

Humanitarian aspect:

Since the beginning of the full-scale invasion, **18 Ukrainian civilian doctors have been killed, and 59 medical workers have been injured**. This was announced in an interview with the Ukrainian media by the Minister of Health of Ukraine, Viktor Lyashko. As for the medical infrastructure, Russian shelling has damaged 906 medical facilities. 123 of them were completely destroyed. Also, 505 pharmacies and 87 ambulances were damaged. Another 241 medical vehicles were seized by the Russian invaders.

On August 18, the Russian occupiers attacked the port infrastructure facilities of **Mykolaiv**. No victims were reported. On the night of August 19, three enemy rockets again hit Mykolayiv National University, damaging the surrounding houses. Preliminary, one person was injured. An enterprise was damaged by shelling in another district of the city. In the Mykolaiv neighbourhood, the Russians shelled the village of Halytsynove. Three people were injured.

Around 6 am the Russian forces launched at least five rocket attacks on **Kharkiv**. As a result, the building of one of the higher education facilities was destroyed (one woman died,) a civilian enterprise building and 2 private houses were damaged. During the day, the Russian occupiers shelled the Chuguyiv, Kharkiv, and Bogoduhiv districts of the Kharkiv Oblast.

In Kharkiv, rescue work was completed in a dormitory building destroyed by a Russian missile attack on August 17. The bodies of six people were recovered from under the rubble of the dormitory building. According to the State Emergency Service in the Kharkiv region, 9 people were saved, including 2 children. In total, 21 people died as a result of the shelling.

In **Dnipropetrovsk oblast**, the Russian military shelled three districts - Kryvorizky (one person died), Sinelnykivskiyi (a 12-year-old boy was wounded) and Nikopolskyi. In Nikopol, up to 20 high-rise apartment buildings, a dozen shops, a lyceum, a bank and a bus stop were damaged. The power line is disabled.

The head of the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast military administration, Valentyn Reznichenko, reported that the enemy shelled the residential quarters of Marganets. Two people were injured, an 18-year-old girl and a 40-year-old man. There are destroyed buildings in the city. The power line is out of order.

In **Kramatorsk, Donetsk Oblast**, the Russian invaders destroyed the Kramatorsk Professional College and the Donbas State Machine-Building Academy.

Occupied territories

As a result of shelling by Russian troops, three of the four lines connecting the **Zaporizhzhya Nuclear Power Plant** with the Ukrainian energy system were damaged. According to the State

Inspectorate for Nuclear Regulation, the probability of a radiation release will increase significantly if the station loses the last one.

The Russian occupiers formed a so-called "council of ministers" in the occupied part of **Kharkiv oblast**. Andrey Alekseenko, the ex-mayor of Krasnodar (Russia), is appointed "First Deputy Head of [occupation] Administration."

Russia is preparing a diversion to accuse the Ukrainian Armed Forces of disrupting the heating season in **Melitopol**, [legally elected] Mayor of Melitopol, Ivan Fedorov, said. The Russian occupiers are mining boiler houses and heating plants. They also threaten to plant explosives in all critical infrastructure if they have to retreat from the city.

Operational situation

The 177th day of the strategic air and ground offensive operation of the Russian Armed Forces against Ukraine (in the official terminology of the Russian Federation – "operation to protect Donbas") continues. The enemy is concentrating its efforts on establishing full control over the territories of the Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts, maintaining the temporarily captured areas of the Kherson Oblast and parts of the Kharkiv, Zaporizhzhya, and Mykolaiv oblasts, creating favorable conditions for resuming their offensives in certain directions, and blocking Ukraine's maritime communications in the Black Sea.

The enemy continues to carry out air and missile strikes on military and civilian objects in Ukraine.

The enemy shelled the Ukrainian Defence Forces' positions in Studenok, Pavlivka, and Velyka Pysarivka of the Sumy oblast with barrel artillery.

The morale and psychological state of the personnel of the invasion forces remain low.

