



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



September 1, 2022



Malcontent News

Russia-Ukraine War SITREP

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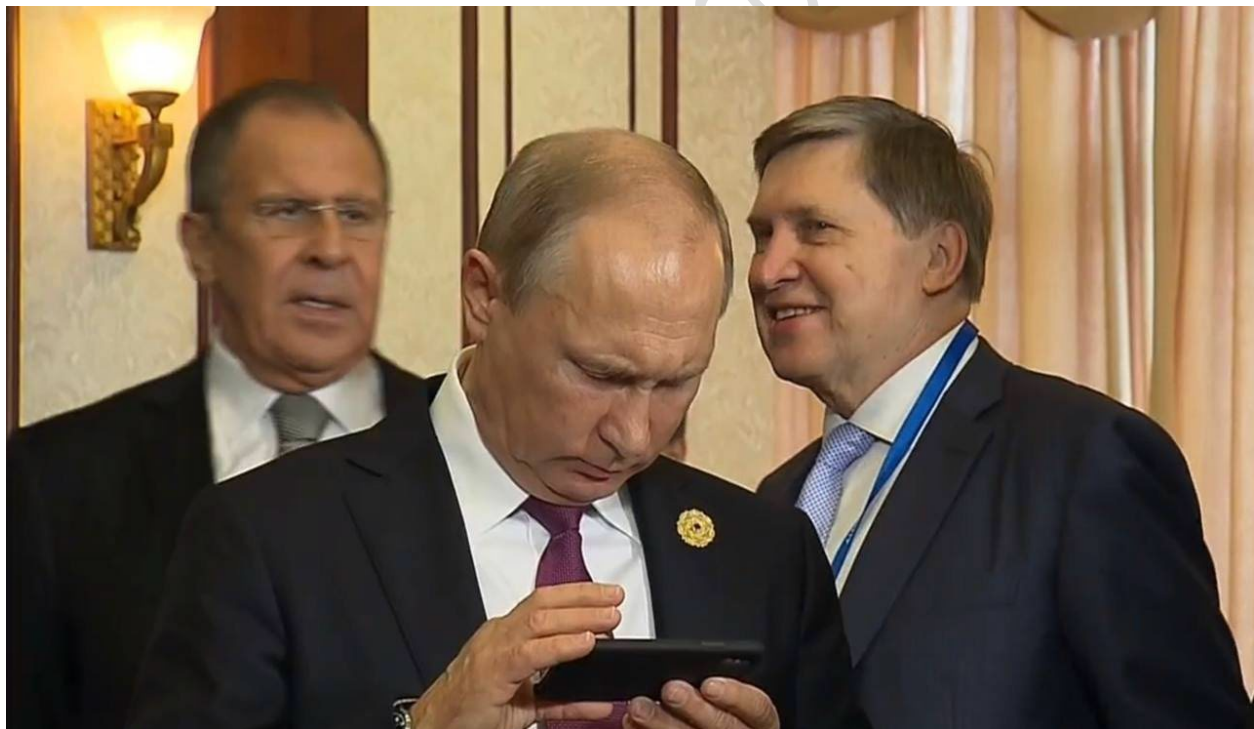
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SUMMARY – DAY 189

It has been 3,108 days since Russia occupied Crimea on February 27, 2014.

It was 3:30 AM, and there was a vast amount of information to verify in Kherson. There is a lot of good news on the counteroffensive in our assessment. For your viewing pleasure, we give you this.



What the Hell is a Malcontent, and why am I still getting their updates? The RIA blocked them in Russia on March 23. Blyat!

DAILY ASSESSMENT

We assess the following:

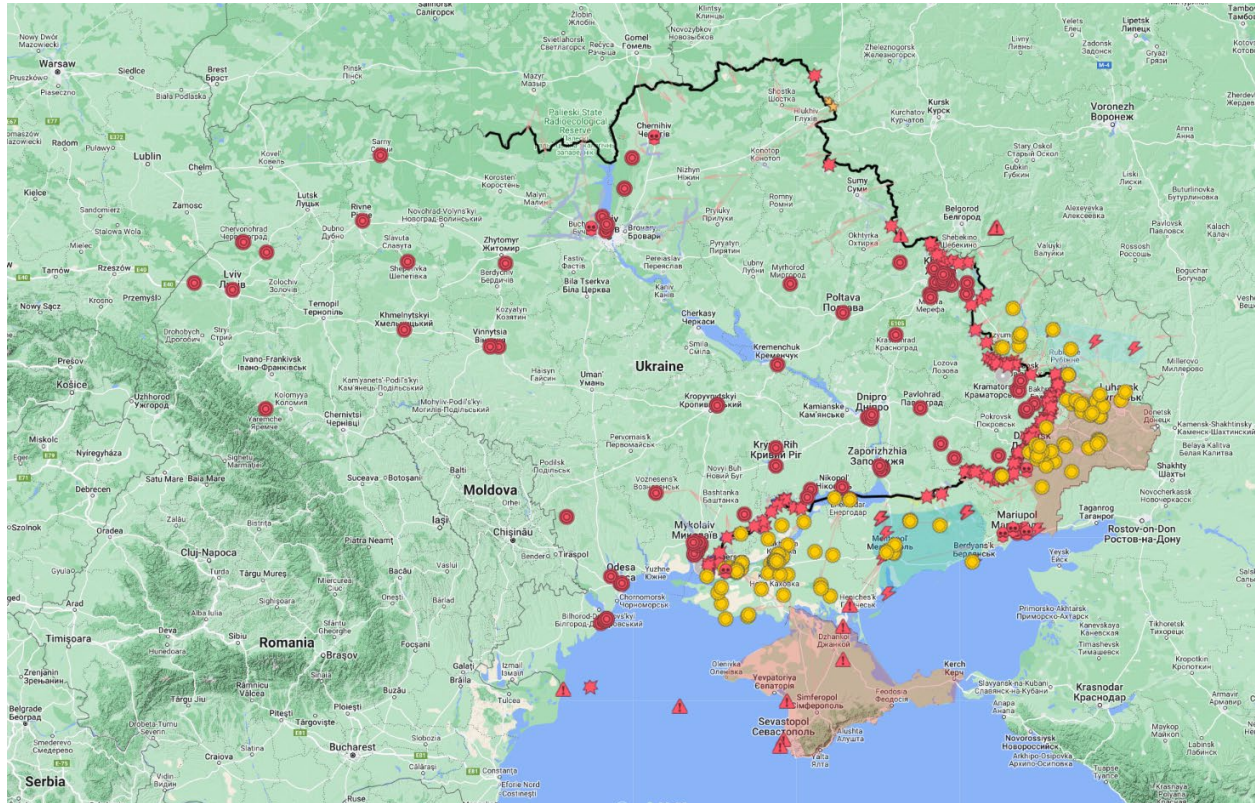
1. There is enough available evidence indicating that Ukraine is making progress in the Kherson counteroffensive in three locations, despite Kremlin claims that it has already failed.
2. Russian President Vladimir Putin has set September 15 as the new deadline to capture the remainder of the Donetsk oblast and finds that goal impossible.
3. The Russian Ministry of Defense continues its aggressive disinformation campaign about the counteroffensive.
4. Ukrainian forces have established fire control over vital supply lines for Russian forces and are choking off munitions, fuel, and equipment in Kherson, Zaporizhia, and Izyum.
5. We maintain that the risk of Russian terror attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure to break morale is exceptionally high and will remain so for the foreseeable future.
6. We continue to believe there is a significant chance that Russian forces will abandon their offensives in Bakhmut, but with the presence of the 3rd Army Corps

in Donetsk and Putin's mandate, it appears the offensive west of Donetsk will continue and intensify.

7. Not all victories on the battlefield are kinetic.

Ukraine's continuous attacks on Russian Ground Lines of Communication (GLOC – supply lines) indicate they plan to collapse Russian resistance by forcing them to consume their existing supplies.

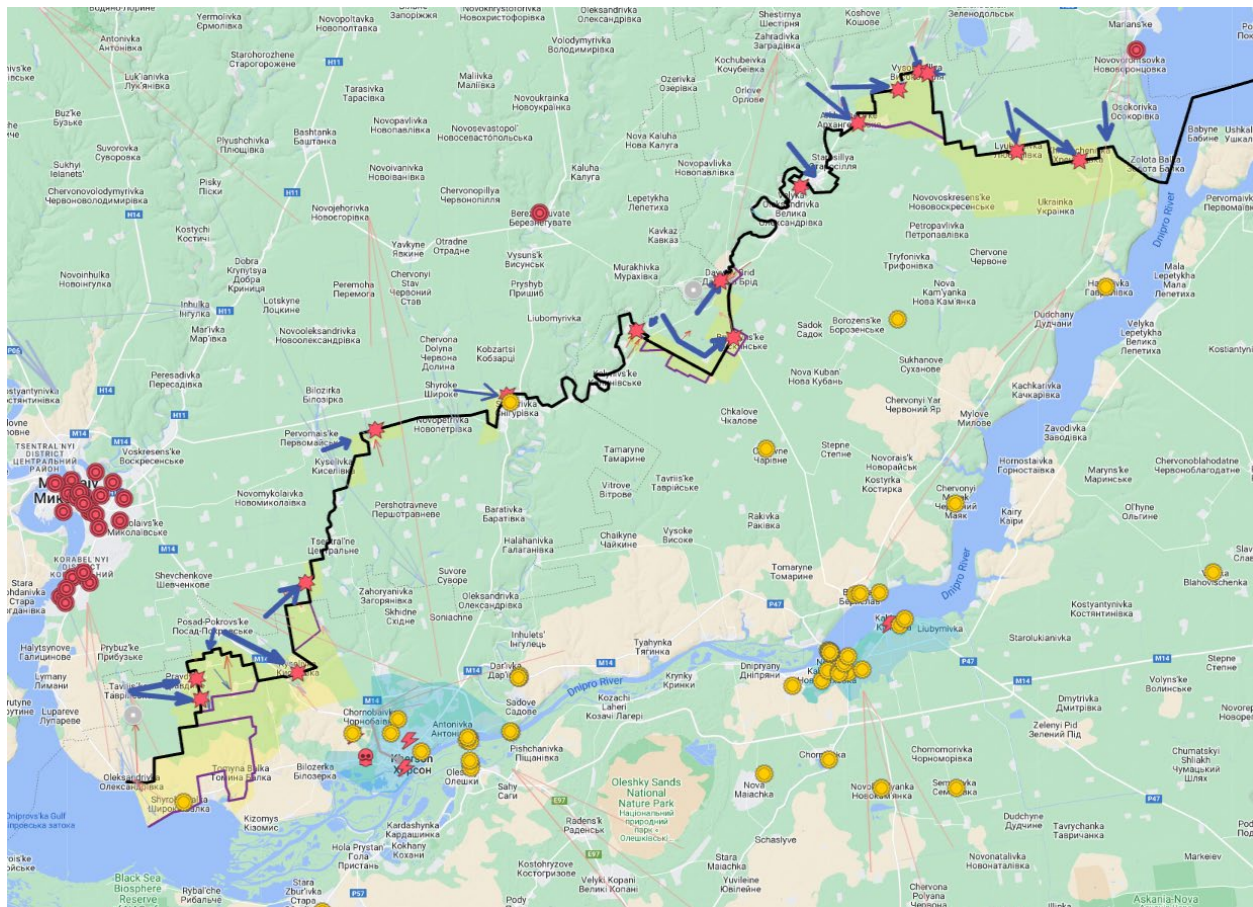
TODAY'S WAR IN UKRAINE MAP



Information about changes made to the map: Red triangles are sites of significant events unrelated to missile attacks, insurgency, or ground combat, such as the sinking of the Moskva and the explosion at Saky Naval airbase. Based on your feedback, we have moved the “flags” into the category of “Archived Offensives.” The layer is turned off by default, but you can toggle it on/off in the Map Legend. If you see a settlement name highlighted, like [Kherson](#), the link will take you to the exact location explained in the Situation Report.

You can visit our war map at <http://www.rusvukrmap.com>

KHERSON COUNTEROFFENSIVE & MYKOLAIV

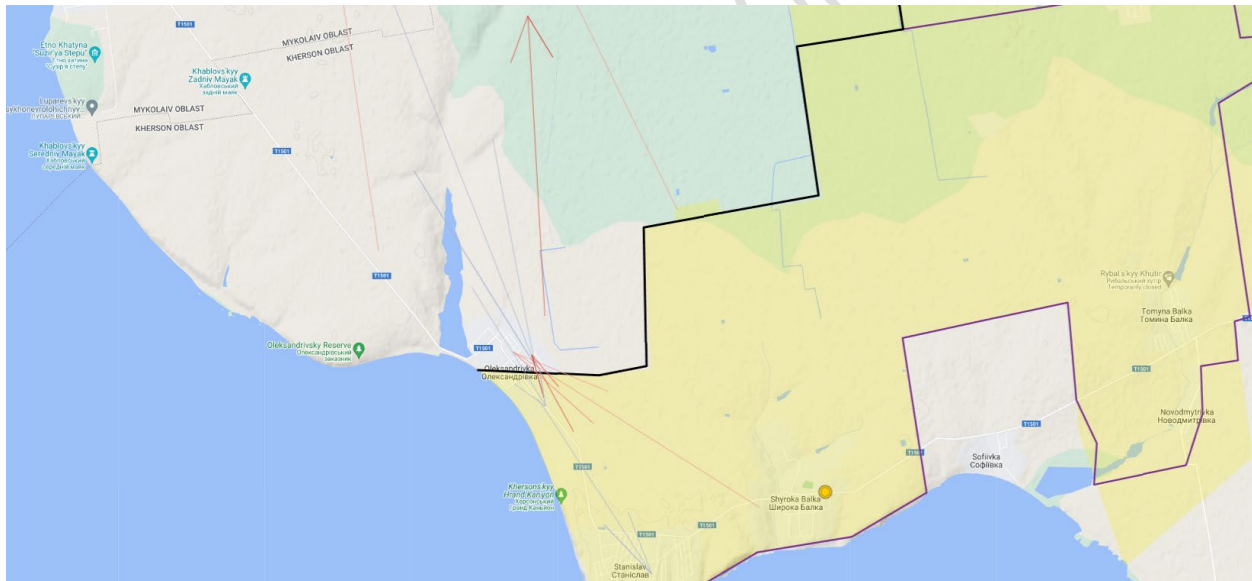


Russian Objective: Hold existing territorial gains, protect Ground Lines of Communication (GLOC – supply lines), defend Kherson, prevent envelopment on the western side of the Dnipro River, restrict insurgent activity

Ukrainian Objective: Liberate the Kherson oblast west of the Dnipro River, push Russian forces back far enough to

