



U.S. ARMY



# **Cyber Center of Excellence**

## Unclassified Threat Read Book

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## Cyber

1. [\*\*The First Major Cyberattack of the 2024 Election\*\*](#) (The Daily, 27 AUG, Michael Barbaro & David E. Sanger)

Iran is to blame for hacking into the Trump campaign and trying to breach the Biden-Harris campaign, U.S. intelligence officials said.

2. [\*\*New Android Malware Ngate Steals NC Data to Clone Contactless Payment Cards\*\*](#) (The Hacker News, 26 AUG, Ravie Lakshmanan)

Cybersecurity researchers have uncovered new Android malware that can relay victims' contactless payment data from physical credit and debit cards to an attacker-controlled device with the goal of conducting fraudulent operations.

3. [\*\*CyberwarfareChina's Volt Typhoon Hackers Caught Exploiting Zero-Day in Servers Used by ISPs, MSPs\*\*](#) (Security Week, 26 AUG, Ryan Naraine)

Malware hunters catch Chinese APT Volt Typhoon exploiting a zero-day in Versa Director servers used by ISPs and MSPs.

4. [\*\*New macOS Malware "Cthulhu Stealer" Targets Apple Users' Data\*\*](#) (The Hacker News, 23 AUG, Ravie Lakshmanan)

Cybersecurity researchers have uncovered a new information stealer that's designed to target Apple macOS hosts and harvest a wide range of information, underscoring how threat actors are increasingly setting their sights on the operating system.

5. [\*\*From Cybercrime to Terrorism, FBI Director Says America Faces Many Elevated Threats 'All at Once'\*\*](#) (AP News, 22 AUG, Michael Goldberg)

The country is facing heightened threats from many corners at a time when law enforcement agencies are struggling, FBI Director Christopher Wray said in an exclusive interview, adding that he is "hard pressed to think of a time in my career where so many different kinds of threats are all elevated at once."

6. [\*\*Hardware Backdoor Discovered in RFID Cards Used in Hotels and Offices Worldwide\*\*](#) (The Hacker News, 22 AUG, Ravie Lakshmanan)

Cybersecurity researchers have uncovered a hardware backdoor within a particular model of MIFARE Classic contactless cards that could allow authentication with an unknown key and open hotel rooms and office doors.

7. [\*\*Best Practices for Event Logging and Threat Detection\*\*](#) (Australian Signal Directorate, 21 AUG)

This publication defines a baseline for event logging best practices to mitigate cyber threats. It was developed by the Australian Signals Directorate's Australian Cyber Security Centre (ASD's ACSC) in cooperation with international partners

8. [\*\*North Korean Hackers Deploy New MoonPeak Trojan in Cyber Campaign\*\*](#) (The Hacker News, 21 AUG, Ravie Lakshmanan)

A new remote access trojan called MoonPeak has been discovered as being used by a state-sponsored North Korean threat activity cluster as part of a new campaign.



9. **[New macOS Malware TodoSwift Linked to North Korean Hacking Groups](#)** (The Hacker News, 21 AUG, Ravie Lakshmanan)

Cybersecurity researchers have uncovered a new macOS malware strain dubbed TodoSwift that they say exhibits commonalities with known malicious software used by North Korean hacking groups.

10. **[Microsoft Patches Zero-Day Flaw Exploited by North Korea's Lazarus Group](#)** (The Hacker News, 19 AUG, Ravie Lakshmanan)

A newly patched security flaw in Microsoft Windows was exploited as a zero-day by Lazarus Group, a prolific state-sponsored actor affiliated with North Korea.

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## Electronic Warfare

1. [\*\*Our Best Look Yet At China's New Standoff Electronic Warfare Plane \(TWZ, 30 AUG, Thomas Newdick\)\*\*](#)

The Y-9LG is the latest in a line of Chinese airborne standoff jammers, part of a huge investment in electronic warfare platforms.

2. [\*\*Green Berets Hijacked WiFi To Control Home Security System Then Vanish In Mock Raid \(TWZ, 29 AUG, Joseph Trevithick\)\*\*](#)

Green Berets also used electronic warfare gear to eliminate evidence of their activities during the realistic infiltration and raiding exercise.

