

MALCONTENT NEWS RUSSIA-UKRAINE SITUATION REPORT

May 10, 2023 – A



Malcontent News

Russia-Ukraine War SITREP

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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 realtime 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.



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SUMMARY – DAY 440

This is the first update for May 10, 2023.

It has been 3,359 days since Russia occupied the Crimea Peninsula on January 27, 2014, and one year and 76 days since Russia expanded its war against Ukraine.

- The Daily Assessment will be updated with each report
- Weather and soil conditions will be in the last report of the day
- If an anticipated report is not created, weather and soil conditions will be released as a Flash Report
- Each report will contain unique information and continue in a condensed format

The map is back! [War Map](#)

DAILY ASSESSMENT

We assess the following:

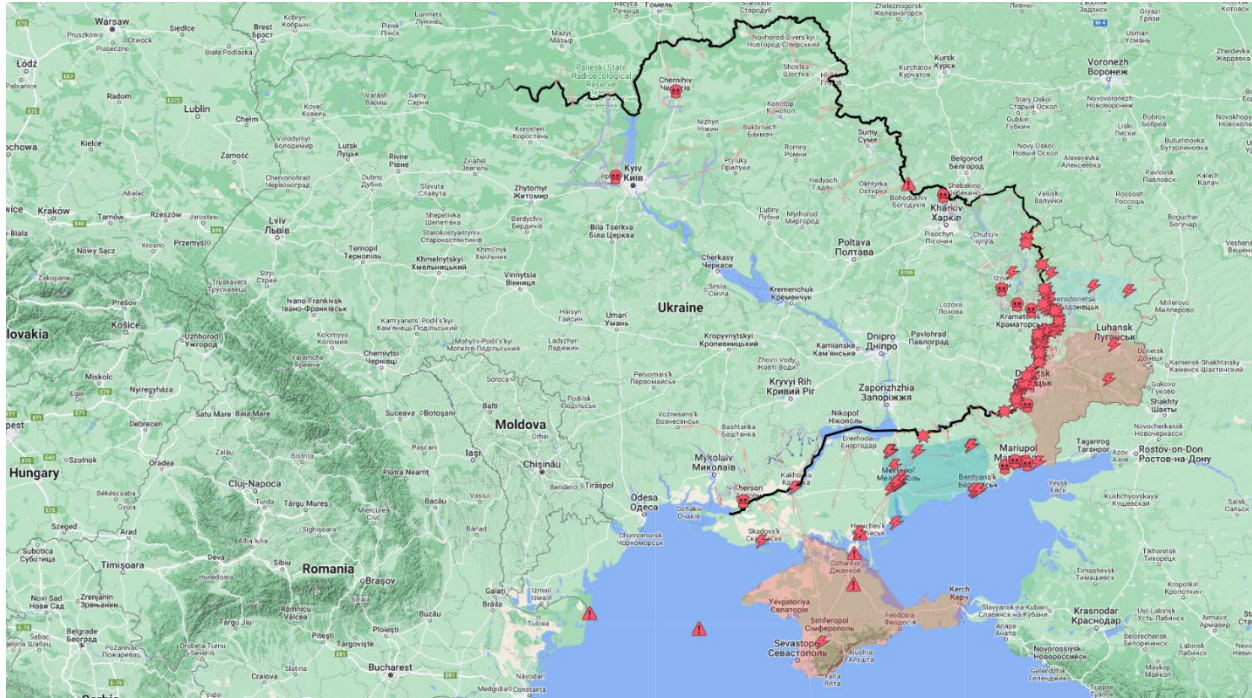
1. There is a continued risk for missile and drone strikes across Ukraine.
2. The war of words continues between Private Military Company (PMC) Wagner Group's leader, Yevgeny Prigozhin, and the Kremlin, while an impasse on ammunition delivery continues.
3. Wagner Group is dependent on Russian logistics for transportation in and out of Ukraine, and all Russian military units are on allocation restrictions for ammunition and powder charges.
4. Ukrainian forces have paused their retrograde operation in Bakhmut and are opportunistically launched limited offensives while holding combat destroyed PMC Wagner units in place.
5. We remain uncertain if Ukrainian forces will restart their retrograde operation in Bakhmut if PMC Wagner will receive ammunition as promised, and if Chechen Akhmat will deploy to Bakhmut as reinforcements.
6. We maintain that Ukraine has seized the battlefield initiative in all operational areas.
7. In preparation for larger offensive operations, Ukrainian forces continue shaping operations on

multiple axes, creating panic and uncertainty among gauleiters, Russian administrators, and military leaders.

8. We have identified shaping activity by the Ukrainian Armed Forces in four locations that could indicate a larger attack is being prepared.
9. Weather models are now favorable for larger offensive operations using armor and mobility in most areas, with bezdorizhzhia for spring 2023 ending by May 15.



TODAY'S WAR IN UKRAINE MAP

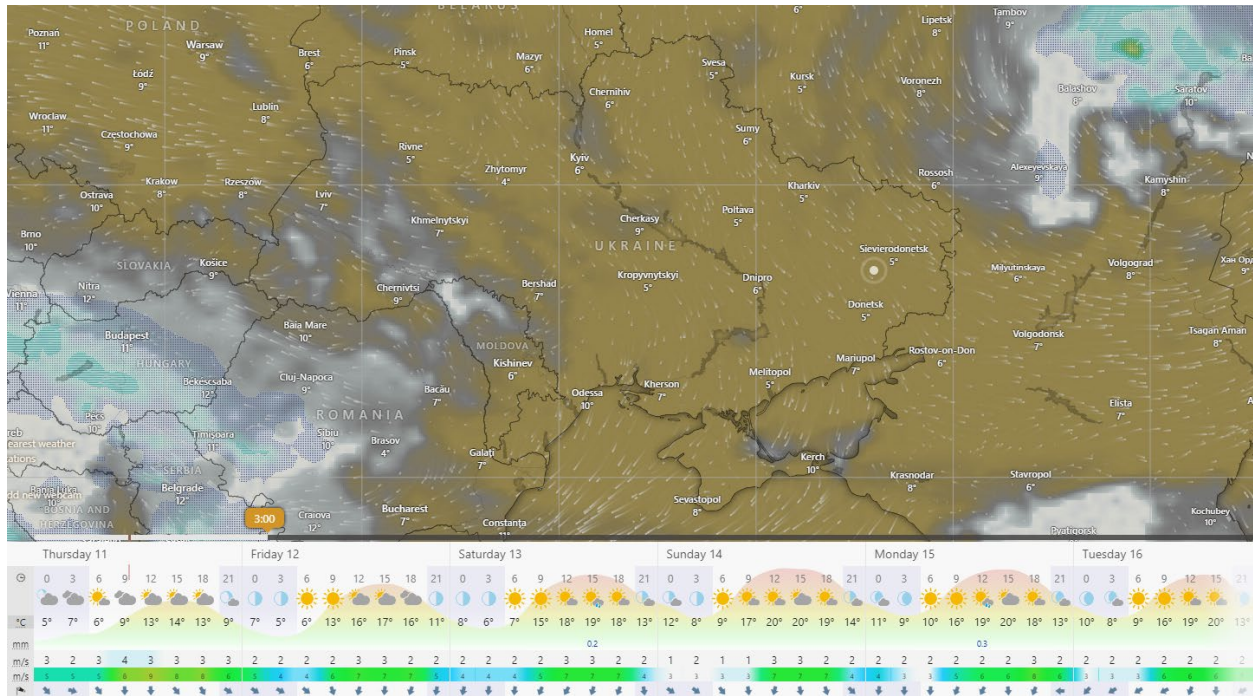


About the maps: Red triangles are sites of significant events unrelated to missile attacks, insurgencies, or ground combat, such as the sinking of the Moskva and the explosion at the Saky Naval airbase. Gray circles indicate an area where fighting has ended with no change in the line of conflict. The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

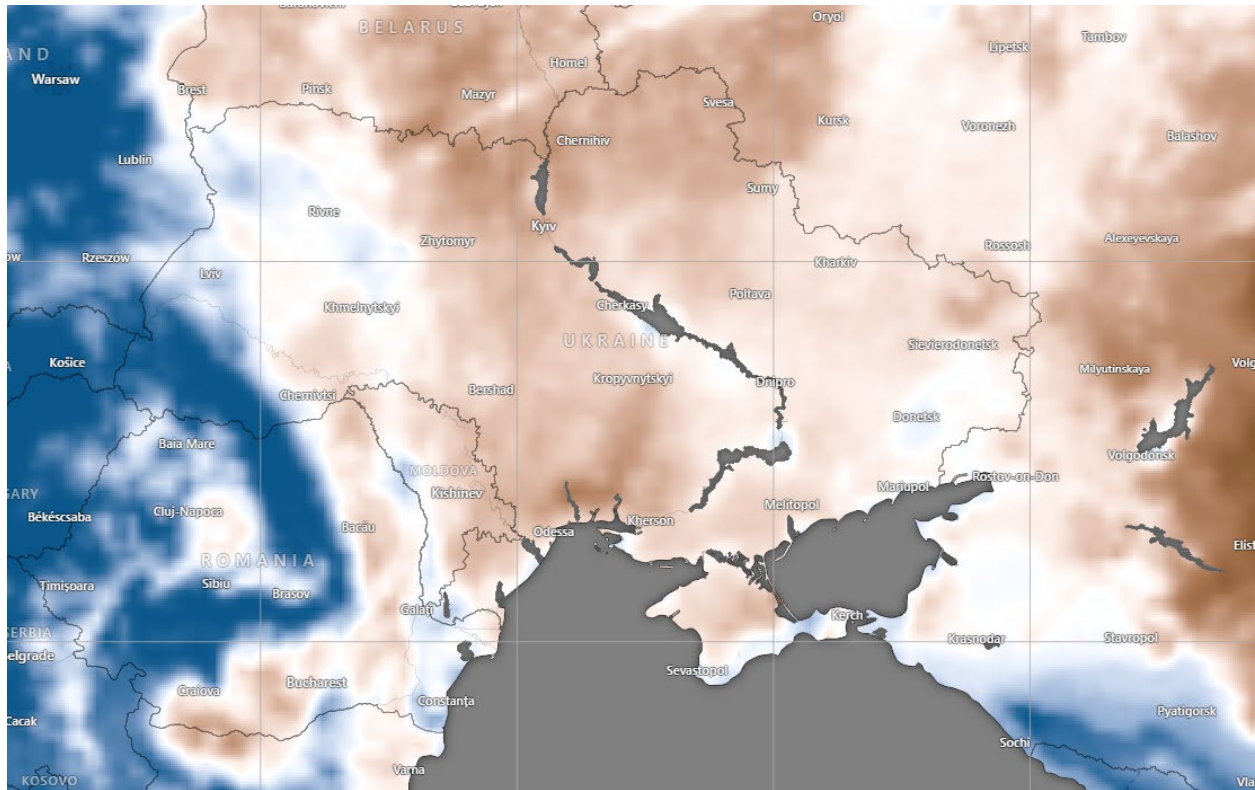


UKRAINE WEATHER



The ECMWF Euro weather model forecasts fair and seasonable weather through May 16. Highs will be from 11° to 23° Celcius, with lows from 2° to 12°. Thursday will be the coldest day, with Friday morning lows near freezing. The new moon will be on May 19, with the next full moon on June 4. The improved forecast will provide better intelligence through Sentinel Hub and NASA Fire Information for Resource Management Systems (FIRMS).

