



*And must have whiskey  
Oh, you know why*

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**June 20, 2022**

## **Ukraine SitRep - Lysichansk Cauldron - Sinking Morale - More Provocations**

The former CIA and intelligence bigwig Graham Fuller predicts a gloomy outcome of the U.S-Russia proxy war in Ukraine. Gloomy [for Ukraine, the U.S. and Europe](#):

Contrary to Washington's triumphalist pronouncements, Russia is winning the war, Ukraine has lost the war. Any longer-term damage to Russia is open to debate.

American sanctions against Russia have turned out to be far more devastating to Europe than to Russia. The global economy has slowed and many developing nations face serious food shortages and risk of broad starvation.

There are already deep cracks in the European façade of so-called "NATO unity." Western Europe will increasingly rue the day that it blindly followed the American Pied Piper to war against Russia. Indeed, this is not a Ukrainian-Russian war but an American-Russian war fought by proxy to the last Ukrainian.

Contrary to optimistic declarations, NATO may in fact ultimately emerge weakened. Western Europeans will think long and hard about the wisdom and deep costs of provoking deeper long term confrontations with Russia or other "competitors" of the US.

Europe will sooner or later return to the purchase of inexpensive Russian energy. Russia lies on the doorstep and a natural economic relationship with Russia will possess overwhelming logic in the end.

Europe already perceives the US as a declining power with an erratic and hypocritical foreign policy "vision" premised upon the desperate need to preserve "American leadership" in the world. America's willingness to go to war to this end is increasingly dangerous to others.

All the above had already been said on this website in [late February and March](#). But it is good to see that seasoned intelligence people are now coming to similar conclusions.

Two weeks ago [I wrote](#) that the Ukrainians will soon reach a breaking point. Today's 'clobber list' by the Russia Ministry of Defense has an additional part about Ukrainian troop losses that [supports that take](#):

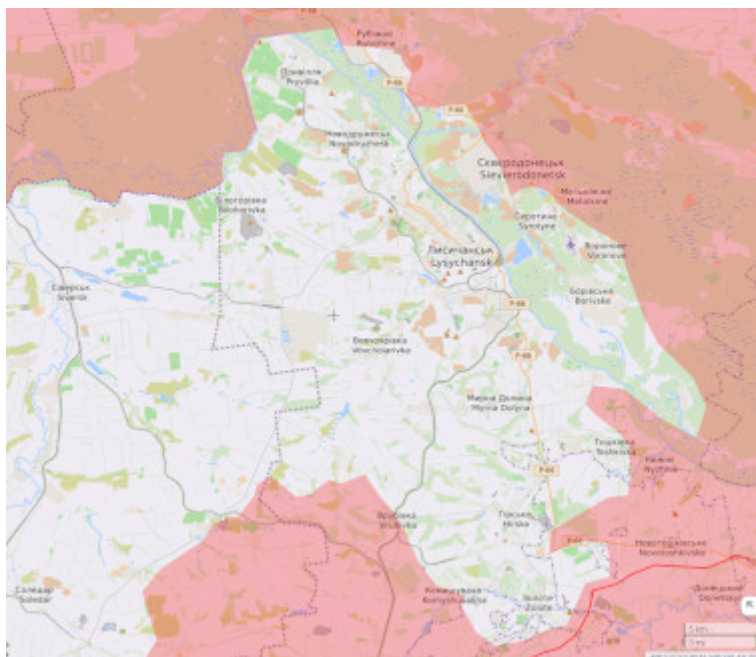
Since May 19, during the month, only the 14th Mechanised Brigade of the AFU has lost 2,100 persons who resulted dead and wounded. Due to low moral and psychological conditions, 800 persons destined for replenishing the losses of this unit, refused to go to the operational area and accused officers of incompetence, bribery and cronyism in paying money allowance.

About 100 servicemen of a reconnaissance unit of the 10th Mountain Assault Brigade have been relieved of combat duty and transported to Kremenchug for investigation.

A considerable part of the commanders of the 30th Mechanised Brigade of the AFU have abstracted themselves from managing their units and refuse to fulfil combat tasks. All kinds of pretexts are used for simulating illness. The majority of units have already been left without any officers.