3. [\*\*Japan condemns Chinese aircraft violation of its airspace \(DW, 27 AUG\)\*\*](#)

Tokyo said the Chinese military plane's incursion was a "serious violation of our sovereignty." Japan summoned a Beijing diplomat to protest the surveillance aircraft flying over its airspace.

4. [\*\*Electronic Warfare: Taiwan Takes A Leaf Out Of Russia's EW Handbook To Thwart 'Inevitable' Chinese Attack \(EurAsian Times, 27 AUG, Sakshi Tiwari\)\*\*](#)

Taiwan is closely observing the ongoing Russia-Ukraine War amid escalating threats from China. While it is believed to have learned critical lessons from the Ukrainian forces to thwart invasion, it may now be drawing inspiration from Russia on the usage of Electronic Warfare (EW).

5. [\*\*Chinese Y-9 "EW & Recon" Aircraft Intrudes Into Japanese Airspace For 1<sup>st</sup> Time After 'Sniffing Ops' In 2023 \(EurAsian Times, 26 AUG, Sakshi Tiwari\)\*\*](#)

In an unprecedented development, a Chinese Y-9 intelligence-gathering military aircraft entered Japanese airspace for the first time, forcing the Japanese Self-Defense Air Force (JSDAF) to scramble fighter jets in response to the violation.

6. [\*\*Chinese Electronic Intelligence Plane Makes Unprecedented Incursion Into Japanese Airspace \(TWZ, 26 AUG, Thomas Newdick\)\*\*](#)

Japan says this is the first time that a Chinese military aircraft has entered its territorial airspace unauthorized.

7. [\*\*New electronic warfare system set to be tested \(Taipei Times, 25 AUG, Lo Tien-pin & Jonathan Chin\)\*\*](#)

Taiwan is next month to test a jamming device that might cause large-scale electromagnetic interference in the sea off Yilan County and along its coastline, a government notice to limit navigation in the test area said.

8. [\*\*Ukraine Is Now Dominating The Drone And Electronic Warfare Domains \(Forbes, 21 AUG, Vikram Mittal\)\*\*](#)

During their initial invasion of Crimea in 2014, the Russian military skillfully integrated drones and electronic warfare into their operations. Their electronic warfare systems caused chaos on Ukrainian communication networks and pinpointed the locations of Ukrainian units. Drones would then fly in and target the Ukrainian positions. This tactic proved highly effective, prompting many militaries to adapt their technologies and strategies. At the time, Russia was the leader in military drone and electronic warfare technology, particularly those employed at the tactical level. However, over the thirty months since they launched their full-scale invasion of Ukraine, Russia has lost their edge in these technical areas.

9. [\*\*As Deep As Alaska — China’s New AI-Based EW System Can Detect U.S. Military Radars In Pacific – Scientists \(EurAsian Times, 19 AUG, Ritu Sharma\)\*\*](#)

Taking big strides in electronic intelligence, the Chinese AI-based EW system has reportedly been able to find the radar signals emanating from military radars deployed by the US in the South China Sea, Guam, the Marshall Islands, and the Aleutian Islands near Alaska.

10. [\*\*Electronic Warfare Systems On Ukraine’s F-16s Getting Specially Tuned To Russian Threats By USAF \(TWZ, 26 AUG, Joseph T\)\*\*](#)

The U.S. is using its highly classified threat library to improve the chances of survival for Ukraine’s F-16 and to gather critical intel in return.





## Information Advantage

1. [\*\*The Country that NATO and the West are Losing to Russia\*\*](#) (News Week, 27 AUG, Matthew Tostevin)

Across the country of Georgia, the gold-starred blue flags of the European Union fly above everything from government ministries to tiny local police stations and seem almost as ubiquitous as the red and white national flag with its cross of St. George.

