

# News From Ukraine

Russian Invasion of Ukraine

March 17, 2024

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## Senator Graham Visits Kyiv

Sen. Lindsay Graham (R-S. Carolina) arrived in Kyiv this morning and met with Pres. Zelenskyy. Sen. Graham was an early supporter of U.S. military assistance to Ukraine, but he recently voted against the original Ukraine funding bill backed by the Biden Administration, stating that he wanted to see the U.S. Southern Border fixed. The question is – why did Sen. Graham visit Kyiv today? Is he in Kyiv as the emissary of Donald Trump, the presumptive Republican nominee for President?

## Rep. Victoria Spartz (R-Indiana) Continues to Dodge Continued U.S. Aid to Ukraine

This is a [clip](#) of an interview Rep. Spartz gave 4 days ago on the Fox Business Show, “Mornings With Maria.” Were there any questions, about Spartz’s position on continued U.S. military aid to Ukraine? NO!!! Spartz is the first Federal elected official with Ukrainian roots. Spartz has become absent without leave in helping the country where she was born and grew up obtain continued U.S. military support by supporting one of the discharge petitions that would allow the funding bill to get to the House floor. She could make a big difference, considering that Republicans now hold only a 2-seat House majority. She has announced that she’s not running for re-election, so there shouldn’t be any pressure on her if she wants to go against Speaker Mike Johnson and his pals and help bring the funding bill to the House Floor. Appalling behavior.

## Manafort May Return

There are reports that Paul Manafort is considering joining the 2024 Trump Campaign, to aid in planning for the 2024 Republican Convention in Milwaukee. In 2018 Manafort was convicted of tax evasion and, in a separate proceeding, pled guilty to conspiracy and defrauding the United States. He served time in prison. In December 2020 Manafort received a pardon from Former President Trump. Prior to joining the Trump Campaign in 2016, Manafort was an adviser to former Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich and, as indicated in a recent email, Manafort played an active role in the prosecution and imprisonment of Yulia Tymoshenko, by enlisting American law firms to work on behalf of the Gov't. of Ukraine then headed by Yanukovich. Yanukovich was mentioned as a potential puppet President of Ukraine, had Russia succeeded in capturing the Capital in 2022. At the time he was indicted, Manafort stated that the successor to Yanukovich's Party of Regions, called the Opposition Bloc, still owed him money for services rendered. Having followed Manafort's career in my Ukraine emails going back to 2014, as Yogi Berra said, Manafort's possible return to Trump's employ is "déjà vu all over again."

### News From the Battlefield

The "Latest Denys" covers fighting around Robotyne, where my wife's older brother's son-in-law is fighting.

He also covers the incursions into Belgorod Oblast by the Legion of Freedom and 2 other groups made up of Russians fighting on the side of Ukraine. Separately, according to local news reports on Ukrainian television the groups are not withdrawing, as they did last year. Russia is being forced to send additional troops from the front in eastern Ukraine. There were also reports that the local population is providing support to the Legion of Freedom.

### 3/18/2024 Sitrep

Abbreviations: RMA = Regional Military Administration UAV = Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

### **INTERNATIONAL**

8:00 AM: French state-owned Framatome SA continues cooperation with Russia's Rosatom to produce reactor fuel, Bloomberg.

8:00 AM: EU countries will be able to ban Russian and Belarusian exporters from reserving infrastructure capacity for liquefied gas supplies, — Bloomberg.

8:00 AM: Egypt's Al-Ahram film studio, one of the oldest in the world, has been destroyed in a devastating fire, BBC.

8:00 AM: Iceland's Reykjanes peninsula has erupted for the fourth time in four months. The town of Grindavik is being evacuated again. This is reported by the Meteorological Center of Iceland (IMO).

6:20 PM: Polish authorities have banned farmers from blocking roads across the country, including near the Ukrainian border, Gazeta Wyborcza.

- At the same time, today Polish farmers plan to block the Polish-German checkpoint in Swiecko near Frankfurt am Oder. The promotion will last 4 days.

