

News From Ukraine

Russian Invasion of Ukraine

April 17, 2024

By: Bohdan Chomiak & Robert Homans

Meeting With Halyna Yanchenko

Halyna Yanchenko is a Member of the Ukrainian Parliament, the Rada, Deputy Head of the Parliamentary Majority, Pres. Zelenskyy's Party, and Secretary of the National Investment Council of Ukraine. She is part of a large Ukrainian delegation that is in Washington, in conjunction with the World Bank Spring Meetings. Her talk was about opportunities to invest in Ukraine's Defense Industry.

I went, primarily in response to an article she wrote that included a proposal to promote commercial leasing as one means to finance Ukraine's growing defense industry. Perhaps it's a business opportunity.

There are 2 major barriers that have to be overcome, before Ukraine's leasing industry can become a major source of financing for the defense industry:

- There is no movable asset registry in Ukraine, where lessors can publicly register their ownership/security interest in capital equipment. There is one for titled vehicles and farm tractors, but not for personal property. Without a movable asset registry for registering ownership/secured interest in personal property there will be little or no financing of capital equipment in Ukraine.
- Ukrainian lessors finance titled vehicles and tractors almost exclusively. They'll need to learn how to evaluate credit and underwrite transactions involving capital equipment, a different process from evaluating credit and underwriting transactions involving

titled vehicles and tractors. Think of learning a second romance language after you are fluent in one.

Reconstruction will require the employment every possible source of financing. Leasing needs to play a role, but until the above constraints are addressed it won't be a major role. I was very impressed by Halyna Yanchenko, and I look forward to further discussions on how I can help.

[“Secret Russian foreign policy document urges action to weaken the U.S.”](#) by Catherine Belton, Washington Post.

Catherine Belton is the author of “Putin’s People,” a very influential account of the circle of Russians around Pres. Putin, making her an authority on this subject.

Some excerpts:

- “Russia’s Foreign Ministry has been drawing up plans to try to weaken its Western adversaries, including the United States, and leverage the Ukraine war to forge a global order free from what it sees as American dominance, according to a secret Foreign Ministry document.”
- “In a classified addendum to Russia’s official — and public — “Foreign Policy Concept of the Russian Federation,” the ministry calls for an “offensive information campaign” and other measures spanning “the military-political, economic and trade and informational psychological spheres” against a “coalition of unfriendly countries” led by the United States.”
- “The document for the first time provides official confirmation and codification of what many in the Moscow elite say has become a hybrid war against the West. Russia is seeking to subvert Western support for Ukraine and disrupt the domestic politics of the United States and European countries, through propaganda campaigns supporting isolationist and extremist policies.”
- “The academic, Vladimir Zharikhin, called for Russia to “continue to facilitate the coming to power of isolationist right-wing forces in

America,” “enable the destabilization of Latin American countries and the rise to power of extremist forces on the far left and far right there,” as well as facilitate ‘the restoration of European countries’ sovereignty by supporting parties dissatisfied with economic pressure from the U.S.’ “

- “For Mikhail Khodorkovsky — the longtime Putin critic who was once Russia’s richest man until a clash with the Kremlin landed him 10 years in prison — it is not surprising that Russia is seeking to do everything it can to undermine the United States. “For Putin, it is absolutely natural that he should try to create the maximum number of problems for the U.S.,” he said. ‘The task is to take the U.S. out of the game, and then destroy NATO. This doesn’t mean dissolving it, but to create the feeling among people that NATO isn’t defending them.’ “

The title of the Institute for the Study of War’s recently published an article entitled “Denying Russia’s Only Strategy for Success” refers to their assertion that Russia’s campaign of propaganda and disinformation is their only effective weapon. The article states “The Russian strategy that matters most, therefore, is not Moscow’s warfighting strategy, but rather the Kremlin’s strategy to cause us to see the world as it wishes us to see it and make decisions in that Kremlin-generated alternative reality that will allow Russia to win in the real world.”

Every time Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (D-Georgia) calls Ukraine a “Nazi State” on the floor of the House of Representatives, she is knowingly brandishing Russia’s only effective weapon against the United States. Therefore, in my opinion Ms. Greene should be censured, just as if she came to the House floor brandishing a gun.

[“America’s Stark Choice in Ukraine and the Cost of Letting Russia Win”/Institute for the Study of War](#)

Some excerpts:

- “The United States thus has only two real choices today. It can quickly resume providing military aid to let Ukraine stabilize the front lines near the current locations. Or it can let the Russians defeat the Ukrainian military and drive toward the NATO borders from the Black Sea to central Poland. There is no third option.”

- “A successful Ukrainian military will be the largest and most powerful in Europe after Russia’s—it will be far stronger than that of any European NATO state. Ukraine will deploy its forces along its borders with Russia and Belarus to deter and defend against future Russian aggression. Ukraine will rely on continued assistance at first in the form of equipment but, over time, primarily in the form of money to purchase and maintain its own equipment, from a wide array of European and Asian states that keenly understand the importance of preventing a renewed Russian attack. Ukrainians will recognize that their future is linked with NATO’s survival and deterring Russian attacks on NATO as well as on Ukraine, even if Ukraine is not a member of the alliance.”

This describes why Halyna Yanchenko came to the U.S. It also describes what Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene wants to promote, the exit of the United States as a source of support for Ukraine. Greene’s objective and Russia’s objective are aligned.

[“Ukraine 'shoots down' nuclear-capable Russian strategic bomber armed with cruise missiles”/The Telegraph](#)

What is interesting is that according to the Telegraph the shoot down took place over Stavropol, approximately 750km from the Ukrainian border. Apparently, Ukraine used an S-200 anti-aircraft missile.

News From the Battlefield

[“Reporting From Ukraine”](#) covers a Russian assault near Semenivka, west of Avdiivka. What is interesting is the coordination between Ukrainian artillery and Ukrainian drone operators. He also reports that one Russian unit has suffered 90% casualties and that there have been reports of attempted Russian desertions.

