



**MALCONTENT NEWS  
RUSSIA-UKRAINE  
SITUATION REPORT**

June 20, 2023



# Malcontent News

## Russia-Ukraine War SITREP

### 6/20/23 23:59\* PST

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## **SUMMARY – DAY 481**

It has been 3,401 days since Russia occupied the Crimea Peninsula on January 27, 2014, and one year and 116 days since Russia expanded its war against Ukraine.

## **DAILY ASSESSMENT**

We assess the following:

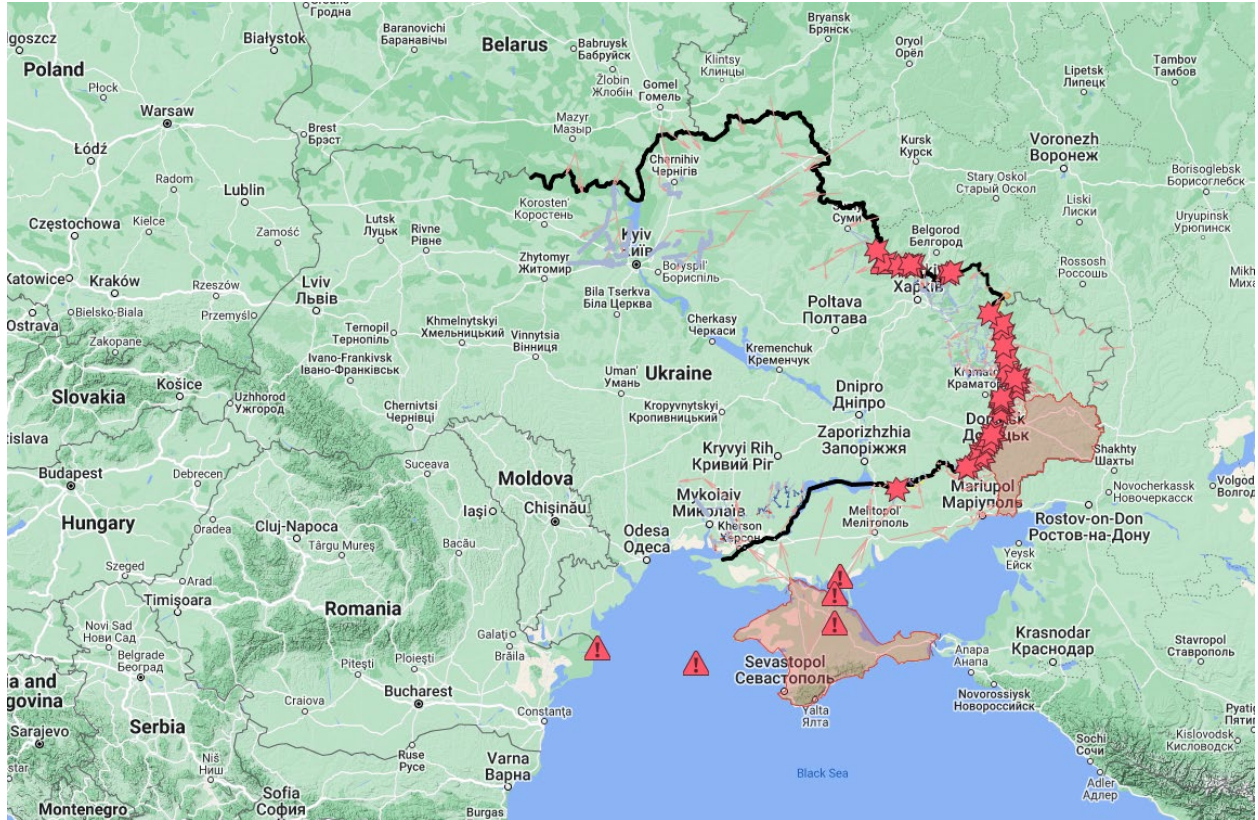
1. The infighting between Russian Minister of Defense Sergei Shoigu and Private Military Company leader Yevgeny Prigozhin is reaching a culmination point, with Prigozhin continuing to refuse to sign a contract with the Kremlin and the Kremlin rejecting his contract that would put the Ministry of Defense under Prigozhin's control.
2. While a final determination will take a site inspection by subject matter experts and months of investigation, the body of publicly available evidence indicates that on June 6, 2023, between 02:25 and 02:50 hours local time, Russian occupiers blew up the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Power Plant, dam structure, or both, causing its catastrophic failure. The issue of

intentional or accidental is academic – the outcome is still the same.

3. We continue to assess the current activity as subordinate offensives, and the main operation has not started. We do not fully agree with the Insitute for the Study of War's assessment that Ukrainian forces have entered a theaterwide operational pause to reevaluate tactics.
4. The Russian Ministry of Defense remains in a chaotic state, incapable of creating mission cohesion between penal units, mobiks, conscripts, elite forces, PMCs, and proxy forces.
5. Russian Chief of Staff Gerasimov and Defense Minister Shoigu are some of the best allies available for the Ukrainian Ministry of Defense due to their acceptance of systemic corruption, political infighting, waste of military resources, and refusal to adapt to the realities within the theater of war.

[Jump to the Action Report.](#)

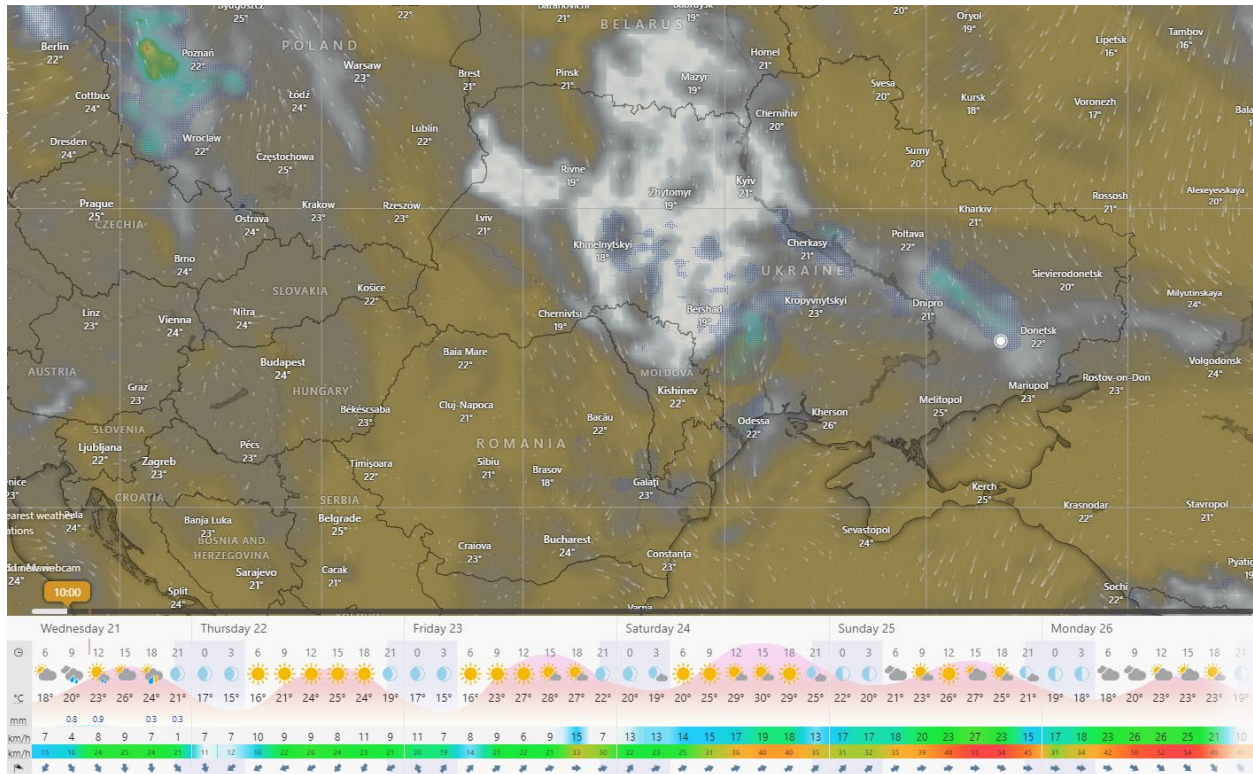
## TODAY'S WAR IN UKRAINE MAP



**About the maps:** Red triangles are sites of significant events unrelated to missile attacks, insurgencies, or ground combat, such as the sinking of the Moskva and the explosion at the Saky Naval airbase. Gray circles indicate an area where fighting has ended with no change in the line of conflict. The archived offensive layer is turned off by default, but you can toggle it on/off in the Map Legend. If you see a settlement name highlighted [like this](#), it is a link to our war map that will take you to the location explained in the Situation Report.

### [Russia-Ukraine War Report Map](#)

# UKRAINE WEATHER

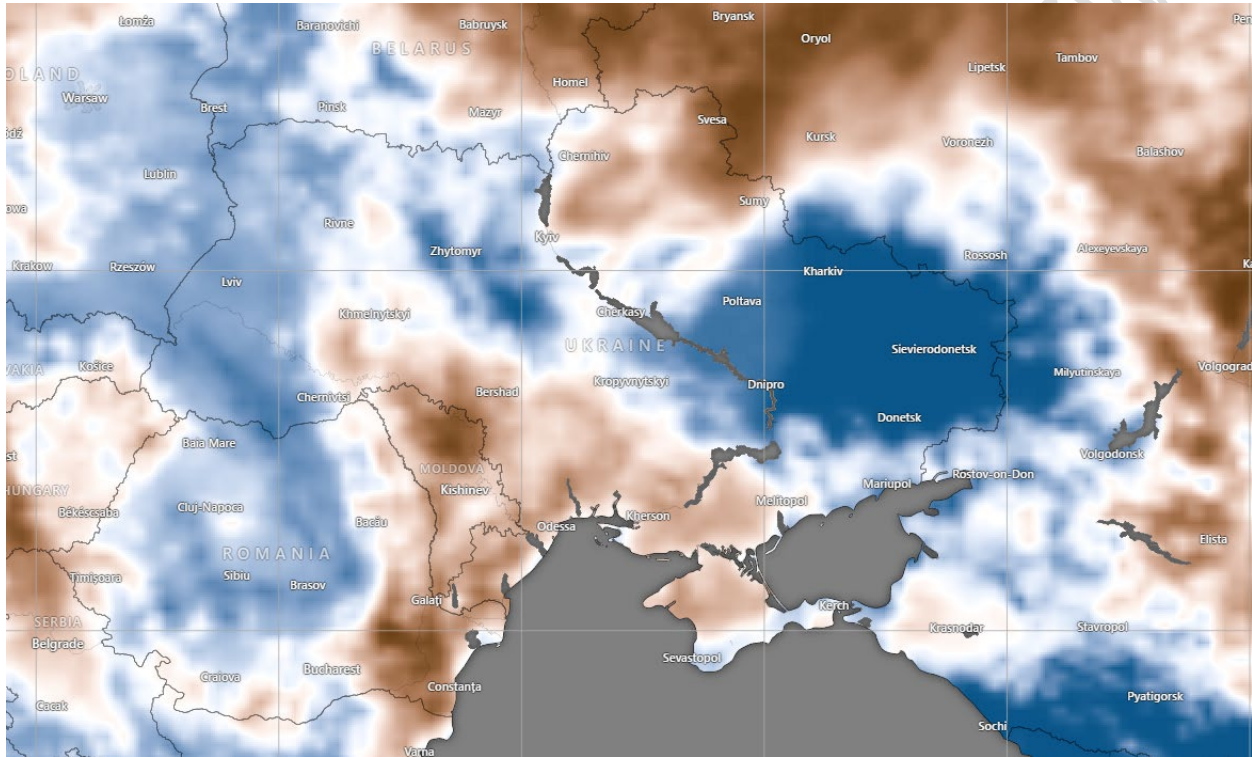


The ECMWF Euro ensemble weather forecast model is little changed, with a chance of scattered thunderstorms in southern Ukraine and occupied Crimea on Wednesday. Thunderstorms in a wide area could be severe, producing torrential rain, flooding, hail, and damaging winds.<sup>1</sup> Otherwise, skies will be mostly clear through June 26, with temperatures from 20° to 32° Celcius and lows from 12° to

<sup>1</sup> [https://t.me/our\\_odessa/48934](https://t.me/our_odessa/48934)

23°. The full moon will be on July 3, and the summer solstice is on June 21.

