



U.S. ARMY



Cyber Center of Excellence

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Cyber

1. [**Escalating Cyber Threats Demand Stronger Global Defense and Cooperation \(Microsoft, 15 OCT, Tom Burt\)**](#)

Microsoft customers face more than 600 million cybercriminal and nation-state attacks every day, ranging from ransomware to phishing to identity attacks. Once again, nation-state affiliated threat actors demonstrated that cyber operations—whether for espionage, destruction, or influence—play a persistent supporting role in broader geopolitical conflicts. Also fueling the escalation in cyberattacks, we are seeing increasing evidence of the collusion of cybercrime gangs with nation-state groups sharing tools and techniques.
2. [**Report: Iran cyberattacks against Israel surge after Gaza war \(VOA, 15 OCT, Agence France-Presse\)**](#)

Israel has become the top target of Iranian cyberattacks since the start of the Gaza war last year, while Tehran had focused primarily on the United States before the conflict, Microsoft said Tuesday.
3. [**Cyber criminals are increasingly helping Russia and China target the US and allies, Microsoft says \(AP News, 15 OCT, David Klepper\)**](#)

Russia, China and Iran are increasingly relying on criminal networks to lead cyberespionage and hacking operations against adversaries like the U.S., according to a report on digital threats published Tuesday by Microsoft.
4. [**Iranian Cyberspies Exploiting Recent Windows Kernel Vulnerability \(Security Week, 14 OCT, Ionut Arghire\)**](#)

The Iran-linked APT OilRig has intensified cyber operations against the United Arab Emirates and the broader Gulf region.
5. [**Microsoft's guidance to help mitigate Kerberoasting \(Microsoft, 11 OCT, David Weston\)**](#)

As cyberthreats continue to evolve, it's essential for security professionals to stay informed about the latest attack vectors and defense mechanisms. Kerberoasting is a well-known Active Directory (AD) attack vector whose effectiveness is growing because of the use of GPUs to accelerate password cracking techniques.
6. [**Cyber Signals Issue 8 | Education under siege: How cybercriminals target our schools \(Microsoft, 10 OCT, Microsoft Threat Intelligence\)**](#)

Education is essentially an “industry of industries,” with K-12 and higher education enterprises handling data that could include health records, financial data, and other regulated information. At the same time, their facilities can host payment processing systems, networks that are used as internet service providers (ISPs), and other diverse infrastructure. The cyberthreats that Microsoft observes across different industries tend to be compounded in education, and threat actors have realized that this sector is inherently vulnerable. With an average of 2,507 cyberattack attempts per week, universities are prime targets for malware, phishing, and IoT vulnerabilities.
7. [**Cyberspies Target Air-Gapped Systems at European Government Organization \(Security Week, 09 OCT, Ionut Arghire\)**](#)

Cyberespionage APT GoldenJackal has been targeting air-gapped systems at government organizations and embassies.

8. **[File hosting services misused for identity phishing](#)** (Microsoft, 08 October, Microsoft Threat Intelligence)

Microsoft has observed campaigns misusing legitimate file hosting services increasingly use defense evasion tactics involving files with restricted access and view-only restrictions. While these campaigns are generic and opportunistic in nature, they involve sophisticated techniques to perform social engineering, evade detection, and expand threat actor reach to other accounts and tenants. These campaigns are intended to compromise identities and devices, and most commonly lead to business email compromise (BEC) attacks to propagate campaigns, among other impacts such as financial fraud, data exfiltration, and lateral movement to endpoints.

9. **[Microsoft, DOJ Dismantle Domains Used by Russian FSB-Linked Hacking Group](#)** (Security Week, 03 OCT, Ryan Naraine)

The coordinated action resulted in the seizure of more than 100 domains used for spear-phishing targets in the US, UK, and Europe.

10. **[Connected Cars and Spying](#)** (CSIS, 01 OCT, James Andrew Lewis)

The fundamental truth is that anything that connects to the internet provides an opportunity for the collection and exploitation of user information by a sophisticated and hostile opponent. And “sophisticated and hostile opponent” practically defines China.

Electronic Warfare

1. [Journal of Electromagnetic Dominance, Vol. 47, No. 10](#) (Association of Old Crows, OCT 2024)

2. [BriteStorm Miniature Electronic Warfare System Can Allow Small Drones To Create Big Ghost Formations](#) (TWZ, 14 OCT, Joseph Trevithick)

Leonardo's BriteStorm is designed to be small and cheap enough to be installed in various drones and other platforms, even expendables ones.

