

Humanitarian aspect:

The **mandatory evacuation** of the Donetsk Oblast residents has begun. Deputy Prime Minister - Minister for Reintegration of Temporarily Occupied Territories Iryna Vereshchuk, said that the first train arrived in Kropyvnytskyi on the morning of August 2. "Women, children, elderly people, many people with limited mobility. Everyone was met and accommodated; everyone was helped," - Vereshchuk said. The Cabinet of Ministers set up the HQ to coordinate the evacuation on July 28.

Donetsk Oblast was massively shelled during the night and in the morning. The Oblast remains without gas and partly without water and electricity. On August 1, the Oblast Military Administration reported that three people were killed, and three were injured. On the morning of August 2, **Russian troops shelled a boarding school in Mykolaivka, Donetsk Oblast**. According to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, a man's body was removed from under the rubble.

According to the morning Oblast Military Administration round-up, **Dnipropetrovsk, Sumy, Kharkiv, Luhansk, Mykolayiv, and Kherson Oblasts** were shelled at night. The ruination of primarily civil infrastructure is reported. Electricity supply is cut to two villages: Koshove, Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, and Yavkino, Mykolayiv Oblast.

The situation in **Kherson Oblast** remains very tense. During the past week, rescuers extinguished 121 fires, including 102 fires in the region's ecosystems. Many fires in the local villages are extinguished by their residents themselves because the Russian occupiers do not allow firefighters there. According to official information, the Ukrainian Armed Forces have already de-occupied 46 villages in the Oblast. All of them are badly damaged.

As a result of the Russian shelling, 403 people died, and 1 435 were injured in **Mykolaiv Oblast** since the beginning of the war; however, so far, there are no plans for the mandatory evacuation of the civilian population from the Oblast, the head of the Oblast military administration Vitaly Kim said.

Around 5 p.m. on August 2, an air raid alert was declared throughout Ukraine, except for the occupied Crimea and Kherson Oblast, most of which is also occupied by Russia. Serhiy Borzov, the head of the Vinnytsia Oblast Military Administration, reported that air defense shot down two rockets over **Vinnytsia Oblast**. According to Ukraine's General Staff, the Russian invaders fired eight Kh-101 (Kh-555) cruise missiles from the Caspian Sea region. Strategic bombers Tu-95 (Tu-160) were used. Ukrainian anti-aircraft missile troops eliminated six missiles, and an Air Force fighter shot another one down. Unfortunately, there was one hit in the **Lviv Oblast** - the rocket hit the Ukrainian anti-aircraft missile system. The damage is being clarified.

A 12-meter bridge over the canal near the village of Shevchenkove on the R-60 highway Krolevets - Konotop - Romny – Pyryatyn in **Sumy** Oblast, ruined in March due to the Russian invasion, has been restored, the head of the Infrastructure Ministry Oleksandr Kubrakov wrote. The Ministry expects the delivery of aid and goods to the residents of Sumy Oblast to improve.

450 episodes of war crimes against objects of cultural heritage have been recorded in Ukraine since the beginning of the full-scale Russian invasion, the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy reported.

There is no reason to trust the lists of the dead and wounded POWs in the explosion in the occupied Olenivka published by the Russian sources, Andriy Yusov, representative of the Main Intelligence Directorate of the Ukrainian MOD, told reporters. He said that the Russian side did not provide an official answer to the information request from Ukraine, so, Ukraine can only operate with the public data on the Internet. Yusov said that the lists contained the names of those Ukrainian soldiers who had been wounded before the events in Olenivka and were planned to be exchanged shortly. At the time of the terrorist attack, they were supposed to be in the hospital and not in the barracks in the industrial zone, Yusov said.