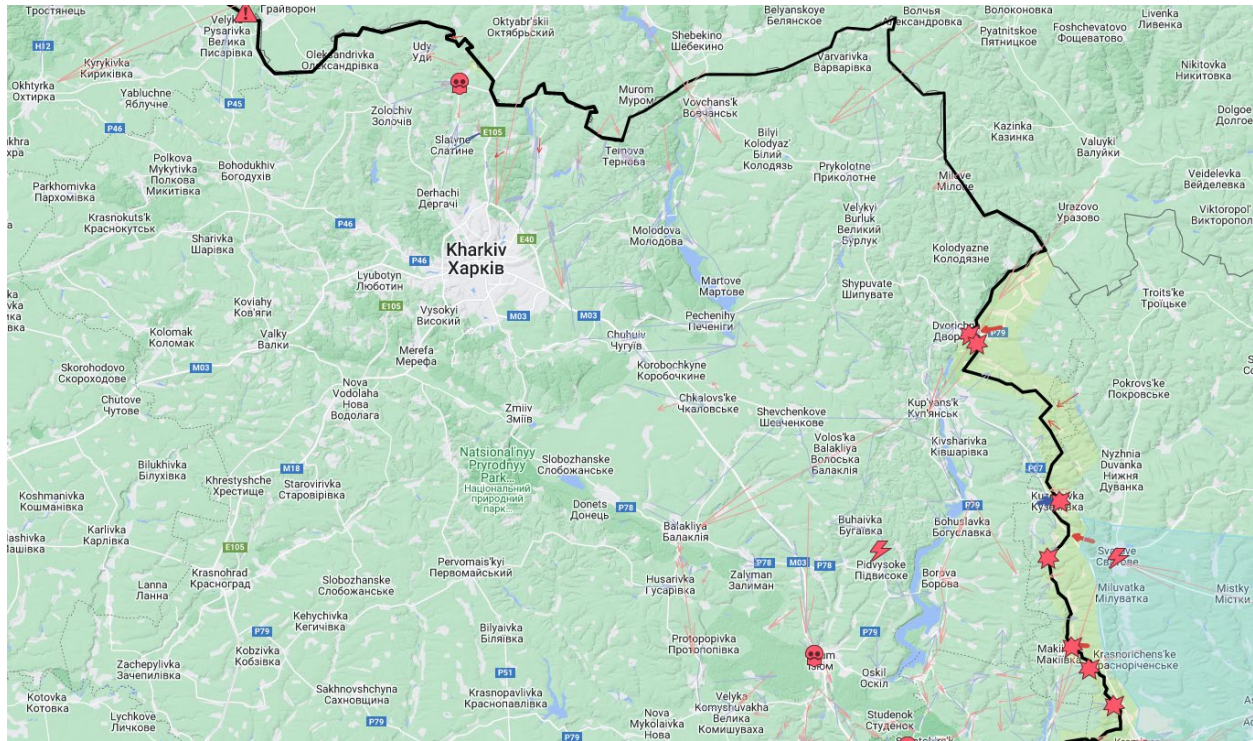
SOIL SATURATION AND HYDROLOGY



May 17, 2023, GFS forecast showing a complex picture with 30% to 55% soil saturation to 40 centimeters depth in Zaporizhzhia and the Donbas.

Soil saturation along the line of conflict is at 45% to 85%, with no rain in the forecast through May 16. Ground conditions will support major offensive operations with mobility and armor theaterwide by May 12. Soil is still soft in the Marinka, Avdiivka, Toretsk-Niu York, and Bakhmut operational areas.

KHARKIV



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

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



Dvorichna Operational Area

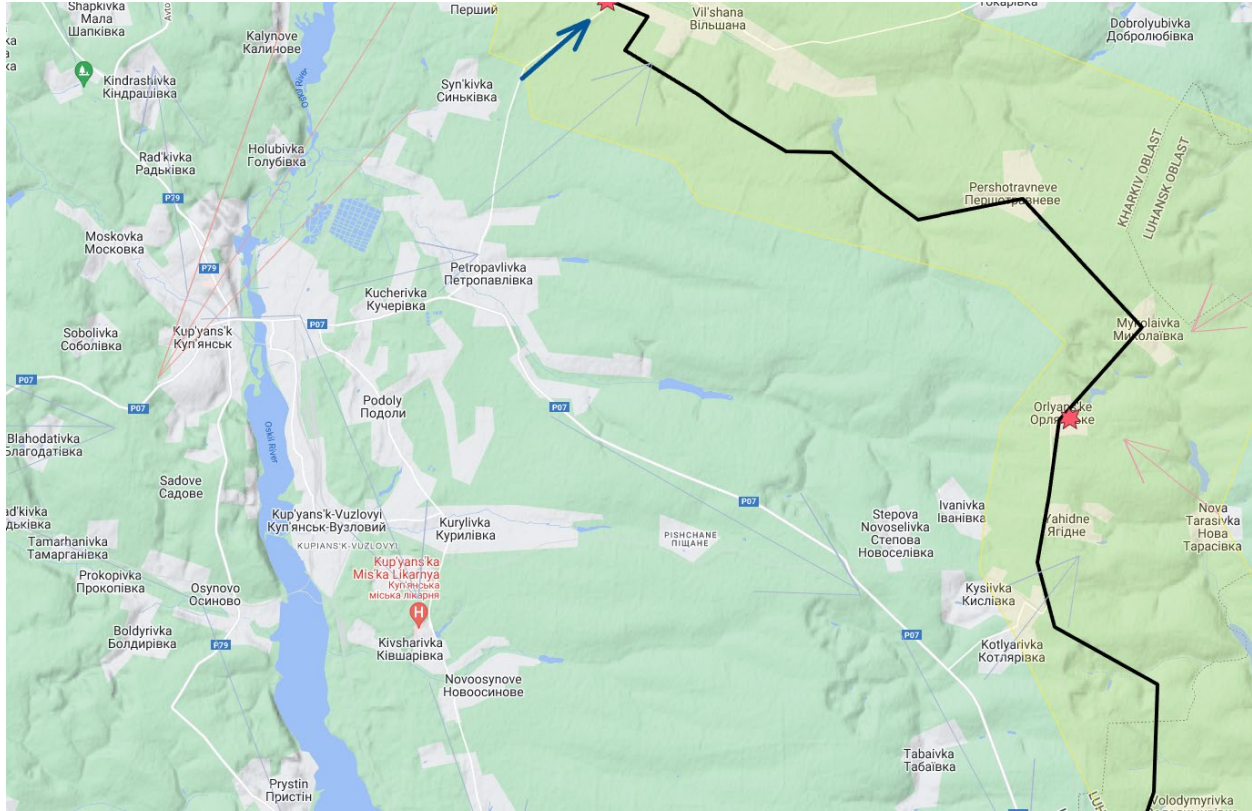
- The General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (GSAFU) reported that Russian forces continued their attacks in the area of [Masyutivka](#)¹
- GSAFU reported that Russian forces continued to shell [Lyman Pershyi](#)^{2 3}
- Russian mercenary milblogger WarGonzo claimed that the Ukrainian offensive to liberate [Vilshana](#) continued⁴

¹ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM EEDT](#)

² [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM EEDT](#)

³ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report PM EEDT](#)

⁴ <https://t.me/wargonzo/12414>



Kupyansk Operational Area

- The Russian Ministry of Defense reported that Ukrainian surveillance, reconnaissance, and sabotage (DRG) units were operating near [Orylanske](#)⁵

⁵ https://t.me/mod_russia/26454 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]



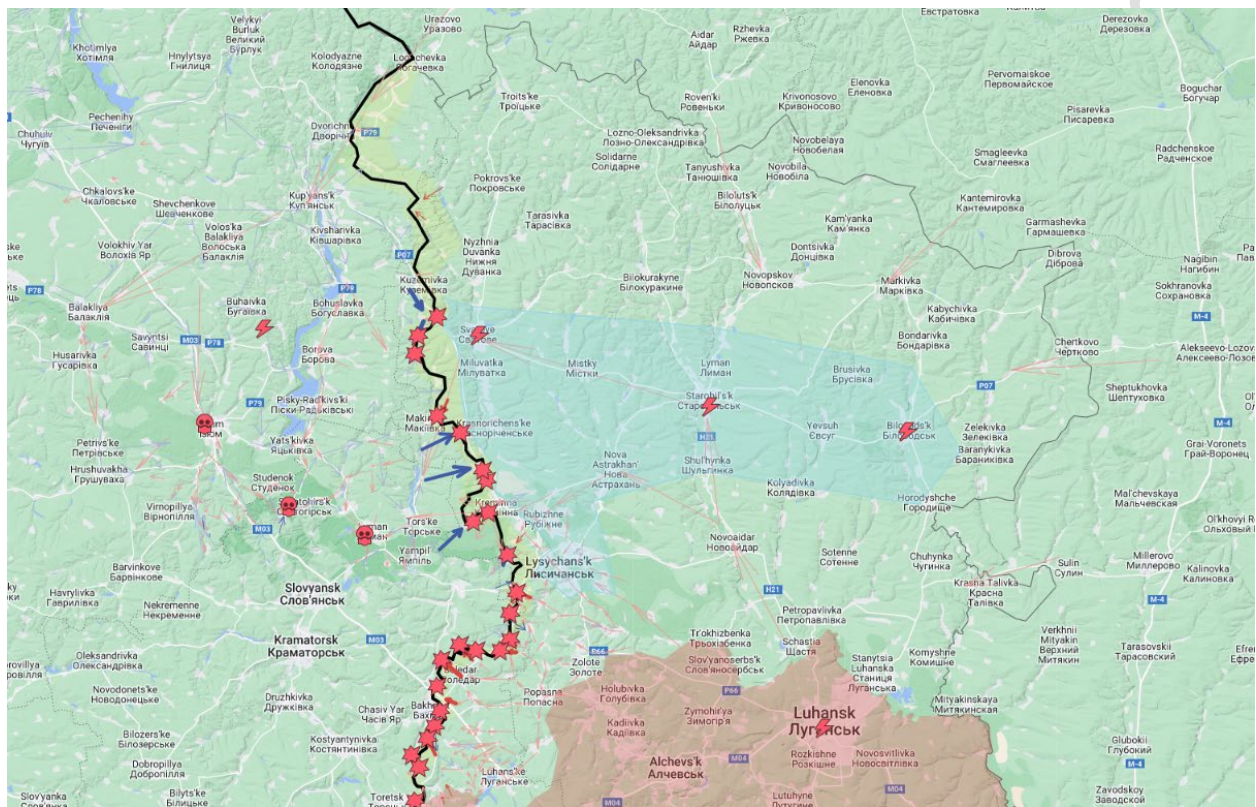
Svatove Operational Area

- RMOD reported that Ukrainian DRG units were also operating in the area of [Krokmalne](#)⁶