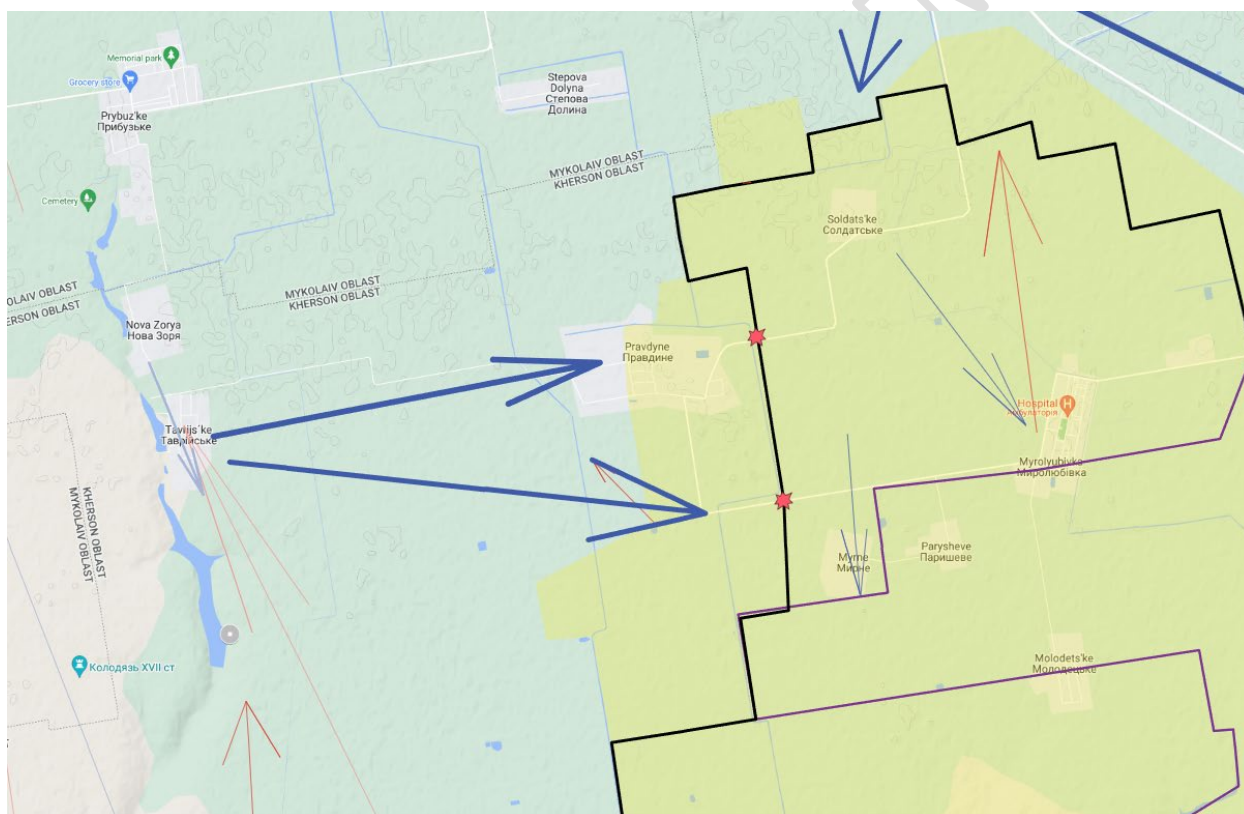
end multiple launch rocket system (MLRS) attacks on Mykolaiv and Kryvvi Rih

The General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine continues its media blackout and press coverage restrictions until September 5. Ukrainian armed forces, the local population, and most press sources have honored the request. Gaining verified information while respecting operational security (OPSEC) has been a challenge.



There have been repeated reports of [Oleksandrivka](#) [Kherson] being shelled since the counteroffensive started on August 29. We have moved the line of conflict south and consider the town, which has been blasted to dust after six months of fighting, as contested.

Video emerged of a Russian [forward operating base in Shyroka Balka](#) that was destroyed in what appears to have been a HIMARS attack.¹ The poster claims that 58 Russian troops were killed. We cannot verify the number of casualties.

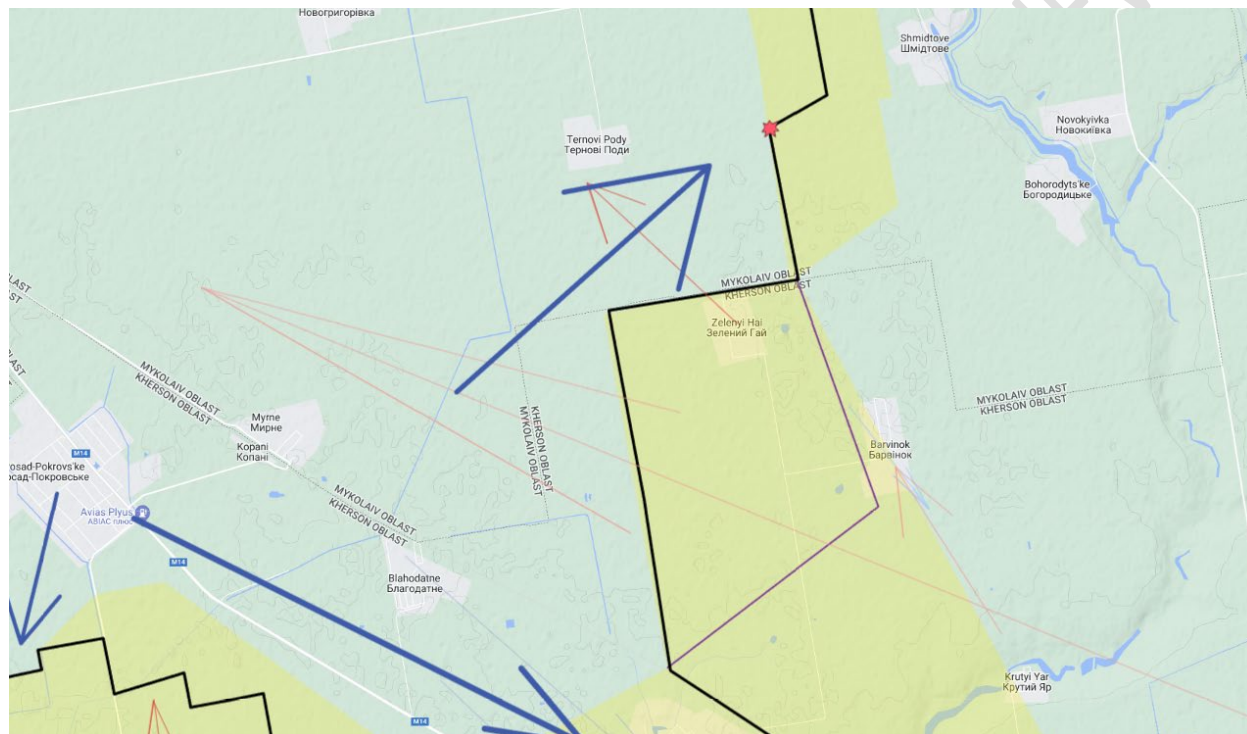


Another video showed [Russian forces surrendering](#) 100 meters west of [Pravdyne](#).² Several soldiers waved large

¹ <https://twitter.com/Yura97950329/status/1565262463796498432>

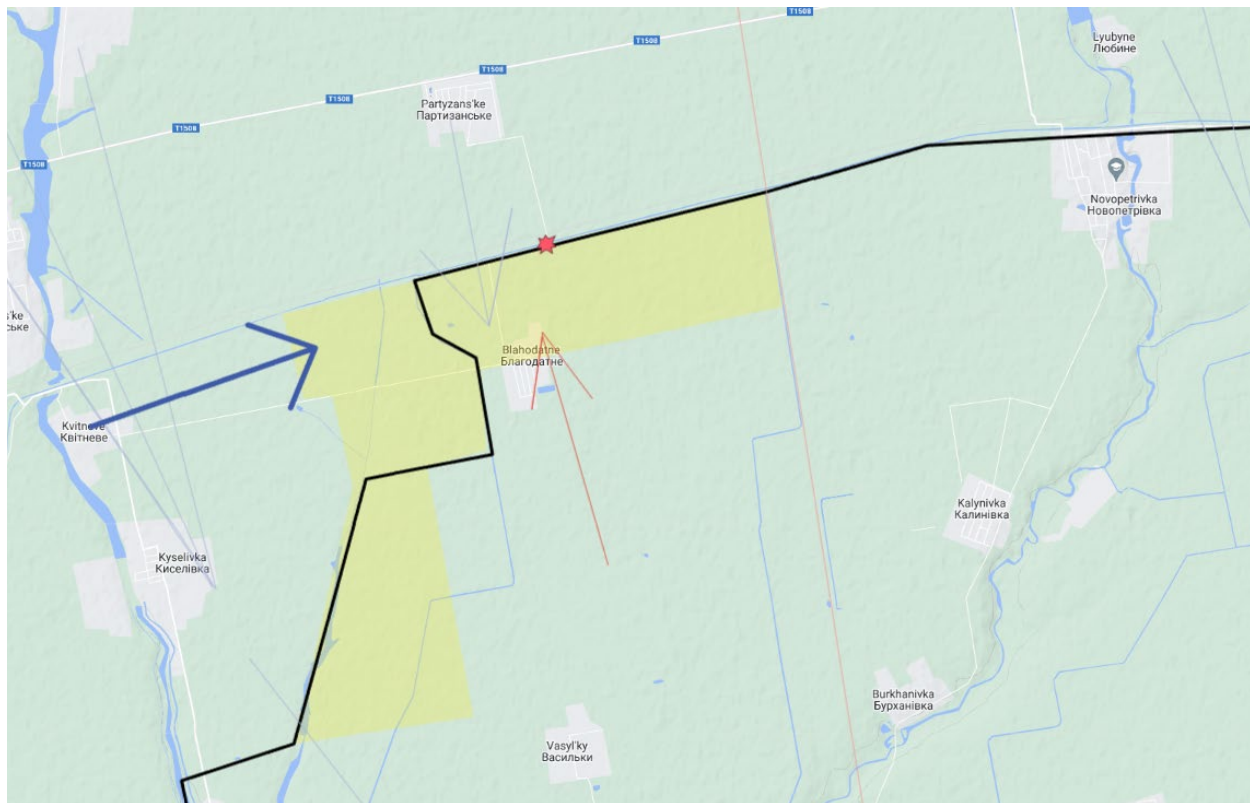
² https://twitter.com/war__online/status/1565365687123582980

white flags. There have been reports of intense fighting for control of the town from Ukrainian and Russian sources. We consider the settlement contested based on the available information.



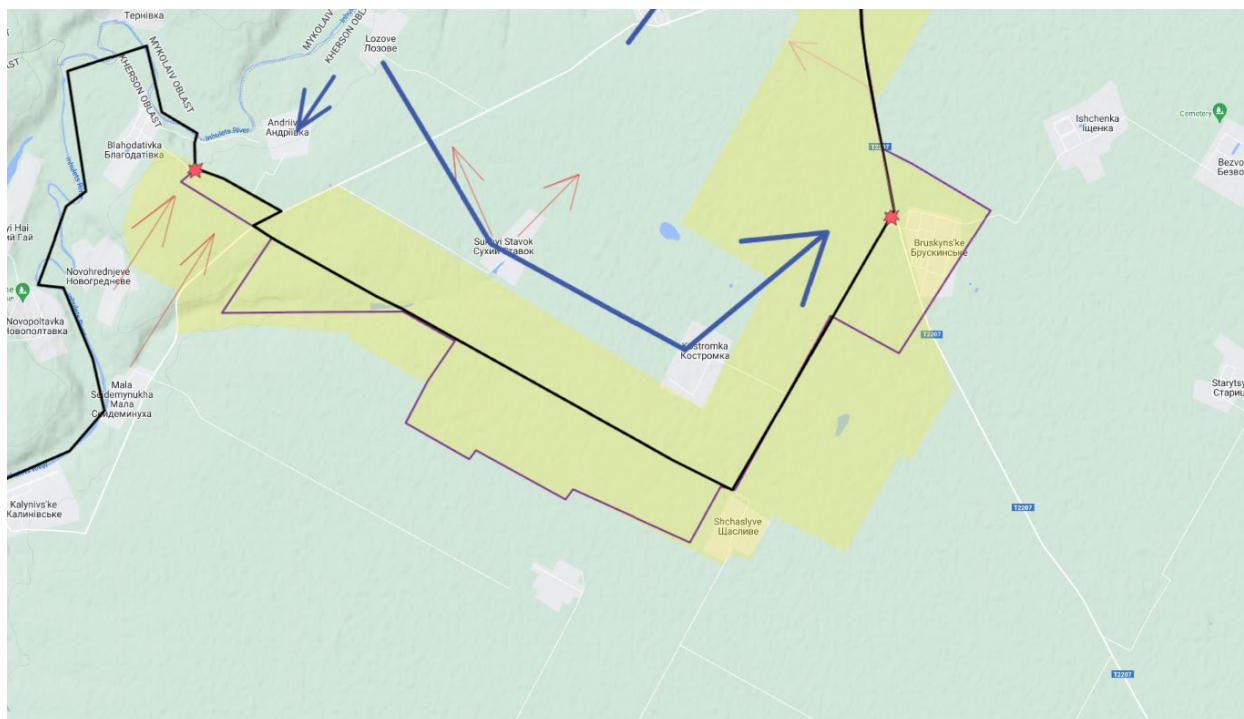
Some Pro-Russian accounts reported that Russian troops advanced to the southern edge of [Ternovi Podi](#), which Ukraine took control of on August 29. Analyzing the terrain around the small village, we find the claims implausible.³

³ <https://t.me/rybar/38057>



Pro-Russian accounts claimed Ukrainian forces attempted to advance on [Blahodatne](#) from the north, which is also implausible because that would require a contested crossing of the Inhuletskyi Canal. The command and control center for the Russian military in Snihurivka was destroyed in an artillery attack.⁴