Occupied territories

In **Mariupol**, captured by the Russian military, the invaders announced that a rock concert would be held at the Azovstal metallurgical plant, the legally elected Mariupol City Council reported. The plant was the city's last stronghold of the Ukrainian military, and many people died there. The occupiers also announced that they plan to make a technopark there. "The collaborators cannot provide normal water and heating, but they hold concerts in the city, where there are still hundreds of unburied people under the rubble," the legally elected city council said. In addition, it was reported earlier that the occupiers had announced their plan to open a new theater season on September 10 in the Mariupol Drama Theater they had bombed during their assault on the city, killing at least 300 civilians.

According to Petro Andryushchenko, advisor to the legally elected Mariupol mayor, 50-100 people leave Mariupol daily. A new wave of evacuations is due to the occupier's activity in the city. Local criminal bosses are back, and those who want to start a business face constant racketeering. Andryushchenko said that about 530,000 people lived in the city before the occupation. Now there are 120-130 thousand left, including about 70,000 elderly people.

About 2,500 evacuation vehicles from **captured Energodar and Kherson** are waiting in line to pass through the Russian checkpoint in Vasylivka, Zaporizhzhia Oblast, said Serhiy Kaliman, head of Vasylivska amalgamated community. Kaliman noted that the congestion is created on purpose to prevent people from leaving the occupied territories. "People play a certain human shield so that our [Ukrainian] troops cannot advance," he said. Another reason for the delays is heavy rains that make the mud roads unusable.

Three people died, and five were injured by the Russian fire on a civilian minivan evacuating people from **Kherson Oblast**, the Head of Kherson Oblast Military Administration, Dmytro Butriy, said.

The Kremlin-appointed puppet ruler Denys Pushylin said that more than 3.5 thousand Ukrainian prisoners of war are held in the occupied territory of **Donetsk Oblast**. He claimed that the prisoners were being investigated. If the Kremlin's proteges decide that the prisoner of war is "guilty", he will face "trial and punishment". Pushylin promised to exchange the "innocent".

Operational situation:

The 160th 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.

The Russian forces shelled Senkivka, Lypkivka, Mykhalchyna Sloboda in Chernihiv Oblast, and Stara Huta, Pavlivka, Pokrovka, and Bilopillya in Sumy Oblast. They periodically conduct aerial reconnaissance of the positions of the Ukrainian Defense Forces in the border areas of Chernihiv and Sumy Oblasts. In particular, in the Hremyach and Hlukhiv areas, they use electronic warfare to counter Ukrainian reconnaissance equipment.

The composition and position of units of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Belarus remain without significant changes. The threat of missile and air strikes from the territory of Belarus remains.

Due to a lack of transport vehicles to ensure logistics for its troops, the Russian military command decided to centralize the supply of vehicles and specialized equipment for their needs. In particular, the Russian military is stockpiling vehicles and special equipment at the storage sites of the 904th mobilization deployment support center (Kamensk-Shakhtinsk, Rostov Oblast, Russia), where more than 1,200 motor vehicles and pieces of specialized equipment are already concentrated.

The morale and psychological state of the personnel of the invasion forces remain low. Among the personnel of the Russian units stationed in the city of Kherson, rumors about the arrival of several Chechen formations on the left bank of the Dnieper are actively spreading. The units allegedly received an order "to prevent arbitrary abandonment of positions by Russian servicemen at all costs." The most active spreaders of this gossip are Russian military personnel who serve in the logistic command center, forward command center, repair and replenishment points, and other rear facilities of the Russian troops grouping deployed in the Mykolaiv direction. Most likely, the dissemination of this information among the ranks of the Russian military personnel is initiated by the PSYOPs units of the Russian special services. Rumors are spread to form the opinion among the personnel of the Russian grouping that "there is no alternative to its participation in hostilities."

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.*

The Russian forces shelled the areas of Kharkiv, Chuhuyiv, Protopopivka, Husarivka, Cherkaski Tyshky, Prudyanka, Nova Petrivka, and Rtyshchivka with artillery. They launched an airstrike near Verkhnyi Saltiv, and advanced separate units to the areas of Bayrak and Dementiivka, but suffered losses and retreated. The Russian reconnaissance group tried to expose the firing positions of the Ukrainian troops. The group was detected and retreated under the fire of the Ukrainian Defense Forces.