## **NATIONAL**

12:44 AM: Activity of enemy tactical aircraft in the north-east direction. The Air Force reports the threat of using aviation weapons.

1:42 AM: Odesa, Poltava, Mykolaiv, Kirovohrad, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia regions - the threat of using ballistic weapons.

4:09 AM: Activity of enemy tactical aviation in the north-eastern direction, - Ukrainian Air Force.

- The threat of using aviation weapons.

7:00 AM: Summary of Battlefield events from March 17, General Command report from 06:00 18 March:



PHOTO FROM THE FACEBOOK OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE ZSU

- The Russians attacked in 7 directions, most actively in Novopavlivskiy, carried out 14 missile and 75 air strikes, shelled the positions of Ukrainian troops and populated areas 95 times with rocket launchers, and 72 combat clashes took place at the front during the day.
- **Literally the General Staff:** "Last day, the Russian invaders attacked Ukraine, using 22 UAVs of the "Shahed" type. 17 of these attack UAVs were destroyed by the forces and means of air defense of Ukraine."
- **Details:** The settlements of Lukashivka, Chernihiv region, were hit by airstrikes; Velika Pysarivka, Popivka, Oleksandrivka, Luhivka of the Sumy region and the regional center; Vovchansk, Hoptivka, Basove of Kharkiv region; Netaylovye, Novoselivka Persha, Shakhtarske, Makarivka, Staromayorske of Donetsk region, Robotine of Zaporizhzhia region.
- About 140 settlements in the Chernihiv, Sumy, Kharkiv, Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhya, Dnipropetrovsk, Kherson, and Mykolaiv regions were under artillery fire.
- On **Kupyansk direction** the occupiers carried out 2 unsuccessful assaults on the positions of the Defense Forces in the area of the Sinkivka settlement of the Kharkiv region.

- On **Lyman direction** Ukrainian soldiers repelled 3 Russian attacks in the area of Rozdolivka, Donetsk region, where the invaders tried to break through the defenses of Ukrainian troops.
- On **Bakhmut direction** Ukrainian defenders repelled 8 attacks by Russians in the areas of Ivanivske and Klishchiivka settlements of Donetsk region.
- On **Avdiiv direction** the defenders repelled 13 attacks by the occupiers in the areas of Berdychi, Tonenke, Pervomaiske, Orlivka, Oleksandropil and Nevelske settlements of the Donetsk region.
- On **Novopavlovsk direction** The defense forces continue to restrain the Russians in the areas of Krasnohorivka, Georgiivka, Novomykhailivka and Pobyeda of the Donetsk region, where the occupiers, with the support of aviation, tried 36 times to break through the defenses of the Ukrainian troops.
- On **Orihiv direction** the Russians attacked the positions of Ukrainian defenders 7 times in the areas of Robotynoy and north-western Vervovyo of the Zaporizhzhia region.
- On **Kherson direction** the Russians do not give up their intention to knock out Ukrainian units from the bridgeheads on the left bank of the Dnieper - during the past day, they carried out 3 assaults on the positions of Ukrainian troops.
- At the same time, the aviation of the Defense Forces of the past day struck 6 areas of concentration of personnel, weapons and military equipment of the Russians.
- And units of the missile forces inflicted damage on 3 areas of concentration of personnel of the occupiers.

7:17 AM: Threat of using ballistic weapons in areas where an air alert has been declared - Air Force of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

7:20 AM: During the night, 14 out of 16 "shaheeds" were destroyed within the Odesa region by Air Defense forces and means.

8:05 AM: Poltava, Cherkasy, Kirovohrad, Donetsk and Dnipropetrovsk regions - missile danger, reports the Air Force of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

11:26 AM: The former head of the Transcarpathian Regional State Administration Gennady Moskal died today.

- The cause of death was a serious illness. He was 73 years old.

12:15 PM: The Ukrainian military has published a video of the destruction of the Russian RB-301B "Borysoglebsk-2" anti-aircraft missile complex with the help of HIMARS in the Zaporizhia region.