3. [Enemy Installs EW Systems on Reconnaissance UAVs Against Anti-Aircraft Drones: How It Works](#) (Defense Express, 12 OCT, Svetlana Shcherbak)

The enemy has started equipping its reconnaissance drones with electronic warfare systems to protect them from Ukrainian anti-aircraft drones. The Russians themselves described this possible course of action just a month ago in their discussions on countering the new threat.

4. [Exclusive: Secret Russian Volnarez Anti-Drone Electronic Warfare System Discovered By Ukrainian Troops.](#) (Army Recognition, 09 OCT)

Ukrainian forces have uncovered the secret Russian-made Volnarez counter-drone electronic warfare system in Russia's Kursk region. The discovery, made public through a video shared on Facebook by Yuriy Butusov on August 14, 2024, reveals that the system was found in its original factory packaging, complete with a technical brochure.

5. [North Korean Electronic Warfare Surges Under Kim: South](#) (News Week, 04 OCT, John Feng)

North Korea's use of electronic attacks against civil aviation in the South has surged by 15 times this year, data shows, with Kim Jong Un's regime doubling down on tactics that have raised concerns at the United Nations.

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Information Advantage

1. [OpenAI Says Iranian Hackers Used ChatGPT to Plan ICS Attacks \(Security Week, 11 OCT, Eduard Kovacs\)](#)

OpenAI has disrupted 20 cyber and influence operations this year, including the activities of Iranian and Chinese state-sponsored hackers.

2. [A firehose of antisemitic disinformation from China is pointing at two Republican legislators \(The Washington Post, 10 OCT, Jeremy B. Merrill, Aaron Schaffer & Naomi Nix\)](#)

China is increasingly targeting downballot elections in America, according to a Washington Post analysis and senior U.S. intelligence officials, using fake accounts on social media to spread divisive and sometimes explicitly antisemitic claims and conspiracy theories about politicians — part of an effort to inflame tensions in the country just one month before the 2024 election.

3. [US Agencies Warn Political Campaigns of Iranian Phishing Attacks \(Security Week, 09 OCT, Ionut Arghire\)](#)

CISA and the FBI have issued a warning on Iranian phishing attacks targeting national political organizations and campaigns.

4. [How the Army is using AI during Hurricane Helene relief \(C4ISR, 08 OCT, Nikki Wentling\)](#)

The Army's 18th Airborne Corps is for the first time using a battlefield capability to map road closures, cellular outages, supply needs and other data in real time to help the Federal Emergency Management Agency and U.S. Northern Command help people whose homes and communities were battered by Hurricane Helene late last month.

5. [Intelligence officials say US adversaries are targeting congressional races with disinformation \(AP News, 08 OCT, David Klepper\)](#)

It's not just the presidential election: Foreign governments are targeting House and Senate races around the country in their effort to meddle with American democracy this election year, intelligence officials warned Monday.

6. [Foreign election meddling extends to Congressional races: Intel officials \(The Diplomat, 07 OCT, Mercy A. Kuo\)](#)

The Diplomat author Mercy Kuo regularly engages subject-matter experts, policy practitioners, and strategic thinkers across the globe for their diverse insights into U.S. Asia policy. This conversation with Dr. Audrye Wong – Jeane Kirkpatrick Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and assistant professor of Political Science and International Relations at the University of Southern California – is the 435th in “The Trans-Pacific View Insight Series.”

7. [For US adversaries, Election Day won't mean the end to efforts to influence Americans \(AP News, 07 OCT, David Klepper\)](#)

Soon, the ballots will be cast, the polls will close and a campaign marked by assassination attempts, animosity and anxiety will come to an end. But for U.S. adversaries, the work to meddle with American democracy may be entering its most critical phase.

8. **[Chinese Military Aims to Use AI to Boost Disinformation Campaigns: Think Tank](#) (NTD, 04 OCT, Catherine Yang)**

A new report from RAND found that the Chinese military has embraced the use of artificial intelligence (AI) to further foreign influence campaigns.

The United States and other countries “should prepare for this AI-driven social media manipulation” by adopting risk reduction measures, promoting media literacy and government trustworthiness, increasing public reporting, and increasing diplomatic coordination, according to the study, published Oct. 1.

9. **[20 F-35 Stealth Fighters ‘Destroyed’ In Israel – Iranian Propaganda Swirls Social Media Sans Any Evidence](#) (Eurasian Times, 02 OCT, Shubhangi Palve)**

It’s a unique stealth fighter that Israel operates that even the US doesn’t fly. It’s a single-engine, single-pilot aircraft originally designed for the US military, but Israel has taken its capabilities to the next level. Yes, we are talking about the F-35I Adir.

