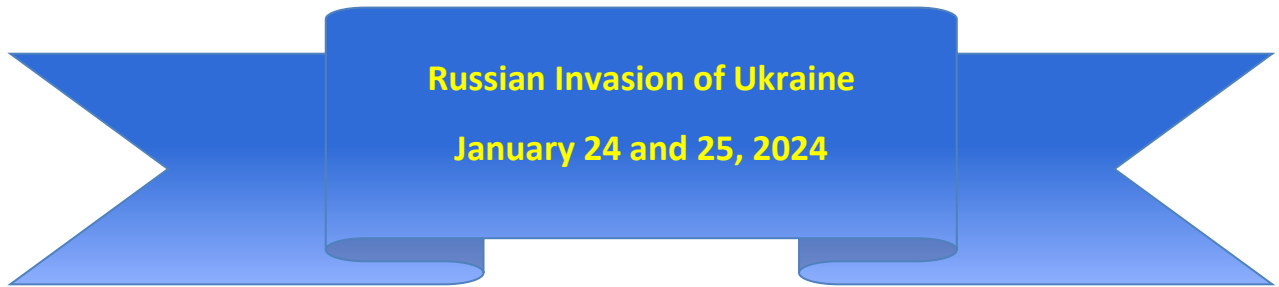


News From Ukraine



By: Bohdan Chomiak & Robert Homans

From Bohdan

Reporting from the frontlines is farther from the headlines than in a long time. Although missing, it's more than compensated by the acts of disruption behind the lines in ruzzia.

Ukrainian commando and guerilla groups continue to strike easy but critical targets as ruzzia has pulled all that it has to the frontline. I believe with 100% certainty that the rashists did not expect a group of Ukrainian commandos to travel 600 km inside the country to strike an oil refinery.

Ukrainian behind the line performance exceeds the rashists by miles. In the first month of the invasion the rashist activated groups of sleeping agents to undertake the same type of diversion and destruction as Ukraine is now doing. These groups, active from Odesa along the Black Sea Coast, and in Kharkiv along the northern border to Kyiv accomplished very little other than getting captured or killed.

During the first month of the invasion over a hundred liquidated in Kyiv, and about half that each starting in Odesa and ending in Chernihiv. Fewer were captured than killed. ,

With far greater numbers, and time to plan and hide munitions and explosives, the rashist commandos and guerillas were not even a footnote to the invasion.

[“Is Ukraine’s information war turning on its own journalists?”/Columbia Journalism Review – Jon Allsop](#)

There have been rumblings about harassment of journalists by the Government of Ukraine since before the start of Russia’s latest invasion, especially concerning President Zelensky informing, or not informing, the dangers of invasion. Now, according to this article, it appears to be coming out in the open, and getting more attention in the Western media (it has gotten continual attention in the Ukrainian media). Some excerpts:

- “Yuriy Nikolov—a “famous muckraker” who broke open a scandal involving military catering contracts that, eventually, contributed to the removal of the defense minister.....Nikolov said that, as he weighed whether to pursue the story given the attendant risk of “discrediting Ukraine,” he had stood on his balcony in Kyiv and witnessed its air defenses shoot down a rocket. “I thought, ‘I want us to have more air defenses,’” Nikolov said. “They cost money. If money is being stolen, we won’t get the rockets.” “
- “Last weekend, at least two men turned up at Nikolov’s home and tried to break down the door. He wasn’t there at the time—[he was watching snooker at a friend’s house, he said](#)—but his elderly mother, who is convalescing following cancer treatment, was.”
- “In an address to the nation last week, Zelensky insisted that action was being taken—a message [he reiterated in an interview with Britain’s Channel 4 over the weekend](#)—and that “any pressure on journalists is unacceptable.” Still, his word alone has not been enough to reassure journalists who have feared for a while that press freedom is in decline on his watch.”
- “Andrey Boborykin, the chief executive of the major independent news outlet *Ukrainska Pravda*, told me in an email. “However, the recent escalation of harassment and intimidation against journalists appears to be a tipping point. The fundamental role of independent media in a democracy is being threatened, and staying silent may do more long-term damage than speaking uncomfortable truths. The lines have

clearly been crossed by those in power, and the resulting outcry from journalists is understandable and justified.” “

- “In the summer of 2022, two journalists at *Ukrainska Pravda* [said that they had received a barrage of threats](#) after reporting on the dismissal of a government official; according to the Committee to Protect Journalists, the pair were also added to a database maintained by a nationalist website that has published the details of journalists it considers to be “terrorist collaborators” and enemies of Ukraine.”
- “When Ukraine liberated the key city of Kherson, at the end of 2022, several journalists went in to document the scene without military authorization and had their credentials revoked; other reporters, including for major Western outlets like the *New York Times* and *The New Yorker*, [reportedly faced similar punishment, or at least the threat of it](#), after publishing reports that Ukrainian military bosses perceived as challenging their narrative control.”
- “With foreign aid for the war effort at risk of stalling—not least from the US—investigative journalists, in particular, face a choice: hold their government to account and risk triggering adverse headlines in donor countries, or withhold information and risk eroding the democracy that the Western world has so far rallied to defend. For Nikolov, at least, the choice isn’t binary—he told France 24 that exposing corruption shouldn’t hinder the flow of aid. “Ukraine needs weapons,” he said. “If we come under occupation, I won’t be able to fight corruption at all.” “
- “A new *unspoken consensus* had taken hold among Ukrainian journalists: “that it is important not just to win the war, but also not to turn into Russia in the process.” “

[“Should Washington Talk to Moscow Now?”](#) w/ Anatol Lieven & Andrew Kuchins

“On January 23, the Center for the National Interest hosted a virtual debate on this important question featuring two leading Eurasia experts: Anatol Lieven (in favor) and Andrew Kuchins (against.)”