## SOIL SATURATION AND HYDROLOGY

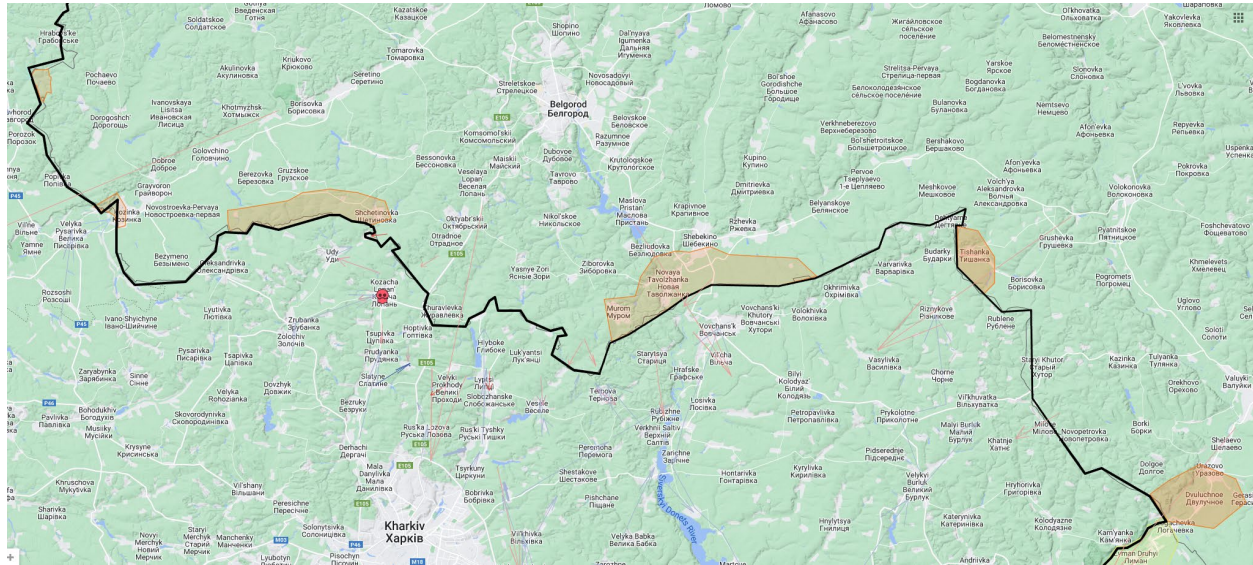


*June 28, 2023, GFS forecast indicates a transition to a wet phase, with soil saturation at 100% to 40 centimeters deep through most of the Donbas.*

***The soil saturation model does not consider flooding in the Dnipro River basin. Soil saturation is between 10% to 45% across almost all of Ukraine.***



# RUSSIAN FRONT



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

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

## **Belgorod Region**

There was only scattered artillery shelling along the border. If the status holds through June 30, we will move the Russian Front back to the end of the report.

## **Tambov Region**

Four people died, and two were injured in an explosion and fire at the Tambov Gunpowder Factory in Kotovsk. The blast occurred in Shop Number 3, and the Russian source claims the fire was quickly extinguished. Russian state media reports the cause was human error.<sup>2</sup>

## **Moscow Region**

At least five unidentified drones crashed near Moscow. One exploded while airborne near Lukino. Two more drones were found in the Naro-Fominsk District of Moscow. Russian State Media source Ateo Breaking, citing local reports, claimed that two drones fell on warehouses in Kalinets by the deployment area of the Russian 15th Motorized Rifle Regiment of the Taman Division. No casualties were reported at the time of publication.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> [https://t.me/shot\\_shot/53020](https://t.me/shot_shot/53020)

<sup>3</sup> <https://t.me/Crimeanwind/34012>

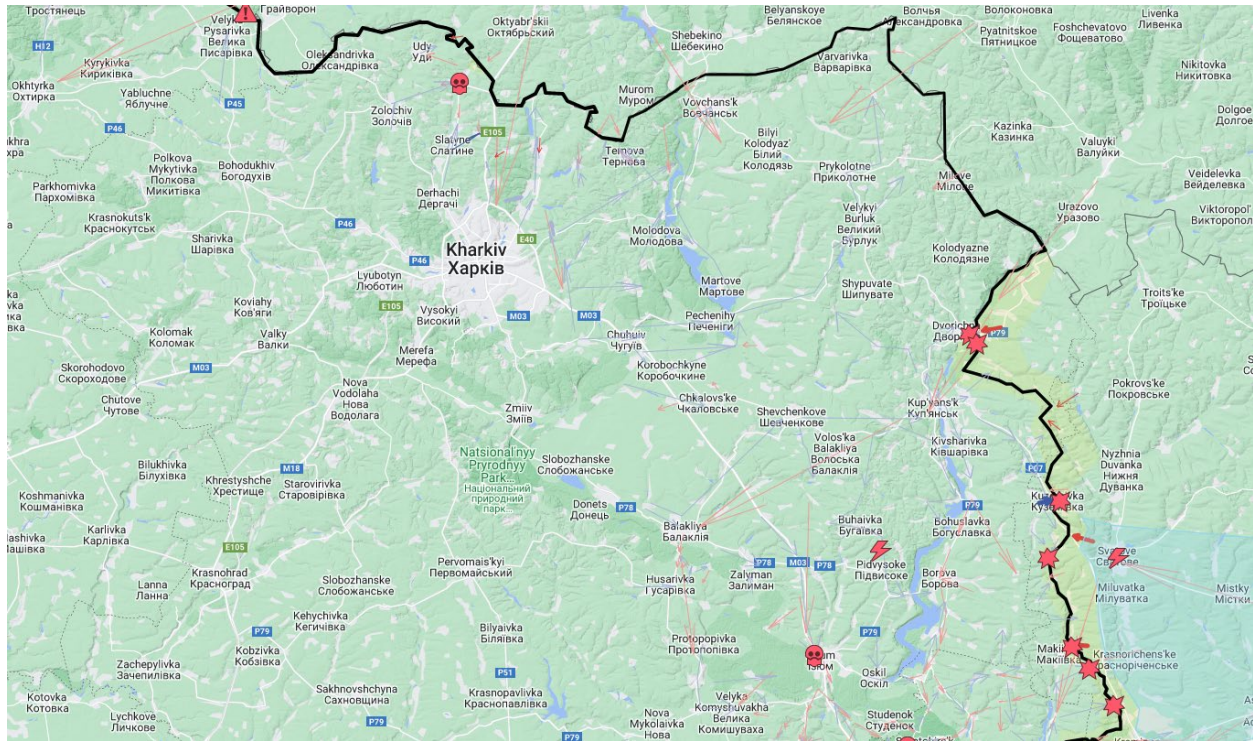
Two mines and a fuse were found near the Moscow Technological College in the Danilovsky District, causing the evacuation of fifty people. Explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) experts determined the mines were live and removed them for destruction.<sup>4</sup>

***Editor's Note:*** *The word mine can translate to a landmine or a mortar round. It was not clarified what type of explosive device was found.*

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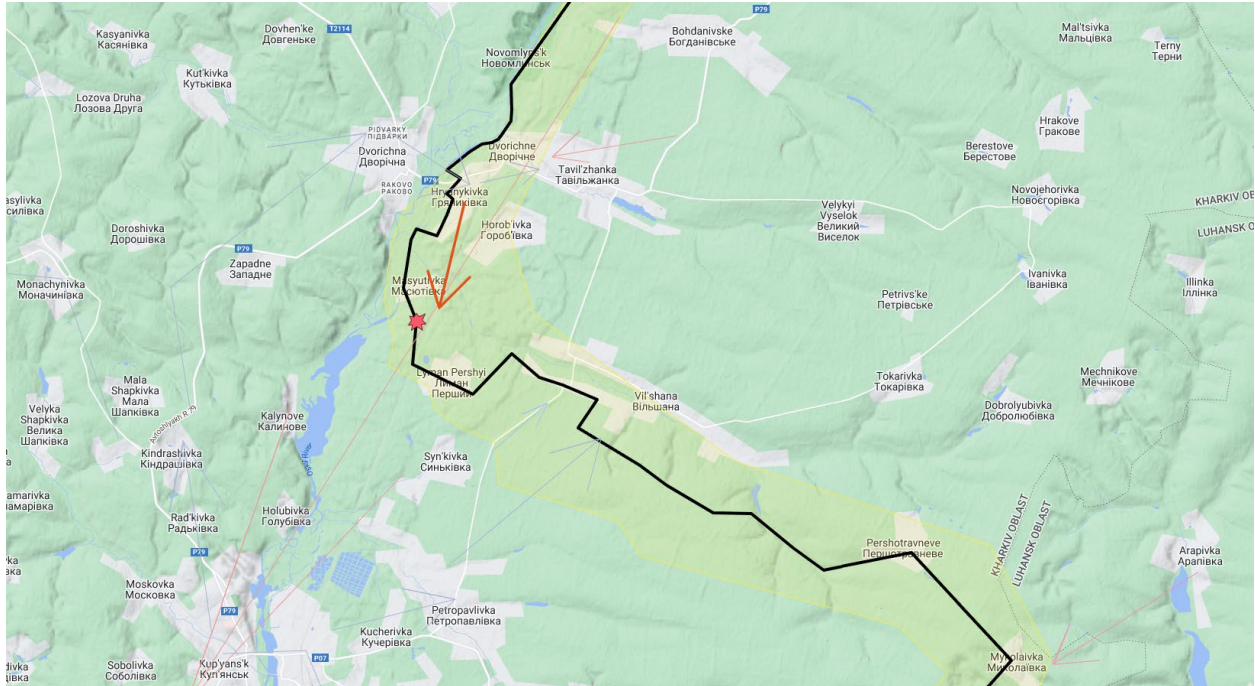
<sup>4</sup> [https://t.me/shot\\_shot/53016](https://t.me/shot_shot/53016)

# 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



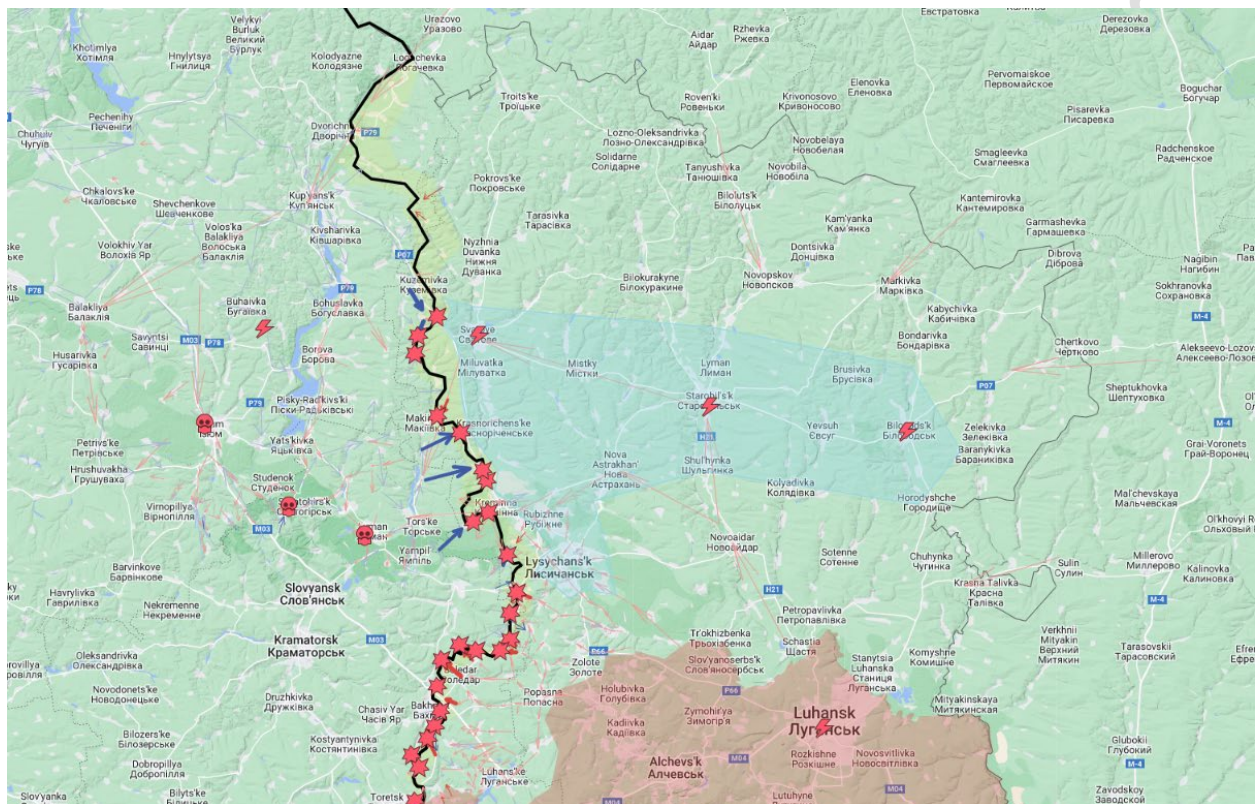
## Dborichna Operational Area

The Russian Ministry of Defense (RMOD) reported that Ukrainian sabotage and reconnaissance (DRG) units were operating in the area of [Synkivka](#).<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> [https://t.me/mod\\_russia/27617](https://t.me/mod_russia/27617) [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

