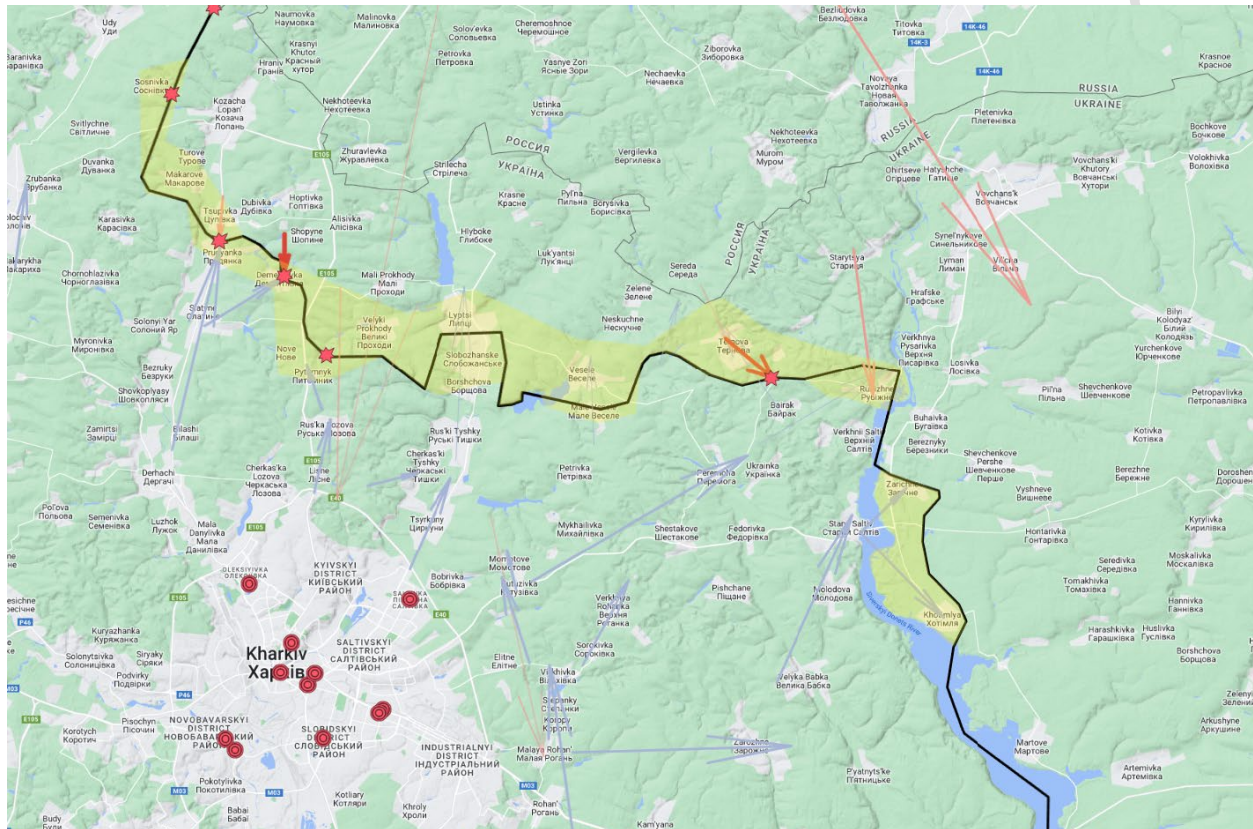


We maintain that the goal of securing the entirety of the Donetsk oblast by August 31 is unrealistic.

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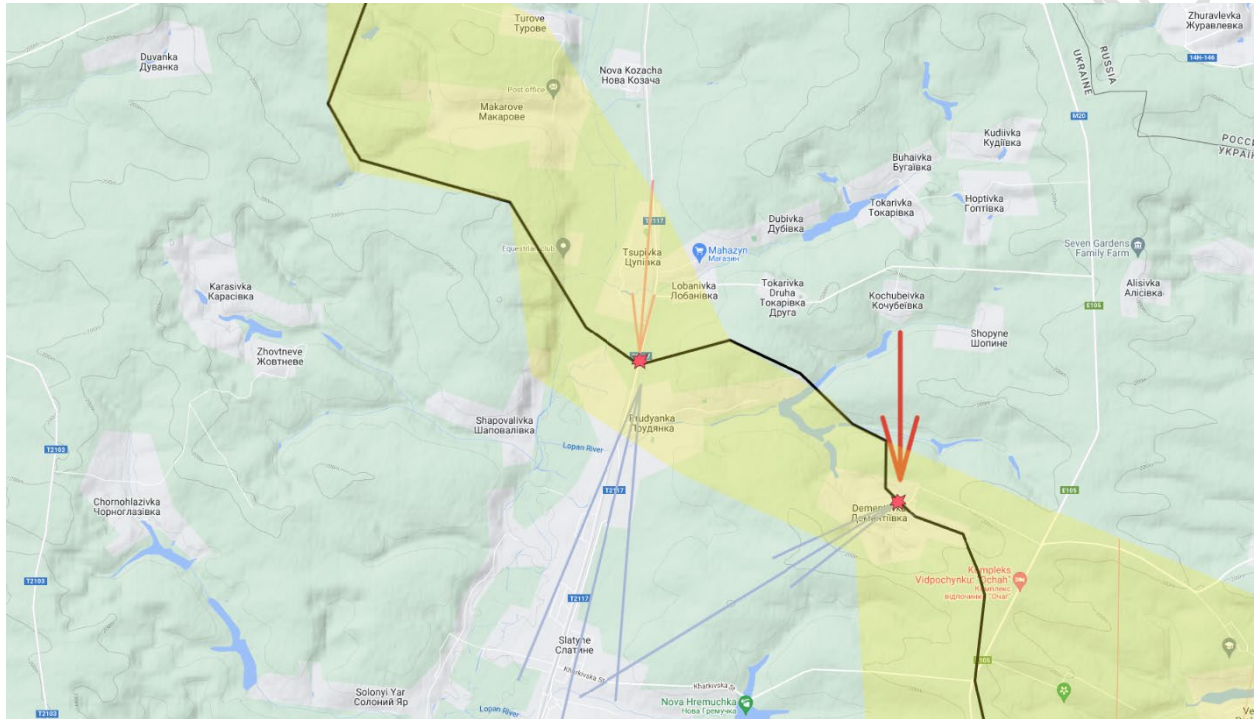
KHARKIV REGION