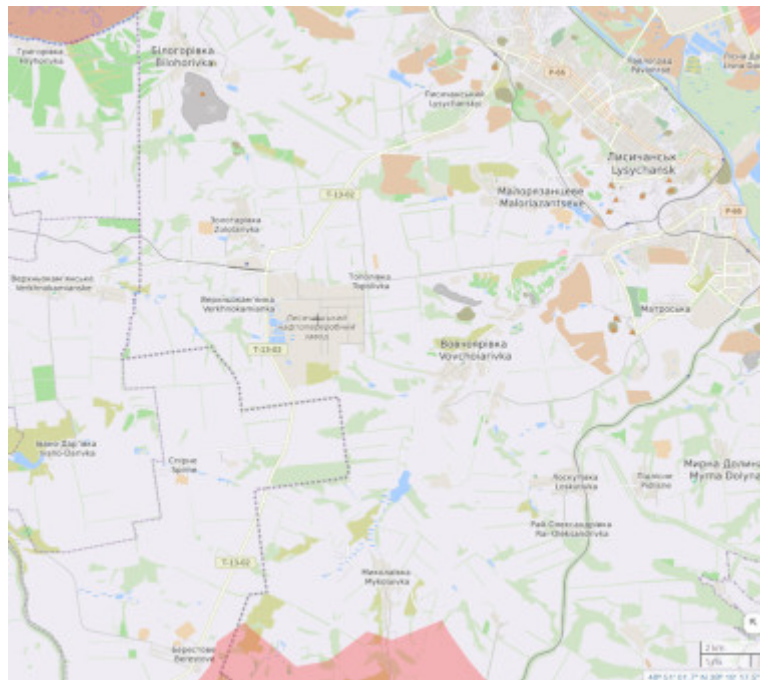
A mechanized brigade has about 3,500 soldiers. In one month the Ukrainian 14th lost two third of its people. The replacements are not trained on mechanized equipment (tanks, APCs) that likely no longer exists and can only be used as unprotected infantry. It is no wonder that they reject to be send into a hopeless situation.

The Ukrainian leadership is still sending new units into the Lysichansk cauldron in the east. The Russians do not mind that. Their job is to "demilitarize" Ukraine. To enclose more troops in one swoop makes that easier.



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The distance between the red Russian held area at the the top to the one at the bottom at the most narrow gap is a mere 15 kilometer or some 9 miles. There is only one open road running through it from west to east which is used for pushing resupplies to the Ukrainian troops in Lysichansk.



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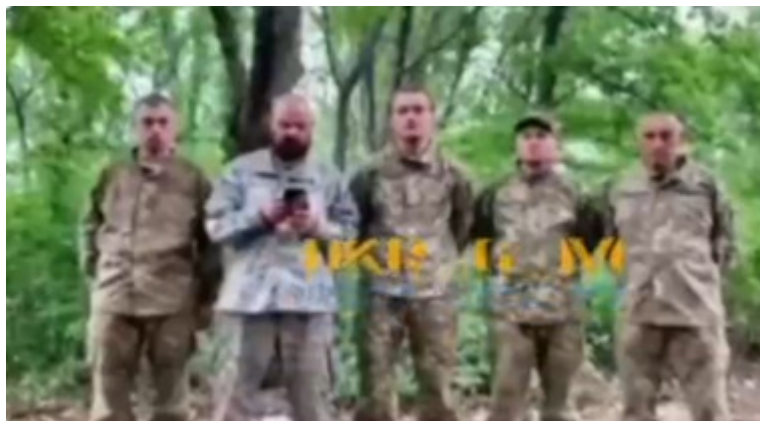
Currently fighting is taking place over Mykolaivka at the bottom of this detail map. Five kilometer north of it is the Lysichansk refinery. It will be the next target. The last road to Lysichansk runs directly north of it. When that road comes under direct Russian fire the cauldron will be closed and the boiling will start for those who are in it. For the ~20,000 soldiers in the cauldron it will mean surrender or die.

If that is still possible it will further lower the morale of other Ukrainian troops.

Ananke Group @AnankeGroup - [15:01 UTC · Jun 20, 2022](#)

"We, soldiers of the 8th battalion of the 10th brigade, based near the city of Seversk. We appeal to you, Mr. President, Mr. Zaluzhny, and to the Ukrainian people [...] We demand the immediate rotation of our remaining troops, physically and mentally there are no more forces.

[Embedded video](#)



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It is interesting that the troops also appeal to General Zaluzhny, the top commander of the Armed Forces of Ukrainian (AFU). It is the first time I hear that. The idea to fight in Lysichansk until the end came from Zelensky and his civilian advisors. Zaluzhny has reportedly been against that. He wanted those and other troops to retreat and wage a more mobile campaign. That would have shortened the front line and given a chance to create reserves that can rest and prepare for a later counterattack. There are rumors that Zelensky's advisors are now lobbying to replace Zaluzhny as he has increased his media presence. They probably fear a coup.

The Russian side [reported yesterday](#) that it had killed 50 generals and higher officer of the Armed Forces of Ukraine with a missile strike. The group was meeting to plan the further fight in the southern region of Odessa and Kherson. This now seems to have been confirmed:

Management Impact Solutions Consulting, LP - @MiExecSearch - [15:10 UTC · Jun 20, 2022](#)

Russian Armed Forces beat out AFU generals, who were holed up in the rear. The military-civilian administration of Zaporozhye region confirmed results of a missile strike on AFU command post near the village of Shirokaya Dacha, 57 top-level officers were killed.