⁴ https://t.me/noviny_novostiniko/6410

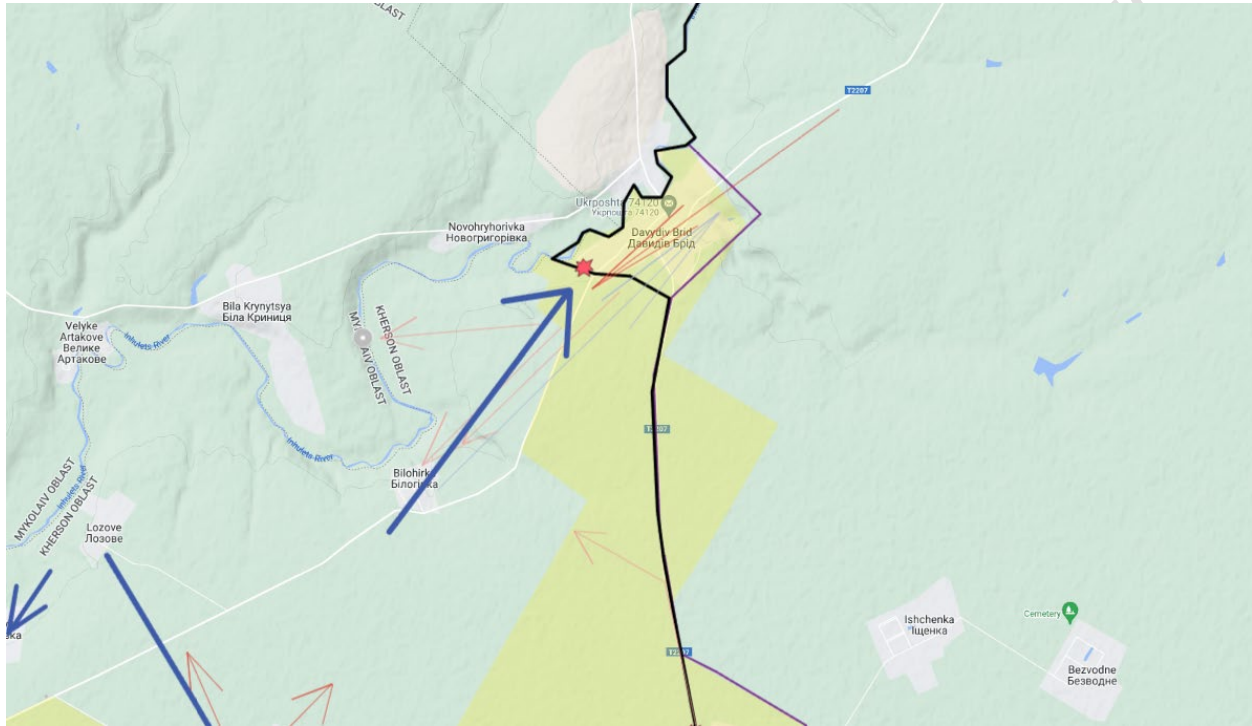


Ukrainian forces are finding the most success on the Inhulets River bridgehead. Pro-Russian accounts reported Ukraine had liberated [Kostromka](#) and was fighting for control of [Bruskyne](#).⁵ The General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine reported that Lozove, Sukhyi Stavok, and Velyke Artakove were hit by air strikes, confirming that Ukrainian troops were present in all three settlements.⁶ Additionally, Andriivka was shelled. Further west, Russian

⁵ <https://t.me/rybar/38058>

⁶ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report PM](#)

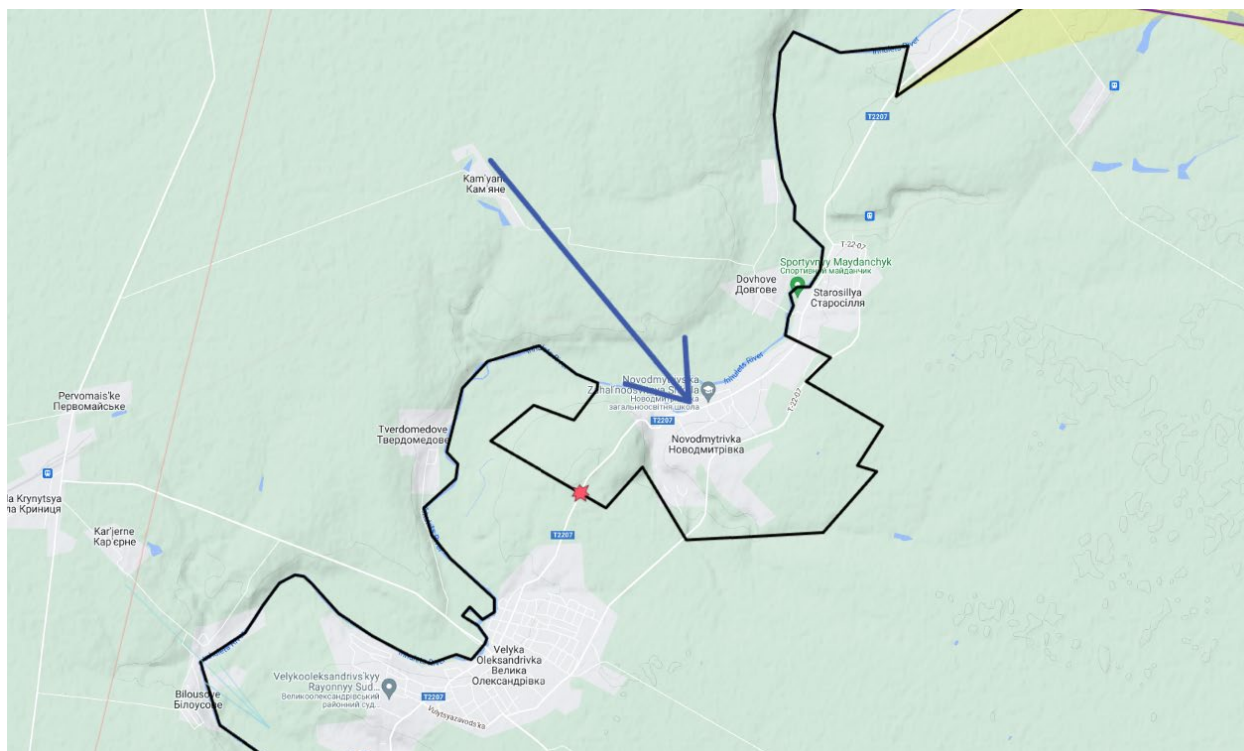
armor was destroyed in a forested area near [Novohrednjjeve](#).⁷



Ukrainian forces were fighting on the western edge of [Davydiv Brid](#), based on multiple reports from Pro-Russian and Pro-Ukrainian sources.⁸

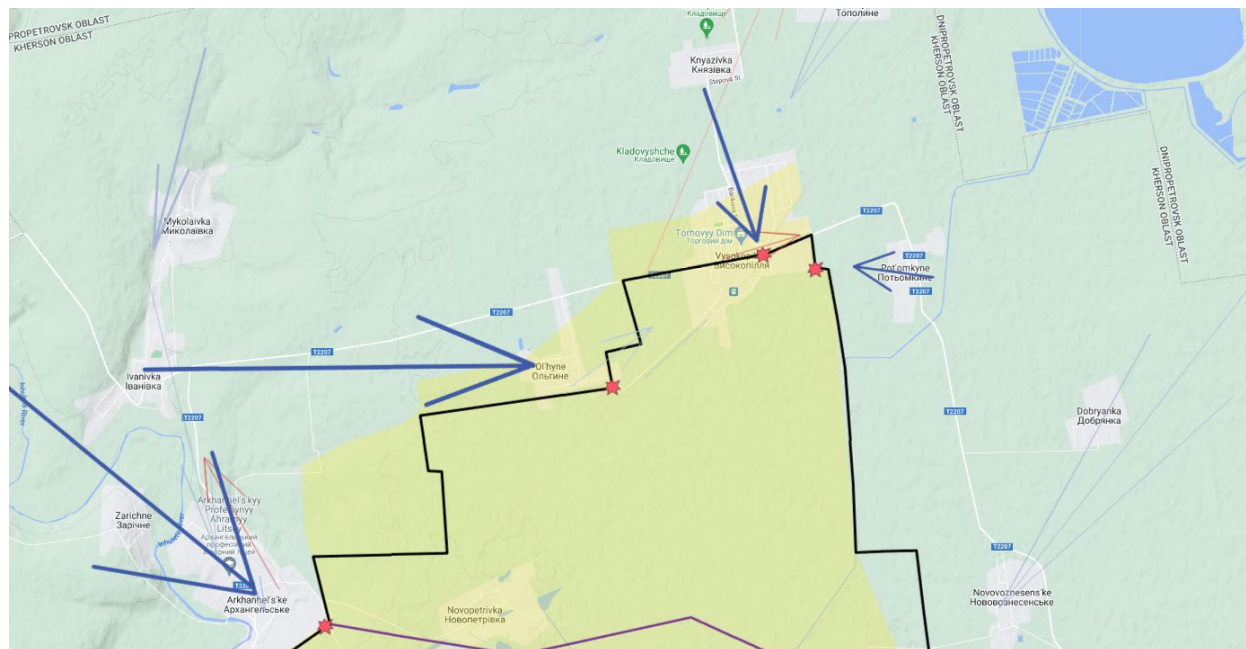
⁷ <https://twitter.com/PauUJawin/status/1564938757651972099>

⁸ <https://twitter.com/warmonitor3/status/1565277577454952448>



The Washington Post broke OPSEC and reported from Kam'iane.⁹ The report shared photos of a low water crossing over the Inhulets River that the Ukrainian military and civilians have used to cross into Kherson oblast freely. During their coverage, a Ukrainian soldier told them that Russian forces were nearby and that they should leave because of the low accuracy of their artillery. Based on the report, the photos, and the evidence that civilians are fishing and freely crossing the river, we have coded [Novodmytrivka](#) as liberated.

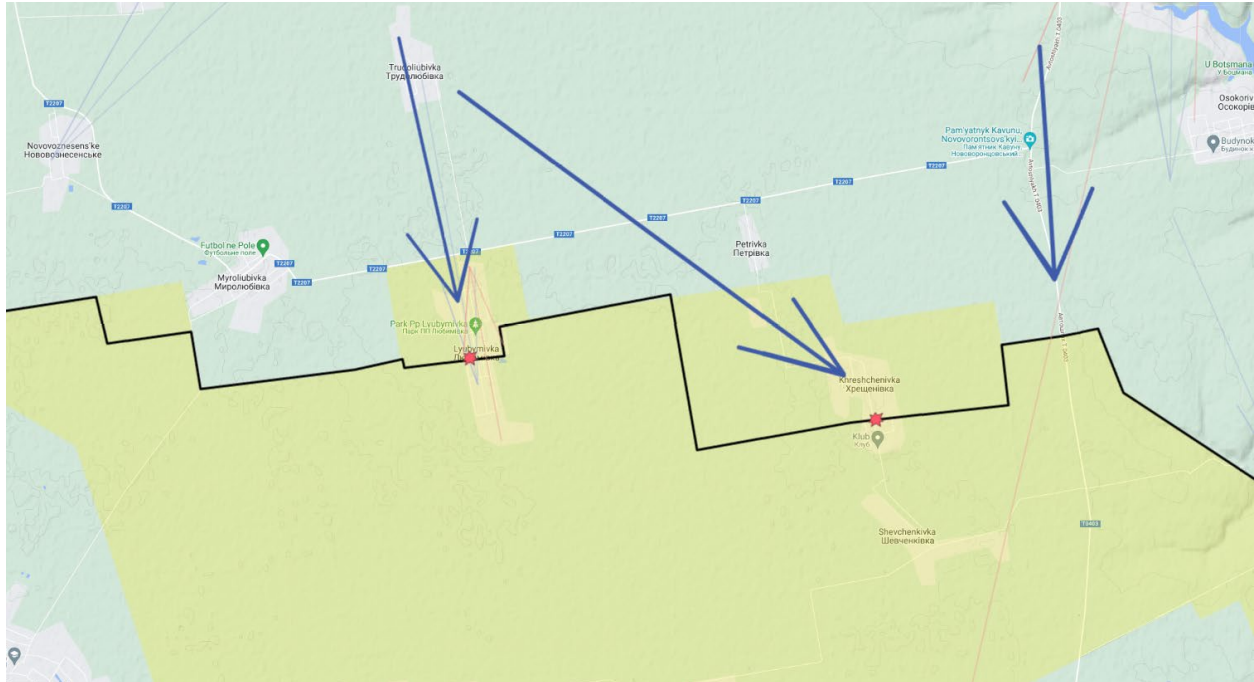
⁹ [Washington Post via MSN](#)



Pro-Russian account Rybar reported continued fighting for control of Arkhanhelske and claimed that Russian troops were pushed out of [Olhnye](#) and [Vysokopillya](#) but were able to push back into the southern parts, where street fighting continued. A video showed [Ukrainian forces shelling Russian positions](#) in the city's southern tip.¹⁰ The General Staff reported that Russian troops tried to advance on [Potomkyne](#) from Vyskopillya but didn't clarify if that was a new attack or a counter against the Ukrainian offensive.¹¹

¹⁰ <https://twitter.com/PaulJawin/status/1565579556320337921>

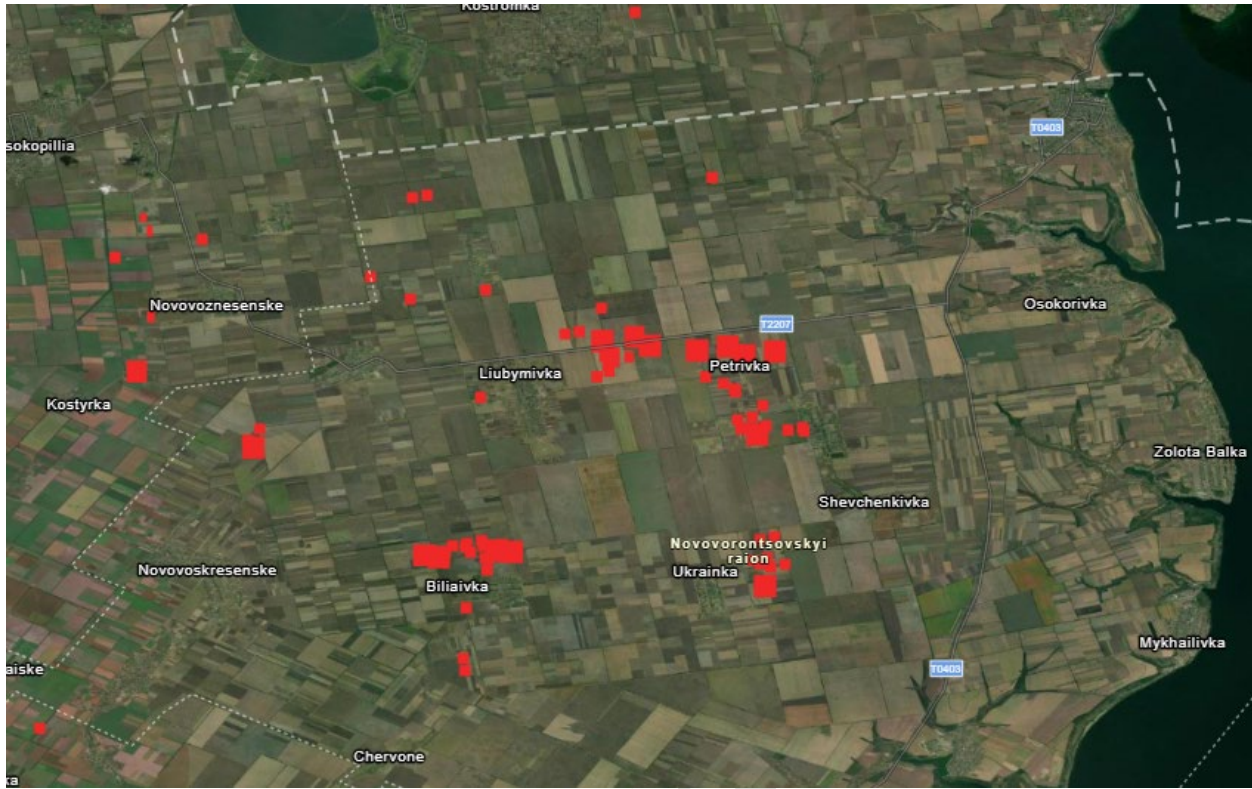
¹¹ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report PM](#)