NORTHWESTERN KHARKIV



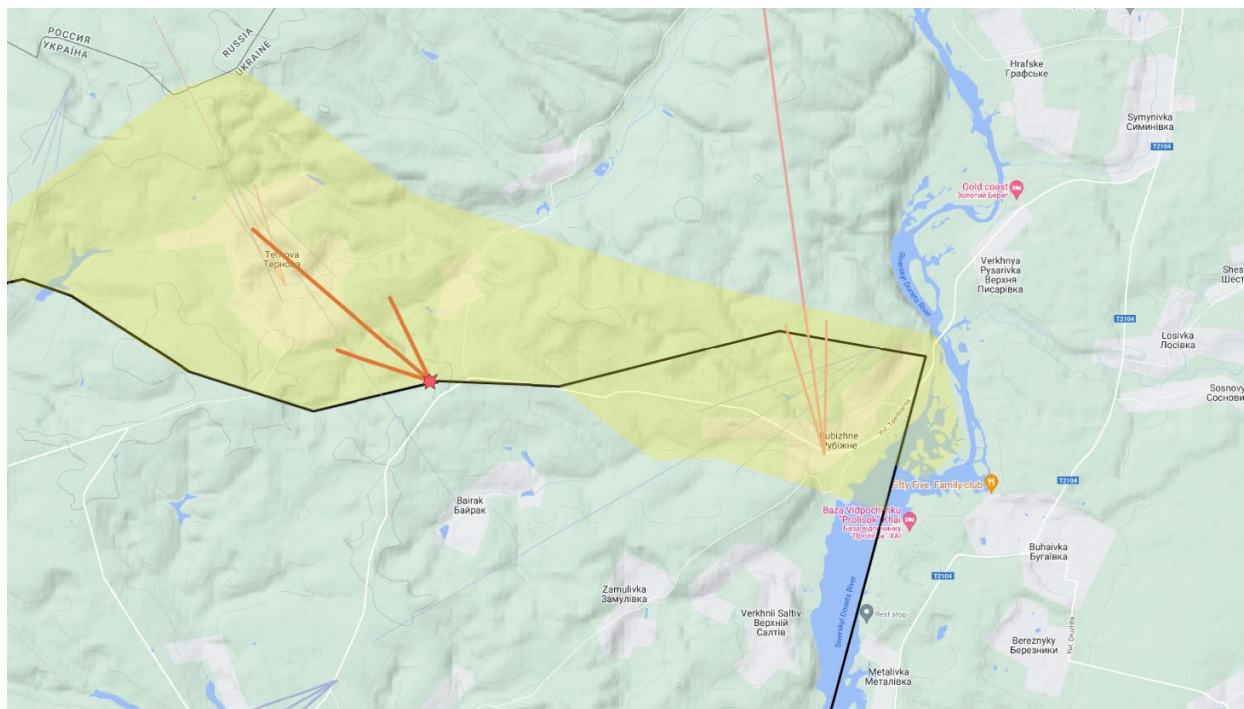
Russian Objective: Prevent Ukraine from reaching the international border with Russia, protect the Belgorod-Kupyansk GLOC, break civilian will with continued terror attacks

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



Russian forces launched a reconnaissance in force group into [Dementiivka](#) and were unsuccessful. They launched a second advance on Dementiivka from [Kochubeivka](#), which was also unsuccessful.⁸

⁸ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine - Facebook](#)



Russian forces launched an offensive from [Ternova](#) for the first time in almost two months, trying to advance on [Bairak](#). They were unsuccessful. The General Staff has not mentioned [Rubizhne](#) [Kharkiv] in their reports for at least two days. We maintain the settlement is no man's land. Based on the absence of information and the attempted advance from Ternova, we moved the line of conflict south.

Russian artillery, rockets from MLRS, cruise missiles, and SRBMs prioritize civilians and civilian infrastructure. Russian and Ukrainian forces exchanged artillery and rocket fire from MLRS along the entire line of contact northwest, north, and northeast of Kharkiv.

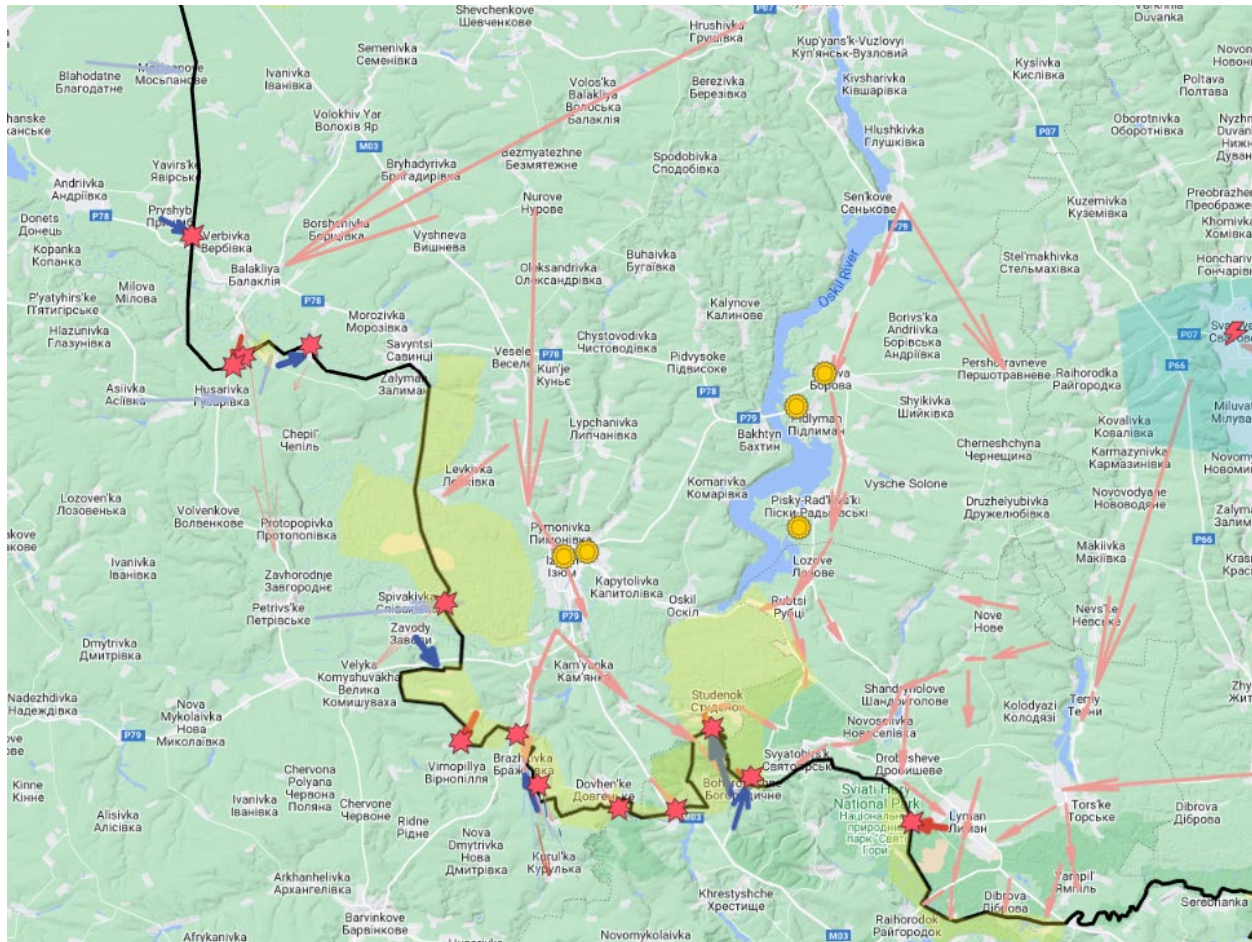
There were reports that [Chuhuiv](#) was being shelled.⁹