Signal

1. [Russia illegally using Musk's Starlink satellites to advance in Ukraine \(Independent, 15 OCT, Tom Watling\)](#)
Ukrainian soldiers say Russian forces are using the Starlink terminals to 'overpower' them on the frontline
2. [Army network team eyes new requirements for smaller, mobile, survivable command posts \(Breaking Defense, 15 OCT, Carley Welch\)](#)
"So instead of building something from the beginning, that's one big thing, and that our soldiers are just going to take winches to and take apart anyway, this allows us to build something that's a little bit more modular," said Gen. Patrick Ellis, director of the C2 CFT.
3. [Army's space tech roadmap emphasizes secure navigation, satcom, intelligence \(Space News, 15 OCT, Sandra Erwin\)](#)
Army's greater focus on space is part of the military's strategy for "multi-domain operations"
4. [North Korea Sending GPS-Equipped Balloons Across The Border \(TWZ, 14 OCT, Thomas Newdick\)](#)
The purpose for the balloons' GPS capabilities isn't clear, but none of the possibilities are good news for South Korea.
5. [Army PEO C3T changes name to PEO C3N, as unified network plans advance \(Breaking Defense, 09 OCT, Carley Welch\)](#)
The name change comes nearly a year after the office underwent a revamp in which it absorbed several organizations from the Program Executive Office of Enterprise Information Systems.
6. [AFRL moves toward flight testing satellite internet radios under Global Lightning \(Breaking Defense, 08 OCT, Theresa Hitchens\)](#)
"The expectation is that we will bounce between those constellations in the same flight, so we'll move between them. Now, I don't think anybody should be guaranteeing that on flight one," said AFRL's head engineer for Global Lightning Brian Beal. "We're going to improve as we go and get to that, but that is the goal of the program."
7. [System update: Army general takes over from Skinner as director of DISA, JFHQ-DoDIN \(Breaking Defense, 04 OCT, Carley Welch\)](#)
Gen. Paul Stanton acknowledged that he's taking over at an "unprecedented period of significant change in an unsettled word," one that has an "insatiable appetite for data."
8. [U.S. Army's Indo-Pacific Tactical MPE Ready To Fight Tonight \(Signal, 01 OCT, George I. Seffers\)](#)
The tactical mission partner environment developed by the U.S. Army I Corps and General Dynamics Information Technology (GDIT) is at an initial operational capability (IOC) and ready for combat operations, according to Lt. Col. Roberto Nunez, I Corps network operations officer.



Items of Interest

1. [China-Taiwan Weekly Update, October 11, 2024](#) (ISW, 11 OCT, Matthew Sperzel, Daniel Shats, Alison O'Neil & Alexis Turek)

Key Takeaways

- The People's Republic of China (PRC) accused Republic of China (ROC, Taiwan) President Lai Ching-te on October 10 of promoting separatism and inciting cross-strait confrontation in his National Day speech.
- The PRC urged Czechia and other "relevant countries" on October 8 not to interact with Taiwanese "separatist forces" in response to former ROC President Tsai Ing-wen's plans to visit Czechia.
- The FBI announced charges against five PRC nationals who were caught near a US military base in August 2023 during annual exercises.
- The China Coast Guard (CCG) fired water cannons at Philippine civilian vessels completing a resupply mission at Scarborough Shoal.
- Vietnam accused PRC law enforcement of attacking 10 Vietnamese fishermen near the Paracel Islands. The PRC aims to defend its control over the maritime features it administers and deny other states the ability to extract resources in areas it claims.
- The PRC supported a Russian draft proposal at the United Nations that calls for a UN investigation into the destruction of the Nord Stream 2 natural gas pipeline in September 2022.
- The militant group Baloch Liberation Army killed two Chinese nationals in an IED attack in Karachi on October 6.

2. [Display screens are the eyes for maneuver forces needing to command and control](#) (Breaking Defense, 10 OCT)

The Army is upfitting vehicles with big 24 or 32-inch displays that present multiple sources of data for a full operational picture.

3. [North Korea to cut off all roads and railways to South Korea](#) (UPI, 09 OCT, Thomas Maresca)

North Korea's military said Wednesday that it is permanently sealing off its border with South Korea, cutting off all rail and road connections and bolstering defensive fortifications, state-run media reported.

