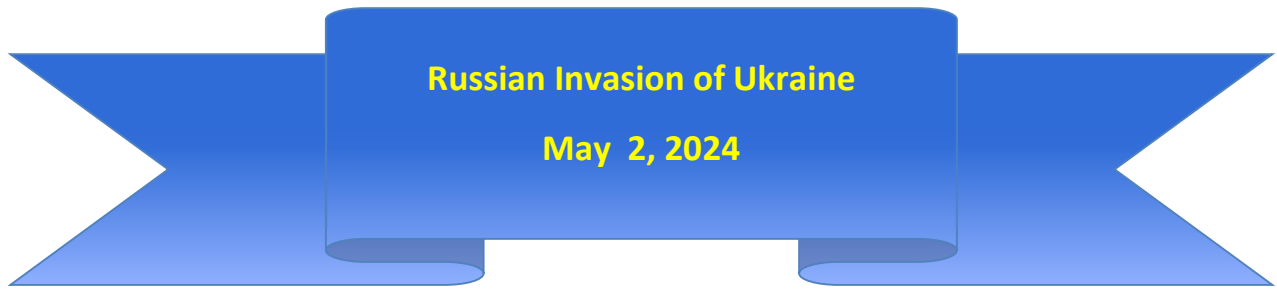


News From Ukraine



By: Bohdan Chomiak & Robert Homans

[U.S. Takes Aim at Chinese Banks Aiding Russia War Effort](#)/Wall Street Journal

I am by no means an expert in the Chinese banking system. I have friends, including one who gets these emails, who have forgotten many times more about the Chinese banking system than I have ever learned.

I think the U.S. and Europe will have a difficult time placing effective economic sanctions on the Chinese banking system that would be effective enough to curtail the export of Chinese dual-use components and equipment from China to the Russian Federation. However, there is a kink in China's armor that may work to the advantage of those placing the sanctions, mostly the U.S., and the main beneficiary of the sanctions, Ukraine.

I thought the Wall Street Journal article left much to be desired, at least based on my experience in China. Therefore, I'll add my own thoughts based on my very limited exposure to the Chinese banking system.

I have been to China 5 times since 1980, back when Beijing was building its first "ring road." They now have seven. My last three visits took place between 2011 and 2016, and they were related to working with Chinese financial institutions, mostly non-banks and Chinese financial regulators. For me, the Chinese banking system is similar to a well-conceived layered guided missile defense system, such as Ukraine has built around Kyiv. The layers include:

- 6 State-owned banks.
- 12 joint-stock banks in which the State has a controlling interest.
- At least 1 “policy bank,” the China Development Bank (“CDB”).
- Many provincial banks, likely solely or partly owned by the respective Chinese provinces in which the provincial banks are located.
- Several non-banks, including leasing companies.

Much of my exposure has been with the non-banks, primarily one leasing company that was, at the time, 80% owned by a major U.S. private equity company. In an effort by the World Bank to get Chinese banks to lend more to small and medium enterprises, especially farming operations, in 2013 I gave 3 days of training to 150 employees of the China Banking Regulatory Commission. As my friend explained to me, a decision to lend more to a sector of the Chinese economy, such as agriculture, is made by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and transmitted to the Bank of China and on to the individual banks.

On two occasions, in 2013 and 2014 when I was in Liberia on an assignment, I met with officials of CDB. One of the officials with whom I met described CDB as a “political bank,” established to support the CCP’s political goals, the “Belt and Road Initiative” being an example. CDB also extended a \$40 billion loan to Venezuela, secured by Venezuela’s oil exports. For those who are interested in learning more about CDB, I highly recommend reading [“China’s Superbank.”](#) It was written by 2 journalists from Bloomberg’s Beijing Office, both of whom were kicked out of China for their efforts.

The WSJ article doesn’t make any effort to describe what I would call the Chinese banking ecosystem. They only collectively refer to “banks.” It is the ecosystem itself, that may make it difficult to effectively impose sanctions that will serve to curtail exports of dual use equipment to Ukraine, and unfortunately the WSJ reporters ignore this part of the story. If, for example, the U.S. Treasury Department imposes sanctions on either the 6 State-owned banks, or the 12 joint stock banks, given China’s role in the World economy the knock-on effects could be significant, and they would have adverse effects well beyond China and the Russian Federation.