⁶ https://t.me/mod_russia/26454 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

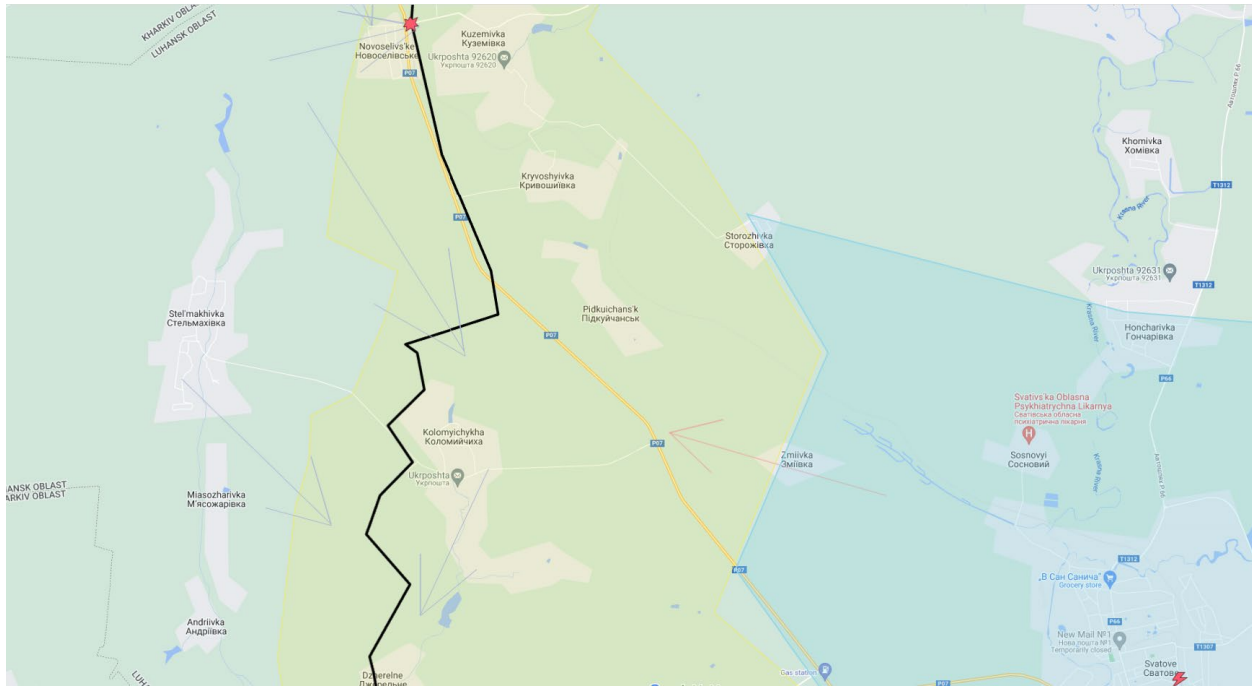
DONBAS REGION

LUHANSK



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

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

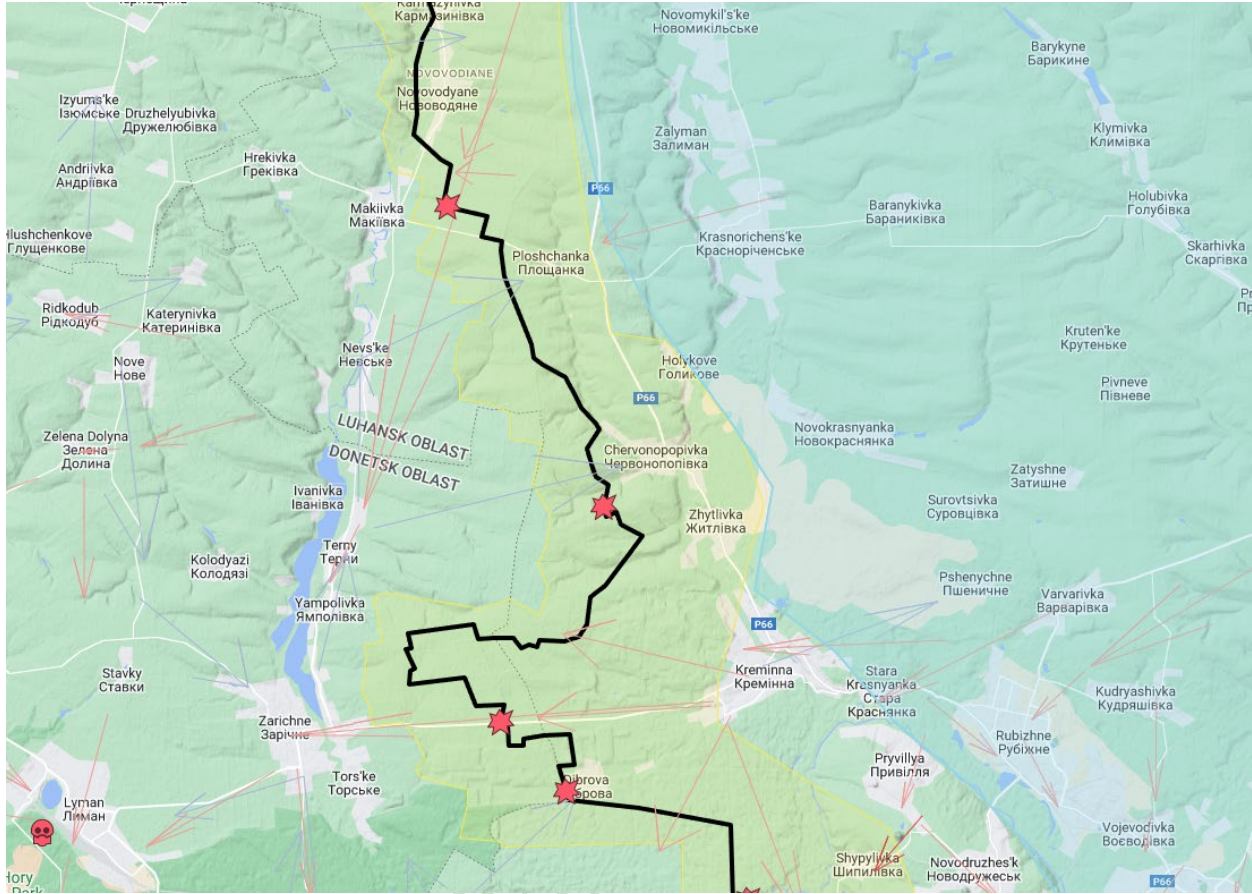


Svatove Operational Area

- GSAFU and RMOD reported fighting between squad or platoon sized units was ongoing near [Stelmakhivka](#)^{7 8}

⁷ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM EEDT](#)

⁸ https://t.me/mod_russia/26454 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

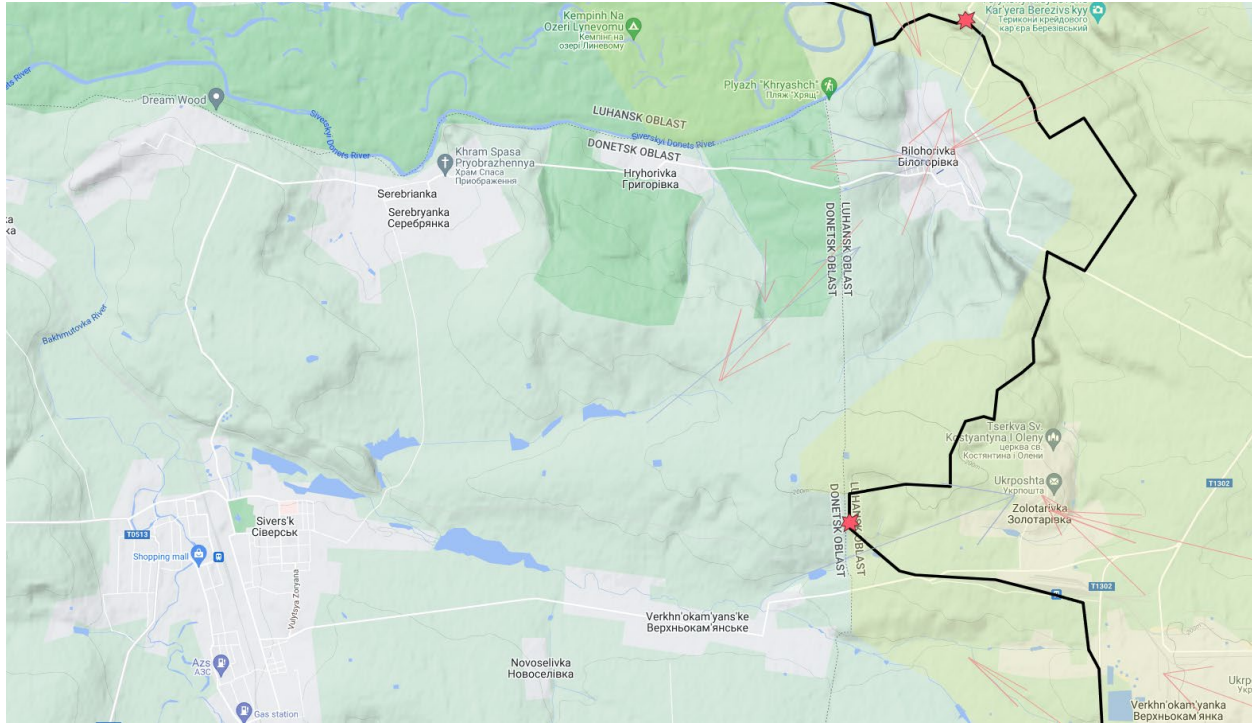


Kreminna Operational Area

- GSAFU reported a Russian attempt to advance through the [Serebryanskyy Woods](#) failed^{9 10}