4. [Russia sentences 72-year-old American to jail on mercenary charges](#) (BBC, 07 OCT, Laura Gozzi)

A Russian court has sentenced a 72-year-old American citizen to almost seven years in jail for allegedly fighting as a mercenary for Ukraine.

Prosecutors said Stephen James Hubbard was serving in a defence unit based in the eastern city of Izyum when he was captured by Russian forces in April 2022, shortly after Moscow launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

5. [What if Russia blocks the export of its raw materials?](#) (DW, 06 OCT)

Vladimir Putin is threatening to withhold crucial raw materials like uranium, titanium and nickel from the West. DW breaks down how that would affect global trade and industrial production.

6. [**U.S Offers “Once-In-A-Generation Opportunity” To Disgruntled Chinese; Launches Brazen Recruitment Drive To Work For CIA \(Eurasian Times, 04 OCT, Ashish Dangwal\)**](#)

The US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is intensifying its efforts to recruit Chinese citizens, hoping to take advantage of what American officials describe as the rising dissatisfaction with President Xi Jinping’s leadership.

7. [**China-Taiwan Weekly Update, October 4, 2024 \(ISW, 04 OCT, Matthew Sperzel, Daniel Shats, Alison O’Neil & Alexis Turek\)**](#)

Key Takeaways

- Chinese Coast Guard ships entered the restricted waters of Taiwan’s Kinmen islands twice on September 26. The PRC has normalized such incursions since February to erode Taiwan’s control of the waters and assert the PRC’s right to enforce its laws there.
- The PRC has normalized a much higher volume of ADIZ incursions against Taiwan than in previous years as part of an intensified PRC pressure campaign against the new administration of Lai Ching-te.
- The PRC did not interfere with the Philippines’ resupply mission to Second Thomas Shoal. The PRC likely intends to send a message to the Philippines that the PRC will not escalate further if the Philippines cooperates with PRC demands.
- The PRC, Brazil, and 11 other countries issued a joint communique that expresses support for the PRC-Brazil plan to end Russia’s war in Ukraine.
- Reuters reported that a Russian defense firm established a program in the PRC to manufacture long-range attack drones for the Russian war in Ukraine. The PRC has provided dual-use components and other nonlethal equipment to support Russia’s defense industrial base. There are no corroborated reports of the PRC providing lethal aid to Russia.
- The PLA conducted military exercises and operations likely in response to a joint training exercise by the United States, Philippines, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand. The PLA’s behavior indicates that it will maintain current levels of coercion and military presence within contested waters.

Middle East Conflict

1. Institute for The Study of War Iran Update:

The Iran Update provides insights into Iranian and Iranian-sponsored activities abroad that undermine regional stability and threaten US forces and interests. It also covers events and trends that affect the stability and decision-making of the Iranian regime.

- [Iran Update](#), October 15, 2024
- [Iran Update](#), October 14, 2024
- [Iran Update](#), October 13, 2024
- [Iran Update](#), October 12, 2024
- [Iran Update](#), October 11, 2024
- [Iran Update](#), October 10, 2024
- [Iran Update](#), October 09, 2024
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- [Iran Update](#), October 07, 2024
- [Iran Update](#), October 06, 2024
- [Iran Update](#), October 05, 2024
- [Iran Update](#), October 04, 2024
- [Iran Update](#), October 03, 2024
- [Iran Update](#), October 02, 2024
- [Iran Update](#), October 01, 2024

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2. [Drone attack on Israel puts spotlight on Iron Dome's limitations \(BBC, 14 OCT, Jonah Fisher\)](#)

Slow, small and relatively cheap to make, drones have become a deadly headache for Israelis in this year-long war.

Hezbollah's attack on an army base near Binyamina in northern Israel on Sunday, which killed four men and injured dozens more, was the most damaging drone strike on the country to date.

3. [US deploys THAAD anti-missile system to Israel \(DW, 13 OCT, Aya Ibrahim\)](#)

President Joe Biden has ordered the deployment of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense battery, known as THAAD. Find out what's behind the decision to send this defense system now from DW's Washington correspondent.

4. [Israeli military intensifies operations in Lebanon \(DW, 13 OCT, Ben Dorman\)](#)

Lebanese state media say Israeli warplanes have attacked southern Lebanon overnight. The strikes destroyed a century-old marketplace in the city of Nabatiyeh. The Israeli military previously urged residents to leave the border regions.

5. [Israel-Hezbollah conflict in maps: Where is fighting happening in Lebanon?](#) (BBC, 08 OCT, The Visual Journalism Team)

Israel has invaded southern Lebanon in a dramatic escalation of its conflict with Hezbollah.