I don't know if CDB is providing financing for Chinese exports to Russia. If so, would CDB be subjected to sanctions? As is the case with the State-owned and joint stock banks, the sanctions would effectively be placed on the Chinese Government. Given CDB's role as a "political bank," would sanctions on CDB matter? What effect would sanctions on CDB have in countries that are part of the Belt & Road Initiative, in Africa, S. Asia, and Southeastern Europe, countries that the U.S. is trying to cultivate support, vis-à-vis our position on China curtailing their support of Russia's war effort?

In the case of provincial banks the article quotes Alexandra Prokopenko, "a fellow at the Carnegie Russia Eurasia Center think tank and a former employee of Russia's central bank," who said, "those banks have gradually been replaced by more obscure regional Chinese banks with little work in the dollar-denominated economy, and hence less to fear from U.S. sanctions. "Payment chains are slowly being rebuilt," Prokopenko said. 'Both Russians and Chinese are constantly adapting to the new conditions.' " I assume when Prokopenko refers to "these banks," that she's referring to the State-owned and Joint-Stock banks, and maybe CDB, but unfortunately the Wall Street Journal article is consistently unclear about what type of Chinese banks Prokopenko refers to.

The approach that Prokopenko describes concerning using provincial banks to finance China's trade with Russia makes sense. However, the one kink in China's armor may be the exposure that the provincial banks have to China's large real estate developers, many of which are either in liquidation or in default on their debt repayments. It would seem that the last thing that a provincial bank would want, at least one with substantial exposure to Chinese real estate developers, is to be subjected financial sanctions by the United States.

As far as I'm aware, there has never been an incident where a major player in the World economy, as is the case with China, has had financial sanctions imposed on its banks by the United States, the custodian of the World's financial system. Will it work? In the case of China, at least, perhaps sanctioning the exporters, rather than the banks, would be better strategy.

Unfortunately, the Wall Street Journal article doesn't shed light on these questions.

[Anne Applebaum Interview With Walter Isaacson/CNN "Amanpour & Company"](#)

This is one of the best interviews I have heard in a long time. Isaacson asked good, penetrating questions and, with one exception, Applebaum gave very informative answers. Some takeaways:

- At 1:40 into the video, in response to question Isaacson posed wither the aid is "too late," Applebaum replied that "it is never too late; Ukraine will keep fighting." My advice to the pundits who keep calling for a ceasefire, negotiations, and for Ukraine to give up territory, is to put Applebaum's answer on an infinite loop.
- At 7:18 into the video Isaacson asked Applebaum why she felt that Trump didn't intervene with Mike Johnson, to stop Johnson introducing the supplemental to the House Floor for a vote. This is the one exception where Applebaum dodged Isaacson's question, saying that maybe Trump thought it might be "ok" to send the bill to the Floor. Applebaum doesn't mention the role Sen. Lindsay Graham may have played in Trump's thinking. Graham has been a big supporter aiding Ukraine, and now Graham is "all in" with Trump. A few weeks ago, Graham traveled to Kyiv, where he met with Zelenskyy. It is likely that Trump sent him. Trump knew the consequences of the bill going to the House Floor. Is it possible that someone Applebaum's experience may be unwilling to even consider the possibility that Trump may have changed his mind? What is Applebaum's thought about Sen. Graham's trip to Kyiv?
- At 7:45 into the video Isaacson asked Applebaum about the significance of the meetings that Polish President Duda and British Foreign Secretary had with Trump. Isaacson added that Radek Sikorski, Applebaum's husband, is Poland's Foreign Minister. Applebaum started her response by pointing out that her husband and the Polish President are from different political parties, and remarking

how unusual it is for a presidential candidate to play a significant role in U.S. foreign policy. She forgot to mention that for the first time in over 100 years, since Grover Cleveland, that we have a presidential candidate who is also a former President.

- At 13:30 into the video Isaacson asked Applebaum about the comments Sen. J.D. Vance has made that the calculus for Ukraine doesn't add up for Ukraine, that they don't have enough troops, ammunition, etc., to defeat Russia, and therefore the U.S. should stop supporting Ukraine. Applebaum began her answer by pointing out that Vance manipulates data by, for example, pointing out that Vance argues that Russia has a 5/1 artillery advantage. She said, correctly, that Russia has that advantage because Ukraine hasn't been re-supplied. She could've added that this time last year that, thanks to Western support, Ukraine achieved parity with Russia in artillery, and in addition the howitzers Ukraine uses, like the M-777, are more accurate than Russia's.