Last night, probably in response to the strike on the officers, the Ukrainians fired a missile against a gas and oil production platform in the waters near Crimea. The installation was damaged. Russia considers that to be a direct attack on valuable infrastructure within Russian territory and will likely give a strong response.

Yesterday Lithuania announced that it would immediately prohibit Russian goods under EU sanctions to cross from Belarus to the Kaliningrad enclave at the Baltic seas which is Russian territory. That is in breach of several international agreements which guarantee unhindered Russian access to the city. Russia has yet to announce a response to this new provocation.

Posted by b on June 20, 2022 at 16:47 UTC | [Permalink](#)

## Comments

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Is Lithuania able to be sued anymore, or are all old courts off limits for Russia now?

"I see many people speculating that European elites have been bribed or threatened to go along with America on Russian sanctions since they are so damaging to European businesses and economies. That isn't necessary, they are friends and family, and they plan these big moves and agree on them before they then clue-in the big politicians and powerful business people not in their social class. That is what the famous forums like The Bilderberg meetings, The Aspen Institute meetings, The World Economic Forum at Davos, The Trilateral Commission meetings, and many others are for, to tell the politicians and business people not in their social group what to do.

Big institutions like banks and retirement funds have been moving their money out of the Euro and British Pound into dollars recently because they have been losing a lot of value against the dollar since the sanctions started. It is expected to continue. Economist Michael Hudson said that this is part of an agenda to wall off all of European business from the Russia-China-Iran economic sphere of influence to force them to move into relying on the more expensive America. The elites in control of Europe and America and elsewhere don't need to be bribed or threatened to enact policies which hurt their own nations. They have already been doing that all the time by outsourcing and others forms of predatory finance capitalism which causes all sorts of harm to national economies and people while increasing the wealth and power of elites. [No More Omerta or: The Power Elite Says The Quiet Part Out Loud](#)

Posted by: Kana | Jun 20 2022 16:52 utc | [1](#)

Thanks b for the update

Posted by: jo6pac | Jun 20 2022 16:53 utc | [2](#)

I cant really help myself but I see a Troll Face in the first map :)

Posted by: Macpott | Jun 20 2022 16:53 utc | [3](#)

thanks b....

i agree with the overview and the fellow graham fuller's observations and conclusions.. it seems insane for the ukrainians to continue on this way.. but i suspect zelensky is being guided by the usa-uk and this is why they continue on... i am not sure what they envision as the end point in all this... i still think zelensky is on track to be taken out and replaced.. General Zaluzhny sounds like a possible candidate, but i can't see usa-uk letting something like this happen... zelensky is their useful idiot and they will be sticking with him..

Posted by: james | Jun 20 2022 16:55 utc | [4](#)

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the issue of the Lithuania announcement and its after effects will be interesting to watch.. obviously it is all speculation at this point...

Posted by: james | Jun 20 2022 17:03 utc | [5](#)

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Pro-Ukrainian twitterati are crowing about an attack last night on Snake Island using MLRS recently supplied by USA. No confirmation. No pictures. Also reported shells fired on civilians in Donetsk to be of Norwegian manufacture.

Posted by: Ghost Ship | Jun 20 2022 17:05 utc | [6](#)

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On the subject of provocation.

This is taking things to a very dangerous level.

We are in sudden move then disaster territory.

And one side populated with idiots in the West.

Russia Demands Lithuania Lift "Openly Hostile" Blockade; Panic Buying Ensues

Posted by: Jpc | Jun 20 2022 17:07 utc | [7](#)

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Graham Fuller was quoted as saying

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Indeed, this is not a Ukrainian-Russian war but an American-Russian war fought by proxy to the last Ukrainian.

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I would posit that this proxy war could grow to include fighting down to the last European and then down to the last American because the God of Mammon cult has no national allegiance....well, maybe Switzerland where the BIS is located...grin

Posted by: [psychohistorian](#) | Jun 20 2022 17:12 utc | [8](#)

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There must be some sane people at the Pentagon who are horrified to witness the systematic destruction of Ukraine military unabated. Worse, if Zelensky pushes Zalunzhny away from power, it gets uglier with more grinding and deaths - not stopped by reason and dominated by the Nazis.

They don't even call for a ceasefire - to give them more time (like Minsk II). Not that Russia would agree...

They are playing into Russia's hands as to preventing a long war that drains them by continuing the slaughter of Ukraine soldiers.

Posted by: Eighthman | Jun 20 2022 17:26 utc | [9](#)

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Zelenskiy couldn't care less about the lives of ordinary Ukrainians. He is high on drugs and, as a stage professional, the eyes of the world. His foreign accounts are no doubt being generously padded, and when all is said and done, he will retire as a \$100 millionaire in some posh EU capital with frequent trips to his Israeli "homeland".