4/19/2024 Sitrep

INTERNATIONAL

Wednesday, April 17

8:01 AM: Blinken, during a visit to Beijing, will seek to convince China to end aid to Russia's defense and industrial complex. This was stated by the US State Department spokesman Matthew Miller.

8:01 AM: The US will impose new sanctions on Iran in the coming days following its airstrike on Israel, says National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan.

8:01 AM: Norway's Ministry of Foreign Affairs has urged all its citizens to avoid visiting Iran, and citizens already there to leave the country, a statement on the ministry's website said.

8:01 AM: Lithuania has announced an intensive cycle of exercises with the participation of more than 20,000 military personnel, LRT.

8:01 AM: The first tests of the new Kemanekes 2 Mini Smart cruise missile were conducted in Turkey.

8:37 AM: Canada has earmarked 1.16 billion US dollars for armaments for Ukraine in the budget for the next five years.

- This is stated in the draft state budget of Canada, submitted to the country's parliament the day before, reports CP24.

12:06 PM: Denmark has allocated about 295 million euros in aid to Ukraine, the Danish Ministry of Defense announced.

- This money will finance, in particular, the transfer of weapons, ammunition, drones, the production of missile components in cooperation with the Czech Republic and the Netherlands, as well as assistance in the maritime sphere.

1:10 PM: Canada will provide Ukraine with a soft loan of \$300 million. This is stated in the draft state budget of Canada.

- In addition, Canada will transfer 137.2 million euros to the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development over five years, which will be used for the reconstruction of Ukraine.

1:54 PM: Tomorrow, Polish farmers plan to block the movement of trucks in front of the "Korchova-Krakowiec" checkpoint, the State Customs Service.

- The traffic blockade will start at 09:00 and will last for two days until 09:00 on April 20.

3:16 PM: Ukraine and Poland have agreed on the implementation of projects that will speed up the registration of passengers and goods at the border, — DPSU.

- It is not known what exactly the projects are about.

5:03 PM: A meeting of the Ukraine-NATO Council with the participation of Volodymyr Zelenskyi will take place on April 19.

- This was announced by Jens Stoltenberg, Secretary General of the Alliance.
- According to him, the key topic of the meeting is the supply of additional air defense systems and artillery shells to Ukraine.

6:29 PM: The vote on the US aid package for Ukraine and Israel will take place this Saturday.

- This was announced by the speaker of the House of Representatives, Mike Johnson.

6:46 PM: Volodymyr Zelensky had a telephone conversation with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg.

- The President informed Stoltenberg about the morning attack by the Russians on the hotel in Chernihiv and the consequences of Russian terror for the Ukrainian energy industry.
- "We also discussed the state of implementation of the initiatives regarding the supply of projectiles for Ukraine", Zelenskyi noted.

7:41 PM: The first deliveries of projectiles to Ukraine under the Czech initiative may begin later — in June.

- This was announced by the Prime Minister of the Czech Republic, Petr Fiala.
- Recently, Prime Minister of Ukraine Shmyhal noted that we expect the first deliveries of projectiles from this initiative already in April.

8:20 PM: In the US House of Representatives, a draft law on aid to Ukraine was released.

- It envisages \$61 billion and a demand for the US president to provide Ukraine with ATACMS missiles.
- More than \$23 billion of them will be used to replenish the American stockpile of weapons.
- \$11.3 billion for current US military operations in the region.
- \$13.8 billion for the purchase of the latest weapons systems, defense goods and defense services.

- \$26 million for continued oversight and accountability for assistance and equipment provided to Ukraine.

9:44 PM: Joe Biden has assured that he will sign separate bills that contain aid to Ukraine.

- "I strongly support this package to obtain critical support for Israel and Ukraine, provide much-needed humanitarian aid to the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, and strengthen security and stability in the Indo-Pacific region," the US president said.

10:18 PM: "20 Days in Mariupol" was shown in the European Parliament. The film's director, Mstislav Chernov, also attended the screening.

10:49 PM: There has been an explosion at Britain's biggest weapons factory, BBC.

- BAE Systems has been around since World War II. But only last year, the production of ammunition, mortars, artillery and tank shells began. This company is involved in military aid to Ukraine. They assure that the staff were not injured and there is no threat to the locals. The causes of the incident are being established.

11:30 PM: The Netherlands has transferred three more F-16 fighter jets to a training center in Romania where Ukrainian pilots are trained, Romania's defense minister said.

11:30 PM: In Georgia, the law on foreign agents was adopted in the first reading, despite protests, - Echo of the Caucasus.

11:30 PM: Microsoft has recorded an increase in the activity of Russians with the aim of interfering in the US elections, the company's press service said.

11:51 PM: The Prime Minister of the Netherlands wants to buy Patriot systems from countries that do not want to hand them over to Ukraine, — The Guardian

- "Many countries are sitting with a large number of Patriot systems, perhaps not wanting to supply them directly. We can buy them from them, we can deliver them to Ukraine, we have the money," said the Prime Minister of the Netherlands.

Thursday, April 18

8:02 AM: Canada is preparing a comprehensive package of financial support for Ukraine, which is included in the draft state budget of the country for 2024.

8:02 AM: A 6.4-magnitude earthquake struck near a nuclear power plant in Japan, Kyodo News.

8:02 AM: EU countries to introduce new sanctions against Iran, especially on the production of UAVs and missiles, — Reuters.

8:02 AM: Pakistani authorities have banned the use of Twitter for "national security reasons".

12:54 PM: Polish farmers renewed the blocking of the directions of the checkpoints "Korchova - Krakowiec" and "Medyka - Shegyny", - DPSU.

- According to available information, protesters plan to block traffic in "Krakowka" until 9:00 a.m. on April 20, and in "Szegyna" until 9:00 a.m. on April 19.
- As of this morning, about 1,500 trucks are waiting in queues on the territory of Poland in these directions to travel to Ukraine.

4:55 PM: As part of the aid package, Denmark will buy \$28.5 million worth of weapons for the Armed Forces — they will order from Ukrainian manufacturers.

