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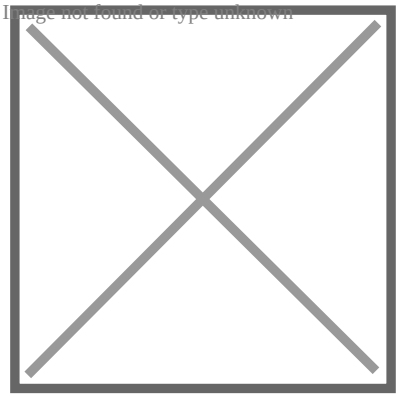


Grayzone: Leaked Documents Expose US-NATO Ukraine War Plans

Description

Classified Pentagon documents containing information about US and NATO plans for a Ukrainian offensive and key details of the ongoing war have leaked. And the Biden administration is reportedly demanding they be scrubbed from the internet. Is there a hidden agenda behind the leak?

The New York Times has reported “a significant breach of American intelligence in the effort to aid Ukraine” through the leak of classified documents that have been shared on social media. It correspondents cited “senior Biden administration officials” who apparently tipped the outlet off to the story. Documents circulating on Telegram that closely resemble those referred to by the Times are reproduced at the end of this article.

The Times writes, “Military analysts said the documents appear to have been modified in certain parts from their original format, overstating American estimates of Ukrainian war dead and understating estimates of Russian troops killed. The modifications could point to an effort of disinformation by Moscow, the analysts said… The analysts warned that documents released by Russian sources could be selectively altered to present the Kremlin’s disinformation.”

Neither the New York Times nor the “military analysts” it cited to explain how the documents were altered, or why they have the appearance of tampering. However, because the leaked documents have arrived in the form of photographs of printed documents, rather than original files, the possibility of forgery or alteration must be considered.

The leaked documents claim that Russia has sustained troop losses ranging from 16,000 to 17,500 while Ukrainian losses amount to as many as 71,500 – a staggering differential that stands at odds with the triumphalist narrative projected by Kiev. They are dated March 1 2023 and appear to be part of an ongoing briefing effort to analyze the war’s progress and plan a Ukrainian counteroffensive.

The Grayzone obtained the documents from a public Telegram channel. Though they resemble those described by the Times, we can not confirm their authenticity.

According to the New York Times, the Pentagon is investigating the leak while the White House is

“working to get them deleted.” Twitter owner Elon Musk appears to have confirmed the pressure campaign, sarcastically commenting, “Yeah, you can totally delete things from the Internet – that works perfectly and doesn’t draw attention to whatever you were trying to hide at all.”

Leaked docs: Ukrainian killed in action outnumber Russians 4:1

Perhaps the most notable piece of information contained in the leaked documents relates to military death tolls, with Ukrainian and Russian losses estimated at about a 4:1 ratio. According to one document, 71,500 Ukrainian troops have been killed in action.

That figure is close to the 100,000 KIA’s cited by EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in a November 2022 speech, before her comments were retracted. It also tracks closely with statements by one of Ukrainian President Vlodymyr Zelensky’s top advisers, Mykhailo Podolyak, who told the BBC in June of last year that Ukraine was losing between 100 and 200 soldiers per day (200 deaths per day over the course of 370 days between the launch of Russia’s military operation and the date of the documents would total 74,000.)

Other American and EU state officials have offered dramatically different figures placing Russian KIA’s over the six figure mark. For instance, Norway’s defense chief has charted 100,000 Ukrainian soldiers dead to Russia’s 180,000, while Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Miley asserted that Russian losses are “significantly well over 100,000.”

Another key detail in the documents pertains to the size of the front lines in Donetsk: Russia maintains 91 battalions in the “Donetsk axis” with around 23,000 total personnel, while Ukraine maintains eight brigades and 40 battalions, with 10,000 to 20,000 total personnel.