2. [\*\*Why Telegram's Extremism Worries Governments So Much\*\*](#) (BNN Bloomberg, 26 AUG, Eleanor Thornber & Jeff Stone)

Whether it's spreading conspiracy theories or organizing riots, messaging app Telegram has become a focus of extremist activity online. The service, started in 2013, is one of the most downloaded apps worldwide. Its private chat setting has made Telegram a free space for open discussion in countries with authoritarian regimes. But a relatively light-touch approach to content moderation means it's now a prime target for governments trying to stop criminal activities and the spread of misinformation that can destabilize societies. On Aug. 24, French authorities arrested Chief Executive Officer Pavel Durov over an alleged failure to take steps to prevent the criminal use of Telegram, including the spread of child sexual abuse material. The company put out a statement that it abides by European laws.

3. [\*\*Meta Exposes Iranian Hacker Group Targeting Global Political Figures on WhatsApp\*\*](#) (The Hacker News, 24 AUG, Ravie Lakshmanan)

Meta Platforms on Friday became the latest company after Microsoft, Google, and OpenAI to expose the activities of an Iranian state-sponsored threat actor, who it said used a set of WhatsApp accounts that attempted to target individuals in Israel, Palestine, Iran, the U.K., and the U.S.

4. [\*\*List of Chinese entities who have turned to the cloud for access to restricted US tech\*\*](#) (Reuters, 23 AUG, Beijing newsroom)

State-linked Chinese entities are using cloud services provided by Amazon (AMZN.O), opens new tab or its rivals to access advanced U.S. chips and artificial intelligence capabilities that they cannot acquire otherwise, recent public tender documents showed.

5. [\*\*US-China Rivalry Engulfs UAE's Artificial Intelligence University; Here's How MBZUAI Is Caught In The Storm\*\*](#) (EurAsian Times, 22 Aug, Prakash Nanda)

It becomes a big challenge to deal with when one has two close friends, but these close friends are not exactly friendly in their behavior towards each other. This is what the United Arab Emirates (UAE) seems to be facing today, with a friend like China on the one hand and the United States on the other.

6. [\*\*US Intelligence Officials Say Iran is to Blame for Hacks Targeting Trump, Biden-Harris Campaigns\*\*](#) (AP News, 19 AUG, Eric Tucker)

U.S. intelligence officials said Monday they were confident that Iran was responsible for the hack of Donald Trump's presidential campaign, casting the cyber intrusion as part of a brazen and broader effort by Tehran to interfere in American politics and potentially shape the outcome of the election.

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7. [OpenAI Blocks Iranian Influence Operation Using ChatGPT for U.S. Election Propaganda](#) (The Hacker News, 17 AUG, Ravie Lakshmanan)

OpenAI on Friday said it banned a set of accounts linked to what it said was an Iranian covert influence operation that leveraged ChatGPT to generate content that, among other things, focused on the upcoming U.S. presidential election.

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## Signal

1. [\*\*Protecting VSAT Communications \(NSA, 26 AUG\)\*\*](#)

VSAT communications are at risk. Commercial Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) networks are increasingly used for remote communications in support of U.S. government missions. Due to the nature of VSAT network communication links and recent vulnerabilities discovered in VSAT terminals, network communications over these links are at risk of being exposed and may be targeted by adversaries for the sensitive information they contain or to compromise connected networks.

2. [\*\*Starlink Boosts US Navy's Might! USS Abraham Lincoln Gets Elon Musk's Terminals For High Speed Internet \(EurAsian Times, 21 AUG, Ashish Dangwal\)\*\*](#)

The US Navy's Naval Information Warfare Systems Command (NAVWAR) has installed Starlink and Kymeta terminals on the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72).

3. [\*\*Reliant on Starlink, Army eager for more SATCOM constellation options \(Defense News, 21 AUG, Courtney Albon\)\*\*](#)

The Army is leaning heavily on SpaceX's Starlink satellite network for advanced command and control, but service officials say they want to keep their options open as new commercial megaconstellations materialize.

4. [\*\*DISA eyes more vendors, faster contracts for joint cloud successor \(Defense News, 21 AUG, Courtney Albon\)\*\*](#)

As the Pentagon maps out the next phase of the Joint Warfighting Cloud Capability, officials are prioritizing speed, a streamlined contracting process and a broader vendor pool, according to the director of the Defense Information Systems Agency.