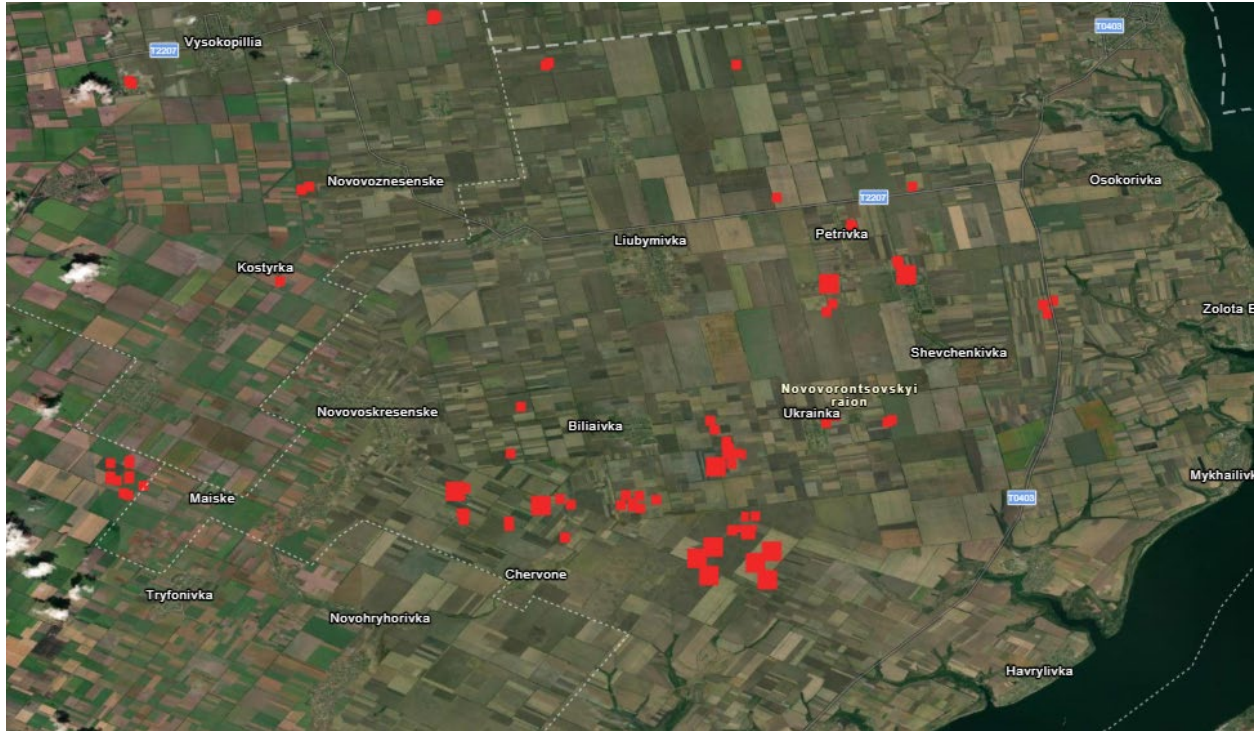
The General Staff also reported that Ukrainian positions in [Lyubomirivka](#) and [Petrivka](#) were shelled, and [Khreshchenivka](#) was hit by an airstrike.^{12 13} In northeast Kherson, NASA Fire Information for Resource Management Systems (FIRMS) shows a steady southward fire progression since August 29.

¹² [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM](#)

¹³ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report PM](#)



August 28-29, 2022



August 31 – September 1, 2022

We believe Petrivka is liberated, and Lyubomirivka and Khreshchenivka are contested.

Three of the four advances we have enough confidence to report have moved to or beyond our possible line of conflict assessment from August 30.

Fighting is [reported as intense](#) by Ukrainian and Russian sources, and territorial gains are reportedly coming at a high cost.¹⁴

Ukrainian Suppress and Destroy Enemy Air Defense (SEAD/DEAD) efforts during July and August are paying dividends on the battlefield. Operational Command South reported the Ukrainian air force flew 18 attack missions in Kherson.¹⁵ An additional sign that Ukraine holds air superiority over Kherson, the General Staff released [several videos](#) of Bayraktar TB-2 drones [attacking targets of opportunity](#).¹⁶ ¹⁷ The drones are large, relatively slow, and would make easy targets for MANPADs, Buk, S-300, S-400, and Pantsir anti-aircraft systems.

Operational Command South reported an additional strike on the Kakhovka and Dariivsky Bridges, including destroying a partially rebuilt pontoon bridge at Darivka.¹⁸ Ukraine claims to have fire control over the remains of the three bridges over the Dnipro.¹⁹ Satellite imagery shows

¹⁴ <https://twitter.com/OUTRUNFANATIC/status/1565574476246532098>

¹⁵ <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=805093080846437>

¹⁶ <https://twitter.com/Osinttechnical/status/1565429362459017221>

¹⁷ <https://twitter.com/Osinttechnical/status/1565429802382893063>

¹⁸ <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=805093080846437>

¹⁹ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/09/1/7365691/>

only one ferry operating across the Dnipro at Kherson and no additional work on the barge bridge.

Ukraine continued to target Russian supplies, command and control, and GLOCs. Ukrainian insurgents reported the location of where Russian forces were attempting to build a pontoon crossing near Nova Kakhovka, which was destroyed in a HIMARS attack.²⁰ Pictures show a large fire burning, indicating that a convoy was staged to make a crossing at the time of the attack.²¹ Russian troop and supply concentrations in Oleshky, which has become a staging area to cross into Kherson by the lone operating ferry, were destroyed in an apparent HIMARS strike.²² Russian assets in Kakhovka were also destroyed.²³

Russian milbloggers and the Russian Ministry of Defense continue to push the narrative that the counteroffensive isn't extensive and has already failed. As we have previously written, it is unreasonable to expect to see results in hours or days. A central message is forming, describing Ukrainian troops as unwilling and under-trained puppets of NATO, using inferior NATO-provided weapons.

²⁰ <https://twitter.com/KyivPost/status/1565590111223533568>

²¹ <https://twitter.com/TpyxaNews/status/1565588347728416771>

²² https://twitter.com/bayraktar_1love/status/1565344617075449856

²³ <https://twitter.com/Flash43191300/status/1565383700493336576>

ASSESSMENT: Ukrainian military training for territorial guards was only two weeks at the start of the war. Training being led by NATO is now five weeks, and territorial guard forces are increasingly being rotated out on other fronts to reconstitute. We have previously documented how the Luhansk (LNR) and Donetsk (DNR) People's Republics use forced conscripts with one week of training. We've also documented the one to two weeks of training given to volunteer units of the Russian Armed Forces, the Private Military Company Wagner Group recruits, and the Neo-Nazi terrorist organizations the Imperial Legion and E.N.O.T. Corp. It is well documented that Russian replacement forces have been issued bolt action rifles from World War II, SSh-68 steel helmets that offer no ballistic protection, and no body armor.

Losses will be heavy in a counteroffensive, as we previously assessed on July 28, and progress will start slowly. There are continued indications that Russian forces are experiencing supply issues and Ukrainian artillery capabilities in Kherson are close to parity, with far greater accuracy.

Ukrainian forces are making steady, methodical progress in three directions. Russian troops in Vysokopillya are under

the most pressure with a shrinking path of retreat that is 12 kilometers long through open wheat fields. Ukraine has established at least three wet crossings, and until the Washington Post story, one was completely uncontested.

Ukrainian forces have advanced up to 10 kilometers in some areas, which will require an operational pause to reinforce GLOCs and prevent becoming over-extended. We maintain that Ukraine is not seeking a kinetic victory but intends to starve Russian forces of supplies. It is essential to recognize that 25,000 Russian troops are in a technical encirclement west of the Dnipro River.

Russian military doctrine is heavily dependent on artillery fire. Consumption of ammunition, fuel, medicine, and spare parts is unsustainable due to the destroyed GLOCs. Ukrainian soldiers report that Russian forces are throwing "everything they have" against their advances. Additionally, any Russian position abandoned with equipment or ammunition left behind can almost immediately be put into service by Ukraine. It could take days, weeks, or even months for Russian supplies to become exhausted, but at some point, they will run out of resources if they don't regain control of the bridges and repair them.

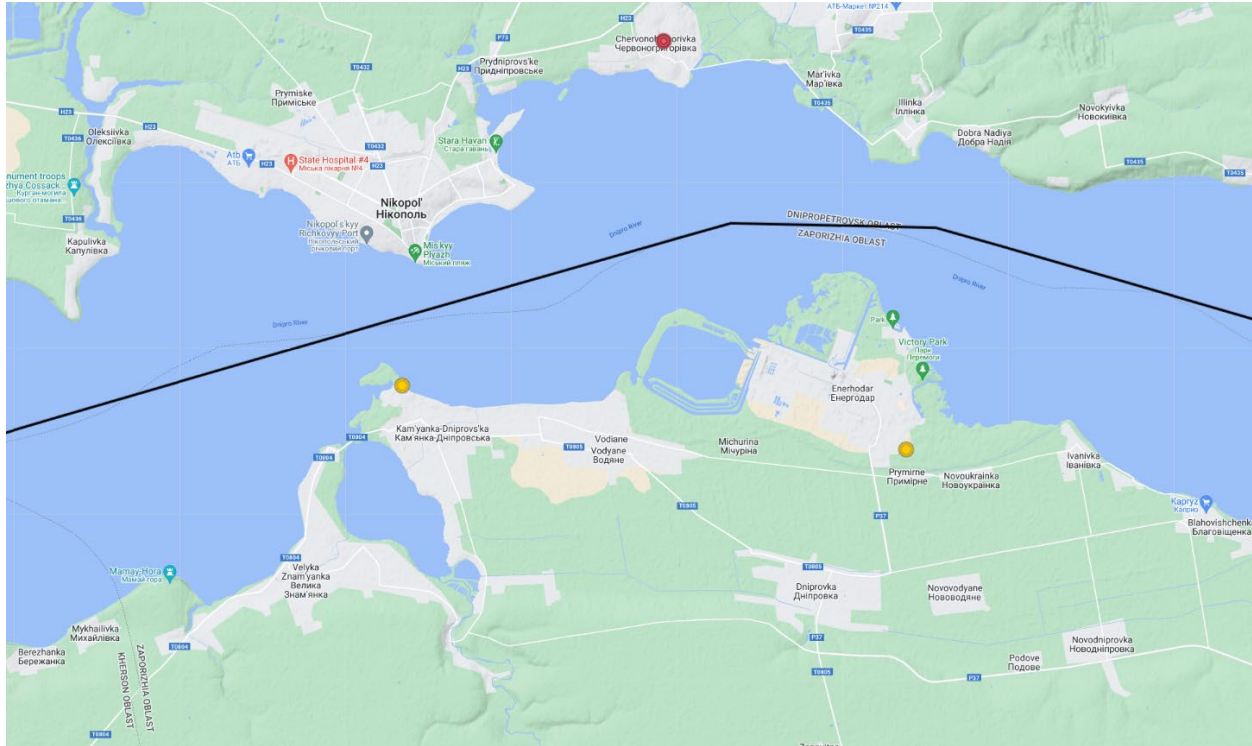
The situation in Kherson is fluid, and better quality intelligence may alter our assessment in the coming hours and days. In conclusion, as of September 1, Ukraine's progress in Kherson is exceeding our expectations.

The Russian air force fired a cruise missile from a Su-35 aircraft at Mykolaiv that was intercepted by air defenses. The Russian air force dropped 250-kilogram bombs on Mykolaiv, injuring two people.

DNIPROPETROVSK & NORTHERN ZAPORIZHIA

Russian Objective: Interdict personnel and equipment assembling for a counteroffensive, break civilian will with continued terror attacks, and turn popular opinion against Ukraine by terrorizing the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant

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



United Nations inspectors with the International Atomic Energy Agency arrived in Enerhodar and took an initial survey of the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant.²⁴ IAEA Director General Mariano Grossi reported that a team of five inspectors would remain at the plant through September 2 for a deeper audit of the situation. Inspectors were filmed by Russian state media going through the plant and [discovering military equipment stored by Reactor 1](#), as shown in previous undercover videos.²⁵

²⁴ <https://t.me/riamelitopol/67192>

²⁵ <https://twitter.com/DefMon3/status/1565385086257733635>

The Russian Ministry of Defense claimed that 60 Ukrainian airborne troops using two boats attempted to storm the power plant in an attempt to take it over before inspectors arrived.²⁶ Russian sources claim, without any evidence that the attempt failed, the boats were sunk, and the entire group of commandos was neutralized. Russian-based disinformation accounts made grander claims. In addition to the boats, which grew to seven in number, Ukraine tried to use two barges to transport 300 additional troops in the attack, which were sunk midriver with no survivors. At the time of publication, disinformation accounts claimed that 384 Ukrainian highly trained commandos died in the botched raid.²⁷

ASSESSMENT: The Russian Ministry of Defense provided no proof to back up any of these claims, nor did it have any pictures of the fighting, attacks, or sinking boats and barges. We find it extremely unlikely that Ukraine would launch a daytime attack across the Dnipro River to capture a power plant with a garrison of 500 soldiers with such a small force.

A floating pedestrian bridge near the power plant was disconnected from its anchor on one side, leaving a gap

²⁶ <https://t.me/rybar/38026>

²⁷ <https://twitter.com/Ukraine66251776/status/1565348272360734720> [Russian Disinformation Account]

between the path used by people to access shops from villages outside of Enerhodar.²⁸ It does not appear this was related to any military activity, and this wasn't one of the mythical war barges allegedly sunk midriver.

In an amazing coincidence, on the same day that IAEA inspectors were spending the night at Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, Nikopol did not experience shelling or a Grad rocket attack fired from the area of the power plant or Enerhodar. Valentyn Reznichenko, Head of the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast Military Administration, reported that the Chervonohryhorivka hromada (an area of territorial control similar to a county or parish in the United States) was hit by several Grad rockets. A 56-year-old man attempted to escape by driving away, and his car was hit by a rocket. Amazingly he survived and is in stable condition.²⁹ It was the only area shelled overnight.