- Oleksandr Kamyshin, Minister of Strategic Industries, announced this.
- According to him, the Ukrainian "defense" has already accelerated to such an extent that the Ukrainian budget cannot fully load the manufacturers with orders.
- Denmark became the first country in the world to launch a corresponding initiative._

6:29 PM: In Poland, a Russian agent was exposed who offered the Russian special services an assassination attempt on Volodymyr Zelensky, the SBU.

- The suspect's idea was to collect and transfer information about the security of the Rzeszów-Jasionka airport to the aggressor country.
- "Thanks to successful actions and prompt exchange of information between the countries, it was possible to identify and detain a

recruited agent of the Russian special services on the territory of Poland," - writes the press service of the SBU.

7:18 PM: There are currently seven Patriot systems for Ukraine — one of them is German, and Germany is looking for 6 more in NATO countries.

- This was announced by German Chancellor Olaf Scholz.
- "We have heard about seven additional systems. One of them is ours, and we hope to find six more in the context of NATO, and I have again used this opportunity in many negotiations to convey this point," Scholz noted.

9:25 PM: The detained Pole, who was preparing an assassination attempt on Zelenskyi, faces 8 years in prison.

- This was reported by the Polish Prosecutor's Office.

10:05 PM: Democrats in the US House of Representatives are ready to support Republican Speaker Mike Johnson's financial support package for Ukraine, Bloomberg.

- According to preliminary data, voting will take place on Saturday, April 20.

10:23 PM: The United States and Great Britain imposed sanctions against Iran, the producers of "shaheed" were also subject to restrictions, the Ministry of Finance of the United States.

10:23 PM: NASA believes most of China's civilian space program is actually military.

10:23 PM: Hiroshima in Japan will not invite the Russian Federation and Belarus to memorial events this year, instead letters will be sent to these countries with a message, — The Asahi Shimbun.

Insights – Eaton & Woodward Clipping Service – The No Bargains Clipper

NATIONAL

Wednesday, April 17

4:49 AM: Enemy tactical aircraft activity observed in eastern direction, - AIR FORCE COMMAND.

- The threat of using aviation weapons.

7:00 AM: Battleground summary of the Ukrainian Armed Forces Command for April 17 as of 6:00 am, April 18.



ILLUSTRATIVE PHOTO FROM FACEBOOK OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE ZSU

Over the past 24 hours, Russian troops have carried out 4 missile and 57 air strikes on Ukraine, as well as shelled the positions of Ukrainian troops and populated areas with rocket salvo systems 89 times; 87 combat clashes took place at the front during the day.

- **Literally the General Staff:** "During the past day, the settlements of Rozhdestvenske, Sumy Oblast; Sinkivka, Kharkiv Oblast; Bilogorivka and Serebryanske Forestry, Luhansk Oblast; Diliivka, Ivano-Daryivka, Rozdolivka, Verkhnyokamianske, Andriivka, Stupochki, Kostyantynivka, Klishchiivka, Novoselivka Persha, were hit by airstrikes. Ocheretyne, Novokalynove, Novopokrovske, Sokil, Semenivka, Solovyovka, Georgiivka, Urozhane, Oleksandropil, Staromayorske of the Donetsk region; Krynyk and Beryslav of the Kherson region.
- **Details:** The occupiers fired artillery at more than 120 settlements in the Chernihiv, Sumy, Kharkiv, Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhya, Dnipropetrovsk, Kherson, and Mykolaiv regions.

- **Kupyansk direction** - Russians attacked Ukrainian positions 4 times in the area of Novoserhiivka settlement of Kharkiv region.
- **Lyman direction** - The defense forces repelled 3 attacks in the areas of the settlements of Nevske, Luhansk region, and Terna, Donetsk region.
- **Bakhmut direction** - defenders repelled 24 attacks in the areas of Belogorivka settlements of Luhansk region; Viymka, Rozdolivka, Chasiv Yar, Novy, Klishchiivka of the Donetsk region, where the Russians, with the support of aviation, tried to improve their tactical position.
- **Avdiivskiy direction** - defenders of Ukraine repelled 19 attacks in the areas of Semenivka, Novobakhmutivka, Ocheretyne, Novokalynovka, Yasnobrodivka, Netaylove, Pervomaiske and Novoukrayinka settlements of the Donetsk region.
- **Novopavlovsk direction** - The defense forces continue to restrain the enemy in the areas of Vodyane, Krasnohorivka, Pobyeda, Novomykhailivka and Urozhaine settlements of the Donetsk region, where the occupiers, supported by aviation, tried 23 times to break through the defenses of the Ukrainian troops.
- **Orihiv direction** - the occupiers, with the support of aviation, attacked the positions of Ukrainian defenders 5 times in the Staromayorsky district of the Donetsk region.
- **Kherson direction** - the enemy does not give up its intention to knock out the Ukrainian units from the bridgeheads on the left bank of the Dnieper - during the past day, they carried out 3 unsuccessful attacks.
- At the same time, the Air Force of the Defense Forces during the past day struck 8 areas where Russian personnel were concentrated.
- Units of missile troops damaged 1 ammunition warehouse and 1 other important object of the occupiers.

8:55 AM: An air alert has been issued in a number of areas.

- The Air Force reports a missile threat.
- Rocket on Chernihiv.

12:37 PM: Due to cold weather and cloudy weather, electricity consumption is increasing rapidly, — "Ukrenergo".

- This morning its level is 6.5% higher than yesterday.

- "In order to cover such growth, it is necessary to additionally include 3-4 units at thermal power plants. But now there is no such possibility - thermal power plants are one of the main targets of Russian missile strikes," the company explained.

2:12 PM: The court kept the former president of Motor Sich Boguslaev in custody until June 12 without the right to bail, media.

- Boguslaev is suspected of collaborationism, aiding Russia and obstructing the activities of the Armed Forces._

2:56 PM: An air alert has been issued in a number of areas.

- The Air Force reports a missile threat.

3:24 PM: Can we improve the quality of life of wounded soldiers, pensioners, parents with children, people with disabilities in Ukraine?