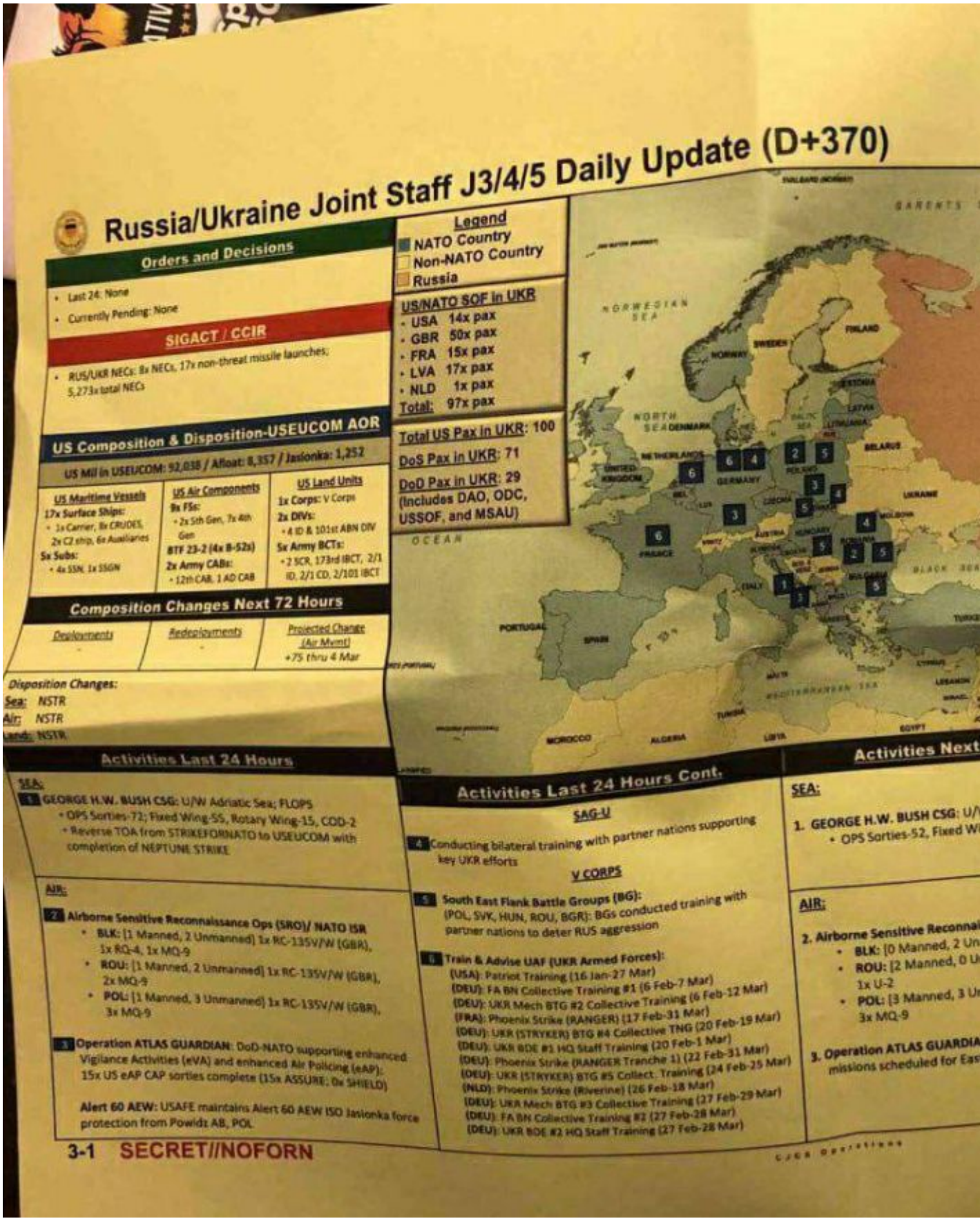
The documents also outline expectations of weapons deliveries to Ukraine from the US and other NATO countries along with training schedules for Ukrainian forces as a Spring counteroffensive approaches. The timeline spans from January through April, detailing twelve Ukrainian brigades under construction and the weapons they have been or will be supplied. Nine brigades are said to be armed and trained by the US and NATO allies, and six are said to be ready by the end of March, while the rest will be in action by the end of April. The brigades are said to require 253 tanks, 381 mechanized vehicles, 480 motor vehicles, and more.