“—**Anatol Lieven** is Director of the Eurasia Program at the Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft. He was formerly a professor at Georgetown University in Qatar and in the War Studies Department of King’s College London. Lieven recently co-authored a piece titled “[Russia’s upper hand puts U.S.-Ukraine at a crossroads.](#)””

“—**Andrew Kuchins** is a Senior Fellow at the Center for the National Interest. He recently served as the President of the American University of Central Asia in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Previously, he was Director of the Russia and Eurasia Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (2007-2015) and at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (2000-2003, 2006), where he also directed the Carnegie Moscow Center (2003-2005).”

Personally, I thought Lieven’s arguments in favor of Washington talking to Moscow were empty and, for the most part, simply repeated what one can read almost every day in the “newspapers of record,” including but not limited to describing Ukraine’s 2023 offensive as a “failure.” He called Ukraine’s 2023 offensive a “failure,” without considering the broader theaters of the war, including the Black Sea, Ukraine’s attack against Russian logistics and, most recently, Ukraine’s attacks in Russian territory, including sabotage and assassinations. Unfortunately, at least from reading the comments section in the video, Lieven’s arguments have traction.

My comment was the exception.

The Downed Russian IL-76 (the “[Latest Denys](#)”)

At around 9:20 into Denys’ video he speaks about the downed Russian IL-76 aircraft that Russia claims contained 65 Ukrainian prisoners of war that were about to be part of a prisoner exchange. From what I understand here is what we know (or don’t know):

- There have only been 5 bodies presented at the Belgorod morgue.
- Ukraine claims that the plane was delivering S-300 missiles to a city, Belgorod, that is approximately 25 miles from Kharkiv that has under frequent missile attack during the last few days.

- The plane was likely low on fuel, as it was landing at the time of strike.
- The impact created a very bright fireball.

Some un-educated conclusions:

- The fireball seems to suggest that the plane was carrying ordinance.
- Assuming that both allegations are true, that the plane was carrying POWs and, as Ukraine alleges, that the plane was carrying ordinance, then Russia can be accused of using Ukrainian POWs as human shields.

[“War cats: Ukraine enlists feline friends in fight against Russia”](#)/Politico

No further comment necessary.

1/26/2024 Sitrep

Abbreviations: RMA = Regional Military Administration

SITUATION UPDATE OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF UKRAINIAN ARMED FORCES JANUARY 24, 2024

During the day of January 24, there were 58 combat engagements. The enemy launched a total of 6 missile and 97 air strikes, 121 MLRS attacks at the positions of Ukrainian troops and various settlements.

During the day of January 24, russian occupants launched yet another air strike, using 14 Shahed-136/131 attack UAVs. The Ukrainian Air Defense forces and means shot down 11 enemy UAVs.

Air strikes hit Zemlyanyi Yar, Zybyne, Krasne Pershe, Tabaivka, Pishchane (Kharkiv oblast), Serebryanske forestry, Bilohorivka (Luhansk oblast), Chasiv Yar, Predtechyne, Semenivka, Avdiyivka, Sjeverne, Maksymilyanivka, Heorhiyivka, Novomykhailivka, Vodyane, Vuhledar, Staromaiorske , Rivnopil (Donetsk oblast), Mala Tokmachka, Robotyne (Zaporizhzhia oblast), Kachkarivka, Respublikanets, Chervonyi Mayak, Zmiyivka, and Novoberyslav (Kherson oblast).

More than 100 settlements in Chernihiv, Sumy, Kharkiv, Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia, Dnipropetrovsk, Kherson, and Mykolaiv oblasts came under artillery fire.

Khortytsia operational-strategic group, Kupyansk axis: Ukrainian defenders repelled 6 enemy attacks near Synkivka (Kharkiv oblast).

Lyman axis: Ukrainian troops repelled 4 attacks of the occupiers near Terny, east of Dibrova (Donetsk oblast), and 5 more attacks in the vicinities of Makiyivka, and Serebryanske forestry (Luhansk oblast).

Bakhmut axis: the Ukrainian Defense Forces repelled 7 attacks of the adversary near Vasyukivka, Bohdanivka, Ivanivske, and Klishchivka (Donetsk oblast).

Tavria operational-strategic group, Avdiyivka axis: Ukrainian defenders repelled 4 enemy attacks in the vicinity of Avdiyivka, and 8 more attacks near Pervomaiske and Nevelske (Donetsk oblast) during the day of January 24.

Maryinka axis: the Ukrainian defenders continue to hold back the enemy near Heorhiyivka and Novomykhailivka (Donetsk oblast). The Ukrainian troops repelled 9 attacks in that area.

Shakhtarske axis: the Ukrainian defenders repelled 2 enemy attacks south of Zolota Nyva and east of Staromaiorske (Donetsk oblast).