²⁸ https://t.me/info_zp/14736

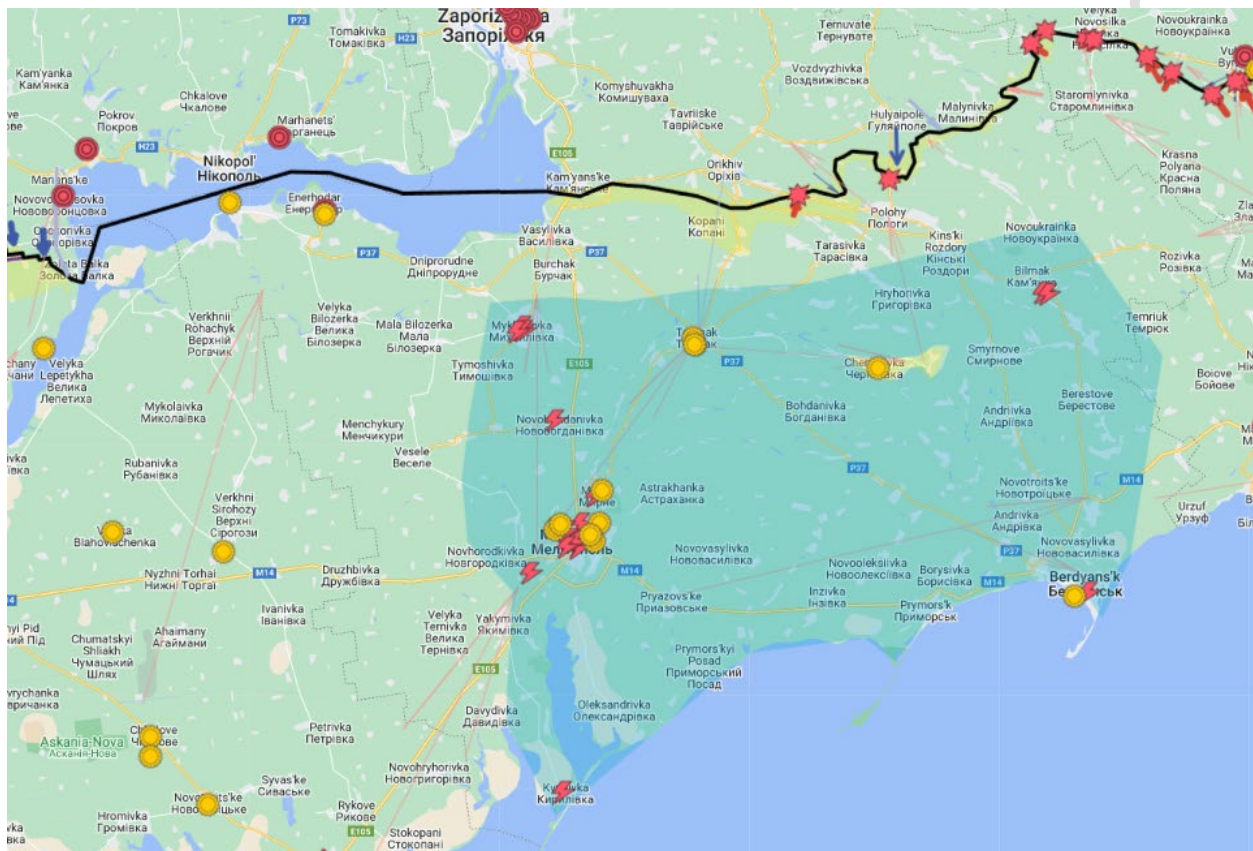
²⁹ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/09/2/7365766/>



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DONBAS REGION

SOUTHERN ZAPORIZHIA



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

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

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

There wasn't any fighting in southern Zaporizhia we can report without breaking operational security. Fighting in the direction of Polohy and Tokmak continued. The Deputy Chief of the Main Operational Department of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, Oleksiy Gromov, reported that two tactical groups were sent from Belgorod to the Orikhiv region.³⁰ This is likely in response to ongoing activity south of the beleaguered city.

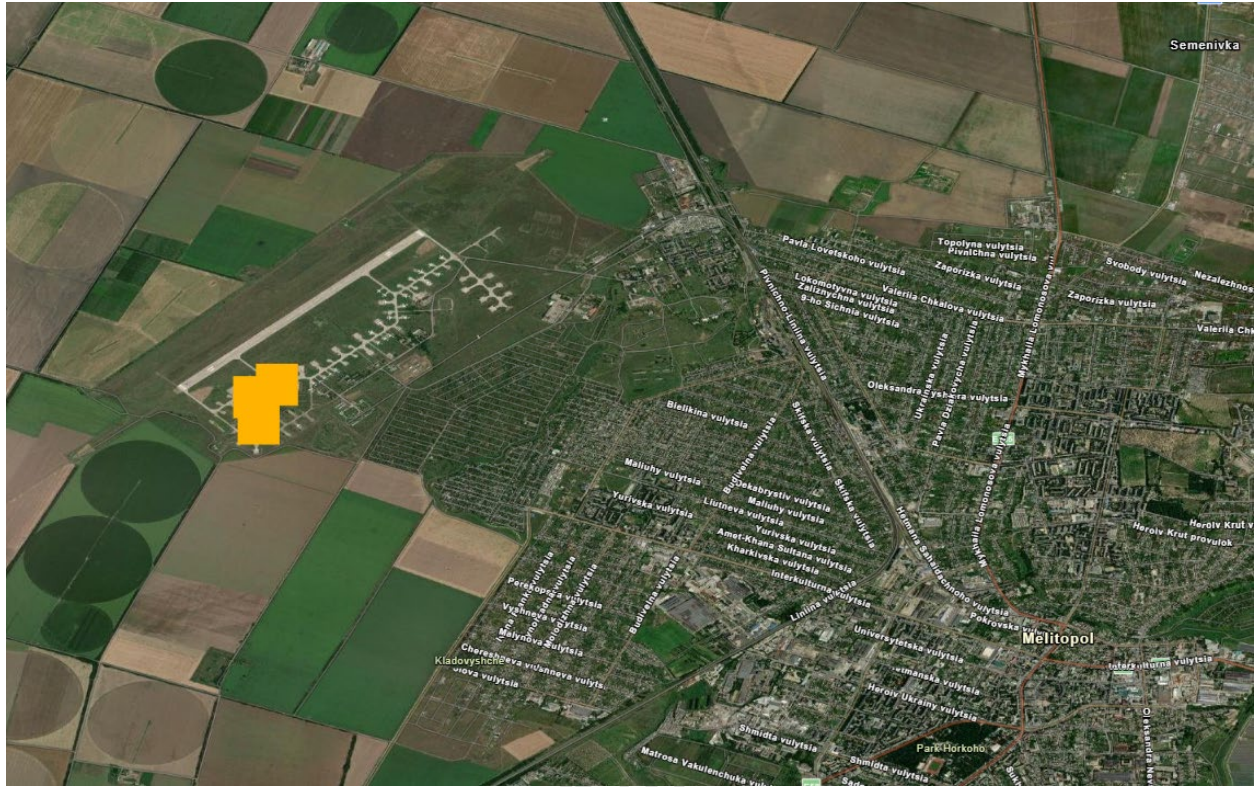
Russian and Ukrainian forces exchanged artillery, rockets fired from Multiple Launch Rocket Systems (MLRS), and tank fire from Zelene Pole to Hulyaipole to Orikhiv.

A HIMARS attack on the Russian-controlled airbase in Melitopol landed ten rockets on an ammunition depot. There were multiple social media reports of a large fire with secondary explosions.^{31 32}

³⁰ [TCH TV](#)

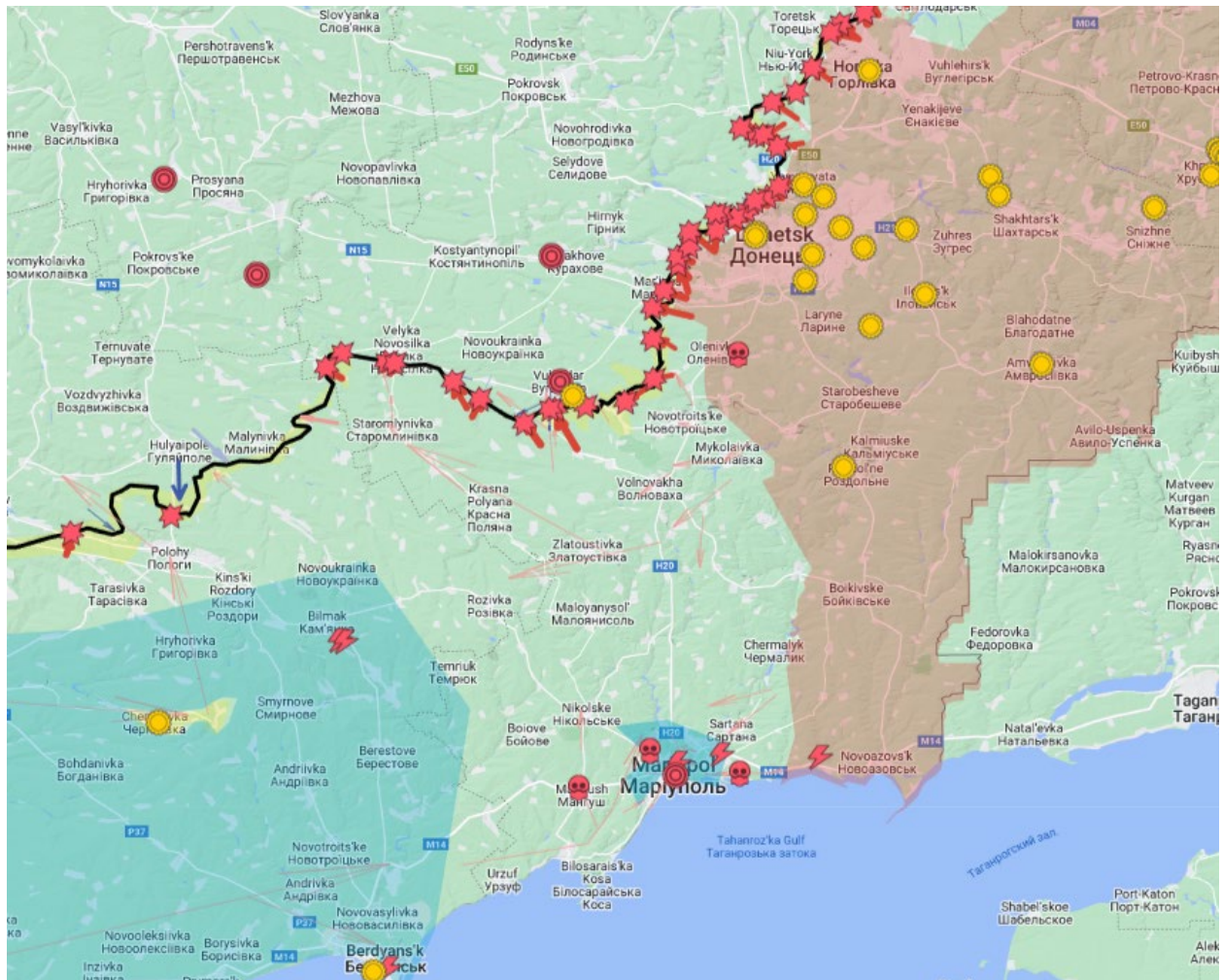
³¹ https://t.me/box_of_pandora/21944

³² https://t.me/info_zp/14756



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SOUTHWESTERN DONETSK

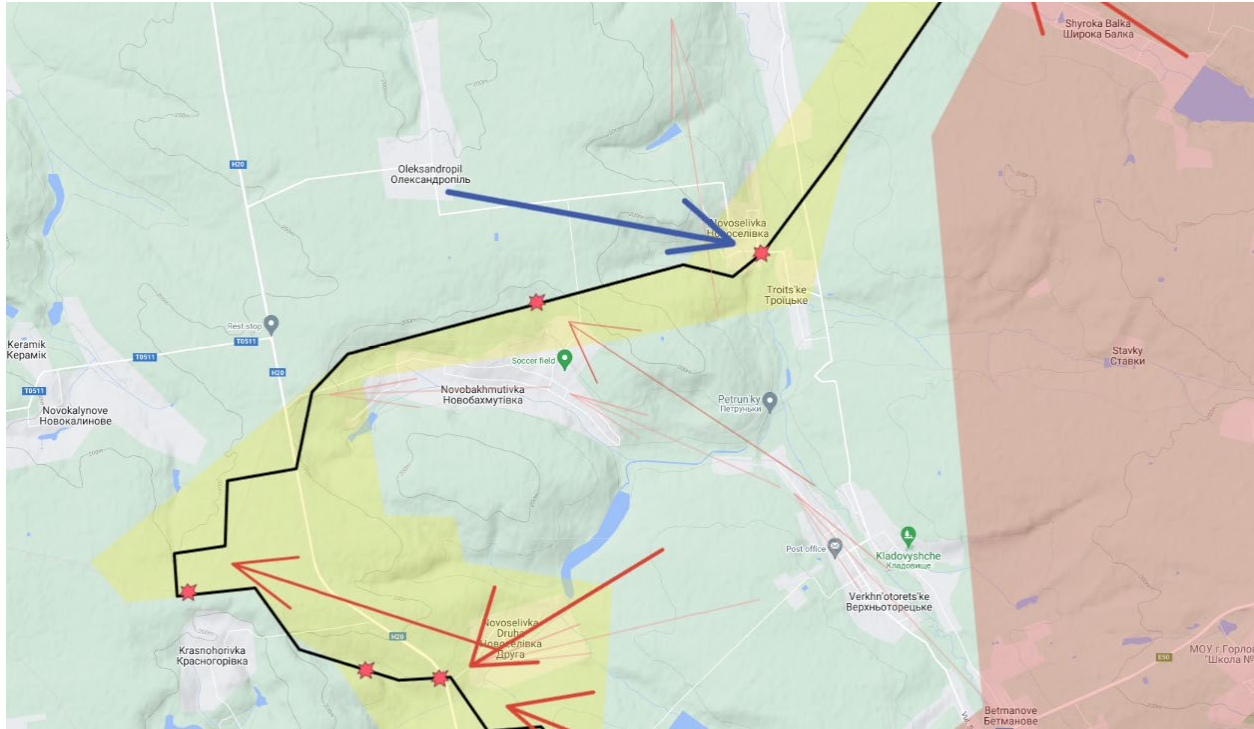


Russian Objective UPDATED: Secure the Donetsk Oblast by September 15, bring the insurrection across southwestern Donetsk under control, and stage a referendum on becoming part of the Russian Federation

