

EMERGENCY IN BELGOROD



UKRAINE MONITOR



SUMMARY

Russian milbloggers report marginal advances by Ukrainian forces in Kursk Oblast amidst a generally slower tempo of Ukrainian operations. This slowdown is attributed to increasing Russian resistance, particularly around Kursk City. Ukrainians claim control over the town of Sudzha. They have installed an administrative unit in the town.

Russian sources claim that the frontline is being stabilized and reinforcements are arriving. Ukrainian forces continue to make incremental gains, affecting Russian logistics and defenses.



UKRAINIAN ADVANCES

Krasnooktyabrskoye: Ukrainian forces have reportedly advanced into Krasnooktyabrskoye, located southwest of Korenevo and approximately 15 km from the international border.

Zhuravli: Geolocated footage from August 13 shows Ukrainian forces operating in eastern Zhuravli, situated west of Korenevo and about 20 km from the international border.

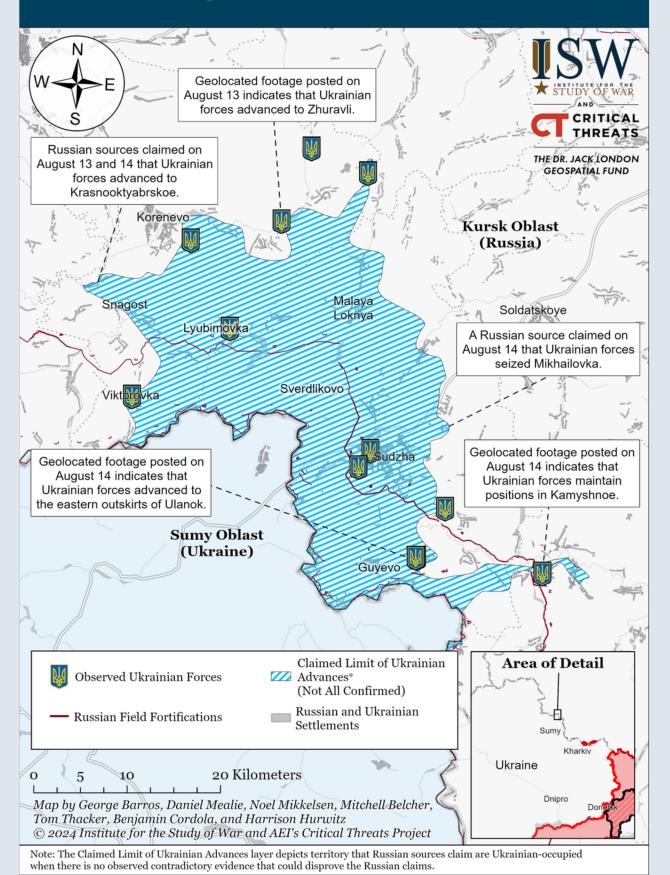
Sudzha and Surroundings: Ukrainian forces are reported to have partial control of Sudzha, with ongoing fighting reported in and around the settlement. Ukrainian forces have also advanced beyond Martynovka, northeast of Sudzha, and recent activity has been observed near Mikhailovka, also northeast of Sudzha. Additional advances have been noted in western Kamyshnoye, southeast of Sudzha.

Giri and Belitsa: Recent geolocated footage shows Ukrainian forces operating near Giri and Belitsa, indicating possible contestation east of Kamyshnoye.

Kolotilovka: Russian milbloggers reported Ukrainian attempts to cross the Kolotilovka border checkpoint in Belgorod Oblast, located southeast of Sudzha and northwest of Belgorod City.



Ukrainian Incursion into Kursk Oblast as of August 14, 2024, 3:00 PM ET





RUSSIAN RESPONSES

Frontline Stabilization: Russian sources claim that Russian forces are stabilizing the frontline with reinforcements arriving from unspecified locations.

Repelled Attacks: Russian forces reported repelling Ukrainian attacks near Skrylevka, Levshinka, Semenovka, and Alekseevsky, all northeast of Korenevo and near Kauchuk, about 27 km from the international border.

Fortifications: New field fortifications, including trenches and anti-vehicle ditches, have been identified southwest of Lgov along the E38 highway. Additional fortifications have appeared near the 38K-024 highway south of Lgov, indicating Russian concerns over potential Ukrainian advances.



RUSSIAN LOGISTICS

Railway Disruptions: Satellite imagery from August 12 shows new fortifications along key Russian highways. The Belarusian Railway Workers Community reported disruptions on the Oryol-Kursk branch of the Moscow Railway due to a large-scale transfer of troops and military logistics.

State of Emergency: Belgorod Oblast Governor Vyacheslav Gladkov announced a state of emergency on August 14, likely to secure logistics and defensive measures related to Kursk Oblast.

Conscription and Contracting: Reports indicate that conscripts from Moscow, Leningrad, Kaliningrad, Sverdlovsk, Murmansk, and Samara Oblasts are being sent to Kursk. There are also reports of conscripts being pressured to sign contracts to continue fighting in Kursk Oblast.



OPERATIONAL DETAILS

Akhmat Spetsnaz Commander: Chechen Commander Apty Alaudinov has been positioning himself as the spokesperson for Russian defense in Kursk Oblast. His claims often contradict those of reliable Russian milbloggers and do not align with the battlefield reality. Alaudinov's portrayal of Russian forces as stable and effective contrasts with broader criticism of Chechen units.

Air Base Attacks: Ukrainian forces conducted a series of drone strikes on Russian air bases on the night of August 13-14. Targets included Kursk City, Voronezh City, Borisoglebsk in Voronezh Oblast, and Savasleyka in Nizhny Novgorod Oblast. Damage reports include hangar damage at Borisoglebsk and possible damage to a MiG-31 interceptor at Savasleyka.

Russian Influence: The ruling Georgian Dream party has echoed Kremlin narratives, accusing former President Mikhail Saakashvili of provoking Russia's actions in 2008 and justifying the occupation of Abkhazia and South Ossetia. This narrative aligns with Russian information operations and justifications for aggression against former Soviet states.



KEY TAKEAWAYS

Ukrainian forces have made incremental advances in Kursk Oblast, impacting Russian defensive and logistical capabilities.

Russian forces are working to stabilize the frontline and reinforce positions in response to Ukrainian advances.

Ukrainian operations are affecting Russian logistics and prompting defensive measures.

Recruitment and conscription efforts are ongoing to support operations in Kursk Oblast.

Chechen Commander Apty Alaudinov's claims are inconsistent with battlefield realities.

Ukrainian drone strikes have impacted Russian air bases, affecting their operational capabilities.



