

# News From Ukraine

Russian Invasion of Ukraine

April 30, 2024

By: Robert Homans & Bohdan Chomiak

## “Our Fearless Leaders”

My secondary school English teacher used to like using this term, mostly in a derisive fashion. I will use it here, for the same reason. I’m applying this term to our current leadership, from both political parties, especially how they are effectively hanging a free country, Ukraine being invaded by a totalitarian neighbor, out to dry.

On the one side, are the Congressional Republicans who are being blamed for the 7-month delay in approving military assistance to Ukraine, Israel, and Taiwan. They are described in a recent column by George Will, entitled, [“So, 112 Ignoble, Infantile Republicans Voted to Endanger Civilization.”](#)

On the other side is the Biden Administration, that has consistently slow-walked military assistance, trying to avoid “escalation” and the appearance of supporting Ukraine’s goal of victory over the Russian Federation. The Biden Administration is described by a speech by the late Senator John McCain, in late 2014, several months after Russia’s invasion of Crimea and Donbas, given on the occasion of opposing the nomination of our current Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, to be Deputy Secretary of State in the Obama Administration.

You can find Sen. McCain’s speech [here](#). The speech lasts 24 minutes. A summary, lasting a bit over 1 minute, can be found [here](#). In the longer version, you can find Sen. McCain’s comments about Ukraine starting at 20:35. Sen. McCain’s speech is as relevant today as it was when he gave it, largely because the same people who populated the Obama Administration in 2014, when they resisted supplying Ukraine with lethal weapons, namely

Antony Blinken, Jake Sullivan and Susan Rice, hold important positions in the Biden Administration today.

It is worth recalling that Sen. McCain, a Republican, was the most principled and ardent supporter of Ukraine in Congress. In his speech, Sen. McCain states, “Anthony (Tony) Blinken is not only unqualified but has been dangerous to America.”

Not to excuse Republican delay in the passage of the supplemental, but Ukraine arrived at this point today because of the Biden Administration’s continuing slow-walking weapons deliveries that Ukraine requested. In November 2022, Ukraine had Russia on the ropes. Ukraine had liberated Kherson City and all of Kherson Oblast west of the Dnipro River, and liberated large swaths of Kharkiv Oblast. Ukraine conducted 2 successful operations at the same time, something that the pundits said was impossible. Had the Biden Administration agreed to deliver the weapons Ukraine asked for, when Ukraine asked for them, the situation that Ukraine currently finds itself in would likely be far different, and Republican delays either wouldn’t have mattered as much or might never have happened.

As I am wont to do, here are some excerpts from George Will’s column:

- “[The Republican Party](#) was founded as a noble rejection of the most consequential bad thing Congress has ever done: the [1854 Kansas-Nebraska Act](#), which authorized territories to vote slavery up or down, thereby valuing popular sovereignty more than liberty.”
- “[President Biden](#) has been blameworthy for what is rightly disparaged as the “[drip feed” of weapons to Ukraine](#). It is fair to say of him what [Theodore Roosevelt said](#) of President William Howard Taft: ‘**He means well feebly.**’ “ (my emphasis)
- “Tuesday’s [Senate ratification of Ukrainian aid](#) proves that Dwight Eisenhower’s baton of Republican internationalism was passed, via Ronald Reagan, to Mitch McConnell. They are the three most important Republicans of the past 100 years.”
- “Congress’s support for Ukraine ranks with two other nation-defining congressional acts. In March 1941, [Congress approved Lend-Lease aid](#) to Britain and others (235 Democrats and 24 Republicans yea, 25

Democrats and 135 Republicans nay). This “most unsordid act in the history of nations” (Winston Churchill) ended the facade of U.S. neutrality. By approving aid for Greece and Turkey in May 1947, Congress affirmed (161 Democrats and 126 Republicans yea, 13 Democrats and 93 Republicans nay) [the Truman Doctrine](#): **The United States would assist democratic nations threatened by authoritarians. World War II’s end would not revive isolationism.**” (my emphasis)