# DONBAS REGION

## LUHANSK

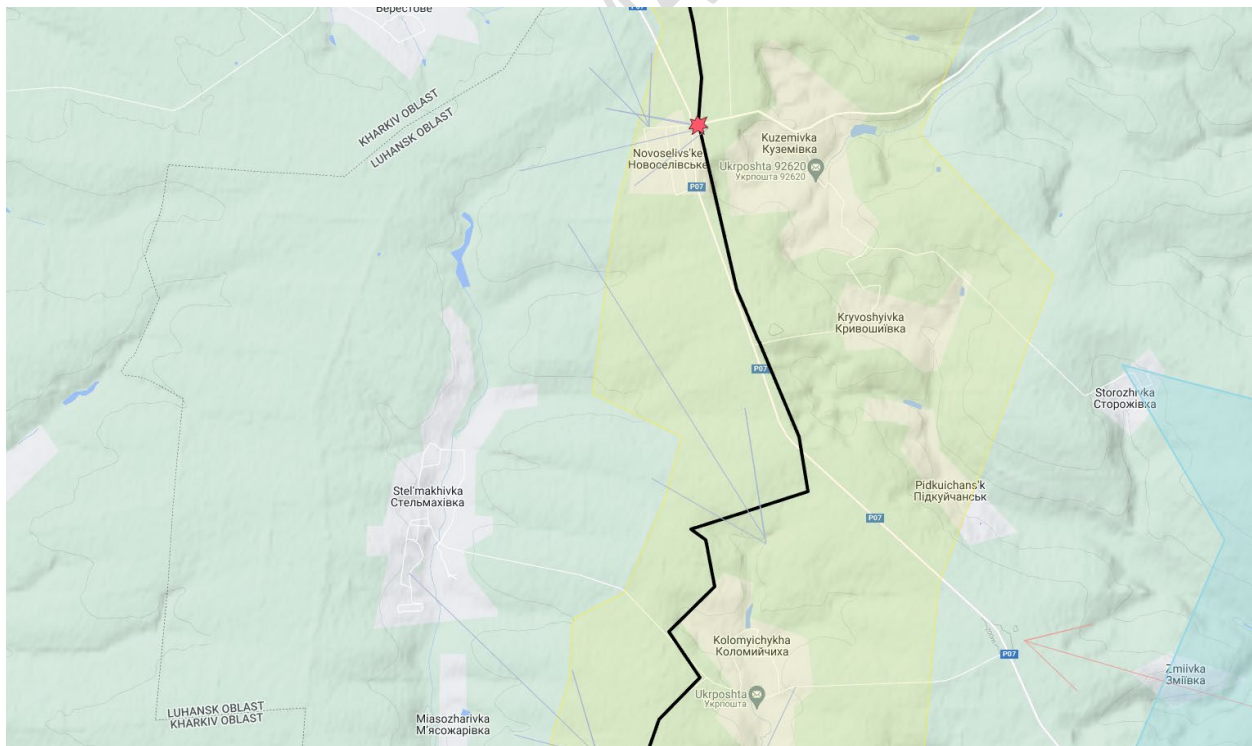


**Russian Objective:** Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, control insurgent activity, set conditions to capture the rest of the region, and support September 2023 elections

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

## Free Luhansk

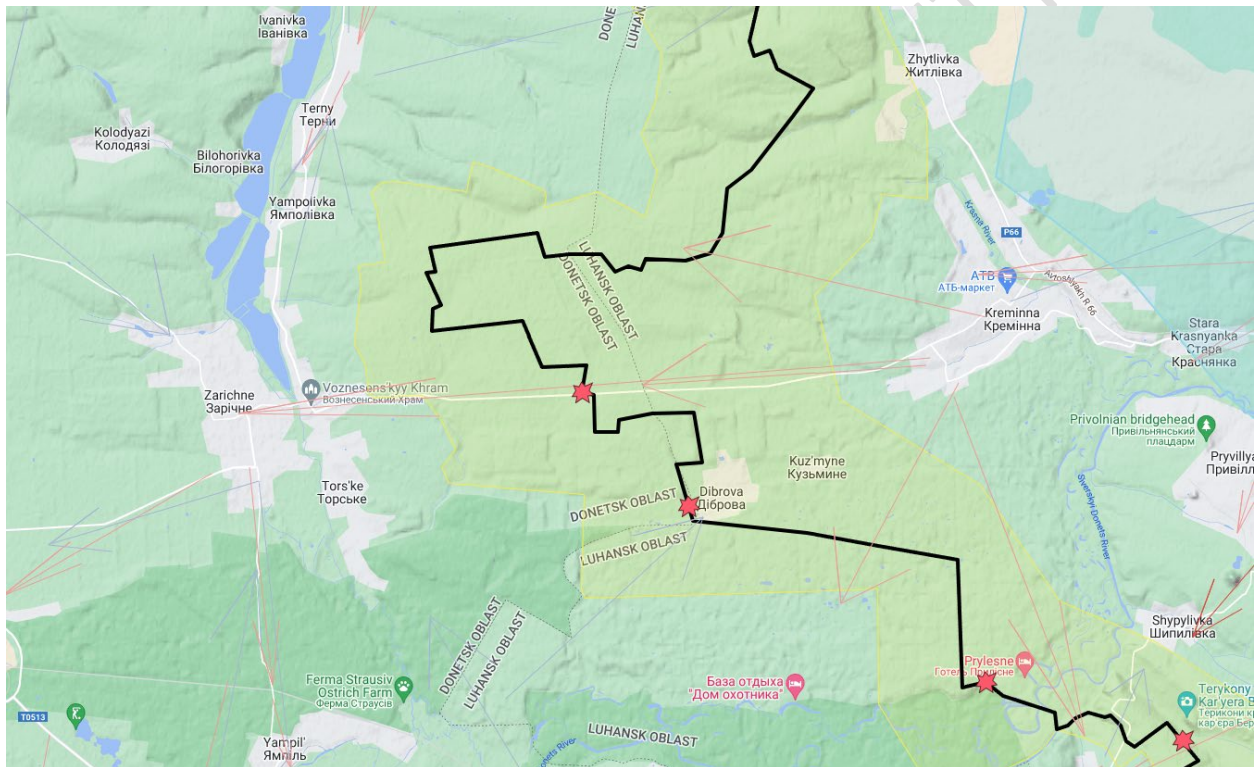
Operational Command East (OKE) spokesperson Colonel Serhii Chervaty reported that Russian forces launched 21 attacks from Dvorichna in Kharkiv to Bilohorivka in Luhansk, firing 560 munitions and carried out eight airstrikes along the line of conflict.<sup>6</sup>



<sup>6</sup> <https://t.me/luhanskaVTSA/11481>

## Svatove Operational Area

RMOD reported positional fighting between DRG units in the area of [Noveselivske](#).<sup>7</sup>



## Kreminna Operational Area

The area remained active, with significant fighting reported in the direction of [Yampolivka](#).<sup>8 9 10</sup> Positional fighting was

<sup>7</sup> [https://t.me/mod\\_russia/27617](https://t.me/mod_russia/27617) [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

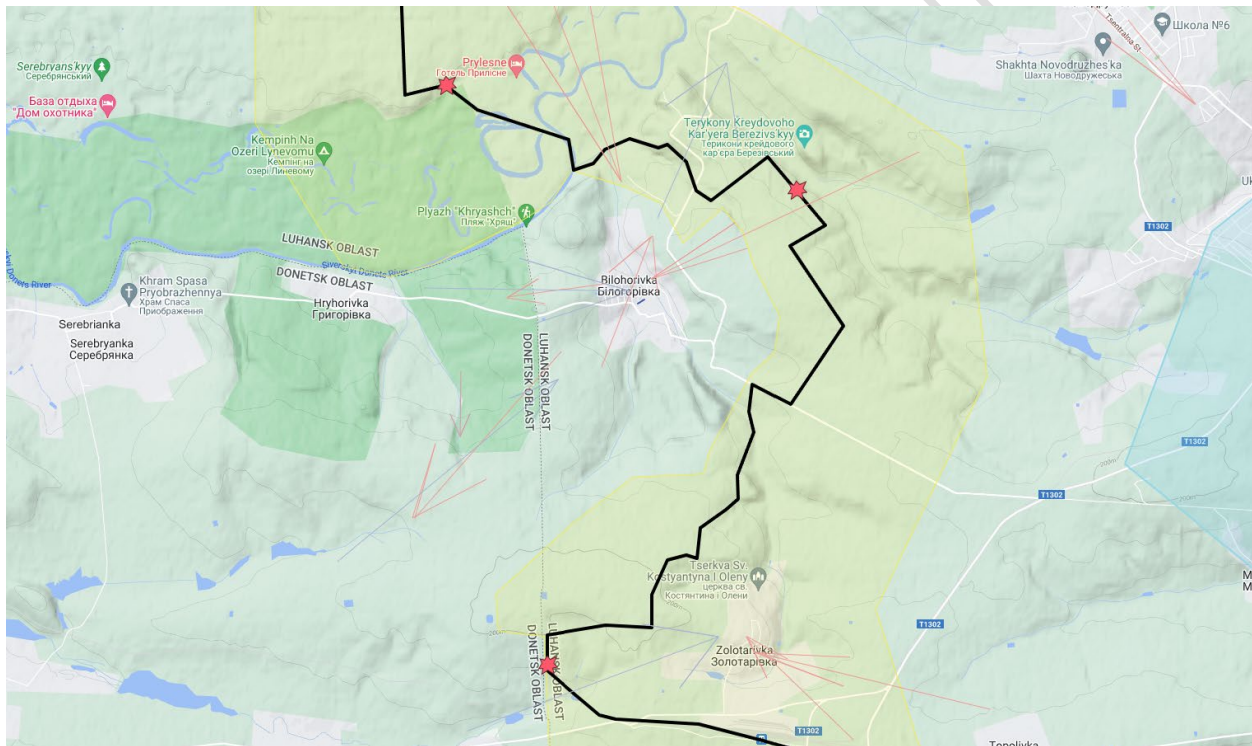
<sup>8</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

<sup>9</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – PM Facebook Report](#)

<sup>10</sup> [https://t.me/mod\\_russia/27617](https://t.me/mod_russia/27617) [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]



reported in the forests south of [Kreminna](#), near [Dibrova](#), and the vicinity of [Torske](#).<sup>11 12</sup> Fighting was reportedly intense in the [Serebryansky Woods](#), on the edge of the Siverskyi Donets flood plain, where Ukrainian forces made marginal gains.<sup>13 14</sup>



## Lysychansk Operational Area

The General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (GSAFU) reported that Russian forces made another attempt to

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

<sup>12</sup> [https://t.me/mod\\_russia/27617](https://t.me/mod_russia/27617) [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

<sup>13</sup> <https://t.me/rybar/48751>

<sup>14</sup> <https://twitter.com/NOELreports/status/1671267173833244673>

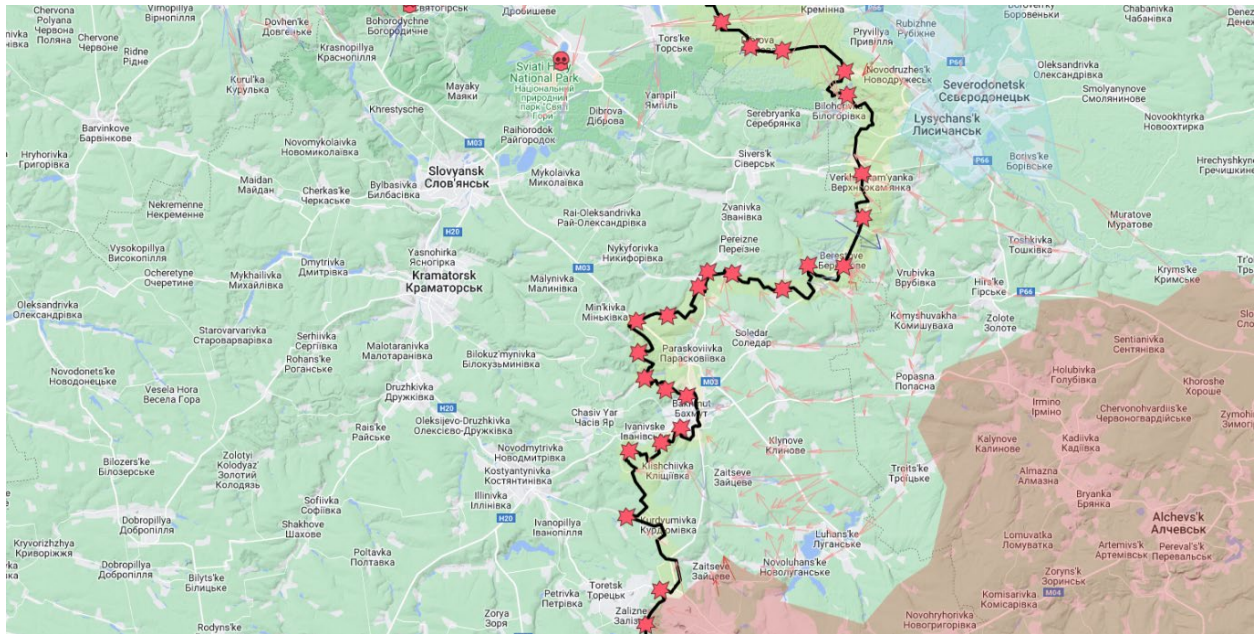
advance in “the vicinity” of [Hryorivka](#), likely from the Serebryansky Wood.<sup>15</sup>