ASSESSMENT: Neither belligerent has the equipment or troop strength to break the deadlock on the current line of conflict.

⁹ <https://t.me/chuguiv/3008>



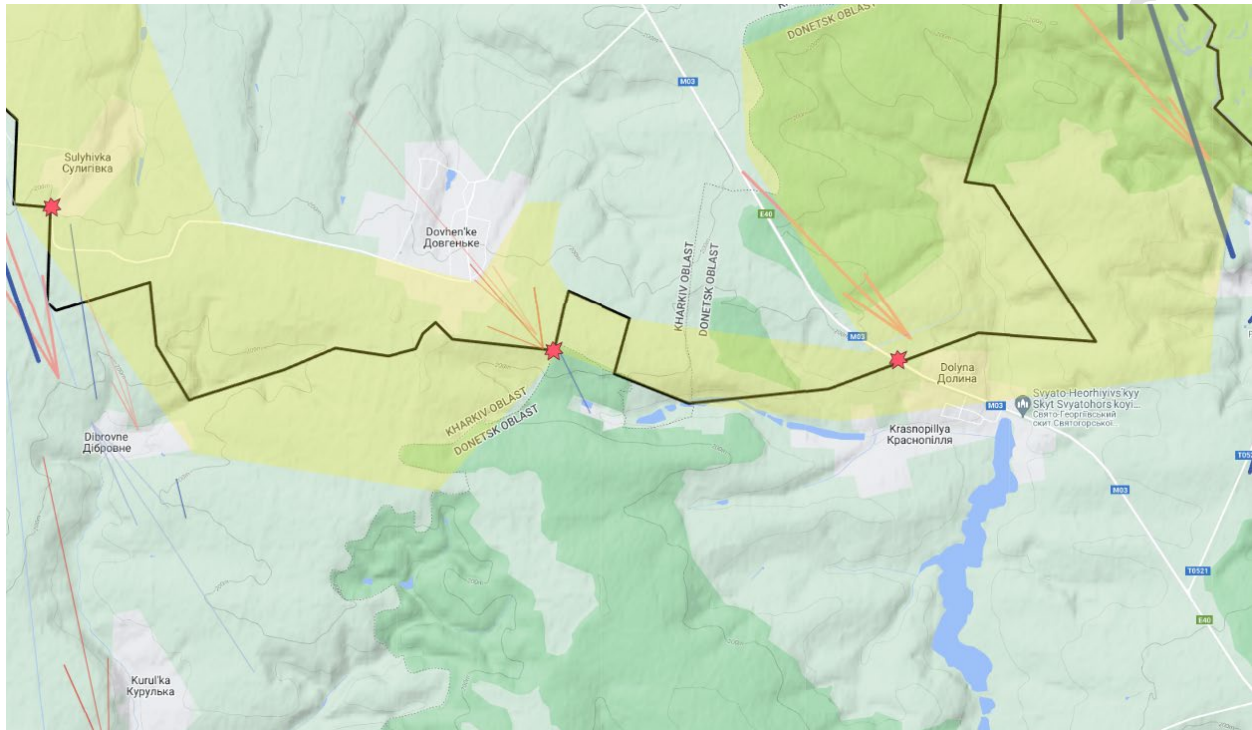
IZYUM AXIS



Russian Objective: Hold the current line of conflict and prevent further advances by Ukrainian troops toward Izyum

Ukrainian Objective: Defend against advances on Slovyansk and capitalize on weaknesses in Russian defenses, continue to harass and interdict Russian GLOCs,

execute Special Operation Forces (SOF) raids on Russian troops located behind the line of conflict



Russian reconnaissance groups were identified near Dovhenke and Dolyna. Ukrainian forces did not engage with either group.¹⁰

Russian forces shelled the settlements of [Nova Dmytrivka](#), [Bohorodychne](#), [Chepil](#), [Karnaukhivka](#), [Dovhenke](#), [Barvinkove](#), [Shnurky](#), [Husarivka](#), [Dmytrivka](#), [Kurulka](#), [Hrushuvakha](#), [Dibrovne](#), [Adamivka](#), [Dolyna](#), [Krasnopillya](#),

¹⁰ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine - Facebook](#)

[Mazanivka](#), [Velyka Komyshevakha](#), [Vasylivka Persha](#) and [Khrestyshche](#). The Russian air force flew a sortie against the settlement of Dibrovne.