Kharkiv direction

- *Zolochiv-Balakleya section: approximate length of combat line - 147 km, number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 10-12, the average width of the combat area of one BTG - 13.3 km;*
- *Deployed enemy BTGs: 26th, 153rd and 197th tank regiments, 245th motorized rifle regiment of the 47th tank division, 6th and 239th tank regiments, 228th motorized rifle regiment of the 90th tank division, 1st motorized rifle regiment, 1st tank regiment of the 2nd motorized rifle division, 25th and 138th separate motorized rifle brigades of the 6th Combined Arms Army, 27th separate motorized rifle brigade of the 1st Tank Army, 275th and 280th motorized rifle regiments, 11th tank regiment of the 18th motorized rifle division of the 11 Army Corps, 7th motorized rifle regiment of the 11th Army Corps, 80th separate motorized rifle brigade of the 14th Army Corps, 2nd and 45th separate SOF brigades of the Airborne Forces, 1st Army Corps of so-called DPR, PMCs*

The enemy fired tanks and artillery in the areas of Bazaliivka, Velyki Prohody, Husarivka, Derhachi, Duvanka, Zolochiv, Ivanivka, Kalynove, Korobochkyne, Kutuzivka, Lebyazhye, Milova, Petrivka, Pechenihiy, Pytomnyk, Protopopivka, Prudyanka, Ruska Lozova, Ruski Tyshky, Slatyne,

Slobozhanske, Sosnivka, Stara Hnylytsia, Staryi Saltiv, Udy, Kharkiv, Chepil, Cherkaski Tyshky, Chuhuiv, and Shestakove. The enemy struck with aircraft and helicopters at Yavirske, Verkhniy Saltiv, Staryi Saltiv, Lebyazhe, Zalyman, and Baranivka.

The Russians advanced from Chkalovske through Nova Hnytsia to Hrakove, but were stopped by the Ukrainian Defense Forces in Rtyshchivka. The Russian troops moved to positions from which they fired at Bazalivka and Lebyazhe. The Ukrainian artillery moved to the limit of the M777's effective range against targets in Kupyansk.

The enemy is trying to hold the occupied positions, restore the combat capability of the units that have suffered losses, and replenish the material and technical reserves. It deployed additional EW complexes.

Kramatorsk direction

- *Balakleya - Siversk section: approximate length of the combat line - 184 km, the number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 17-20, the average width of the combat area of one BTG - 9.6 km;*
- *252nd and 752nd motorized rifle regiments of the 3rd motorized rifle division, 1st, 13th and 12th tank regiments, 423rd motorized rifle regiment of the 4th tank division, 201st military base, 15th, 21st, 30th separate motorized rifle brigades of the 2nd Combined Arms Army, 35th, 55th and 74th separate motorized rifle brigades of the 41st Combined Arms Army, 3rd and 14th separate SOF brigades, 2nd and 4th separate motorized rifle brigades of the 2nd Army Corps, 7th separate motorized rifle brigade of the 1st Army Corps, PMC*

The enemy fired from artillery of various types in the areas near Adamivka, Berestove, Bohorodychne, Brazhivka, Velyka Komyshuvakha, Verkhnyokamyanske, Vesele, Virnopillia, Hryhorivka, Hrushuvakha, Dibrivne, Dovhenke, Dolyna, Zvanivka, Ivano-Daryivka, Krasnopillia, Kryva Luka, Mazanivka, Nortsivka, Pryshyb, Rozdolivka, Serebryanka, Sydorove, Siversk, Spirne, Sulyhivka, Fedorivka, Chepil, and Chervone, and carried out an airstrike near Spirne. The Russian troops attacked in directions of Barabashivka-Karnaukhivka, Sulyhivka-Dibrivne, Sulyhivka-Nova Dmytrivka, and Mykolaivka-Vyimka, but were pushed back to their positions.

In the Balaklia region, the 3rd separate tank brigade of the Ukrainian Defense Forces had to retreat on a 4-5 km wide front in the Izyum region.