1:55 PM: Attention! The threat of using ballistic weapons from the east, — the Air Force of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

3:31 PM: Commander of the Air Forces of the Ukrainian Armed Forces Mykola Oleschuk showed the work of the Air Defense forces tonight in the Southern direction.

4:11 PM: At the border, the petitioner who submitted false documents about three wives and three children was detained by the State Border Services Agency.

- The detainee reported that he is a Tajik by nationality and lived in Tajikistan before coming to Ukraine. "\_He has two wives there, with whom he has three children. In 2022, he came to Kyiv and after marrying a Ukrainian woman acquired Ukrainian citizenship. During the inspection of the birth certificates of "his" children, the border guards discovered forgeries\_", the message reads.
- The original data in the documents were etched with a chemical substance, and new text was applied on top.

5:56 PM: All "Black Hawk" GUR MOU boards are in excellent working order, Ukrainian intelligence reported.

- Their crews continue to perform combat and special missions.
- GUR showed the work of the Black Hawk crews after the Russian allegations about the destruction of the helicopter.

7:45 PM: Summary of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine as of 18:00 on March 17:

- During the day, 63 combat clashes were recorded. In total, the enemy launched 7 missile and 55 air strikes, carried out 62 attacks from MSDS on the positions of Ukrainian troops and populated areas.
- During the day, the aviation of the Defense Forces carried out strikes on 6 areas of concentration of personnel, weapons and military equipment of the enemy.
- Units of missile forces inflicted damage on 2 areas of concentration of personnel of the enemy.

8:39 PM: Vinnytsia, Zhytomyr regions - threat of enemy UAVs.

- Launches of guided aerial bombs by tactical aircraft in Kharkiv region and Sumy region.

8:50 PM: Volodymyr Zelenskyi commented on the so-called "elections" in the Russian Federation in his evening address.

- "These days, the Russian dictator is simulating another election. It is clear to everyone in the world that this figure, as has often happened in history, is simply sick of power and is doing everything to rule for life. There is no such evil that he will not commit in order to prolong his personal power. And there is no one in the world who would be immune from this," the president said.

9:05 PM: Rivne region - threat of use of strike UAVs from Zhytomyr region.

- Khmelnytskyi region movement of strike UAVs in your direction.
- Chernivtsi, Volyn regions - the threat of the use of attack UAVs.

11:03 PM: Enemy UAVs in Kirovohrad Oblast are moving to Poltava Oblast, the Air Force reports.

- Kharkiv region - the threat of using ballistic weapons.
- Dnipropetrovsk region - the threat of the use of attack UAVs.

## **MORDOR – ruZZia**

2:54 AM: Drones attacked the Russian town of Slavyansk-on-Kuban in the Krasnodar Territory.

- Local residents report at least 5 explosions, after which a fire broke out at one of the city's manufacturing enterprises.
- Video from local social networks.



9:39 AM: Ukraine seized the initiative in the Black Sea. Russia has to find a solution to avoid further losses.

- This was reported by the spokesman of the Navy of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Dmytro Pletenchuk.
- "In practice, this (initiative on the side of Ukraine, - ed.) means that the enemy is in such a position that it is forced to look for a countermeasure now in order to get out of this stalemate. In a fairly short time, they lost three units thanks to the work Defense Forces. Therefore, accordingly, they are now in such a search for tactical solutions to avoid further losses," explained the spokesman of the Navy.

10:17 AM: In temporarily occupied Crimea, the Kerch bridge was closed, — rosZMI.

1:27 PM: The village of Gorkivskiy, Belgorod region, is under the control of Russian volunteers.

- This was reported by the Legion "Freedom of Russia".

2:19 PM: There are explosions again in the Russian city of Belgorod.

- Local mass media report on "arrivals".

5:06 PM: An attack on a military base was announced in unrecognized Transnistria, — First Transnistria TV Channel.

- There was an explosion, after which a fire started

5:39 PM: A video of the moment of the explosion, previously, of the Mi-8 helicopter on the territory of a military base in unrecognized Transnistria, is being shared on social media.

