News From Ukraine

Russian Invasion of Ukraine
January 4, 2024: - 00:00 to 24:00

By: Robert Homans & Bohdan Chomiak

From Bohdan (my comment in bold face)

"Over the last few days articles in the NYT and in Ukrainska Pravda, both quoting the same sources, pointed out that Ukrainians regard the government's official news broadcasts as propaganda. This may be a big surprise to people outside of Ukraine, but Ukrainian displaced persons, and non-displaced rarely if ever watch it. The reason it's unseen is because it is propaganda, and to get the news everybody goes to smartphone channels on VIBER, UTube and Telegram."

"What the authors miss, is that even in very difficult economic conditions the Ukrainian government, just like every other democratic government, implements a pork barrel media policy. Ukrainian government media friends receive significant financial subsidies to ladle out saccharine praise on the government. Concurrently critical media outlets are barred from Presidential press conferences and are banned from government managed digital broadcast systems."

"So, it's not surprising that critical media have the highest ratings and the government's popularity continues to fall. After all, how long do you think you can fool all the people all of the time?"

What Tucker Carlson, Sen. J.D. Vance (R-Ohio) and other opponents of continued assistance to Ukraine miss, when they look at the "United Channel," and accuse the Ukrainian Gov't. of censoring the news. If the Ukrainian Gov't. is really censoring the news they would do what Russia does, cut access to the outlets that Bohdan mentions. However, it is likely that Carlson and Vance have another agenda, namely to cut assistance to Ukraine, where the United Channel serves as a useful prop.

"I Want to Live"/Financial Times

This article describes a hotline, set up by Ukraine, to assist Russian soldiers who want to defect to Ukraine. According to the article, over 220 Russians have defected to Ukraine using the hotline with over 1,000 cases pending. Before a Russian soldier can physically defect, Ukrainian intelligence subjects pending cases to vetting. There have been approximately 26,000 calls to the hotline.

There have been other incidents of Russians defecting, without using the hotline. In late 2022, during the liberation of Kherson City, one Russian soldier surrendered to a Ukrainian drone. When the Ukrainian drone flew overhead, the Russian soldier came out of his foxhole and put up his hands.

"Ukraine's Combat Stalemate" / PBS Newshour – Jan. 4, 2024

An interview with 2 experts, Charles Kupchan a former member of the National Security Council Staff in the Obama Administration, and Andrea-Kendall Taylor of the Center for New American Security. Anyone who wants to understand the position of the Biden Administration with respect to supporting a Ukrainian victory should carefully listen to Kupchan, and look at his mannerisms, his facial expressions, and his eyes.

Kupchan recommends that the United States should "pivot" Ukraine from offense to defense, and give Ukraine enough assistance, military and otherwise, to "defend itself." Kupchan was never asked three important questions: 1. Would the United States be successful in "pivoting" Ukraine, to a position where Ukraine would effectively give up sovereignty over its territory that Russia currently occupies; 2. Does Kupchan really believe that the "pivot" would stop Russia from attempting to achieve its objective to wipe Ukraine off the map; 3. Does Kupchan really believe that, after substantially increasing its defense budget, and consolidating its military

alliances with N. Korea, Iran and, likely China, really stop at the border with Poland and the Baltics? In my opinion, the answer to the first question is NO.

Ms. Kendall-Taylor describes 2024 as a critical year, when both Russia and Ukraine will be trying to replenish their offensive firepower. She doesn't believe that the war is in a stalemate, saying that this characterization is not only "wrong" but "not helpful." I agree that the war is not a stalemate. One need only look at events on the Dnipro Crossings, the Black Sea, and the increased marginalization of Crimea, to conclude that this is no stalemate.

Kupchan comes from a National Security Council under Pres. Obama headed by Susan Rice, who recommended that Ukraine not be supplied with lethal weapons, specifically Javelin missiles. Therefore, it is not surprising that Kupchan made the statements he made during the "Newshour." Other veterans of the Obama Administration, who are now in the Biden Administration, include Joe Biden himself, former Obama's point person on Ukraine, Antony Blinken, Jake Sullivan, and the aforementioned Susan Rice. Therefore, it should have come as no surprise that the Biden Administration initially only gave Ukraine weapons, including Javelins, that they could use in a guerrilla war, after Ukraine had surrendered, and they have slow-walked Ukraine's weapons deliveries ever since.

On the other side of the equation are Republican opponents of further assistance to Ukraine, many of whom seem to be hiding behind the skirts of strengthening our border with Mexico, as if supporting Ukraine and strengthening the border with Mexico are somehow mutually exclusive. Increasingly it seems that the Biden Administration, who has continually had feet of clay when it comes to assisting Ukraine to achieve victory over Russia, and Republican opponents of any Ukraine assistance, are like two peas in a pod.