Ukrainian 93rd separate mechanized brigade defeated another Russian BTG, which attacked between Virnopillia and Brazhivka, trying to break through to Nova and Dmytrivka. The Russian units, which were pushed out of Dovhenke, realized the impossibility of returning to this position and began to mine the area chaotically. Ukrainian Defense forces hold Krasnopillia, Bohorodychne and Tetyanivka.

Ukrainian 10th separate mountain assault brigade and two territorial defense brigades firmly hold positions in the Siversk region.

Donetsk direction

- *Siversk - Maryinka section: approximate length of the combat line - 235 km, the number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 13-15, the average width of the combat area of one BTG - 17 km;*
- *Deployed BTGs: 68th and 163rd tank regiments, 102nd and 103rd motorized rifle regiments of the 150 motorized rifle division, 80th tank regiment of the 90th tank division, 35th, 55th and 74th separate motorized rifle brigades of the 41st Combined Arms Army, 31st separate airborne assault brigade, 61st separate marines brigade of the Joint Strategic Command "Northern Fleet", 336th separate marines brigade, 24th separate SOF brigade, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 15th, and 100th separate motorized rifle brigades, 9th and 11th separate motorized rifle regiment of the 1st Army Corps of the so-called DNR, 6th motorized rifle regiment of the 2nd Army Corps of the so-called LNR, PMCs*

The enemy fired from tanks and artillery of various types at the areas of Avdiyivka, Bakhmut, Berestove, Bilohorivka, Vershyna, Vesele, Zaitseve, Zalizne, Ivano-Daryivka, Kamianka, Kodema, Krasnohorivka, Maryinka, Nevelske, Netaylove, Novobakhmutivka, New York, Opytne, Pervomaiske, Pisky, Soledar, Spirne, Yuryivka, and Yakovlivka, and conducted airstrikes in the areas of Soledar, Bakhmut, Yakovlivka, Zaytseve, Pokrovske, Vesela Dolyna, Bilohorivka, Maryinka, Novomykhailivka, Pavlivka, and Krasnohorivka.

The enemy tried to break through the Ukrainian troops' defenses and advance from the areas of Volodymyrivka, Pokrovske, Klynove, Semihirya, and Holmivske in the direction of the city of Bakhmut, and attacked in directions of Spirne-Vyimka, Striapivka-Soledar, Volodymyrivka-Soledar, Vershyna-Kodema, Verkhnyotoretske-Kamyanka, Novoselivka Druha-Avdiivka, Pisky-Pervomaiske, and Lozove-Pervomaiske. All attacks were repulsed, and the enemy suffered losses and retreated. Battles continue in the direction of Pokrovske - Bakhmutske. The enemy captured Novoselivka Druha and Opytne and is trying to develop success by breaking through between New York and Avidiivka.

Russian troops tried to storm the heavily fortified Soledar, defended by the Ukrainian battalion of the 80th separate airborne assault brigade. A BTG of the "Wagner" PMC moved to the south-eastern outskirts.

Ukrainian positions in Bakhmutske, defended by one of the Ukrainian volunteer units, are under considerable pressure.

Ukrainian 58th separate motorized infantry brigade has been holding its positions near Bakhmut for the second week. The 72nd separate mechanized brigade repulsed attacks in the Zaytseve and Kodema areas for a week. The 56th separate motorized infantry brigade retreated from the Pisky area, but repelled enemy attacks on Vodyane and Nevelske.

The enemy is entrenching in Solodke and attacks Novomykhailivka from the eastern and southern directions.

The "separatists" formations entered the Novomykhalivka-Pavlivka highway, breaking through the defenses of the 53rd separate mechanized brigade, which has been fighting continuously since March and needs replenishment and rest.