The Israeli ground operation began on 30 September, days after an air strike killed Hassan Nasrallah, the leader of the Iran-backed armed group.

6. [In a year of war since Oct. 7, Israel introduced new battlefield tech, honed its organization](#) (Breaking Defense, 07 OCT, Seth J. Frantzman)

A year ago today, Hamas attacked Israel, catching Jerusalem off guard. Since, the Israel Defense Forces have worked to adapt.

7. [Hamas' View of the October 7 War](#) (ISW, 07 OCT, Brian Carter)

Military conditions are being set in the Gaza Strip that could lead to the defeat of Hamas, but these conditions will fail to achieve an enduring end to the war without a political solution. The military defeat of Hamas is an essential precondition for the establishment of a new government in Gaza that will be willing and able to make and keep an enduring peace. Defeat is a temporary military effect, however. Israel must cement Hamas' defeat by setting a clear and obtainable political endstate for this war, and the US and its regional partners must also recognize that a ceasefire in the current conditions will virtually ensure the renewal of Hamas attacks on Israel and future major war in the Gaza Strip.

8. [Yemen's Houthis to play bigger role in Middle East conflict?](#) (DW, 07 OCT, Cathrin Schaer)

They've survived attacks by the US, Israel and others, and are the only one of various Iran-backed groups not to have suffered serious setbacks over the past year. They're also considered a little "mad."

9. [Israel Expands Ground Operation In Lebanon As World Braces For Retaliation Against Iran](#) (TWZ, 07 OCT, Joseph Thevithick)

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu says his country is now in a "war of resurrection" heightening fears of a broader regional conflict.

10. [Israel Targets Iran's 'Secretive' Nuclear Facility: How IDF Executed Operation Shadabad & Bamboozled Everyone.](#) (Eurasian Times, 05 OCT, Shubhangi Palve)

The Palestinian militants who raided Israel in the Hamas attacks on Oct. 7 killed over 1,200 people, according to Israel, and abducted over 240 civilians and soldiers, bringing them back to the Gaza Strip. Israel responded with a military campaign that it said was aimed at destroying Hamas and recovering the hostages. Hamas released dozens of the hostages under a weeklong series of temporary cease-fire agreements that ended on Dec. 1. International efforts to reach a cease-fire and hostage-release deal have continued and repeatedly stalled.

11. [Iran's proxies threaten Israel on multiple fronts](#) (DW, 03 OCT, Dmitry Ponyavin)

The fighting in Lebanon is the latest front in the ongoing escalation in the Middle East. Israel has said it's fighting what it calls Iran's Axis of Evil. Since the start of the war in Gaza, almost all of Iran's proxies have stepped up their attacks on Israel.

12. [World Braces For Israel's Retaliation To Iran's Ballistic Missile Barrage](#) (TWZ, 02 OCT, Howard Altman)

Israel has vowed to strike back after Iran's missile barrage and signs point to its response being far more significant than the one last April.

13. [Iranian Ballistic Missiles Rain Down On Israel \(Updated\)](#) (TWZ, 01 OCT, Thomas Newdick, Tyler Rogoway & Howard Altman)

Iran has launched a large number of ballistic missiles at Israeli targets with significant numbers of projectiles seen careening into the ground in Israel.

14. [Israel Waits For Possible Iranian Strikes As Commando Raids Into Lebanon Continue](#) (TWZ, 01 OCT, Thomas Newdick)

Operation Northern Arrows, the Israeli ground campaign in Lebanon, entered its second day, with U.S. officials warning of an imminent Iranian response.

15. [What's next for Hezbollah and the 'Axis of Resistance'?](#) (DW, 01 OCT, Cathrine Schaer)

After the assassination of their leader, some experts have suggested Hezbollah is paralyzed and its role among pro-Iran, anti-Israel militias in the region compromised. Others say it's way too early to tell.

16. [What are Israel's goals as Lebanon offensive begins?](#) (DW, 01 OCT, Nicole Frölich)

Hans-Jakob Schindler of the Berlin-based Counter Extremism Project breaks down Israel's four stated objectives for its land incursion into southern Lebanon. He told DW that keeping the Israeli operation against Hezbollah "limited, localized and targeted" will pose a challenge.