Kudos to both Walter Isaacson and Anne Applebaum for an excellent interview.

Ukraine's Next Offensive – The Dnipro Crossings

This is an amazing article from the Financial Times, entitled "[How Ukraine Broke Russia's Grip in the Black Sea](#)." The maps and graphics make the article.

The article focuses on how Ukraine pushed Russia out of the Western Black Sea, how Ukraine was able to re-establish the grain corridor and re-establish itself as a major exporter of grains and oilseeds, and designs of Ukraine's sea drones.

Adding to and leveraging Ukraine's success in the Black Sea, we predict that Ukraine's next offensive will take place in and around the mouth of the Dnipro, with one objective being the re-opening of the major Ukrainian port of Mykolaiv, and the Port of Kherson. This map was in yesterday's email, courtesy of Bohdan:

- Ukraine recently liberated the island that is shown in red.
- Ukraine has been receiving a large number of small boats and other supplies from Norway and other countries. The boats are small enough to be transported by truck. The U.S. also supplied similar boats.
- An offensive here would play to Ukraine's advantage, on the river, whereas an offensive in Donbas would play to Russia's advantage. It is difficult to conduct meatwave attacks on the terrain in and around the Mouth of the Dniro. Therefore, Russia's manpower advantage would be neutralized.
- Opening access to the Black Sea from Mykolaiv and Kherson would increase the volume of Ukraine's exports of grain and oilseeds.
- Mykolaiv is a major shipbuilding center.
- It would complement Ukraine's ongoing campaign to isolate Crimea, as Ukraine would have almost de-facto control over the narrow land connection between Kherson Oblast and Crimea.



This won't happen immediately, perhaps late summer or early fall, or after Ukraine gets the F-16s that they've been promised. Ukraine also continues

to control Krinky, on the eastern bank of the Dnipro and upstream from Kherson. This summer Ukraine will likely try to widen and lengthen their control downstream, through Oleshky that is located on the opposite bank from Kherson. This would also help alleviate the almost continual Russian artillery strikes against Kherson City.

As a “Former Naval Person” I have spent time in these emails focusing on what I have referred to as the Dnipro Crossings. For once, maybe I’m onto something.

5/2/2024 Sitrep

INTERNATIONAL

8:01 AM: The US Senate unanimously voted to approve a bill banning the import of enriched uranium from Russia.

8:01 AM: The US continues to encourage countries that have Patriot missile defense systems to provide some of them to Ukraine, Pentagon chief Lloyd Austin said.

8:01 AM: States encourage other countries to reduce dependence on energy carriers from the Russian Federation, — the State Department.

5:15 PM: Ukraine received Western weapons from some partners with permission to strike Russian territory.

- This was stated by the newly appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs of Latvia, Baiba Braje.
- "Of course, not everything is announced publicly, and it's even better not to say it out loud until a certain time. The main thing is the influence on the battlefield. Because here there is a choice: whether to speak about something loudly, or just do what is necessary_," Braje said.

11:52 PM: The Parliament of Georgia approved the law on "foreign agents" in the second reading. However, there is still a third reading ahead.

- Meanwhile, protests against the adoption of this law do not stop in Tbilisi.

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

NATIONAL

1:46 AM: A bright flash was visible in the sky over many regions of Ukraine, previously it was a meteor.

- It was also seen in Poltava Oblast, Sumy Oblast, Kharkiv Oblast, Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, Zaporizhia Oblast, and probably in a number of other oblasts.

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 24 hours, 121 combat clashes took place at the front, in total, the Russians launched 5 missile and 63 air strikes, shelled the positions of Ukrainian troops and populated areas 72 times with rocket salvo fire systems.

- **Verbatim General Staff:**"During the past day, the settlements of Kharkiv, Zolochiv, Hlyboke, Velyka Danilivka, Slobozhanske, Kupyansk, Borova of the Kharkiv region were hit by airstrikes; Staromayorsk of Donetsk region; Lobkovo, Orihiv of Zaporizhzhya region; Olhivka, Tyaginka of Kherson region.
- More than 120 settlements in Chernihiv, Sumy, Kharkiv, Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhya, Dnipropetrovsk, Kherson and Mykolaiv regions were under artillery fire.