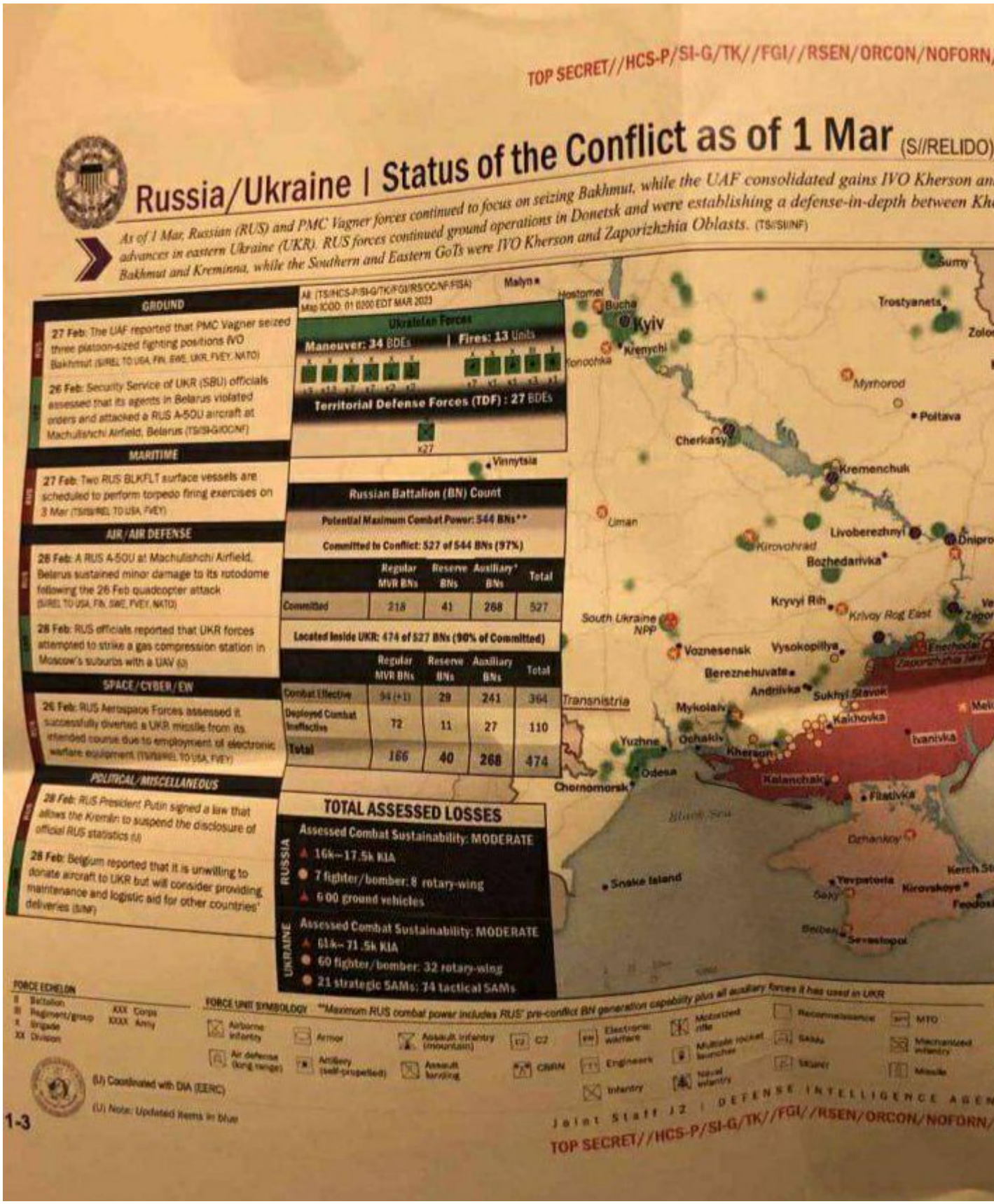
While the documents distributed on Telegram contain important details about NATO and Ukrainian military capacity, and highlight the astounding depth of American involvement in the war, their publication raises a number of questions.

