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Ukraine Update: Russia's river-crossing debacle is beyond belief (/stories/2022/5/13/2097899/-Ukraine-Update-Russia-s-river-crossing-debacle-is-beyond-belief)



kos (/users/kos) for *Daily Kos (/groups/main)*
Daily Kos Staff

2022/05/13 · 22:32

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url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dailykos.com%2Fstory%2F2022%2F5%2F13%2F2097899%2F-Ukraine-Update-Russia-s-river-crossing-debacle-is-beyond-belief&text=Ukraine+Update%3A+Russia%27s+river-crossing+debacle+is+beyond+belief)

43 Comments 43 New (https://www.dailykos.com/story/2022/5/13/2097899/-Ukraine-Update-Russia-s-river-crossing-

debacle-is-beyond-belief#comments)



There are no unread comments at this time.

attribution: Ukraine Ministry of Defense

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[#Severodonetsk \(/tags/Severodonet...\)](/tags/Severodonetsk)

[#Bilohorivka \(/tags/Bilohorivka\)](/tags/Bilohorivka)

It's said the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again while expecting a different result. If that's the case ... Russia qualifies.

We saw it in the early days of the war in Hostomel airport northwest of Kyiv. Russia made an unsupported airborne landing on the base. Got wiped out. Tried it again. Same result. There may have been a third attempt, but the airport wasn't captured until the spearhead of Russia's attack, *on the ground*, arrived a few days later.

We're currently seeing it on Snake Island, of "Russia warship, go fuck yourself" fame. Over the past week, Russian forces have been wiped out several times (here (<https://twitter.com/Osinttechnical/status/1523194469771841538?s=20&t=n9cACFWsVADXKdONoQH8zw>), here (<https://twitter.com/DefenceU/status/1522897994701549573?s=20&t=n9cACFWsVADXKdONoQH8zw>), here (<https://twitter.com/mdmitri91/status/1524126494137757698?s=20&t=n9cACFWsVADXKdONoQH8zw>), and here (<https://twitter.com/UAWeapons/status/1523027490230444035?s=20&t=n9cACFWsVADXKdONoQH8zw>)), and yet last night we saw Russian troops landing there once again (<https://twitter.com/ArtisanalAPT/status/1525216083556302850?s=20&t=n9cACFWsVADXKdONoQH8zw>). (Russia state media tried to claim (<https://twitter.com/NotWoofers/status/1524831309746647040?s=20&t=n9cACFWsVADXKdONoQH8zw>) that it was *Ukrainians* who were defeated on

#Lysychansk
(/tags/Lysychansk)

the island ... using the Ukrainian armed forces video (with their logo on the top right corner) featuring the Bayraktar TB-2 drone interface, of which Russia has none. The destruction of the ship, when Ukraine has no navy, was a nice touch of hilarity.)

But nothing is as dramatic as the saga of the riverside crossing at Bilohorivka, where Russia didn't just suffer one disastrous river-crossing attempt, but *three* of them over the past few days.

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os.com%2Fstory%2F2022%2F5%2Fukraine-update-russia-s-river-crossing-debacle-is-beyond-belief&text=Ukraine+Update%3A+Russia's+river-crossing+debacle+is+beyond+belief



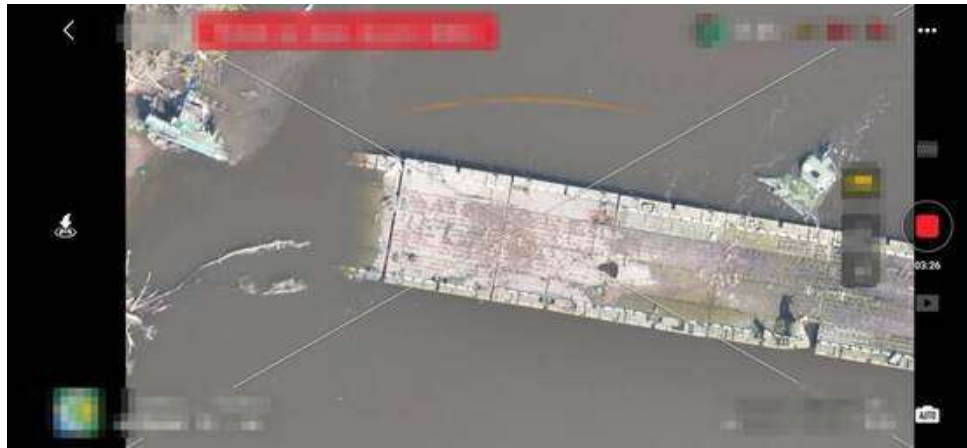
attribution: Apple Maps

Rubizhne, top right, was captured by Russia this week. Severodonetsk, on the right, is currently hell on earth, Russia's current number one target, being hit on three sides and under relentless months-long bombardment. As I noted earlier, Severodonetsk is on the north side of the river

(https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2022/5/13/2097783/-Ukraine-update-Russia-s-incredibly-shrinking-ambitions), so its Ukrainian defenders can, if needed, retreat across the river to Lysychansk, where the river provides natural protection.