"<u>Did Ukraine Miss an Early Chance to Negotiate Peace With Russia</u>"/Wall Street Journal

One of the issues that have been raised by Ben Aris, Editor of BNE Intellinews that covers Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, primarily economics and business and others who want to go back to the good old days of doing business with Russia, is that former British Prime Minister Boris Johnson came to Ukraine in early April 2022, for the purpose of talking Pres. Zelenskyy out of agreeing to a peace deal with Russia. As the article describes, by the time Johnson arrived in Kyiv the horrors of Bucha and Irpin had been uncovered by Ukrainian forces, and any thoughts about peace disappeared.

Another reason for Ukraine pulling back from any thoughts of peace with Russia is that by the time of Johnson's visit to Kyiv, the Russians had gotten their asses whipped in front of Kyiv. As the article describes, the Russians left so fast that they forgot to destroy any evidence of their murders in Bucha and Irpin. Johnny Horton's "The Battle of New Orleans" comes to mind. Seeing the pictures of the British uniforms in Horton's rendition brings to mind the fact that Ukrainians discovered that the fleeing Russians had brought their parade uniforms, to wear in the expected victory parade in Kyiv.

Some excerpts:

"The first meeting between Ukrainian and Russian negotiators happened on Feb. 28, 2022, in the Belarusian city of Gomel, four days after Russian tanks crossed the Ukrainian border. At that encounter, Medinsky recited a long list of the Kremlin's demands. It included the replacement of Zelensky's administration with a puppet regime, Ukrainian troops handing over all their tanks and artillery, the arrest and trial of "Nazis"—a Russian euphemism for any Ukrainian opposed to Moscow's rule—and the restoration of Russian as Ukraine's official language. Medinsky even demanded that city streets named after Ukrainian national heroes be returned to their old Soviet names."

"We listened to them, and we realized that these are not people sent for talks but for our capitulation," recalled one of the Ukrainian negotiators, Zelensky's adviser Mykhailo Podolyak. Yet to gain time the Ukrainians agreed to keep talking."

 "As Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan opened the Istanbul talks on March 29, the mandate of the Ukrainian team was to push for a Russian withdrawal to pre-invasion lines while showing openness on many key issues, with actual decisions deferred to a planned meeting between Zelensky and Putin."

"Russia's major demand, in addition to keeping Ukraine out of NATO, was to limit its ability to defend itself in the future. According to draft documents later revealed publicly by Putin, Moscow wanted Ukraine's armed forces capped at 85,000 troops, 342 tanks and 519 artillery pieces. Ukrainian negotiators in Istanbul countered with a proposal for an army of 250,000 troops, roughly its prewar level, with 800 tanks and 1,900 artillery pieces."

 "According to Putin's version of events, Ukrainian negotiators in Istanbul had accepted most of Russia's demands. "The agreements were practically reached," he lamented months later. "Our troops left the center of Ukraine, Kyiv, to create conditions" for further talks to finalize that accord, he said."

"Ukraine has vehemently disputed that account. Neither side made binding commitments in Istanbul, according to Kuleba. "There was no deal," he said. "To engage in a conversation and to commit yourself to something are completely different things." As for the Russian pullback, Ukrainian and American officials say Putin had no choice but to withdraw by late March because of Ukrainian military successes on the ground." In other words, Russia was trying to use the rout of their troops around Kyiv as, in fact what Denys likes to call "conducting a peaceful gesture." By this point, March 29, 2022, Ukrainian troops were entering Bucha and Irpin.

11 days later, on April 9, 2022, Boris Johnson arrived in "a Kyiv transformed." To put it mildly Ben Aris' timeline, that Boris Johnson was trying to talk Ukraine out of a peace deal with Russia, doesn't fit.

Zelenskyy's turnaround, if in fact one existed, was driven by Ukrainians. In early April 2022, any concrete move by Zelenskyy to achieve a peace deal with Russia would have resulted in his removal from office within 24 hours, and Zelenskyy knew it.

News From the Batttlefield

The "Latest Denys" discusses the introduction of North Korean artillery and rockets in to Ukraine, along with the likely introduction of Iranian short-range missiles. It is amazing that Republican members of Congress still seem to think the increasing level of cooperation between Russia, North Korea, and likely China, don't seem to warrant continuation of military assistance to Ukraine or, as they argue that the United States cannot support Ukraine and secure our border with Mexico at the same time.