Zaporizhzhia axis: the Ukrainian troops repelled 1 adversary attack in the vicinity of Robotyne (Zaporizhzhia oblast).

Odesa operational-strategic group, Kherson axis: During the day of January 24, the adversary attempted 7 unsuccessful assaults at the positions of the Ukrainian troops.

During the day of January 24, the Ukrainian Air Force launched air strikes on 6 concentrations of troops, weapons, and military equipment of the adversary.

INTERNATIONAL

Wednesday, January 24

8:00 AM: The US launched a series of strikes on three facilities used by Kataib Hezbollah militants in Iraq.

8:00 AM: Israel and Hamas militants have reached a tentative agreement on a month-long ceasefire and a new deal for the release of hostages.

8:00 AM: In Germany, the locomotive drivers' union (GDL) did not accept the offer of the railway company Deutsche Bahn and announced a 6-day strike.

8:00 AM: North Korea has fired several cruise missiles toward the Yellow Sea, Reuters, citing the South Korean military.

9:40 AM: The US Treasury announced \$11.8 billion for Ukraine in additional financing, — Reuters.

- In the statement of the US Treasury Department, based on the results of the virtual meeting with the Prime Minister of Ukraine Denys Shmyhal, it is said that the US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen "underscored the importance of Congress taking measures regarding financial support for Ukraine as soon as possible."

9:54 AM: A nationwide farmers' protest begins in Poland on January 24, — RMF FM.

- Farmers plan to take to the roads of cities and villages with their tractors and other equipment in more than 150 places throughout the country. Most often, the protest will take place not in the form of a blockade, but in the form of a slow movement of a column, or a demonstration along the road.
- The key demand of the protest is to stop the "uncontrolled import of agricultural products from Ukraine and other countries outside the EU, which do not comply with European standards."

11:05 AM: Prime Minister of Ukraine Denys Shmyhal met with Prime Minister of Slovakia Robert Fico in Uzhhorod.

2:32 PM: The Prime Ministers of Ukraine and Slovakia signed a joint statement based on the results of the negotiations, which should strengthen bilateral relations.

- Prime Minister of Ukraine Denys Shmyhal writes about this.
- At the same time, Robert Fitso noted that he will not block the allocation of €50 billion in aid to Ukraine and will not interfere with the country's accession to the EU.

3:25 PM: Slovak private companies will supply armored excavators and demining machines to Ukraine.

- The Prime Minister of Ukraine Denys Shmyhal reported this.
- "_Today, Ukraine is building a large-scale three-level line of defensive lines - this is protection in all directions. [...] We need a significant additional amount of engineering equipment. We have reached an agreement with Prime Minister Fico that we will cooperate on the issue of the supply of such equipment from the Slovak Republic_" Shmyhal said.

3:29 PM: GUR soldiers received another Mi-2 AM-1 medevac helicopter from Polish volunteers.

- The helicopter is equipped with modern medical equipment, which allows you to provide assistance to evacuees from the frontline areas directly in the air.

5:31 PM: Estonia joined the Great Britain training operation for the Ukrainian military — "Interflex".

- This is written by the Ministry of Defense of Estonia.
- More than 34,000 Ukrainian soldiers have already completed the course of the training operation.

6:20 PM: In order to attack NATO countries, the Russians will need to withdraw 300,000 soldiers from Ukraine, as well as undergo a "recovery period".

- This was stated by the commander of the Estonian Defense Forces, Martin Herem, reports ERR.
- "The better prepared we are, the less likely it is that our power will be tested. But if we don't prepare and don't talk about it, then it can be expected. That's where those three- or five-year warnings come from," Gerem noted.

6:48 PM: Spain will take part in several coalitions to support Ukraine as part of Ramstein.

- This was announced by the Ministry of Defense of Spain.
- "Spain plans to contribute to the coalition of maritime security, artillery, land-based air defense, information technology and demining coalition," the message reads.

9:52 PM: The US Senate committee approved a draft law on the confiscation of Russian assets in favor of Ukraine, Reuters reports.

- If passed by the Senate and House of Representatives and signed into law by President Joe Biden, the legislation would pave the way for the first-ever seizure of assets by the central bank of a country with which it is not at war.

10:15 PM: Great Britain offers Germany a way out of the dilemma over the transfer of Taurus missiles to Ukraine.

- The idea is for the German government to allow the export of these cruise missiles to Britain. And Great Britain will be able to send more Storm Shadow to Ukraine instead.
- Sources among diplomats and government representatives tell Handelsblatt about this.
- 10:36 PM: Orbán called on Hungary's parliament to ratify Sweden's bid to join NATO.

10:15 PM: Netherlands arrests 3 people on suspicion of evading anti-Russian sanctions, Politico.

10:15 PM: Azerbaijan ceases interaction with and presence in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe until further notice.

Thursday, January 25

8:00 AM: Latvia will transfer to Ukraine will 14 cars, confiscated from drunk drivers

8:00 AM: Today, the UN Security Council will hear a report on the situation at the ZNPP and discuss the downing of the Il-76 in Russia.

8:00 AM: North Korean authorities said that on January 24, they conducted the first test of a new strategic cruise missile, the Pulhwasal-3-31, which is capable of carrying a nuclear weapon.