- **Details: Kupyansk direction** -Ukrainian soldiers repelled 14 attacks in the areas of Petropavlivka, Ivanivka, Kislivka, Kotlyarivka, Berestov, and Kopanky settlements of the Kharkiv region; Stelmakhivka, Luhansk region.
- **Limansky direction** -repulsed 14 attacks carried out by the Russians in the areas of Grekivka, Novoehorivka, Nevske and Serebryansky Forestry of Luhansk Oblast, as well as Terni of Donetsk Oblast.
- **Bakhmut direction** - Ukrainian soldiers repelled 20 attacks in the areas of Bilogorivka settlements of Luhansk region; Verkhokamyanske, Spirne, Novy of Donetsk region.
- **Avdiivskyi direction** - the defenders repelled 39 attacks in the areas of Kalinove, Arkhangelske, Progress, Ocheretyne, Sokil, Solovyove, Novopokrovske, Semenivka, Umanske, Yasnobrodivka, Netaylove, Pervomayske settlements of the Donetsk region.
- **Novopavlovsk direction** - The defense forces continue to hold back the enemy in the areas of Krasnohorivka, Georgiyivka, Novomykhailivka, Vodiane and Urozhaine settlements of the Donetsk region, where the occupiers, with the support of aviation, tried 22 times to break through the defenses of the Ukrainian troops.
- **Orihiv direction** - the Russians attacked the positions of Ukrainian defenders twice in the districts of Staromayorsky, Donetsk region, and Robotyny, Zaporizhzhia region.
- **Kherson direction** - the occupiers do not give up their intention to knock out the Ukrainian units from the bridgeheads on the left bank of the Dnieper - during the past day, they carried out 9 unsuccessful attacks.
- At the same time, aviation and units of the missile forces of the Defense Forces during the past day damaged 1 control point, 1 ground control station of the UAV and 8 areas of concentration of Russian personnel.

9:21 AM: Work of the 93rd separate mechanized brigade "Kholodny Yar".

- The video was published by the commander of the Ground Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Oleksandr Pavlyuk.
- The day before, within one day, the air defense unit of the brigade destroyed three Russian Zala UAVs.

- 10:12 AM: Attention! Missile danger in the areas where the alert has been declared — Air Force of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

9:38 AM: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has released additional information about Victoria's AI avatar.

- Each original video of the consular representative has a QR code that leads to a text version of the same comment on the official page of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. If there is no such QR code or if you go to any other site, the video is not considered authentic.

10:12 AM: Attention! Missile danger in the areas where the alert has been declared — Air Force of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

11:43 AM: After Easter, the first F-16s will appear in Ukraine.

- This was reported by the spokesman of the Air Force of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, Ilya Yevlash.

12:32 PM: A failure occurred in the "Monobank" application.

- This was reported by the founder Oleg Horohovskiy.
- "We are fixing it. I apologize to everyone we let down," he said in the message.
- "Recovered. Let's move on to the analysis of the reasons", - reports Oleg Horokhovskiy.

1:40 PM: Ukraine reached pre-war export figures, — Ministry of Economy.

- Last month, exports amounted to more than 13 million tons, which in monetary terms amounted to \$3.3 billion.
- In March, exports amounted to 11.8 million tons, in January - 12 million tons. This figure is higher than the February 2022 level. Then we exported 12.8 million tons.

2:16 PM: In Ukraine, they want to legalize the activities of international military companies — the relevant draft law has already been registered in the Verkhovna Rada.

- If it is adopted, defense companies will be able to operate abroad, but pay taxes to the budget of Ukraine.
- Such companies will be able to provide the following services — training, tactical training, intelligence, escorting, ensuring the safety of

individuals and legal entities, property protection and performing other tasks.

3:00 PM: An air alert has been issued in a number of areas.

- The Air Force reports the threat of using air weapons.

5:18 PM: Threat of using ballistic weapons, — PS of the ZSU.

5:26 PM: The Ministry of Digital showed footage of the work of PARASOL — a trench Electronic Warfare System with two modifications.

- The first modification protects positions from Russian drones, the other — equipment. One of the key advantages of PARASOL is that it is invisible to enemy Electronic Warfare Systems.
- Both developments _jam enemy drones at a distance of 200 meters_.
- As noted in the Ministry of Digital, _you can learn to use them in 10-15 minutes_.