- Instead we have “Missouri’s [Sen. Josh Hawley](#), who thinks we have given “blank checks” to Ukraine (actually, 5 percent of defense spending, and **less than half the monetary value of European support**). [Yet Hawley says](#) we cannot defend both Ukraine and Taiwan, so this would be an excellent time to reduce the U.S. forces in Europe that are deterring Russia from aggressions against NATO allies.” (my emphasis) **Hawley also said that one reason he voted against Ukraine aid was that none of the money in the legislation was going to be spent in Missouri. Not only is Hawley lying, significant money is going to defense contractors based in Missouri, but it vividly illustrates Hawley’s sense of principle, or lack thereof.**
- “Another grotesque, Ohio’s [Sen. J.D. Vance](#), an itinerant [Neville Chamberlain](#) visiting green rooms, would welcome Ukraine’s death on the installment plan (see Czechoslovakia in 1938-1939).” (my emphasis)
- “Georgia’s Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (she who wonders whether [Jewish space lasers](#) cause forest fires) expresses her loathing of Ukraine with lunatic accusations that confirm the judgment of Texas’s Rep. Michael McCaul (Republican chair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee) [that Russian propaganda](#) has ‘infected a good chunk of my party’s base.’ “
- “We have defined heroism so far down that it encompasses [Speaker Mike Johnson](#) (R-La.) allowing a House vote on assisting Ukrainians’ resistance to indiscriminate bombardments of population centers, ethnic cleansing, rape, torture and the abduction of children. [Oleksandra Matviichuk](#), the Ukrainian winner of the [2022 Nobel Peace Prize](#), adds: ‘One woman I interviewed had her eye extracted with a spoon.’ “

- “Heroism is not required of Ukraine’s NATO and other allies, whose [combined GDPs are 20 times](#) that of Russia. The cost of losing, **by ill-conceived parsimony**, this proxy war with a barbarian power possessing the world’s largest nuclear arsenal would be steep.” (my emphasis and underlining)

To paraphrase the late Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, “we fight with the leadership we have.”

[“A Ukraine-born Congresswoman Voted no on aid. Her Hometown Feels Betrayed”](#)/Washington Post

George Will could’ve have added the name of Rep. Victoria Spartz (R-Indiana) to his roster of shame, but I guess he felt charitable.

“In this small city north of Kyiv (close to the Russian border) where Rep. Victoria Spartz (R-Ind.) grew up, locals once lauded her as one of their own — proud of the studious girl with blonde pigtails who moved to America and became the first Ukrainian-born member of Congress. But after Spartz voted against a \$61 billion aid package for Ukraine last week, that pride for some turned to anger and a sense of betrayal — feelings made more raw because her “no” vote came days after Chernihiv was [bombed during morning rush hour](#), killing 18 people.”

In the early stages of the war, Spartz visited Ukraine 6 times, expressed strong support for the country of her birth, and voted for the \$40 billion aid package for Fiscal Year 2023. In the Summer of 2022, Spartz began to repeat reports of corruption that had already been covered by Ukrainian media. Eventually, she used this justification for not only voting no on the latest supplemental because, as the Washington Post reported, “Spartz not only joined in blocking the aid bill but pushed amendments to reduce the package and limit other help to Ukraine.” Spartz now supports the same policy toward Ukraine as that of Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene.

Spartz said, “President Biden and President Zelensky failed the Ukrainian people,” Spartz said on the House floor Saturday before the vote. In her email to The Washington Post, Spartz said she feels ‘bad for the Ukrainian people and fighters on the front lines who have been **electing** bad leaders and paying a very high price for it.’ “ (my emphasis)

The operative word here is “electing.” Ukraine has free elections, just like the United States, and the United States often elects “bad leaders and paying a very high price for it,” just like Ukraine. However, no one, other than Spartz, Greene, and their fellow travelers, use the electing of “bad leaders” as an excuse for cutting off a free country (refer back to George Will).

Spartz faces 2 challengers in a Republican primary on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Ironically, one of her opponents accuses Spartz of coddling Ukraine. Either one would likely be better than Spartz. I don’t think Spartz would be returning to Ukraine anytime soon.

### What to do Now?

Members of my Ukrainian family tell me that European and Americans view the Russian’s destruction and killing in Ukraine as if they’re watching a movie, or a documentary. There is some truth to this. Otherwise, it’s hard to understand why European and Americans would tolerate the destruction and killing in what amounts to their next-door neighborhood.

If European and American leaders really believe that they cannot allow a Russian victory in Ukraine, even one that leaves Ukraine independent (for now) but forces Ukraine to give up territory, then Europe and America must follow the advice of the former U.S. Permanent Representative to NATO, Ivo Daalder, and “change the calculus.” He used this term in a post on Substack, after a group of countries, without any treaty commitments, got together and provided critical support to Israel in stopping the recent attack on Israel by Iran.