⁹ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report PM EEDT](#)

¹⁰ <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16520>



Lysychansk Operational Area

- Russian forces made another attempt to advance on [Bilohorivka](#) [Luhansk] from the southeast, which was unsuccessful¹¹


Free Luhansk

- Russian forces fired 555 artillery shells, mortars, and rockets on free Luhansk and carried out 12 airstrikes, according to Ukrainian Colonel Serhiy Cherevaty of Operational Command East (OKE)¹²

¹¹ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM EEDT](#)

¹² https://t.me/ukrarmed_forces/3088

Occupied Luhansk

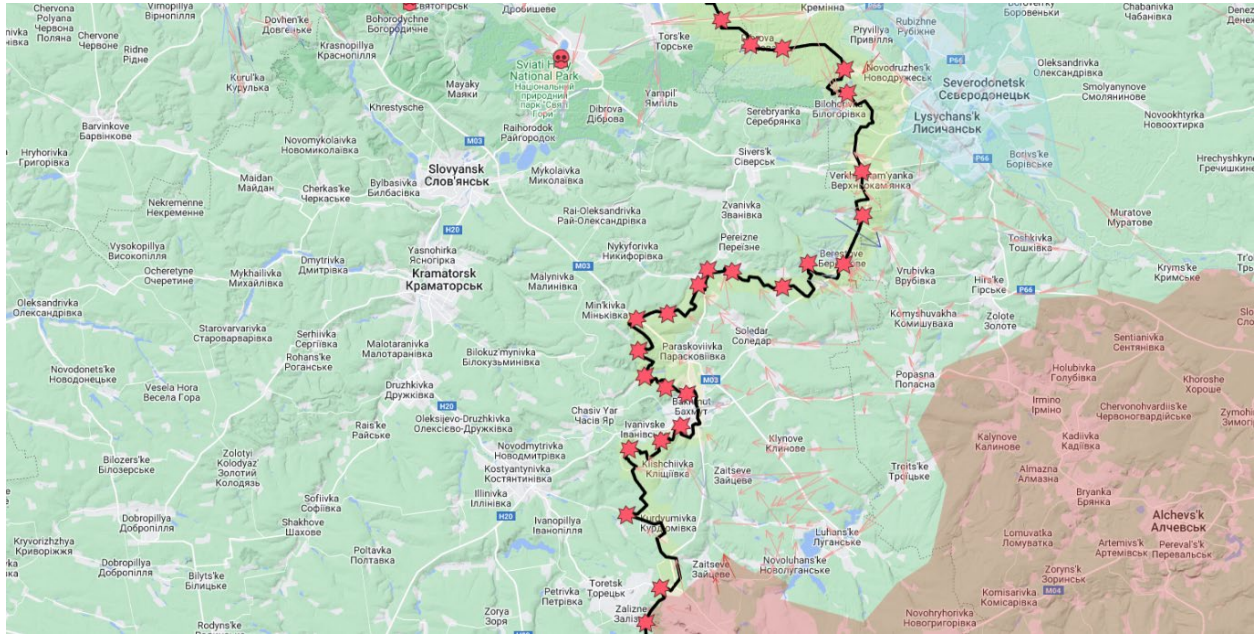
- The so-called Luhansk People's Republic (LNR) Joint Center for Control and Coordination (JCCC) reported that three rockets fired by HIMARS struck Kadiivka,  [including the top floor of a nine-story apartment building](#), killing one and wounding three¹³
- Russian milblogger and nationalist Andrei Morozov (Murz) dismissed LNR claims that the building was intentionally targeted or that the rocket was deflected due to GPS jamming¹⁴
- Morozov explanation is that Ukrainian mission planners didn't account for the height of the building and also claimed up to three HIMARS rockets were intercepted by Russian air defenses¹⁵

¹³ https://t.me/LPR_JCCC/8263

¹⁴ <https://t.me/wehearfromyanina/1866>

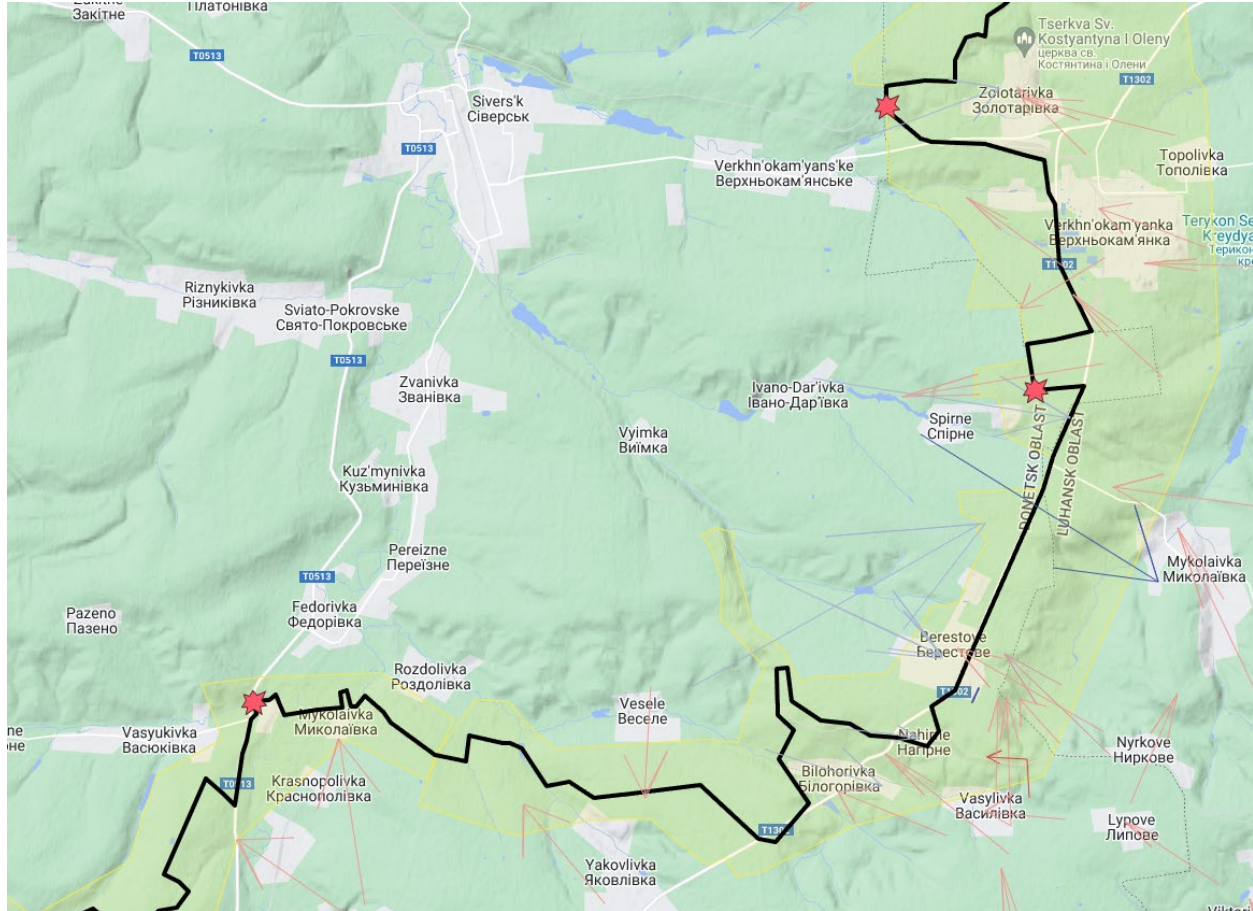
¹⁵ <https://t.me/wehearfromyanina/1866>

NORTHEAST DONETSK



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

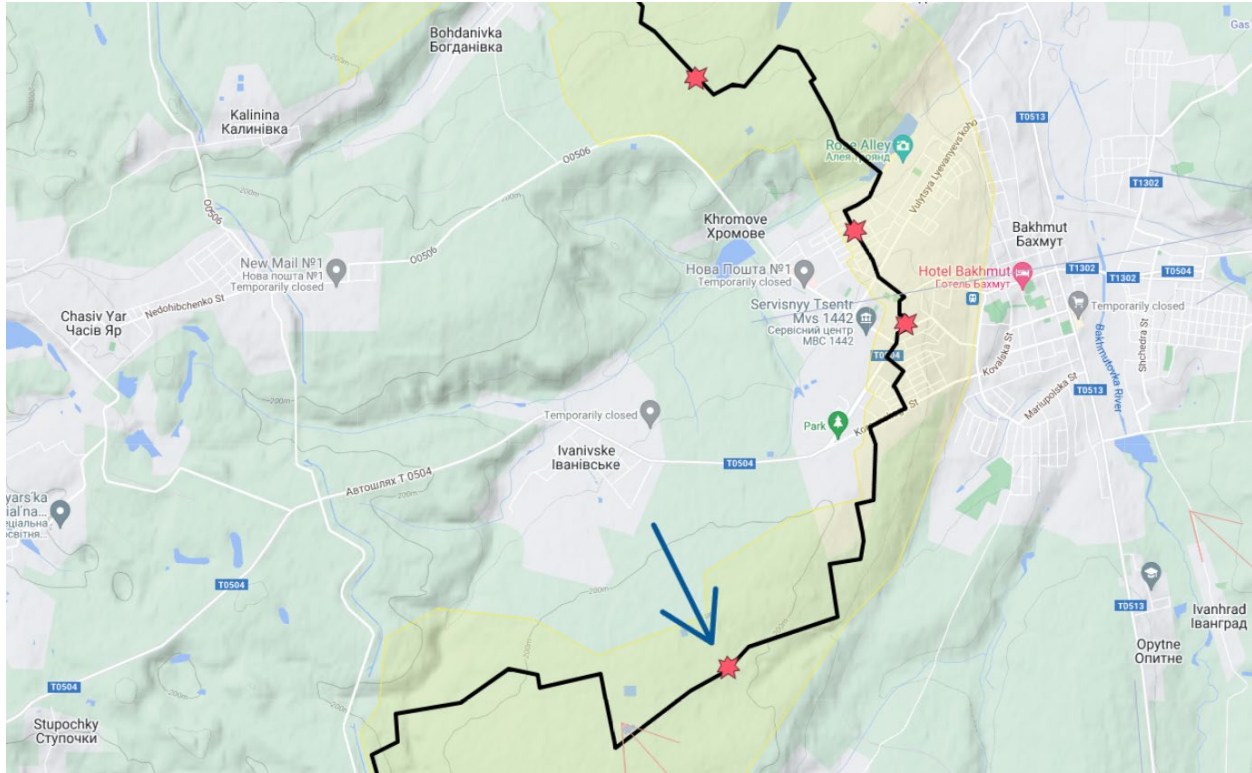
Ukrainian Objective: Defend Siversk and Bakhmut, push into the Luhansk oblast, and minimize civilian casualties