Given that Russia will eventually need to cross the river, they clearly thought, why not now, allowing them to completely surround Severodonetsk, cutting off its defenders, and short-circuiting any fall back positions in Lysychansk. Bilohorivka was such an obvious place to make the attempt, that this Ukrainian army engineer claimed to have guessed it (https://twitter.com/kms_d4k/status/1524506104192974849) ahead of time (account is unconfirmed, but much of it checks out).

Russia made its first effort May 8, and it was utterly decimated, destroying several dozen vehicles. The bridge lay half-sunk.



attribution: Ukraine Ministry of Defense

Russian command and control structure is highly centralized, giving local commanders zero ability to deviate from stated orders. So if high command said “get to Bilohorivka,” well, who was to say something like, “Guys, Ukraine has our number, maybe we should look for a new place to cross?” Nah, giving local commanders, or *any* commanders for that matter, the gift of “free thinking and initiative” might lead to a military coup. Best to keep them stupid. Hence ... try number 2:



attribution: Ukraine Ministry of Defense

You can see the remnants of that first bridge just above it, either completely submerged or towed away during the second attempt. More charred vehicles were added to the list.

Then someone from Moscow or Belgorod called and screamed, “do we have Bilohorivka yet?” And since the answer was *no*, then yeah, sigh, there they went again.



attribution: Ukraine Ministry of Defense

Bridges numbered for your convenience.

The open source intelligence (OSINT) crowd got to counting the damage, or at least, what could be determined from drone footage. Just photo after photo tagged like this:

There are no unread comments at this time.

BlueSauron 🗨️

@Blue_Sauron



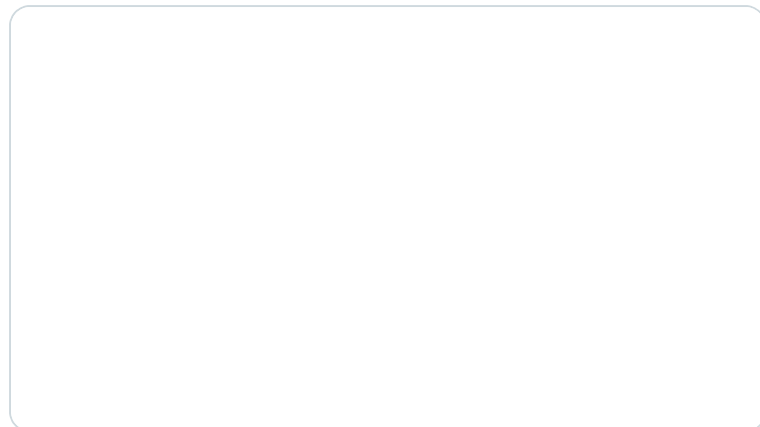
A tally of Russian losses from the infamous failed Russian Siverskyi Donets river crossing near Bilohorivka.

In total 73 Russian equipment were destroyed/abandoned, including a BTG worth of AFVs.

Great thanks to J.P. for counting and sending it to me.

1/2

[#Russia](#) [#Ukraine](#)



7:26 AM · May 12, 2022



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The vehicle count keeps rising as the OSINT folks find more vehicles amongst the wreckage. The latest? 82.

Dan

@Danspiun



Replying to @Danspiun

So after 13 new RuAF losses in twt 13+14, a new total for Bilohorivka - 82 vehicles + 2 boats destroyed/abandoned + a bridge section:

- 14 T-72
- 35 BMP-1
- 2 BMP-2
- 17 unknown AFV (likely most BMP-1)
- 5 MT-LB
- 2 BMD/BTR-D
- 2 BREM-1
- 1 PTS-3
- 5 PMP trucks (2 likely recovered)
- 2 BMK boats

5:56 PM · May 13, 2022



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Those 82 vehicles include eight *in the river*. The tally includes 14 tanks and 62 infantry fighting vehicles. A Russian battalion tactical group (BTG) has 10 tanks and 40 IFVs, but there's no such thing as a full-strength BTG in Ukraine. Likely never was. So Russia just lost two BTGs worth of troops attempting to make the same compromised river crossing *three* times. Can you imagine the drone operator calling it in?

Drone operator: "Another crossing!"

Artillery fire direction: "Shit! What are the coordinates?"

Drone operator: "Uh, same ones!"

Artillery fire direction: "Ha! Okay, I really thought you were kidding the second time! That was crazy. But seriously, what are the new coordinates?"

That engineer I linked to above claims 1,500 dead, citing "rumors." That would suggest two nearly full-strength BTGs, so is almost certainly overstated. InformNapalm, which has been covering the war since 2014 and has sources inside Ukrainian intelligence, claims (<https://t.me/informnapalm/8516>) that only 65 of 550 Russians attempting the crossing survived. While ~490 dead seems plausible, only 550 Russians attempting the crossing seems low. A single BTG would have 600-1,000 soldiers, so 550 would only staff one undermanned BTG.

Russia has 22 ~~BTGs~~ **There are no unread comments at this time.**

(https://twitter.com/HN_Schlottman/status/1524462737966964740/photo/1) in this axis, so in this ill-fated multi-effort river-crossing debacle, it has lost nearly 10% of its entire fighting force. But hey, why stop when they're so close to succeeding? Here's hoping they're stupid enough to give it a fourth shot.