Definitely yes

- Ukrainian Center for Public Data together with Available. UA and LUN City are conducting an online survey about the accessibility of urban space.
- Friends, your answers will help build a society with equal and unhindered access for all.
- Take the survey and share it with others.
- <https://bit.ly/3UsuVYt>

5:32 PM: Enemy hackers are trying to break into the computers of Ukrainian soldiers to steal documents and messenger data.

- This was reported by the State Service of Special Communications and Information Protection of Ukraine.
- Criminals use popular messengers, social networks and other communication platforms _to spread malware_.
- The hackers are targeting to steal messages and contact information _especially from the Signal messenger_, which is quite popular among the military.

6:21 PM: This year, for the first time, Ukraine will officially participate in NATO's cyber defense exercises — Locked Shields 2024.

- This was reported by the National Cyber Security Coordination Center (NCCC).

- About 4,000 experts from more than 40 countries will join forces in a simulated environment during the exercise to protect the infrastructure of a "fictitious nation and its country."

7:51 PM: Summary of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine as of the evening of April 17:

- During the day, 71 combat clashes were recorded.
- The enemy delivered 4 missile and 43 air strikes, carried out 43 attacks from rocket salvo fire systems_ on the positions of our troops and populated areas.
- Aviation of the Defense Forces struck 8 areas where enemy personnel were concentrated.

8:05 PM: The Air Force reports that the alarm in the northeastern regions is related to the activity of enemy tactical aircraft near the border with the Russian Federation.

9:34 PM: On April 18, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., industrial consumers may apply energy supply capacity limitation schedules, - "Ukrenergo"

- Electricity will be limited equally for business and industrial enterprises in all regions of Ukraine.
- Restrictions will not be applied to critical infrastructure facilities and defense complex enterprises.

10:23 PM: Volodymyr Zelensky's evening address:

- "Today, the Armed Forces of Ukraine carried out a correct strike against the occupier in Dzhankoya, on the airfield. Thank you, soldiers! Thank you for your accuracy. Thank you to Commander Sirsky for organizing this operation. The occupier must lose, and each of their losses is a strength of Ukraine."_
- 11:15 PM: CEO Yasno calls to save light tomorrow, especially from 19:00 to 22:00, because due to the cold weather, generation and import may not be enough.

10:36 PM: UAVs continue to move in the direction of Poltava Oblast, the Air Force reports.

- A new group of UAVs from the Zaporizhzhia region heading for Mykolaiv.

11:59 PM: The Air Force informs about the movement of UAVs:

- A group of UAVs on the border of Poltava and Cherkasy regions. Course for Kyiv region.
- A group of UAVs is maneuvering between the Poltava and Dnipropetrovsk regions.

Thursday, April 18



12:29 AM: Missile threat to the north, Air Force reports.

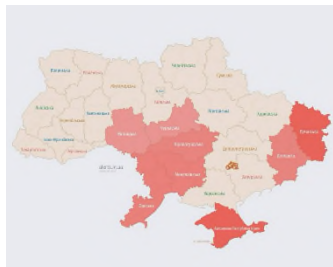
1:20 AM: Missile threat in the east, Air Force reports.

- A group of Shaheds continues their movement in Zhytomyr Oblast. The course is western.

2:18 AM: Air Force reports UAVs movement:

- A group of Shaheds from the Crimea in the direction of Odessa.
- A group of Shaheds from the Kherson region headed for Kryvyi Rih.

4:34 AM: The Air Force reports the movement of UAVs:



- Shahedy in the direction through Vinnytsia and Cherkasy regions heading north.
- A group of strike UAVS along the border of the Mykolaiv and Kirovohrad regions heading to the northwest.
- Shaded from the Odesa region heading north.
- Shahedy in Vinnytsia heading west.

6:10 AM: A group of Shaheds on the border of Khmelnytskyi and Ternopil regions heading west, — AIR FORCE COMMAND.

7:00 AM: Battleground summary of the Ukrainian Armed Forces Command for April 18 as of 6:00 am, April 19.



PHOTO: GENERAL STAFF OF THE ARMED FORCES

During the day, the Russian invaders tried to storm 6 directions of the front, the most attacks took place on Bakhmutskiyi, Avdiivskiyi and Novopavlivskiyi, a total of 82 combat clashes took place during the day.

- **Details: On the Volyn and Poliske directions** the operational situation remains without significant changes.
- **Siverskiy and Slobozhanskiy directions** - the enemy maintains a military presence in border areas, conducts sabotage activities in order to prevent the transfer of our troops to threatening directions, increases the density of mine and explosive barriers along the state border.
- **Kupyansk direction** - the enemy did not conduct offensive (assault) actions.
- **Lyman direction** - the enemy attacked the positions of our defenders 4 times in the Torsky and Yampolivka districts of the Donetsk region.
- **Bakhmut direction** - our soldiers repulsed 25 attacks in the areas of settlements of Belogorivka, Luhansk region; Verkhokamianske, Vyimka, Kalynivka, Chasiv Yar, Novy, Ivanovske, Klishchiivka of the Donetsk region.

- **Aydiivskiy direction** - our defenders repelled 16 attacks in the areas of Novokalynove, Ocheretine, Berdychi, Pervomaiske, Nevelske settlements of the Donetsk region.
- **Novopavlovsk direction** - The defense forces continue to hold back the enemy in the areas of Georgiivka, Pobyeda, Novomykhailivka, Urozhaine settlements of the Donetsk region, where the enemy tried 20 times to break through the defenses of our troops.
- **Orihiv direction** - the enemy attacked the positions of our defenders 4 times in the districts of Staromayorsky, Donetsk region, and Robotyny, Zaporizhzhia region.
- **Kherson direction** - the enemy does not give up its intention to knock out our units from the bridgeheads on the left bank of the Dnieper. So, during the past day, the enemy carried out 11 unsuccessful attacks on the positions of our troops.
- At the same time, our soldiers continue to actively inflict losses in manpower and equipment on the occupying troops, exhausting the enemy along the entire line of battle.
- During the past day, the aviation of the Defense Forces struck 9 areas where enemy personnel were concentrated. Also, the forces and means of air defense of Ukraine destroyed 2 Kh-59 guided air missiles.
- Units of the missile forces damaged 1 control point, 2 artillery units, 1 EW station, 1 personnel concentration area and 1 enemy ammunition depot.