At age 10, I used to watch “Victory at Sea” with my father, at the time when it first came out. One night we were watching an episode entitled “[Melanesian Nightmare](#),” about the landings by American, Australian and New Zealand forces, I looked over to my father, and he was crying. He won

America's third-highest decoration for bravery, the Silver Star, as a landing boat officer during the landing at a place called Finschhafen. The Silver Star is the equivalent of the decoration for bravery that my wife's brother's son-in-law received, during fighting around Robotyne. There were, and are, real people in these videos. At about 12:45 into "Melanesian Nightmare," Finschhafen is mentioned. At 14:30 there is a clip showing U.S. troops landing into the jungle, making it impossible to spot Japanese machine gun nests defending the beach. Such a place was Finschhafen.

Since then, it has been difficult for me to watch war videos or documentaries (what a friend of mine calls "military pornography"), without seeing every bomb crater in a wheat field, or every destroyed building, or entire Ukrainian villages where people no longer live. Recently I gave a talk about Ukraine, and I nearly started crying (emphasis on "nearly"). I guess I inherited something.

What does Europe and the U.S. need to do, to "change the calculus?" Here are two possibilities, from a military amateur:

1. NATO to take over the air defense over Western Ukraine. Locate several Patriot batteries in Poland near the border with Ukraine, and then give advance notice to Russia that any Russian missile launched against Western Ukraine would be shot down.
2. Lift the restriction on the use of long-range weapons supplied by American and European partners against targets inside Russian territory.

No. 1 would include placing a Patriot battery in northern Finland, for the purpose of countering Russian Tu-95 bombers based on the Kola Peninsula and used to launch missiles against Ukrainian targets. Put Russia on notice that any missile launched from a Tu-95 bomber based on the Kola Peninsula would be shot down.

What No. 1 would hopefully allow is for Ukraine to move its anti-aircraft systems now defending western Ukraine, to eastern Ukraine where they can defend cities including Kharkiv and Dnipro and Ukrainian troops operating in Donbas against Russian glide bombs. Another benefit would be to limit Ukraine's need for Patriot batteries, an issue that seems to be causing difficulties among Ukraine's partners.

In the case of No. 2, it would contribute to the objective of cutting off Russian logistics, gradually making Russian presence in eastern and southern Ukraine, Crimea, and the Black Sea, untenable. Ukraine is not going to be able to defeat Russia by prosecuting a “mano-a-mano” conflict in Donbas. Ukraine can defeat Russia by cutting off Russian logistics, just as they did in the Battle of Kyiv in early 2022. If Europe and the U.S. are serious about supporting Ukraine’s victory, then they’ll do what is necessary to help Ukraine defeat Russia, on Ukraine’s terms.

Speaking of New Guinea the whole point of Finschhafen, and other landings on New Guinea’s northern coast, was to cut off Japanese defenders from their logistics, rather than attacking them directly. It worked pretty well.

Yes. It’s time for a new calculus.

5/1/2024 Sitrep

## **INTERNATIONAL**

8:01 AM: Foreign Ministers of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia accused Russia of suppressing GPS signals in the Baltic Sea. They called it a "hybrid attack of the Russian Federation" and "will discuss it with the allies."

8:01 AM: Britain warned Moldova about hybrid attacks from the Russian Federation, — Bloomberg.

8:01 AM: The International Red Cross Movement has decided not to suspend membership of the Russian Red Cross despite potential violations of neutrality rules, The Guardian.

8:01 AM: Turkey has told allies that it will support the candidacy of acting of the Prime Minister of the Netherlands Mark Rutte for the position of the next Secretary General of NATO, — Anadolu.

10:07 AM: The Lithuanian authorities supported the idea of returning men of military age to Ukraine.

- This was announced by the President of Lithuania Gitanas Nausėda and the Prime Minister Ingrida Šimonaitė.
- President Gitanas Nausėda said that Ukraine should have the means and tools to "invite its young men to serve the motherland."

11:19 AM: The Parliament of Iceland adopted a resolution on long-term support for Ukraine in the period from 2024 to 2028.

- This was reported in the press service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iceland.
- The resolution is aimed at supporting independence, sovereignty, borders, security of the civilian population, humanitarian aid and reconstruction work in Ukraine.

1:48 PM: The U.S. Treasury Department has authorized transactions with Russian banks for energy settlements.

