

Humanitarian aspect:

As of the morning of July 7, 2022, more than 993 Ukrainian children are victims of full-scale armed aggression by the Russian Federation. **The official number of children who have died is 347, and the number of children wounded is more than 646.** However, the data is not conclusive since data collection continues in the areas of active hostilities, the temporarily occupied areas, and liberated territories. On July 6, Russian troops launched a missile attack on the city of Toretsk, Donetsk region. A 17-year-old girl was found under the rubble of one of the destroyed buildings. On July 6, as a result of shelling in the city of Skadovsk, Kherson region, one child was injured.

In the afternoon of July 7, Russia attacked the central part of **Kramatorsk** with missiles. As a result of the air strike, one person was killed and six were injured, according to the head of Donetsk Regional Military Administration (RMA), Pavlo Kyrylenko. 6 buildings were damaged, and the number of victims may increase. This is a targeted attack on the civilian population. The authorities are warning citizens of the danger and are asking them to evacuate.

According to the head of the **Kharkiv** RMA, the Russians attacked the city with multiple launch rocket systems. According to the Regional Center for Emergency Medical Care, 3 people have been injured by Russian shelling. The information is being updated. Last night, two enemy rockets hit near a boarding school for children with vision problems. According to preliminary information, there are no victims.

After the shelling of **Slovyansk**, one civilian is injured, according to Pavlo Kyrylenko, head of the Donetsk RMA. For more than a week, the Russians have been shelling Slovyansk daily, and each time on residential areas and civilian infrastructure, Kyrylenko specifies.

According to preliminary data, as a result of the shelling of **Avdiivka**, at least one civilian is dead and two wounded.

Serhiy Bratchuk, an adviser to the governor of **Odesa**, reports that one of the Odesa Region's districts was shelled by rockets during the night. Two agricultural barns were damaged, and 35 tons of grain were destroyed. According to preliminary information, there are no victims among the civilians. Two Kh-31 missiles were fired from a Russian Su-30 at the Odesa region. One of them hit the Moldovan tanker "Millennial Spirit".

Yesterday, the occupiers shelled almost all districts in the **Mykolaiv Region**, said the head of Mykolayiv RMA Vitaly Kim. In Novomykolaivka, the houses of local residents were damaged, and fields with crops were burned. The same situation happened in Pervomaisk village. In Bilozerske, a local store was damaged. Farming households were destroyed in the Kutsurub community.

In the occupied territories of the **Luhansk Region**, Russian occupiers continue persecuting people with a pro-Ukrainian position and those who refuse to cooperate. According to Serhii

Haidai, the head of Luhansk RMA, in occupied Kreminna, there are reports of the murder of civilians. are reports of the murder of civilians.

Since the beginning of the full-scale invasion, law enforcement agencies of the **Kherson Region** have recorded the facts of the abduction or disappearance of 457 people, said Prosecutor-General Iryna Venediktova. Among the abducted and disappeared are the mayors of Kakhovka, Tavriysk, Skadovsk, Hola Prystan, Berislav, the village heads of the Novoaleksandrivska, Bekhterska and Mylovska communities, the chairman of the Chornobaevka village council and his deputy, the heads of the villages of Stara Zburivka, Zmievka and Osokorivka, the secretary of the Novokakhovka city council, 43 law enforcement officers and 2 priests.

After the occupation, all valuable exhibits were stolen by occupiers from **Mariupol's** museums. Local history and art museums were left without their collections. Original paintings by Aivazovsky and Kuindzhi were stolen, according to local authorities.

Operational Situation

The 134th day of the strategic air-ground offensive operation of the Russian Federation Armed Forces against Ukraine continues ('Donbas Defense Operation' in the official Russian terminology). The enemy is trying to establish full control over the territory of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions and maintain the land corridor with temporarily occupied Crimea; they are continuing their offensive in the east of Ukraine, attempting to defeat the Ukrainian Joint Forces.

The enemy deploys separate units of the Western Military District in the border areas of the Bryansk and Kursk regions with the purpose of forward presence and to constrain the actions of the Ukrainian Defense Forces. The enemy fired artillery and carried out airstrikes by helicopters at Vovkivka, Myropillya, Kindrativka, and Esman in the Sumy region. To discover the positions of Ukrainian troops, the enemy conducted air reconnaissance using UAVs.

The Armed Forces of the Republic of Belarus units continue to cover the Belarusian-Ukrainian border in the Brest and Gomel regions. They fortify positions, check command posts, and conduct EW reconnaissance.