Siversk Operational Area

- WarGonzo reported that Russian forces attempted to advance west out of [Bilohorivka](#) [Donetsk] and were unsuccessful¹⁶

¹⁶ <https://t.me/wargonzo/12414>



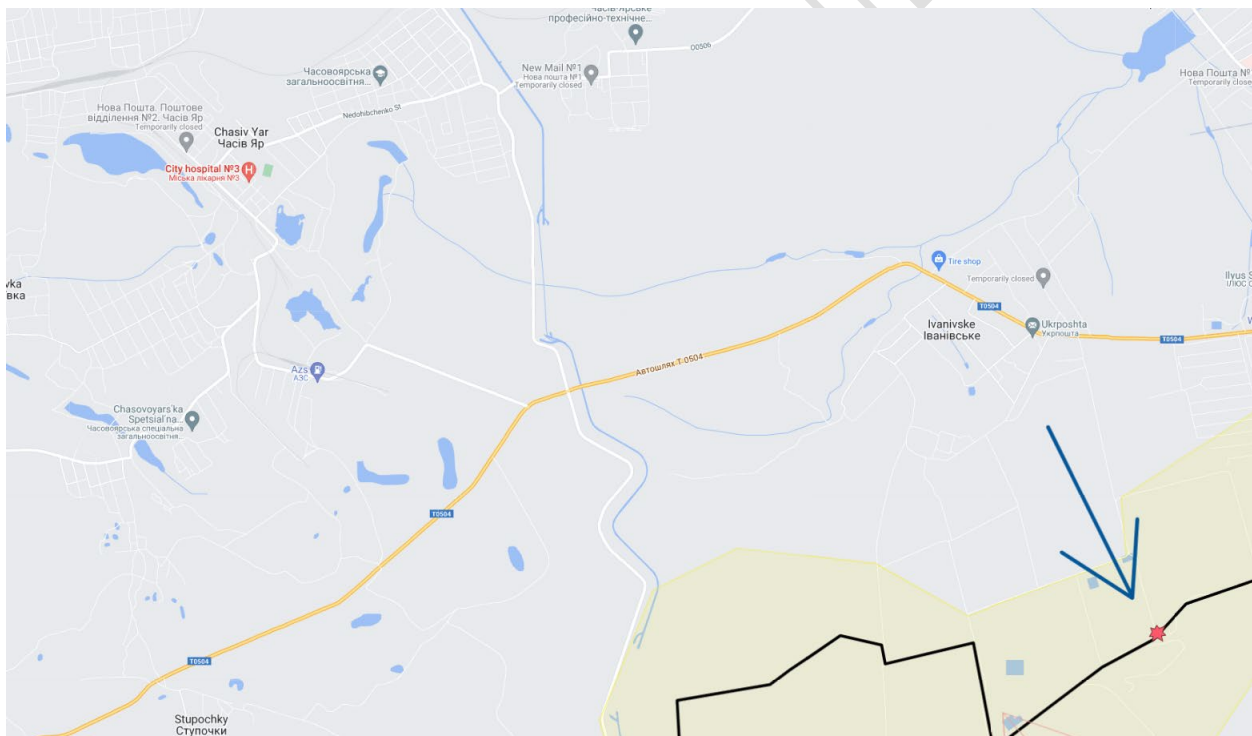
Bakhmut Operational Area

- PMC Wagner continued its attacks on [Khromove](#) without success¹⁷
- The T-506 Highway Ground Line of Communication (GLOC – supply line) remains open but very difficult to use
- PMC Wagner attacks in the northern, west-central, and southern parts of the city were unsuccessful, with

¹⁷ <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16520>

Russian mercenary milblogger Rybar reporting that the city was now a “frozen front”^{18 19 20 21 22 23}

- A geolocated video showed a tank with the Ukrainian 3rd Separate Assault Brigade operating with impunity on Tchaikovsky Street, repeatedly firing into Russian positions at the technical college²⁴



¹⁸ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM EEDT](#)

¹⁹ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report PM EEDT](#)

²⁰ <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16520>

²¹ https://t.me/mod_russia/26454 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

²² <https://t.me/rybar/46892>

²³ <https://t.me/wargonzo/12414>

²⁴ <https://twitter.com/NOELreports/status/165629419569330433>

- GSAFU reported that PMC Wagner attempted to regain lost positions south of [Ivanivske](#) and was unsuccessful^{25 26}

Bakhmut

- RMOD reported a significant increase in activity, with their forces carrying out 98 fire missions, Russian army aviation executing two close air support (CAS) sorties, and the Russian Airforce (VKS) conducting 10 CAS sorties²⁷
- Colonel Cherevaty of OKE appeared to confirm the Russian reports, reporting 524 artillery strikes, and ten airstrikes
- ***Editor's Note: A sortie is a single aircraft carrying out a single mission, while an airstrike can be more than one aircraft striking the same target²⁸***
- ***Editor's Note: A fire mission is an order to fire artillery at a specific location at a specific time with a type and number of munitions – 98 fire missions versus 524 artillery strikes would be 5.35 shells per fire mission***
- PMC Wagner leader Prigozhin released another statement claiming that his mercenaries risk


²⁵ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM EEDT](#)

²⁶ <https://t.me/wargonzo/12414>

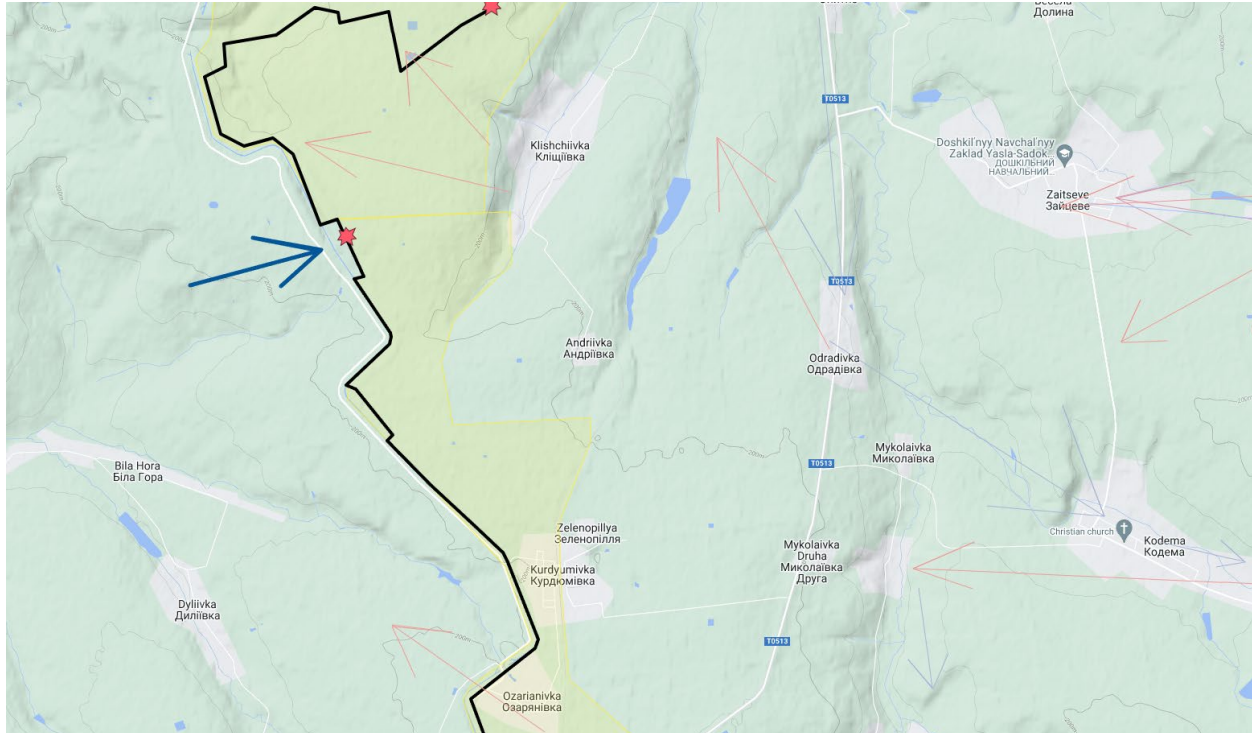
²⁷ https://t.me/mod_russia/26454 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]

²⁸ https://t.me/ukrarmed_forces/3089

encirclement, the flanks are crumbling, and he “demands” his ammunition²⁹

- Prigozhin also attempts to rewrite history, repeating his claim that the capture of Bakhmut was strategically unimportant, one day after claiming he wanted to capture the city for Victory Day and that the Russian Ministry of Defense decided to start “Operation Meatgrinder” in Bakhmut on October 8 due to the loss of Kharkiv and Kherson and a need to buy time for Russia to build combat potential
- Russian troops didn't complete their retrograde operation from Kherson until November 11, 2022, over a month later
- You can read our in-depth ~~tear-down~~  [analysis of Prigozhin's 14-point claim on our Patreon](#) – it is publicly available
- We estimate that Ukrainian forces maintain control of 2.8 square kilometers of Bakhmut (1.08 square miles), or roughly 6.7% of the city, which is 41.6 square kilometers