5:52 PM: IOU will cooperate with one of the largest satellite companies to limit the filming of the territory of Ukraine during martial law.

- The reason for the restriction is that these images can be used by the enemy.
- Also, the Ministry of Defense plans to extend the contract with the satellite company to order up-to-date images of the territory of Ukraine _for defense and security purposes_.

6:40 PM: We need your hands to weave nets for our defenders together with the Cave Seals!

- The Pechersk Kotiki is a volunteer community that actively helps the Armed Forces with camouflage nets for various equipment, as well as "kikimora" suits that withstand even a thermal imager.
- They invite Ukrainians to a master class on weaving camouflage nets, the schedule is on the picture.
- The address and instructions on how to get to the location are on the link. (https://t.me/kitty_pechersk/1433) The location has a pass system, so at the entrance, please call +380 (99) 067 57 10 and say that you have come to the master class.

7:30 PM: In 2023, the number of millionaires in Ukraine increased - now there are 10.7 thousand of them.

- This was stated by the head of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Finance, Tax and Customs Policy, Danylo Hetmantsev.
- That is, the number of citizens who, according to the results of 2023, declared an annual income in the amount of more than 1 million hryvnias, increased by 1.2 thousand people compared to last year.

7:43 PM: Summary of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine as of the evening of May 1:

- During the day _100 combat clashes were recorded_.
- Aviation of the Defense Forces hit 1 control point and 7 areas where enemy personnel were concentrated.
- Units of the missile forces hit 1 UAV control post and 1 area of concentration of enemy personnel.

8:15 PM: Evening address of the President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyi:

- "We are preparing seven more new security documents for our country - bilateral security agreements. In particular, regarding the security agreement with the United States. Weapons, finances, political interaction - today I worked with the team on the specific details of these documents, and for some of them there is already a preliminary text agreement_".

8:45 PM: Volodymyr Zelenskyy dismissed Ilya Vityuk from the post of head of the SBU Cyber Security Department.

- The corresponding decree was published on the website of the president.

9:02 PM: Zelenskyy has reshuffled the leadership of the SBU regional offices.

- The corresponding decrees were published on the website of the Office of the President.

9:39 PM: More than 297 people, including 15 children, have died in Ukraine since the full-scale invasion of Russian landmines began.

- This was announced by the press officer of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine Oleksandr Khorunzhy.

- Another 669 people were injured, 78 of them children.

9:57 PM: Threat of using ballistic weapons in areas where air alert has been declared, Air Force reports.

10:15 PM: The electronic cabinet of the conscript will be operational on May 18. This was announced by the Deputy Minister of Defense of Ukraine, Kateryna Chernogorenko.

- To update the data in the e-cabinet, you will need to download the mobile application, log in and fill in the necessary fields.
- The official assured that in order to update the data, it will be enough to use the application without visiting the TCC.

10:37 PM: There are about 160,000 officials in Ukraine: 2.5% of them have been mobilized, the National Civil Service Agency reported.

- Of the total number of civil servants, only 4,180 (812 of them are women) are mobilized or are serving in the armed forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and volunteer formations of territorial groups. This number increased by 42 people within three months, 38 of them were women.
- Since the beginning of the war, 138 civil servants have died and 263 have been injured.

10:42 PM: An air alert has been issued in a number of areas.

- The Air Force reports on the activity of enemy tactical aircraft in the waters of the Sea of Azov. There is a threat of using aviation weapons.

11:06 PM: Chernihiv, Sumy, Poltava regions - threat of ballistic weapons use, the Air Force reports.

- Odesa region - threat of enemy use of attack UAVs.

MORDOR – ruZZia

8:01 AM: Drones attacked the Ryazan Oil Refinery — a fire broke out. Also, explosions were heard in the Voronezh region of the Russian Federation, the local authorities say that they allegedly succeeded in eliminating the drones.

3:42 PM: Mercenaries from Nepal are deserting en masse from the Russian army, — GUR of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine.

- The desertion was caused by huge losses in "meat assaults", the brutal attitude of Muscovite field commanders, _including extrajudicial executions for refusing to follow orders to go to certain death_, as well as - non-payment of promised money.
- Groups of Russian invaders are actively searching for fugitives in occupied Ukrainian settlements, in particular in Luhansk region. As a rule, this process does not give results.

