

DIGEST
OF THE UKRAINIAN NEWS
AND THE SITUATION UPDATE
IN THE AREA OF THE JOINT
FORCES OPERATION (JFO)
AGAINST THE RUSSIAN
ARMED AGGRESSION
Week 33

16-22 August
2021



THE SITUATION UPDATE IN THE AREA OF THE JOINT FORCES OPERATION

Situation in the area of the Joint Forces Operation

During **16-22 August 2021** Russian occupation troops **36** times committed provocative firing. **3 Ukrainian warriors was KIA and 1 WIA.**

COVID-19 IN THE ARMED FORCES OF UKRAINE

COVID-19

According to the Medical Forces Command, as of 22 August 75 active COVID-19 infection cases were recorded in the Armed Forces of Ukraine. From the beginning of the pandemic, 25 284 persons recovered with 95 lethal cases.

49 service personnel are on isolation (including self-isolation).
MOD of Ukraine official website
read more on: <https://www.mil.gov.ua>

THE UKRAINIAN NEWS

The Minister of Defence of Ukraine received a delegation of the Congress of the United States of America



On August 16, the Minister of Defence of Ukraine Andrii Taran met in Kyiv with a delegation of the US Congress, which included representatives Adam Smith, Rick Larsen, Mike Rogers and Stephen Palazzo. The visit of American politicians precedes the Summit of the Presidents of the United States and Ukraine scheduled for August 30, 2021.

According to the Minister of Defence, bilateral agreements on cooperation in the defence sphere are expected to be signed during the forthcoming Summit. Ukraine and the United States are currently working closely to identify priority areas for cooperation in developing Ukraine's national security and defence capabilities.

- I would like to express my gratitude for support of our nation in carrying out defence reform and building the Armed Forces of Ukraine. We receive tangible and important assistance at all stages: from the formation of a vision of a promising model of the Armed Forces of Ukraine to comprehensive support for the development of its capabilities. At this stage of our relations, it is important to significantly raise the level of strategic partnership between Ukraine and the United States in the defence sphere. It will

include specific mechanisms for cooperation in the field of defence, security guarantees, joint response to regional challenges and deepening cooperation to restore the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, — stated Andrii Taran.

During the discussion, the representatives of the American delegation specifically stressed the importance of continuing the steady movement of Ukraine in expanding democratic civilian control over the armed forces.

According to Andrii Taran, the combined efforts of the two nations will strengthen Ukraine's defence resilience. Ukraine's Armed Forces will increase interoperability with relevant NATO structures and will be able to respond quickly and effectively to growing threats. This, in turn, will strengthen the position of US allies and partner states on the eastern flank of the North Atlantic Alliance.

<https://www.mil.gov.ua/en/news/2021/08/16/the-minister-of-defence-of-ukraine-received-a-delegation-of-the-congress-of-the-united-states-of-america/>

Elements of Neptune complex to be showcased at Independence Day parade

Components of the new coast-based reconnaissance and strike complex armed with the Neptune cruise anti-ship missiles will be shown to the public at the Kyiv parade on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of Ukraine's Independence.

That's according to Defense Minister Andriy Taran, Ukrinform reports with reference to the press service of the Ministry of Defense.

The Minister says the recon and strike complex will form the core of the entire system able to detect and destroy enemy corvette, frigate, and destroyer class ships. Neptune cruise anti-ship missiles will significantly increase the potential of the Ukrainian Navy, the statement reads.

"Thanks to coordinated work with manufacturers, we are able to complete production and demonstrate the components of the complex during the military parade to the 30th anniversary of Independence," said Taran.

The defense chief says the complex includes the Mineral-U over-the-horizon radar complex to detect surface targets at a distance of up to 450 km and spot fire of the 360MS Neptune strike complex, and, accordingly, the 360MS complex – to destroy surface targets at a range of up to 280 km. 280 km. The elements of the complex are built on modern chassis by Tatra (Czech Republic), which are currently in service with the armies of NATO Allies.