The General Staff has reported artillery and fighting “near” Dovhenke for two days. Based on this information, we slightly adjusted the map, moving the line of conflict north. We have coded Dovhenke contested.

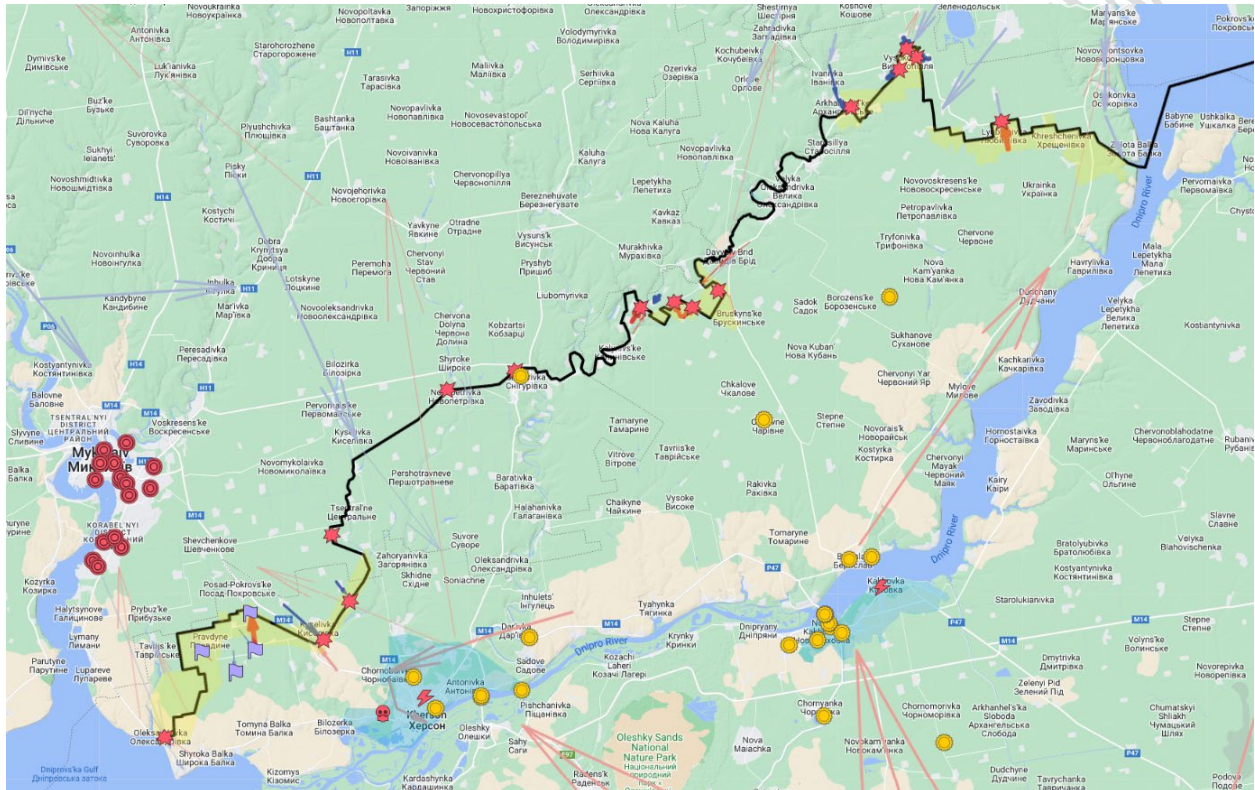
ASSESSMENT: We assess the significant increase in artillery fire in the past 24 hours is not a prelude to a renewed offensive and is meant to blunt further Ukrainian advances toward Izyum from the south.

We maintain that Russian forces have abandoned efforts to advance on Slovyansk from Izyum due to inadequate combat power along the axis. Without a significant force in place to advance on Slovyansk, it is implausible that Russian forces will secure the Donetsk oblast before August 31.

Taking President Zelenskyy's statement on troop strength into account, it seems unlikely that Ukraine can take the initiative on the Izyum axis and make a meaningful counteroffensive in the next six to eight weeks.

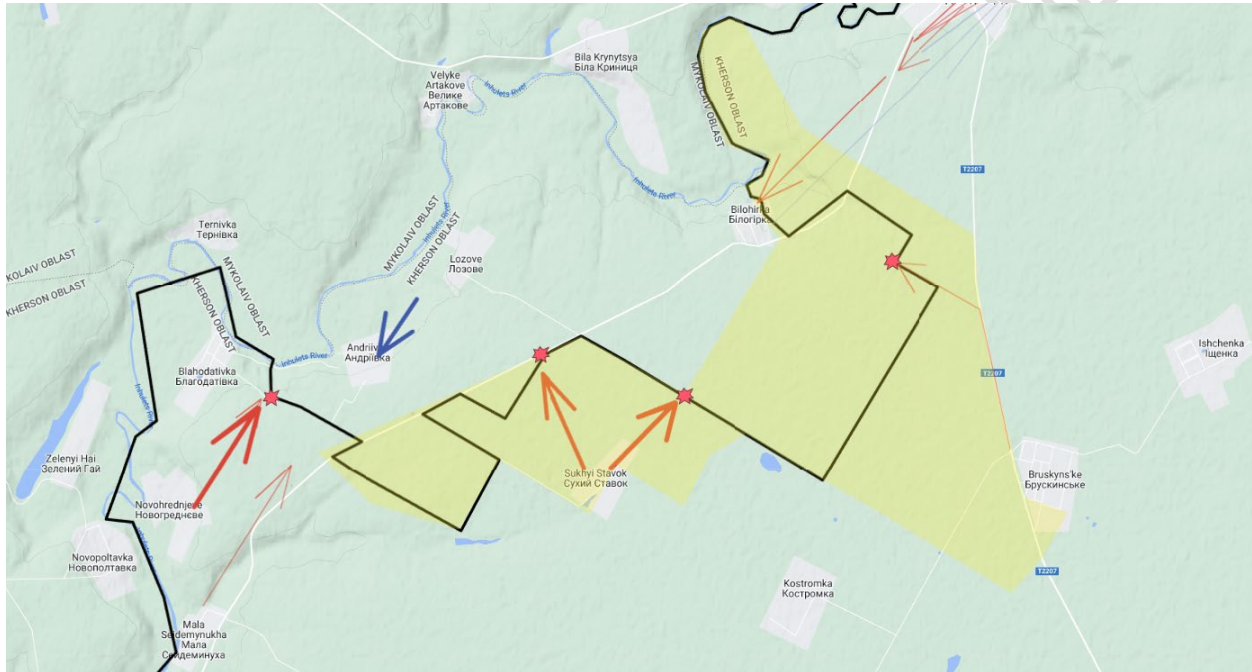
DNIPRO, KHERSON & MYKOLAIV, ZAPORIZHIA REGION

KHERSON



Russian Objective: Prepare for a Ukrainian counteroffensive but building defenses, prevent further advances by Ukrainian troops toward Kherson, repair destroyed GLOCs over the Dnipro River, and prevent the expansion of the insurgency