8:00 AM: Biden sent a letter to the leaders of key congressional committees announcing his intention to begin formal procedures for the sale of F-16 fighter jets to Turkey once it completes the process related to Sweden joining NATO.

12:05 PM: The partners are ready to hand over modern F-16 multipurpose fighters to the Ukrainian Armed Forces. However, the preparatory work needs to be completed.

- This was stated by the spokesman of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Yuriy Ignat.
- _"Multipurpose aircraft are aviation complexes. It is necessary to take a comprehensive approach to the solution of their placement in Ukraine, adoption and combat use. Of course, it was possible to consider various statements of European leaders that we are ready to hand over the planes to you. Well, "already hand over", - this is so that they can simply be located in our territory. This is not the option that Ukraine needs. We need them to hit the occupier from the air," - emphasizes Yuriy Ignat.

12:23 PM: Prime Minister of Hungary Viktor Orbán will lift the veto on the provision of 50 billion euros of aid to Ukraine. The EU has already received a "positive signal" on this issue.

- This was stated by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Finland, Elina Valtonen.

8:30 PM: The Croatian court decided to hand over Medvedchuk's arrested yacht Royal Romance to Ukraine.

- This was announced by the head of the Agency for Search and Asset Management Olena Duma.

9:20 PM: The French Ministry of Defense handed over to Ukraine two additional LRU rocket launchers, which are an upgraded version of the MLRS M270.

- The first four Lance-roquettes unitaire of the ZSU were received in the fall of 2022.

10:16 PM: German Defense Minister Boris Pistorius promised Ukraine air defense systems, tanks, special equipment and ammunition in 2024 during the 18th meeting of the Contact Group on Defense of Ukraine.

- This is stated on the website of the Ministry of Defense of the country.

10:41 PM: Nepal demands that Russia return citizens recruited for the war in Ukraine (approximately 200 people) and pay compensation for the dead, — AP.

- According to Nepal, Russia has the bodies of 12 of its 14 citizens whose deaths were confirmed in Ukraine. Five more Nepalis are in captivity.

11:16 PM: In Brussels, the process of screening Ukrainian legislation for compliance with European law has officially begun, Volodymyr Zelenskyi said.

- This is what lays the foundation for negotiations on the country's accession to the EU.

11:34 PM: Thousands of Chinese surveillance cameras in Ukraine may transmit information to Russian special services, — "Schemes".

- The products of the Chinese company Hikvision are in the first place in terms of distribution. In second place is Dahua. The import of products of both companies into the USA is prohibited because it "threatens national security".
- In Ukraine, they are included in the list of "international sponsors of war", but Chinese video surveillance systems are not prohibited for sale and continue to function throughout the country.

NATIONAL

Wednesday, January 24

1:33 AM: The Air Force reports that enemy tactical aircraft activity has been observed in an easterly direction.

- There is a threat of using aviation weapons.

8:37 AM: A GUR reconnaissance group walked 600 km behind enemy lines to destroy a Tu-22M3 at the Soltsi airfield in the Novgorod region of the Russian Federation, GUR.

- _"Having made their way into the deep rear of the enemy, the scouts accomplished their mission - they destroyed a Russian Tu-22M3 bomber and disabled two more, but they also suffered irreparable losses. Returning to the territory under the control of Ukraine, the reconnaissance group of Colonel Oleg Babii was ambushed and engaged in an unequal battle with the Russian invaders._
- _In this battle, on August 30, 2023, while covering the departure of his comrades-in-arms, Ukrainian scout Lt. Col. Oleg Babii was mortally wounded and died," the publication reads.

9:19 AM: GUR informs about the destruction of the database of the center of space hydrometeorology of the Russian Federation "Planet".

- The enterprise is engaged in receiving and processing data from satellites, and also provides relevant products to the Ministry of War,

the General Staff and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.

- Penetration into the center's database made it possible to destroy 280 servers and about 2 petabytes (200 million gigabytes) of data. The work of supercomputers is paralyzed and cannot be fully restored. The value of the digital array lost by Russia may be at least \$10 million.

9:48 AM: Ukrainian missile defense system helped repulse Russian missile attack, - BBC.

- The Ukrainian military command announced for the first time that it was able to "neutralize" two dozen Russian missiles not by means of air defense, but by EW. Western analysts speak of a "turning point" in the matter of protecting Ukraine's skies.

10:00 AM: The government allocated UAH 34 million from the reserve fund to the Ministry of Justice for the repair of one of the camps for holding Russian prisoners, — Government portal.

- _"During the period of martial law, expenses for the implementation of measures related to the detention of prisoners of war can be made from the funds of the reserve fund of the state budget. The government made the relevant decision at a meeting on January 23, 2024," the message reads.

10:22 AM: A platform for finding a home for homeless cats has appeared in Ukraine — LUN and the "Khochukota" charitable foundation.

- A profile with photos and a short description was created for each animal. All animals whose questionnaires are posted on the platform are vaccinated, sterilized, have a veterinary passport, a microchip and have undergone a full medical examination.
- The platform is available at the link: <https://misto.lun.ua/cats>

11:44 AM: MIG-31K takeoff from Mozdok airfield, — Air Force of the ZSU.