²⁹ https://t.me/concordgroup_official/937



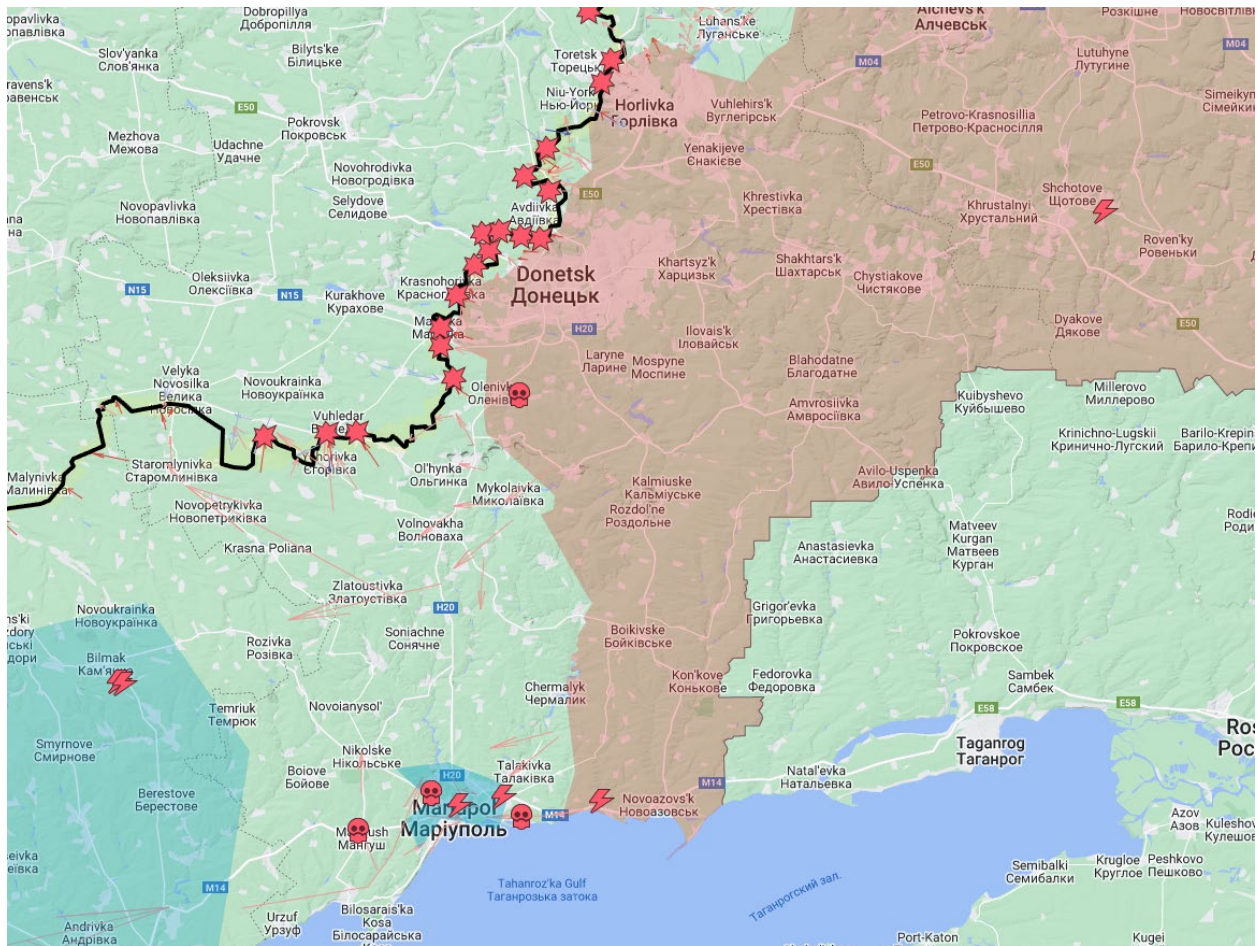
Klishchiivka Operational Direction

- On May 9, we reported we had additional information about the situation along the Siverskyi Donets-Donbas Canal but could share that information to support operational security – now that it has leaked into the public domain, Ukrainian forces made a successful contested wet crossing of the canal and have established positions west of Klishchiivka
- Multiple reports indicate that all Russian positions west of the Siverskyi Donets-Donbas Canal have been cleared
- We made small changes to the war map and reduced the area of no man's land west of the canal

- Russian forces attempted to push the canal and restore lost positions in the direction of [Stupochky](#) and failed³⁰

³⁰ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM EEDT](#)

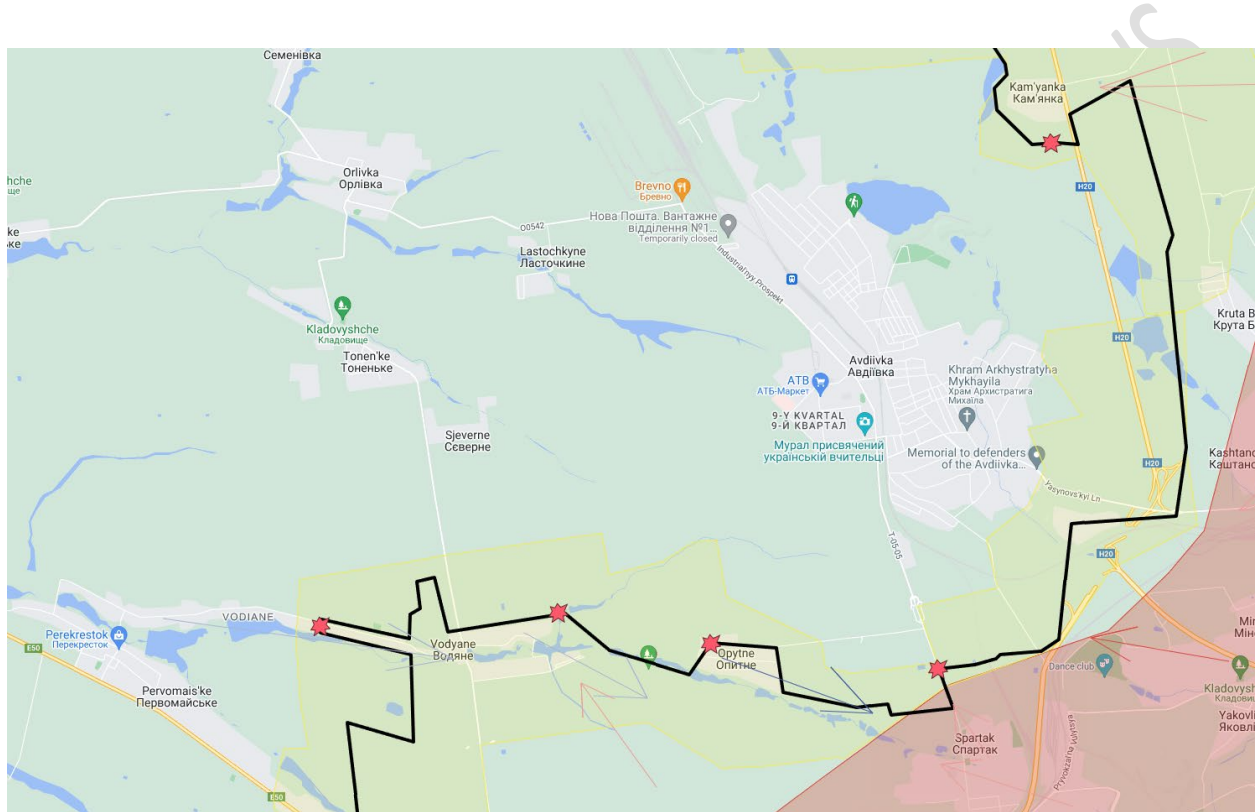
SOUTHWESTERN DONETSK



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

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

command and control sites, interdict supplies, and disrupt logistics



Avdiivka Operational Area

- Russian and Ukrainian sources reported that the 1st Army Corps continued attempts to advance on [Avdiivka](#) from Vesele and Kruta Balka and were unsuccessful^{31 32 33}

³¹ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report PM EEDT](#)

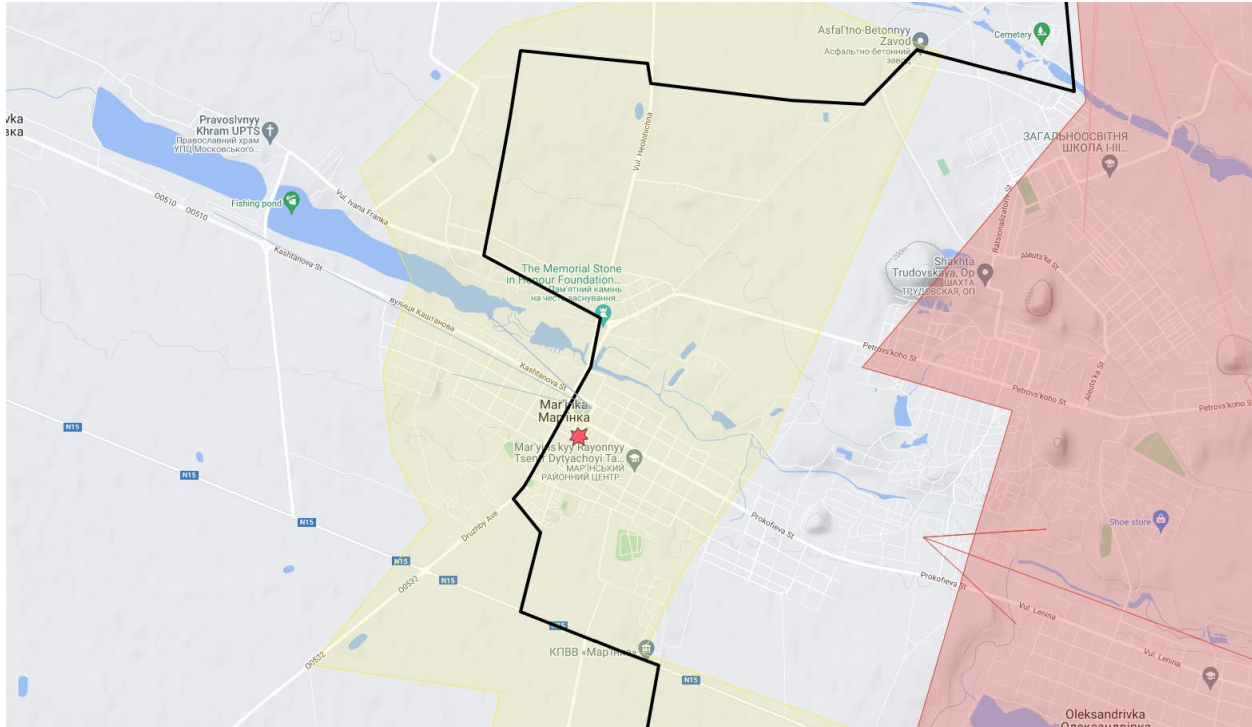
³² <https://t.me/DeepStateUA/16520>

³³ <https://t.me/wargonzo/12414>

- Rybar claims that a Russian offensive from Opytne was successful in recapturing lost positions, while Ukrainian sources claim that Russian defensive lines near Opytne and Vodyane had collapsed – none of the claims are true, and there has been no change to the situation³⁴
- Russian mercenary milblogger WarGonzo reported that Russian forces continued their attempts to advance toward [Pervomaiske](#) without success³⁵
- Multiple analysts caught up with our previous assessment that Russian forces captured Kamyanka in late March, which we had assessed in early April