1/5/2024 Sitrep

SITUATION UPDATE OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF UKRAINIAN ARMED FORCES JANUARY 3, 2024

During the day of January 4, there were 59 combat engagements. The enemy launched a total of 7 missile and 36 air strikes, 37 MLRS attacks at the positions of Ukrainian troops and various settlements.

Air strikes hit Novomykhailivka, Heorhiyivka (Donetsk oblast), Novodarivka, Orikhiv (Zaporizhzhia oblast), and Zmiyivka (Kherson oblast).

Around 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 4 attacks of the occupiers near Synkivka and east of Petropavlivka (Kharkiv oblast).

Bakhmut axis: the Ukrainian troops repelled 4 adversary attacks in the vicinities of Bohdanivka, Klishchiyivka, and Andriyivka (Donetsk oblast).

Tavria operational-strategic group, Avdiyivka axis: the Ukrainian defenders continue to hold back the enemy who keeps trying to encircle Avdiyivka. The Ukrainian soldiers are standing their ground and inflicting major losses on the invaders. For instance, the Ukrainian Defense Forces repelled 16 attacks near Novobakhmutivka, Stepove, Avdiyivka, and 16 more attacks in the vicinities of Pervomaiske and Nevelske (Donetsk oblast).

Maryinka axis: the Ukrainian Defense Forces continue to hold back the enemy near Maryinka and Novomykhailivka (Donetsk oblast). The Ukrainian defenders repelled 7 attacks in that area.

Zaporizhzhia axis: the Ukrainian Defense Forces repelled 8 adversary attacks in the vicinity of Robotyne and northwest of Verbove (Zaporizhzhia oblast).

Odesa operational-strategic group, Kherson axis: the Ukrainian troops continue to expand the bridgehead. Despite significant losses, the enemy does not abandon its intention to dislodge Ukrainian troops from their positions. During the day of January 4, the adversary made 6 unsuccessful attempts to assault.

During the day of January 4, the Ukrainian Air Force launched air strikes on 10 concentrations of troops and 2 command posts of the adversary.

The Ukrainian missile troops hit 1 air defense system, 1 concentration of troops, weapons and military equipment, 4 artillery systems, 2 electronic warfare stations, and 3 command posts of the russian invaders.

INTERNATIONAL

8:01 AM: X (Twitter) has lost 71% of its value after being bought by Elon Musk. The social network also lost 15% of its users.

8:01 AM: South Korean and US troops have conducted joint military exercises near the border with North Korea, using heavy weapons, — Reuters.

9:09 AM: The White House no longer has the funds to provide Ukraine with new military aid packages until they are approved by the US Congress.

 This was stated by the coordinator of the National Security Council of the White House, John Kirby, during a briefing. 9:37 AM: The activity of enemy tactical aviation is observed in the southeast direction, — Air Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

9:41 AM: Polish farmers renewed the blockade of the "Medyka - Shegyny" checkpoint, — mass media.

10:36 AM: Ireland receives more than 500 from Ukraine every week.

• From November 1 to December 20, 3,740 Ukrainians arrived in Ireland in search of asylum, a total of 484 to 702 Ukrainians arrived in a week.

3:53 PM: An event has been planned in the Italian city of Modena, where they will talk about the allegedly "rapid process of restoration under the auspices of the Russian Federation" of occupied Mariupol.

- There, Mariupol was called a symbol of the "rebellion in the Donbass against the Kyiv junta", which is apparently now being rapidly rebuilt.
- The spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Oleg Nikolenko called the exhibition in Modena a provocation and said that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has already instructed the Ukrainian Embassy in Rome to prepare an official appeal.

4:51 PM: Belgium will send two F-16 fighters and almost 50 specialists to Denmark to participate in the training of Ukrainian pilots.

- This was announced by the Ministry of Defense of Belgium, RTBF reports.
- The training will include training not only pilots, but also Ukrainian engineers and mission planners.

5:25 PM: The embargo on Ukrainian products will be indefinite - until the order to cancel it.

- This was stated by the Minister of Agriculture of Poland, Czeslaw Sekerski.
- He noted that he supports the implementation of the postulates of farmers, but it takes time.

7:02 PM: In Kazakhstan, the partner of the national operator blocked 11 Russian TV channels

 According to the operator's announcement, as part of the reduction in the number of channels with information content, a decision was made to exclude the TV channels of the PKVS Kazakhstan LLC family from the satellite TV and Internet TV broadcast network.

7:19 PM: Japan will provide Ukraine with biofuel production technology, Kyodo.

7:19 PM: Over Europe, the GPS signal is deteriorating due to the Russian EW in Kaliningrad, Mastodon.

7:19 PM: The IDF has eliminated one of the senior commanders of the Palestinian "Islamic Jihad", The Times of Israel.