Zaporizhzhya direction

- *Maryinka – Vasylivka section: approximate length of the line of combat - 200 km, the number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 17, the average width of the combat area of one BTG - 11.7 km;*
- *Deployed BTGs: 36th separate motorized rifle brigade of the 29th Combined Arms Army, 38th and 64th separate motorized rifle brigades, 69th separate cover brigade of the 35th Combined Arms Army, 5th separate tank brigade, 37 separate motorized rifle brigade of the 36th Combined Arms Army, 135th, 429th, 503rd and 693rd motorized rifle regiments of the 19th motorized rifle division of the 58th Combined Arms Army, 70th, 71st and 291st motorized rifle regiments of the 42nd motorized rifle division of the 58th Combined Arms Army, 136th separate motorized rifle brigade of the 58 Combined Arms Army, 46th and 49th machine gun artillery regiments of the 18th machine gun artillery division of the 68th Army Corps, 39th separate motorized rifle brigade of the 68th Army Corps, 83th separate airborne assault brigade, 40th and 155th separate marines brigades, 22nd separate SOF brigade, 1st Army Corps of the so-called DPR, and 2nd Army Corps of the so-called LPR, PMCs*

The enemy sheled areas of Velyka Novosilka, Volodymyrivka, Vremivka, Vuhledar, Hulyaipole, Dorozhnianka, Zaliznychne, Zolota Nyva, Novomykhailivka, Novosilka, Pavlivka, Preobrazhenka, Prechystivka, Stepove, Charivne, and Shevchenkove, and carried out airstrikes near Vuhledar, Shcherbaky, Zaliznychne and Novoandriyivka. The enemy tried to advance from Taramchuk to Vodyane, but were repulsed and retreated.

Kherson direction

- *Vasylivka–Nova Zburiyivka and Stanislav section: approximate length of the battle line - 252 km, the number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces - 27, the average width of the combat area of one BTG - 9.3 km;*
- *Deployed BTGs: 114th, 143rd and 394th motorized rifle regiments, 218th tank regiment of the 127th motorized rifle division of the 5th Combined Arms Army, 57th and 60th separate motorized rifle brigades of the 5th Combined Arms Army, 135th, 503rd and 693rd motorized rifle regiments of the 19th motorized rifle division, 70th, 71st and 291st motorized rifle regiments of the 42nd motorized rifle division, 51st and 137th parachute airborne regiments of the 106th parachute airborne division, 7th military base of the 49th Combined Arms Army, 16th and 346th separate SOF brigades*

The operational situation is unchanged.

Kherson-Berislav bridgehead

- *Velyka Lepetikhka – Oleksandrivka section: approximate length of the battle line – 250 km, the number of BTGs of the RF Armed Forces – 22, the average width of the combat area of one BTG – 11.8 km;*

● *Deployed BTGs: 108th Air assault regiment, 171st separate airborne assault brigade of the 7th Air assault division, 4th military base of the 58th Combined Arms Army, 429th motorized rifle regiment of the 19th motorized rifle division, 33rd and 255th motorized rifle regiments of the 20th motorized rifle division, 34th and 205th separate motorized rifle brigades of the 49th Combined Arms Army, 224th, 237th and 239th Air assault regiments of the 76th Air assault division, 217th and 331 Air assault regiments of the 98th Air assault division, 126th separate coastal defense brigade, 127th separate ranger brigade, 11th separate airborne assault brigade, 10th separate SOF brigade, PMC*

The enemy continued shelling Ukrainian positions from tanks and artillery along the line of combat engagement and carried out airstrikes in the areas of Mykolaivske, Bilohirka, Bila Krynytsia, and Lozove, and intensively conducted aerial reconnaissance with UAVs.

Enemy units continue to focus on holding occupied positions and preventing the Ukrainian Defense Forces from creating favorable conditions for a counteroffensive. The Russian forces strengthened their grouping with up to two BTGs from the reserves and transferred individual units from other directions.

Azov-Black Sea Maritime Operational Area:

The forces of the Russian Black Sea Fleet continue to project force on the coast and the continental part of Ukraine (through missile strikes and possible amphibious assaults) and control 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 by land.