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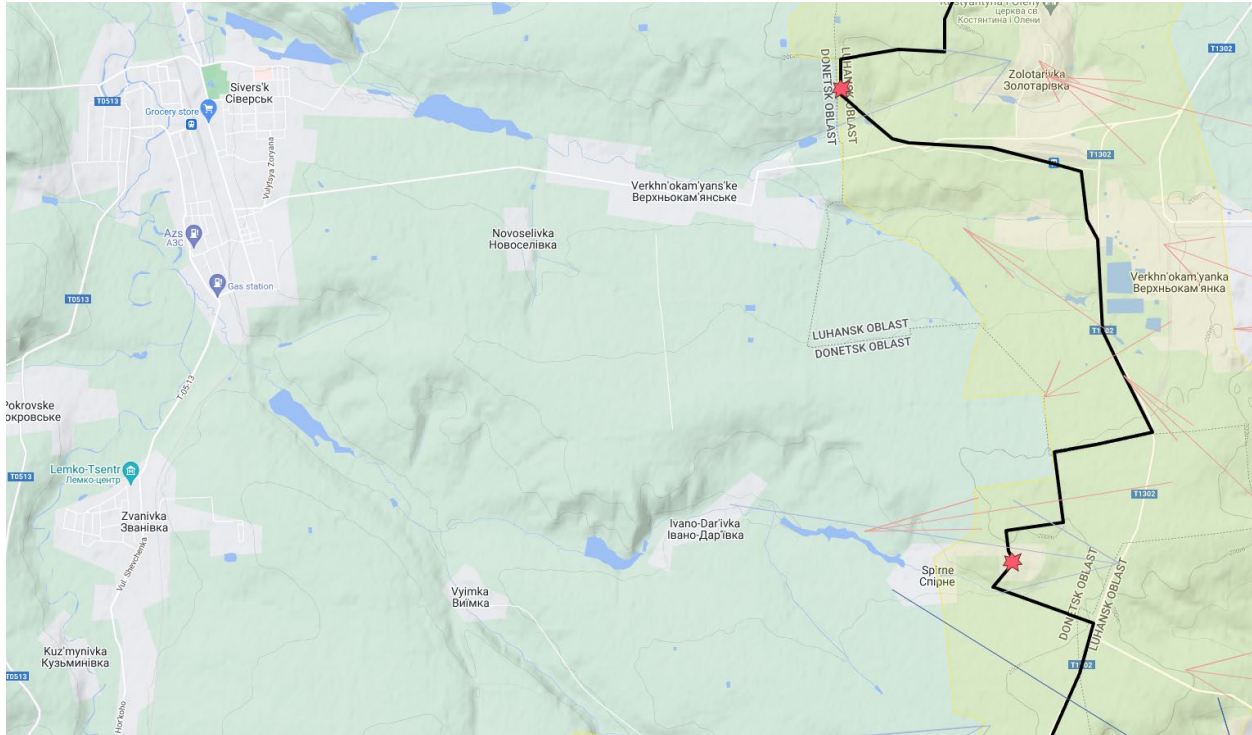
<sup>15</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

## NORTHEAST DONETSK



**Russian Objective:** Complete the capture of Bakhmut, set conditions to attack Kramatorsk, Slovyansk, and Siversk, and capture the entire region, set conditions for September 2023 elections

**Ukrainian Objective:** Defend Siversk and Bakhmut, collapse the Russian flanks while maximizing casualties, draw Russian reserves into the Bakhmut and Soledar operational areas, push into the Luhansk oblast, and minimize civilian casualties

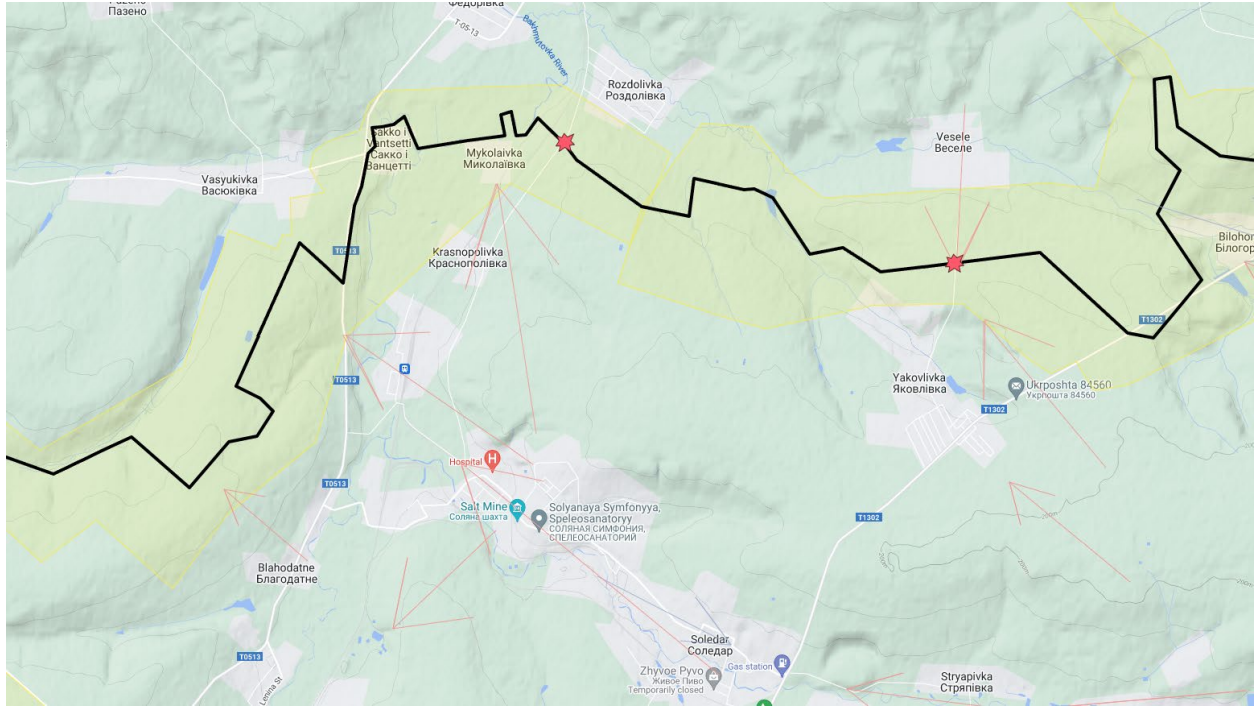


## Siversk Operational Area

Russian forces continued offensive operations near [Spirne](#) with no success.<sup>16</sup>

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

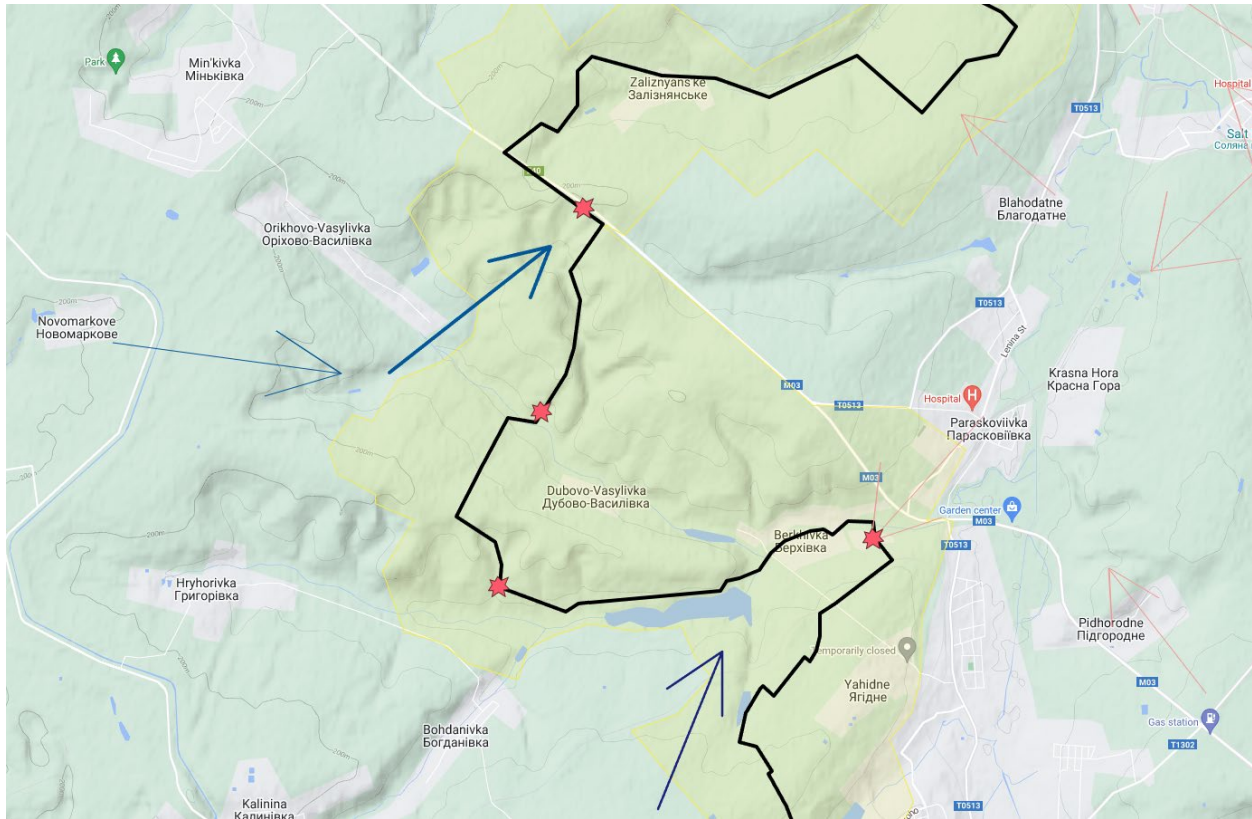


## Soledar Operational Area

Russian mercenary milblogger Rybar raised eyebrows among our team, reporting Ukrainian attacks on [Sakko I Vantsetti](#) and the strategically important Russian stronghold of [Yakovlivka](#).<sup>17</sup> This comes a day after Russian mercenary WarGonzo reported a Ukrainian offensive in the direction of [Krasnopolivka](#). There were no other reports of fighting in this area from reliable or semi-reliable sources. Ukrainian forces captured the ridge between Vesele and Yakovlivka almost a month ago, and Russian troops tried for almost two weeks to take those positions back.