Russia-Ukraine Conflict

1. Institute for The Study of War

- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), October 15, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), October 14, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), October 13, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), October 12, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), October 11, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), October 10, 2024
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- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), October 03, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), October 02, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), October 01, 2024

2. [Russia Plotting New Battalion of North Koreans for Ukraine War: Reports](#) (Newsweek, 15 OCT, Hugh Cameron)

Russia is reportedly assembling a battalion of North Korean nationals to help push Ukraine's forces out of Kursk.

3. [Chemical War: Russia Using 'Choking Agent' To Dislodge Ukrainian Soldiers, U.S. Says; Moscow Strikes Back](#) (The EurAsian Times, 14 OCT, Shubhangi Palve)

Russian officials allege that Ukraine is gearing up for a chemical weapons attack, with backing from the US-led NATO military alliance.

4. [Mystery of Russia's secret weapon downed in Ukraine](#) (BBC, 11 OCT, Abdujalil Abdurasulov)

When two white vapour trails cross the sky near the front line in eastern Ukraine, it tends to mean one thing. Russian jets are about to attack.

But what happened near the city of Kostyantynivka was unprecedented. The lower trail split in two and a new object quickly accelerated towards the other vapour trail until they crossed and a bright orange flash lit up the sky.

5. [North Korea Wading Deeper Into Russia's War Against Ukraine](#) (TWZ, 10 OCT, Howard Altman)

Ukraine Situation Report: North Korea is sending troops to assist Russia with attacks on Ukrainian cities while Ukraine strikes back against weapons storage areas.



6. **[‘Knock Out’ Blow To Russian Military! Ukrainian UAV Strike Ravages Largest Fuel Storage Facility In Feodosia Port](#)** (Eurasian Time, 09 OCT, Ashish Dangwal)

A major oil refinery in Crimea has been burning for three days following a successful Ukrainian drone strike on October 7, severely impacting the region’s energy infrastructure. The attack targeted the largest fuel storage facility in the port city of Feodosia, a critical asset for Russian military operations.

7. **[Israel Arms Ukraine With ‘RED CODE’ EW System; Ambassador Confirms Supply, Says We Fulfilled Our Promise](#)** (Eurasian Times, 08 OCT, Sakshi Tiwari)

Israel’s ambassador to Ukraine has confirmed that Kyiv is now in possession of the potent Israeli “Red Code” early warning system, which will aid the embattled country in thwarting Russian aerial attacks.

8. **[Russia Learns From “Shock Failure” In Kursk; Holds Counter-Sabotage Drills To Defend Sevastopol From Ukraine](#)** (Eurasian Times, 06 OCT, Ashish Dangwal)

In what may be a response to Ukraine’s successful and shocking operations in the Kursk region, the Russian military has heightened its state of readiness in Sevastopol to address the possibility of Ukrainian incursions.

9. **[US will allow Ukraine to hit deep into Russia, ex-envoy says](#)** (DW, 02 OCT, Konstantin Eggert)

Kurt Volker, a former US special envoy to Ukraine under Donald Trump, maintains the US will allow Ukraine to use long-range weapons on Russia. He also says NATO membership for Ukraine must be part of a peace settlement.

10. [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment, September 30, 2024](#) (ISW, 1 OCT, Christina Harward, Kateryna Stepanenko, Karolina Hird, George Barros, & Frederick W. Kagan)

Key Takeaways:

- The Russian government plans to spend 17 trillion rubles (\$183 billion) on national security and defense in 2025 — about 41 percent of its annual expenditures. The Russian budget will continue to support various social programs, including the Kremlin's pronatalist programs, but a continued focus on defense spending is likely affecting the effectiveness and sustainability of these programs.
- Russian President Vladimir Putin promoted Presidential Aide and close personal ally Alexei Dyumin to the Russian Security Council alongside three other officials.
- The Kremlin continues to use state and regional awards to coopt previously critical milbloggers as part of wider efforts to gain control over the information space.
- Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin arrived in Tehran on September 30 to meet with various Iranian officials and highlight Russo-Iranian economic cooperation.
- Russian forces recently advanced in Glushkvosky Raion, Kursk Oblast, and Ukrainian and Russian forces recently advanced within the Ukrainian salient in Kursk Oblast.
- Russian forces recently advanced near Svatove, Chasiv Yar, Toretsk, Pokrovsk, and Donetsk City.
- Russian President Vladimir Putin signed on September 30 the decree on Russia's usual semi-annual fall conscription for 133,000 draftees.

11. [Russian Pushes Deeper Into Key City In Eastern Ukraine](#) (TWZ, 01 OCT, Howard Altman)

Ukraine Situation Report: The city of Vuhledar is a key bulwark and fully losing it could allow Russia to gobble up more territory.