6:37 PM: Ukraine is not involved in the attack on a military unit in unrecognized Transnistria, the Moldovan Bureau said.

- "We inform you that the incident in question is an attempt to cause fear and panic in the region. The military equipment in the pictures has not been working for several years," the Bureau of Reintegration said.

7:02 PM: Russia carried out a provocation in Transnistria with an attack on a military unit with a kamikaze drone, TsPD.



- "\_The main logic of the Kremlin's actions consists in informational incitement of the situation, since the Russian Federation does not have a corridor to Transnistria to carry out provocations of a military nature\_" the message reads.

9:15 PM: Russian "exit polls" already report that Putin won the "election" with more than 87% of the vote

- The Russians also report that the turnout in the temporarily occupied part of Ukraine exceeded 80%. There, people were forced to "vote" under the muzzles of machine guns, local social networks reported.

10:13 PM: Singer and ex-deputy of Ukraine Taisia Povaly received an award for her betrayal in the form of Russian citizenship.

- She immediately went to thank the dictator Putin, having voted in the elections.

## REGIONS

### KYIV



8:13 PM: An air alert has been announced in Kyiv, KMDA.

- Head to the nearest shelter immediately.

### CHERNIHIV



8:16 PM: A guided air missile, presumably Kh-59, in the direction of Chernihiv Oblast through Sumy Oblast, the Air Force reports.

8:27 PM: Another missile, presumably Kh-59, is moving in the direction of Chernihiv Oblast through Sumy Oblast, the Air Force reports.

8:29 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Konotop.

8:34 PM: In Konotop, there were two hits to infrastructure facilities, the mayor of Konotop, Artem Semenikhin, said.

## SUMY



8:31 AM: Three explosions rang out in Okhtyrka, Sumy Oblast

- As reported by local channels, the lights went out in the city.

1:45 PM: In the Sumy Oblast, the Ukrainian military stopped 3 Russian DRGs that were trying to sneak into the depths of Ukraine — DPSU.

- In one case, border guards discovered several members of the DRG who were moving from the territory of the Russian Federation. They immediately opened fire on the saboteurs, and a shooting battle ensued.
- In the other two cases, the border guards, together with the servicemen of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, also discovered enemy DRGs in advance and opened fire on saboteurs.

3:52 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Sumy.

## KHARKIV



6:45 PM: Russian Guided Aerial Bombs attacked Vovchansk in the Kharkiv region, the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

- As a result of the attack, a private house caught fire. A 72-year-old man was injured.

9:38 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in the Kharkiv region.

## DONETSK



2:50 PM: Russian terrorists attacked Selidove and Mirnograd in the Donetsk region at night, the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

- The occupiers dropped an aerial bomb "UMPB-D30SM" on Selidove. A 70-year-old woman was injured.
- The Russians attacked Myrnograd with three rockets. An 86-year-old woman was injured.

10:08 PM: Donetsk region - the threat of using air weapons.

## DNIPRO



6:50 PM: The Air Force reports an enemy UAV in the vicinity of the city of Dnipro.

10:40 PM: During the day, the enemy made 8 UAV strikes on Nikopol region, hit twice with heavy artillery.

- This was announced by the head of Dnipropetrovsk RMA Serhii Lysak.
- There are five victims in the district center. In Nikopol, an infrastructure object and a five-story building, as well as a gas station and a truck, were damaged.

11:54 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Kryvyi Rih.

## KHERSON



11:19 AM: Explosions are heard in Kherson. The Russian army attacks from the temporarily occupied left bank.

- This was announced by the head of the MBA, Roman Mrochko.

4:42 PM: Russians dropped explosives from a drone on the village of Lviv, in the Beryslav region of the Kherson region, — RMA.

- The injured 43-year-old man was taken to the hospital. He was diagnosed with an explosive injury, shrapnel injuries, and an open leg fracture.

## MYKOLAIV



1:56 PM: An explosion was heard in Mykolaiv, subscribers reported.