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<sup>17</sup> <https://t.me/rybar/48751>



## Bakhmut Operational Area

Russian attempts to push back Ukrainian forces near [Orikhovo-Vasylivka](#) failed, and Ukrainian troops were able to improve their positions along the M-03 Highway.<sup>18 19 20</sup> Russian sources reported continued fighting in the area of [Berkhivka](#) and [Yahidne](#).<sup>21 22</sup>

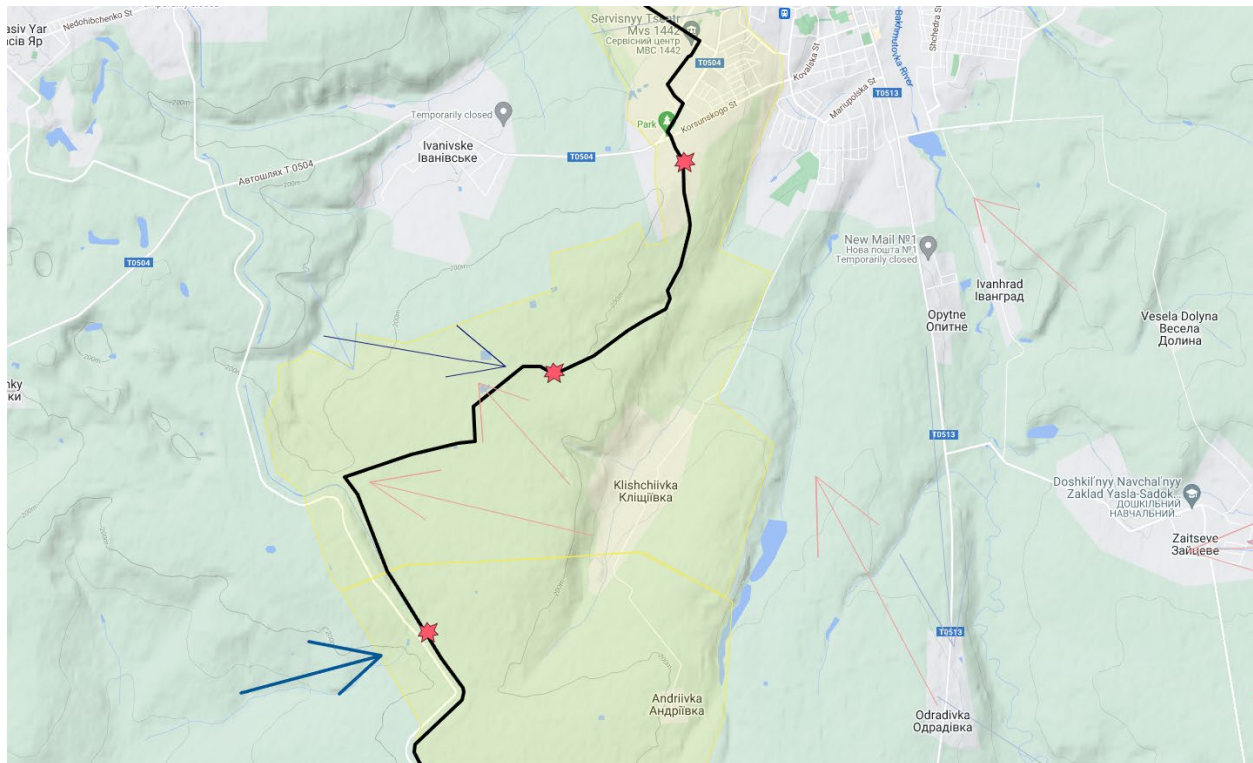
<sup>18</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – AM Facebook Report](#)

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

<sup>20</sup> <https://t.me/wargonzo/13361>

<sup>21</sup> <https://t.me/wargonzo/13361>

<sup>22</sup> [https://t.me/mod\\_russia/27617](https://t.me/mod_russia/27617) [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]



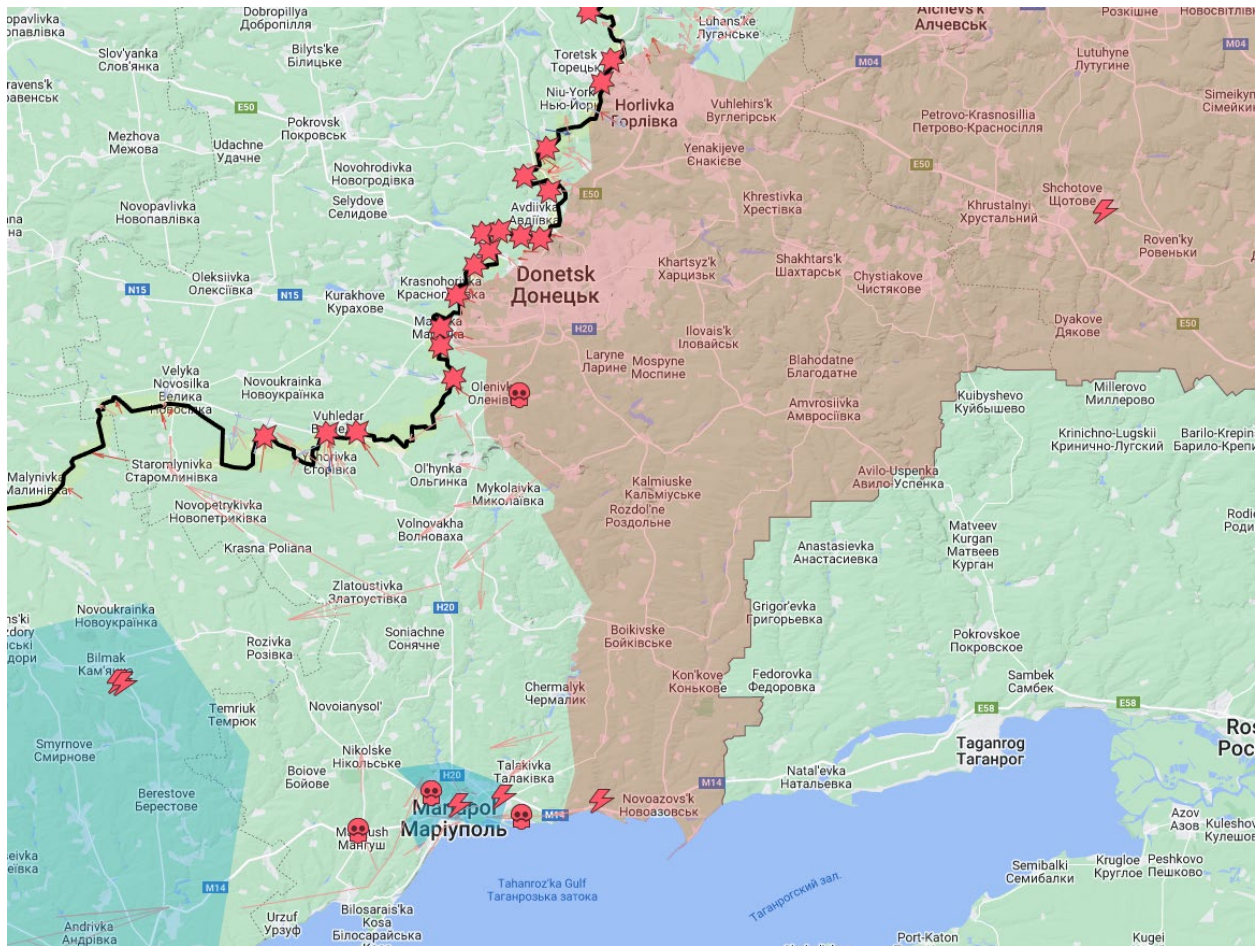
Fighting continued northwest of [Klishchiivka](#), with Ukrainian forces now less than 1,500 meters away from the administrative boundary of the settlement, according to a Russian source.<sup>23</sup>

**ASSESSMENT:** The situation for Russian forces on the northern and southern flanks of Bakhmut continues gradually deteriorate.

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<sup>23</sup> <https://t.me/wargonzo/13361>

# SOUTHWESTERN DONETSK

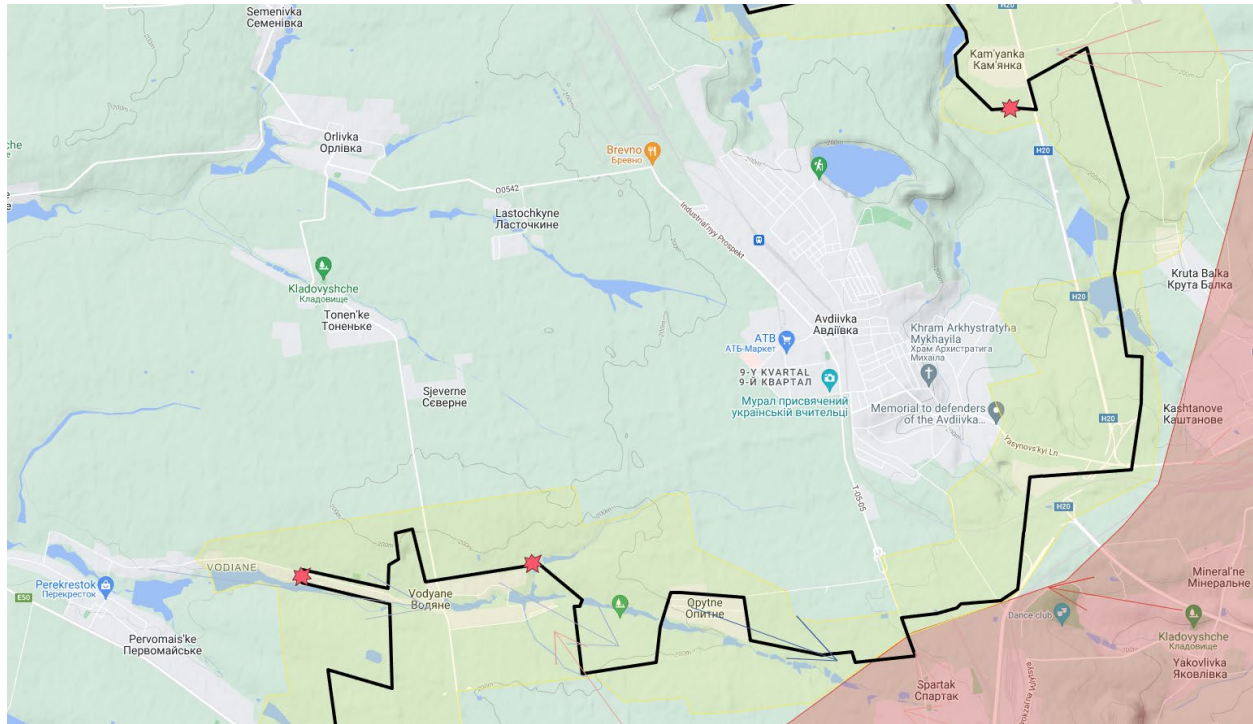


**Russian Objective:** Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, set conditions for September 2023 elections, capture the remainder of the oblast

**Ukrainian Objective:** Set conditions for larger offensive operations, find and exploit Russian defensive weaknesses,



destroy troop concentrations and command and control sites, interdict supplies, and disrupt logistics

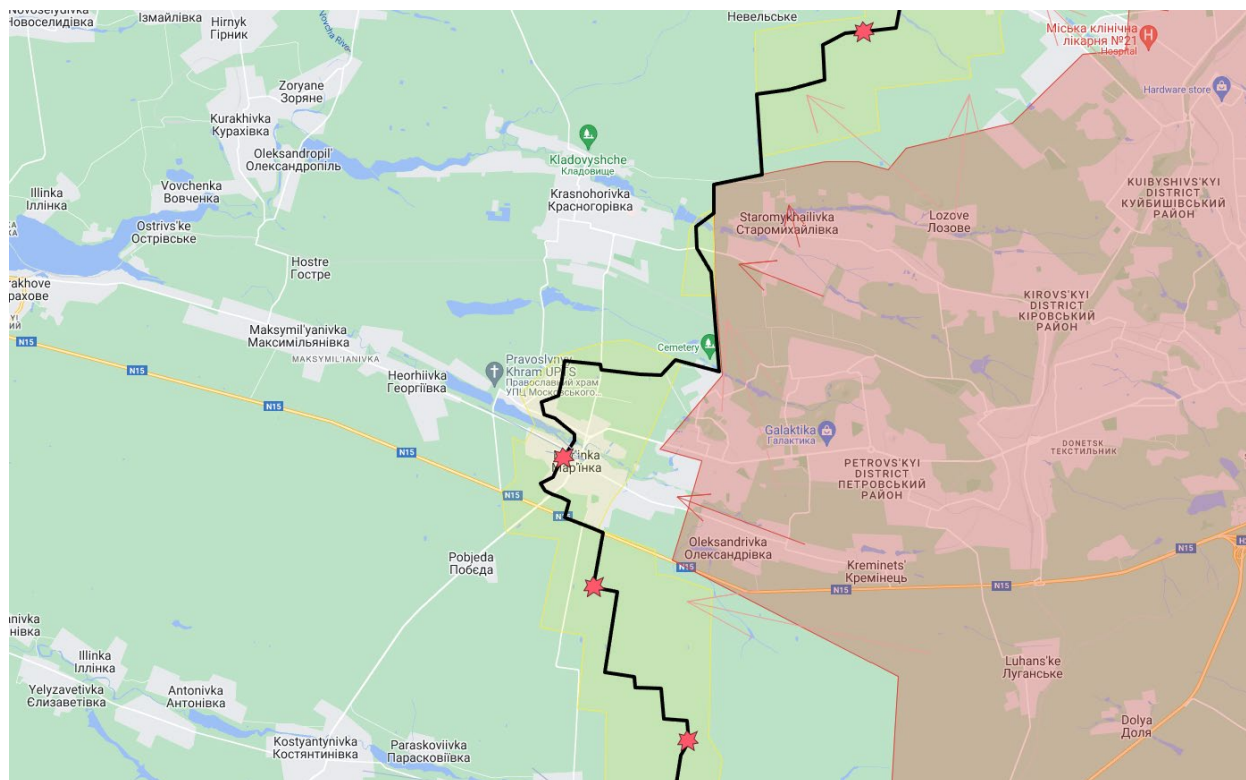


## Avdiivka Operational Area

Russian forces, supported by Russian army aviation and the airforce (VKS), attempted to advance on [Avdiivka](#) from Opytne and suffered catastrophic losses of at least six armored fighting vehicles with dismounts before retreating to their defense lines.<sup>24 25</sup>