In the Izyum area, the Russian military shelled the areas of Nortsivka, Chepil, Kurulka, Hrushuvakha, Karnaukhivka, Barvinkove, Ridne, Virnopillya, Husarivka, Dibrivne, Dolyna, and Adamivka with tanks and artillery of various calibers. They carried out an airstrike near Dibrivne. Near Mazanivka, the Ukrainian Defense Forces detected and neutralized an enemy reconnaissance group.

During the last two days, the Russian command withdrew a BTG of the 37th separate motorized rifle brigade of the 36th Combined Arms Army (from Pasika), a BTG of the 38th separate motorized rifle brigade (from Izyum), a BTG of the 64th separate motorized rifle brigade of the 35th Combined Arms Army (from Rossohuvate) and a BTG of the 36th separate motorized rifle brigade of the 29th Combined Arms Army (from Dovhenke) of the Eastern Military District for transfer to the south.

The enemy BTG of the 752nd motorized rifle regiment of the 3rd motorized rifle division of the 20th Combined Arms Army of the Western military district hastily arrived in the Sukha Kamianka district. It did not have sufficient time to restore its combat readiness.

On August 1, two reinforced enemy battalions of the 119th rifle regiment of the mobilization reserve of the 1st army corps arrived in Izyum. We should expect the use of this military unit on the left flank of the grouping advancing on Slovyansk.

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.*

Due to the significant losses of manpower and military equipment, and the low level of morale and psychological state of personnel, the Russian forces did not conduct offensive operations.

In the **Siversk** direction, the Russian troops shelled Serebryanka, Siversk, Kryvya Luka, Zvanivka, Donetske, Ivano-Daryivka, Hryhorivka, Verkhnyokamyanske, and Spirne with tanks and artillery. They carried out airstrikes near Serebryanka and Hryhorivka, and conducted assaults near Ivano-Daryivka, but had no success and retreated. The aggressor conducted aerial reconnaissance with UAVs to identify Ukrainian logistics routes and critical infrastructure facilities.

In the Bakhmut direction, the Russian troops shelled the military and civilian infrastructure in the areas of Yakovlivka, Soledar, Bakhmut, Kodema, Semyhirya, Travneve and Zaitseve. They carried out airstrikes near Soledar, Yakovlivka, Semyhirya, Pokrovske, and Bilohorivka. Ukrainian troops repelled assaults in the areas of Yakovlivka, Vershyna, Kodema, and Travneve. Fighting continues in the areas of Bakhmut and Zaitseve. In the area of Yakovlivka, the Russian military tried to conduct reconnaissance using a sabotage/reconnaissance group. The group was discovered and suffered losses. The rest of the group fled. The enemy tried to advance in the areas of Soledar, Vershyna, and Bakhmut, but was unsuccessful and retreated.

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*

Shelling was recorded in the vicinity of Avdiivka, Netaylove, Novokalynove, Pisky, Krasnohorivka, New York, Maryinka, Kostyantynivka, Novosilka, Pavlivka, Charivne, Novopil, Malynivka, Hulyaipole, Orikhiv, Kamianske, and Mala Tokmachka. The Russian forces used aviation near Novobakhmutivka, Avdiivka, New York, and Krasnohorivka, and conducted assault operations in the area of Avdiivka and Piskiv, but had no success and retreated. Fighting continues near Pisky. The Russian military tried to conduct reconnaissance near Novopil; the reconnaissance group was detected and neutralized. Ukrainian defenders disabled all attempts of the occupiers to advance in the direction of Maryinka. The Russian forces conducted aerial reconnaissance and continued regrouping, trying to strengthen their grouping in the south of Ukraine.

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*

The Russian forces are concentrating their main efforts on preventing the advance of Ukrainian troops. They systematically shelled the areas of Mykolaiv, Trudolyubivka, Tokareve, Topolyne, Knyazivka, Osokorivka, Apostolove, Ivanivka, Posad-Pokrovske, Novohryhorivka, Kobzartsi, Shyroke, and Andriivka, carried out airstrikes near Bila Krynytsia and Andriivka, and unsuccessfully attacked Trudolyubivka and were forced to retreat.

