

Humanitarian aspect:

As of the morning of August 31, 2022, more than 1,114 Ukrainian children are victims of full-scale armed aggression by the Russian Federation, Prosecutor General's Office reports. **The official number of children who have died is 379, and the number of those who have been wounded is more than 735.** However, the data is not conclusive since data collection continues in the areas of active hostilities, temporarily occupied areas, and liberated territories.

At night, the Russians shelled Kramatorsk. In **Donetsk Oblast** (damaged 4 high-rise buildings), In Sloviansk (damaged 5 buildings), Chasiv Yar (2 high-rise buildings, a residential sector and an industrial zone) and Kurakhove (a parking lot). On August 30, 4 people were killed by enemy shelling: 2 - in Klishchiivka, 1 - in Bakhmut and 1 - in Korsunivka. 2 more people were injured.

At night, the enemy shelled a residential building in the Kyivskyi district of **Kharkiv**. Preliminary, two civilians were injured.

In the afternoon of August 30, the enemy shelled infrastructure facilities in **Mykolaiv**: 1 dead and 2 wounded were reported. Shelling continues in the Mykolaiv and Bashtan districts of the region.

In **Dnipropetrovsk Oblast** the enemy hit Nikopol twice. 1 wounded civilian. 12 high-rise buildings, several shops and pharmacies, a college, a children's and youth sports school and a cultural and sports complex were damaged.

On August 30, the Russians shelled the territories of 3 communities of the **Sumy Oblast** - Khotynska, Rychkivska, and Velikopysarivska. there were a total of 133 [Russian] shellings.

Operational situation

It is the 189th day of the strategic air-ground offensive operation of the Russian Armed Forces against Ukraine (in the official terminology of the Russian Federation – "operation to protect Donbas"). 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, and restoring the combat capability of its units that have suffered losses. Russian forces continue to carry out air and missile attacks on civilian objects on the territory of Ukraine.

The combat units of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, deployed around Ukraine and involved in full-scale armed aggression against Ukraine, amount to 116 BTGs. Of them: 110 are deployed into operation, and 6 are undergoing replenishment. Personnel - up to 170.4 thousand,

tanks - up to 1,242, BBM - up to 2,805, artillery - 1,795, MLRS - 683, Operational tactical missile system - 70. In addition, there are 25 BTGs in the 1st stage of the reserve and 15 in the reserve of the 2nd stage.

To date, the Ukrainian Armed Forces have destroyed 18 BTGs of the Russian Armed Forces in battles.

The enemy is strengthening the grouping of troops in the Donetsk direction. Transferring units and military formations of the 3rd Army Corps (AC) of the Western Military District continues. Four BTGs from the 3rd AC are concentrated in the Rostov region: one is unloaded and consolidated at the Kuzminsky training ground, and two more are moving through Shakhty towards the Crimean Bridge. Since yesterday, the command of the enemy's troops began to stop night traffic along the Crimean bridge in the direction of Simferopol, which indicates the beginning of the transfer of the advanced units of the 3rd AC to the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. Yesterday morning, a large convoy of more than 300 enemy vehicles passed through Toretsk. Some units from the 6th motorized rifle division and the 72nd separate motorized rifle brigade of the 3rd AC are moving to the Crimean Autonomous Republic (departure stations - "Krasnye Udarniki" and "Totskoe"; unloading station - "Dzhankoy").

The enemy shelled the areas of Gremyach, Gai in Chernihiv Oblast and Novovasylivka, Bachivsk, Strykove, Pisky, Dmytrivka, Kindrativka, Myropilske in Sumy Oblast.

The enemy carries out reinforced protection of the section of the Ukrainian-Russian border with the units of:

- the 3rd airborne battalion of the 51st airborne regiment of the 106th airborne division (personnel: 401),
- 1st motorized rifle battalion of the 1st motorized rifle regiment of the 2nd motorized rifle division (personnel: 313),
- motorized rifle battalion of the 15th motorized rifle regiment of the 2nd motorized rifle division (personnel: 346),
- motorized rifle battalion of the 423rd motorized rifle regiment of the 4th armored division (personnel: 356),
- motorized rifle company of the 254th motorized rifle regiment of the 144th motorized rifle division (personnel: 78),
- howitzer artillery battery of howitzer artillery battalion of the 59th armored regiment of the 144th motorized rifle division (personnel: 60),
- MLRS platoon of the MLRS battery of the 856th self-propelled artillery regiment of the 144th motorized rifle division (personnel: 8),
- howitzer artillery battery of howitzer artillery battalion of the 288th artillery brigade (personnel: 45),
- MLRS battery of 147th self-propelled artillery regiment (personnel: 35).