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

<sup>25</sup> [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – PM Facebook Report](#)



## Marinka Operational Area

Russian and Ukrainian sources reported mutual combat in the area of [Krasnohorivka](#) with no change in the situation.<sup>26</sup> <sup>27</sup> Operational tempo in [Marinka](#) was lower, with attacks overnight and into the morning, which were unsuccessful. The Russian VKS attacked Ukrainian positions during the day.<sup>28</sup> <sup>29</sup> <sup>30</sup> Russian forces continued attempts to advance on [Pobjeda](#), supported by artillery, with no success.<sup>31</sup>

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

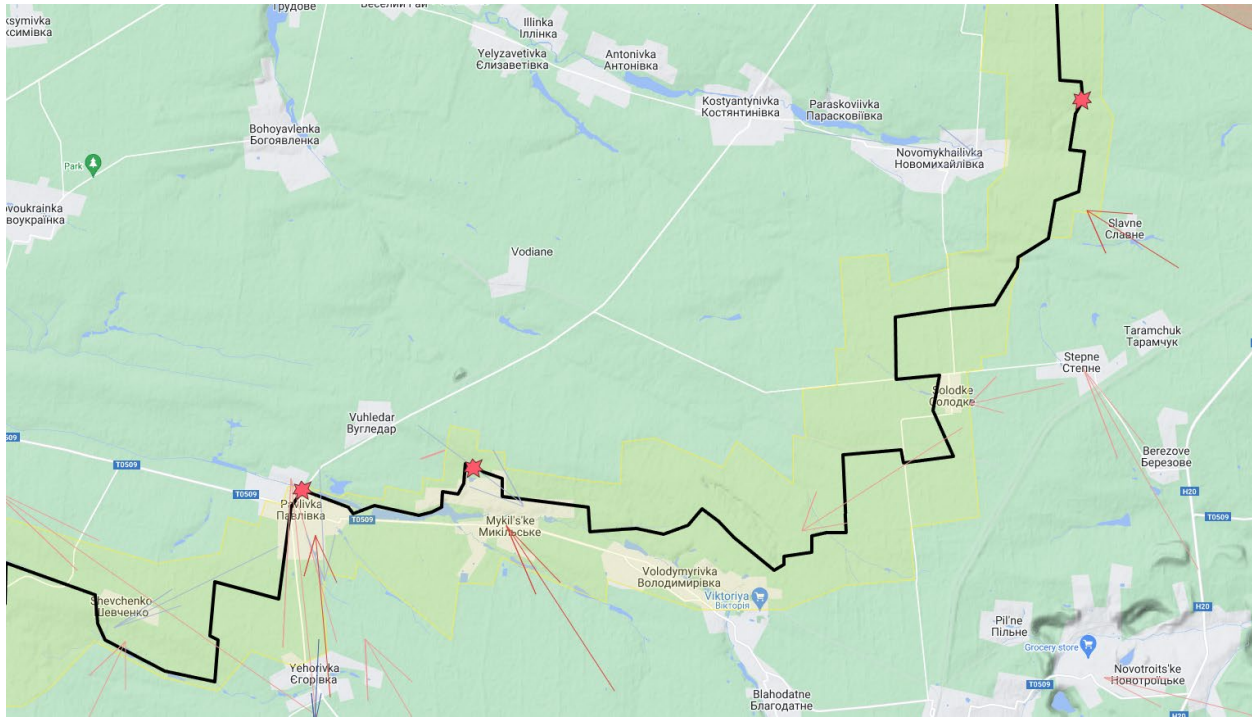
<sup>27</sup> [https://t.me/mod\\_russia/27617](https://t.me/mod_russia/27617) [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

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

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

<sup>30</sup> [https://t.me/mod\\_russia/27617](https://t.me/mod_russia/27617) [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

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

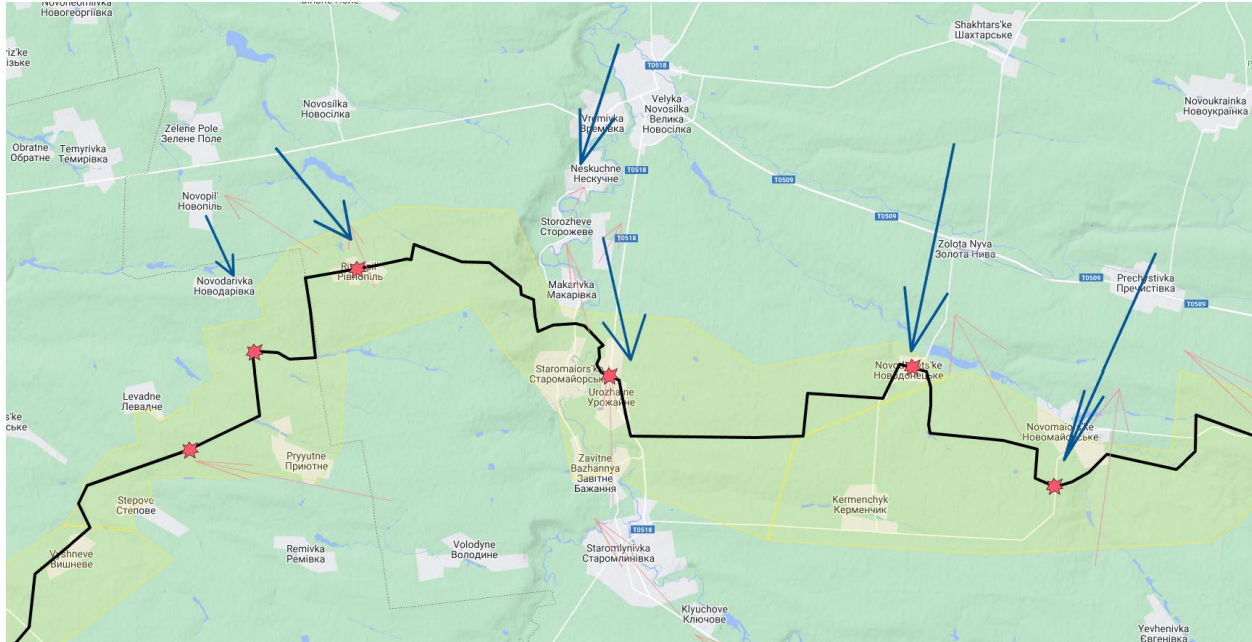


## Vuhledar Operational Area

Russian forces continued their attacks east of [Novomykhailivka](#) without success.<sup>32 33</sup>

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

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

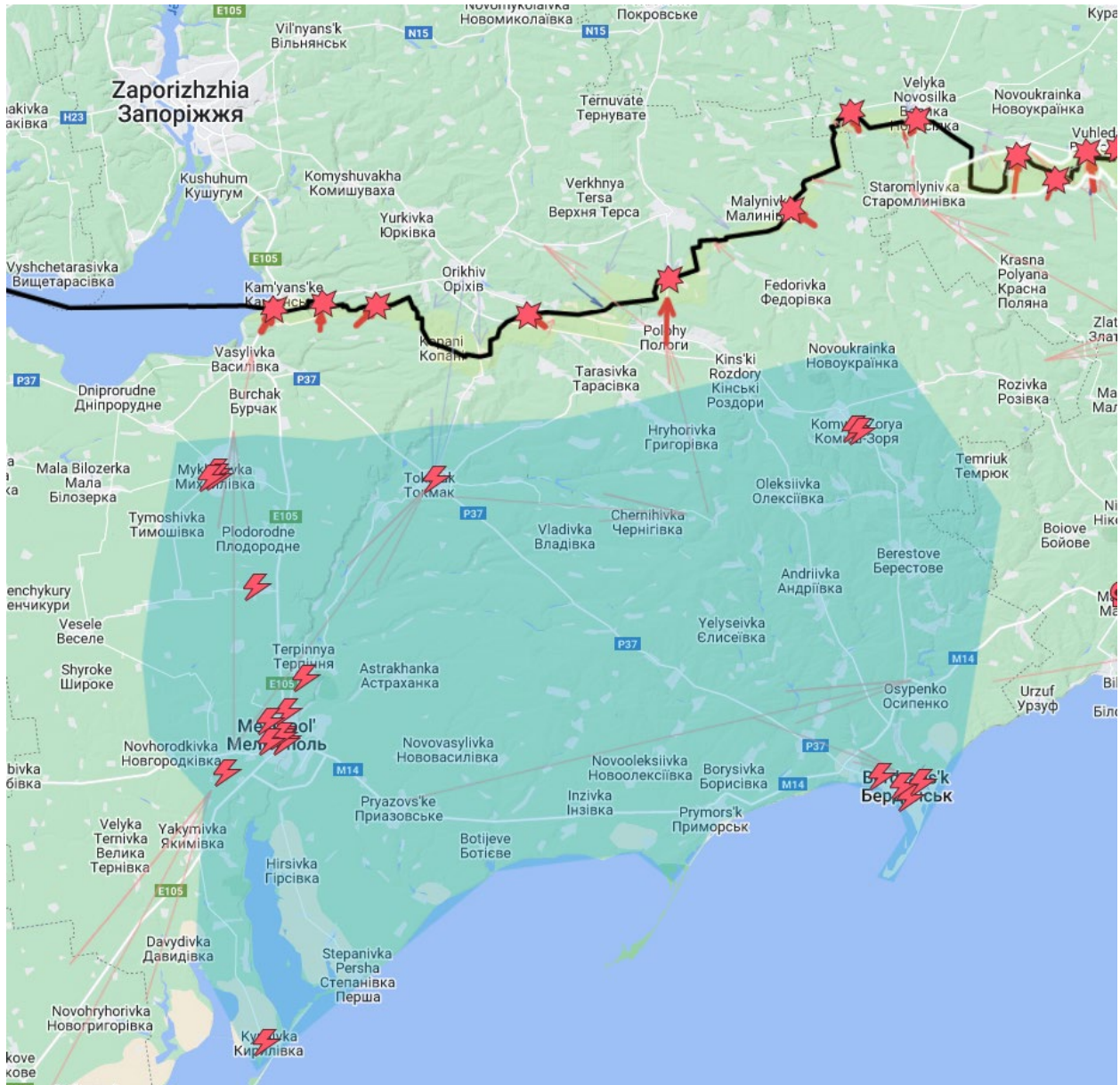


## Lyubymivka-Staromlynivka Operational Direction

Russian sources reported continued fighting near [Pryyutne](#) and [Rivnopil](#), while Ukrainian Deputy Minister of Defense Hanna Maliar reported that Ukrainian troops were consolidating their gains.<sup>34</sup>

<sup>34</sup> <https://t.me/wargonzo/13361>

# ZAPORIZHZIA



**Russian Objective:** Defend against the Ukrainian offensive, maximize casualties, set conditions for September 2023 elections, capture the remainder of the oblast, and terrorize Ukrainian civilians with continued attacks

**Ukrainian Objective:** Exploit weaknesses on the line of conflict, break Russian defensive lines, liberate Russian-occupied areas, and protect civilians