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

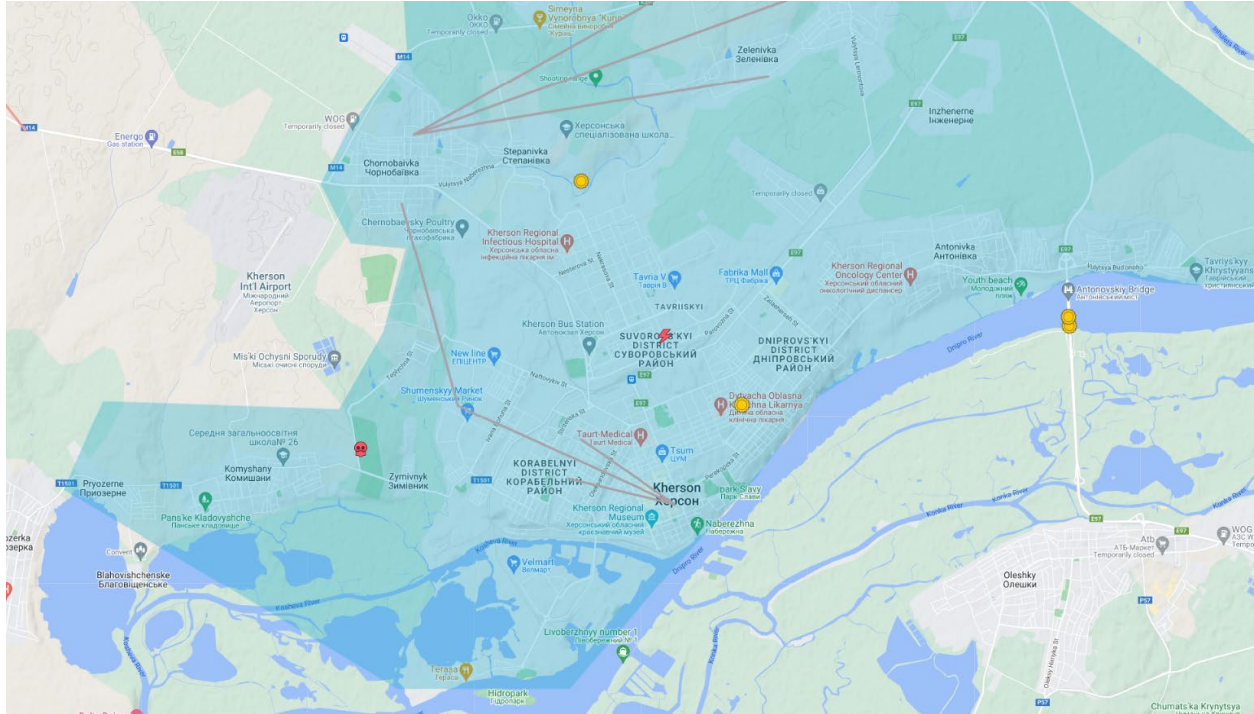


There wasn't significant combat activity in Kherson along the entire front today.^{11 12 13} A small Russian group supported by two tanks attempted to advance on [Bilohirka](#) from [Sukhyi Stavok](#) and were unsuccessful.