7:19 PM: ISIS claims responsibility for Philippine university attack, DW.

8:33 PM: Germany handed Ukraine a new Skynex anti-aircraft missile system along with ammunition.

- This is stated on the website of the German government.
- The new aid package also includes additional missiles for the Patriot and IRIS-T SLM air defense systems, as well as ammunition for the Leorard 2A6 and more.

10:26 PM: Kuleba: if NATO countries invested 0.25% of GDP in military aid to Ukraine, it would be 120 billion euros per year

• The head of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry recalled that during the Cold War, the collective West consisted of 19-20 countries, but it was

ahead of the USSR with the socialist bloc, which included 20 now sovereign states. Instead, now Ukraine is supported by more than 50 countries within the framework of "Ramstein", and Russia "is much weaker than the USSR, it is provided with weapons by only three rogue allies: Belarus, the DPRK, and Iran."

10:56 PM: The Lithuanian government is looking at options to close Russian schools after the shooting at the educational institution

- They thought about it after the incident that happened in the Naujamestis district of Vilnius. Two teenagers studying at a Russianlanguage school shot a classmate with an air pistol because of his political views. According to the victim's mother, this happened after he said that he did not support the Russian Federation's war against Ukraine. At the same time, during the shooting, the teenagers turned on the anthem of the Wagner Communist Party.
- Jakstas said that such situations are caused by the difficult integration of Russian minorities in Lithuania.

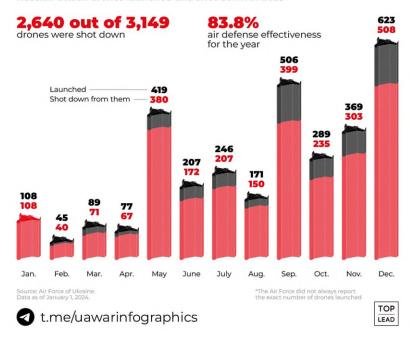
11:58 PM: The Ukrainian film "20 Days in Mariupol" is among the fifteen films that continue to fight for the Oscar in the International Feature Film category

• Oscar nominations will be announced on Tuesday, January 23.

83,8% DRONES SHOT DOWN BY THE AIR FORCE OVER THE YEAR







NATIONAL

8:35 AM: Council members must receive "theses" from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs - mass media before going abroad.

 According to the published document, a people's deputy's application for a business trip may not be considered, if during the previous time before the start of the business trip, the deputy did not receive "an explanation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the foreign policy course of Ukraine or approved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs theses of official statements, comments of the people's deputy regarding the implementation of state policy in the field of foreign affairs communication on issues related to the topic of business trips abroad".

8:50 AM: Shelling of Ukraine. What is known:

• At night, the enemy attacked Nikopol in the Dnipropetrovsk region. There was a fire in the garage. Firefighters extinguished the fire. 4

- private houses, 3 outbuildings, gas furnaces, power line were damaged. Almost 1,500 families were left without electricity.
- Over the past day, the enemy carried out 97 shellings of Kherson Region, firing 486 shells from mortars, artillery, "Grads", tanks, UAVs and aviation. The enemy fired 19 shells at the city of Kherson.
 - Due to Russian aggression, 2 people died.
- In Mykolaiv Oblast, private houses were damaged during the day due to Russian shelling. 5 people were injured, including a minor girl.
- In Ochakivska hromada, an energy infrastructure facility was ignited.
 The consequences are clarified. Also in the morning, at 07:33, another artillery bombardment of the city took place. The consequences are clarified.
- At night and in the morning, the Russians carried out 6 shellings of the border territories and settlements of the Sumy region. 18 explosions were recorded.
- The occupiers inflicted 159 strikes on 23 towns and villages in the Zaporizhzhia region. 11 reports were received about the destruction of residential buildings. Civilians were not injured.
- The enemy shelled Kharkiv region. Around 22:40, the enemy struck 2 times in the Shevchenkiv district of Kharkiv. Previously - S-300. The blast wave damaged the windows in the residential building. No casualties.
- More than 15 settlements of the Kharkiv Region were subjected to enemy artillery and mortar attacks.

10:21 AM: The cooling, which is expected in Ukraine from January 6 to 10, may complicate the work of utility and energy enterprises in most regions of the country, — the Ministry of Energy.

 It is noted that all services are ready to deal with the consequences of weather conditions in case such damage occurs.

10:42 AM: The SBU helped repel new Russian cyberattacks on Kyivstar.