- The mayor of Mykolaiv Oleksandr Sienkovych confirmed the explosion in the city.

2:08 PM: The head of Mykolaiv RMA Vitaly Kim reported about the "arrival" in Mykolaiv.

- According to him, the launches were from the same place as in Odesa on Friday.
- Vitaly Kim reported another hit.

2:34 PM: In Mykolaiv, as a result of the Russian attack, there are currently 2 medium injuries.

- This was announced by the head of RMA Vitaly Kim.
- The number of victims has increased to 4, — Kim.

3:09 PM: The number of victims of the Russian attack on Mykolaiv has increased to 5.

- This was announced by the head of RMA Vitaly Kim.

5:30 PM: Residential buildings were damaged in Mykolaiv as a result of an enemy rocket attack, State Emergency Service.

- Three cars were previously damaged, one of which caught fire.
- As of 16:00, according to the hospital, 5 victims were registered. Work to eliminate the consequences of shelling continues.

6:04 PM: 6 victims are currently known in Mykolaiv, the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

- As a result of the attack, houses, vehicles and infrastructure were damaged.

7:04 PM: 1 person died in Mykolaiv as a result of rocket attacks, died in hospital, State Emergency Service.

- 6 people were injured, including 1 child.

7:28 PM: Russian troops used similar tactics in today's missile attack on Mykolaiv as during the shelling of Odesa on March 15, — Defense Forces of Southern Ukraine.

- It is about the task of a second strike at the place of the first one, with a minimal difference in time.

## ODESSA



12:18 AM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Dnipro and Odesa.

12:54 AM Social Networks: Repeated explosions are heard in Odesa.

10:00 PM: Large container ships and ferries will soon return to Odessa ports, media reports.

- According to Deputy Minister of Community Development, Territories and Infrastructure Yury Vaskov, such transportation can return to Ukraine in a few weeks.

11:41 PM: This is what defensive fortifications look like in the Odesa region.

- The head of RMA Oleg Kiper assures that fortifications are updated, strengthened and new ones are created.

## POLTAVA



5:20 PM: Enemy drones are flying through the Dnipropetrovsk region towards Poltava region and Kharkiv region, — Ukrainian Air Force.

11:09 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Kremenchuk.

## LVIV-



7:55 PM: In Lviv, TCC employees forcibly detained a local volunteer, Kyryl Taran. His wife made the information public along with the video.

- He refused to undergo the VLK due to health problems and because he did not have medical documents to prove it. In the morning, an order was prepared for the man to be sent to a military unit at the training ground in Rivne.

- Human Rights Commissioner Dmytro Lubinets intervened in the situation. According to the fact of the incident, an official investigation was ordered, and Kirill was ordered to re-pass the VLK.

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	Mar 11	Mar 12	Mar 15	Mar 16	Mar 17
Duration	9 years and 9 months	After 746 days	After 747 days	After 750 days	After 751 days	After 752 days
Military Personnel Liquidated	14,453	425,890	426,870	429,580	430,740	431,550

Material  
Losses

Tanks	147	6,747	6,752	6,779	6,790	6,809
Armored Personnel Carriers	1,314	12,901	12,921	12,973	12,997	13,014
Artillery, Mortars, and Ballistic Rocket launchers	433	11,538	11,571	11,623	11,651	11,685
Cruise Missiles		1,920	1,921	1922	1,922	1,922
Fighters Bombers	118	347	347	347	347	347
Helicopters	333	325	325	325	325	325



Drones		8,184	8,205	8,268	8,272	8,308
Anti Aircraft Missile Batteries		711	715	719	720	720
Cargo/Fuel/ other transport	11,36 9	13,870	13,932	14,024	14,073	14,141
Naval Vessels		26 + 1 submar ine	26 + 1 submar ine	26 + 1 submar ine	26 + 1 submar ine	26 + 1 submar ine
Specialized equipment		1,691	1,699	1,712	1,723	1,731

#### SOURCES

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- <https://t.me/uawarinfographics>
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