And if you think I'm joking, from that InformNapalm report:

After [the third attempt], other servicemen of the brigade began to write "refusal", but the zampolits [political commissar] tried to intimidate them with prison terms and exert psychological pressure.

Also, InformNapalm sources report that they saw a car in this direction today, which is visually very similar to the mobile point of psychological work of the Russian Armed Forces. Probably for the psychological treatment of the servicemen of the brigade, which suffered heavy losses.

If that report is correct, it means Russia is literally trying to force its soldiers to give it yet another shot. Hopefully those soldiers choose wisely—prison seems far preferable than whatever fate met the poor souls on those three bridging attempts.

Friday, May 13, 2022 · 11:16:50 PM MDT · kos

More context on river crossings, from a retired Australian general:

Ukraine Update: Russia's river-crossing debacle is beyond belief

Mick Ryan, AM  @warinthefuture · May 13, 2022

I was going to do a thread today on the implications of Ukraine's offensive around Kharkiv. Instead, I have pushed that to tomorrow in order to discuss the Russian river crossing operation over the Severskyi Donets this week in [#Ukraine](#). 1/

Rob Lee @RALee85

Ukraine's 17th Tank Brigade reportedly targeted a Russian pontoon bridge crossing with several destroyed tanks and BMPs.

t.me/dvish_alive/13...

There are no unread comments at this time.

Mick Ryan, AM 

@WarintheFuture

2/ This Russian river crossing has gained attention because it resulted in the loss of (probably) a battalion tactical group and some critical engineer equipment. The reality is, it is worse than that.

thedrive.com

Debacle On The Donets: How Russian Forces Got Obliterated Trying...

Russia want to encircle Ukrainian troops on a key part of the battlefield, but they can't cross the river in order to do so without ...

5:12 PM · May 13, 2022



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Friday, May 13, 2022 · 11:24:18 PM MDT · kos

I forgot to mention that many of the vehicle in the satellite imagery looked abandoned rather than destroyed. There might be a nice bounty for the Ukrainian armed forces.

THIS IS A SHORT BLURB ABOUT DAILY KOS. PLEASE READ IT. IT'S IMPORTANT:

Media outlets shed 28,637 jobs last year alone. That's not just journalists, but fact-checkers, editors, and administrative staff. Advertising dollars have been gobbled up by Big Tech and cash-strapped outlets are being bought and sold to the highest bidder. Daily Kos is different. We don't have corporate backers that are only in it for the bottom line. We are primarily accountable to readers like you because donations from readers like you are our biggest source of income. *Want to keep it that way? Click here to donate now.*

There are no unread comments at this time.

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url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dailykos.com%2Fstory%2F2022%2F5%2F13%2F2097899%2F-Ukraine-Update-Russia-s-river-crossing-debacle-is-beyond-belief&text=Ukraine+Update%3A+Russia%27s+river-crossing+debacle+is+beyond+belief)

43 Comments 43 New (https://www.dailykos.com/story/2022/5/13/2097899/-Ukraine-Update-Russia-s-river-crossing-debacle-is-beyond-belief#comments)

43 Comments

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chloris creator (/users/chloris creator)

May 13, 2022 at 10:46:12 PM

(/comments/2097899/83576948#comment_83576948)

I can understand why many Russian soldiers are refusing orders.

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4democracy (/users/4democracy)

May 13, 2022 at 10:47:54 PM

(/comments/2097899/83576952#comment_83576952)

Meanwhile, one of Putin's ill-begotten sons is high up in a turret somewhere, saying "I just want to sing!"

There are no unread comments at this time.

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gambolputty (/users/gambolputty) ▶ 4democracy

May 14, 2022 at 12:56:13 AM

(/comments/2097899/83577225#comment_83577225)

"I always wanted... to be a lumberjack! Leaping from tree to tree, as they float down the mighty rivers of Ukraine!"

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Aaron Sheffield (/users/aaron sheffield) ▶ 4democracy

May 14, 2022 at 01:22:10 AM

(/comments/2097899/83577250#comment_83577250)

Someplace named Болотный замок I assume?

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kalmoth (/users/kalmoth)

May 13, 2022 at 10:50:35 PM

(/comments/2097899/83576965#comment_83576965)

Russian advances are quite unlucky in every place named after a color: Chornobaivka (black), Bilohorivka (white), Snake Island (originally Lefkas — white). And every other place.

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kos (/users/kos) AUTHOR ▶ **kalthoth**

May 13, 2022 at 11:17:46 PM

(/comments/2097899/83577028#comment_83577028)

Oh man, I forgot Chornobaivka as another place where Russia insists on dealing itself more punishment.

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AnotherAmericanLie (/users/anotheramericanlie)

May 13, 2022 at 10:54:18 PM

(/comments/2097899/83576972#comment_83576972)


have a look at these fuel & ammo trucks going up

There are no unread comments at this time.