Within the "Baranovichi" airfield of the Brest Region were recorded:

- more than 37 aircraft (12 MiG-29, 3 Su-30, 19 Su-27 and 3 unidentified aircraft),

- 48 units of military equipment of various purposes,
- 27 camouflaged military facilities,
- one "Pantsir-S" anti-aircraft missile system,
- two "Redut" sea-based anti-aircraft missiles,
- 28 fuel tanks,
- seven radars/EWS
- 5 ammunition depots.

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 shelled the areas of Duvanka, Klynove, Sosnivka, Dementiivka, Ruska Lozova, Russki and Cherkasski Tyshky, Velyki Prohody, Tsyркuny, Petrivka, Stary Saltiv, Peremoha, Shestakove, Bayrak, Nortsivka, Shevelivka, Dolyna, Adamivka, Khrestyshche, Bayrak, Oleksandrivka, Mazanivka, Udy, Borshchova, Velyka Komyshuvakha, Svitlychne, Kostyantynivka and Ruska Lozova. The enemy aviation attacked near Husarivka.

The Russian forces are shelling Kharkiv with anti-aircraft guns. Enemy units of the 752nd motorized rifle division of the 3rd motorized rifle division tried to improve their tactical position in the directions of Bohorodychne and Dolyna; Ukrainian Defense Forces repelled the attack.

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, PMCs*

Enemy units continued shelling from barrel artillery and MLRS near Dolyna, Krasnopillia, Bohorodychne, Virnopillia, Pryshyb, Husarivka, Sloviansk, Hryhorivka, Spirne, Pereizne, Vyimka, Vesele, Berestove, Bogorodychne, Tetyanivka, Zakitne, Mala Piskunivka, Verkhnyokamyanske and Ivano-Daryivka. Enemy aircraft struck near Virnopillia, Hryhorivka and Pryshyb.

The enemy attacked in the area of Shnurky, but was hit by Ukrainian units' fire and retreated.

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 does not stop trying to enter the administrative border of Donetsk oblast. Today, fierce fighting continues in the Bakhmut and Avdiiv areas in Kodema, Zaytseve, Pisky, Pervomaiske and Maryinka areas. The enemy is strengthening the grouping of troops in the Kurakhiv direction by regrouping separate units from the Central Military District.

Ukrainian Defense Forces engage in positional combat to improve their tactical position along the contact line. The main efforts of the Ukrainian units are focused on fire damage to the enemy control points, air defense equipment, warehouses with ammunition and disrupting the functioning of the enemy's logistical support system.

All Russian attacks on Soledar, Bakhmutske, Bakhmut, Kodema, Avdiivka, Opytne, Maryinka, Vesela Dolyna, Krasnohorivka, Zaitseve, Pervomaiske, and others were repulsed. However, the Russians managed to break into the southern outskirts of Klynove.

Enemy artillery shelling of various types was recorded near Bakhmut, Bakhmutske, Soledar, Yakovlivka, Zaytseve, Mayorsk, Kodema, Bilohorivka, Avdiivka, Opytne, Umanske, Pervomaiske, Staromykhailivka, New York, Maryinka, Vesele, and Novomykhailivka. The Russian ащксуи launched a rocket attack on the town of Kostiantynivka.

Russian offensives around Avdiivka and the western Donetsk region culminated after limited Russian breakthroughs around the Butivka mine ventilation shaft.

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*

Enemy fire was recorded near Novomykhailivka, Paraskoviivka, Prechystivka, Zolota Nyva, Velyka Novosilka, Blahodatne, Pavlivka, Novoukrainka, Novopillia, Novoprokopivka, Robotyn, Chervone, Hulyaipole, Novoandriivka, Zaliznychne, Kopany, Zelene Pole, Poltavka, Mali Shcherbaky, Kamianske, Orichove, Stepove and Olhivske. Enemy aviation operated near Novodanilivka and Novosilka.