5. [\*\*Air Force Extends Contract with SandboxAQ to Develop AQNav Technology to Address GPS Jamming and Spoofing \(Inside GNSS, 16 AUG\)\*\*](#)

Next phase of USAF contract will explore additional configurations for deployment on a wider range of aircraft platforms, including unmanned aerial systems.

6. [\*\*Starlink Now Being Deployed On U.S. Navy Warships \(TWZ, 22 AUG, Joseph Trevithick\)\*\*](#)

Starlink is part of the Navy's ambitious SEA2 program that aims to provide high-bandwidth resilient global connectivity for U.S. warships that will have major operational and morale benefits.

## Items of Interest

1. [7 US troops hurt in a raid with Iraqi forces that left 15 suspected militants dead \(AP News, 31 AUG, Jon Gambrell\)](#)

The United States military and Iraq launched a joint raid targeting suspected Islamic State group militants in the country's western desert that killed at least 15 people and left seven American troops hurt, officials said Saturday.

2. [Philippines says China's South China Sea moves aggressive, illegal \(Reuters, 26 AUG, ikhail Flores; Liz Lee & Bernard Orr\)](#)

The Philippine government slammed China on Monday for "repeated aggressive, unprofessional and illegal" actions in the South China Sea after a string of clashes and incidents on air and at sea over the past week.

3. [Army Private Who Ran into North Korea Will Plead Guilty to Desertion, 4 Other Charges as Part of Plea Deal \(Military.com, 26 AUG, Konstantin Toropin\)](#)

Pvt. Travis King, the soldier who dramatically ran across the border into North Korea last year, has reached a deal with Army prosecutors and will be pleading guilty to some of the criminal charges against him, according to his lawyer.

4. [China-Taiwan Weekly Update, August 23, 2024 \(ISW, 23 AUG, Matthew Sperzel, Daniel Shats Alexis Turek\)](#)

### Key Takeaways

- The PRC carried out a 30-hour patrol of the Taiwan Strait after its summer fishing moratorium ended. The increase in maritime traffic in the Taiwan Strait risks accidents and other incidents involving PRC and ROC vessels, which the PRC may use as a pretext to expand the scope of its law enforcement activities against Taiwan.
- CCG ships intruded into Taiwan's restricted waters around Kinmen twice on August 16, the day the PRC's fishing moratorium ended, and twice on August 21.
- The PRC announced that it will implement export controls for antimony on September 15. The US Department of Interior designated antimony as a critical mineral in 2018.
- The PRC is taking steps to secure its supply of critical minerals as it closes off access to other countries.
- A Chinese Coast Guard ship rammed a Philippine Coast Guard ship twice near Sabina Shoal on August 19.

5. [Army's HADES Surveillance Bizjet Program Moves Forward With Sierra Nevada Corp. Deal \(TWZ, 22 AUG, Joseph Trevithick\)](#)

The HADES jets will pack radars and other sensors and fly faster, further, and higher than the Army's existing turboprop intel planes.

6. [Inflatable Ukrainian F-16 Decoy Emerges At Defense Show \(TWZ, 22 AUG, Thomas Newdick\)](#)

The appearance of the decoy, from a Czech specialist, comes soon after the arrival of the first F-16s in Ukraine.

7. [Exploring a PRC Short-of-War Coercion Campaign to Seize Taiwan's Kinmen Islands and Possible Responses \(ISW, 21 AUG, Matthew Sperzel, Daniel Shats & Alexis Turek\)](#)