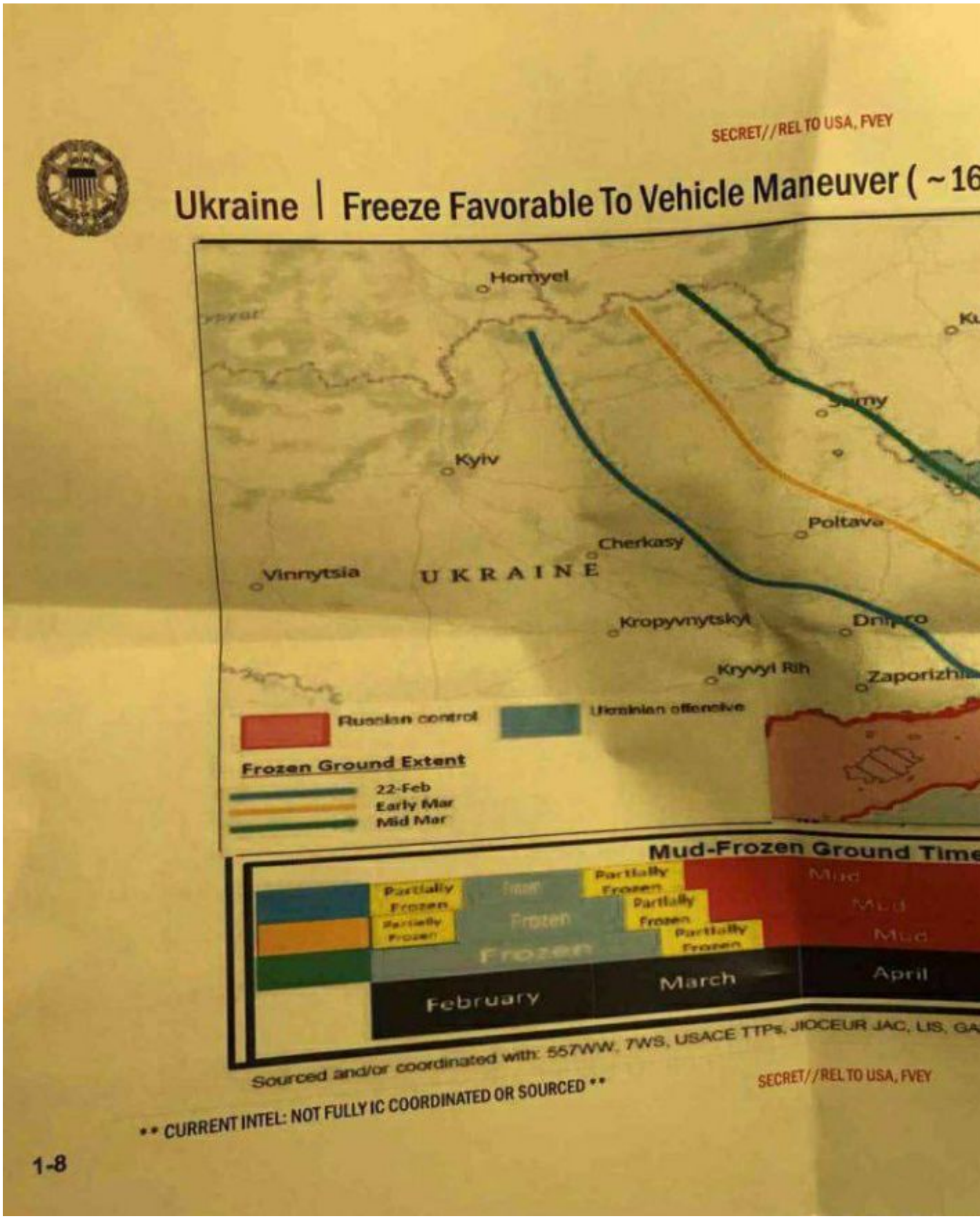
If the documents were partially faked, were they disseminated to help Russia advance its public relations goals, perhaps by minimizing their casualty numbers or inflating those of their foe? They certainly would not be fooling anyone at the Department of Defense, since they obviously have the original files on hand. Or could it be that the United States leaked the documents with faulty intelligence strewn throughout their contents to confuse Russia ahead of a Ukrainian offensive?