³⁴ <https://t.me/rybar/46892>

³⁵ <https://t.me/wargonzo/12414>

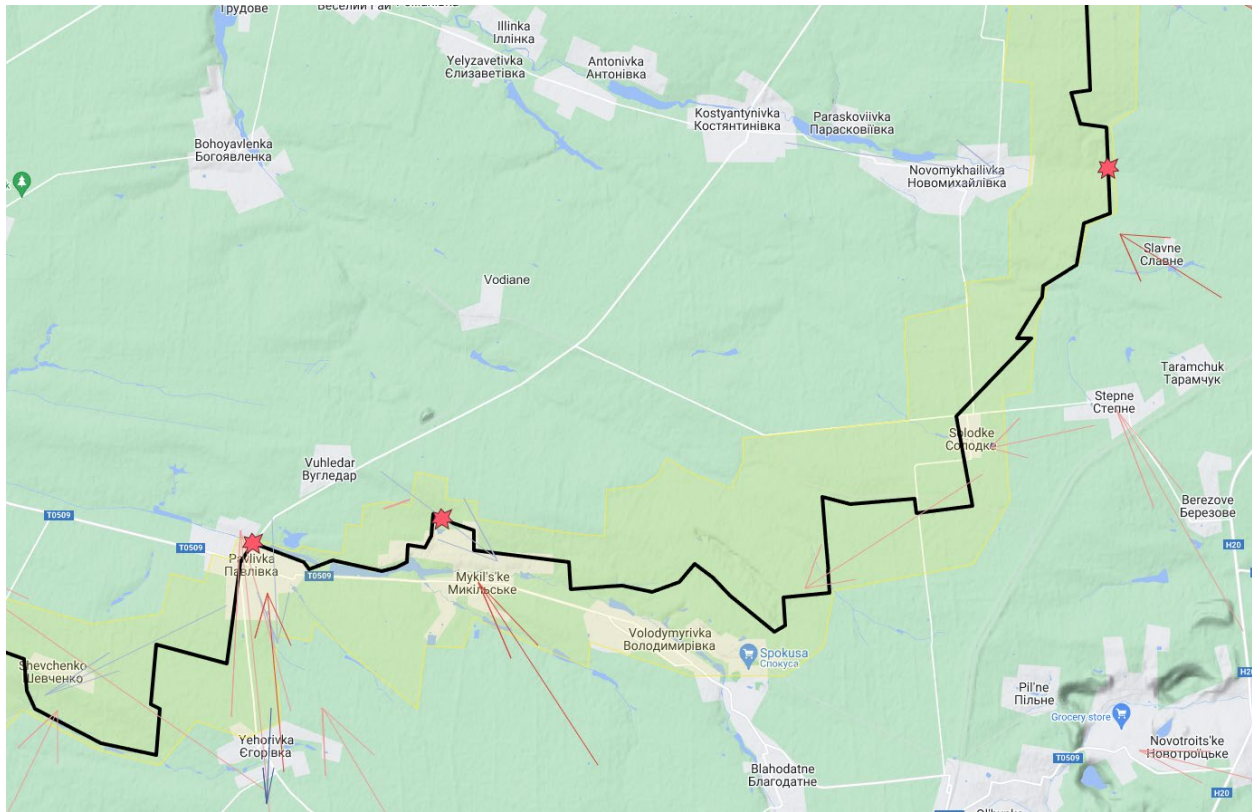


Marinka Operational Area

- Fighting for [Marinka](#) continued with no change in the situation^{36 37}

³⁶ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM EEDT](#)

³⁷ <https://t.me/wargonzo/12414>



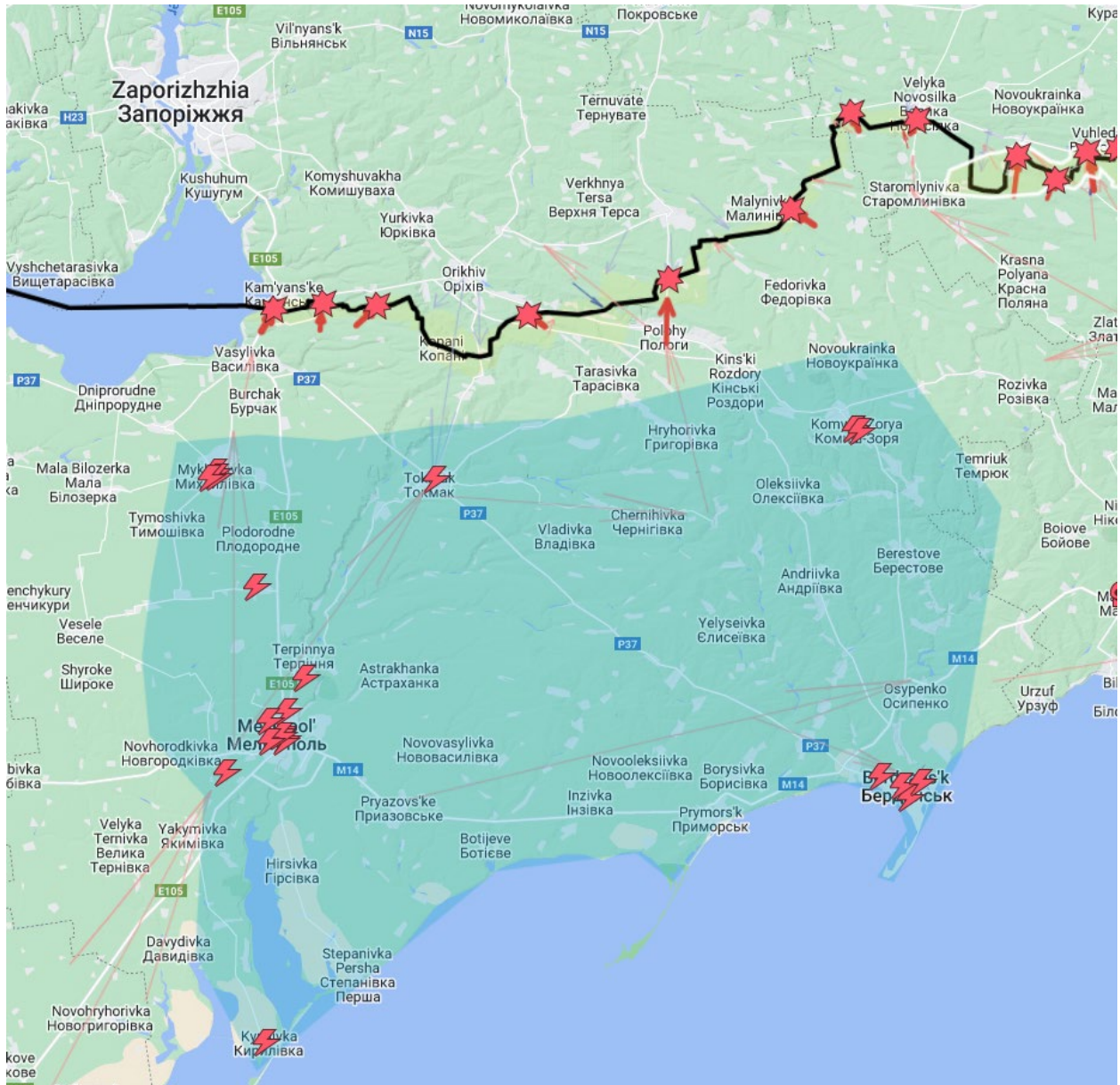
Vuhledar Operational Area

- Russian forces attempted to advance toward [Novomykhailivka](#) from the east and maintained over nine years of Russian military tradition of suffering losses and retreating to their previous defensive positions³⁸
- RMOD claims that Ukrainian DRG units were probing Russian defenses in the area of [Volodymyrivka](#)³⁹

³⁸ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report PM EEDT](#)

³⁹ https://t.me/mod_russia/26455 [Russian Government Controlled Social Media Channel]


ZAPORIZHIA



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

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

Free Zaporizhia

- Malokaterynivka was heavily shelled with Smerch rockets armed with cluster munitions and thermite, damaging five residential buildings and  [setting widespread fires in the village](#), injuring five, including two first responders wounded in a double-tap attack⁴⁰

Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant

- Many mainstream media sources repeated the Energoatom claim that Russian occupiers were going to withdraw up to 3,100 workers from the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant – we had previously assessed how this was highly unlikely because it would all but guarantee a nuclear accident if true

Occupied Zaporizhia

- There were reports of Ukrainian HIMARS strikes on Russian positions in Vasylivka, Ivanivka, Mykhailivka,

⁴⁰ <https://twitter.com/AndrewPerpetua/status/1656522274533457923>

and Tokmak, including a claim that an ammunition depot in Mykhailivka was destroyed⁴¹

BLACK SEA, CRIMEA, MYKOLAIV, AND ODESA REGION

Black Sea

- Operational Command South (OKS) reported that Black Sea Fleet has 17 vessels on patrol, including three frigates capable of launching up to 24 Kalibr cruise missiles⁴²

⁴¹ https://t.me/tokmak_ukraine/3265

⁴² <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/95649>

WESTERN AND CENTRAL UKRAINE

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

Ukrainian Objective: Deter attacks, and protect civilian lives


Free Kherson

- Russian forces carried out 90 fire missions, firing 461 artillery rounds, mortars, Grad rockets, indirect tank fire, and drone-delivered IEDs, bombs, and rockets⁴³
- The city of Kherson was attacked ten times with 43 munitions, killing one and injuring another
- Antonivka was shelled with thermite⁴⁴
- The village of Kizomys was attacked again, with Russian artillery  [destroying the village medical clinic](#)⁴⁵
- Russian milblogger Volodymyr Romanov reported that Ukrainian forces in [Dachy on the left bank of the](#)

⁴³ <https://t.me/khersonskaODA/5755>

⁴⁴ https://t.me/kherson_non_fake/7264

⁴⁵ <https://t.me/olexandrprokudin/476>

[Dnipro River](#) were hit by  [Russian airstrikes and artillery](#)⁴⁶

- Romanov accused Russian propagandist Alexander "Sasha" Kots of lying after he claimed on May 9 that no Ukrainian forces were occupying the east bank of the Dnipro⁴⁷
- Kots never went to the Dnipro River, and his video showed Russian troops advising him not to, instead driving through the second echelon within Oleshky
- Romanov reports that Ukrainian forces have occupied the east bank since April 20 and maintain a company-sized force in Dachy that make regular troop rotations across the Dnipro and attack Russian positions⁴⁸