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

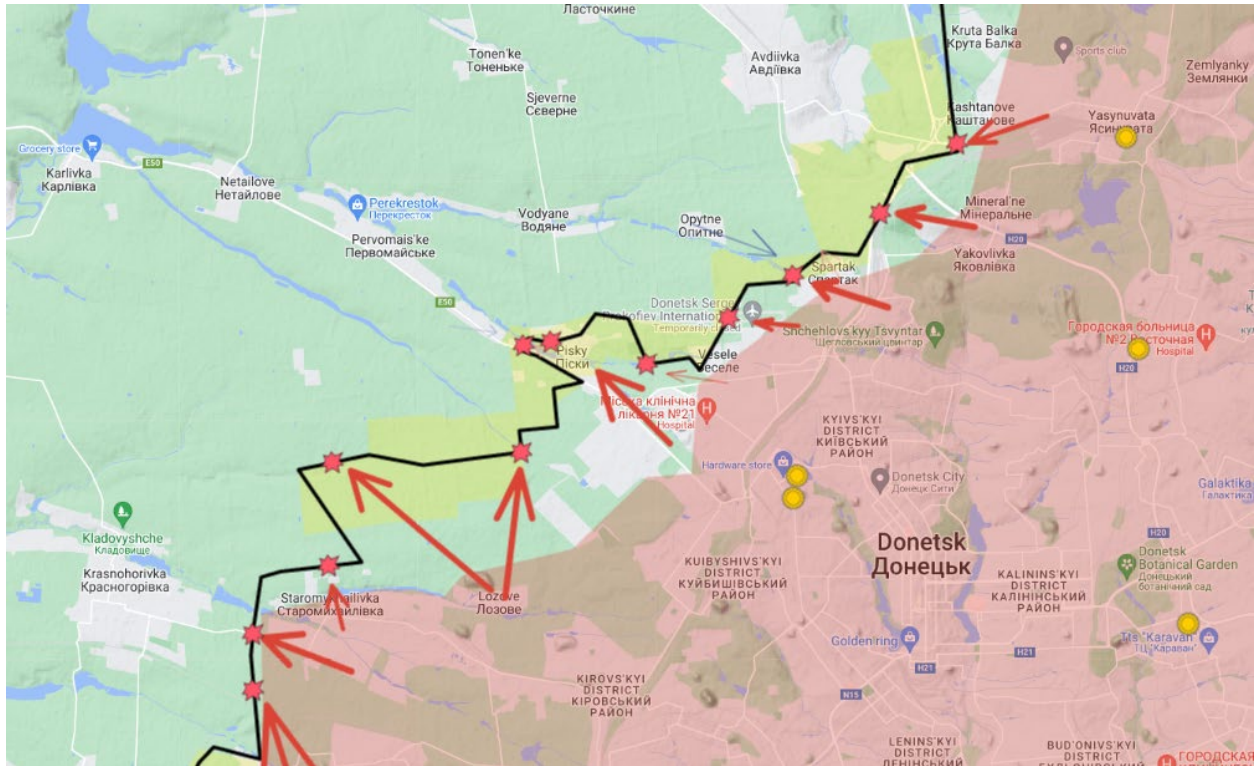
Russian President Vladimir Putin has extended the deadline to capture all of the Donetsk Oblast to September 15 after Russian troops failed to meet the previous deadline of August 31.³³ It is doubtful the entire 3rd Army Corps has arrived in Donetsk and Zaporizhia, and given the rush of troops being sent to Ukraine, it is unlikely that they have received complete training.

³³ <https://www.newsweek.com/vladimir-putin-army-deadline-russia-military-push-ukraine-land-1739154>



Our favorite FSB colonel, wanted war criminal, and Kremlin pariah Igor "Girkin" Strelkov reported that Ukrainian forces launched a counterattack on [Novoselivka](#) and had partial success.³⁴

³⁴ <https://t.me/strelkovii/3158>

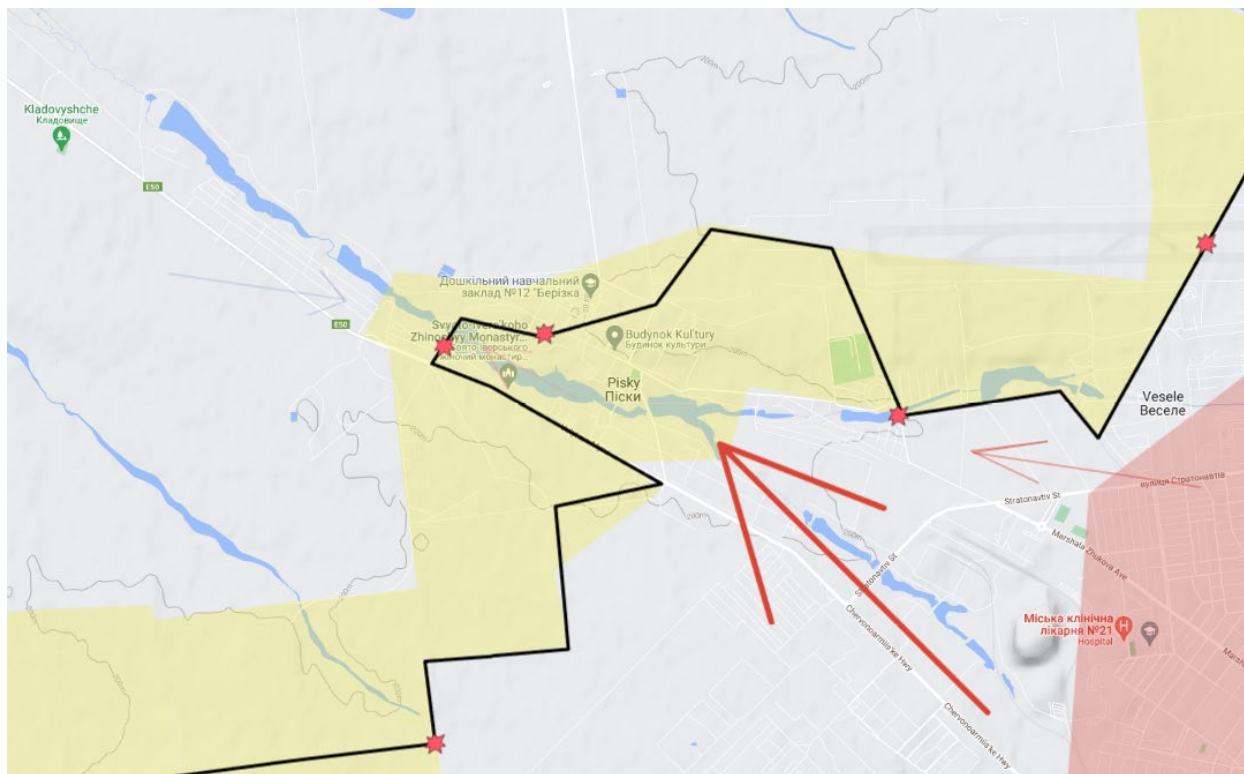


Fighting increased in intensity west of Donetsk, but Russian forces didn't make any gains. The 1st Army Corps of the DNR attempted to advance on [Avdiivka](#), [Nevelske](#), [Pervomaiske](#), [Pisky](#), and [Krasnohorivka](#).^{35 36 37} All five advances failed.

³⁵ <https://twitter.com/GirkinGirkin/status/1565059436439388161>

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

³⁷ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report PM](#)



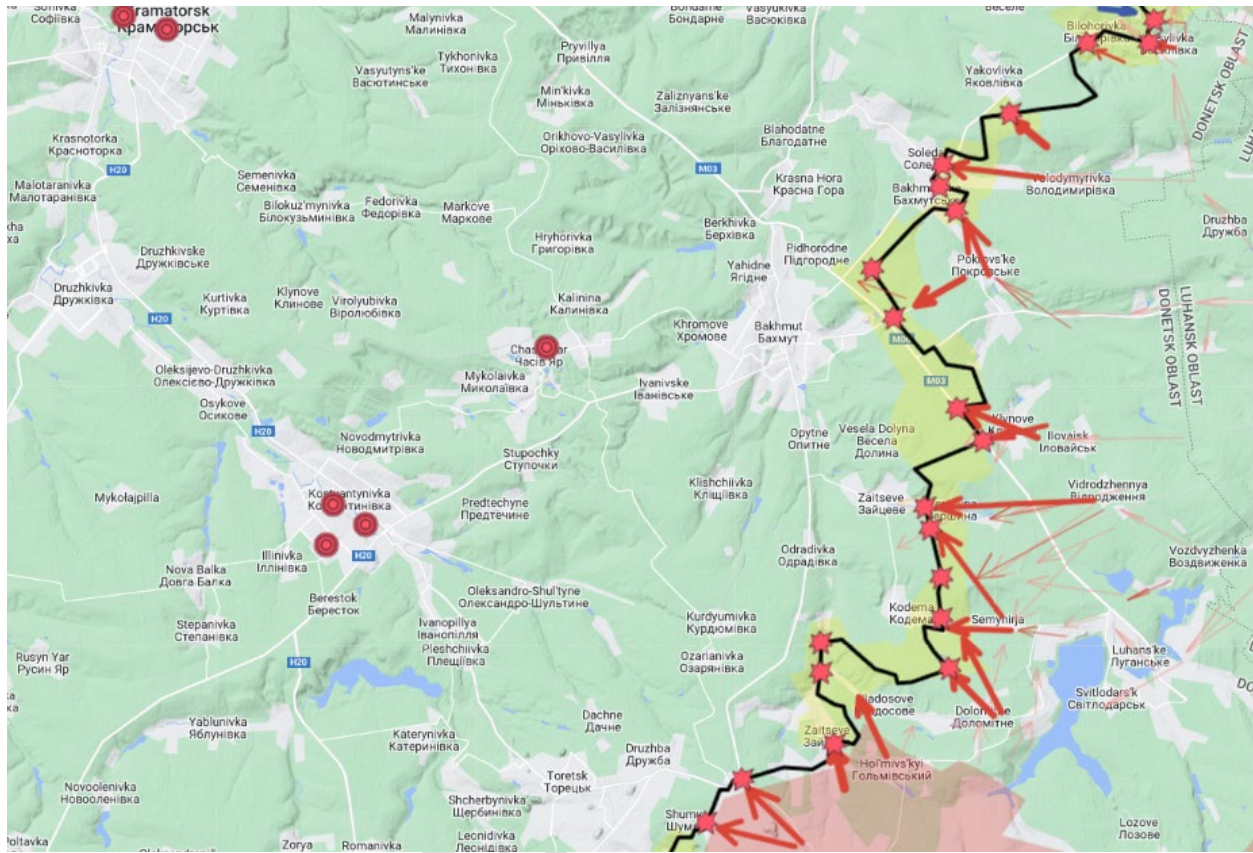
[Intense fighting for Pisky continued](#), with Russian forces continuing to shell Ukrainian positions on the E-50 Ring Road and the Pisky-Pervomaiske border.³⁸ The Donetsk People's Republic shared a video of artillery firing on the Ukrainian position on the border of the two towns.³⁹ Ukrainian troops are likely on both sides of the highway.

Ukrainian and Russian forces traded artillery, rockets from MLRS, and indirect tank fire from Niu York to Karlivka.

³⁸ <https://youtu.be/40XF4AhGfn0>

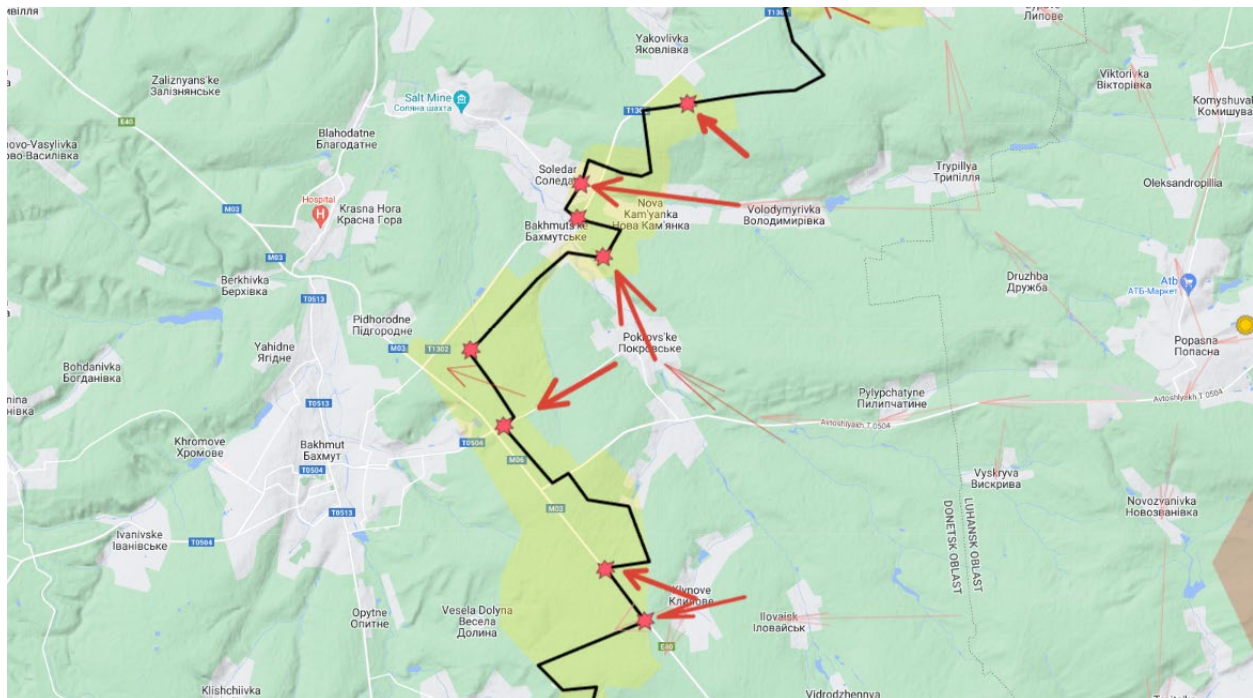
³⁹ <https://twitter.com/GirkinGirkin/status/1565059436439388161>

BAKHMUT



Russian Objective UPDATED: Secure the area by September 15 to support an autumn referendum to join the Russian Federation

