

Meanwhile in Ukraine

Ukrainian Union of Military and Security

Even though life in Ukraine is difficult because of the war started by Russia, some days and even weeks seem extremely difficult and dangerous. The past week has been just like that.

Russian occupation forces fired more than 60 Shahed kamikaze drones and almost 90 missiles of various types at Ukraine on the night of 21-22 March.

Russians hit power plants, energy supply lines, a hydroelectric dam, and ordinary residential buildings. Their target was even a trolleybus, where the driver, who was hurrying on his route, was killed. And even more: the 35-year-old man and his 8-year-old died in an attack on the private sector in Zaporizhzhia city.



Photo credit: State Emergency Service of Ukraine in Zaporizhzhia

And this is far from a complete list of victims. Two people died as a result of the attack also in Khmelnytskyi region. The number of injured as a result of the attack that night is estimated in the tens in different regions.

Only in Zaporizhzhia 450 houses were damaged. Unfortunately, there have been hits on Ukraine's largest hydroelectric power plant, Dnipro HPP in Zaporizhzhia.

The Russian forces, having already destroyed the Kakhovka hydroelectric power plant in the Kherson region, are now attempting to create another environmental disaster by targeting the hydroelectric infrastructure of Dnipro HPP and its dam. Rescuers, power engineers, regional and local authorities, police, and utility services were helping people. All services are constantly working on the recovery of Kharkiv, Khmelnytskyi, Zaporizhzhia, Sumy, Poltava, Dnipro, Odesa, Vinnytsia, and Ivano-Frankivsk regions. Infrastructure and private housing in these nine regions suffered the most damage from Russian shelling.



Photo credit: State Emergency Service of Ukraine in Khmelnytskyi region

During the shelling, the power facilities of Lviv Oblast were also damaged. The shelling of the Kherson region does not stop for a single day. There, the occupiers continue to shell settlements, destroy civilian homes, and drop explosives from drones directly on the heads of residents.

Ukraine's Air Force Commander Mykola Oleshchuk reported that during the attack, Ukrainian air defense units destroyed 92 out of 151 Russian aerial targets on the night of 21-22 March: 55 kamikaze drones, 35 Kh-101/Kh-555 cruise missiles and 2 Kh-59 guided air-to-surface missiles.

The day before, on March 21, Russia launched a large-scale missile attack on Kyiv city and Kyiv Oblast. Anti-aircraft missile units of the Ukrainian Air Force and mobile fire groups of the Ukrainian Defense Forces intercepted two ballistic missiles and 29 cruise missiles launched by Russian forces.

The attack damaged apartment buildings, a kindergarten, a business, infrastructure, and vehicles in Kyiv city.

In the Kyiv region, 69 private houses were damaged. Several apartments in five high-rise buildings were affected too. In addition, missile debris damaged 14 vehicles and 11 non-residential buildings – a lab, fences, garages, and utility rooms.

The attack on Kyiv city and Kyiv Oblast also left people injured, including children.

During the bombing, the Russians follow dirty tactics

When rescuers and medics work on liquidation of the aftermath of the drone or missile attack, occupiers launch another attack to injure and kill people when they involuntarily form a crowd.

We observed one such example these days when the Russian Armed Forces attacked the Osnovianskyi district of Kharkiv with drones. A three-story municipal building was partially destroyed. A fire broke out in an area of 150 square meters. When rescuers and police arrived, the enemy struck again. Two employees of the State Emergency Service and one of the National Police were injured.

The same situation occurred a week ago in Odesa. Then a medic and two rescuers died from repeated shelling.

Shelling is common when repair crews are doing recovery work trying to restore the provision of power, water, and communications, or when firefighters are putting out fires caused by initial shelling. We believe it is important to know in order to understand what kind of enemy the Ukrainians are facing.