6:16 PM: GUR MOU reported estimated stockpiles of Zircon, Onyx, Caliber and Kh-69 missiles in Russia.

- In particular, as of the end of April 2024, in service in the Russian Federation:
- About 40 units of hypersonic anti-ship _missiles 3M22 "Zircon"_. The rate of production of these missiles is up to 10 units per month;
- Cruise missiles 3M55/3M55M "Onyx"/"Onyx-M" — 400 units. Production rates — up to 10 units per month;
- Cruise missiles _3M-14 "caliber" _ — 270 units. Production rates — 30-40 units per month;
- Guided air _X-69_ missiles — 45 units. Production rates are 1-3 units per month.

8:33 PM: Russia is testing its missiles in Ukraine for North Korea just as it tested Shaheds for Iran, SPRAVDI.

- "Moscow seeks to continue to neglect its own international obligations, and in order to hide the facts, it vetoed the extension of the mandate of the UN expert group, which monitored compliance with sanctions against the DPRK, from May," the report says.
- The Center for Strategic Communications notes that Russia's purchase of missiles from North Korea is a gross violation of the sanctions regime.

REGIONS

KHARKIV



10:09 AM Social Networks: An explosion rang out in Kharkiv.

10:24 AM Social Networks: A second explosion rang out in Kharkiv,

- An explosion was heard in the city, there is a threat of repeated arrivals. Be careful, said the mayor of the city Igor Terekhov.

10:53 AM: According to preliminary information, the "arrival" happened in a private house on the outskirts of the city.

- This was announced by the mayor of Kharkiv Igor Terekhov.
- As for the victims and the destruction, clarification is underway.

10:57 AM: Russians killed two people in the village of Zolochiv, Kharkiv region, RMA head Oleg Sinegubov said.

- the Russians hit a car and a private house with Guided Aerial Bombs. As a result of the shelling, a civilian man and woman who were in the car were killed.
- Three more cars, which were not far from the place of impact, also caught fire - a 77-year-old man and a 74-year-old woman were injured.

11:15 AM: In Kharkiv, a hit was recorded in the Kyiv district of the city.

- This was announced by the head of the RMA Oleg Sinegubov.
- Damaged civil infrastructure. No casualties. Information is being updated.
- Also at 10:30 there were three hits of Guided Aerial Bombs between the village. Liptsi et al. fun Previously, there were no injured.

1:08 PM: In the village of Zolochiv, the number of victims has increased, including a child.

- This was announced by the head of the Kharkiv RMA Oleg Sinegubov.
- Currently, two dead and six injured civilians are known, including an 11-year-old boy.

4:44 PM: The number of victims in Zolochiv in the Kharkiv region has increased to eight, — National Police.

- In addition, the Russians shelled the village of Lelyukivka, Kupyan district. A 67-year-old woman was injured and was hospitalized.

- A 67-year-old woman from Lelyukivka died in the hospital, — RMA.

7:08 PM: A 78-year-old woman died as a result of Russian strikes on Liptsi in Kharkiv Oblast.

- This was reported by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine.

LUHANSK



7:00 PM: In the temporarily occupied Luhansk region, a Russian truck with BC burned down, — rosZMI.

8:05 PM: A video of alleged strikes on the camp and training ground of Russian troops near the village of

Rogove on the so-called Luhansk Region

- It is 80 kilometers from the front line, that is, the deep rear. The drone footage shows that a group of dozens of Russians were covered with cluster munitions.
- The OSINT community believes that _the strike was carried out by MGM-140 ATACMS Block I_ missiles with a range of up to 165 kilometers.
- Currently, this information has not been officially confirmed._

DONETSK



11:04 AM: In Novoaleksandrivka, Donetsk region, under a massive attack by the Russians, the police managed to save 16 people, — the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

- The oldest is 86 years old, he is injured, the youngest girl is 24 years old.
- Out of 700 residents in Novoaleksandrivka, about two dozen remained, according to the locals.

11:59 AM: Explosions rang out in temporarily occupied Mariupol.

- This was reported by Petro Andryushchenko, adviser to the mayor of Mariupol.

3:36 PM: Activity of enemy tactical aviation in the southern direction, — PS ZSU.