Using engineering units, the Russian military is trying to restore destroyed and damaged bridges across the Dnipro River.

The 35th Combined Arms Army and units of other armies of the Russian Eastern Military District continue their operational deployment in the area of combat assignment in the Southern Operational Zone. During the last two days, military units and formations of the 35th Combined Arms Army have been concentrating in the Velyka Lepetykha - Demydivka - Novodniprovka - Enerhodar area. Their echelons were recorded at the Kalanchak and Dzhankoy railway stations in the occupied Crimea. In particular, an echelon with the jet division of the 165th artillery brigade was spotted at the Kalanchak station (up to eight 9k57 "Uragan" MLRS, four transport-loading vehicles, two forward intelligence and C2 stations, two fuel tankers, six trucks, and one passenger car with personnel). Two echelons with equipment and personnel of the 103rd technical support brigade were spotted at the Dzhankoy station in Crimea.

Azov-Black Sea Maritime Operational Area:

The forces of the Russian BSF continue the force projection on the coast and the continental part of Ukraine (threatening missile strikes and possible amphibious assaults) and control of the northwestern part of the Black Sea. The ultimate goal is to deprive Ukraine of access to the sea and connect unrecognized Transnistria with the Russian Federation through the coast of the Black and Azov seas.

About 13 Russian warships are in the open sea. The frigate "Admiral Essen" and a small missile ship (type Buyan-M) are among them. The part of the fleet returned to the base point of Sevastopol (after an emergency exit on July 31, 2022). The ships staying in Novorossiysk did not go to sea.

9 Russian ships and boats are maneuvering near Sevastopol on anti-sabotage patrol. Two more Russian boats are on duty west of the Crimean Peninsula. Up to 16 Kalibr missiles can be ready for a missile attack on the territory of Ukraine (from the frigate "Admiral Essen" and a small missile ship of type Buyan-M).

4 Russian ships are on combat duty in the Sea of Azov.

The first ship with Ukrainian grain, which left the port of Odesa on August 1, is on its way to Istanbul. A representative of Turkey at the coordination center, established to oversee the resumption of Ukrainian grain exports, said the Sierra Leonean-flagged "Razoni" would anchor in Istanbul on Tuesday evening. According to him, the only problem so far was a slight delay due to bad weather. The ship, carrying 26,527 tons of corn, is due to arrive in Istanbul around midnight local time. The vessel will then be inspected by Turkish, Ukrainian, Russian, and UN officials under the terms of the Safe Passage Agreement before continuing its way to the Lebanese port of Tripoli, its planned final destination. Turkey expects one ship with grain to leave Ukrainian ports daily while the safe passage agreement is in effect.

The total combat losses of the enemy from 24.02 to 02.08 approximately amounted to

Personnel - almost 41,170 people (+140);
Tanks - 1,768 (0);
Armored combat vehicles - 4,014 (+3);
Operational tactical missile systems - 4 (0);
Artillery systems - 936 (+4);
Multiple rocket launchers (MLRS) - 259 (0);
Anti-aircraft warfare systems - 117 (0);
Vehicles and fuel tanks - 2,914 (+2);
Aircraft - 223 (0);
Helicopters - 191 (+1);
UAV operational and tactical level - 739 (+3);
Intercepted cruise missiles - 174 (0);
Boats / ships - 15 (0).

Ukraine, general news

The Security Service of Ukraine reported that it liquidated a million-account botnet that worked to discredit President Volodymyr Zelenskyi and "destabilize the social and political situation" on the order of one of Ukraine's political forces. According to SBU, "criminals spread disinformation," criticizing the authorities. SBU also said that the botnet was used by the Russian special services. Among the latest "operations", SBU named the dissemination of content about the alleged conflict between the leadership of the President's Office and the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, as well as conducting a campaign to discredit the first lady.