2:09 PM: GUR confirmed that an exchange of prisoners between the Russian Federation and Ukraine was being prepared today.

- Andriy Yusov, a representative of the Main Directorate of Intelligence, said this in a comment to Radio Liberty.
- " _But I can state that the exchange planned for today is currently not happening_ ", he said.

4:46 PM: Denmark will donate about \$13.3 million to support the development of cyber security and defense of the Armed Forces and the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine.

- " _The donation was made under the auspices of the IT coalition for Ukraine led by Estonia and Luxembourg, to which Denmark joined together with a number of other countries_," - writes the Ministry of Defense of Denmark.

6:08 PM: The Air Force reports enemy tactical aircraft activity to the southeast.

7:15 PM: Volodymyr Zelenskyy had a telephone conversation with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz.

- The leaders of the countries discussed:
- further defense cooperation, in particular _strengthening of the Ukrainian air defense system_, as well as artillery and armored vehicles;
- the beginning of the actual negotiation process regarding _accession of Ukraine to the EU_;
- provision of _macrofinancial aid to Ukraine from the European Union_;
- preparation of an agreement between Ukraine and Germany on _security guarantees_ and measures of bilateral political dialogue.

7:35 PM: Summary of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine as of 18:00 on January 24:

- During the day _50 combat clashes took place._

- Aviation of the Defense Forces struck 6 areas where the enemy's personnel, weapons and military equipment were concentrated.
- Units of the missile forces struck 1 area of the concentration of enemy personnel.

7:50 PM: The new strain of the "Jenny" coronavirus is not as aggressive as the previous ones, so it does not require additional vaccination.

- This was announced by the Minister of Health of Ukraine Viktor Lyashko.
- "Does vaccination protect against this strain of the virus? Yes. People who have been vaccinated against covid in previous years tolerate infection much easier, even with the "Jenny" strain. There is no additional vaccine or separate dose for vaccination against this strain," Lyashko said.

8:25 PM: The Air Force reports that several UAVs are moving from the Black Sea in the direction of Odessa. The course may change.

- UAVs in Tatarbuniar district (northern course) and Bilyaiv district (western course). Another group from the Black Sea in the direction of Odessa.
- Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia regions - the threat of attack UAVs.

10:50 PM: The Air Force reports that several groups of strike UAVs in the Dnipropetrovsk region are moving towards the Dnipro from the north.

- Kharkiv region - missile danger.
- Odesa, Mykolaiv, and Kherson regions - the threat of using ballistic weapons.

11:03 PM: President Zelensky canceled planned trips to the regions until the circumstances of the downing of the IL-76 plane in Russia are clarified, the media reported with reference to OP sources.

Thursday, January 25

12:42 AM: Commander of the Armed Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Mykola Oleschuk commented on the downing of the Russian Il-78 aircraft.

- _ "During the day of January 24, 2024, frantic Russian propaganda is directing a fake stream of information to an external audience - trying to discredit Ukraine in the eyes of the world community. It will not work! Ukraine has the right to defense and the right to destroy the aggressor's means of air attack," he said.
- Oleschuk clarified that more and more tools and opportunities are appearing in Ukraine to reach the enemy where he does not expect it.

2:44 AM: The Air Force of the Ukrainian Armed Forces reports the threat of using ballistic weapons for the Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia, and Donetsk regions.

10:59 AM: Hackers attacked Naftogaz of Ukraine.

- _ "A large-scale cyber-attack on one of the data centers used by our companies has been recorded," the message reads.
- As the company notes, the Naftogaz website and call center are down due to a hacker attack. They promise to inform about the terms of resumption of services.

11:20 AM: "Ukrposhta" announced a technical failure in IT systems.

- _ "At the branches, it is now possible to issue parcels and accept payments. The provision of other services will be resumed later," the press service added.

11:54 AM: The press service of "Ukrtransbezpeka" also reports a technical failure.

- _ "Due to a technical malfunction of the data center, access to the "PATH" System and the official website of Ukrtransbezpeka is temporarily unavailable," - noted in the message.

3:51 PM: In the summer or fall of 2024, Ukraine plans to begin construction of four new nuclear reactors.

- This was announced by the Minister of Energy of Ukraine Herman Galushchenko, Reuters reports.
- The goal is to compensate for lost energy capacities.

5:01 PM: Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Poland Valery Zaluzhny held a telephone conversation with the Chief of the General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces, General Wiesław Kukula.

- " _Discussed security risks and possible interaction in the context of Ukrainian-Polish cooperation. In particular, the issue of training our servicemen in Poland, as well as the exchange of combat experience_," writes the Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.
- Zaluzhny invited General Kukula to Ukraine to work together in brigades and at control points.

5:11 PM: The National Bank of Ukraine expects that the rhythm of international financial assistance will be renewed in the coming months, and the amount of assistance will amount to about \$37 billion.

- This was stated by the head of the National Bank of Ukraine, Andriy Pishnyi.
- " _In February, we expect the start of the work of the IMF mission - technical consultations and the actual work of the mission itself, which should lead us to the next, successful review of the program_ ", said Pyshniy.

6:08 PM: Ukraine has returned two children deported to the Russian Federation home, Oleksandr Prokudin, the head of Kherson OVA, said.