The morale of the personnel of the invasion forces remains low. In Russian units operating on the territory of Ukraine, severe abuse of alcohol is observed. In addition, the forced mobilization that continues in the temporarily occupied areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions significantly demoralizes the personnel of the Russian occupation forces.

Kharkiv direction

Zolochiv-Balakleya section: approximate length of combat line - 177 km, number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 10, an average width of combat area of one BTG - 17.7 km;

Deployed BTGs:

- *north of Kharkiv - 7 BTGs from 1st and 6th armies, 11th Army Corps, and 1st Army Corps of so-called DPR,*

- *in the area of Malynivka - 3 BTGs from 29th and 36th armies,*
- *operational reserve of the grouping in the area of Olkhovatka, Russia: 9 BTGs from 1st and 20th armies and Airborne troops.*

Ukrainian troops successfully repelled enemy assaults in Kozacha Lopan-Sosnivka. Enemy grouping consisting of up to eight BTGs (from the 18th motorized rifle division, 200th, 138th, 25th, and 27th separate motorized rifle brigade, the 244th artillery brigade, and two battalions of the 1st Army Corps of the so-called DPR) are trying to reach the outskirts north and northeast of Kharkiv. They shelled Ukrainian positions with artillery in Sosnivka, Dementiivka, Nove, Pytomnyk, Tsyркunь, Petrivka, Slatyne, Mala Danylivka, Ruski Tyshki, Vesele, Kutuzivka, Pryshyb, Husarivka, and Mospanove. The enemy also carried out an airstrike near Rubizhne. Near Shestakovo, the occupiers remotely mined roads.

Southwest of Belgorod, near the state border, the 144th motorized rifle division (254th, 144th, 488th motorized rifle regiment, 59th tank regiment, and 856th self-propelled artillery regiment) completed the consolidation. Artillery units and the 448th missile brigade (missile systems "Iskander-M" and "Tochka-U") arrived in the respective areas. The division has been restoring its combat capability since April. It is fully manned, equipped with weapons and military equipment, and up to 3 BTGs have been formed in each regiment. Its combat capabilities equal the total capabilities of the entire enemy grouping in the Izyum direction. The 144th motorized rifle division is in reserve of the enemy command in this direction, and its introduction into battle would radically change the situation near Kharkiv.

Kramatorsk direction

Balakleya - Kostiantynivka section: approximate length of the combat line - 300 km, the number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 54, the average width of the combat area of one BTG - 5.6 km;

Deployed BTGs:

- in the area of Izyum - 20 BTGs from 1st, 20th, 35th, and 36th armies, 11th Army Corps, 106th airborne division,
- in the area of Lysychansk - 7 BTGs from 5th, 8th, and 41st armies, 2nd, and 7th brigades of Rosguard; 2nd Army Corps of the so-called LPR;
- in the area of Popasna - 17 BTGs from 1st, 5th, 8th, 41st, and 58th armies, 68th Army Corps, 1st Army Corps of the so-called DPR, 2nd Army Corps of the so-called LPR; reserve (in Starobilsk district) - 2nd, 41st armies, and 201st military base.

The Ukrainian Defense Forces repelled the enemy attack in Dovhenke- Mazanivka direction, and the enemy suffered losses and retreated.

The enemy is trying to improve their tactical position and prepare an offensive in the Izyum-Sloviansk direction. They are trying to capture Verkhnyokamianske and Hryhorivka. The enemy shelled Slovyansk, Verkhnyokamyanske, Kryva Luka, Kuzmynivka, Hryhorivka, Dolyna, Kurulka, Mazanivka, Bohorodychne, Adamivka, Dibrivne, Krasnopillya, Husarivka, Barvinkove, Karnaukhivka, Velyka Komyshevaha and Chepil with artillery. They also carried out airstrikes near Tetyanivka and Sydorove, and are actively using electronic warfare complexes.

In the **Siversk** direction, the enemy is trying to overcome the resistance of the Ukrainian troops and establish full control over the Luhansk region, for which they are transferring additional units.

In the **Bakhmut** direction, the enemy shelled Ivano-Spirny, Vyimka, Vesely, Daryivka, Semihyrya, and the Vuhlehirsk power plant with artillery, carried out an airstrike near Spirny, and tried to improve their tactical position and establish full control over the Bakhmut-Lysychansk highway.