The enemy is regrouping the 3rd AC units and formations to the temporarily occupied territories of the Zaporizhzhya region in order to resume the offensive.

Russian forces have deployed up to five military bases and barracks in [occupied] Melitopol and continue to prepare defenses around Melitopol. Melitopol is strategically important for logistics between Rostov Oblast [of Russia] and southern Ukraine.

Kherson direction

- *Vasylivka–Nova Zburiivka 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. Ukrainian forces destroyed the Russian pontoon-ferry crossing in Lvoviv and struck a pontoon crossing built from barges near the Antonivskyi road bridge.

In Dzankoy airfield, Russians deployed 12 Pantsir-S1 air defense systems, two radars, one S-400 anti-aircraft missile defense system, several units of auxiliary equipment and more than 350 containers with missiles for the S-400 air defense system, 27 Mi-8 helicopters and 26 helicopters of other types, 56 trucks, two refueling stations, nine vehicles, two ammunition depots and 5 camouflaged objects.

Kherson-Berislav bridgehead

- *Velyka Lepetikha – 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*

Ukrainian defense forces broke through the positions of the Russian 205th separate mechanized rifle brigade between Arkhangelsk and Zolota Balka, the enemy 10th separate SOF brigade, and the 125th separate coastal defence brigade. The enemy's actions were supported by the 140th artillery regiment and 227th artillery brigade.

The enemy retreated from the first line of defense in the areas of Pravdyne, Sukhy Stavok, Olhyne, Novovoznesenske, Myrolyubivka, Petrivka. The fighting continues. Visokopyllia, Zolota Balka, Biloghirka, Andriyivka, Sukhy Stavok, Posad-Pokrovske, and Blahodatne have been liberated. Battles continue for Arkhangelske, Olhyne, Kyselyvka, Oleksandrivka, and Tomyňa Balka. Ukrainian units are clearing Petrivka from enemy remnants.

The [Russian] occupiers continue to hold Davydiv Brid, Pravdyne, and Chornobayivka. The enemy is moving reserves to the districts of Kiselivka to company tactical group, from Lyubomirivka to a Company' TG and Olhyne to territorial regiment.

The enemy continued shelling of military and civilian infrastructure in the areas of Andriyivka, Bilousove, Dobryanka, Zarychne, Zelenodolsk, Ivanivka, Kalinivka, Kvitneve, Kiselyvka, Knyazivka, Kobzartsi, Lozove, Lupareve, Lyubomirivka, Novogrigorivka, Novomykolaivka, Novoselivka, Oleksandrivka, Olygyne, Osokorivka. Russian forces shelled Mykolaiv with 16 S-300 missiles and carried out airstrikes and S-300 strikes on the Bashtanka area.

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 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 through the coast of the Black and Azov seas.

The number of Russian ships in the Black Sea is 11 warships and boats. In the area of Cape Fiolent (southern part of Crimea), the frigate "Admiral Essen" of project 1135.6 and two ["Buyan-M type] corvettes are ready for a missile attack. Up to 24 Kalibr missiles are ready to launch [at Ukrainian territory]

Most large amphibious ships are in the ports of Novorossiysk and Sevastopol for restocking and scheduled repairs. There are no signs of the formation of an amphibious landing force to land on the southern coast of Ukraine.

The enemy 810th marine infantry brigade, which forms the enemy's basis of the amphibious landing on ships, is undergoing a stage of combat adjustment at test sites in Crimea after recovering losses.

The formation of the newly created 3rd Army Corps of the Russian Federation was observed on August 31 near Oleshki (Kherson region).

On August 31, another ship with agricultural products leaves the Ukrainian port. Nine vessels heading to Ukraine will be checked.

As reported by Ukrinform, on the morning of August 30, six ships with agricultural products left Ukrainian ports through the "grain corridor". During the implementation of the Initiative on the safe transportation of agricultural products, 62 ships have already departed from Ukrainian ports, transporting about 1.5 million tons of food.

Operational losses of the enemy from 24.02 to 31.08

Personnel - almost 47,900 people (+350);

Tanks – 1,974 (+20);

Armored combat vehicles – 4,312 (+18);

Artillery systems – 1,091 (+12);

Multiple rocket launchers (MLRS) - 285 (+3);

Anti-aircraft warfare systems - 152 (+1);

Vehicles and fuel tanks – 3,263 (+19);

Aircraft - 234 (0);

Helicopters – 204 (0);

UAV operational and tactical level - 849 (+2);

Intercepted cruise missiles - 196 (0);

Boats / ships - 15 (0).

