Russian forces continue attacks on forces defending Pokrovsk, Kupiansk, other cities and continue drone & missile attacks

UK Defense Intelligence map of the battlefield situation in Ukraine as of November 14.

As Friday's British Defence Intelligence map of the battlefield situation in Ukraine indicates, last week the Russian forces continued to attack the Ukrainian forces at a number of locations from the area south of Sudzha toward Ukrainian city of Sumy to the area on the border north of Kharkiv and at a number of points along the long contact line in eastern and southeastern Ukraine that extends from the area to the north and east of Kupiansk to the area in Donetsk region west of Rubizhne and Chasiv Yar, toward Pokrovsk and the area around it, and at several locations along the long contact line between the forces in Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions in southeastern Ukraine.

The General Staff of the Ukrainian Armed Forces reported that over the seven days last week from Sunday, Nov. 9 through Saturday, Nov. 15, the Russian forces conducted a total of 1,491 attacks against the Ukrainian forces defending the cities and towns in northeastern, eastern, and southeastern Ukraine. That total is almost 40 percent greater than the 1,082 attacks conducted in the previous week. As in previous weeks, the largest number of Russian attacks last week were directed against the Ukrainian forces defending Pokrovsk, which, if taken, would open a pathway northward toward the cities and towns in Donetsk region that are still held by Ukraine. The General Staff reported that over the seven days last week the Russian forces conducted a total of 527 attacks against the forces defending Pokrovsk and the area around it compared with the 459 Russian attacks against those forces in the previous week. The reports for last week, as those for the previous week, indicated the Russian forces have moved into some of the peripheral areas of the city. either on foot or by vehicle. The Ukrainian forces are

putting up a strong, albeit costly, defense of Pokrovsk, but if, as seems likely in the near future, the Russian forces take the city it will of course be regarded as an important victory for the Russians, comparable to their victory in taking Bakhmut, a few miles east of Chasiv Yar, in May 2023 after a prolonged siege. And importantly, taking Pokrovsk would open a pathway northward for the Russian forces toward Kostyantynivka, Slovyansk, Kramatorsk and the other cities in the northern and western portions of Donetsk region that are now held by the Ukrainian forces.

As the Russian forces continued to attack the Ukrainian forces defending Pokrovsk and the other cities and towns of northeastern and eastern Ukraine, Russia's war against the people of Ukraine continued in the air as well. On Thursday night into early Friday morning, Russia launched 430 drones and 19 cruise and ballistic missiles at hydroelectric and gas facilities in Ukraine and badly damaged or destroyed a number of large apartment buildings in Kyiv, Kharkiv, Odesa, and other cities. At least seven Ukrainians were killed and 35 were wounded in those attacks. On Saturday night into early Sunday morning, Russia launched 176 drones and an Iskander-M ballistic missile at Kyiv, Dnipro, Odesa, and other cities in Ukraine. Several dozen Ukrainians were injured and seven were killed.

David R. Cameron
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