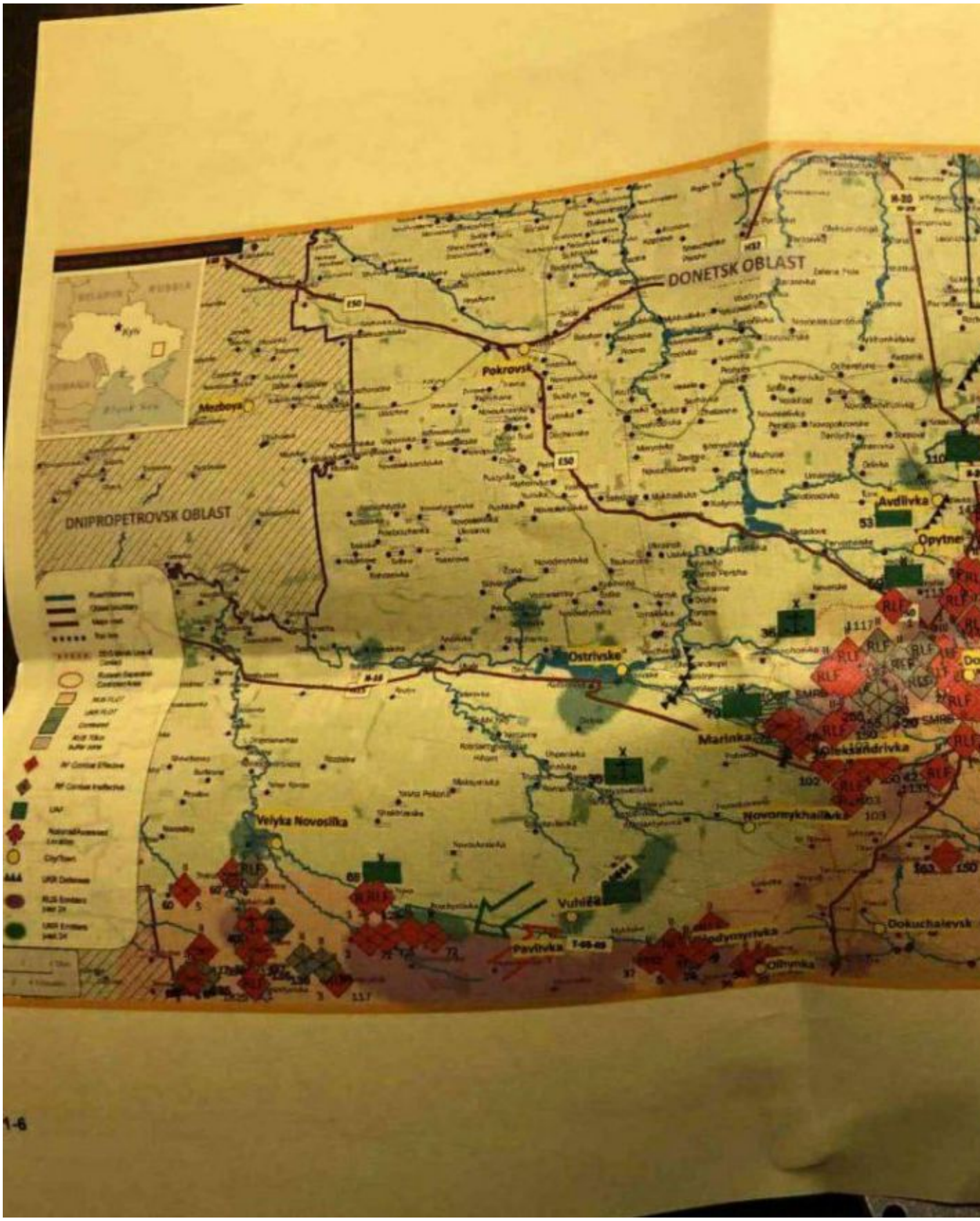
There is also the possibility that they are one hundred percent authentic. If so, Ukraine and its Western patrons may have more serious problems than a few leaked documents.