¹¹ <https://www.facebook.com/okPivden/videos/776486923547662/>

¹² <https://t.me/rybar/36579>

¹³ <https://t.me/strelkovii/3036>

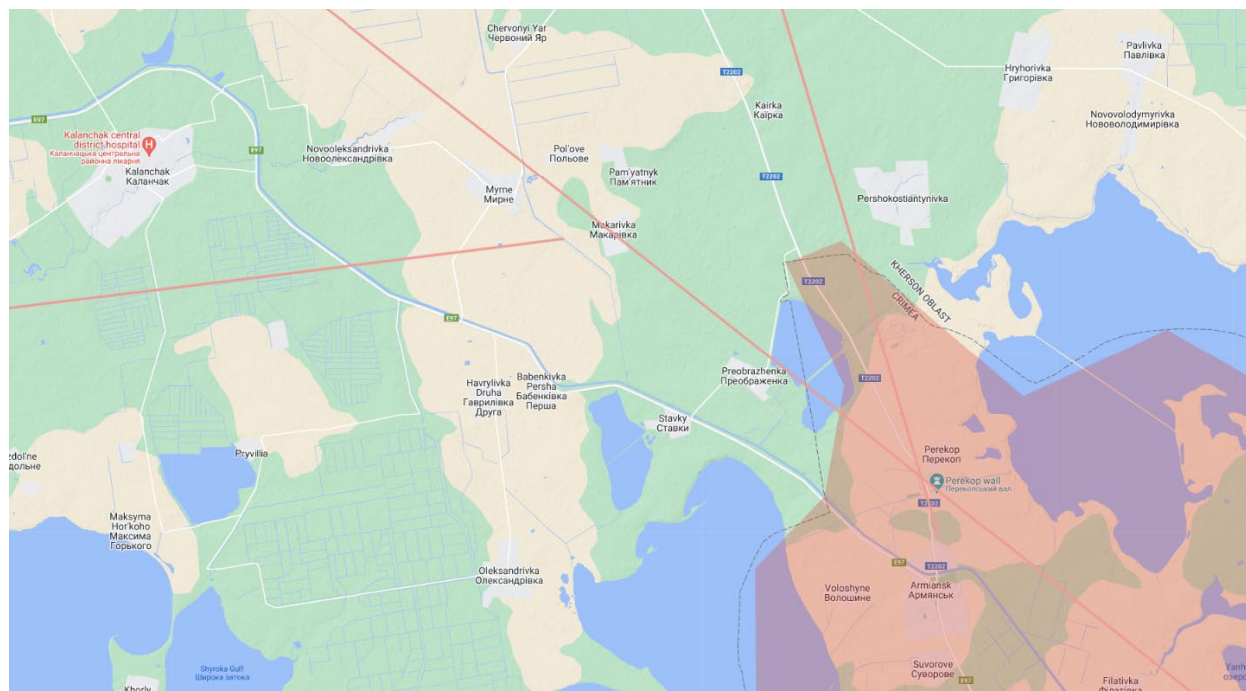


The Russian base at [Chornobaivka](#) was shelled by Ukrainian artillery, causing a major fire with secondary explosions.¹⁴ ¹⁵ The blast was so powerful it broke windows, and three magnetic anomaly stations detected the blast as far away as Bucharest, Romania.¹⁶

¹⁴ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/3/7361612/>

¹⁵ https://twitter.com/bayraktar_1love/status/1554503259582304256

¹⁶ <https://twitter.com/rriichcord/status/1554610201344593921>



On Monday, Russian troops accidentally caused a major explosion at the [Kalanchak railroad station](#) in Myrne [46°15'15.5"N 33°27'57.8"E].¹⁷ The station is the first stop heading north from the Russian-occupied Crimean Peninsula. The United Kingdom Ministry of Defense reported that the accident has likely stopped all rail traffic out of the Crimean Peninsula, heading to Zaporizhia and Kherson. The report indicated that service would only be stopped for a few days.

Russian troops were unloading an ammunition train and set off smoke to prevent a HIMARS attack and obscure the

¹⁷ <https://www.newsweek.com/russia-blows-its-ammunition-while-trying-hide-himars-report-1730220>

ongoing activity. It is unknown if there was an accident during unloading, if outdated ammunition, which can be unstable, was part of the shipment and detonated, or if the smoke pots started a fire.

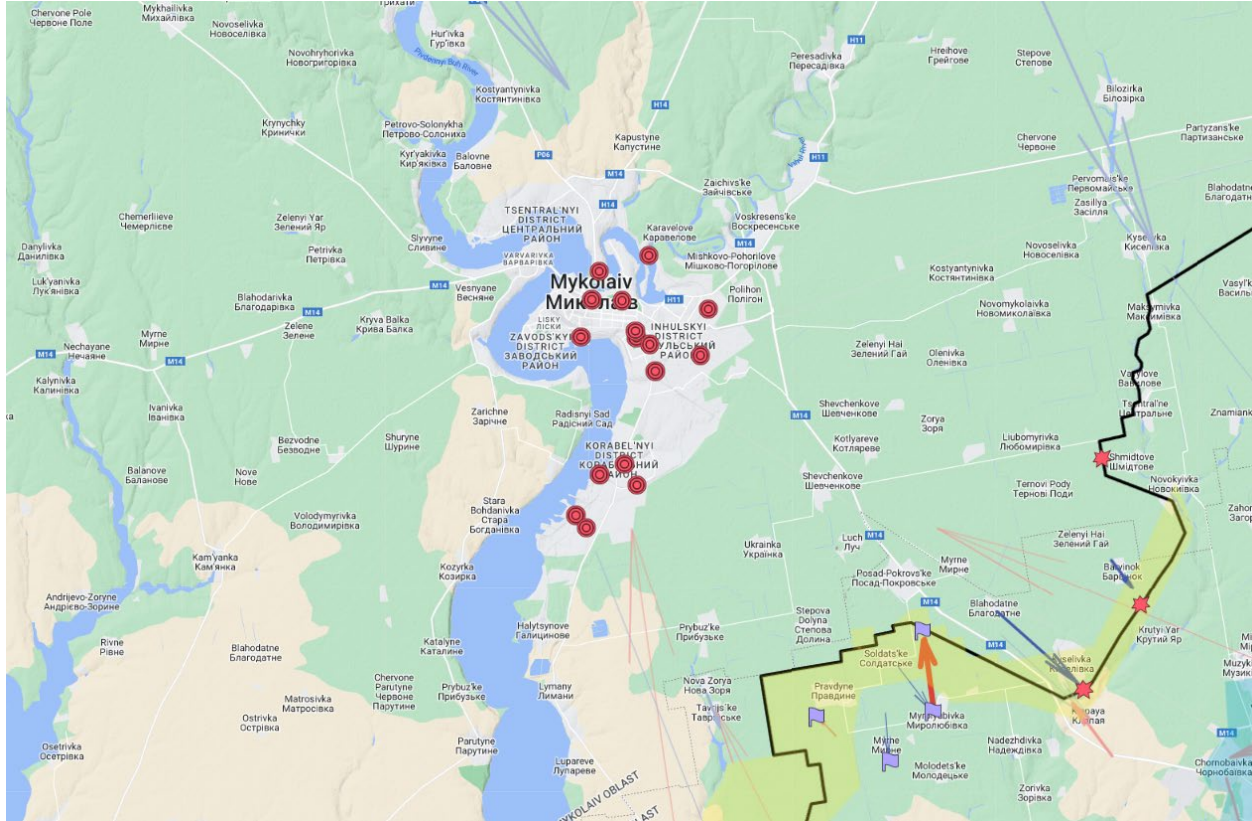
After the first explosion, the train started to move south back toward Crimea and military personnel scattered.

ASSESSMENT: Both belligerents are maintaining tight operational security in Kherson (in the case of Russian forces, tight for Russian forces). The Ukrainian Ministry of Defense reported six more settlements were liberated in the Kherson oblast in the last 24 hours but did not name which ones.