- This was reported by the head of the Cyber Security Department of the SBU, Ilya Vityuk, in an interview with the international agency "Reuters".
- Ilya Vityuk noted that this cyber attack had a significant impact on the civilian population, but did not have a serious effect on military communications, as the Defense Forces use different communication algorithms and protocols.

10:49 AM: Council committee begins consideration of new mobilization law.

- This was announced by the head of the "Servant of the People" faction, David Arahamia.
- The meeting was attended by the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Valery Zaluzhnyi and the Minister of Defense Rustem Umyerov.

1:55 PM: Threat of using ballistic weapons from the southeast, — Air Force of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

2:56 PM: Ukrainians criticize telethon for rosy depictions of war, and Ukraine and Russia have carried out the largest prisoner exchange to date. World media highlights on January 4.

- "This is state propaganda," Ukrainians are avoiding television news as the war drags on, writes The New York Times. The newspaper points out that the government-sanctioned news program, designed to counter Russian disinformation and boost morale, has been criticized for painting a rosy picture of the war.
- Media expert Ihor Kulyas, who monitored the telethon for Detector Media, noted that for most of 2023, the show's participants used language that emphasized the "efficiency and skill of the Ukrainian forces," while Russian troops were "described as being in a state of panic, suffer heavy casualties and surrender en masse" was "an entirely different reality" than the actual situation on the ground.

4:06 PM: NAKC listed seafood producer and supplier Viciunai Group, known under the Vici brand, on the list of international war sponsors.

- "[...] _Vici does not stop its facilities in the Russian Federation, it is looking for new employees and pays significant taxes to the aggressor's budget ", - writes NAZK.
- Viciunai conducts its business in Russia as usual without any cuts, successfully defends the Russian trademark in court, continues to recruit personnel for its subsidiaries.

5:57 PM: Commander of the Armed Forces of the Ukrainian SSR Mykola Oleschuk commented on the explosions in the temporarily occupied Crimea:

"_I am waiting for the same epic report from the enemy propaganda
 (as the recent fake about the "hitting the bunker with the Deputy
 Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, - ed.) from Sevastopol and
 Yevpatoria on January 4, and once again I thank the pilots of the Air
 Force and everyone who planned the operation for the impeccable
 combat work_".

6:30 PM: According to SBU materials, Aksyonov's associate Ani Grigoryan, who prepares children from the so-called Crimea before the war with Ukraine.

- She holds the position of "deputy" head of the occupying "Crimea youth policy committee".
- Also, the figure heads the so-called "Avangard military-patriotic education center", which was created by the occupiers on the territory of the peninsula. There, Russian instructors teach local schoolchildren in grades 9-11 about fighting tactics.

7:16 PM: Ukraine has missiles for MANPADS to repel several more powerful attacks of the Russian Federation, - Naev

• "The current situation with portable anti-aircraft missile systems for mobile air defense groups is such that there is enough ammunition to withstand the next several powerful attacks," Nayev said.

7:33 PM: Summary of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine as of 18:00 on January 4:

- During the day 44 combat clashes took place.
- Aviation of the Defense Forces struck 10 areas of personnel concentration and 2 enemy control points.
- The units of the missile forces hit _an anti-aircraft defense system, 4 artillery systems, an electronic warfare station_ and 3 enemy control points.

8:15 PM: The Air Force reports a missile threat to the Kharkiv and Poltava regions.

• The activity of enemy tactical aviation in the southern direction is observed.

9:27 PM: Russia has already launched North Korean ballistic missiles over Ukraine.

- On December 30, the Russian Federation launched at least one North Korean ballistic missile over Ukraine, a representative of the National Security Council of the White House said at a briefing.
- On January 2, the Russian Federation also launched several such missiles, in particular during a night attack, these missiles are capable of flying at a distance of 900 km.

9:45 PM: Volodymyr Zelenskyi had a conversation with the Head of the Council of Ministers of Italy Giorgia Meloni.

 Politicians discussed the situation on the front line, further steps of defense cooperation. Attention was also paid to the preparation of the meeting of advisors regarding the Peace Formula, which will take place in Davos in a few weeks. 9:54 PM: Current air alert map as of

21:50 PM: The Air Force reports that enemy tactical aircraft activity has been observed in the southeast direction, from the Azov Sea side.

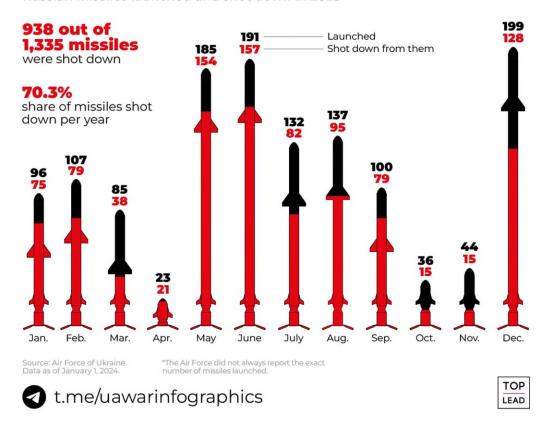
• There is a threat of using aviation weapons.