8:41 AM: Oleksandr Syrsky had an important conversation with the Chairman of the European Command of the US Armed Forces and the Supreme Commander of the Joint Forces of NATO in Europe, General Christopher Cavoli.

- He informed about the development of events at the front and the urgent needs of Ukraine, in particular in modern means of air defense, artillery and ammunition, as well as heavy armored vehicles.

9:04 AM: German Vice Prime Minister Robert Habeck arrived in Kyiv.

- The focus of his trip is Russia's massive attacks on Ukraine's energy infrastructure, emergency assistance to our country in these

conditions, as well as Germany's help in strengthening the Ukrainian economy.

9:14 AM: Air defense forces destroyed 13 out of 13 strike UAVs.

- All 13 "martyrs" were shot down in Kherson, Dnipropetrovsk, Vinnytsia, Poltava, Khmelnytskyi, Ternopil and Ivano-Frankivsk regions.

10:43
areas



AM: Threat of using ballistic weapons in alert — AIR FORCE COMMAND.

- WARNING! Kyiv, Chernihiv - missile danger.

11:21 AM: According to the BEB materials, an accomplice to the \$20 million Ukrtatnafta takeover scheme will be tried.

- In particular, the suspects forged contracts identical to the original ones. The main difference was the company that had to supply the raw materials and receive funds for it.
- In turn, the head of the company's financial division, abusing her official position, signed official documents for payment to a controlled company registered in Switzerland.

11:50 AM: Another IRIS-T air defense battery will arrive in Ukraine in the coming weeks.

- This was announced by the head of Diehl Defense after arriving in Kyiv.
- "Three IRIS-T batteries are already in Ukraine, and there will be more this year," he added.

1:57 PM: VAKS seized the assets of the ex-president of Motor Sichi Vyacheslav Boguslaev and the former top manager of the company Petr Kononenko.

- Corporate rights to "Motor Bank", "Motor Garant", "Vinnytsia Aviation Plant" and other enterprises, as well as real estate, land plots, money placed in accounts, weapons and other assets were charged to the state income.
- At the same time, VAKS refused to confiscate certain assets of "third parties".

- Vyacheslav Boguslaev's lawyers filed an appeal against this court decision.

2:22 PM: Volodymyr Zelenskyi listened to the daily report on the security situation in Ukraine.

Main theses:

- Already this month our industry for the first time issues 10 "Bohdan" (SAU), in May and beyond - even more;
- After our actions in the Black Sea, Russia moves ships, in particular carriers of "calibres", to the Caspian;
- We have our own developments that will help combat the Russian propaganda television signal in the border regions.

2:27



PM: Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia region - missile danger, — AIR FORCE COMMAND.

- A high-speed target from the south.

3:21 PM: The SBU detained Shufrich's assistant, who financed the Rosguard in Crimea.

- The perpetrator concluded contracts with the structures of the Russian Guard for the protection of elite real estate in Crimea under the control of the People's Deput.
- In just 3 months, more than half a million Russian rubles were transferred to the accounts of the occupiers.
- Now the suspect faces up to 8 years in prison with confiscation of property.

3:41 PM: The activities of the political party "Social-Patriotic Assembly of Slavs" ("SPAS") have been banned in Ukraine.

- This is reported on the "Judicial Power of Ukraine" portal.
- The party's property, funds and assets were transferred to the state.

4:10 PM: Border guards using UAVs destroyed an enemy boat in the south of the country, DPSU.

4:40 PM: In Ukraine, the register of corrupt persons may grow rapidly.

- Artem Sytnyk, deputy head of the NAKC, announced this.

- "Declaration was suspended, and many forgot to submit declarations upon dismissal, and this is also an offense that is related to corruption. Now we have more than 40,000 reports about untimely submission of declarations_ [...]", says Sytnyk.

5:27 PM: "Ukrenergo" will apply restriction schedules for industrial consumers due to shortages during the spring-summer repair campaign.

- This was announced by the head of the company, Volodymyr Kudrytskyi.
- "Currently, we do not plan to use schedules that would lead to disconnection of household consumers. Unfortunately, this does not apply to Kharkiv, which has its own special situation with damage to almost all energy facilities in the city_ [...]", Kudrytskyi notes.

5:40 PM: The process of blocking tools for spreading Russian disinformation on the TikTok social network has started, — TSP.

- Currently, people's deputy Oleksandr Dubinsky, bloggers Anatoly Shariy and Myroslav Oleshko, journalist Diana Panchenko and others are among those blocked.

6:19



PM: The first F-16 fighter jet will be delivered to Ukraine by summer.

- This was announced by the Prime Minister of Belgium, Alexander de Croo.
- According to him, the F-16 coalition is important because_ fighters also have anti-aircraft potential_.

7:09 PM: The Kyiv court canceled the seizure of part of the property of the Hrynkevich family, according to the relevant resolution.

- Although now the owner of "VT Development" through "Yasnysky Kray" LLC is Maksym Stankevich from Lviv, yet in the summer of 2023, Svitlana Hrynkevich_ was indicated as the beneficiary of the company.
- The lawyer of "VT Development" stated in court that the company is not connected "with the facts of the conclusion and execution of contracts, which are the subject of a pre-trial investigation."

- In addition, the court established that the investigators did not provide evidence of the company's illegal activity, it is not a party to the contracts under investigation, and the property was purchased long before they were concluded.

7:36 PM: Ukraine has new models of drones with a range of 3,000 km — they are capable of reaching Siberia, writes The Economist.

- According to the publication, there are companies in Ukraine that have invested hundreds of millions of dollars in the production of long-range drones.
- The production of such drones is forced, because Western partners are reluctant to provide weapons to Ukraine.