International diplomatic aspect

Dmitriy Medvedev, once a Russian liberal respected by the West and a junior partner of Putin, wrote on his Vkontakte social network, "Georgia had never existed before its reunification" with the Russian Empire in the 19th century and that Central Asia's Kazakhstan was "an artificial state." The post was deleted some ten minutes after, but there are screenshots on the web. Even if the

speculation that his account was hacked is true, Dmitriy Medvedev has been publishing various propaganda posts full of misinformation, disinformation, and hatred for quite some time.

Donald Trump repeated his stance that the Russian invasion would have "never happened" had he still been president. But the 45th POTUS suggested that Ukraine could have "given up" Crimea, an illegally annexed Ukrainian peninsula, or agreed to abandon its NATO membership bid. The former president doesn't believe that Putin "ever intended" to start a war with Ukraine. Yet, paradoxically, the Trump Administration began to supply Ukraine with defensive weapons and impose more and more costs on Russia, and, contradicting himself, he also criticized the Biden Administration for not doing enough to support Ukraine.

Across the Atlantic, the Former British Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn criticized the defense support of Ukraine. "Pouring arms in isn't going to bring about a solution; it's only going to prolong and exaggerate this war," he expressed his fear of a protracted war. He also criticized the strategy of strengthening the Trans-Atlantic security, "Expanding NATO isn't going to bring about a longer-term peace, [but it] will only bring about greater, greater strain and greater stress." However, he didn't elaborate on Russia, just saying that its military "operation" in Ukraine was "fundamentally wrong."

Russian operatives are behind an explosion, and subsequent fire at the warehouse in Bulgaria, insists Emilian Gebrev. Four blasts were hitting warehouses and production facilities of his company that supplied defense items to Ukraine between 2011 and 2020. Mr Gebrev himself survived an apparent Novichok nerve agent poisoning in 2015. Last year, Bulgaria expelled a Russian diplomat over suspected involvement in the blasts. Bulgaria used to be a stronghold of Russia's espionage activities in the Balkans. But for the past several years, there has been some cleaning in the house. This year, Sofia reduced the level of the Russian diplomatic personnel, expelling some 70 "diplomats." Russia shut its consulate in the capital and consulate-generals in strategically located Varna, the country's largest Black Sea city, and Rousse, on the Danube River. Last year, six Bulgarian citizens, former military, were arrested and charged with espionage for Moscow. In 2020 Sofia expelled five Russian diplomats and the Russian military attaché, and a former member of the Bulgarian parliament was detained for spying for Russia the year before.

Russia, relevant news

The Supreme Court of the Russian Federation recognized the Ukrainian "Azov" regiment as a terrorist organization and banned its activities in Russia. This decision was made on appeal from the Russian Prosecutor General's Office. The judge announced that the decision takes effect immediately. Now in Russia, Azov soldiers can be tried as accomplices, participants, and organizers of a terrorist organization. This threatens them with tougher imprisonment terms: the participants under the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation face a term of 10 to 20 years in prison, the organizers - from 15 to 20 years, Kommersant reports.

This is another troubling signal in light of the Russians killing Ukrainian POWs in the Olenivka colony barracks on July 29. And requires an immediate response from the international

community, as Azov defenders of Mariupol surrendered under the guarantees of the UN and the Red Cross

In the company's statement issued on August 2, the Norwegian paint manufacturer Jotun announced the sale of its business in the Russian Federation and exit from the country. The company reminded that it closed the factory in the Russian Federation on March 3. Jotun has now sold shares in its subsidiary "Jotun Paints" LLC. The buyer is the Russian company "Atomstroykompleks". Employees will keep their jobs in the company under the new owner.

In the RF, the production of elevators decreased by 41% in the first half of 2022 compared to the same period in 2021, the Rosstat Russian state statistics service reported. This is due to the suspension of operation or the exit of foreign manufacturers from the Russian market.

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