• Another group of attack UAVs is moving along the same course as the previous ones in the Kherson region.

70.3% MISSILES SHOT DOWN BY UKRAINIAN AIR FORCE OVER THE YEAR



Russian missiles launched and shot down in 2023*



MORDOR - ruZZia

8:01 AM: Three districts of Moscow remained without electricity and heating in 25-degree frost. Previously, the Emergency Situation was related to a fire at the substation.

8:01 AM: Lukashenko signed amendments to the law "On the President". The text specifies the powers of the head of state and defines the status of the president who has ceased to exercise his powers.

1:19 PM: Su-34 bomber burned down in Russia, — GUR of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine.

- _"On the night of January 4, 2024, a Su-34 tactical bomber burned down at the Russian airfield "Shagol" (Chelyabinsk),_ - the message reads.
- The combat aircraft belonged to the aviation regiment of the 21st mixed aviation division of the Air Force of the Russian Federation. The reasons for the plane catching fire are being clarified.

1:43 PM: The Russians are increasing the number of snipers along the front line.

- Oleksandr Shtupun, the spokesman for the United Press Center of the Defense Forces of the Tavria Region, reports this.
- _"In the last month, the enemy has increased the number of offensives. They are constantly conducting rotations or bringing in fresh forces, since their losses are huge, in particular, in the infantry.
 We are fixing trained personnel units, motorized rifle regiments and brigades, as well as criminal criminals from "Storm-Z",_ - said Oleksandr Shtupun.

2:20 PM: Russia plans to buy short-range ballistic missiles from Iran – delivery could happen as early as this spring, The Wall Street Journal.

- "_The United States is concerned that Russian negotiations on the acquisition of short-range ballistic missiles in Iran are actively advancing_," the article says.
- The US has data that over the past few weeks, Russia has already begun receiving missiles from North Korea.

2:43 PM: In Russia, foreigners will now be given citizenship if they sign up for a contract in the army.

- The corresponding decree, signed by Putin, was published on the portal of regulatory and legal acts.
- Citizenship will be given to those who signed a contract to serve in the army or in "military formations" for at least one year.

2:55 PM: Russia plans to equip X-32 cruise missiles with cluster munitions, National Resistance Center.

 "_Currently, there have been no recorded cases of the Russians using the relevant missiles. However, we call on Ukrainians to promptly respond to the alarm, because the enemy disregards international law and is ready to use more lethal weapons against the civilian population_," the Central Intelligence Agency writes.

3:16 PM: The Russians have completely restricted the IAEA mission's access to the reactor halls, parts of the turbine halls and the roof of the Zaporizhzhya NPP reactor compartments.

- This is stated in the IAEA report.
- "[...] _the IAEA team continues to ask the station for a maintenance schedule for 2024, which has not yet been provided_," the agency writes.

3:35 PM: U budget on 2024 year in general laid down close 840 million UAH on financing statutory activity parliamentary parties.

- This is stated in the response of the NAKC to the request of the "CHESNO" Movement.
- "_Funding for the banned pro-Russian "Opposition platform for life" is not planned this year, and the expected 148.3 million hryvnias will remain in the budget ," the message says.

4:10 PM: A loud explosion is heard in temporarily occupied Yevpatoria, local residents report.

4:17 PM: A series of loud explosions are also heard in temporarily occupied Sevastopol, local residents report.

4:27 PM Social Networks: Footage of smoke after explosions in temporarily occupied Yevpatoria.

6:01 PM: The Armed Forces hit the command post of the connection of the Russian occupation forces near the so-called Sevastopol.

The StratCom of the ZSU writes about this.

7:48 PM: Explosions are heard again in the temporarily occupied Crimea, local media reports.

9:15 PM: At TOT, Russian war criminals perform in kindergartens, trying to "educate" children into janissaries, — Center of National Resistance

- "The occupiers organize the performances of war criminals in front of Ukrainian children in local kindergartens. From a very young age, children are forced to listen to rapists, robbers, mercenaries and other occupiers from remote areas of the empire. In this way, the enemy plans to change the self-identification of children and raise janissaries," the message says.
- The Central Committee notes that such actions of the occupiers fall under one of the signs of genocide under international law.

10:02 PM: Explosions are heard again in the temporarily occupied Crimea, local media reports.