7:42 PM: Summary of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine as of the evening of April 18:

- During the day _71 combat clashes were recorded._
- Aviation of the Defense Forces struck 9 areas where enemy personnel were concentrated.
- Units of the missile forces _hit 1 area_ of the concentration of personnel and _1 ammunition depot_ of the occupiers.

8:16 PM: Only 3% of Russian missiles, UAVs and anti-aircraft missiles hit military targets — the other 97% hit civilian infrastructure.

- This was stated by the deputy head of the Ukrainian mission to the OSCE, Viktoriya Kuvshinnikova.
- "Russian propagandists do not hide their intentions, openly declaring that their goal is to make Ukrainian cities unlivable," Kuvshinnikova noted.

8:35 PM: In his evening address, Volodymyr Zelenskyy emphasized the importance of Ukrainian defense production.

- "In general, there are positive things in the production of weapons, we especially appreciate everything related to the production of drones and projectiles. I am eternally grateful to every company, every manufacturer that provides our Defense and Security Forces of Ukraine with everything they need," the president said.

11:08 PM: According to the audit of the Ukrainian audit firm, the leakage of assets in the amount of 1.34 billion hryvnias was revealed, — the results of the audit of AS Crowe Ukraine.

- Many losses occurred due to "operations with offshore structures". Inefficient use of money on deposits, overestimation of the cost of goods, services and works also led to losses.
- The final audit report will be ready within three months.

11:22 PM: This year, Ukraine will need at least \$42 billion in international aid to support the budget, — IMF chief Kristalina Georgieva

- She assured that Kyiv will receive these funds, as international support for Ukraine remains steadfast.

11:29 PM: Dnipropetrovsk and Zaporizhzhia regions - the threat of using attack UAVs, the Air Force reports.

11:43 PM: Volcanic eruption with lightning, column of fire and ash in Indonesia.

11:44 PM: The alarm in the regions is related to the activity of enemy tactical aircraft, the Air Force reports.

- There is a threat of using aviation means of destruction for front-line areas.
- UAVs in Dnipropetrovsk region, heading north.

MORDOR – ruZZia

Wednesday, April 17

5:15 PM: a Russian soldier shot dead two residents of the temporarily occupied Lysychansk in the Luhansk region, — rosZMI.

- "[...] _on suspicion of murder, 57-year-old Russian serviceman Vasyl Sazhin, who has been convicted several times before, was detained," the message reads.
- According to the occupier, he drank alcohol with local residents, and when he quarreled with them, he shot both of them with a Kalashnikov assault rifle.

7:02 PM: Chinese exports to the Russian Federation fell by 16% in March compared to last year, — Bloomberg.

- The publication notes that such a trend has been observed for the first time since mid-2022.
- The main reason is the US threats to introduce sanctions against banks and enterprises that contribute to the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

8:58 PM: Residents of the Belozersky district of the Kurgan region of the Russian Federation should evacuate due to the fact that the flood wave is now heading in its direction.

- The governor of the region, Shumkov, warns about this.

9:54 PM: Explosions were heard in the Russian Voronezh, followed by a fire.

Thursday, April 18

4:48 AM: Explosions rang out in temporarily occupied Dzhankoy in Crimea.

- Residents report a fire near the military airfield.

6:59 AM: New videos of powerful explosions and fire at the airfield in the temporarily occupied Dzhankoy appeared online.

9:51 AM: Russia is scaling up campaigning activities in the regions to stop the drop in the number of people willing to join the army, GUR MOU.

- Among other things, the Russian railways are involved in the campaign - the carriages of passenger trains and electric trains are painted with militaristic prints, glorifying military service, Russian weapons and equipment.

11:15 AM: In the Russian Federation, a Mi-8 transport helicopter was destroyed at the airfield "Kryaz" in the city of Samara, — GUR MOU.

- The aggressor used a helicopter in the war against Ukraine to transport weapons and personnel. The cost of a helicopter of this type can be from 10 to 15 million dollars.

12:28 PM: On April 17, the launchers of the anti-missile and anti-aircraft defense systems, radar systems and aircraft of the Russian Federation were hit by an attack at the military airfield in Dzhankoy.

- Andriy Yusov, the representative of the HUR, stated this.

1:27 PM: The GUR of the MoU published a list of destroyed equipment in the temporarily occupied Dzhankoi:

- 4 S-400 SAM launchers;
- 3 radar stations;
- air defense control point;
- "Fundament-M" airspace surveillance equipment.
- The number of damaged or destroyed aviation facilities and the number of casualties among Russian personnel is being specified.

2:47 PM: Russia could create an eco-disaster by ferrying obsolete oil tankers across the Baltic Sea.

- This was stated by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sweden, Tobias Björström, The Guardian reports.
- "We will all suffer if there is a serious problem due to a collision or an oil spill from one of these ships, which in many cases are unseaworthy_ [...]," says Bijlström.

3:05 PM: Activity of enemy tactical aviation in the airspace of the Kursk and Bryansk regions, — AIR FORCE COMMAND.

- The threat of using aviation weapons.

3:54 PM: The General Staff of the Armed Forces publishes footage of an attack on enemy military facilities in the temporarily occupied Crimea.

- "The number of affected aircraft and personnel is carefully concealed by the enemy," the General Staff notes.

4:07 PM: Russian mass media and OSINT communities are spreading footage of the alleged consequences of a night attack on the Dzhankoy military airfield in the so-called Crimea

- According to preliminary information, destroyed:
- enemy personnel;
- 3 S-400 launchers and 1 S-400 radar station;
- 2 S-300 launchers;
- warehouse with ammunition for these missile systems.
- Russian mass media claim that the attack was carried out by an _MGM-140 ATACMS_ missile.
- _Currently, this information has not been officially confirmed._

4:38 PM: Russia has begun withdrawing its "peacekeepers" from Nagorno-Karabakh, said the spokesman of the President of the Russian Federation, Dmytro Peskov.

- Azerbaijani local publications note that the Russians withdrew the military from the Khudavang Albanian temple a few days ago.
- According to Musavat, the "peacekeepers" also left the bases in the city of Khojaly.