- It is about a 16-year-old boy and a 17-year-old girl who were deported by the Russians to the Krasnodar region.

6:23 PM: NBU expects about 400,000 migrants to return to Ukraine in 2025.

- This was announced by Deputy Chairman of the NBU Serhii Nikolaychuk.
- Such a forecast is associated with the realization of a reduction in security risks.

12:54 PM: Myths about the vaccination against the coronavirus are not in favor of the vaccination campaign, which in this epidemic season is necessary for risk groups, especially people over 60 years old.

- Since the virus has moved into the category of seasonal respiratory diseases, it circulates on a par with influenza and other SARS. This creates a great burden on the weakened immunity with age. Yes, the elderly are unreasonably afraid of lethal consequences after the injection of the vaccine.
- From the beginning of the vaccination campaign against COVID-19 until the lifting of the quarantine in July 2023, the State Expert Center of the Ministry of Health published a weekly report on the safety of vaccine use on its website. The results of these studies prove that fatal cases after the introduction of the vaccine are random events that coincided in time with the vaccination.
- As part of the "Respect, Care, Vaccinate" campaign, the "Windows" website has collected and refuted more popular myths about vaccination of the elderly: <https://bit.ly/49q2izN>

7:30 PM: Summary of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine as of 18:00 on January 25:

- During the day _65 combat clashes took place._
- In the Marinsky direction, the Defense Forces _continue to hold back the enemy near Georgiivka, Pobieda and Novomykhailivka_ of the Donetsk region.
- Units of the missile forces struck 1 area where enemy personnel were concentrated.

9:35 PM: In Ukraine, it was allowed to take pets to the shelter during the air raid alert.

- Corresponding changes were made by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine.

MORDOR - ruZZia

Wednesday, January 24

10:53 AM: An Il-76 military plane crashed in the Belgorod region of the Russian Federation, - rosZMI.

10:59 AM: Russian mass media published the moment of the plane crash in the Belgorod region.

11:11 AM: There were 63 people on board the Il-76 that crashed near Belgorod. Their fate is being clarified, - rosZMI.

- All 63 people died, — rosZMI.

11:21 AM: The Armed Forces have confirmed the fact that the plane fell, stating that "this is their work," sources of "Ukrainian Pravda".

- The General Staff also reported that the plane was transporting missiles to the S-300 complexes, with which the Russians are shelling the Kharkiv Region.
- The estimated cost of the plane is \$27 million.

11:40 AM: Russian media published photos of the downed Il-76.

12:07 PM: At the moment, the Ministry of Defense cannot confirm that the plane was hit by the Ukrainian Defense Forces, because "they are still finding out the information," - Ukrainian mass media.

1:10 PM: The Ombudsman of Ukraine, Dmytro Lubinets, said that he is investigating the details of the event and analyzing the information received regarding the crash of the Russian Il-76, which, according to the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation, allegedly contained Ukrainian prisoners of war.

- "I call on representatives of mass media and citizens of Ukraine not to draw premature conclusions and to trust only official sources," the ombudsman added.

1:40 PM: Mercenaries from Malaysia, who were recruited by the Russian Federation for the war against Ukraine, were spotted in the temporarily occupied territories of the Donetsk region, the Center of National Resistance.

- The Central Security Service noted that Cubans, Nepalese, Belarusians, Serbs and representatives of other countries, where it is formally

prohibited to engage in mercenary activities, were also repeatedly spotted in the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation.

3:43 PM: The State Duma of the Russian Federation is considering the seizure of financial assets, including the property of Russians who openly criticize the Russian army and the so-called "svo".

- This was reported by the British Ministry of Defense with reference to intelligence data.
- "_This recent bill, combined with measures against "foreign agents", is likely intended to completely limit criticism of the war_" the report said.

4:26 PM: More than 8,000 Ukrainians — civilians and military — are in Russian captivity as of today.

- This was stated by the representative of the Coordination Headquarters for the treatment of prisoners of war Yuriy Taraniuk.
- "_But tens of thousands of people, both civilians and prisoners of war, remain missing_" , Taraniuk added.

4:55 PM: The General Staff of the Armed Forces commented on the situation with the downed Russian Il-76 plane.

- "[...] _The Armed Forces of Ukraine will continue to take measures to destroy means of delivery, control the airspace to destroy the terrorist threat, including in the Belgorod-Kharkiv direction_" , the message says.

5:50 PM: At the moment, we do not have reliable and comprehensive information about who exactly was on board the plane (the downed Il-76) and how many - GUR of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine.

7:08 PM: Russia demands an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council due to the downing of the Il-76 military plane.

- This was stated by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Sergey Lavrov, who is in New York.

11:28 PM: A fire broke out near an oil depot in the city of Tuapse, Krasnodar region.

Thursday, January 25

8:32 AM: In the Krasnoyarsk region, a fire engulfed a workshop for the production of airboats, - rosZMI

- The burning area is more than 1700 m². Expensive flat-bottomed water vessels with inflatable and solid hulls and aircraft engines were manufactured there.

11:18 AM: The SBU opened a case due to the downfall of the IL-76 in the Belgorod region, the SBU press service commented to the Ukrainian mass media.

- Currently, the SBU is conducting a series of measures to clarify all the circumstances of the plane crash.