## Free Zaporizhia

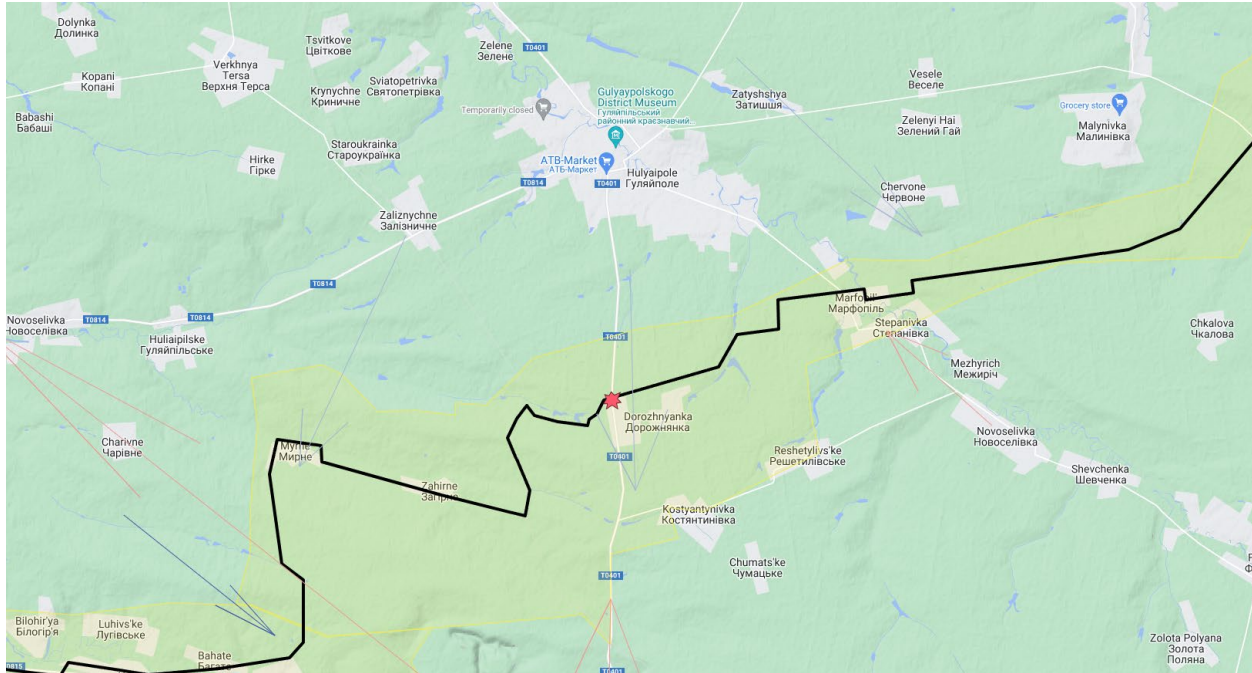
Russian forces carried out 83 fire missions, one missile attack, and three drone strikes on 18 settlements along the line of conflict.<sup>35</sup> Ukrainian Brigadier General Alexander Tarnavskiy reported that Ukrainian artillery and rocket artillery forces performed 1,487 fire missions in the Tavria Direction.

**ASSESSMENT:** Tavria is an area in southern Ukraine between the Dnipro River, the Molochna River, and the Crimean Peninsula. It is roughly all of eastern Kherson and the southern half of Zaporizhia. We have previously assessed that a large artillery barrage would signify a looming larger offensive operation. When the Kherson counteroffensive started, Ukraine launched less than 575 fire missions, followed by less than 475 the next day before troops started to advance. This does not confirm that the

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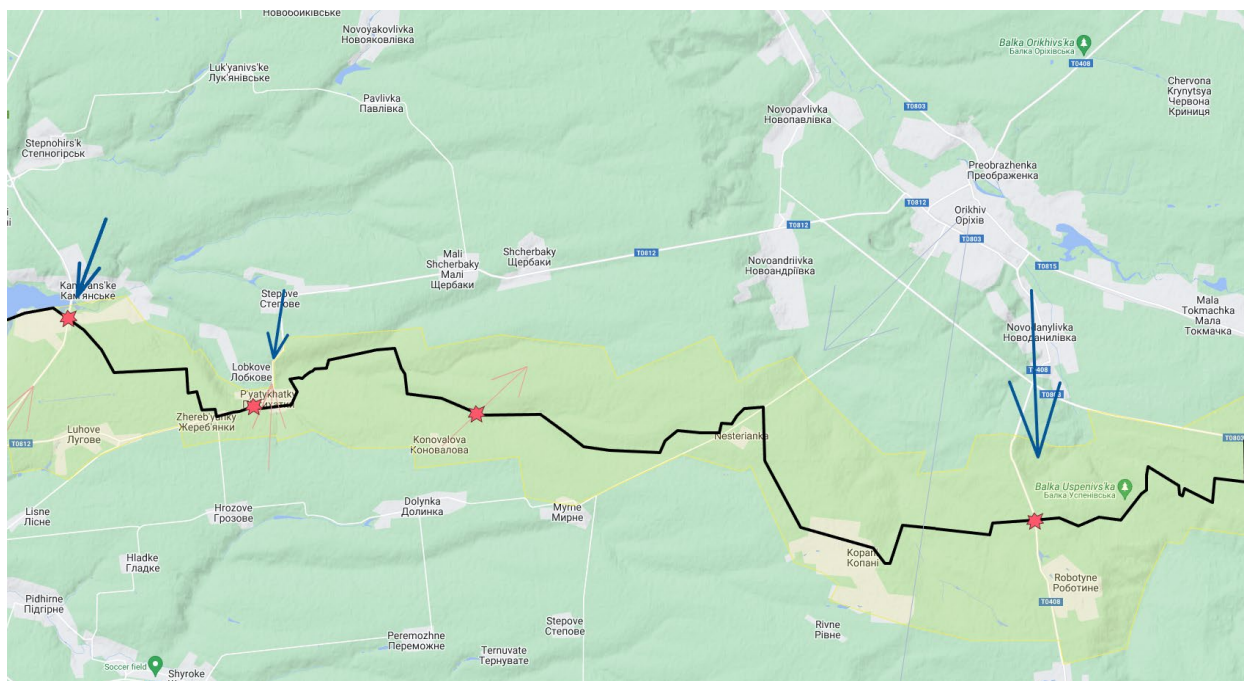
<sup>35</sup> [https://t.me/zoda\\_gov\\_ua/19676](https://t.me/zoda_gov_ua/19676)

main offensive is imminent but signals that a larger offensive operation is being prepared.



## Hulyaipole Operational Area

RMOD reported a Ukrainian offensive in the area of [Reshetylivske](#), a settlement 4 kilometers south of the known line of conflict. No other source reported fighting in the area. There is a wood block to the northwest and a dense tree line due north of the settlement that would support an advance in this direction. We cannot verify a Ukrainian advance in this direction, but the Sentinel Hub Sentinel 2 2LA False Color satellite image from June 20, 2023, suggested fighting three kilometers north/northwest of Reshetylivske, which would be a one-kilometer advance.



## Orikhiv Operational Area

Ukrainian forces have advanced another kilometer south toward [Robotyne](#), reaching the second to last tree line before the settlement.<sup>36 37 38 39</sup> Fighting on the outskirts of [Zherbyanky](#) continued, with Ukrainian officials reporting that civilian evacuations started in [Pyatykhatky](#), indicating that control is stabilizing and Ukrainian forces are consolidating control.<sup>40 41 42</sup>

<sup>36</sup> <https://t.me/rybar/48751>

<sup>37</sup> <https://t.me/wargonzo/13361>

<sup>38</sup> <https://t.me/militarymediacenter/2309>

<sup>39</sup> <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16890>



<sup>40</sup> <https://t.me/rybar/48751>

<sup>41</sup> <https://t.me/wargonzo/13361>


<sup>42</sup> <https://t.me/zaborzp/47048>



## Kakhovka Reservoir

The reservoir has essentially  [drained completely out](#), leaving the  [river channel, some tributaries, impoundments, and mudflats](#) behind.<sup>43 44</sup>

## Occupied Zaporizhia

Insurgents reported another HIMARS attack on Tokmak.<sup>45</sup> In Berdyansk, pictures showed there was  [an explosion in the city](#), but there was no information on the source, location, or impact.<sup>46</sup>

Another six rockets fired by HIMARS reportedly hit Tokmak.<sup>47</sup>

## Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant

Defense Intelligence Directorate of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine (GUR) leader Kyrylo Budanov claimed that

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<sup>43</sup> [https://t.me/zinkevich\\_igor/6531](https://t.me/zinkevich_igor/6531)

<sup>44</sup> <https://t.me/zaborzp/47083>

<sup>45</sup> <https://t.me/zaborzp/47086>

<sup>46</sup> <https://t.me/zaborzp/47053>

<sup>47</sup> [https://t.me/tokmak\\_ukraine/3802](https://t.me/tokmak_ukraine/3802)

Russian forces had planted explosives on the cooling system of the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant.<sup>48</sup> "The worst thing is that the cooler was mined. If they disable it, there is a high probability that there will be significant problems," Budanov said. The International Atomic Energy Agency had not released a statement at the time of publication.

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

### **Black Sea**

At the time of publication, Operational Command South (OKS) reported eight Black Sea fleet vessels on patrol, including the frigate Admiral Makarov capable of launching up to eight Kalibr cruise missiles.<sup>49 50</sup>

### **Occupied Crimea**

In occupied Feodosia, the railroad tracks were damaged in  [an explosion caught on video](#). At the time of

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<sup>48</sup> [https://t.me/ukrarmed\\_forces/4581](https://t.me/ukrarmed_forces/4581)

<sup>49</sup> [https://t.me/Nazars\\_look/14895](https://t.me/Nazars_look/14895)

<sup>50</sup> [https://t.me/Nazars\\_look/14907](https://t.me/Nazars_look/14907)

publication, occupation officials were inspecting the damage, and two trains had been canceled.<sup>51 52</sup>

## Mykolaiv

Alexander Khorunzh, a spokesman with the State Emergency Service of Ukraine, provided conflicted information on June 20, which disputed claims made by Mykolaiv Oblast Administrative and Military Governor (OVA) Vitaly Kim on June 19. "Four settlements in the Bashtan district remain flooded. Namely, the villages of Novosofiivka, Lymantsi, Mykhailivka, and Barativka. I note that there are no submerged buildings, but households remain submerged. At this time, eight fields remain flooded."<sup>53</sup> Khorunzh reported that two bridges were destroyed, and two were damaged from flooding on the Inhulets River. The day before, Kim reported that the flooding was over and no homes remained inundated.

Through July 1 in Mykolaiv, swimming in the Black Sea, Buzka and Dnipro-Buzka estuaries, Inhulets, Inhul, and the Pivdenny Buh Rivers below the city of Nova Odesa, along with all fishing is banned due to poor water quality.<sup>54</sup>

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<sup>51</sup> [https://t.me/shot\\_shot/53042](https://t.me/shot_shot/53042)

<sup>52</sup> [https://t.me/ukrarmed\\_forces/4592](https://t.me/ukrarmed_forces/4592)

<sup>53</sup> <https://t.me/militarymediacenter/2298>

<sup>54</sup> <https://t.me/senkevichonline/4775>


Additionally, any freshwater or sea products without documents of the origin or caught from the waters of Mykolaiv are also banned.<sup>55</sup>

## WESTERN AND CENTRAL UKRAINE

**Russian Objective:** Launch terror attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure to break morale

**Ukrainian Objective:** Deter attacks, and protect civilian lives

### Free Kherson

Kherson Oblast OVA Alexander Prokudin reported that Russian forces carried out 72 fire missions firing 345 artillery rounds, mortars, Grad rockets, antitank guided missiles, drone-delivered IEDs, and bombs. The city of Kherson was hit by 15 artillery shells, killing two and wounding eight.<sup>56</sup> <sup>57</sup> In the Korabel District, Russian forces targeted  [a team of State Emergency Services workers,](#)

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<sup>55</sup> <https://t.me/senkevichonline/4775>

<sup>56</sup> <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/102081>

<sup>57</sup> <https://t.me/olexandrprokudin/733>

killing one instantly and wounding eight.<sup>58 59</sup> Russian troops committed a so-called “double tap” attack, targeting medical personnel that arrived to extract the injured workers.<sup>60 61</sup> The targeted attack came on the first day when civilians were allowed back into the district to retrieve belongings and assess the damage to their homes. A body was found from the early morning attack on a gas station and bus terminal in the Ship District.<sup>62 63</sup>

Three settlements continue to have flooding, with 595 residential buildings impacted. The water level is now 30 centimeters above the mean, and continues to drop.<sup>64</sup> The number of people killed by the June 6 dam destruction climbed to 21 – 16 by drowning and five by Russian attacks. Twenty-eight people have been injured, and more than half are rescue workers.<sup>65</sup> The number of people officially missing jumped to 109 from 31.<sup>66</sup> Another 202 residents who were considered missing have been accounted for. On 17 June, Ihor Klymenko, Ukraine’s Minister of Internal

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<sup>58</sup> v

<sup>59</sup> [https://t.me/shtab\\_kakhovska\\_hes/1076](https://t.me/shtab_kakhovska_hes/1076)

<sup>60</sup> <https://t.me/khersonskaODA/7185>

<sup>61</sup> <https://t.me/olexandrprokudin/729>

<sup>62</sup> [https://t.me/kherson\\_non\\_fake/8409](https://t.me/kherson_non_fake/8409)

<sup>63</sup> <https://t.me/khersonskaODA/7130>


<sup>64</sup> [https://t.me/shtab\\_kakhovska\\_hes/1054](https://t.me/shtab_kakhovska_hes/1054)

<sup>65</sup> <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2023/06/20/7407755/>

<sup>66</sup> <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2023/06/20/7407719/>

Affairs, said that 31 persons were missing on territories controlled by Ukraine, as we previously reported.