As Ukrinform reported earlier, more than 5,000 servicemen, 100 aircraft, and 400 units of weaponry and military set to take part in the military parade in Kyiv on August 24.

<https://www.ukrinform.net/rubric-defense/3299219-elements-of-neptune-complex-to-be-showcased-at-independence-day-parade.html>



Zelensky: Ukraine to build large fleet, getting ready to unblock Black Sea region

Ukraine will build a large fleet by 2035, and citizens will see the first results of efforts in this area on August 24, 2021.

"There is a task to build a large fleet by 2035. It is long enough, but you and I will be able to see the results of the first stage on August 24 this year. Our task is to build a professional, powerful fleet capable of repelling anyone. We are a peaceful state, but we must be ready for any steps. We are preparing to unblock the Black Sea region. This is exactly the task which I gave personally and which was supported by our army," President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky said in an interview with Crimean journalists published by the Ukrayinska Pravda online media outlet, Ukrinform reports.

At the same time, the authorities work to create infrastructure for full-fledged shipbuilding, he noted.

"At the same time, we are building infrastructure in Ukraine to take up this process. There will be corvettes, there will be military boats, there will be small submarines. The same concerns military bases, the construction of the first one will soon begin in Berdyansk," the Head of State said.

The Ukrainian authorities rely on the support of the European Union, Britain, and the United States in this large-scale project, Zelensky added.

"We have already received full support from the United Kingdom. The issue of strengthening the Ukrainian Navy is a part of our forthcoming meeting with the President of the United States and also a part of the agenda of the Crimea Platform and our talks with other states. We feel that Russia is trying to put pressure on other countries to prevent them from helping Ukraine, even from participating in the Crimea Platform," he said.

Zelensky also drew attention to the issue of escorting Ukrainian ships by NATO members.

"We boost our training and the presence of NATO ships in our waters every year. And this is not only an issue of Sea Breeze exercises because from now on it is constant cooperation of the ministries of defense of Ukraine and the United States and with European countries. There are also real agreements in this area with Turkey and Great Britain," the President said.

<https://www.ukrinform.net/rubric-defense/3300461-zelensky-ukraine-to-build-large-fleet-getting-ready-to-unblock-black-sea-region.html>

Ukroboronprom to deepen cooperation with NATO agencies

Ukraine's state defence conglomerate Ukroboronprom plans to continue to deepen cooperation with NATO agencies, according to Andrii Syvushenko, the head of the company's information and analytical support department.

"For several consecutive years, Ukraine has been recognized as the most active country among all other NATO partner countries involved in the work of the NATO Industrial Advisory Group (NIAG). The conglomerate plans to deepen cooperation with NATO agencies and take measures to popularise cooperation with the Alliance at all levels," the company's press service quoted Syvushenko as saying.

Currently, Ukroboronprom plans to continue to take an active part in NATO's research projects. In particular, the company is already constantly attracting its scientific capacity for mutually beneficial cooperation with Allies and research within the NIAG.

The purpose of such a partnership is to ensure liaison with NATO's defence industries, as well as to promote effective and cost-effective armaments cooperation between Allies and partner countries.

The NIAG is a high-level consultative and advisory body of senior industrialists of NATO member countries, acting under the Conference of National Armaments Directors (CNAD).

<https://www.ukrinform.net/rubric-defense/3300668-ukroboronprom-to-deepen-cooperation-with-nato-agencies.html>

NSDC approves draft strategic defense bulletin - Taran

At a meeting chaired by President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky, the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) has approved the draft Strategic Defense Bulletin of Ukraine, according to Minister of Defense Andriy Taran.

The purpose of the document is to determine the main directions of Ukraine's military policy, strategic goals of defense forces' development and the expected results of their achievement, taking into account current military and political threats and challenges, Ukrinform reports, referring to the Government portal.

According to Taran, the Ministry of Defense developed the Strategic Defense Bulletin based on the results of defense review according to the new "capability-based planning" methodology which corresponds to modern approaches approved by NATO member states.