International diplomatic aspect

To demonstrate unity, the EU decided to freeze an agreement on easing travel between Russia and Europe, making it harder and longer for Russians to obtain short-term visas. So while the EU bureaucrats would think about what to do with almost 12 million visas already issued to Russians, Russian journalists, students, and those who claim their freedom and life are threatened can still acquire visas. Still, it is a loophole for Russian "pretenders" to declare their "opposition" to apply for a visa to make their life comfortable in Europe.

One of the arguments Germany and France were doubling down on, aiming not to ban Russian tourist voyages, is that by travelling westwards, Russians would enjoy European values of freedom and democracy and try to plant them back home. It's a theory that had already failed after thirty years of open borders, millions of US dollars and Europe's euros spent in grants invested in Russian nationals' education in the top western Universities, NGOs working in Russia, when it was still allowed, and fifteen years of the eased visa regime for Russians.

Dmytro Kuleba, Ukrainian Foreign Minister, characterized the EU's ban on a tourist visa as "a half measure". The diplomats from the Baltic nations and Poland are not happy either. Finland has already reduced the issuance of visas by ten percent. The Estonian Foreign Minister is threatening to block entrance to all Russian citizens. "Then there are three options for action: one is in the European context, and the other two are closely tied to the legislation of our country. Estonia will have the opportunity to impose sanctions against Russia unilaterally, and such a document has already been drawn up and is ready for confirmation, and the other option is to turn to the Border Law when in the event of a state of emergency, it is possible, within the framework of the law, to close the border for all tourists," said deputy minister of Interior.

The reaction of Western governments to the passing of Mikhail Gorbachev, Secretary-General of the Communist Party and the last President of the Soviet Union, is yet another marker of "the Russia divide" between old and new Europe. Old Europe countries prize Mikhail Gorbachev for liberalizing the USSR and thus liberating countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

Germans honored him because Moscow withdrew its military occupation contingent [from Germany's DDR], allowed the Berlin Wall to be "torn down", and agreed on the reunification of Germany under favourable conditions.

However, the politicians refused to acknowledge that it was Mikhail Gorbachev who was responsible for a brutal crackdown in Kazakhstan (1986), a massacre in Georgia (1989) and Azerbaijan (1990), and the bloody [liberation] events in Lithuania and Latvia (1991). Until the last day of the [USSR] Empire of Evil, there were political prisoners, prisoners of consciousness, as well as punitive psychiatry and other "peculiarities" of life in a communist camp.

The US Government signed a contract worth \$182 million with Raytheon Missiles and Defense to deliver two NASAMS batteries, training and logistical support to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

Two senior officials with energy portfolios in the German Ministry of Economic Affairs are being investigated by the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution, a counterintelligence

agency, over allegations of spying for the Kremlin, Die Zeit reports. The Office is looking into inconsistencies in the internal documents on Nord Stream 2 and the filling level of the gas storage facilities, as well as the pro-Russian position on energy issues which contradicts the political position of the minister.

If espionage is confirmed, it would mean a serious security breach that had jeopardized one of the most sensitive aspects of German security policy in the face of the Kremlin's weaponization of energy. The German navy chief resigned earlier this year after saying Putin deserves 'respect' and Kyiv will never regain Crimea. There're several cases of Germans working for Russia's military and foreign intelligence in courts now. Enormous efforts are required to clear the house.

FBI's cyber experts' rapid deployment team is dispatched to Montenegro on a mission to investigate a massive and coordinated attack on the country's government systems. "A huge amount of money was invested in the attack on our system", said the Minister of Public Administration. Maras Dukaj wasn't able to determine the source of the attack, but that there is "a strong indication that it is coming from Russia." Russia has been actively destabilizing the situation in the Balkans and Montenegro, particularly to damage their peace and stability, which would affect European NATO allies.

The IAEA team of inspectors is making its way to the Zaporizhzhya Nuclear Power Plant, illegally seized by Russian troops. The UN team will need a few days and, possibly, a long-time presence of several experts to assess the state of the ZNPP's security and report on the developments.

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