Zaporizhzhya direction

Konstantynivka - Nikopol section: approximate length of the line of combat - 310 km, the number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 22, the average width of the combat area of one BTG - 14 km;

Deployed BTGs:

- *from 8th, 58th armies, Airborne troops, 1st Army Corps of the so-called DPR, and 2nd Army Corps of the so-called LPR*

Ukrainian units repelled enemy attacks in Myronivka-Luhanske and Kholmivskiy-Novoluhanske directions, forcing the enemy to withdraw. The enemy carried out the systematic fire on Ukrainian Defense Forces to constrain their actions, and carried out an airstrike near Maryinka.

Kherson direction

Nikopol - Stanislav section: approximate length of the battle line - 252 km, the number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 13, the average width of the combat area of one BTG - 19 km;

Deployed BTGs:

- *from 8th and 59th armies, 7th Air assault division, 1st Army Corps of so-called DPR, and 2nd Army Corps of so-called LPR*

In the area of Dobryanka, Ukrainian troops almost completely destroyed an enemy sabotage/reconnaissance group and successfully repelled the enemy assault that followed.

The enemy, with forces of up to eight BTGs (consisting of the 126th separate coastal defense brigade, 127th ranger brigade, and 33rd and 255th motorized rifle regiments, with the support of the 244th self-propelled artillery regiment), is holding defense in the Kherson area. They are focusing their efforts on preventing the advance of Ukrainian Defense Forces units. The enemy fired from mortars, tanks, and barrel and rocket artillery on Lymany, Posad-Pokrovske, Prybuzke, Myrne, Kotlyareve, Blahodatne, Oleksandrivka, Ukraiinka, Luch, Mykolaivske, Zorya, Polyana and Bila Krynytsia.

With the forces of two BTGs, the enemy tried to attack in the Shmidtove-Lyubomyrivka direction and advance to Novohryhorivka, attempting to bypass the Ukrainian units fighting for Kiselivka from the left flank and get in their rear. The maneuver was exposed, and the enemy was stopped. However, the possibility of the enemy's breakthrough to Shevchenkove and from there to Mykolaiv remains.

An enemy grouping consisting of up to four BTGs (consisting of the 34th separate motorized rifle brigade and 98th airborne division, reinforced by two tank companies) has been formed for offensive actions in the direction of Kryvyi Rih and to block the Ukrainian forces advancing in the Potiomkino and Novovoznesensk area. The arrival of two more BTGs from the 106th airborne division is expected from the Luhansk direction. A tank company is concentrated in the Tavriysk - Nova Kakhovka area. These forces may be involved in the Shevchenkove-Mykolaiv direction.

Azov-Black Sea Maritime Operational Area:

Russian BSF ships continue operations at sea to isolate the northwestern part of the Black Sea. The ships are located mainly along the coast of western and southern Crimea. The Admiral Makarov frigate, the flagship of the Black Sea Fleet of the Russian Federation, heads the grouping of surface forces. Two submarines (project 636.3) went to sea. Two Russian BSF ships patrol the Sea of Azov; one of them, a minesweeper, is searching for sea mines. Five Russian missile launchers are combat-ready for a salvo in the sea; the total volley is up to 40 Kalibr missiles.

All the large landing ships of the Russian Black Sea Fleet are moored in the ports of Sevastopol and Novorossiysk, repairing and replenishing supplies. No signs of preparation and formation of landing forces are observed on the ships.

Russian BSF is taking countermeasures against sabotage and missile attacks on the critical military infrastructure of Crimea. Thus, on July 6, the Russians installed two non-self-propelled large ship shields (БКЩ) with corner radar reflectors in front of the Kerch bridge from the Azov Sea side to draw homing missiles away from the bridge in the event of a strike. In addition, smoke generators were activated on the bridge, which led to significant traffic accidents on the bridge.

Also, during the last few days, helicopters with sonar have been recorded near the entrance to Sevastopol Bay, probably to search for small-sized underwater objects in the coastal zone: a drone or a saboteur. Thus, it is very obvious that the Russian Federation is afraid of assault and sabotage-reconnaissance actions.

The court of the city of Kuras (Turkey) considered the lawsuit against the ship Zhibek Zholy, which was carrying 7 tons of grain stolen in Ukraine from the occupied Berdyansk, and released the vessel from detention. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine summoned the Ambassador of Turkey to Ukraine after this incident. (The ship Zhibek Zholy was built in Russia under the commission of the Kazakh company KTZ Express Shipping. The vessel is under the flag of the Russian Federation).