MYKOLAIV

Russian Objective: Capture oblast, break civilian will with continued terror attacks

Ukrainian Objective: Prevent further Russian advance into the oblast, intercept missile attacks, minimize civilian casualties



Vitaly Kim, the Mykolaiv Regional State Administrative and Military Governor, reported that Russian missiles struck Mykolaiv city.¹⁸ The attack damaged a university dormitory and destroyed private homes. There was one injury reported.¹⁹

¹⁸ <https://t.me/mykolaivskaODA/1988>

¹⁹ <https://t.me/mykolaivskaODA/1987>

Oleksandr Sienkevych, Mayor of Mykolaiv, reported that missiles hit the city in the early hours of August 3 local time, destroying a grocery store.²⁰

ZAPORIZHIA

Russian Objective: Interdict personnel and equipment assembling for a counteroffensive, break civilian will with continued terror attacks

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

Rafael Grossi, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, has issued a dire warning over the Zaporizhzhia plant in southeastern Ukraine.²¹

The situation there is getting more perilous every day, he said, urging Russia and Ukraine to allow experts to visit the complex to prevent a nuclear accident.

²⁰ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/3/7361617/>

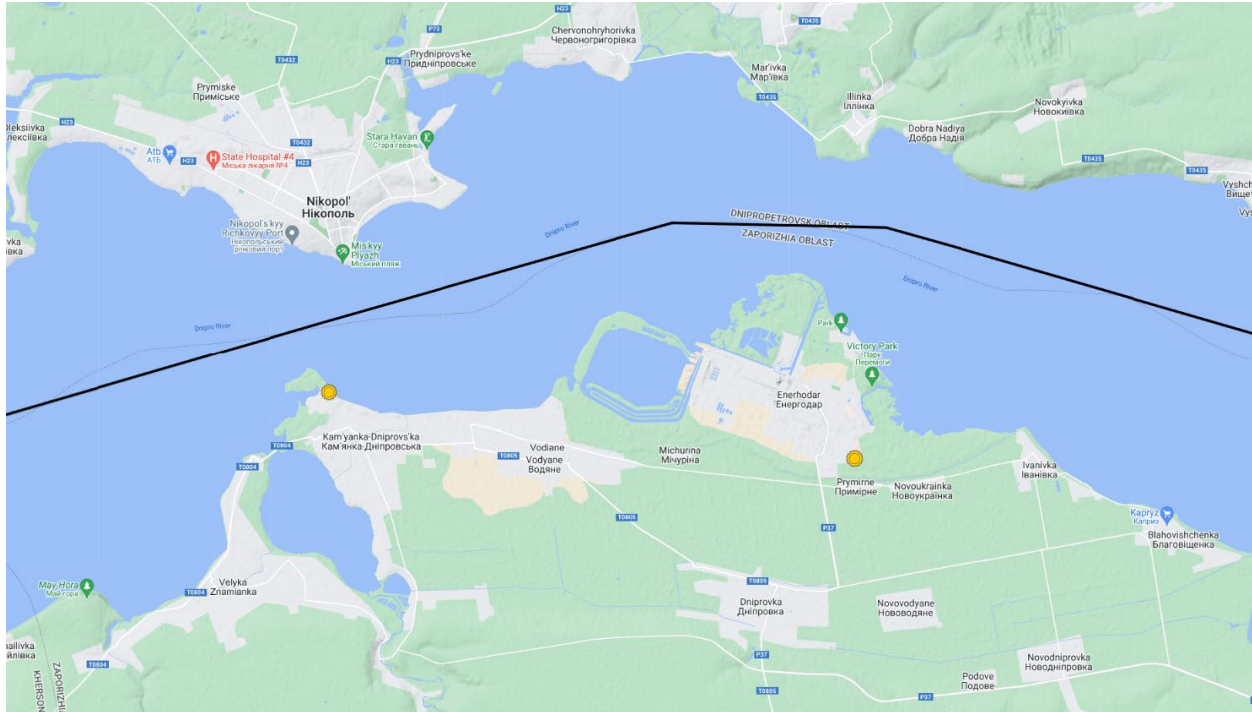
²¹ [Sky News](#)

"Every principle of nuclear safety has been violated," he said. "What is at stake is extremely serious and extremely grave and dangerous."

DNIPROPETROVSK

Russian Objective: Interdict personnel and equipment assembling for the counteroffensive in Kherson, break civilian will with continued terror attacks

Ukrainian Objective: Prepare and stage for a counterattack in Kherson, prevent further Russian advances north toward Kryvyi Rih



Russian forces continue to fire rockets using Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (MLRS) at [Nikopol](#).²² The city has been under constant attack for three weeks, with over 1,100 rockets striking the region. The rockets are being fired from Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, which Russian forces have turned into a military base.

CHERNIHIV & SUMY REGION

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

²² <https://t.me/dnipropetrovskaODA/1449>

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

Dmytro Zhivyt'sky, Sumy Regional Administrative and Military Governor reported that [Esman](#), [Seredyna-Buda](#), and [Khotin](#) were shelled by mortar and artillery fire.²³ There were no casualties or significant damage.

KYIV REGION

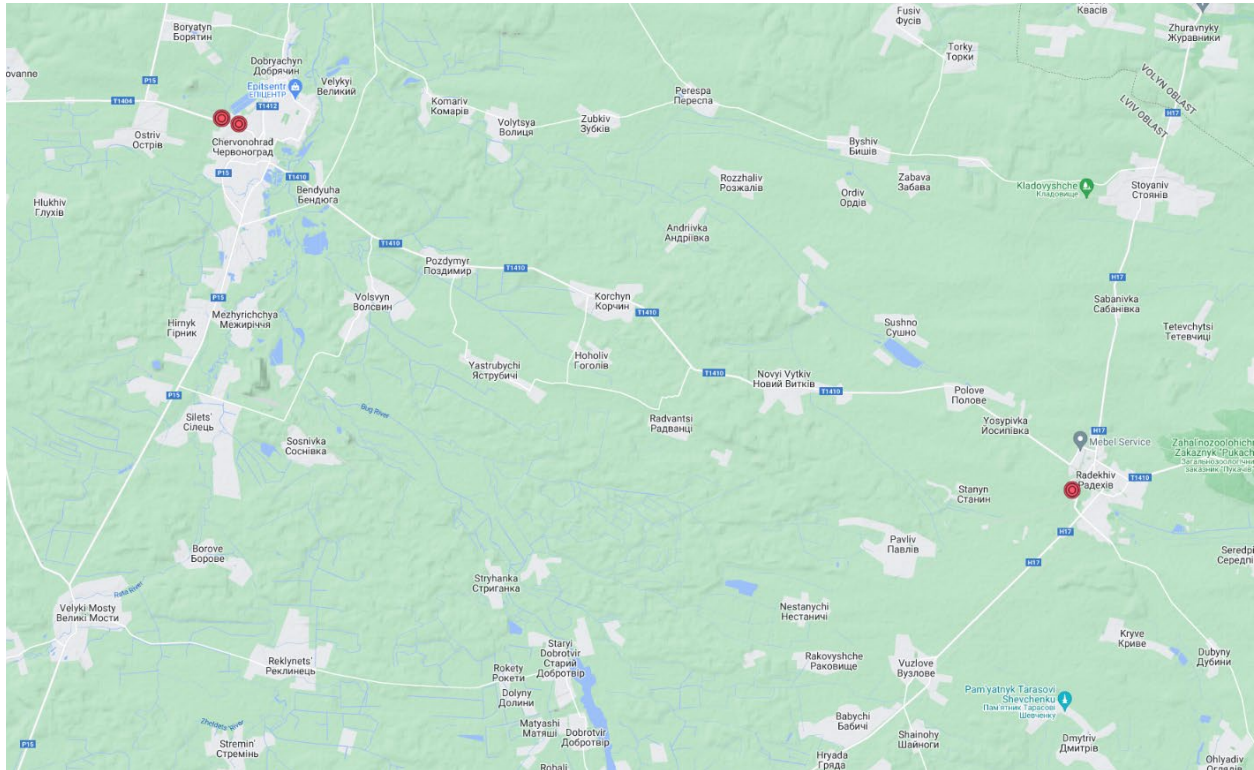
There wasn't any significant military action in this region.