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

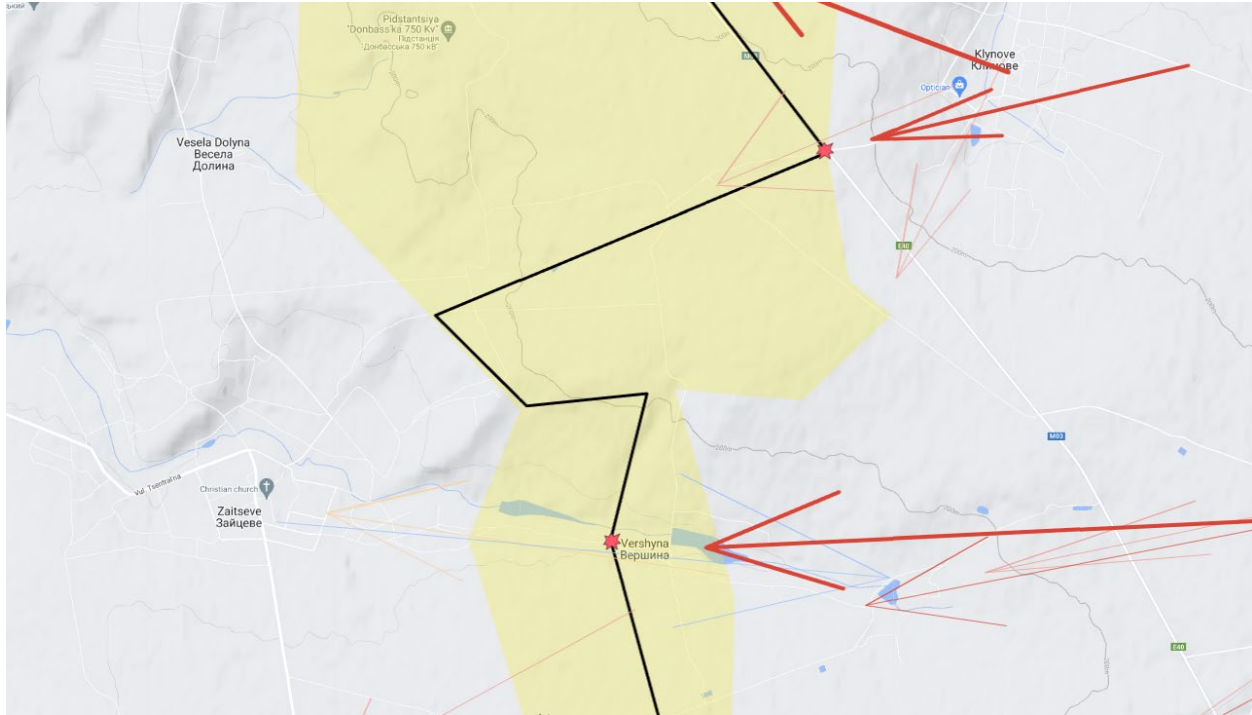


PMC Wagner and the 2nd Army Corps of the LNR relaunched their attacks on [Soledar](#) and [Bakhmutske](#) but remained unable to break through Ukrainian defenses.^{40 41} Wagner Group is suffering catastrophic losses after a month of repeated attacks on [Bakhmut](#) but continues to send reinforcements to attack the same Ukrainian positions.⁴² Ukraine was able to rotate defending units, with most territorial guards replaced with better-equipped and trained forces.

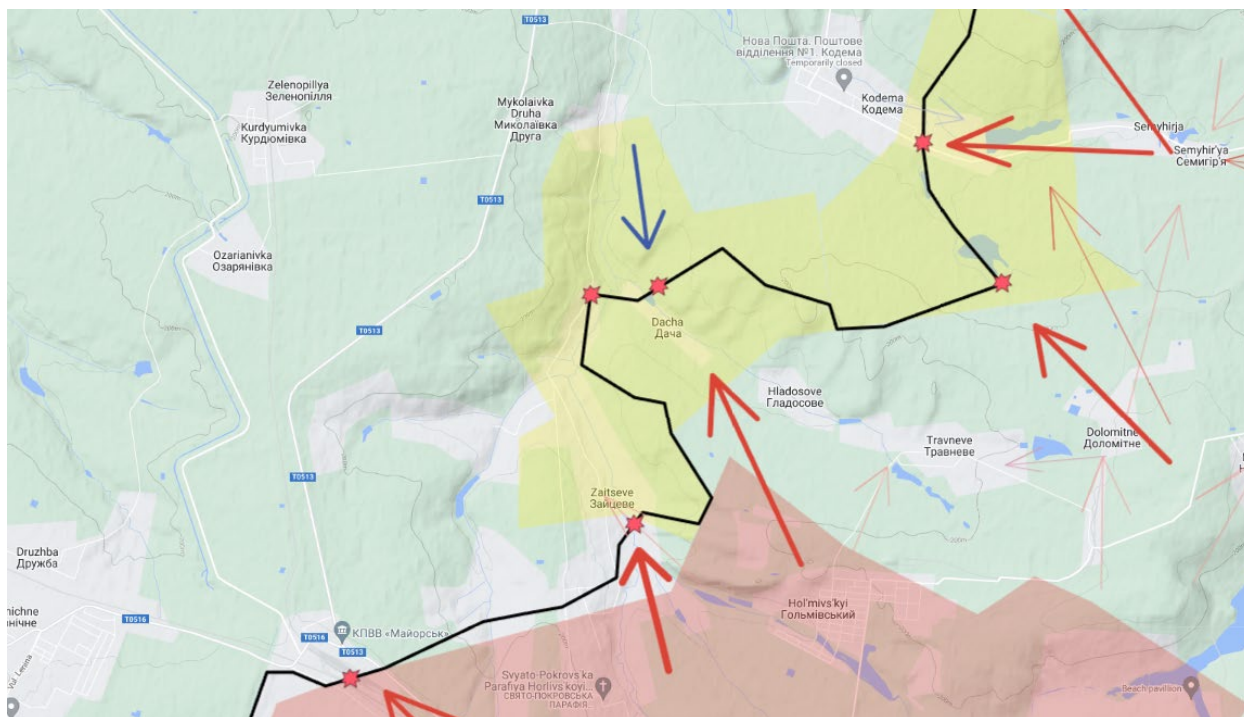
⁴⁰ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM](#)

⁴¹ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report PM](#)

⁴² https://twitter.com/TCG_CrisisRisks/status/1565571967771545600



Further south, LNR separatists continued their attempts to advance on [Vesela Dolyna](#) and [Zaitseve](#). Gains were made in Vesela Dolyna but measured in meters, and the attack on Zaitseve was unsuccessful.



In the Svitlodarsk Bulge, fighting for [Kodema](#) continued, with Russian forces establishing their positions in the eastern part of the village. Russian forces made a new attempt to advance on [Mayorsk](#) and could not break through the Ukrainian defenses.

ASSESSMENT: Unchanged from August 24

The advance toward Bakhmut has been the most successful offensive since the Russian Ministry of Defense ended the 11-day operational pause on July 16. Ukraine retreated from Svitlodarsk on May 24 and successfully defended the Vulheriska Thermal Power Plant through

July 26. Since capturing the plant, Russian proxy forces, mainly PMC Wagner Group supported by terrorist elements of the Imperial Legion and Kadyrovites of the 141st Special Motorized Regiment, have advanced 7 kilometers. It took Russian forces 90 days, accounting for terrain, to advance 12 kilometers from Svitlodarsk.

The advance to capture Bakhmut has likely reached its culmination point, with Russian combat power exhausted in this region. Before the arrival of HIMARS and improved GLOC interdiction, Russian military leaders would saturate the region with artillery and rocket fire and win an attritional battle. Due to excessive use and deferred maintenance, Russian artillery systems are wearing out. Ammunition supplies are becoming an issue theaterwide, although the issue is relative.

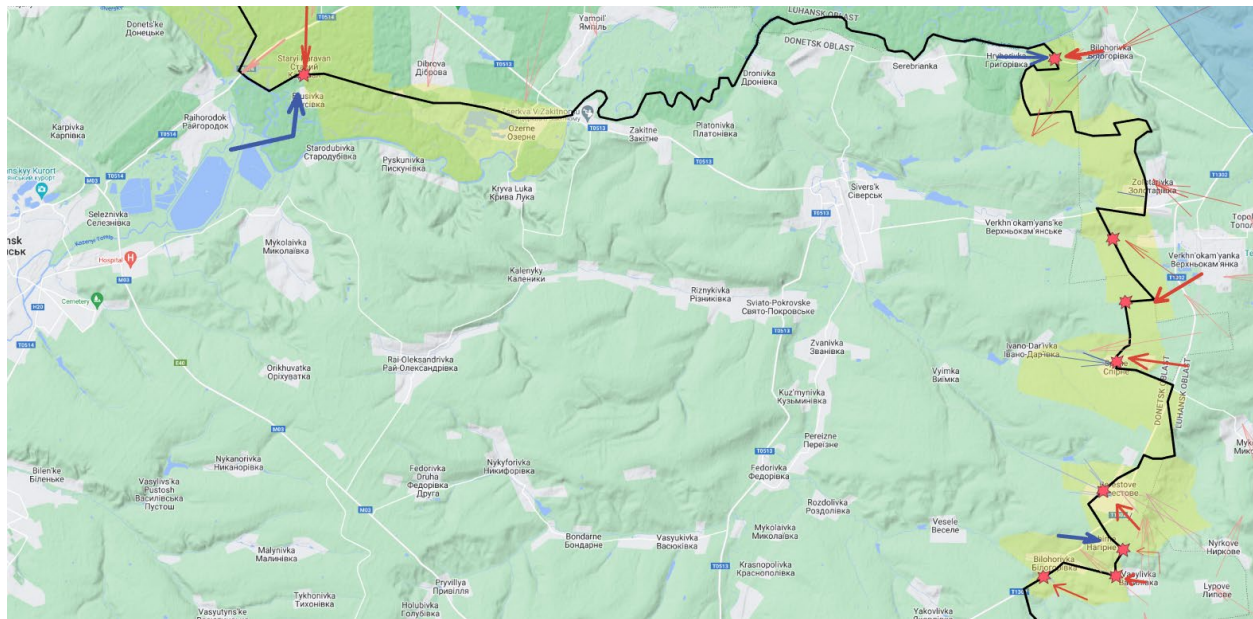
Even at 40% of the peak daily fire rate in late June, the quantity of artillery fired remains significant and greater than Ukraine's capabilities. A key difference from late June is that Russian artillery firepower is no longer concentrated on a single axis such as Luhansk. According to data analysis by Ragnar Gudmundsson, the number of settlements targeted by Russian artillery increased from

50 on June 26 to almost 100 on August 12.⁴³ Fewer artillery pieces, fewer shells, spread over a larger area.

Russian forces could capture Bakhmut and Soledar before the arrival of Rasputitsa, also known as mud season, but it will require reallocating artillery pieces and military units from other axes.

⁴³ [Ragnar Gudmundsson Russia-Ukraine War Data Analysis Tables](#)

NORTHEAST DONETSK & LUHANSK



Russian Objective UPDATED: Capture the remainder of the Donetsk Oblast by September 15, control insurgency, and integrate captured territory into Russia

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

There wasn't any significant ground fighting in this region.

The settlements around Siversk were shelled, along with the T-1302 Highway, including Bilohorivka [Donetsk] and Spirne. Closer to Slovyansk, Raihorodok was shelled.^{44 45}

ASSESSMENT: Unchanged from August 17

On August 13, we assessed there would be continued sporadic fighting in northeast Donetsk, but we did not anticipate renewed significant combat operations. That assessment was tested this week. The 2nd Army Corps of the Luhansk People's Republic (LNR) is combat ineffective and incapable of carrying out offensive operations even with the support of Russian artillery.

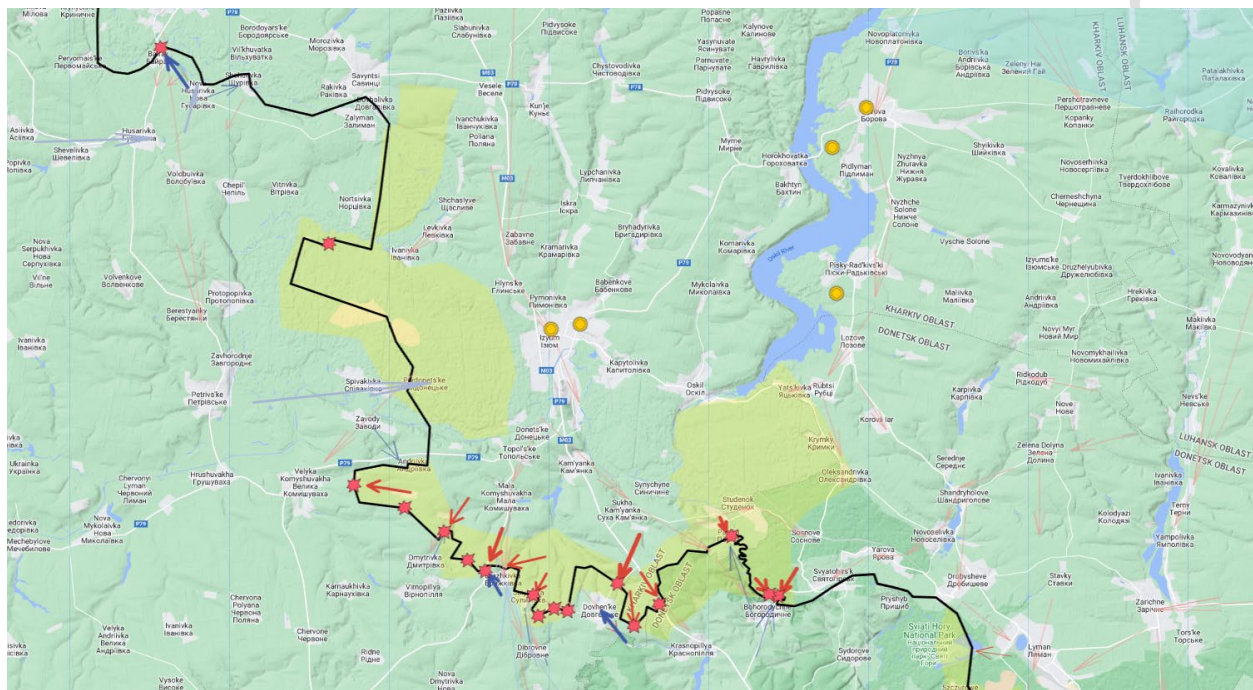
The destruction of the command center for the 2nd Army Corps in Lysychansk and the Private Military Company (PMC) Wagner Group headquarters in Popasna may have degraded decision-making capabilities. We maintain that any additional fighting in this region before mud season will be positional, spoiling attacks, and probes.