- According to the license issued by the US department, the ban on operations is lifted until November 1, 2024.
- In the decree, the Treasury explained that transactions related to the extraction, production, processing, liquefaction, transportation or purchase of oil and other energy resources, including liquefied natural gas, wood, coal and uranium, will be considered energy related.

2:33 PM: There will be no restrictions or forced return of Ukrainian citizens of any gender or age to a warring country.

- This was announced by the Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration Olga Stefanishyna.
- "[...] \_But there are no pleasant solutions in matters of war, and let's not forget that the war is ongoing and we have to win it\_" , she added.

3:56 PM: Lithuania plans to build six underground schools in Ukraine by the end of the year.

- This was announced by the head of the Lithuanian programs "Co-create Future of Ukraine" Arturas Zharnovskis.
- We are talking about the construction of large bomb shelter schools in Mykolaiv, Odesa, Zaporizhzhia, Sumy, Chernihiv and Kharkiv regions.

4:12 PM: The government of Latvia has agreed to transfer a new package of military aid to Ukraine, Prime Minister of the country Evika Silinia said.

- The package will include: NBS anti-aircraft installations, tactical unmanned surveillance systems and other basic logistical means.
- "\_This will help to improve both air defense and intelligence capabilities of Ukraine\_" writes Silinya.



5:25 PM: The men's hockey team of Ukraine has won its third World Championship in Division IV.

- In the third round, the Ukrainians defeated China with a score of 8:0.
- Ukraine started its performance at the 2024 World Cup with convincing victories over Estonia (8:0) and the Netherlands (4:0), taking first place in the group.

6:03 PM: "Nova Poshta" opened its first branch in Spain — this is already the 12th European country where NP has appeared.

- The first Spanish branch was opened in Barcelona at \_C/Gran de Sant Andreu, 413, Sant Andreu, 08030\_.
- They accept shipments up to 100 kg and work every day. Delivery time from Ukraine — from 8 days.

6:15 PM: The SBU extradited the organizer of the "schemes for evaders" who was hiding in the territory of the European Union to Ukraine.

- At the end of January 2023, the Security Service detained seven of his accomplices in different regions of Ukraine. They sold men fake medical certificates of unfitness for service.
- As for the accused and his accomplices, the pre-trial investigation is ongoing, and now they face up to 12 years in prison with confiscation of property.

8:24 PM: In Poland, a few benefits for Ukrainians are being cut, and social benefits are tied to the education of Ukrainian children in Polish schools, Polish Minister of National Defense Władysław Kosiniak-Kamys said.

- In particular, social assistance in the amount of 800 zlotys (about 200 dollars) per child, as well as other assistance will be available to those families whose children go to Polish schools - this will be officially approved by the adopted law.

9:07 PM: Ukraine's 10-year-old Oleksiy Nakonechnyi scored a triumphant victory at the U10 World Rapid Chess Championship in Albania.

- Among his rivals was a "star" chess player from the Russian Federation.

- "They told us not to go, because the Russians will be there. I said that we already gave them too much, we should go and take it from them," his father said.

9:45 PM: Another rally against the scandalous law on "foreign agents" is taking place in Tbilisi near the building of the Georgian Parliament.

- Many people came under the parliament and tried to block the exits from it, so that the deputies did not leave the building.
- Clashes broke out between protesters and security forces. Police fired tear gas and raised water cannons, but have not used them yet.

10:17 PM: The White House denied that ATACMS missiles were shot down by Russian air defense.

- "No, I cannot confirm the report that any of them (ATACMS missile - ed.) was shot down," said John Kirby, coordinator of strategic communications of the US National Security Council.
- It will be recalled that on April 30, the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation announced that Russian air defense forces allegedly shot down six ATACMS missiles and two French-made Hammer guided air bombs launched from the Ukrainian side.

10:37 PM: The Polish government may decide to stop issuing residence permits to Ukrainian conscript men if Ukraine so requests.

- "We will definitely not protect those who are trying to hide," said Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland Andrzej Shejna.
- At the same time, Shejna added that "there is no official position on this matter, because there was no communication between the Ukrainian government and the Polish government."

10:57 PM: Security forces in Tbilisi are trying to disperse protesters with a water cannon. Video from local media.

11:13 PM: In 2024, the Norwegian government will allocate an additional \$600 million to strengthen Ukrainian air defense and humanitarian aid.

- This was announced by the Prime Minister of Norway, Jonas Har Støre.
- He also admitted that Norway could increase the Nansen program, under which 75 billion Norwegian kroner (almost \$7 billion) was allocated to help Ukraine for five years.