BlueSauron 
@Blue_Sauron

Ukrainian SOF released additional UAV footage from the destruction of Russian fuel and ammunition supply trucks near Vesele in Kharkiv Oblast 10 days ago.
[#Russia](#) [#Ukraine](#)

Watch on Twitter

BlueSauron  @Blue_Sauron

Russian fuel supplies near Vesele village in Kharkiv Oblast were targeted and destroyed by the Ukrainian army.
[#Russia](#) [#Ukraine](#)

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2curious (/users/2curious)

May 13, 2022 at 11:00:03 PM

(/comments/2097899/83576986#comment_83576986)

Yes. For them thinking inside of the box gets you dead from the front. Thinking outside the box gets you dead from the rear. Then thinking at all gets you dead from the top.

A lesson for lockstep thinkers perhaps?

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Maohsama (/users/maohsama) ▶ 2curious

May 13, 2022 at 11:05:51 PM

(/comments/2097899/83577003#comment_83577003)

There are no unread comments at this time.

Lockstep thinkers don't learn lessons though. That's why Russia is still utterly incompetent this deep into the invasion.

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jr1221 (/users/jr1221)

May 13, 2022 at 11:03:20 PM

(/comments/2097899/83576994#comment_83576994)

It's as if Pickett decided to attack Cemetery Ridge again on July 4, and then figured the third time would be the charm on July 5. It's a level of mindlessness that's hard to grasp.

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AnotherAmericanLie (/users/anotheramericanlie)

May 13, 2022 at 11:05:49 PM

(/comments/2097899/83577002#comment_83577002)

What a smart move

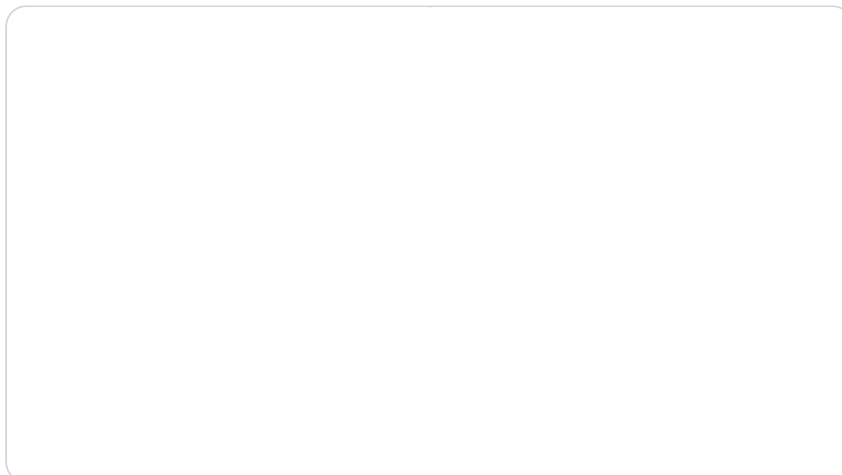
Samantha Power ✓

@PowerUSAID



Great to see: @WCKitchen bought 20 tons of apples from a Moldovan company to distribute in neighboring Ukraine. 100K+ tons of the Moldovan

crop have been blocked from export by Putin's war; this partnership supports the small country's industry while feeding Ukrainians in need.



1:22 PM · May 13, 2022



3.8K Reply Share

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PrahaPartizan (/users/prahapartizan)

May 13, 2022 at 11:06:39 PM

(/comments/2097899/83577004#comment_83577004)

How one conducts a forced river crossing against active opposition with an armor force has been practiced for just about exactly 82 years now, since it was around May13-15, 1940 when the German Panzer Gruppe (<https://weaponsandwarfare.com/2015/11/26/sedan-13-may-the-germans-cross-the-meuse/>) crossed the Meuse against French opposition to enable three German panzer divisions to begin their rampage to the English Channel. The French and British then tried to destroy the German pontoon bridges across the Meuse which were essential to keeping the German troops supplied and reinforced, often with suicidal bombing attacks. Those were so aggressive despite the heavy German AA units protecting them that when two major German generals (I believe they were Guderian and von Rundstedt) conferred at one of the bridges which experienced a heavy air attack, the senior officer commented to the other that the action seemed very hot, more than they had expected. Those engagements have been written up and studied in the military history journals for 80 years now so any decent officer would know how it's done right the first time.

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CharlesII (/users/charlesii) ▶ PrahaPartizan



May 14, 2022 at 12:05:56 AM

(/comments/2097899/83577129#comment_83577129)

How one conducts a forced river crossing against active opposition with an armor force

Mick Ryan has a thread on that here

(<https://twitter.com/WarintheFuture/status/1525252736757153792>).



1 Recommend



uleubner (/users/uleubner) ▶ PrahaPartizan

May 14, 2022 at 12:18:13 AM

(/comments/2097899/83577158#comment_83577158)

I'm not sure how closely the lessons of WWII river crossings would still apply today. The biggest difference is probably that the Ukrainians can shoot at a bridge with far more accuracy than the French and British could shoot at a German bridge crossing.

It's different when the other side can take out the bridge at the exact moment and in the exact way that they want, rather than dropping a lot of bombs and hoping.

Do the poor Russians being thrown into these futile attempts have any reasonable way to effectively surrender? A Ukrainian POW camp, supplied by NATO, is going to be a lot safer and more comfortable for them than whatever an angry Putin comes up with for his revenge for their refusing orders.



3 Recommend



Maohsama (/users/maohsama) ▶ uleubner

May 14, 2022 at 01:25:26 AM

(/comments/2097899/83577255#comment_83577255)

The Russians are probably projecting their own treatment of prisoners onto the Ukrainians.