Key Takeaways

- The People's Republic of China (PRC) began aggressively challenging Taiwan's jurisdiction over its outlying islands, especially Kinmen, in February 2024. Repeated Chinese Coast Guard incursions in Taiwan-controlled waters around Kinmen aim to normalize the PRC's "law enforcement" jurisdiction in the area.
- The PRC can escalate current lines of effort (LOEs) to erode Taiwan's sovereignty over its outlying territory of Kinmen in a short-of-war coercion campaign to seize control of the island group in the near term.
- The PRC can escalate coast guard activities to initiate a quarantine around Kinmen that denies passage to Taiwanese government ships and economically squeezes the islands. The PRC can enhance Kinmen's isolation by imposing a no-fly zone and sabotaging communication infrastructure, before finally coercing Kinmen to demilitarize under PRC oversight.
- US unpreparedness or unwillingness to intervene amid domestic and international distractions increases the likelihood of this scenario. Trends in Taiwan's domestic politics that diminish the PRC's confidence in its ability to achieve "peaceful reunification" also contribute to the likelihood of such a coercion campaign.
- PRC efforts to seize Kinmen will strike at Taiwan's political will to resist "unification." A successful incorporation of Kinmen by the PRC would significantly diminish Taiwan's faith in the United States' will to come to Taiwan's aid and its own ability to defend itself.
- The United States, Taiwan, and their partners must prepare for the possibility of PRC short-of-war coercion against Taiwan's outlying islands by "pre-bunking" CCP propaganda narratives that justify such a campaign, strengthening the resilience of communication infrastructure in Taiwan's outlying territories, and bolstering Taiwan's maritime law enforcement around the islands.
- The United States and its partners should respond to PRC efforts to seize control of Kinmen by maximizing the economic and reputational costs for the PRC, thwarting the quarantine and communication blockade of Kinmen, and communicating its will to strengthen US defense commitment to Taiwan as a consequence of PRC aggression.
- The United States should respond to a successful PRC seizure of Kinmen by significantly increasing its troop deployments and arms sales to Taiwan, coordinating joint coast guard patrols with Taiwan and other partners, and amending relevant laws to help protect Taiwan's outlying islands from further coercion.

8. [Iran's Bizarre 'Aircraft Carrier' Seen In New Detail \(TWZ, 21 AUG, Thomas Newdick\)](#)

A converted commercial ship with an angled flight deck, the Shahid Bagheri looks strange but could fill a mission set that Iran has been developing for years.

9. [China-Taiwan Weekly Update, August 16, 2024](#) (ISW, 16 AUG, Matthew Sperzel, Daniel Shats, Alexander Richter & Alexis Turek)

Key Takeaways

- The PRC released four members of a Taiwanese fishing boat on August 13, whom it detained near Kinmen on July 2. The crew's release does not indicate a change in the PRC's long-term coercion campaign against Taiwan, however.
- The PRC exempted Fujian residents from a travel ban covering Taiwan's Matsu islands, possibly to make decoupling from the PRC a politically unpopular policy among Matsu residents.
- ROC officials warned that PRC outreach to religious groups in Taiwan is a national security risk.
- The PRC's Ministry of Foreign Affairs accused the National Endowment for Democracy of carrying out subversive activities against the PRC under the guise of democracy promotion.
- The PLA Air Force conducted unsafe and unprofessional maneuvers while intercepting a Philippine military transport plane over Scarborough Shoal. This was the first time that the Philippine-PRC disputes in the South China Sea led to an aerial confrontation.
- The PRC reiterated its support for Iran and called for Israel to end the war in Gaza following the assassination of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh.

## Israel-Hamas 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](#), August 31, 2024

[Iran Update](#), August 30, 2024

[Iran Update](#), August 29, 2024

[Iran Update](#), August 28, 2024

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### 2. [Israeli army launches major operation in West Bank](#) (DW, 28 AUG)

Israel claims its forces are "operating with full force" in the West Bank to target "Iranian-Islamic infrastructures." Palestinian health officials report several casualties among Palestinians in the ongoing clashes.

### 3. [The War That Won't End](#) (The Daily, 28 AUG, Sabrina Tavernise & Patrick Kingsley)

The war in Gaza has been going on for almost a year. Why have Israel and Hamas not reached a cease-fire?