11:47 AM: There are no signs that there were so many people on the Il-76, said Dmytro Lubynets, the Verkhovna Rada Commissioner for Human Rights.

- _"According to my information, I cannot affirmatively say that there were indeed prisoners of war there. Based on the analysis of the photos and videos that we saw online, if there were bodies there - again, I'm not an expert - but if the Russians had any photos or videos of our POWs, they would have already used them. We did not see any signs that there were so many people on the plane - citizens of Ukraine or non-citizens of Ukraine," the ombudsman added.

5:34 PM: Russia is increasing the use of gas grenades using banned lethal substances.

- Captain Andriy Rudyk, representative of the Center for Research of Trophy and Prospective Weapons and Military Equipment, announced this.
- In December 2023 alone, 81 such cases of the use of gas grenades were recorded.

5:55 PM: The Russian Federation does not officially publish lists of prisoners of war who were supposed to be exchanged, but instead resorts to throwing them in through propagandists.

- Andriy Yusov, representative of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Ukraine, stated this.
- According to him, Ukraine will not comment on the lists of propagandists in order not to give them a legitimate status and not to provoke the occupiers.

8:47 PM: the Russian Federation bought chips from the USA and Europe for over 1 billion dollars last year, — Bloomberg.

- Classified data from the Russian customs service shows that more than half of imported semiconductors and integrated circuits in the first nine months of 2023 were produced by American and European companies.

9:06 PM: Attacks on the state and commercial sectors of Ukraine, including on the resources of the Ministry of Defense, were recorded last day.

- The Defense Forces of Southern Ukraine write about it.
- "In addition, the distribution of malicious software from the Gamaredon group of the GRU of the Russian Federation was detected, with the aim of gaining access to personal and confidential data of users and official information," the message reads.

9:55 PM: Putin has stopped pardoning prisoners who went to fight against Ukraine, BBC Russia.

- From now on, prisoners receive only "parole", and the occupiers are sent to Ukraine until the end of hostilities.

11:02 PM: the Russian Federation has been keeping a different number of missile carriers on combat duty in the Black Sea for a long time, said Nataliya Humeniuk, spokeswoman for the Southern Defense Forces of Ukraine.

- "The activity of missile carriers also remains quite high. Three missile carriers are on combat duty, one surface and two underwater. The total volley of Calibers is up to 16 units," she said.

11:46 PM: Putin is sending signals to America through unofficial channels that he is open to discussing security measures for Ukraine, — Bloomberg with reference to Russian sources.

- Allegedly, Putin is ready to consider renouncing the demand for Ukraine's neutral status and not joining NATO, but will insist on recognizing Russia's control over the occupied territories.

REGIONS

Thursday, January 25

12:32 PM: Vitaliy Klitschko announced the transfer of 50 FPV drones to the Ukrainian military.

- "Today, the 42nd separate mechanized brigade of the operational command "West" of the Ground Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine celebrates its founding day. They were given 50 FPV drones as a gift. To help our defenders destroy the enemy!" - the message says.

Wednesday, January 24

9:33 AM: Consequences of the Russian shelling of the central part of Kharkiv, — OVA.

- "Nine people were injured, including a 4-year-old child. The scientific institution was destroyed, the S-300 rocket hit the roof of the building," said Oleg Sinegubov, head of Kharkiv OVA.

1:45 PM: Rescuers have found a human body and are unblocking it from under the rubble of a house that was destroyed by a Russian rocket on January 23, the press service of the regional prosecutor's office reported.

- The number of people killed as a result of Russian attacks on Kharkiv on January 23 increased to nine.

2:17 PM: Rescuers retrieved a man's body from the rubble of a five-story building in Kharkiv, — RMA.

- The number of people killed in the shelling rose to 10.

5:08 PM: Work at the site of a five-story building destroyed by a Russian missile in Kharkiv has been completed, — State Emergency Service.

- Rescuers cleared debris, cleaned and dismantled emergency structures.
- With the help of heavy engineering equipment, 160 tons of construction debris were removed within 2 days.

9:26 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in the suburbs of Kharkiv.

- The Air Force reports that there is a threat of ballistic fire in the Kharkiv and Dnipropetrovsk regions.

Thursday, January 25

12:06 AM: In Kharkiv, January 25 was announced as the Day of Mourning for the victims of rocket fire on January 23.

- That day was one of the most massive tragedies in terms of the number of victims, the mayor of the city, Ihor Terekhov, said.

9:24 AM: Yesterday there were explosions near the temporarily occupied Ilovaisk, — rosZMI.

- It is reported that a military training ground was attacked near the village of Pokrovka near Ilovaisk.
- According to the Russians, as a result of the shelling, there are apparently dead and wounded Russian soldiers. Their number is unknown.

Wednesday, January 24

9:08 AM: Explosions rang out near temporarily occupied Mariupol.

- _ "The village of Granitne. Another blow to the area where the engineering units of the occupiers were based, which finally destroyed

the hope for the railway bridge. More precisely, its remains together with at least 5 units of engineering equipment. All. It's not just a dot. This is a fat cross on the potential of the railway from Russia for at least 2024," said the mayor's advisor Petro Andryushchenko.

6:59 PM: At least 2 people were killed and 8 injured as a result of a Russian missile attack on Hirnyk, Donetsk region, — OVA.