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AnotherAmericanLie (/users/anotheramericanlie)

May 13, 2022 at 11:18:25 PM

(/comments/2097899/83577030#comment_83577030)

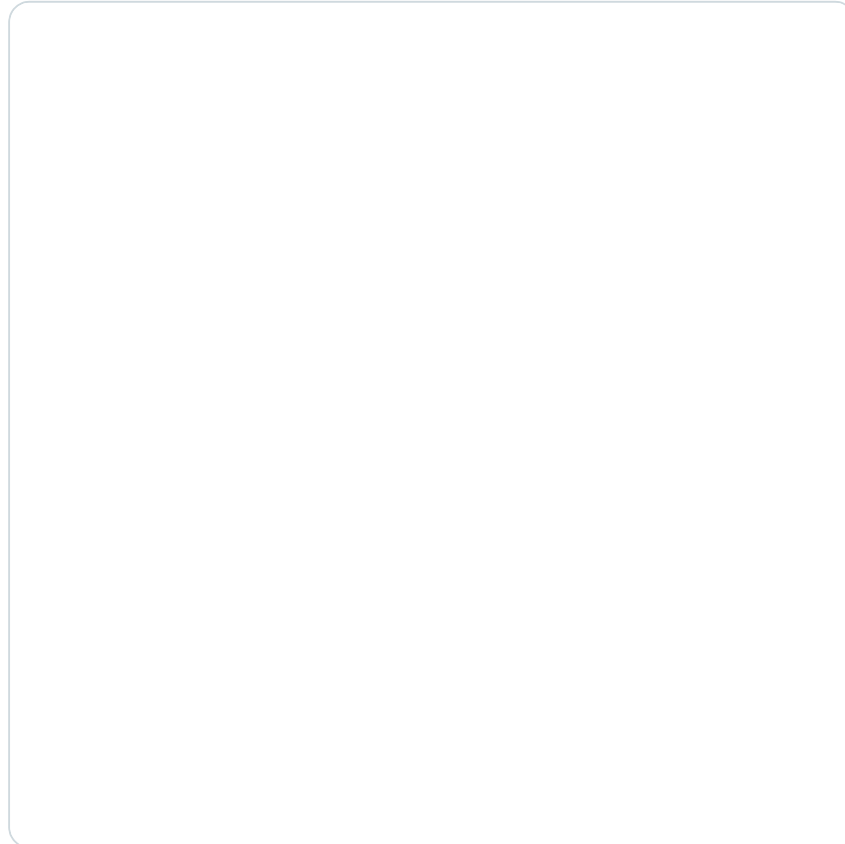
Russia having issues w/Kherson annexation




@TheStudyOfWar

Southern Axis Update:

#Russian forces may have paused their efforts to annex #Kherson Oblast, possibly due to their insufficient control and administration of the area. isw.pub/RusCampaignMay...



5:42 PM · May 13, 2022



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[Read 9 replies](#)

meanwhile.. Izyum is starting to be a serious problem for the Russians..

The Kyiv Independent ✓

@KyivIndependent



⚡ ISW: Russian forces may give up Izyum axis.



Russian troops may redeploy to encircle Ukrainian troops near Sievierodonetsk and Lysychansk instead, according to the Institute for the Study of War.

1:00 AM · May 13, 2022



♡ 5.3K 💬 Reply ↗ Share

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ISW  @TheStudyofWar · May 13, 2022 
More highlights from our May 12 campaign assessment with [@criticalthreats](#):

1. Continued and expanding reports of demoralization and refusals to fight among Russian units suggests the effective combat power of Russian troops in the east continues to be low and may drop further.

ISW  @TheStudyofWar

#Russian forces may be abandoning efforts at a wide encirclement of #Ukrainian troops along the Izyum-Sloviansk-Debaltseve line in favor of shallower encirclements of Severodonetsk and Lysychansk.

Read the latest from @TheStudyofWar and @criticalthreats: isw.pub/RusCampaignMay...

ISW  @TheStudyofWar

2. If the Russians abandon efforts to advance from Izyum, moreover, Ukrainian forces would be able to concentrate their efforts on defending Severodonetsk-Lysychansk or, in the worst case, breaking a Russian encirclement before those settlements fall.

6:58 AM · May 13, 2022 

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The Cavell Group @TCG_CrisisRisks · May 13, 2022 
Replying to @TCG_CrisisRisks

2 Russian shelling continued across much of the Donbas this

... Russian shelling continued across much of the Dnipro this morning, but it has reduced on several areas and progress by Russian forces in terms of gaining territory has slowed significantly and stalled in some areas.

The Cavell Group
@TCG_CrisisRisks

3. Around Izyum Ukrainian forces attacked another Russian unit destroying vehicles and continuing to harass significantly their resupplies.

10:35 PM · May 13, 2022



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Izyum gives Ukraine a chance to inflict very large losses on the Russians. With any luck, Ukraine will do just that.

↩ Reply ★ Recommend 10 Recommend

There are no unread comments at this time.



MNPundit (/users/mnpundit)

May 13, 2022 at 11:21:25 PM

(/comments/2097899/83577037#comment_83577037)

They were trying to cross the river in 4 or 5 places not just Bilohorvika but that's where they got "lucky."