### 4. [Greek-flagged oil tanker on fire after Houthi attack, EU naval mission says](#) (Reuters, 26 AUG, Ahmed Eliman, Nur-Azna Sanusi & Adam Makary)

The Greek-flagged crude oil tanker Sounion has been on fire in the Red Sea since Aug. 23 after an attack by Yemen's Houthis with no obvious signs of an oil spill, the EU Red Sea naval mission Aspides said in a post on X on Monday.

### 5. [Israel vs. Hezbollah in Lebanon: a timeline](#) (DW, 25 AUG)

Although violence has recently escalated, there have been skirmishes on the Israeli-Lebanese border for decades. Here's what you need to know.

6. [Israel and Hezbollah say they don't want war - but they are both ready for it](#) (BBC, 25 AUG, Jon Donnison)

This morning's exchange of strikes between Israel and Hezbollah appears to be a significant escalation.

The Israeli military says around 100 fighter jets carried out what it described as pre-emptive strikes on Hezbollah targets across southern Lebanon on Sunday morning. Hezbollah later fired rockets and missiles into northern Israel.

7. [Israel strikes Lebanon as Hezbollah launches attack](#) (DW, 25 AUG, Pablo Foley Elias)

Israel's military said it carried out further attacks against Hezbollah rocket launchers in southern Lebanon, hours after it announced a pre-emptive strike against the Iran-backed Lebanese group.

8. [What is Hezbollah in Lebanon and will it go to war with Israel?](#) (BBC, 25 AUG)

The Israeli military has said its jets pre-emptively struck thousands of Hezbollah rocket launchers across southern Lebanon on Sunday, after identifying that Hezbollah was preparing an imminent attack on Israel.

9. [Has Palestinians' perception of Hamas changed?](#) (DW, 23 AUG, Tania Krämer)

Ten months into the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza, criticism on the street of the militant group Hamas appears to be growing. But gauging public opinion during a war is difficult.

10. [Hezbollah rockets hit Golan Heights after Israel strikes deep in Lebanon](#) (BBC, 21 AUG, David Gritten)

Hezbollah has launched dozens of rockets at the occupied Golan Heights after Israeli aircraft struck deep inside Lebanon, as fears of an all-out war grow.

The Israeli military said it hit Hezbollah weapons storage facilities in the Bekaa Valley overnight. The Lebanese health ministry said one person was killed and 30 others injured.

11. [Gaza ceasefire progress is an illusion, says Hamas](#) (BBC, 17 AUG, Wyre Davies & Kathryn Armstrong)

Hamas has described suggestions of progress on an Israel-Gaza ceasefire deal as an illusion, after US President Joe Biden said he was feeling "optimistic".

Following two days of US-backed talks in Qatar, President Biden said on Friday "we are closer than we have ever been".

12. [Israel-Hamas war: Hostage families urge Doha truce deal](#) (DW, 16 AUG, Irfan Aftab)

Protesters in Israel demand the return of the remaining hostages in Gaza as cease-fire talks in Qatar enter a second day. The negotiations come amid heightened Middle East tensions following the killing of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Iran



## Russia-Ukraine Conflict

### 1. Institute for The Study of War

- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), August 31, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), August 30, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), August 29, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), August 28, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), August 27, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), August 26, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), August 25, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), August 24, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), August 23, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), August 22, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), August 21, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), August 20, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), August 19, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), August 18, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), August 17, 2024
- [Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment](#), August 16, 2024

### 2. [Ukraine Pushing Slowly West In Russia Towards Key Kursk City \(TWZ, 31 AUG, Howard Altman\)](#)

The town of Glushkovo is the last bastion for an estimated 3,000 Russian troops trapped south of the Seim River in Kursk.

### 3. [Fall Of Key Ukrainian City To Russia Could Be An “Operational Catastrophe” \(TWZ, 29 AUG, Howard Altman\)](#)

Russian forces are only about eight miles away from Pokrovsk which is a key logistics hub for Ukraine.

### 4. [Ukraine Bracketing Key Kursk Highway With Drones To Slow Russian Logistics \(TWZ, 28 AUG, Howard Altman\)](#)

Ukraine has been targeting the key E38 Highway from miles away with drones to impede Russia’s ability to reinforce Kursk Oblast.