BLACK SEA & ODESA REGION

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

²³ <https://t.me/Zhyvytskyy/3580>

WEST REGION



A Russian Kh-101 cruise missile struck outside the settlement of [Radekhiv](#) in the Lviv oblast.²⁴ Official and local reports reported indicated a Ukrainian anti-aircraft site was destroyed.

²⁴ <https://twitter.com/chronology22/status/1554507666252333057>

Two cruise missiles hit the Ukrainian military base in [Chervonohrad](#), 13 kilometers from the Poland border.²⁵ There were no details provided on casualties or damage.

THEATERWIDE & EXTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS

Spain reported they could not fulfill their commitment of delivering 10 Leopard tanks to Ukraine.²⁶ Ukrainian officials inspected the main battle tanks (MBT) with NATO officials and found them to be in "an absolutely deplorable state," which renders them unsafe.

The Kremlin felt compelled to remind the world it has nuclear weapons.²⁷ Moscow could decide to use its nuclear arsenal in response to "direct aggression" by NATO countries over the invasion, Russia said on Tuesday at a nuclear nonproliferation conference. Russian diplomat Alexander Trofimov rejected "utterly unfounded, detached from reality and unacceptable speculations that Russia allegedly threatens to use nuclear weapons, particularly in Ukraine." Despite the claims, Russian officials repeatedly stated that nuclear weapons could be in play, and Russian

²⁵ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/08/2/7361582/>

²⁶ <https://twitter.com/MalcontentmentT/status/1554530611020255234>

²⁷ [Nikkei Asia](#)

President Vladimir Putin ran at least two nuclear readiness drills during the war's opening days.

WAR CRIMES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

After inviting a Red Cross investigation into the alleged war crime at Penal Colony 52 in Olenivka, where 53 Ukrainian POWs were potentially murdered and another 130 wounded, Russia is blocking the Red Cross from accessing the site.²⁸

"Despite the statements of the Russian Federation that they allegedly gave access to the site of the tragedy to representatives of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the UN mission, I received a response from the ICRC that they were not given access. That's why I took the initiative..." Ukrainian Human Rights Ombudsman Dmytro Lubinets said.

Ukraine is also accusing Russia and the Donetsk People's Republic of refusing to release the bodies of the deceased POWs to families for a proper burial.

²⁸ <https://www.yahoo.com/video/russians-still-refusing-red-cross-083500897.html>

The United Nations reported that 10.1 million Ukrainians had been displaced since February 24.²⁹ Over 6 million have left the country through Poland, Romania, Moldova, Hungary, Slovakia, Belarus, and Russia. Another 4 million have been internally displaced from their homes. Of the 10.1 million, 3 million are functionally homeless. The United Nations said this was Europe's largest and fastest displacement of people since World War II.

So far in 2022, around the world, 100 million people have been displaced due to war, famine, climate disasters, extreme poverty, and persecution. It is the first time since the United Nations was created that this many people have been displaced in a year.

GEOPOLITICAL

Former Russian president Dmitry Medvedev wrote a lengthy post on social media describing how after Russia had completed conquering Ukraine, the nation would move on to Georgia and Kazakhstan.³⁰ The post was only available for ten minutes before it was deleted, but it was

²⁹ <https://euobserver.com/ukraine/155693>

³⁰ <https://www.newsweek.com/medvedev-russia-ukraine-vkontakte-georgia-kazakhstan-1730076>

enough time to cause reverberations through the former Soviet enclaves and Europe.

Medvedev wrote before 1801, that Georgia as a country didn't exist, that it was part of the Russian empire, and that "North and South Ossetia, Abkhazia and the remaining territories of Georgia can only be united as part of a single state with Russia." He also called Kazakhstan an "artificial state."

"Russia will again become united, powerful, and invincible as it was one thousand years ago," it added. "We will go on the next campaign to restore the borders of our Motherland, which, as you know, are never-ending."

ECONOMIC

The first ship carrying grain that left Odessa on August 1 arrived off the coast of Istanbul, Turkey, late on August 2.³¹ The sailing from Odesa to the mouth of the Bosphorus Strait took 36 hours. The final destination for the Sierra Leone-flagged cargo ship Razoni is Lebanon, carrying 26,500 tonnes of corn. Officials coordinating the grain

³¹ [Reuters](#)

shipments aid that the goal is for one ship to depart from Ukraine per day for the foreseeable future.

The rouble was unchanged on Tuesday. The "official" exchange rate at 60 for 1 US dollar.

Oil prices were steady on Tuesday. WTI crude closed at \$93 a barrel while Brent increased to \$100. United States RBOB wholesale gasoline rose to \$3.05 (81 cents a liter).

SRW Chicago wheat futures climbed to 80 cents a bushel for December 2022 delivery.