US, Allied & Partner UAF Combat Powe
BLUF: Based on known contributions, training pathways, and projections, (12) combat credible BDEs can be generated for the Spring
trained and equipped by US, Allied & Partner (US/A&P). Of the (9) BDEs, (6) BDEs will be ready by 31MAR, and the final (3) BDEs by 30
order to meet this timeline. Total equipment required for (9) BDEs is 253 x Tanks, 381 x Mech, 480 x Motor, and 147 x Artillery plus def
Equipment*
Delivery
Training
JAN
FEB
BDE
90 x BMP (POL/CZE)
13 x T-64 (UKR)
17 x Tanks (XXX)
12 x AS-90 (GBR)
10 x 2S1 (UKR)
90/90 x On Hand
13/13 x On Hand
[TBD] 17/17 x [TBD]
Est. Delivery by APR
10/10 x On Hand
13 JAN-04 MAR
FEB-MAR (UKR)
30 JAN-14MAR (GBR)
[TBD] FEB-MAR (UKR)
[T-64]
FEB – MAR
[AS-90] 30 JAN – 14 MAR
[2S1]
47 BDE
99 x M2 (US)
28 x T-55S (SLV)
12 x M109 (US)
12 x D-30 (UKR)
06-19MAR Train to Zamosc
28/28 x On Hand
12/12 x On Hand
12/12 x On Hand
15 JAN-29 MAR (US)
Complete (UKR)
06 FEB-07 MAR (US)
Complete (UKR)
33 BDE
90 x MaxxPro (US)
14 x Leopard 2A6 (DEU)
4 x Leopard 2A4 (CAN)
14 x Leopard 2A4 (POL)
12 x M119 (US)
20x On Hand, 50 by MAR
14 x by APR (DEU)
18 x by APR (CAN)
14 x by MAR (POL)
12/12 x On Hand
06 FEB- 30 MAR (UKR)
06 FEB-18MAR
10 FEB-15MAR
Complete (US)
[Leopard 2A6] 06 FEB – 18 MAR
[Leopard 2A4] 10 FEB – 15 MAR
Ongoing Collective Training
5 x Armor BN Collective
[Challenger] in England by (GBR)
[Leopard 2] in Germany by (DEU)
[Leopard 2] in Poland by (POL)
[T-72] in Ukraine by (UKR)
[T-64] in Ukraine by (UKR)
7 x Mech BN Collective
[BMP] in Poland by (POL/CZE)
[M2] in Germany by (US)
[M2] in Germany by (US)
[M113] in Ukraine by (ROU, FRA, SLV)
[Marder] in Germany by (DEU)
[XA185] in Finland by (FIN)
Motor BN Collective
[MaxxPro] in Ukraine by (UKR)
[Stryker] in Germany by (US)
[Stryker] in Germany by (US)
Field Artillery Battery
[M109] in Germany by (US)
[M109] in Germany by (US)
[M109] in Ukraine by (UKR)
30 JAN – 25 FEB LOC: FRA
21 BDE
20 x CVRT (GBR)
30 x Senator (CAN)
20 x Bulldog, 21 Husky (GBR)
and 10 x M113 (US)
30 x T-64 (UKR)
10 x FH70 (, ITA)
Est. Delivery by APR
30/30 x On Hand
Est. Delivery by MAR
10/10 x On Hand
30/30 x On Hand
6 x (ITA) On Hand,
06 -30 MAR (GBR)
06 MAR-30 MAR (UKR)
06 MAR-30 MAR (UKR)
06 - 30 MAR (UKR)
06 – 30 MAR (UKR)
32 BDE
90 x MaxxPro (US)
10 x T-72 (NLD)
20 x Tanks (XXX)
12 x D-30 (EST)
63/90x On Hand, rest by MAR
10 x by APR
[TBD] [TBD]
12/12 x On Hand
06 - 30 MAR (UKR)
06 - 30 MAR (UKR)
06 - 30 MAR (UKR)
06 - 30 MAR (UKR)
37 BDE
30 x Mastiff/Husky (GBR)
30 x Mastiff/Wolf (GBR)
14 x AMX-10 (FRA)
16 x Tanks (XXX)
12 x D-30 (EST)
Est. Delivery by APR
Est. Delivery by FEB
9/14 x On Hand, rest by Mar
[TBD] [TBD]
01- 30 MAR (UKR)
01- 30 MAR (UKR)
01- 30 MAR (UKR)
Complete (FRA)
[TBD] FEB-MAR (UKR)
118 BDE
90 x M113 (US)
28 x T-72 (POL)
6 x M109 (US)
8 x FH-70 (EST)
90/90 x On Hand
28 x 3 APR
6 x 07 MAR
8 x Prior to APR
16 JAN – 30 MAR
16 JAN – 30 MAR (UKR)
27 FEB – 28 MAR (US)
26 FEB– 30 MAR (UKR)
[T-72 BDE Collective]
16 JAN – 30 MAR
117 BDE
28 x Viking (NLD)
20/10 x XA185/M113
31 x PT-91 (POL)
12 x D-30 (EST)
28/28 x On Hand
20 x On Hand, 10 Est. by APR
31 x 03 APR
10/12 x On Hand
30 JAN – 29 MAR (UKR)
20 FEB – 30 MAR (FIN)
[TBD] FEB-MAR (UKR)
[TBD] FEB-MAR (UKR)
06 – 30 MAR (UKR)
06 – 30 MAR (GBR)
82 BDE
90 x Stryker (US)
40 x Marder (DEU)
14 x Challenger (GBR)
24 x M119 (US)
90 x 06-10MAR to Dobra
Training in DEU, Est. by APR
Training in GBR, Est. by APR
24/24 x On Hand
20 FEB – 29 MAR (US)
05 FEB – APR (DEU)
30 JAN – 06 MAR (GBR)
20 FEB – 29 MAR (US)
[Challenger] 30 JAN – 06 MAR LOC: GBR
3-7
SECRET//REL TO FIN, UKR, FVEY, NATO
Training Window
Equip/Trans Window
Armor/MGS
Mechanized
Motorized