- Launches of guided air bombs by tactical aircraft in Donetsk region.

4:50 PM: Russians attacked Girnyk in Donetsk region with "hurricanes" — 2 people were killed and 6 wounded.

- This was announced by the head of the Donetsk RMA, Vadym Filashkin.
- Currently, it is known that a 57-year-old woman and a 64-year-old man died," Filashkin clarified.

ZAPORIZHIA



4:25 PM: The SBU informed the Metropolitan of Zaporizhzhia Diocese of UOC (MP) Luka (Andriy Kovalenko) about the suspicion.

- He is suspected of inciting religious hatred in Ukraine.
- An investigation is ongoing to establish all the circumstances of the crime, the cleric faces prison terms.

DNIPRO



2:46 PM: Four injured in Nikopol after Russian artillery shelling and a kamikaze drone strike.

- This was announced by the head of Dnipropetrovsk RMA Serhiy Lysak.
- A 47-year-old man and a 27-year-old woman are in a moderate condition - they were hospitalized. Several departments of the local hospital, a school and an ambulance were mutilated.

KHERSON



3:15 PM: Ukraine returned three more children from the temporarily occupied territory, Kherson RMA.

- An 11-year-old girl and two boys aged 9 and 13 left the occupation.
- Since the beginning of 2024, it has been possible to return 66 children from the Kherson region to the territory controlled by Ukraine.

11:43 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Kherson.

MYKOLAIV



3:55 PM: Missile in the direction of Mykolaiv region, — PS ZSU.

- A rocket in the direction of Voznesensk in the Mykolaiv region.

4:07 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in the Mykolaiv region.

ODESSA



1:21 AM: Three people were killed as a result of the ballistic missile attack on Odesa, three more were injured, RMA head Kiper said.

- There is damage to civil infrastructure.

7:21 AM: Odesa Mayor Gennadiy Trukhanov published a video showing the consequences of a nighttime Russian missile attack on the city.

1:26 PM: The death toll from the attack on Odesa on April 29 has increased to 6.

- The mayor of the city, Gennadiy Trukhanov, announced this.
- "Today, a man died in the hospital, for whose life the doctors fought until the end," the message states.

10:00 PM Social Networks: Explosions are heard in Odesa.

10:55 PM: Local media reports that a fire broke out at the Nova Poshta warehouse as a result of the Russian attack.

- We do not publish videos of the fire due to security and information hygiene. We urge you not to distribute the video of the consequences of the attack before official announcements._

10:57 PM: Russians attacked Odesa with ballistic missiles, RMA head Kiper said.

- Currently, at least 13 victims are known. There is a powerful fire at the point of impact.

11:04 PM: The moment of the explosion in Odesa. Video from local media.

11:24 PM: A Russian missile hit the sorting center and the Nova Poshta branch.

- Previously, there were no dead or injured employees, the company reported.

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 23	Apr 24	Apr 25	April 30	May 1
Duration	9 years and 9 months	After 790 days	After 791 days	After 792 days	After 797 days	After 798 days
Military Personnel Liquidated	14,453	461,940	462,980	463,930	469,840	470,870

Material Losses

Tanks	147	7,242	7,255	7,262	7,312	7,332
Armored Personnel Carriers	1,314	13,928	13,942	13,957	14,067	14,096
Artillery, Mortars, and Ballistic Rocket launchers	433	12,856	12,885	12,916	12,177	12,197
Cruise Missiles		2,117	2,118	2,119	2,126	2,126
Fighters Bombers	118	348	348	348	348	348
Helicopters	333	325	325	325	325	325

Drones		9,439	9,449	9,449	9,538	9,561
Anti Aircraft Missile` Batteries		771	772	772	780	784
Cargo/Fuel/ other transport	11,36 9	15,892	15,949	15,984	16,175	16,224
Naval Vessels		26 + 1 Submar ine	26 + 1 Submar ine	26 + 1 Submar ine	26 + 1 Submar ine	26 + 1 Submar ine
Specialized equipment		1,944	1,946	1,962	1,980	1,988

- SOURCES

- <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/3>
- <https://espreso.tv/``>
- <https://t.me/uawarinographics>
- <https://t.me/svobodaradio>
- <https://deepstatemap.live/en#11/47.9070/37.6927>
- <https://armyinform.com.ua/>