5:10 PM: Since the removal of the commander of the Russian Black Sea Fleet in March 2024, the Russian fleet has shown the least activity since the beginning of the war.

- This is stated in the British intelligence report.
- Russia withdrew most of its ships and submarines from Sevastopol further east — to Novorossiysk.
- Already there, they are improving logistics, weapons handling and maintenance for an indefinite base.

6:52 PM: Russia wants to recruit more contract soldiers to avoid another mass mobilization for now, Bloomberg.

- The publication writes that the Kremlin does not want a repetition of mass mobilization, as it could undermine the support for the war on the part of the Russian population.
- For example, the mobilization in September 2022 provoked the flight of up to a million Russians from the Russian Federation.

9:42 PM: A curious incident happened in Buryatia. While the Buryat volunteer was fighting in Ukraine, his house was robbed. Twice.

- "While I was shedding blood for my country on the territory of Ukraine, my house was robbed," laments the Buryat.
- Moreover, they took away not only valuables, but also clothes, a thermometer and...a toilet 🚽.
- Knowing the habits of Russians, you can suspect literally everyone.

REGIONS

Wednesday, April 17

KYIV



9:03 AM: Kyiv — urgently to shelter, — AIR FORCE COMMAND.

7:22 PM: The former Arch of Friendship of Peoples in Kyiv has lost its status as a historical monument — now it can be demolished.

- This was reported by the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy.
- "[...] _the monument represents exclusively Soviet ideologues and connotations, therefore it poses a threat to the national security of Ukraine_" , the message reads.

Thursday, April 18

1:01 AM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in the Kyiv region.

CHERNIHIV



Wednesday, April 17

9:01 AM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Chernihiv region.

9:28 AM: The enemy hit Chernihiv with rockets, reported RMA head Vyacheslav Chaus.

- There are victims and wounded.

10:09 AM: As a result of rocket attacks on Chernigov, four people are known to have died.

- This was reported by acting Oleksandr Lomako, Mayor of Chernihiv.

10:38 AM: In Chernihiv, it is already known about 5 people who died as a result of the attack, the acting chief of staff said. Oleksandr Lomako, Mayor of Chernihiv.

- "Chernihiv Regional Blood Center is in great need of help - donors, especially those with negative Rh," he added.

10:49 AM: As of 10:40 a.m., 8 people have been killed and 18 injured as a result of Russian missile strikes on Chernihiv, reports Acting Oleksandr Lomako, Mayor of Chernigov.

- The search and rescue operation is ongoing.

11:04 AM: As a result of the attack on Chernihiv, the building of the medical institution was damaged, there were no casualties in the hospital, the Ministry of Health reports.

11:19 AM: As of this time, it is known about 20 injured and 10 dead as a result of the Russian shelling of Chernigov.

- This was announced by President Volodymyr Zelenskyi.

11:40 AM: In Chernihiv, 11 dead, 22 injured as of now, and at least three missing, the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

- the Russians hit Chernihiv with three Iskander cruise missiles, the head of the RMA Vyacheslav Chaus reported.

12:16 PM: In Chernihiv, as a result of the attack, there are already more than 50 victims, — OP.

- In the city, an eight-story building was destroyed, four high-rise buildings, a hospital, a higher education institution, dozens of cars were damaged.

12:50 PM: As a result of the Russian missile attack on Chernihiv, 13 people were previously killed, — State Emergency Service.

- Another 61 people were injured, including 2 children. 3 people were rescued from the rubble.

1:36 PM: In Chernihiv, the number of victims has increased to 14.

- Andrii Podorvan, adviser to the head of the Chernihiv RMA, announced this.

2:52 PM: The National Police publishes footage of the first minutes after Russian missile strikes on Chernihiv.

- The search and rescue operation is ongoing.
- There is information about six missing citizens.

3:51 PM: The number of dead as a result of Russian strikes on Chernihiv has increased to 15, — the State Emergency Service.

4:19 PM: Currently, 16 people are known to have died in Chernihiv, — State Emergency Service.

- Search and rescue operations are ongoing.

4:46 PM: The number of dead as a result of enemy strikes on Chernigov has increased to 17 — two people died in hospital.

- This is reported by the State Emergency Service.

4:50 PM: April 18 in Chernihiv has been declared the Day of Mourning for those who died as a result of Russian missile strikes.

- This was reported by acting Oleksandr Lomako, Mayor of Chernigov.

Thursday, April 18

7:49 AM: The number of people killed due to a rocket attack on Chernihiv has increased to 18 people as of this morning, — National Police of Ukraine.

- There are 77 victims, including 4 children.
- Rescue operations are ongoing. More than 70% of the destroyed part of the building has been dismantled.

SUMY



Wednesday, April 17

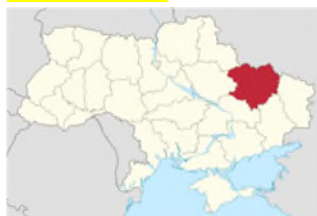
1:21 AM: The Sumy region is a missile hazard, the Air Force reports.

Thursday, April 18

7:56 PM: The Russians are spreading fake information about the preparation of their offensive in Sumy Oblast, but they do not have enough reserves for this, TsPD.

- The enemy also uses Ukrainian stories about the training of border guards to spread fakes about the alleged "attack of the Armed Forces of Ukraine on the Kursk region", which will lead to an intensification of hostilities in the Sumy region.
- The main goal of the Russians is to justify their terrorist attacks on populated areas of Sumy Oblast and to sow panic among the residents.

KHARKIV



Wednesday, April 17

5:52 PM: Russians are again spreading fakes about the so-called evacuation from Kharkiv, — DSNS.

- Via the Signal messenger, information allegedly from the State Emergency Service of Ukraine regarding the "evacuation" of the city due to the alleged encirclement by the occupiers is being disseminated.
- "[...] _such reports are a hostile information injection aimed at destabilizing the situation in Ukraine_" the State Emergency Service writes.

11:02 PM: A high-speed target is moving towards Kharkiv, the Air Force reports.