↩ Reply ★ Recommend 2 Recommend



Eric Nelson (/users/eric nelson)

May 13, 2022 at 11:23:51 PM

(/comments/2097899/83577040#comment_83577040)

I'm pretty sure that Ukrainian freedom fighters would have a different approach

- Ukraine Update: Russia's river-crossing debacle is beyond belief
- It's said the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again while expecting a different result. If that's the case ... Russia qualifies.

and said so (https://www.dailykos.com/comments/2097683/83575462#comment_83575462)

Why hasn't Putin attempted to ford the river, not with pontoons, but with old tired tanks and other vehicles on their last legs?

Putin has lost an amazing amount of vehicles in two months. It would seem he could have ordered troops to drive into the river and pile up the carcasses of chosen tanks and armored carriers into a virtual mountain of equipment and then drive right across the river up on over the junkpile created with those sacrificed equipment..

..why not? Putin has already demonstrated that he has zero problem sacrificing his troops and equipment. Why not pile the junked vehicles across the Donets? [...]

[Putin's] That lack of ability (an ability and ingenuity that Ukraina freedom fighters have excelled at) may be another sign of how inept and defeat-able (even close to defeat) that Putin and his massive army may actually be.

Even using a railroad flatbed car might do it (In real life, railroad flatbed cars are used as bridges across small rivers in America, on farms ~~mostly~~ **There are no unread comments at this time.**)

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Glen The Plumber (/users/glen the plumber) ▶ Eric Nelson

May 13, 2022 at 11:43:52 PM
(/comments/2097899/83577083#comment_83577083)

sorta like ants.

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OzPerspective (/users/ozperspective) ▶ Eric Nelson

May 14, 2022 at 12:22:26 AM
(/comments/2097899/83577167#comment_83577167)

Something like that would create a dam, not a bridge. The mud on both sides would be insane, and then the built up water pressure eventually wins.

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cminus (/users/cminus)

May 13, 2022 at 11:27:49 PM
(/comments/2097899/83577048#comment_83577048)

I'm still worried that they'll make it across — even if the soldiers only march a gunpoint, even if the bodies of soldiers are damming up the river. This is one spot where Russia seems to really put effort into it — on the other hand, if Ukraine can defend this for a while longer, the damage to the Russian effort must be immense.

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MNPundit (/users/mnpundit) ▶ cminus

May 13, 2022 at 11:37:49 PM

[\(/comments/2097899/83577072#comment_83577072\)](/comments/2097899/83577072#comment_83577072)

Worried more about the Russian progress in the Zaporizhzhia front. Depending on the disposition of forces, Russia may be able to turn Velyka Novosilka into a salient soon.

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Sun dog (/users/sun dog)

May 13, 2022 at 11:31:48 PM

[\(/comments/2097899/83577055#comment_83577055\)](/comments/2097899/83577055#comment_83577055)

There are no unread comments at this time.

They're in a race against time. The Russian military must be getting so much pressure from above to produce some kind of splashy victory and fast. They know every day that goes by now means more trained Ukrainians and more Western weapons coming to the front. Of course this is making things go even worse for them, ultimately, but it's got to be brutal for the Ukrainians hanging tough up there under all that artillery.

Here's hoping that, as the tide turns, this extremely flawed Russian army will just break down on many levels and create a cascading effect where they have to keep pulling back to protect suddenly exposed flanks. They keep proving themselves to be worse than expected so I think there's a chance that once they can bring enough firepower to bear the Ukrainians will be able to drive them.

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Maohsama (/users/maohsama) ▶ Sun dog

May 14, 2022 at 12:43:32 AM

[\(/comments/2097899/83577205#comment_83577205\)](/comments/2097899/83577205#comment_83577205)

It's a matter of when, not if.

The only way Russia gets to keep any of the captured territory is if they manage a total, absolute, crushing victory. There's no way in hell that Ukraine signs away their land and fellow citizens to Russia at the negotiating table. And they just fundamentally *can't* pull that kind of Total Victory off.

Likewise there is no possibility of a "White Peace" in which Russia simply withdraws from Ukrainian territory. Putin's propaganda machine has spent ages concining Russians that eastern Ukraine is *their* land, That the people their long to return to mother Russia. That the "Nazis" in Kyiv are comitting genocide against them. Putin can't just "take the L" and survive.

So Putin will continue to throw soldiers into the meat grinder until their morale completely breaks.

 Reply  Recommend 1 Recommend





AnotherAmericanLie (/users/anotheramericanlie)

May 13, 2022 at 11:35:28 PM

(/comments/2097899/83577064#comment_83577064)

good article on the "Debacle on Donets"


[www.thedrive.com/...](https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/debacle-on-the-donets-russian-forces-got-obliterated-trying-to-cross-a-river) (https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/debacle-on-the-donets-russian-forces-got-obliterated-trying-to-cross-a-river)

Mick Ryan, AM  @WarintheFuture · May 13, 2022 

I was going to do a thread today on the implications of Ukraine's offensive around Kharkiv. Instead, I have pushed that to tomorrow in order to discuss the Russian river crossing operation over the Severskiy Donets this week in [#Ukraine](#). 1/

Rob Lee @RALee85

Ukraine's 17th Tank Brigade reportedly targeted a Russian pontoon bridge crossing with several destroyed tanks and BMPs.
t.me/dvish_alive/13...