10:30 PM: Explosions are heard in Novorossiysk. Photo from local social networks.

10:40 PM: Explosions are heard in Belgorod, local social networks report.

11:46 PM: China has increased its supply of high-precision machines for the military industry to the Russian Federation by 10 times, the Financial Times reported.

Russian customs reports show Chinese manufacturers shipped \$68 million worth of related tools in July, the latest figure available, compared with just \$6.5 million in February 2022, when Moscow launched a full-scale invasion. 11:53 PM: The Air Force reports a ballistic missile threat from the northeast.







7:48 AM: In Kyiv, the bodies of two more people who died after a rocket attack on December 29 were found.

• Thus, their total number was 32 people, reports the city military administration.

3:04 PM: The Bureau of Economic Security in the Kyiv region provided compensation for losses caused to the state budget in the amount of UAH 1.5 million.

- During 2021-2023, the head of the enterprise, whose main activity is the disposal and removal of household waste, deliberately avoided paying a single contribution to the mandatory state social insurance.
- An official of the enterprise was informed about the suspicion.

10:22 PM: In the Kyiv region, the SBU exposed a company that supplied tactical medicine to the Russian Federation during the war.

 Criminals transported the products to Russia and they went to individual first-aid kits of soldiers fighting against the Defense Forces of Ukraine. The occupiers also sent medical supplies to Russian military hospitals in the temporarily occupied regions of Ukraine.

KHARKIV



11:45 AM: As a result of the Russian missile attack on the Shevchenkiv district of Kharkiv on January 2, the number of injured has increased to 63, — the regional prosecutor's office.

A 23-year-old girl went to the doctors, she has an injury.

1:02 PM: One of the wounded as a result of shelling in Kharkiv died in the hospital - an 84-year-old woman.

• This was announced by the head of the RMA Oleg Sinegubov.

3:44 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in the Kharkiv region.





12:50 PM: An explosion rang out in the temporarily occupied Mariupol, Mayor's adviser Petro Andryushchenko reports.



1:03 PM: Another escalation in Avdiivka: the head of the MBA Barabash spoke about the probable offensive plan of the occupiers.

- "Talking with the commanders, we understand that there will most likely be another escalation. When the ground freezes, the Russians will go again with equipment. The guys see the interceptions, there is a certain regrouping. The Russians are gathering forces, so we should expect another escalation," said the head of the Avdiiv City Military Administration Vitaly Barabash.
- Barabash spoke about the actions of the occupiers in the Avdiiv region and the situation at the front as a whole. According to him, there have been fewer assaults, but the occupiers are trying to keep the entire line of defense around the city under tension, sometimes from the south, then from the north, on the flanks, in the front.

8:52 PM: the Russians again shelled populated areas of the Donetsk region.

 Currently, 2 dead and 2 wounded are known, the Donetsk regional prosecutor's office reported.



ZAPORIZHIA

9:56 AM Social Networks: A powerful explosion rang out in the temporarily occupied Tokmak of the Zaporizhzhia region.

5:50 PM: An explosion rang out in temporarily occupied Melitopol, the mayor of the city, Ivan Fedorov, said.

DNIPRO



12:29 PM: Two men were injured in the morning shelling in Nikopol, the head of Dnipropetrovsk RMA Serhiy Lysak said.

Both have leg injuries. It is known that one of them is

"heavy".

9:02 PM: The Air Force reports that a missile is flying in the direction of Kryvyi Rih.

- The rocket continues its movement towards Kropyvnytskyi.
- The Air Force reports that the threat has been repulsed.

9:06 PM7:19 PM:: Explosions are heard in Kryvyi Rih.

Kherson



9:58 AM: As a result of the night shelling of Novovorontsovka, a local resident was injured, Kherson RMA.

A 68-year-old woman was injured in her own home.
 She was hospitalized with an eye injury.

1:47 PM: Explosions were heard in temporarily occupied Skadovsk, local residents reported.

2:10 PM: A 12-year-old boy was returned from the territory of the Kherson region temporarily captured by the Russians.

- This was reported by the Verkhovna Rada Commissioner for Human Rights, Dmytro Lubinets.
- The child's older sister appealed to the Ombudsman's Office with a request to take Andriyk away. In the temporarily captured territory, the boy lived with his grandmother, because his mother died in the summer of 2022.

4:39 PM: There are explosions in Kherson, reports the head of the MBA Roman Mrochko.

• The central district of the city is under fire.

9:57 PM Social Networks: An explosion is heard in Kherson.

POLTAVA



5:02 PM: Kremenchuk - a missile in your direction, — PS ZSU.

5:08 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Poltava and Myrhorod, Poltava region.