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

[https://www.chathamhouse.org/2024/04/us-aid-package-ukraine-will-help-better-strategy-urgently-needed?utm\\_source=Chatham%20House&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=14461514\\_CH%20-%20Content%20Newsletter%20-%2030.04.24&utm\\_content=US-CTA&dm\\_i=1S3M,8LYKQ,4QW8AK,ZOOA4,1](https://www.chathamhouse.org/2024/04/us-aid-package-ukraine-will-help-better-strategy-urgently-needed?utm_source=Chatham%20House&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=14461514_CH%20-%20Content%20Newsletter%20-%2030.04.24&utm_content=US-CTA&dm_i=1S3M,8LYKQ,4QW8AK,ZOOA4,1)

[https://youtu.be/mPFvwtAsnjs?si=YWf2U4Zm2u3\\_6ckp](https://youtu.be/mPFvwtAsnjs?si=YWf2U4Zm2u3_6ckp)

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/ukraine/europe-not-nato-should-send-troops-ukraine>

[https://www.foreignaffairs.com/ukraine/war-unbound-gaza-hathaway?utm\\_medium=newsletters&utm\\_source=fatoday&utm\\_campaign=War%20Unbound&utm\\_content=20240429&utm\\_term=FA%20Today%20-%20112017](https://www.foreignaffairs.com/ukraine/war-unbound-gaza-hathaway?utm_medium=newsletters&utm_source=fatoday&utm_campaign=War%20Unbound&utm_content=20240429&utm_term=FA%20Today%20-%20112017)

### NATIONAL

5:01 AM: Current air alert map as of 05:00.



7:00 AM: Battlefield Summary for April 30, as reported by Ukrainian Armed Forces on May, 1 at 7:00 AM.



PHOTO FROM FACEBOOK OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE ARMY

During the past day, 122 combat clashes took place at the front, the hottest were in the Avdiiv, Bakhmut, and Lyman areas.

- **Verbatim General Staff:** "In total, the enemy launched 8 missile and 61 air strikes, carried out 129 attacks from rocket salvo systems on the positions of our troops and populated areas."
- **Details:** During the past day, the settlements of Vodolaga, Yamne of the Sumy region were hit by airstrikes; Vesele, Kharkiv, Vovchansk, Synkivka, Petropavlivka, Podoli of the Kharkiv region; Serebryan Forestry, Belogorivka, Luhansk Region; Yampolivka, Siversk, Verkhokamianske, Chasiv Yar, Novobakhmutivka, Progress, Netaylovye, Zhelanne Pershe, Nevelske, Yevgenivka, Paraskoviivka, Kostyantynivka, Vodyane, Urozhane, Staromayorske, Storozheve, Velyka Novosilka, Novy Komar of the Donetsk region; Mala Tokmachka, Zaporizhzhia Region; Mykolaivka, Tyaginka, Yantarne, Kherson region.
- The occupiers shelled more than 120 settlements in the Chernihiv, Sumy, Kharkiv, Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhya, Dnipropetrovsk, Kherson, and Mykolaiv regions with artillery.

- **Kupyansk direction** -Ukrainian soldiers repelled 6 attacks in the areas of Berestov settlements, east of Kopanka, Kharkiv region; Stelmakhivka, Luhansk region.
- **Lyman direction** - repulsed 21 attacks carried out by the Russians in the areas of Novoyehorivka, Grekivka, Makiivka, Nevsky and Serebryansk forests in Luhansk region and Terni in Donetsk region.
- **Bakhmut direction** - The defense forces repelled 33 attacks in the areas of settlements of Bilogorivka, Luhansk region; Verkhokamyanske, Rozdolivka, Spirne, Novy, Klishchiivka, Andriivka, and Chasiv Yar of the Donetsk region.
- **Avdiivskiy direction** - defenders repelled 33 attacks in the areas of Arkhangel'ske, Keramik, Sokil, Umanske, Semenivka, Yasnobrodivka and Netaylovye settlements of the Donetsk region.
- **Novopavlovsk direction** - The defense forces continue to hold back the invaders in the areas of Georgiivka, Paraskoviivka and Urozhayne settlements of the Donetsk region, where the Russians tried 18 times to break through the defenses of the Ukrainian troops.
- **Orihiv direction** - the Russians attacked defenders' positions 5 times in the districts of Staromayorsky, Donetsk region; Robotynoy and southwestern Bilohirya of the Zaporizhzhia region.
- **Kherson direction** - the Russians do not give up their intention to knock out the Ukrainian units from the bridgeheads on the left bank of the Dnieper - they have carried out 2 unsuccessful attacks in the past day.
- At the same time, during the past day, the Air Defense Forces struck 12 areas where the occupying personnel were concentrated. Also at night, the air defense forces of Ukraine destroyed 2 reconnaissance UAVs of the invaders.
- Units of missile troops damaged 1 personnel concentration area and 1 anti-aircraft missile complex of the Russians.