### 5. [Interactive Map: Hundreds of Known Russian Military Objects are in Range of ATACMS \(ISW, 27 AUG, George Barros\)](#)

Hundreds of known Russian military and paramilitary objects in Russia are in range of Ukrainian ATACMS. ISW presents the following list and interactive map of known military and paramilitary objects to illustrate the extent to which US restrictions on Ukraine’s use of ATACMS constrain Ukraine’s ability to strike important military infrastructure in Russia.

### 6. [Pace of Ukraine Advance Slowing As Kursk Invasion Hits Three-Week Mark \(TWZ, 27 AUG, Howard Altman\)](#)

As Ukraine continues to fight inside Russia, the fate of a key city in Donetsk remains precarious.

7. [\*\*Moscow says US involvement in Ukrainian incursion into Russia's Kursk is 'an obvious fact'\*\*](#) (Reuters, 27 AUG, Lucy Papachristou & Guy Faulconbridge)

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said on Tuesday that the involvement of the United States in Ukraine's ongoing incursion into Russia's western Kursk region was "an obvious fact", the TASS state news agency reported.

8. [\*\*Russia Deploys Soviet-Era Weapons to Defend Kursk\*\*](#) (Newsweek, 27 AUG, Isabel van Brugen)

Russia is deploying Soviet-era weapons to defend its Kursk region amid Ukraine's three-week-old incursion into the territory, a video published by Russia's defense ministry shows.

9. [\*\*Russia: Targeting civilians in Ukraine with drones\*\*](#) (DW, 27 AUG, Esther Felden, Julett Pineda, Nina Werkhäuser & Igor Burdyga)

For months, Russian drones have terrorized civilians near Ukraine's frontline. DW Investigations reveals that some of these attacks could constitute war crimes, with efforts underway to identify potential perpetrators.

10. [\*\*Ukraine's army chief says his troops control nearly 500 square miles of Russia's Kursk region\*\*](#) (AP News, 27 AUG, Illia Novikov)

The chief of Ukraine's army said Tuesday that the country's troops have gained control of nearly 1,300 square kilometers (500 square miles) of Russia's Kursk region since their surprise incursion three weeks ago.

11. [\*\*Ukraine residents 'hunted' by Russian drones\*\*](#) (DW, 27 AUG, Esther Felden & Nita Blake-Persen)

The Ukrainian city of Beryslav has become a hotspot for Russian drone attacks which have killed or injured around 150 civilians here so far. DW has been investigating why Beryslav has seen such a disproportionate level of drone activity and found evidence that Russia may be testing a new type of drone on civilians.

12. [\*\*Ukraine updates: Russia renews overnight attacks\*\*](#) (DW, 27 AUG)

Russia resumed its attacks on Kyiv and other regions just a day after attacking Ukraine's power grid. Meanwhile, UN nuclear chief Rafael Grossi has arrived on a visit to Russia's Kursk atomic plant. DW has the latest:

13. [\*\*Russia's deadly overnight barrage of missiles and drones hits over half of Ukraine\*\*](#) (AP News, 26 AUG, Illia Novikov)

Russia battered much of Ukraine on Monday, firing scores of missiles and drones that killed four people, injured more than a dozen and damaged energy facilities in attacks that President Volodymyr Zelenskyy described as "vile."

14. [\*\*How Russian drones terrorize a Ukrainian city\*\*](#) (DW, 26 AUG)

The small Ukrainian city of Beryslav on the Dnipro River has become the target of an unprecedented wave of Russian drone strikes that has left nearly 150 civilians injured or killed.

15. [Israel Launches Preemptive Strikes In Lebanon Just Before Hezbollah Carried Out Retribution Barrage \(Updated\)](#) (TWZ, 25 AUG, Howard Altman)

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) say they launched preemptive strikes on Hezbollah targets in Lebanon. Very shortly after those air strikes, Hezbollah fired a massive volley of rockets and drones at Israel, saying it was undertaking retaliation actions for the assassination last month of Hezbollah military commander Fuad Shukr in Beirut. Hezbollah did not say the rocket barrage was in response to Israel's strikes, so it would have been part of the impending attack Israel was working to degrade.