The total combat losses of the enemy from 24.02 to 06.07 approximately amounted to

Personnel - almost 36,650 people (+150);
Tanks - 1,602 (+2);
Armored combat vehicles - 3,797 (+8);
Operational tactical missile systems - 4 (0);
Artillery systems - 815 (+3);
Multiple rocket launchers (MLRS) - 247 (0);

Anti-aircraft warfare systems - 107 (0);
Vehicles and fuel tanks - 2,665 (+17);
Aircraft - 217 (0);
Helicopters - 187 (0);
UAV operational and tactical level - 667 (+3);
Intercepted cruise missiles - 155 (+2);
Boats / ships - 15 (0).

Ukraine, general information:

Since the beginning of the war, Russia has launched 626 cruise missiles at the territory of Ukraine. Since February 24, the Russian Air Force has made 6,443 sorties, Oleksiy Gromov, Deputy Chief of the Main Operational Department (J3) of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, said at a briefing.

International diplomatic aspect:

UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson resigns as leader of the Conservative Party without delay and will step down as Prime Minister in the autumn. Though the UK policy of countering Russia's aggressive behaviour and backing Ukraine won't change, the resignation will have some negative consequences [for Ukraine]. So far, the UK has provided Ukraine with £3.8 billion of support, including £2.3 billion of military aid since the outbreak of the all-out war. It included, among other defence items, 5,000 NLAW anti-tank missiles, MLRS, long-range 155 mm artillery systems, short to medium-range loitering munitions etc. Besides political, diplomatic, economic support and defence aid, the sharp, straightforward, and eloquent rhetoric of Boris Johnson inspired Central and Eastern European nations and drove the "old Europe" to boost its support for Ukraine and the CEE allies.

The German Chancellor Scholz remarked that Germany might provide Ukraine with security guarantees though below the threshold of Article 5 of the Washington treaty. It's difficult to judge the weight of such ideas, given the lack of publicly available details. Many questions remain unanswered on how it would differ from the Budapest Memorandum that turned into an empty declaration. Or concerns, given the history of Germany's significant delays of its military support and decision not to provoke a conflict with Russia by providing no Leopard tanks to Ukraine. Meanwhile, CDU/CSU faction in Bundestag demands Olaf Scholz to provide Ukraine 200 TPz 1 Fuchs APCs.

As an Argentinian court has sentenced 19 former military officers for crimes against humanity during the country's military dictatorships from 1976-83, former Russian president Dmitriy Medvedev stated that "attempts to use courts or tribunals to investigate Russia's actions in Ukraine creates threats to 'existence of humanity'". The nuclear sabre-rattling he often uses in his statements has been an everyday Russian lingo since the illegal annexation of Crimea. Occupying a second-rate position within the Kremlin ranks, Medvedev makes more and more noise, attracting attention to himself. "Medvedev is a clown today; I am very sorry to say this," said Christoph Heusgen, head of the Munich Security Conference. While the Western liberals had been cheerful just ten years ago with a shy, soft speaking and progressive Medvedev,

who reserved the Kremlin throne for his senior partner Putin, they are now shocked by his vulgar language of verbal aggression.

Ukraine's General Prosecutor's Office is investigating more than 21,000 war crimes and crimes of aggression and receiving 200 - 300 new reports daily. Meanwhile, Vladimir Putin talked to the heads of factions in the State Duma: "Today, we hear that they want to defeat us on the battlefield. Well, what can I say? Let them try! We have already heard a lot that the West wants to fight us to the last Ukrainian. This is a tragedy for the Ukrainian people, but everything seems to be heading towards this. But everyone should know that we, by and large, have not started anything serious yet. At the same time, we do not refuse peace negotiations, but those who refuse should know that the further, the more difficult it will be for them to negotiate with us." Undoubtedly, it means a prolonged and more brutal war in Ukraine and Russia's troublesome behaviour elsewhere, highly likely in the Balkans and the Baltic region.

Russia, relevant news:

The oil production at the Russian Sakhalin-1 project fell by a factor of 22 due to sanctions. This would significantly affect the economy of the Russian Far East. Due to sanctions, oil production at the project decreased from 220,000 barrels per day to 10,000. Due to the decline in oil production, the budget of the Sakhalin region will miss more than a quarter of its income next year, Kommersant writes. As Putin's representative in the Russian Far Eastern Federal District stated, such a reduction will affect the entire Russian Far East economy. "Sakhalin-1" is the only active Production Sharing Agreement project in Russia where a Russian company does not have a controlling stake. The operator is Exxon Neftegas Ltd, with a 30% stake. The Japanese Sodeco owns another 30%, and 20% each belongs to Rosneft and the Indian ONGC.

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