7:36 AM: An air alert has been issued in a number of areas.

- The Air Force reports a ballistic threat to the eastern regions.



9:09 AM:  
guard.



Volodymyr Zelenskyy congratulated the Ukrainian military on the day of the border

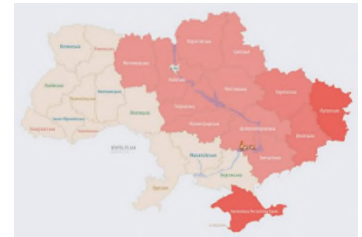
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defend our state and people on different front lines," the president noted.

- "Our soldiers-border guards not only protect the state border, but together with all Defense and Security Forces of Ukraine

11:47 AM: An air alert has been issued in a number of areas.

- Head to the nearest shelter immediately.
- The threat of ballistic weapons from the northeast, — the Air Force of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.



11:50 AM: The Ministry of Defense announced the amount of payments to the military for the destruction of Russian equipment.

- So, you can get UAH 12,180 for an enemy military vehicle, and UAH 48,720 for destroying a tank.
- More than UAH 40,000 is paid for the destruction of armored vehicles, and more than UAH 100,000 for the destruction of an airplane or helicopter.
- The largest amount is provided for the liquidation of a first-rank ship — more than UAH 243,000.

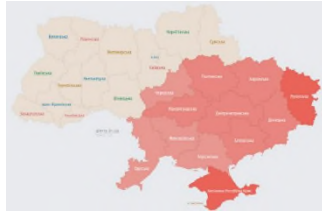
2:26 PM: An air alert has been issued in a number of areas.

- The Air Force reports the threat of ballistic weapons from the east.

3:09 PM: The participation of women in mine action operators is 30%, but Ukraine aims to increase this figure.

- This was stated by the First Vice Prime Minister - Minister of Economy Yuliya Svyridenko.
- "Gender equality is considered an integral part of Ukraine's policy, which is based on the principles of integration, inclusiveness and integrity. This applies to all types of activities, in particular, and such important areas as demining", Svyridenko noted.

3:30 PM:  
southern



Activity of enemy tactical aviation in the and eastern directions, — PS ZSU.

- There

is a threat of using aviation means of destruction for front-line areas.

4:35 PM: Prime Minister Shmyhal rejected the idea of suspending the right of Russian prisoners of war to make phone calls.

- According to Shmyhal, telephone conversations are important, in particular, so that the Russians are not afraid of surrendering.
- In addition, it will make it possible to release more defenders of Ukraine who are in Russian captivity.
- The petition suggested that Russian prisoners of war should not be allowed to use the telephone until Russia provides Ukrainian prisoners of war with such an opportunity on a regular basis.

4:55 PM: The government allocates an additional UAH 15.5 billion for the purchase of drones, Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal announced.

- "With the funds allocated today, 300,000 drones will be supplied to our Security and Defense Forces," Shmyhal said.

5:30 PM: Threat of using ballistic weapons, — PS of the ZSU.

5:52 PM: The network is spreading a fake story about the alleged "extraordinary situation at the Khao NPP and increased radiation background in the Rivne and Khmelnytskyi regions."

- Energoatom notes that there are no deviations from the normal operation of the Khao NPP, nor are there any "irregular situations".
- The radiation level at the station is within the current norms.

6:55 PM: The Cabinet of Ministers allowed employees of the State Emergency Service to provide paid services for assessing compliance in the field of civil protection.

- This was announced by the Prime Minister of Ukraine, Denys Shmyhal.
- According to him, this will activate the certification of mine action operators.

7:10 PM: The government allocates UAH 1.5 billion for grants for developers of defense-tech solutions, Prime Minister Shmyhal announced.

- The Brave1 defense technology cluster has been operating for a year — more than 1,600 developments in 12 areas have been registered.
- "Among them are drones, EW, robotic complexes, the use of artificial intelligence," Shmyhal notes.