Russia/Ukraine Joint Staff J3/4/5 Daily Update (D+370)
Orders and Decisions
Last 24: None
Currently Pending: None
SIGACT / CCIR
RUS/UKR NECs: 8x NECs, 17x non-threat missile launches; 5,273x total NECs
US Composition & Disposition-USEUCOM AOR
US Mil in USEUCOM: 92,038 / Afloat: 8,357 / Jasionka: 1,252
US Maritime Vessels
17x Surface Ships:
1x Carrier, 8x CRUDES, 2x CZ ship, 6x Auxiliaries
5x Subs:
4x SSN, 1x SSGN
US Air Components
9x FSs:
2x 5th Gen, 7x 4th Gen
BTF 23-2 (4x B-52s)
2x Army CABs:
12th CAB, 1 AD CAB
US Land Units
1x Corps: V Corps
2x DIVs:
4 ID & 101st ABN DIV
5x Army BCTs:
2 SCR, 173rd IBCT, 2/1 ID, 2/1 CD, 2/101 IBCT
Composition Changes Next 72 Hours
Deployments
Redeployments
Projected Change (Air Mvmt)
+75 thru 4 Mar
Disposition Changes:
Sea: NSTR
Air: NSTR
Land: NSTR
Legend
NATO Country
Non-NATO Country
Russia
US/NATO SOF in UKR
USA 14x pax
GBR 50x pax
FRA 15x pax
LVA 17x pax
NLD 1x pax
Total: 97x pax
Total US Pax in UKR: 100
DoS Pax in UKR: 71
DoD Pax in UKR: 29 (Includes DAO, ODC, USSOF, and MSAU)
Activities Last 24 Hours
SEA:
1 GEORGE H.W. BUSH CSG: U/W Adriatic Sea; FLOPS
OPS Sorties-72; Fixed Wing-55, Rotary Wing-15, COD-2
Reverse TOA from STRIKEFORNATO to USEUCOM with completion of NEPTUNE STRIKE
AIR:
2 Airborne Sensitive Reconnaissance Ops (SRO)/ NATO ISR
BLK: [1 Manned, 2 Unmanned] 1x RC-135V/W (GBR), 1x RQ-4, 1x MQ-9
ROU: [1 Manned, 2 Unmanned] 1x RC-135V/W (GBR), 2x MQ-9
POL: [1 Manned, 3 Unmanned] 1x RC-135V/W (GBR), 3x MQ-9
3 Operation ATLAS GUARDIAN: DoD-NATO supporting enhanced Vigilance Activities (eVA) and enhanced Air Policing (eAP); 15x US eAP CAP sorties complete (15x ASSURE; 0x SHIELD)
Alert 60 AEW: USAFE maintains Alert 60 AEW ISO Jasionka force protection from Powidz AB, POL
Activities Last 24 Hours Cont.
SAG-U
4 Conducting bilateral training with partner nations supporting key UKR efforts
V CORPS
5 South East Flank Battle Groups (BG): (POL, SVK, HUN, ROU, BGR): BGs conducted training with partner nations to deter RUS aggression
6 Train & Advise UAF (UKR Armed Forces):
(USA): Patriot Training (16 Jan-27 Mar)
(DEU): FA BN Collective Training #1 (6 Feb-7 Mar)
(DEU): UKR Mech BTG #2 Collective Training (6 Feb-12 Mar)
(FRA): Phoenix Strike (RANGER) (17 Feb-31 Mar)
(DEU): UKR (STRYKER) BTG #4 Collective TNG (20 Feb-19 Mar)
(DEU): UKR BDE #1 HQ Staff Training (20 Feb-1 Mar)
(DEU): Phoenix Strike (RANGER Tranche 1) (22 Feb-31 Mar)
(DEU): UKR (STRYKER) BTG #5 Collect. Training (24 Feb-25 Mar)
(NLD): Phoenix Strike (Riverine) (26 Feb-18 Mar)
(DEU): UKR Mech BTG #3 Collective Training (27 Feb-29 Mar)
(DEU): FA BN Collective Training #2 (27 Feb-28 Mar)
(DEU): UKR BDE #2 HQ Staff Training (27 Feb-28 Mar)
Activities Next
SEA:
1. GEORGE H.W. BUSH CSG: U/
OPS Sorties-52, Fixed W
AIR:
2. Airborne Sensitive Reconna
BLK: [0 Manned, 2 Un
ROU: [2 Manned, 0 U
1x U-2
POL: [3 Manned, 3 U
3x MQ-9
3. Operation ATLAS GUARDIA
missions scheduled for Eas
3-1 SECRET//NOFORN