16. [Poorly trained recruits contribute to loss of Ukrainian territory on eastern front, commanders say](#) (AP News, 22 AUG, Samya Kullab)

Some new Ukrainian soldiers refuse to fire at the enemy. Others, according to commanders and fellow fighters, struggle to assemble weapons or to coordinate basic combat movements. A few have even walked away from their posts, abandoning the battlefield altogether.

17. [Ship Full Of Fuel Train Cars Detonates In Russian Port, Ukrainian Neptune Missile Suspected \(Updated\)](#) (TWZ, 22 AUG, Howard Altman)

It still isn't perfectly clear what happened to the ship, but the explosion occurred at a key Russian port located in the Kerch Strait.

18. [How Russia is recruiting foreigners to fight in Ukraine](#) (DW, 22 AUG, Hanna Sokolova-Stekh)

Russia is recruiting citizens from the global South to fight in its war against Ukraine, offering incentives beyond just good pay. DW has interviewed some of these soldiers to share their experiences and insights.

19. [Inside the Ukraine's Invasion of Russian](#) (The Daily, 21 AUG, Michael Barbaro & Andrew E. Kramer)

What the unlikely incursion could mean for the war.

20. [How Russia's army uses cash bonuses to find new recruits](#) (DW, 21 AUG, Janina Semenova)

Russia has stepped up its recruitment of soldiers after Ukraine's incursion into the Kursk region. One motivation for new volunteers seems to be a large cash bonus.

21. [Signals Intelligence Center Targeted In Drone Attack On Moscow: Ukraine's Intel Chief](#) (TWZ, 21 AUG, Howard Altman)

From Moscow to Murmansk, Ukrainian drones have attacked targets across western Russia over the last 24 hours.

22. [Thousands Of Russian Troops In Kursk Likely Trapped By Blown Bridges](#) (TWZ, 20 AUG, Howard Altman)

Ukraine is trying to close in on Russian troops south of the Seim River to clear out another pocket of Russia's Kursk Oblast.

23. [Why Russia's Kursk region is important for Ukraine](#) (DW, 20 AUG, Ralph Martin)

Ukraine says it isn't trying to take Russia's territory in order to occupy or exploit it. Ukraine wants a buffer zone — territory that Russia needs to cross over if it wants to attack.

24. [Belarus sends more troops and aircraft to its border with Ukraine](#) (AP News, 19 AUG, Yuras Karmanau)

Belarus has deployed aircraft and air defense troops to its border with Ukraine, a day after President Alexander Lukashenko announced he would station almost a third of the country's military along the frontier.

25. [Ukraine Pushing Westward In Kursk To Create A "Buffer Zone"](#) (TWZ, 19 AUG, Howard Altman)

After dropping multiple bridges, Ukraine's push westward, south of the Seim River, would give it more Russian territory along its border.

26. [Ukraine incursion into Russia aims to create buffer zone](#) (DW, 19 AUG, Dmitry Ponyavin)

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy says the aim of the surprise incursion into Russia is to create a buffer zone. He said "our primary task is to destroy as much Russian war potential as possible."

27. [Assessing the Significance of the Current Russian and Ukrainian Operations for the Course of the War](#) (ISW, 17 AUG, Riley Bailey, Christina Harward, Angelica Evans, Grace Mappes, Davit Gasparyan, & Frederick W. Kagan)

The Ukrainian incursion into Kursk Oblast and Russian offensive operations in eastern Ukraine are not in themselves decisive military operations that will win the war. Both Russian and Ukrainian forces lack the capability to conduct individual decisive war-winning operations and must instead conduct multiple successive operations with limited operational objectives that are far short of victory, but that in aggregate can achieve strategic objectives. It is too early to assess the outcomes and operational significance of the Ukrainian incursion into Russia and the ongoing Russian offensive effort in eastern Ukraine. The significance of these operations will not emerge in isolation, moreover, but they will matter in so far as they relate to a series of subsequent Russian and Ukrainian campaigns over time.