7:25 PM: Summary of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine as of the evening of April 30:

- During the day, 96 combat clashes were recorded.
- Aviation of the Defense Forces struck 12 areas where enemy personnel were concentrated.
- Units of missile forces hit 1 district concentration of enemy personnel.

7:45 PM: The Cabinet of Ministers has updated payments for military personnel, the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine reports.

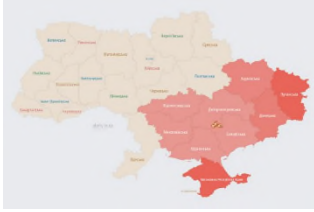
8:50 PM: The government has allocated UAH 549 million to update workshops in vocational schools, which will help those who want to acquire professions for the reconstruction of Ukraine.

- This is reported by the Ministry of Education and Science.
- "[...] In the new workshops, it will be possible in 2-3 months to improve qualifications, master a new profession or even acquire a separate skill, i.e. take a short course," the message says.

10:02 PM: An air alert has been issued in a number of areas.

- There is a threat of ballistic weapons from the east, the Air Force reports.





11:26 PM: An air alert has been issued in a number of areas.

## MORDOR – ruZZia

2:04 AM: Explosions were heard in temporarily occupied Crimea.

- More than 10 explosions rang out in temporarily occupied Gvardiyskyi, Dzhankoya and Simferopol, local residents reported on social networks.

11:00 AM: A warehouse with plastic pipes and polyethylene is on fire under Moscow, — rosZMI.

- The area of the fire is 2,000 square meters

9:25 PM: Russia runs out of gasoline due to wave of Ukrainian UAV strikes on refineries, Politico.

- Diesel prices for Russians have skyrocketed, rising almost 10% in the last week alone. Moscow has already banned the export of gasoline and diesel. It may have to import gasoline from reserves in Belarus.

## REGIONS

### KYIV



2:01 PM: The SBU detained pro-Russian hackers in Kyiv who created fake accounts of heads of Ukrainian special services.

- For this, they created fake accounts in social networks and messengers, in particular on behalf of the Head of the Security Service and the head of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications.
- In order to create the appearance of "real" pages, official posts from the SBU and GUR were reposted on these accounts. However, in

personal messages, the attackers extorted money from people and offered their "help".

- Perpetrators face up to 7 years in prison.

3:56 PM: The Pechersk Court of Kyiv allowed the removal of the electronic bracelet from Metropolitan Pavlo (Lebed) of the UOC MP, — media.

- The accused is still obliged not to leave his place of residence without a court order.
- He should also refrain from communicating with victims and witnesses in criminal proceedings, the prosecutor's office stressed.

6:38 PM: Dismantling of the tunnel between the "Demiivska" and "Lybidska" metro stations in Kyiv has begun, the city council reports.

- Specialists carried out a partial opening of the tunnel, namely, they arranged a technological hole for transporting the dismantled track concrete to the outside and supplying the necessary materials.
- "\_Specialists are making every effort to restore the movement of trains on the "blue" metro line by the end of the summer of 2024\_" the message reads.

9:51 PM: Almost UAH 10 million was stolen during road repairs in Kyiv.

- According to our sources, a group of persons, including the general director of Kyivavtodor Corporation and officials of contracting organizations, were charged with suspicion under Article 191 of the Criminal Procedure Code.
- During 2022-2023, they embezzled budget funds, inflating prices and volumes of work, and entered fake information into documents. This caused losses to the city budget of UAH 9,957,016.

## CHERNIHIV



9:28 AM: A reconnaissance UAV of the Russian army landed in Chernihiv Oblast, — SSO of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

- The Tachion drone was conducting reconnaissance of the area near the Russian-Ukrainian border.

- the Russian UAV "Tachyon" is used for reconnaissance and adjustment of fire both during the day and at night. And can also work as a communication relay.

## AMOUNTS



5:10 PM: Operators of one of the SSO units hit two Russian Buk air defense systems in the direction of Sumy.

## KHARKIV



10:03 AM: Explosions are heard in Kharkiv.

- This was announced by the mayor of the city Igor Terekhov.

10:21 AM: Russians hit Kholodnohirsky and Kyiv districts of Kharkiv.

- This was announced by the head of the RMA Oleg Sinegubov.
- Hitting civil infrastructure. Shots were recorded near the park zone. The number of victims is being clarified.