- Among the injured is a 16-year-old boy, he is in an extremely serious condition.
- 2 high-rise buildings and 43 private houses on five streets were damaged.

9:16 PM: As a result of the Russian missile attack on Hirnik, the number of injured has increased to 9 people.

- The police reported that the search and rescue operation at the scene of the attack has already been completed. At the same time, the examination of the affected area continues.

Thursday, January 25

10:07 AM: 11 injured and two killed due to Russian attacks in Donetsk region in 24 hours, National Police.

- The Russian army fought with aviation, OTRK "Iskander-M", RSZV "Uragan", "Grad", artillery, tanks. In seven settlements, including Avdiivka, Hirnyk, Kurakhove, more than fifty residential buildings, a solar station, a car, and power lines were damaged.

Wednesday, January 24

11:31 PM: Two explosions were heard in the temporarily occupied Melitopol, reports the city's mayor, Ivan Fedorov.

Thursday, January 25

10:10 AM: U temporarily occupied Berdyansk are ringing sounds explosions, — Berdyanska urban military administration.

- Residents of the city report a single explosion near the railway station.

Wednesday, January 24

1:51 PM Social Networks: An explosion is heard in Dnipro, subscribers report.

2:43 PM: Air defense forces destroyed 2 missiles over the Dnipro district, reports the head of the Dnipropetrovsk RMA Serhii Lysak.

- Debris fell on one of the enterprises in Dnipro. A 38-year-old man was injured.
- " _He has a brain injury, a contusion and a fracture. He is in the hospital in a moderate condition_," Lysak writes.

Wednesday, January 24

12:27 PM: About an hour ago, the Russian army shelled the Dnipro district of Kherson from the temporarily occupied left bank.

- This was announced by the head of the Kherson MBA, Roman Mrochko.
- As a result of this Russian attack, a 22-year-old man was injured. He is currently hospitalized with a shrapnel wound to his left leg. The man was outside at the time of the shooting.

12:43 PM: The army of the Russian Federation is attacking the center of Kherson, reports the head of the MBA Roman Mrochko.

1:23 PM: Russians are again hitting the residential quarters of Kherson, — OVA.

- _"the Russians shelled one of the city's hospitals. Two medical workers were injured. A 60-year-old woman from Kherson was also hit. She was hospitalized with an explosive injury and a leg injury,"_ - head of Kherson OVA Oleksandr Prokudin.

3:53 PM: Russians shelled Sadov, Kherson region, a 50-year-old man was wounded, OVA.

- The victim had explosive and craniocerebral injuries, a contusion and damage to the right shoulder. He is currently trained.

5:33 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Kherson.

7:17 PM: Shelling of Kherson continues, RMA head Roman Mrochko reports.

Thursday, January 25

3:44 PM: Rocket in Mykolaiv Oblast! Heading to the north — PS ZSU.

Wednesday, January 24

8:51 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Odesa.

9:06 PM: A fire broke out in Odesa after the explosion, Suspilne reports.

9:33 PM: Combat work of air defense continues in Odesa. A fire was recorded in residential quarters of the city, the Southern Defense Forces reported.

- In Odesa, there is currently only one victim, Oleg Kiper, the head of OVA, said.

11:10 PM: The Air Force reports that missiles are moving in the direction of Odessa.

- The Air Force denied the information about the missiles. However, several UAVs are moving in the direction of Odessa from the Black Sea.

11:22 PM Social Networks: An explosion is heard again in Odesa.

Thursday, January 25

12:30 AM: As a result of the Russian attack in Odesa, a high-rise building and a warehouse were damaged.

- Information about the victims is being clarified, the Ministry of Internal Affairs reported.

7:29 AM: Russians twice attacked Odessa percussive drones, is known about two victims, — THIS.

- "_There has been a hit to an industrial facility, damage to residential buildings and civil infrastructure_" Oleg Kiper, the head of Odesa OVA, said.

Comparing Soviet invasion of Afghanistan to Russian invasion of Ukraine using Wikipedia and Ukraine Ministry of Defense Daily Bulletins. Soviet and Russian military losses not including captured equipment.

	Soviet Afghanistan	Jan 21	Jan 22	Jan 23	Jan 24	Jan 25
Duration	9 years and 9 months	After 696 days	After 697 days	After 698 days	After 699 days	After 700 days
Military Personnel Liquidated	14,453	376,030	377,820	378,660	379,610	380,600

Material Losses

Tanks	147	6181	6214	6227	6257	6265
Armored Personnel Carriers	1,314	11,466	11,548	11,579	11,621	11,637
Artillery, Mortars, and Ballistic Rocket launchers	433	9,843	9,917	9,979	10,039	10,054
Cruise Missiles		1818	1820	1842	1844	1845

Fighters Bombers	118	331	331	331	331	331
Helicopters	333	324	324	324	324	324
Drones		6936	6961	6998	7033	7033
Anti Aircraft Missile Batteries		654	657	659	660	660
Cargo/Fuel/ other transport	11,36 9	11.862	11,956	12,005	12,044	12,064
Naval Vessels		23+(1 submar ine)	23+(1 submar ine)	23+(1 submar ine)	23+(1 submar ine)	23+(1 submar ine)
1337		1362	1409	1416	1420	1425

SOURCES

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