CHERKASY



10:26 PM: The Air Force reports the threat of attack UAVs to the Cherkasy region.

• The threat of using ballistic weapons from the northeastern direction.

KIROVOHRAD



10:05 AM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Kropyvnytskyi.

10:56 AM: As a result of today's rocket attack on Kropyvnytskyi, one of the industrial facilities was injured

and one person was killed.

• This was announced by the head of the Kirovohrad RMA Andriy Rajkovich.

1:59 PM Social Networks: Repeated explosions are heard in Kropyvnytskyi.

8:27 AM: Tonight, 2 attack UAVs were destroyed in Khmelnytskyi, — the Air Force of the ZSU.

• The Russians also fired three anti-aircraft guided missiles at Kharkiv region and Donetsk region.

2:21 PM: Rocket at Kropyvnytskyi, — PS ZSU.

2:24 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard again in Kropyvnytskyi.

2:36 PM: As a result of a rocket attack in Kropyvnytskyi, one of the facilities of "Ukrenergo" was damaged - it is known about the dead and 5 wounded.

- The relevant information was specified by the Ministry of Energy.
- "_The facility of PJSC "Kirovogradoblenergo" was also damaged 2 energy workers were injured_," the report says.

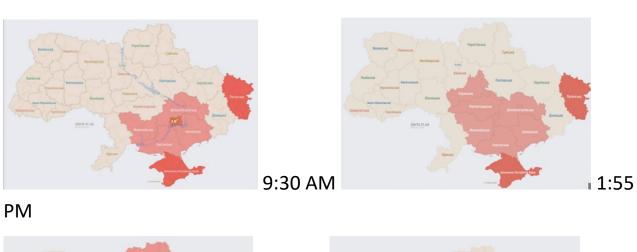
3:56 PM: During the last air raids in the Kropyvnytskyi district, the air defense unit, the RMA, worked.

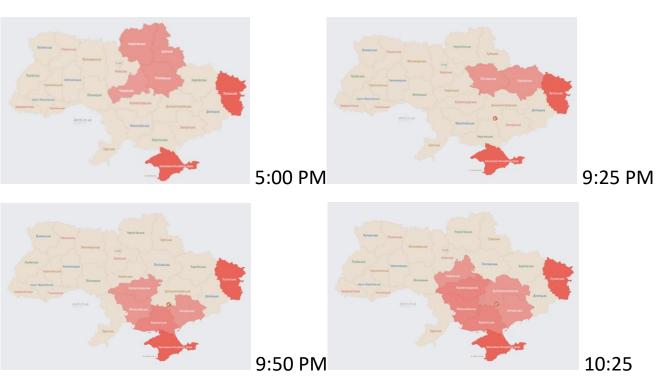
Information on victims and destruction is being clarified.

11:25 PM: The Air Force reports that a group of attack UAVs is in the Kropyvnytskyi area, the vector of movement is north.

• A group of attack UAVs is moving between Cherkasy and Kremenchuk from the south in the direction of Poltava.

VISUAL CHRONOLOGY OF REGIONAL ROCKET, DRONE, ARTILLERY, MORTAR AND BOMB ALARMS





PM



PM

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.

	Sovie t Afgha nista n	Dec 29	Dec 30	Dec 31	Jan 3	Jan 4
Duration	9 years and 9 mont hs	After 674 days	After 675 days	After 676 days	After 679 days	After 670 days
Military Personnel Liquidated	14,45 3	358,27 0	359,23 0	360,01 0	362,28 0	363,07 0

Material Losses

Tanks	147	5969	5977	5983	6002	6011
Armored	1,314	11,053	11,070	11,087	11,128	11,142
Personnel						
Carriers						
Artillery,	433	9373	9407	9,435	9,521	9,553
Mortars,						
and Ballistic						
Rocket						
launchers						
Cruise		1708	1709	1709	1785	1,786
Missiles						

Fighters Bombers	118	329	329	329	329	329
Helicopters	333	324	324	324	324	324
Drones		6554	6591	6657	6753	6,771
Anti Aircraft Missile Batteries		621	623	625	630	631
Cargo/Fuel/ other transport	11,36 9	11,244	11,292	11,330	11,423	11,463
Naval Vessels		23+(1 submar ine)	23+(1 submar ine)	23+(1 submar ine)	23+(1 submar ine)	23+(1 submar ine)
Special Equipment		1260	1268	1277	1304	1313

SOURCES

- https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/
- https://espreso.tv/
- https://t.me/uawarinfographics
- https://t.me/svoboda_radio
- https://deepstatemap.live/en#11/47.9070/37.6927
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