TOP SECRET//HCS-P/SI-G/TK//FGI//RSEN/ORCON/NOFORN/
Russia/Ukraine | Status of the Conflict as of 1 Mar (S//RELIDO)
As of 1 Mar, Russian (RUS) and PMC Wagner forces continued to focus on seizing Bakhmut, while the UAF consolidated gains IVO Kherson an
advances in eastern Ukraine (UKR). RUS forces continued ground operations in Donetsk and were establishing a defense-in-depth between Kh
Bakhmut and Kreminna, while the Southern and Eastern GoTs were IVO Kherson and Zaporizhzhia Oblasts. (TS//SI//NF)
GROUND
27 Feb: The UAF reported that PMC Wagner seized three platoon-sized fighting positions IVO Bakhmut (S//REL TO USA, FIN, SWE, UKR, FVEY, NATO)
26 Feb: Security Service of UKR (SBU) officials assessed that its agents in Belarus violated orders and attacked a RUS A-50U aircraft at Machulishchi Airfield, Belarus (TS//SI-G//OC/NF)
MARITIME
27 Feb: Two RUS BLK FLT surface vessels are scheduled to perform torpedo firing exercises on 3 Mar (TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY)
AIR/AIR DEFENSE
26 Feb: A RUS A-50U at Machulishchi Airfield, Belarus sustained minor damage to its rotodome following the 26 Feb quadcopter attack (S//REL TO USA, FIN, SWE, FVEY, NATO)
28 Feb: RUS officials reported that UKR forces attempted to strike a gas compression station in Moscow's suburbs with a UAV (U)
SPACE/CYBER/EW
26 Feb: RUS Aerospace Forces assessed it successfully diverted a UKR missile from its intended course due to employment of electronic warfare equipment (TS//SI//REL TO USA, FVEY)
POLITICAL/MISCELLANEOUS
28 Feb: RUS President Putin signed a law that allows the Kremlin to suspend the disclosure of official RUS statistics (U)
28 Feb: Belgium reported that it is unwilling to donate aircraft to UKR but will consider providing maintenance and logistic aid for other countries' deliveries (S//NF)
All (TS//HCS-P/SI-G/TK//FGI/RS/OC/NF/FISA)
Map ICOD: 01 0200 EDT MAR 2023
Ukrainian Forces
Maneuver: 34 BDEs | Fires: 13 Units
Territorial Defense Forces (TDF) : 27 BDEs
Russian Battalion (BN) Count
Potential Maximum Combat Power: 544 BNs**
Committed to Conflict: 527 of 544 BNs (97%)
Regular MVR BNs | Reserve BNs | Auxiliary* BNs | Total
Committed 218 41 268 527
Located Inside UKR: 474 of 527 BNs (90% of Committed)
Regular MVR BNs | Reserve BNs | Auxiliary BNs | Total
Combat Effective 96 (+1) 29 241 364
Deployed Combat Ineffective 72 11 27 110
Total 166 40 268 474
TOTAL ASSESSED LOSSES
RUSSIA
Assessed Combat Sustainability: MODERATE
16k–17.5k KIA
7 fighter/bomber, 8 rotary-wing
600 ground vehicles
UKRAINE
Assessed Combat Sustainability: MODERATE
61k–71.5k KIA
60 fighter/bomber; 32 rotary-wing
21 strategic SAMs; 74 tactical SAMs
Kyiv
Bucha
Irpin
Hostomel
Malyn
Kremenchuk
Cherkasy
Poltava
Myrhorod
Trostyanets
Sumy
Uman
Kirovohrad
Livoberezhnyi
Bozhedarivka
Kryvyi Rih
Kryvyi Rog East
South Ukraine NPP
Voznesensk
Vysokopillya
Berezhnehuvate
Andrivka
Sukhyi Stavok
Mykolaiv
Kakhovka
Ivanivka
Yuzhne
Ochakiv
Kherson
Odesa
Chernomorsk
Kalanchak
Henichesk
Zaporizhzhia NPP
Transnistria
Snake Island
Dzhankoy
Yevpatoria
Kirovskoye
Feodosiya
Sevastopol
Kerch Strait
FORCE ECHELON
FORCE UNIT SYMBOLOGY
**Maximum RUS combat power includes RUS' pre-conflict BN generation capability plus all auxiliary forces it has used in UKR
(U) Coordinated with DIA (EERC)
(U) Note: Updated items in blue
1-3
Joint Staff J2 | DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGEN
TOP SECRET//HCS-P/SI-G/TK//FGI//RSEN/ORCON/NOFORN/


SECRET//REL TO USA, FVEY
Ukraine | Freeze Favorable To Vehicle Maneuver (~16
Homyel
Kyiv
Poltava
Cherkasy
Vinnytsia
UKRAINE
Kropyvnytskyi
Kryvyi Rih
Russian control
Ukrainian offensive
Frozen Ground Extent
22-Feb
Early Mar
Mid Mar
Mud-Frozen Ground Time
Partially Frozen
Frozen
Mud
February
March
April
Sourced and/or coordinated with: 557WW, 7WS, USACE TTPs, JIOCEUR JAC, UIS, GA
** CURRENT INTEL: NOT FULLY IC COORDINATED OR SOURCED **
SECRET//REL TO USA, FVEY
1-8


DONETSK OBLAST
DNIPROPETROVSK OBLAST
Pokrovsk
Mezhova
Ostrivske
Marinka
Velyka Novosilka
Vuhledar
Pavlivka
Avdiivka
Opytne
Novomykhailivka
Dokuchaievsk
Kyiv

by ALEXANDER RUBINSTEIN

Category

1. Army-Wars-Conflict Zones-Military Tech.
2. Main
3. Politics-Geopolitics-Gov.-Events

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