⁴⁴ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM](#)

⁴⁵ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report PM](#)

KHARKIV

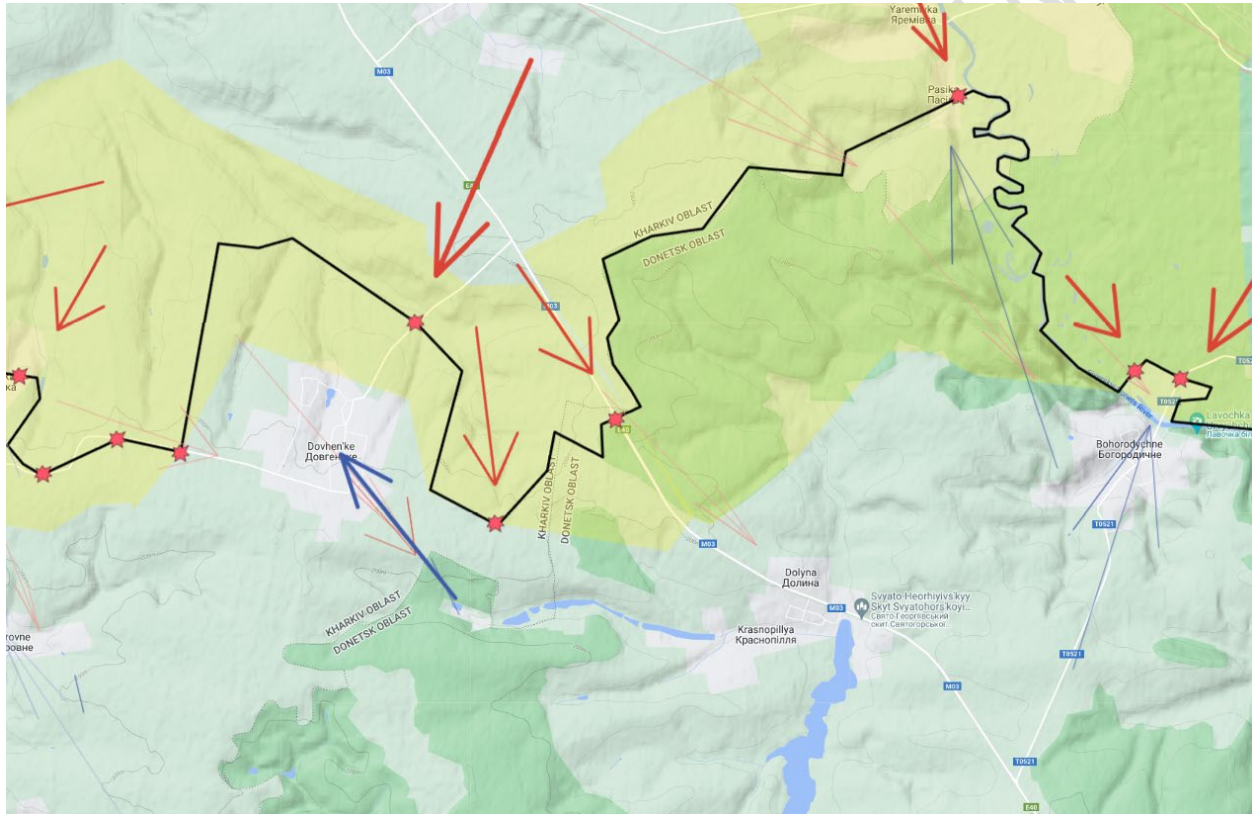
IZYUM AXIS



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

Ukrainian Objective: Defend against advances on Slovyansk and capitalize on weaknesses in Russian defenses, continue to harass and interdict Russian GLOCs, execute Special Operation Forces (SOF) raids on Russian troops located behind the line of conflict

Russian forces attempted to advance on [Dolyna](#) and were unsuccessful. The Russian air force attacked Nova Dmytrivka and Bohorodychne.⁴⁶



Leaders with the Donetsk People's Republic claim Ukrainian forces attacked Rubtsi with HIMARS, destroying the temporary offices of the Ministry of Emergency Situations, killing 13, and wounding nine.^{47 48} The report

⁴⁶ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM](#)

⁴⁷ <https://t.me/readovkanews/41107>

⁴⁸ <https://t.me/itsdonetsk/28707>

stated, "Young people always came to the aid of local residents, demined objects, carried humanitarian aid."

ASSESSMENT: Inexperienced people would not defuse an unexploded HIMARS rocket with a 91-kilogram warhead. The official report claim of "demining objects" indicates that ammunition was stored at the offices. The video of the incident did not show any aid being recovered.

Deputy Chief of the Main Operational Department of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, Gromov, reported that a Russian BTG was being deployed into the "Sloviansk area" to aid the faltering defense of Izyum.⁴⁹

ASSESSMENT: Unchanged from August 7

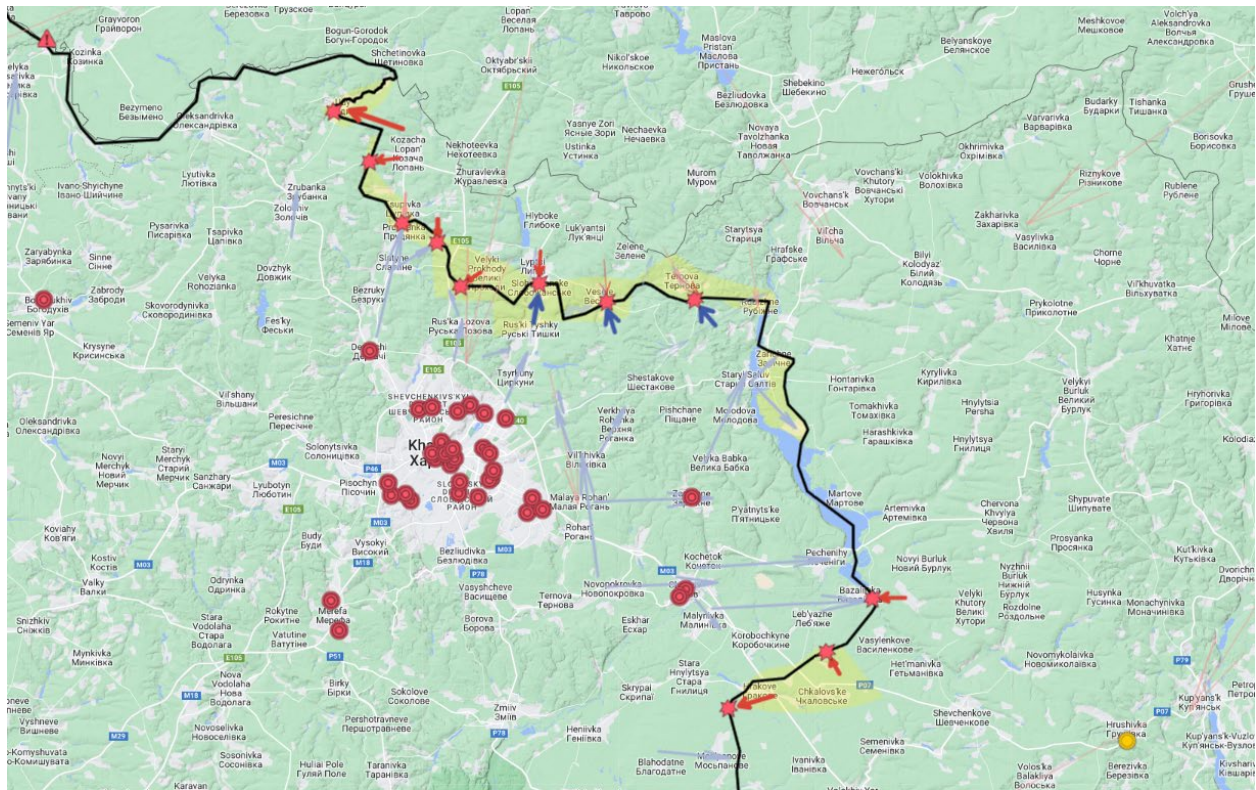
We remain unwilling to call the ongoing action by Ukrainian forces a counteroffensive. We maintain that Russian forces between Avdriivka and Kopanky are now in a salient and at moderate risk of encirclement if Ukrainian forces were to make a breakthrough.

⁴⁹ [TCH.TV](#)

It is implausible that Russian forces can secure the Donetsk oblast by August 31 without securing Slovyansk as part of that self-declared deadline.

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NORTHERN KHARKIV



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

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

There wasn't any significant ground fighting in this region. Typical artillery exchanges occurred along the entire line of conflict northwest, north, and northeast of Kharkiv. The General Staff reported that Udy was shelled in both reports. We are waiting for additional information before returning the settlement to Ukrainian control.^{50 51}

The major counteroffensive from Kharkiv never occurred, as we previously assessed. The rumors started by the DNR only served to create a degree of panic in Belgorod, Russia.

Russia fired a single S-300 anti-aircraft missile at Kharkiv city. The missile successfully shot down four parked cars and left a large crater in the ground.⁵² There were no injuries.

ASSESSMENT: Unchanged from August 11

Our assessment on August 10 that Russian forces were testing the capabilities of the Ukrainian territorial guard taking over the defense of Izyum was correct. Positional

⁵⁰ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM](#)

⁵¹ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report PM](#)

⁵² <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2022/09/2/7365762/>



fighting, reconnaissance, and probing for weaknesses will continue to occur.

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CHERNIHIV & SUMY REGION

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

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

Dmytro Zhyvytsky, Sumy Oblast Administrative and Military Governor, reported the hromadas of Krasnopillia, Nova Sloboda, Znob-Novhorod, Esman, and Kyrykivka, were shelled by Russian forces firing from across the international border. In the village of Maiske, two cars, a garage, and a home were damaged.

Russian forces fired across the international border and shelled Kamianska Sloboda, Zaliznyi Myst, and Senkivka in the Chernihiv oblast. There weren't any reports of serious damage or casualties.⁵³

⁵³ [General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine – Facebook Report AM](#)

KYIV REGION

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

BLACK SEA, CRIMEA & ODESA REGION

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

WESTERN & CENTRAL UKRAINE

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

THEATERWIDE & EXTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS

A leaked document from the Russian Ministry of Defense revealed that 50,000 Russian soldiers had been killed in action in Ukraine since February 24. The number would not include certain contract troops in service with the Luhansk and Donetsk People's Republic, PMC Wagner Group, foreign volunteer units, or terrorist elements of the Imperial Legion. The total casualties, killed and wounded in action, could be as high as 175,000.

ASSESSMENT: Wounded in action means a soldier was wounded badly enough to require leaving the battlefield. It could be a simple procedure to remove a small piece of shrapnel and a few stitches or as severe as a permanent disability. The United States has a killed in action to wounded in action ratio of 1 to 5 or 6, while Ukrainian forces are closer to 3 or 4. Based on the minimal data released by Russia, the ratio is estimated to be 1 to 2.5 due to a lack of training in battlefield medicine and antiquated field first aid kits. Enough of the nerdy math; we can double-check the claim.

The Russian Ministry of Defense uses a formula that goes back to Soviet times to calculate the number of casualties a military suffers based on the number of officers killed. For every officer killed, they calculate there are 247 casualties. Russia has 1,067 confirmed officers killed since February 24, not counting those who fell out of Russian windows.⁵⁴ That would come up with an eye-watering number of 263,000. Military doctrine has changed since the formula was created, and battlefield medicine has dramatically improved since the 1940s. Another issue is that before the 1970s, it was common to have more casualties from disease

⁵⁴ <https://twitter.com/KilledInUkraine/status/1565085223574011905>

and exposure than from battle. The formula was adjusted to account for these improvements – and after all the math is done, the estimated number of casualties is...

176,000.

The anti-Putin resistance groups The Freedom of Russia Legion and the National Republican Army signed a declaration of cooperation to create a common political platform that Ilya Ponomarev will lead.⁵⁵ The National Republican Army claimed responsibility for the assassination of propagandist Darya Dugina, daughter of 21st Century Rasputin Alexander Dugin.

The Ukrainian Working Group, created by the United States, will hold its next meeting on September 8. The group of more than 50 nations meets monthly to coordinate Ukraine's economic, humanitarian, and military aid.

⁵⁵ https://twitter.com/nexta_tv/status/1565349839965401089?

WAR CRIMES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Mykola Osychenko, the president of Mariupol TV, claimed that over 100,000 Mariupol civilians were killed during the 78-day siege.⁵⁶ As of mid-August, the Illichivskyi morgue of Mariupol documented 87,000 dead people. In addition, there a database of unidentified killed people is kept in the Novoazov Prosecutor's Office and contains 26,750 entries. If the claim is accurate, it is the worst number of civilian deaths in a single city since World War II and represents almost 25% of the prewar population.

A graphic video showed the results of Russian forces' potential false flag attack on Enerhodar. A shell landed in a civilian area, damaging a building, destroying multiple cars, and killing at least one person.⁵⁷

GEOPOLITICAL

According to Russian state media sources, Ravil Maganov, the chief of Russian Lukoil died suddenly from a serious illness.⁵⁸ The part that Russian state media left out is that

⁵⁶ [Euromaidan Press](#)

⁵⁷ https://t.me/info_zp/14738

⁵⁸ <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-62750584>

Maganov's sudden illness involved falling out of the window of the hospital where he was receiving treatment. TASS later reported he had fallen out of a sixth-story window in an apparent suicide. Maganov is the fourth energy industry oligarch to die since the start of the "special military operation."

SIDEBAR: Suicide is a sensitive topic, and its discussion can trigger feelings. If you are having suicidal thoughts or you're despondent, there is help available.

- United States: 988 or 800-273-8255 - you can text 741741 – veterans can text 838255
- Canada: 833-456-4566 or text 45645 (text from 4 PM to Midnight EDT)
- United Kingdom: 0800-689-5652 or 999
- Ireland: Freephone 116-123 (Ireland and Northern Ireland) or text 50808 (Ireland only)
- Australia: 13-11-14 or 000 or text 0477-13-11-14
- New Zealand: 0508-828-865 or 111

Minister of Finance Serhiy Marchenko of Ukraine and his German counterpart Christian Lindner signed an

agreement to provide the war-torn nation with a one-billion euro grant to maintain the state budget.⁵⁹

President Zelenskyy quit the trilateral contact group established in 2014 between the breakaway Donbas republics and Russia. No official reason was given, but we think it is pretty obvious.⁶⁰

The German office for the Protection of the Constitution has opened up an espionage investigation into two senior-level officials in the Federal Ministry of Economics. The duo is accused of spying for Russia and had access to sensitive information about energy policy with the German government.⁶¹ Suspicion was raised due to the intense pressure they applied to approve the Nordstream 2 gas pipeline, inconsistencies in their resumes, and at least one undocumented trip to Russia.

⁵⁹ [Ukriform](#) [Ukrainian State News Agency]

⁶⁰ https://twitter.com/nexta_tv/status/1565572904997240832

⁶¹ [Handelsblatt](#)

ECONOMIC

The rouble was unchanged, with an “official” exchange rate of 60 roubles for one US dollar.

Oil prices dropped slightly, with West Texas Intermediate falling to \$88.00 a barrel and Brent closing at \$94. United States RBOB wholesale gasoline recovered some losses, climbing to \$2.42 a gallon (63 cents a liter).

Chicago SRW Wheat Futures dropped to 78 cents a bushel for December 2022 delivery.