There are currently 7 Russian warships and boats in the Black Sea, headed by the "Admiral Essen" frigate. 2 ships (a frigate and a Buyan-M type corvette) carry up to 16 Kalibr missiles ready to launch.

Most of the large amphibious ships are in the ports of Novorossiysk and Sevastopol for replenishment and scheduled repairs. There are no signs of preparation for an amphibious assault.

The missile corvette "Samum" (with 8 Moskit anti-aircraft missiles) is in a firing position near the western coast of Crimea.

One minesweeper performing anti-sabotage functions is at patrol near Sevastopol.

2 Russian ships (a corvette and a minesweeper) are on patrol in the Sea of Azov.

All four submarines of project 636.3 are at ports in Sevastopol and Novorossiysk.

Russian aviation continues to fly from Crimea over the northwestern part of the Black Sea. 6 aircraft from the Crimean Air Group of the Russian Federation were involved in the past day.

After the explosions at the Saki airfield, the intensity of flights decreased three-fold. The Russian military disperses aircraft from the Belbek airfield to other airfields in the Crimea and Krasnodar Territory. On the evening of August 18, 8 explosions were recorded at Belbek airfield. The origin is unknown. The Russian occupiers explained the explosion as the work of an air defense system on an unidentified drone. They showed a TV report yesterday evening from the supposedly normally functioning civilian site of the Belbek airport (located 3 km from the military airfield).

It became known that two months ago, a meeting of the fleet's command staff was held at the Russian Black Sea fleet's headquarters, setting the task to prepare for the start of active operations at sea in July-August 2022. In particular, it was announced that within the framework of "special military operation", active hostilities on land should be ceased after June 24. The Russian troops should have advanced to the border of the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts and shifted to the defensive. Such a change in tactics was due to the lack of a sufficient number of reserves to continue an active offensive. According to experts, even in the case of [Russian] open mobilization, time was needed for personnel training and combat coordination. Therefore, to enhance the effect of the Russian "special operation," the operational theater should have been transferred to the sea. [They relied on the fact that] there are no forces and means at sea to oppose the Russian Navy. The only threat is the Harpoon anti-ship missiles, provided by NATO countries, in service in the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

Therefore, the Russian Black Sea fleet relied on submarines, and the actions of surface ships were planned, taking into account the range of missiles and the active use of anti-aircraft weapons.

Also, at the meeting, they recalled approved plans for conducting amphibious operations, postponed due to the lack of a sufficient number of landing troops. Landing operations were planned in two directions: towards Ochakiv and towards Serhiivka and Lebedivka - with further advances towards Transnistria.

The largest enemy combat-ready formation, the 810th Separate Marine Brigade (Sevastopol), which took part in the war with Ukraine, suffered significant losses in the battles near Mariupol and was withdrawn for replenishment. The 177th separate regiment of marine infantry of the Caspian flotilla sustained substantial losses in the Zaporizhzhya oblast. Other military formations of enemy ground and airborne troops are engaged in battles along the entire front line and cannot be withdrawn to form a landing group.

Also, [at the meeting], they focused on the fact that in case of intensification of actions at sea, the priority tasks would be striking the Ukrainian ports and destroying the infrastructure to make it impossible to use them for the shipment of grain.

As we can see, the enemy failed to implement any of these plans at sea. The probability of a landing operation decreased significantly, especially after the explosions at the Saki airfield. Under diplomatic pressure, a grain corridor was opened and operates with about 25 ships with Ukrainian grain already passed.

Operational losses of the enemy from 24.02 to 19.08

Personnel - almost 44,700 people (+400);
Tanks - 1,899 (+10);
Armored combat vehicles - 4,195 (+16);
Artillery systems - 1,016 (+6);
Multiple rocket launchers (MLRS) - 266 (+1);
Anti-aircraft warfare systems - 141 (+5);
Vehicles and fuel tanks - 3,130 (+69);
Aircraft - 233 (0);
Helicopters - 197 (0);
UAV operational and tactical level - 795 (+2);
Intercepted cruise missiles - 190 (0);
Boats / ships - 15 (0).