"The implementation of measures outlined in the Strategic Defense Bulletin will allow us to continue defense reform in the context of the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine. The purposeful and mutually agreed development of defense forces' capabilities will be ensured as part of implementing Ukraine's military policy in accordance with NATO principles and standards. The bulletin defines the perspective model of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other components of the Defense Forces, requirements for the perspective structure, composition, basic capabilities and other key quantitative and qualitative indicators of the defense forces based on the Defense Forces' Mission and Vision 2030," Taran said.

At the meeting of the National Security and Defense Council, it was also decided to provide an additional UAH 3.3 billion from the

2021 state budget for the development of Ukraine's missile armament program, as well as UAH 960 million for the development of the Ukrainian Navy.

<https://www.ukrinform.net/rubric-defense/3301886-nsdc-approves-draft-strategic-defense-bulletin-taran.html>

Annex

OSCE update from 7 July 2021

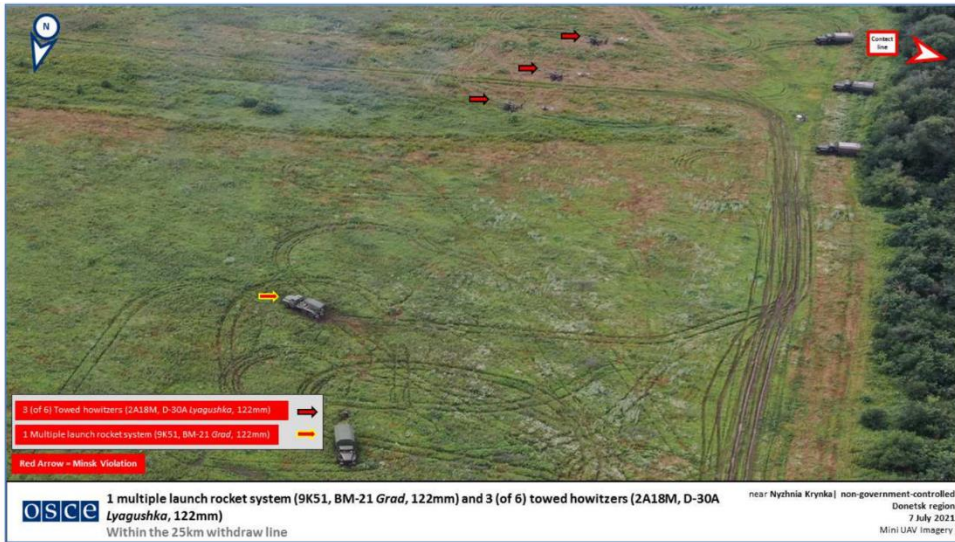
Identified violations of the Minsk agreements by the Russian occupation forces (ROF)

July 7 this year during an observation flight, the OSCE SMM mini-UAV detected five 122mm self-propelled howitzers 2S1 “Gvozdika”, near the settlement of Ternove (Donetsk region, TOT), at a distance of less than 25 km from the line of contact.



Picture 1. Observation results of the OSCE SMM UAV

July 7 this year during an observation flight, the OSCE SMM mini-UAV detected one 122mm MRLS 9K51, BM-21 “Grad”, and six 122mm howitzers 2A18M, D-30A, “Liahushka”, near the settlement of Nyzhnia Krynka (Donetsk region, TOT), at a distance of less than 25 km from the line of contact.



Picture 2. Observation results of the OSCE SMM UAV

July 10 this year during an observation flight, the OSCE SMM mini-UAV detected three 122mm howitzers 2A18M, D-30A, “Liahushka”, near the settlement of Vilkhivka (Donetsk region, TOT), at a distance of less than 25 km from the line of contact.



Picture 3. Observation results of the OSCE SMM UAV

July 21 this year during an observation flight, the OSCE SMM mini-UAV detected twelve 122mm self-propelled howitzers 2S1 “Gvozdika”, near the settlement of Buhaivka (Luhansk region, TOT), at a distance of less than 25 km from the line of contact.



Picture 4. Observation results of the OSCE SMM UAV

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