Occupied Kherson

- A day after Kots broke operational security making his video, a large explosion and fire were reported in Oleskhy after a Ukrainian artillery strike⁴⁹
- We received unconfirmed intelligence that Ukrainian claims of Russian forces withdrawing their administrators and collaborators from Sadkovsk were true, but the scope was exaggerated

⁴⁶ https://t.me/romanov_92/37681

⁴⁷ https://t.me/romanov_92/37622

⁴⁸ https://t.me/romanov_92/37572

⁴⁹ <https://t.me/hueviyherson/39259>

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

Sumy

- Russian forces shelled 11 villages in Sumy, including the hromadas of Esman, Velyka Pysarivka, Yunakivka, Bilopillia, and Novoslobidske, firing over 65 artillery shells and mortars into the region⁵⁰
- The village of Pavlivka [Sumy] was hit by 29 mortars and nine artillery shells, damaging a home, power lines, and a garage on a farm, with a 55-year-old resident killed by shrapnel
- A house was damaged in Yunakivka

⁵⁰ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2023/05/11/7401617/>

RUSSIAN FRONT

- Russia accused Ukraine of killing a civilian in the Belgorod region during the shelling of Shebekino⁵¹
- A 50-year-old man died after being hit in the head by  [at least one flechette](#)⁵²
- RMOD has never accused Ukraine of using these as a weapon, but Russian forces have been documented using munitions armed with flechettes since March 2022
- Two Ukrainian drones reportedly fell and exploded on impact in a village in the Belgorod region without causing injuries⁵³
- Governor of the Kursk region, Roman Starovoit, claimed that Ukrainian forces got into a border skirmish with Russian troops near Tyotkine, with Ukrainian forces withdrawing after an exchange of gunfire⁵⁴
- Governor Starovoit also reported the Tyotkine was hit by up to five artillery shells, damaging the electrical infrastructure and knocking out power in the area^{55 56}

⁵¹ https://t.me/shot_shot/51190


⁵² https://t.me/shot_shot/51190

⁵³ https://t.me/shot_shot/51215

⁵⁴ https://t.me/shot_shot/51192

⁵⁵ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2023/05/11/7401633/>

⁵⁶ <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/95753>

- Governor of the Bryansk region, Alexander Bogomaz reported that a Ukrainian drone “fired” on a military commissariat building in Starodub, setting it on fire but causing no injuries^{57 58 59}
- Governor Bogomaz also reported that a Ukrainian drone struck the Rosneft Klintsovskiy Oil Depot in Bryansk, damaging at least one oil storage tank⁶⁰
- In St. Petersburg, a  [rocket-propelled grenade just missed a car](#), ricocheted off the ground, and skidded out of frame⁶¹
- Russian officials are unsure where the shot was fired, and no one was injured
- **ASSESSMENT:** Both Ukrainian and Russian officials have reported accidents involving soldiers bringing rocket launchers and grenades home with them, and we do not believe this was a purposeful attack

THEATERWIDE

- Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy told the BBC that Ukrainian forces need more time to prepare to launch large-scale offensive operations due to

⁵⁷ https://t.me/shot_shot/51219

⁵⁸ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2023/05/11/7401618/>

⁵⁹ <https://twitter.com/NOELreports/status/1656549231396528128>

⁶⁰ <https://twitter.com/NOELreports/status/1656563825154445313>

⁶¹ https://t.me/shot_shot/51205


ongoing shipments of weapons systems and munitions⁶²

- Zelenskyy said, "We can go forward and, I think, be successful...but we'd lose a lot of people. I think that's unacceptable. So we need to wait. We still need a bit more time."
- Valerii Zaluzhnyi, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, did not attend the meeting of the NATO Military Committee on May 10, according to Rob Bauer, Head of the NATO Military Committee⁶³
- Zaluzhnyi told the committee that his participation, even via video conference, is impossible because of the difficult operational situation in the defense against Russian aggression
- The head of the Poltava District Court, Larisa Bogomolova, was taken into custody by Ukrainian officials for collaborating with the Russian Federal Security Service (FSB)⁶⁴
- The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) released intercepted phone conversations between Bogomolova and her handlers where she provided information about the movements of Azov fighters and about employees of the Berdyansk District Court who do not support Russian occupiers

⁶² <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-65550427>

⁶³ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2023/05/10/7401500/>

⁶⁴ <https://t.me/suspilnenews/20592>

- Czech Republic President Petro Pavel announced that his nation would provide Ukraine with two more Kub air defense systems with a significant number of missiles⁶⁵ ⁶⁶
- Turkish Otokar Cobra II 4x4 infantry mobility vehicles were recorded in service with the Armed Forces of Ukraine – their deployment had not been previously announced⁶⁷
- The Associated Press  [shared photos of two Ukrainian Su-25](#) ground attack aircraft equipped with NATO-provided unguided Zuni surface-to-ground missiles, which would be used for close air support⁶⁸
- The Zuni missile was first introduced in the 1950s and has gone through a series of modernization – it has a range of eight kilometers

⁶⁵ https://t.me/ukrarmed_forces/3087

⁶⁶ <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/95708>

⁶⁷ <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/95755>


⁶⁸ <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/95646>

RUSSIA VS. UKRAINE HEAVY EQUIPMENT LOSSES

Russian and Ukrainian visually confirmed heavy equipment losses sourced from the [Oryx Database](#) from February 24, 2022, to May 7, 2023. 10,179 Russian vs. 3,264 Ukrainian

Equipment	Russian Losses	Ukrainian Losses	Ratio	Change
Main Battle Tanks	1814	193	9.40:1	—
Medium Duty Tanks	123	302	0.40:1	—
Armored fighting Vehicles	838	266	3.15:1	↓
Infantry Fighting Vehicles	2317	530	4.37:1	↓
Armored Personnel Carriers	309	253	1.22:1	—
MRAPs	43	55	0.78:1	↓
Infantry Mobility Vehicles	190	290	0.65:1	—
Command and Communications Vehicles	239	12	19.92:1	—
Engineering Vehicles	302	50	6.04:1	—
Towed Artillery	201	121	1.66:1	—
Self-Propelled Howitzers/Mortars	388	143	2.71:1	↓
MLRS	195	45	4.33:1	↑
SAMs	107	98	1.09:1	—
Mobile Radars	31	58	0.53:1	↓
EW/ECW	36	2	18.00:1	↓
Winged Aircraft	80	66	1.21:1	—
Helicopters	84	29	2.89:1	—
Naval Vessels	12	26	0.46:1	—

RUSSIAN MOBILIZATION, MILITARY, AND MIR

- Satellite images reconfirmed our assessment that the Tu-95 strategic bombers originally stationed at Engels-2 military airfield have  [been relocated to Olenya military airfield](#) in Murmansk⁶⁹
- There hasn't been VKS presence for strategic aviation at Engels since November 2022, after a successful Ukrainian drone strike damaged at least two aircraft
- Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a decree declaring that all military reservists would go through mandatory military training, including members of the Russian Federation Armed Forces, Rosgvardia, state security agencies, and the FSB⁷⁰
- Russian officials insist that reservists who go through training will not be deployed to the so-called "special military operation" zone
- Russian propagandist Marina Akhmedova reported that Russian national police confiscated drones and cell phones from a Russian soldier, taking them back to the Vuhledar operational area after refurbishment
- The soldier was initially detained and accused of selling humanitarian aid in Russia before

⁶⁹ <https://t.me/operativnoZSU/95741>

⁷⁰ [https://lenta dot\] ru/news/2023/05/10/zapas/](https://lenta dot] ru/news/2023/05/10/zapas/)

- Police eventually released the unnamed soldier, canceling his military leave and ordering him back to his unit, but would not release the cellphones or drones⁷¹

WAR CRIMES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

- Viacheslav Boguslaev, former head of the Motor Sich aircraft-engine company, suspected of collaboration with Russia, requested to be included in a future prisoner exchange with Russia
- The request came hours after recordings of his April 2022 orders to disassemble Mi-2 helicopters and hide the parts from Ukrainian officials were made public as part of an open-source investigation by Ukrainian journalists
- In Bohorodychne, near Izyum, a gravesite of Ukrainian civilians buried by Russian occupiers was discovered – it included the remains of two elderly women and a man⁷²
- Another gravesite was found in Lyman, southeast of Izyum, with the bodies of three men buried together

⁷¹ <https://t.me/Marinaslovo/6098>

⁷² <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2023/05/10/7401589/>

- In a vote of 331-0, the French Parliament recognized PMC "Wagner" as a terrorist organization⁷³
- In response, PMC Wagner leader Prigozhin, who is definitely going through some things, accused French soldiers previously in Mali of murder, rape, and harvesting organs and blood from African children to sell on the black market

WAR CRIMES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

- Russian President Putin signed a decree that restores direct flights to Georgia and eliminates the Russian requirement to obtain a visa for entry and exit, effective on May 15⁷⁴
- Georgian President Salome Zourabichvili declared the action was a Russian provocation and said the decision was "unacceptable as long as Russia continues its aggression against Ukraine and occupies our territory"
- Zourabichvili requested Parliament to implement a 90-day visa program in Georgia for Russian nationals and institute a ban on Russian language kindergartens

⁷³ <https://t.me/Crimeanwind/29950>

⁷⁴ <https://t.me/Crimeanwind/29987>

- Japan is negotiating with NATO officials to open an office in Tokyo, Japanese foreign minister, Yoshimasa Hayashi, told United States news agency CNN⁷⁵
- Japan never completed a peace agreement with Russia after World War II, and control of the Northern Islands remains contested – Hayashi said that Russia's invasion of Ukraine has made the world less stable, forcing his nation to reconsider regional security
- Polish officials initially dismissed debris of a missile found near Bydgoszcz as a training missile that hadn't been previously located, but the final investigation concluded the wreckage was from a Russian Kh-55 air-to-surface cruise missile that likely experienced a guidance system failure and flew until it ran out of fuel⁷⁶

ECONOMIC

- Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Türkiye, said that an extension of the Black Sea Grain Initiative for two months had been achieved after traveling to Moscow and meeting with Russian

⁷⁵ <https://t.me/Crimeanwind/29977>

⁷⁶

<https://t.me/Crimeanwind/29966>

officials, with the current extension set to expire on May 18⁷⁷

- The Russian budget deficit grew to 3.4 trillion roubles after the first four months of 2023, with tax revenue from oil and gas sales plummeting from the same period in 2022⁷⁸

⁷⁷ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2023/05/11/7401623/>

⁷⁸ <https://t.me/ShrikeNews/8442>