Ukraine, general news

National holidays have been canceled for the period of martial law in Ukraine. Independence Day of Ukraine, August 24, falls on Wednesday. This year it is a regular working day, including for the banking system, reported the National Bank of Ukraine.

The Cabinet of Ministers allowed male employees of Ukrainian export-oriented companies to travel abroad. From September 1, male employees of businesses that officially pay salaries and have no debts on taxes and fees will be able to travel abroad for up to 7 days at the employer's request via the Diya [digital] portal. Under the new rules, no more than 10 people or 10% of the company's employees will be able to cross the border, First Vice Prime Minister Yulia Sviridenko said.

The Serhiy Prytula Foundation purchased a satellite for the Armed Forces of Ukraine. Previously, in the framework of "the People's Bayraktar project," the Foundation raised more than 600 million hryvnias in donations from private citizens. Later, the Turkish company Baykar decided to transfer three attack drones to Ukraine free of charge. The money saved was spent on a satellite.

The fund signed an agreement with the ICEYE company, according to which the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine will have full access to all the capabilities of one of the Iceye satellites, which is already in orbit in this region. "Today, ICEYE has the most advanced radar satellite imaging technology. This agreement is a serious step in ensuring the critical needs of the Ukrainian government in surveillance data and essential assistance to our Armed Forces" - Serhiy Prytula said. ICEYE satellites are equipped with the latest technology. They shoot at any time of the day and under any weather conditions, commented UAF Stratcom. Thanks to automatic object recognition using distributed radar imaging and digital signal processing, these satellites are able to see ... through obstacles. Even the walls of buildings are not a hindrance to them.

International diplomatic aspect

Russia will completely cut Germany off the gas supply for several days at the beginning of September. Gazprom explains it as a necessity to repair the only operational gas pumping unit of the Nord Stream. So far, the German Chancellor's efforts to return to Russia the gas turbine repaired in Canada have failed. So, the Kremlin has already achieved several goals. It made Berlin exercise pressure on Ottawa and the latter to circumvent and thus erode the sanctions. Now, Moscow is mounting pressure on Germany, threatening with cold winter. Wolfgang Kubicki, the Vice-President of the German Parliament and Vice-President of the liberal FDP party, said there is no good reason not to open the Nord Stream II gas pipeline.

Estonia was subject to the most extensive cyberattacks it has faced since 2007. A Russian hacker group claimed responsibility for the attack triggered by Estonia's decision to remove a Soviet-era monument.

For the first time since the all-out invasion, President Emmanuel Macron called Vladimir Putin to talk about Zaporizhzhya NPP. According to the French side, "the Russian President indicated his agreement to the deployment of this [IAEA] mission and the terms that were discussed". However, the logistics details might complicate the principal "readiness" to give access to Russia's illegally captured NPP. A leaked video proves that Russian military hardware now sits within the turbine halls, some 25-30 meters from the nuclear reactor of the Zaporizhzhya NPP, to no surprise, contrary to Russia's assurances. Moscow wants to be recognized by the IAEA as a de facto holder of the NPP as a step toward legalizing its criminal seizure. Instead of facing immediate diplomatic and sanction pressure, the Kremlin gets more attention.

The US is to announce a new security aid package worth \$775 million. The package includes HARM anti-radiation missiles, ammo for HIMARS, sixteen 105 mm howitzer systems and 36,000 rounds for them, fifteen ScanEagle drones, 1,000 Javelins, and 1,000 anti-armour TOW missiles, and forty Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles. The EU will contribute \$21 million to the UNDP to support the removal of debris, including explosive ordnance, from collapsed infrastructure, buildings and housing.

Russia, relevant news

In June, the Russians withdrew \$4.7 billion abroad, which was the maximum since the beginning of 2018.

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