Thursday, April 18

2:18 PM: An explosion is heard in Kharkiv, subscribers report.

- the Russians are striking the city and district, — RMA.
- AIR FORCE COMMAND was informed about the launches of the KABs.

9:03 PM: A pipeline exploded in the Kharkiv region, local media reports.

10:48 PM: The accident at the gas pipeline in the Kharkiv region will not affect the gas supply to consumers, Naftogaz said.

- As the company explained, a technological accident with a fire occurred at the border of the gas pipeline of Ukrgezvydobuvannya and the Operator of the GTS of Ukraine.
- According to currently available information, there are no victims.

DONETSK



Wednesday, April 17

10:25 AM: 1 person died in Bakhmut district in Verkhnyokamyansk as a result of Russian shelling.

- This was announced by the head of the RMA, Vadym Filashkin.

9:48 PM: UAVs from the Donetsk region are moving in the direction of the Dnipropetrovsk region, the Air Force reports.

- A group of UAVs from Dnipropetrovsk region in the direction of Kharkiv region.

- A new group of drones in the north of the Zaporizhzhia region heading for the Dnipropetrovsk region.

Thursday, April 18

10:28 AM: As a result of Russian shelling, 2 people were injured in Krasnohorivka, Pokrovsky District.

- This was reported by the head of the Donetsk RMA, Vadym Filashkin.
- 1 person died in Selydovo.

ZAPORIZHIA



Thursday, April 18

11:01 AM: The sound of an explosion was heard in the temporarily occupied Berdyansk, local channels.

10:39 PM: A third attempted drone attack on the ZNPP was recorded today, the IAEA reported.

- It passed without destruction or casualties.

DNIPRO



Wednesday, April 17

9:36 AM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Kryvyi Rih.

1:18 PM: Over the Pavlograd district of the Dnipropetrovsk region, the troops of the "East" Pvk shot down an enemy drone.

- This was announced by the head of the regional council, Mykola Lukashuk.

Thursday, April 18

10:23 AM Social Networks: An explosion is heard in Dnipro.

10:56 AM Social Networks: An explosion is heard again in Dnipro.

12:24 PM: the Russians attacked the Dnipro district, reported RMA head Serhii Lysak.

- Previously, two men - 30 and 35 years old - were injured due to a rocket attack. Hospitalized in a moderate condition.

- There are several occupations.

2:05 PM: As a result of a rocket attack on Dnipropetrovsk region, an infrastructure facility and an enterprise were damaged, RMA.

- Two fires are still raging.

11:59 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Pavlograd.

KHERSON



Wednesday, April 17

9:13 AM: In Zmiivka, a local resident, Kherson RMA, was injured due to an attack by a Russian drone.

- The victim was taken to the hospital, where he was treated.

6:05 PM: Two more families were evacuated from the occupied communities of the Kherson region, reports the head of the Kherson RMA Prokudin.

- The first family is raising two brothers deprived of parental care: boys aged 12 and 16.
- Another family has a three-year-old girl.

MYKOLAIV



Thursday, April 18

11:46 PM: A missile is moving from the south towards the Mykolayiv region, the Air Force reports.

ODESSA



Wednesday, April 17

9:35 AM Social Networks: An explosion rang out in Odesa.

11:25 AM: In the morning, the Russian Federation attacked the infrastructure in the Odesa region, reported the head of the RMA Oleg Kiper.

- There was no information about the victims.

KHMELNITSKY



Thursday, April 18

2:21 AM: Course of UAVs on Starokostiantyniv, — AIR FORCE COMMAND

2:32 AM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Khmelnytskyi region.

IVANO FRANKIVSK



Thursday, April 18

6:37 AM: Strike UAVS continue to move in Ivano-Frankivsk region, — AIR FORCE COMMAND.

- Course to Kolomyia and Ivano-Frankivsk.
- Ivano-Frankivsk in shelter.

6:54 AM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Ivano-Frankivsk region.

3:03 PM: Russian UAVs tried to "bypass" Ivano-Frankivsk and attack the city from different directions - north and south.

- This was stated by the spokesman of the Air Force of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, Ilya Yevlash.
- "They also marched in line to make it more difficult to hit them. During the alert, they used groups and individual drones, that is, they tried to confuse their trail as much as possible. However, despite such tactics, our Defense Forces managed to eliminate all UAVs," says Yevlash.

LVIV-



Wednesday, April 17

8:39 PM: In Lviv, the winners of the architectural competition for the project of the Memorial complex of military burials of Heroes of Ukraine were chosen.

- "In addition to the burial area, there are plans to build a memorial square, a museum, a monument to the unknown soldier, a chapel and a columbarium - a place for burying urns with ashes," - writes the city's mayor Sadovy.
- However, the project of the Khmelnytskyi collective is not final, discussions will continue.

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	Apr 14	Apr 15	Apr 16	Apr 17	Apr 18
Duration	9 years and 9 months	After 780 days	After 781 days	After 782 days	After 783 days	After 784 days
Military Personnel Liquidated	14,453	454,420	455,340	456,050	456,960	457,830

Material Losses

Tanks	147	7,180	7,189	7,193	7,196	7,205
Armored Personnel Carriers	1,314	13,796	13,809	13,827	13,835	13,852
Artillery, Mortars, and Ballistic Rocket launchers	433	12,639	12,655	12,670	12,683	12,704
Cruise Missiles		2,092	2,092	2,093	2,093	2,096
Fighters Bombers	118	347	347	347	347	347
Helicopters	333	325	325	325	325	325

Drones		9,266	9,277	9,279	9,284	9,311
Anti Aircraft Missile` Batteries		758	759	760	760	762
Cargo/Fuel/ other transport	11,36 9	15,510	15,563	15,587	15,618	15,671
Naval Vessels		26 + 1 Submar ine	26 + 1 Submar ine	26 + 1 Submar ine	26 + 1 Submar ine	26 + 1 Submar ine
Specialized equipment		1,908	1,908	1,910	1,915	1,915

- SOURCES

- <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/3>
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