Mick Ryan, AM  @WarintheFuture

2/ This Russian river crossing has gained attention because it resulted in the loss of (probably) a battalion tactical group and some critical engineer equipment. The reality is, it is worse than that.

thedrive.com

Debacle On The Donets: How Russian Forces Got Obliterated Trying...

Russia want to encircle Ukrainian troops on a key part of the battlefield, but they can't cross the river in order to do so without ...

5:12 PM · May 13, 2022
i

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jjohnjj (/users/jjohnjj) ▶ AnotherAmericanLie

May 14, 2022 at 12:46:42 AM

(/comments/2097899/83577215#comment_83577215)

A dirt road runs to the water's edge at the location of the attempted crossing. The way it loops around, and the presence of structures nearby, suggest that it's been there for some time.

I'm thinkin' that this might be a place where farmers ford the river in their tractors when the river is low. Or perhaps local sportsmen launch fishing skiffs from trailers there.

Whatever the reason, the Russians chose it because, *"Hey, it's got a road that goes right up to the water! The Colonel will give us a medal for picking a spot that's so convenient"*.

It couldn't have been too hard for the Ukrainian combat engineer to surmise that this is where the Russians would try to put a bridge... but he still gets a medal for being right.

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imobannon (/users/imobannon)

May 13, 2022 at 11:36:43 PM

(/comments/2097899/83577069#comment_83577069)

Read the book "One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich." — What happens to a Russian war veteran when he survives a catastrophic loss, and is then punished for it by being sent to the gulag. This is the most accurate description of Russian "Siberian" prison. en.wikipedia.org/... (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/One_Day_in_the_Life_of_Ivan_Denisovich)

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kuroneko (/users/kuroneko)

May 13, 2022 at 11:42:13 PM

(/comments/2097899/83577080#comment_83577080)

Why so negative....??

"If at first you don't succeed....."

Well, the fun is just beginning. The Polish donated tanks are now at the front. Plus:

K The Kyiv Independent @KyivIndependent · 7h
 The vast majority of the 89 howitzers the US has given to Ukraine are "in the fight," the official told CNN. 370 Ukrainian soldiers have completed training on how to use the howitzers.

48 657 5,012

BTW, if you think this news is not getting back to Russia....



Igor Sushko @igorsushko · 11h

#RUSSIA: The #Omsk conscription office was pelted with Molotov cocktails thru windows at 4am last night. Fire extinguished. Much of the conscription database is stored on paper in such offices. 3rd-world country. These are #RussianResistance attempts to prevent #mobilization.



And this is the morale among those brave "liberators"....



Dmitri @mdmitri91 · May 12



Ukrainian Chornobaivka is legendary among Russian invaders.

They call it a "purgatory" for manpower, and a graveyard for military equipment.

This is stated in the conversations of the occupier with his parents.



Just wait til hundreds of thousands more Ukrainians are coming at them.....



The Kyiv Independent @KyivIndependent · 2h



⚡ Minister: Ukraine may mobilize up to 1 million people against Russia.

Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksiy Reznikov said on May 13 that the state was boosting the defense sector to provide for potential new recruits.

108

945

5,861



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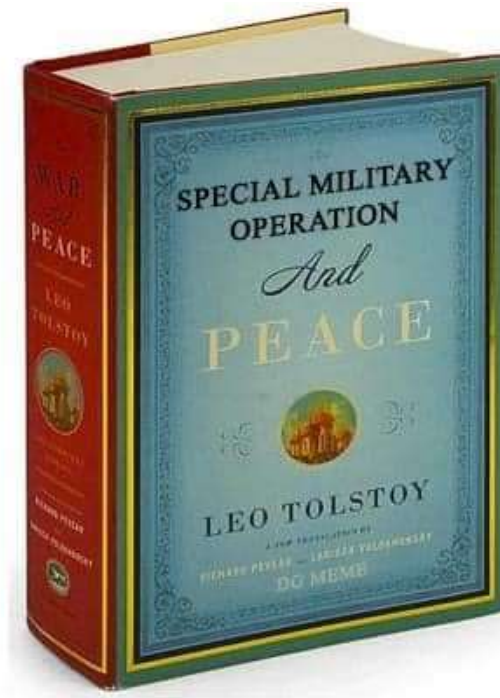


Tax Haven (/users/tax haven) ▶ kuroneko



May 13, 2022 at 11:50:07 PM

(/comments/2097899/83577094#comment_83577094)



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 There are no unread comments at this time.



Glen The Plumber (/users/glen the plumber)

May 13, 2022 at 11:51:37 PM

(/comments/2097899/83577097#comment_83577097)

no wonder they are refusing...imagine showing up and finding demolished pontoon bridges...burnt equip and bodies everywhere.

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Gwennedd (/users/gwennedd) ▶ Glen The Plumber

May 14, 2022 at 12:11:45 AM

(/comments/2097899/83577148#comment_83577148)

That would be a mite demoralising. Maybe they'll rethink their commitments and go home...or turn themselves in to the Ukrainians.