10:27 AM: We have preliminary information about one dead and two wounded in the Kholodnohirsky district, - the mayor of the city Igor Terekhov.

10:41 AM: According to preliminary information, as a result of the strikes on Kharkiv, two people were killed and six were injured, - RMA head Oleg Sinegubov.

11:24 AM: Updated information on the victims. One dead, seven wounded.

- This was announced by the mayor of the city Igor Terekhov.

1:35 PM: Nine people were injured and one person was killed as a result of enemy air bombing of Kharkiv.

- This was announced by the head of RMA Oleg Synegubovo.

- The deceased was a 24-year-old civilian who worked at the enterprise. Among the nine wounded, three women aged 28, 38, 40 and one 42-year-old man were hospitalized in medical institutions — all with explosive injuries.

5:39 PM: The number of injured in Russian strikes on Kharkiv has risen to 10.

- This is reported by the Kharkiv Regional Prosecutor's Office.

## DONETSK



12:39 AM Social Networks: Explosions were heard in temporarily occupied Mariupol.

9:40 AM: As a result of Russian shelling in Krasnohorivka, Donetsk region, 1 person died and 2

were wounded.

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

11:57 PM: "white angels" rescued 6 people, two dogs and the deaf cat Bilchuk from Krasnohorivka. The oldest evacuee is 87 years old.

- Two more residents were taken from the village of Kostyantynivka, which is on the front line.
- Every day there are dead or wounded people in Krasnohorivka - they are also taken away by the police. About 1,000 people remain in the city.

## Kherson



8:08 PM: Russians launch unsuccessful assaults on Nestryga Island, which Ukrainian defenders recently began to control.

- This was stated by Dmytro Pletenchuk, head of the Center for Strategic



Communications of the "South" Defense Forces.

- Pletenchuk noted that it is important for Ukraine to protect this territory from saboteurs and possible raids by the occupiers:
- "[...] This is the last island from Veletenske - this is the area of Veletenske and Kizomys, not far from them. In fact, it is the last island before the mouth of the river." \_

8:54 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Kherson.

**ODESSA**



8:27 AM: The number of victims of the Russian missile attack on Odesa on April 29 has increased to 5 people, — RMA.

- A man born in 1960 died in the hospital.
- 23 victims continue to be treated in medical facilities. 8 people are in serious condition, 4 of them are in extremely serious condition, including a four-year-old girl.

9:14 AM: In connection with the death of five people as a result of a Russian missile attack on Odesa, a day of mourning has been declared today in the Odesa region.

- This was announced by the head of RMA Oleg Kiper.

12:47 PM: Yesterday's attack on Odesa was carried out by an Iskander ballistic missile with a cluster warhead, — Prosecutor General's Office.

- In a radius of 1.5 km from the site of the shelling, metal fragments and fragments of the rocket were recovered.

11:29 PM: Odesa - urgently take shelter, the Air Force warns.

11:32 PM: Explosions are heard in Odesa, subscribers report.

11:48 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard again in Odesa, subscribers report.

- Odesa Mayor Gennadiy Trukhanov reports on very loud explosions in the city.

11:49 PM: Another missile launch at Odesa, the Air Force reports.

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 22	Apr 23	Apr 24	Apr 25	April 30
Duration	9 years and 9 months	After 789 days	After 790 days	After 791 days	After 792 days	After 797 days
Military Personnel Liquidated	14,453	461,060	461,940	462,980	463,930	469,840

Material Losses

Tanks	147	7,241	7,242	7,255	7,262	7,312
Armored Personnel Carriers	1,314	13,916	13,928	13,942	13,957	14,067
Artillery, Mortars, and Ballistic Rocket launchers	433	12,811	12,856	12,885	12,916	12,177
Cruise Missiles		2,117	2,117	2,118	2,119	2,126
Fighters Bombers	118	348	348	348	348	9,538
Helicopters	333	325	325	325	325	9,538

Drones		9,407	9,439	9,449	9,449	9,538
Anti Aircraft Missile` Batteries		769	771	772	772	780
Cargo/Fuel/ other transport	11,36 9	15,845	15,892	15,949	15,984	16,175
Naval Vessels		26 + 1 Submar ine	26 + 1 Submar ine	26 + 1 Submar ine	26 + 1 Submar ine	26 + 1 Submar ine
Specialized equipment		1,936	1,944	1,946	1,962	1,980

- SOURCES

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