



War In Ukraine Day 36: Russian, LDPR Forces Do Not Stop In Eastern Ukraine, Waiting For Reinforcement

Description

Following the declared decreasing of military activities in the Kiev and Chernihiv regions, Russian, L/DPR forces have claimed several victories on the front lines in Eastern Ukraine. The AFU are preparing for the upcoming Russian major offensive in the Donbass region.

At night, units of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation took full control of the village of Zolotaya Niva located to the East of the strategically important town of Velikaya Novoselka, which Russian forces approached on the eve. According to the Russian MoD, the Kashlagach River was crossed and the Russians secured their positions in the area.

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On March 31, the DPR grouping took control over a part of the village of Novobakhmutovka, north of Avdiivka. The DPR troops advanced from Novoselka Vtoraya and managed to break through the Ukrainian defense in the village. Fighting for the control over the village continues on the streets as well as on the outskirts. DPR units may use the village to ensure their advance to the east towards Troitskoye and then reach the village of New York.

The town of Avdiivka remains under the AFU control. The offensive on Avdiivka continues from Gorlovka. The DPR advanced is slowed by fierce resistance of the AFU. DPR forces are active to the north of the town, repelling Ukrainian forces from one small village to another.

On March 31, LRR units continued their offensive on the outskirts of the city of Severodonetsk, advanced a few kilometers more. Any advances in the Popasnaya area are yet to be declared by any side. The mop up operation continues in the southern districts of the town.

In the Izyum area, the both sides are reinforcing their position. South of Izyum, the AFU reportedly damaged the Askold dam to flood the area for stiffness and slow down the offensive of the Russian

Armed Forces towards the Svyatogorsk area. Another round of fierce clashes is likely to break out south of the town of Izyum soon. Positional fighting continues to the south and southeast of Izyum.

The Armed Forces of the Russian Federation are expected to carry out a large offensive operation in the Kharkiv—Izyum front lines as soon as their regrouping from the 'Kiev and Chernihiv regions is completed.

As fierce artillery shelling continues throughout the Donbass region, a Ukrainian soldier commented on the situation, claiming that they are shelled "like kittens" with large-caliber missiles:

The AFU are actively preparing for defence in the area of Artemovsk, in Slavyansk and Kramatorsk, accumulating forces in the Pavlograd area as well.

Fighting continues in the area of Velikaya Novoselka in the Ugledar region. No successes were reported there. The Marinka—Kurakhovo highway is yet to be cut by Russian and DPR forces.

Today's report by Al Jazeera TV Channel confirmed that Ukrainian forces are using ambulance vehicles as means to move around the war-torn ukrainian cities:

The joint Russian and DPR mop up operation continues in Mariupol. Ukrainian nationalists are active in some areas of the Left Bank district of the city, in the western Coastal part of the city, the city port and the Ilyich plant. Large industrial facilities of the Azovstal plant remain the main bastion of the Azov regiment. Clashes have reportedly reached the outskirts of the Azovstal. Facilities are hit with high-precision weapons. However, a major assault on the facility is likely not to be come in the next few days.

On March 31, forces of the Donetsk People's Republic reported that they had [shot down](#) two Ukrainian Mi-8 helicopters that tried to evacuate members of the Azov Battalion from the Azovstal plant in Mariupol.

Meanwhile, Russian servicemen are securing evacuation of civilians from dangerous areas in Mariupol.

Late in the evening, sirens are heard in Krivoy Rog, Kremenchug, Zhytomyr, Dnepropetrovsk, Kirovograd, Zaporozhye, Sumy, Kiev, Cherkasy, Chernihiv and Vinnytsia regions in Ukraine, as well as in Pokrovsky and Kramatorsk districts. Daily rocket attacks on the AFU military facilities continue.

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