## Kakhovka Dam

With the Kakhovka Reservoir having almost completely drained away, there are  [no visible remnants of the foundation of the Kakhovka Dam](#) between Gate 15 and the Power House, providing additional evidence that Russian occupiers blew up the dam using the service tunnels.<sup>67</sup> The Director of Ukrhydroenergo Ihor Syrota said, "The nature of the damage convincingly indicates that the station was blown up with the help of a large amount of explosives."<sup>68</sup>

GUR head Budanov said that half an hour before the destruction of the Kakhova Hydroelectric Power Plant (KHPP), a command was given to the Russian military to leave the territory of the station.<sup>69</sup> "This artificial manmade disaster – a terrorist act and an act of ecocide – was deliberately committed by the Russian Federation. Otherwise, it does not correspond to reality. Many facts directly show how it all happened. They went over the radio

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<sup>67</sup> [https://t.me/shtab\\_kakhovska\\_hes/1051](https://t.me/shtab_kakhovska_hes/1051)

<sup>68</sup>

[https://t.me/shtab\\_kakhovska\\_hes/1044](https://t.me/shtab_kakhovska_hes/1044)

<sup>69</sup> <https://t.me/Crimeanwind/33971>

network to a unit that was located at the [KHPP] and...told them to pack up and leave this territory very quickly."

## **Khmelnyskyi**

Ukrainian air defenses shot down six Shahed-136 kamikaze drones, with falling debris causing minor damage to several homes.<sup>70 71</sup>

## **NORTHERN AND NORTHEASTERN UKRAINE**

**Russian Objective:** Lock Ukrainian military resources into place and launch terror attacks on civilians in an attempt to break morale

**Ukrainian Objective:** Complete the liberation of the Kharkiv oblast, maintain the integrity of the international border, deter attacks, and protect civilian lives

There was no significant activity in this region.

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<sup>70</sup> <https://t.me/khmelnyskaODA/1745>

<sup>71</sup> <https://t.me/The3rdForceUA/17814>

## THEATERWIDE

On Monday, Reuters reported that United States President Joe Biden told a group of private donors that the threat of Russia using tactical nuclear weapons is real. "When I was here about two years ago and said that I was worried about the drying up of the Colorado River, everyone looked at me like I was crazy. They looked at me like when I said that I was worried about Putin using tactical nuclear weapons. It's real."<sup>72</sup>

***Editor's Note: Do you have your designated GenX or Boomer Generation bunker buddy to remind you this was normal for four decades?***

Lieutenant General Mykola Oleshchuk, Commander of Ukraine's Air Force, awarded the anti-aircraft unit that operates Ukraine's Patriot missile systems for destroying Kinzhal missiles. General Oleshchuk awarded firearms, steel knives, and badges for completing their training abroad ahead of schedule, ensuring that Patriot air defense systems were operating as quickly as possible and destroying the myth that Russian Kinzhal missiles are invincible. "Thirteen Kinzhal Kh-47 missiles were destroyed

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<sup>72</sup> [Reuters](#)



in May and June, along with over 20 ballistic missiles and other Russian and Iranian junk! I thank you, warriors, for your excellent work!"<sup>73</sup>

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy signed into law the abolishment of Value Added Tax (VAT) and import duties on drone components while martial law is in effect. "This is the next step towards scaling drone production," Zelenskyy said, adding that Ukraine needs thousands of drones on the front.<sup>74</sup>

The Pentagon found that it had overestimated the value of military aid to Ukraine not by \$3.2 billion, as originally believed, but by over \$6 billion, said Pentagon spokesperson Sabrina Singh. The Biden Administration has until September 30 to allocate the funds as part of the 2023 fiscal year, likely negating the need to ask Congress for additional funds until the 2024 fiscal year.<sup>75</sup> The error was caused by an accounting error, which maintained the replacement value of military hardware drawn down and sent to Ukraine instead of considering the depreciation of the assets.

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<sup>73</sup> <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2023/06/20/7407688/>

<sup>74</sup> [https://t.me/Nazars\\_Look/14894](https://t.me/Nazars_Look/14894)

<sup>75</sup> <https://t.me/mortisaeterna/4303>

Portugal announced it would provide Ukraine with 13 more M113 armor personnel carries and an undisclosed number of 105 mm towed howitzers.<sup>76</sup>

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<sup>76</sup> <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/102053>

## RUSSIA VS. UKRAINE HEAVY EQUIPMENT LOSSES

*Russian and Ukrainian visually confirmed heavy equipment losses sourced from the [Oryx Database](#) from February 24, 2022, to June 10, 2023. 10,609 Russian vs. 3,585 Ukrainian*

Equipment	Russian Losses	Ukrainian Losses	Ratio	Change
<b>Main Battle Tanks</b>	1893	204	9.38:1	↓
<b>Medium Duty Tanks</b>	132	323	0.41:1	—
<b>Armored fighting Vehicles</b>	879	284	3.10:1	↓
<b>Infantry Fighting Vehicles</b>	2393	562	4.25:1	↓
<b>Armored Personnel Carriers</b>	312	273	1.14:1	↓
<b>MRAPs</b>	43	71	0.61:1	↓
<b>Infantry Mobility Vehicles</b>	190	320	0.59:1	—
<b>Command and Communications Vehicles</b>	243	13	18.69:1	—
<b>Engineering Vehicles</b>	310	60	5.16:1	↓
<b>Towed Artillery</b>	232	126	1.84:1	↑
<b>Self-Propelled Howitzers/Mortars</b>	414	166	2.49:1	↓
<b>MLRS</b>	206	45	4.58:1	↑
<b>SAMs</b>	118	114	1.03:1	↑
<b>Mobile Radars</b>	32	62	0.52:1	—
<b>EW/ECW</b>	40	2	20.00:1	↑
<b>Winged Aircraft</b>	82	68	1.21:1	↓
<b>Helicopters</b>	90	30	3.00:1	—
<b>Naval Vessels</b>	12	26	0.46:1	—


## Notes on Sourcing Information


**Malcontent News** uses a wide range of sources to create our daily Situation Report, the foundation for the Russian-Ukraine War Report Podcast. There are some notable sources that we frequently use and others that we don't. The most common sources currently, or in the past, we have used for the Theater of War section of the Situation Report include the following.


⚠️ **Russian Ministry of Defense Morning Report:** We use the RMOD Morning Report to identify combat reports, shelling locations, and territorial control change claims. We do not consider claims of Ukrainian troops killed, equipment destroyed, or military resources destroyed valid without videos and pictures that can be confirmed by date, time, weather, and geolocation, or third-party confirmation from recognized Western news outlets or trusted Ukrainian sources.


⚠️ **Rybar:** We consider Rybar a mercenary organization because they are staffed by former Russian Ministry of Defense public relations officers who actively provide target information to the Russian military. Their operational budget is \$20,000 a month, while they claim they receive no government funding. We use their reports and maps to identify combat reports, territorial control change claims, and troop movement reports. We do not use claims of Ukrainian troops killed, equipment destroyed, or military resources destroyed because of a documented and historical pattern of producing fabrications. They frequently engage in blatant misinformation and disinformation and consistently deny all Russian war crimes.


⚠️ **War Gonzo:** We consider War Gonzo a mercenary organization because their employees have recorded themselves actively engaging in direct combat, specifically in Marinka. Recently, War Gonzo admitted in their daily report to leveraging the information from the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. They intermix combat reports with their own on a 24-hour delay. We use their reports for **unique claims** about combat, territorial control change claims, and troop movement reports. Although the War Gonzo daily reports are moderately accurate, they occasionally engage in blatant disinformation and misinformation.

 **Readovka:** We consider Readovka to be a Kremlin-aligned propagandist organization. Their daily reports are a word-for-word repeat of the RMOD Morning Report and provide no value to our analysis. They occasionally provide credible information through videos and pictures that can be confirmed by date, time, weather, and geolocation.

 **Igor "Girkin" Strelkov:** We consider Strelkov to be a convicted war criminal who is highly informed, specifically about the situation in the Donbas. We use his combat reports, territorial control change claims, and troop movement information. In the Donbas, we consider his reports to be highly accurate. The fidelity of information he provides in Zaporizhia, Kherson, and Kharkiv appears to come from other social media channels with a history of spreading misinformation and is of lower quality. Reports he shares outside of the Donbas provided by Russian Federation 1st Army Corps units have greater fidelity.

 **Andrei Morozov:** Morozov is a pro-Russian milblogger and a radio communications and logistics specialist with the Russian 2nd Army Corps. We consider him a provider of high-quality information, especially within his fields of specialty. In the fall of 2022, Morozov was detained by OMON for up to three weeks due to his content and has had his online material censored by the Kremlin several times over the last 11 months.

 **Private Military Company Wagner Group Social Media:** We consider reports from PMC Wagner of Russian victories as overstating gains and reports of Russian failures, particularly among the Russian Ministry of Defense and the 1st and 2nd Army Corps of the Russian Army, as overstating problems. We do not consider claims of territorial control changes from Wagner as authentic without pictures, videos, or **unique** Russian State Media reports that include a video that can be geolocated.

 **Luhansk People's Republic Joint Center for Control and Coordination:** We only use their reports about large-scale artillery and HIMARS strikes in the occupied territories.

⊖ **Leonid Pasechnik:** We do not use any combat, territorial control changes, troop movements, casualty claims, or equipment destroyed claims from the self-declared leader of the so-called Luhansk People's Republic.

⚠ **Donetsk People's Republic People's Militia:** We only use their reports for videos and pictures that can be confirmed by date, time, weather, and geolocation.

⊖ **Donetsk People's Republic Territorial Defense:** We do not use combat, territorial control changes, troop movements, casualty claims, or equipment destroyed claims from their public relations and social media channels. They have repeatedly engaged in misinformation and disinformation.

⊖ **Denis Pushilin:** We do not use any combat, territorial control changes, troop movements, casualty claims, or equipment destroyed claims from the self-declared leader of the so-called Donetsk People's Republic.

⚠ **Ramzan Kadyrov:** The contribution and impact of Chechen forces in Ukraine have become minimal, and Akhmat no longer produces large volumes of video content that can be geolocated. We continue to monitor his channels.

✅ **General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine:** We consider the morning and evening reports, specifically combat reports, territorial control changes, and troop movements, from GSAFU to be high quality. The Ukrainian General Staff uses clever wording to create plausible deniability of battlefield failures. Combat reports start with "repelled attacks of the occupant forces in the vicinities of," which negates reporting fighting in areas where territory was lost. Instead of misinformation or disinformation, GSAFU engages in omission. Reports about problems within the Russian military are given more weight if the SBU or GUR reinforces them or if there is added confirmation in the Russian milblogger information space.

✅ **DeepState:** We use the Daily Report from DeepState for combat reports and territorial control changes. They frequently support their claims with geolocated, time, date, and weather-confirmed pictures and videos, making them a high-quality Ukrainian-based source. They occasionally overstate Russian territorial control claims but never present disinformation or

misinformation. Combined with the reports from GSAFU, gaps in combat reports are filled. We support DeepState through their Patreon at \$10 a month.

✔ **Institute for the Study of War:** We occasionally leverage the map and territorial control change information produced by the ISW when there is conflicting data. Their presentation of Russian-assessed, Ukrainian-assessed, and Russian-claimed information is helpful when our analysts have to make a judgment call due to the absence of verifiable information. We do not copy from their map but take their territorial control information as an additional data point when assessing our own changes.

⚠ **Ivan Fedorov:** We use information about insurgent activity and HIMARS strikes in Zaporizhia provided by Fedorov, the exiled mayor of Melitiopol.

✔ **Vitaly Kim:** When there are reports of potential air raids in Ukraine, we monitor Kim, the Mykolaiv Oblast Administrative and Military Governor, for real-time reports. Kim is consistently one of the first, if not the first, Ukrainian government official to confirm kamikaze drones or missiles have been launched toward Ukraine.

⊖ **Oleksiy Arestovych:** We no longer use the information provided by Arestovych after being fired from his role as the Chief Advisor to the President of Ukraine. Before being terminated, Arestovych had developed a reputation for providing exaggerated, unverified, and false claims for Ukrainian successes and failures.