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Olds88 (/users/olds88) ▶ Gwennedd

May 14, 2022 at 12:52:18 AM

(/comments/2097899/83577221#comment_83577221)

An common theme in many of the recorded phone calls from Russian soldiers is talk about mass desertions already, often claiming 10-15 left in a company or similar rates at battalion level. It's a wonder they are taking ground at all. Ukraine must find a way to get more of them off the battlefield.

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AnotherAmericanLie (/users/anotheramericanlie)

May 13, 2022 at 11:56:24 PM

(/comments/2097899/83577109#comment_83577109)

Ukraine takes Medvedchuk's gas stations

The Kyiv Independent @KyivIndependent

⚡ Naftogaz takes over gas station network linked to Medvedchuk.

The Cabinet of Ministers transferred 172 gas stations of the Glusco network to state oil and gas monopoly Naftogaz on May 13.

2:36 PM · May 13, 2022

[Read the full conversation on Twitter](#)

1.7K Reply Share

[Read 12 replies](#)

News from Ukraine @uasupport999

Medvedchuk's gas station network was transferred for the benefit of the state

The government will transfer 172 Glusco gas stations to #Naftogaz.

Shmygal says that this decision will help overcome the fuel shortage in Ukraine.

[#Ukraine](#) [#UkraineWar](#) [#RussiaUkraineWar](#)

12:31 PM · May 13, 2022 (i)

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Gwennedd (/users/gwennedd) ▶ **AnotherAmericanLie**

May 14, 2022 at 12:15:21 AM
 (/comments/2097899/83577154#comment_83577154)

There are no unread comments at this time.

Ouch!! That's gonna hurt, even if he agreed on the deal. I'll bet all the other oligarchs are really wondering about their own positions, assets and health now.

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CharlesII (/users/charlesii)

May 14, 2022 at 12:02:19 AM
 (/comments/2097899/83577121#comment_83577121)

UAWardata (<https://www.uawardata.com/>) shows major changes in Russian troop dispositions. Don't know what they're up to. But it looks like a significant change of plans.

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Northwatch (/users/northwatch)

May 14, 2022 at 12:03:37 AM
 (/comments/2097899/83577125#comment_83577125)

I would find it hilarious if the Ukrainians threw up a bridge, snagged some of the Russian equipment on the other side, and then took the bridge back down.

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Denver11 (/users/denver11)



May 14, 2022 at 12:04:57 AM

(/comments/2097899/83577128#comment_83577128)

Re the abandoned vehicles — if they are on the east side, no good way to get them across unless Ukraine has good enough control of the river to be able somehow ferry them across. Might be better to just blow them up so when the Russians come back, which they will, they won't be able to use the equipment

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ObserverinVancouver (/users/observerinvancouver)

May 14, 2022 at 12:06:34 AM

(/comments/2097899/83577133#comment_83577133)

Here's a thread of the Ukrainian engineers tweets about destroying the pontoon bridge.
threadreaderapp.com/... (https://threadreaderapp.com/thread/1524506104192974849.html)

Reply Recommend 1 Recommend



Gwennedd (/users/gwennedd) There are no unread comments at this time.

May 14, 2022 at 12:17:01 AM

(/comments/2097899/83577157#comment_83577157)

Sviatoslav Vakarchuk

@s_vakarchuk

It is probably the first in history music performance at Chernobyl power station!
Incredible workers - brave and dedicated to their job.
Everything is gonna be alright! #Ukraine

Watch on Twitter

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Gwennedd (/users/gwennedd)


May 14, 2022 at 12:18:22 AM




(/comments/2097899/83577159#comment_83577159)

And what is this about?

101st Airborne Div.  
 @101stAASLTDIV

Elements of [@101stAASLTDIV](#) have been notified to begin movement to Europe as soon as this summer. The deploying units will join V Corps in support of our commitment to Europe and our NATO Allies as part of the ongoing response to the invasion of Ukraine [#StrongerTogether2022](#)

1:06 PM · May 13, 2022 

 343  Reply  Share

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Black Maned Pensator (/users/black maned pensator) ▶ Gwennedd

May 14, 2022 at 12:25:36 AM

(/comments/2097899/83577171#comment_83577171)

Moving troops to a forward position to decrease response time in case of invasion, thereby helping to calm the nerves of the several Eastern European nations that have been both receiving threats from Russia and perceiving Russia's invasion of Ukraine as an implicit threat.

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Maohsama (/users/maohsama) ▶ Gwennedd

May 14, 2022 at 01:10:24 AM

(/comments/2097899/83577240#comment_83577240)

Because every day Russia does something to demonstrate that they are in fact stupid enough to potentially attack Poland.

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jr6020 (/users/jr6020)

May 14, 2022 at 01:04:36 AM

(/comments/2097899/83577231#comment_83577231)

The cancer rumor about Putin seems to be growing...one of the Oligarchs (in a recorded audio) told an Western businessman friend all about it...MSNBC

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(https://www.dailykos.com/blacklivesmatter/)

Daily Kos moves in solidarity with the Black community.

There are no unread comments at this time.

(https://www.dailykos.com/blacklivesmatter/)

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