

How the battle for Avdeevka proceeds: analysis of Rybar

October 21, 2023

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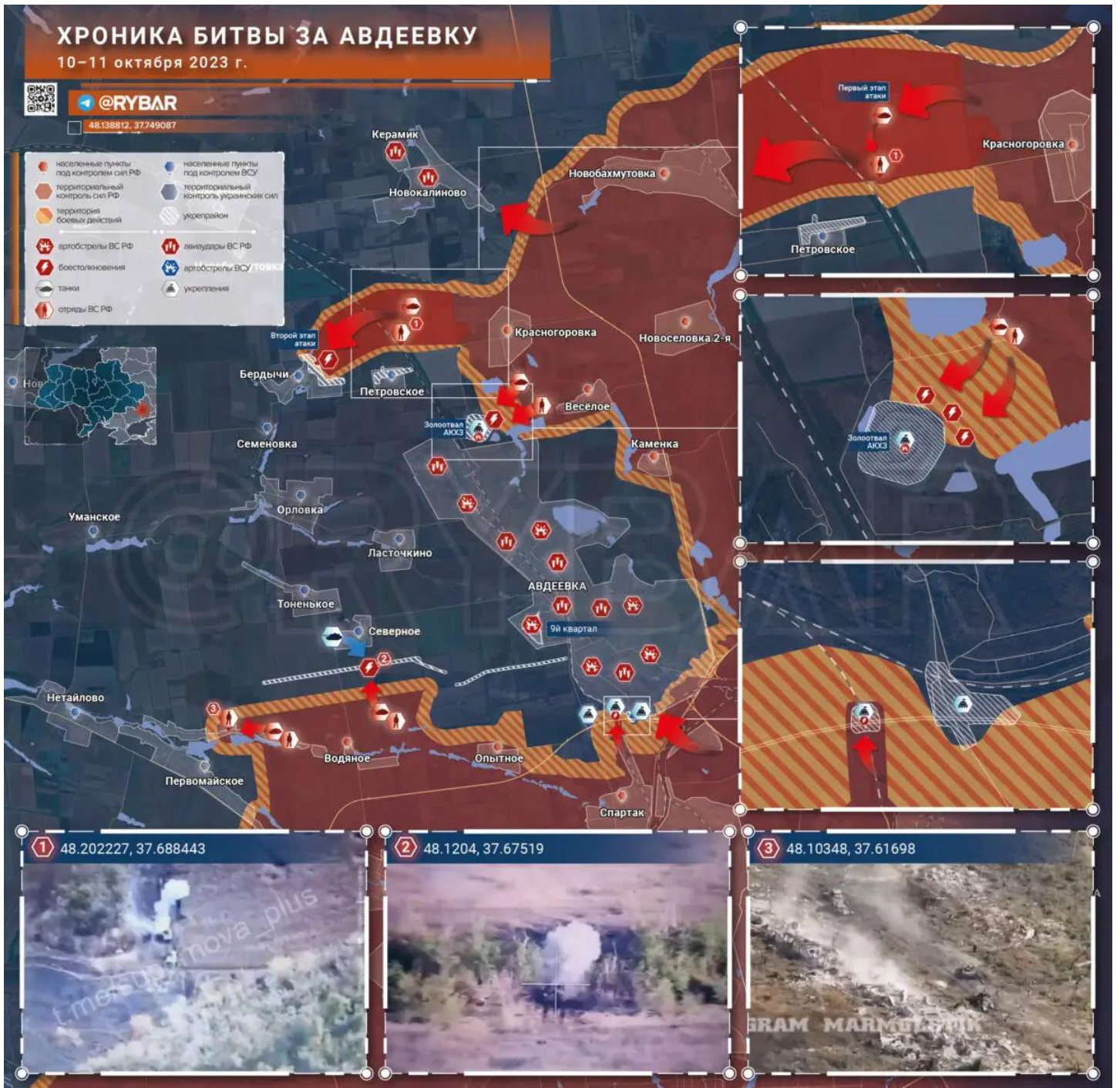
On October 10, at 4 am, the operation to cover the Avdeevsky fortified area began with large-scale artillery and aviation preparation . According to reports from the field, the entire range of cannon and rocket artillery was noted, bombs with UMPC, including one and a half ton bombs, were actively used.

In the feedback bot, we were repeatedly asked to shed light on the tactics of the Russian troops: given the abundance of footage of damaged Russian equipment on the Internet, the average person got the impression that the operation to cover Avdeevka turned into a second assault on **Ugledar** .

Therefore, **Rybar's team** presents a detailed analysis of the battle for Avdeevka and records the result achieved by the end of October 21.

Stage one: October 10-11, 2023

Apparently, the main goal of the first stage of the operation was to expand the semi-coverage of the fortified area by taking under fire control the roads leading to the already semi-encircled **Avdiivka** .



On the northern flank, from **Novobakhmutovka**, an apparently diversionary attack was carried out on **Keramik** and **Novokalinovo**, which was also accompanied by artillery and air strikes.

The main push from **Krasnohorivka** to **Berdychi** allowed us to jump over abandoned railway lines leading to **Avdeevka** and catch on to the northeastern outskirts of **Berdychi**. Not so many forces were involved in this breakthrough: only five groups crossed the “piece of iron”, which managed to create a “center of concern” on the northern flank of the Avdeevsky fortified area and force the enemy to disperse reserves with harassing fire.

From the southwest, attacks were directed from **Vodyanoye** and **Opytny** to **Severnoy**.

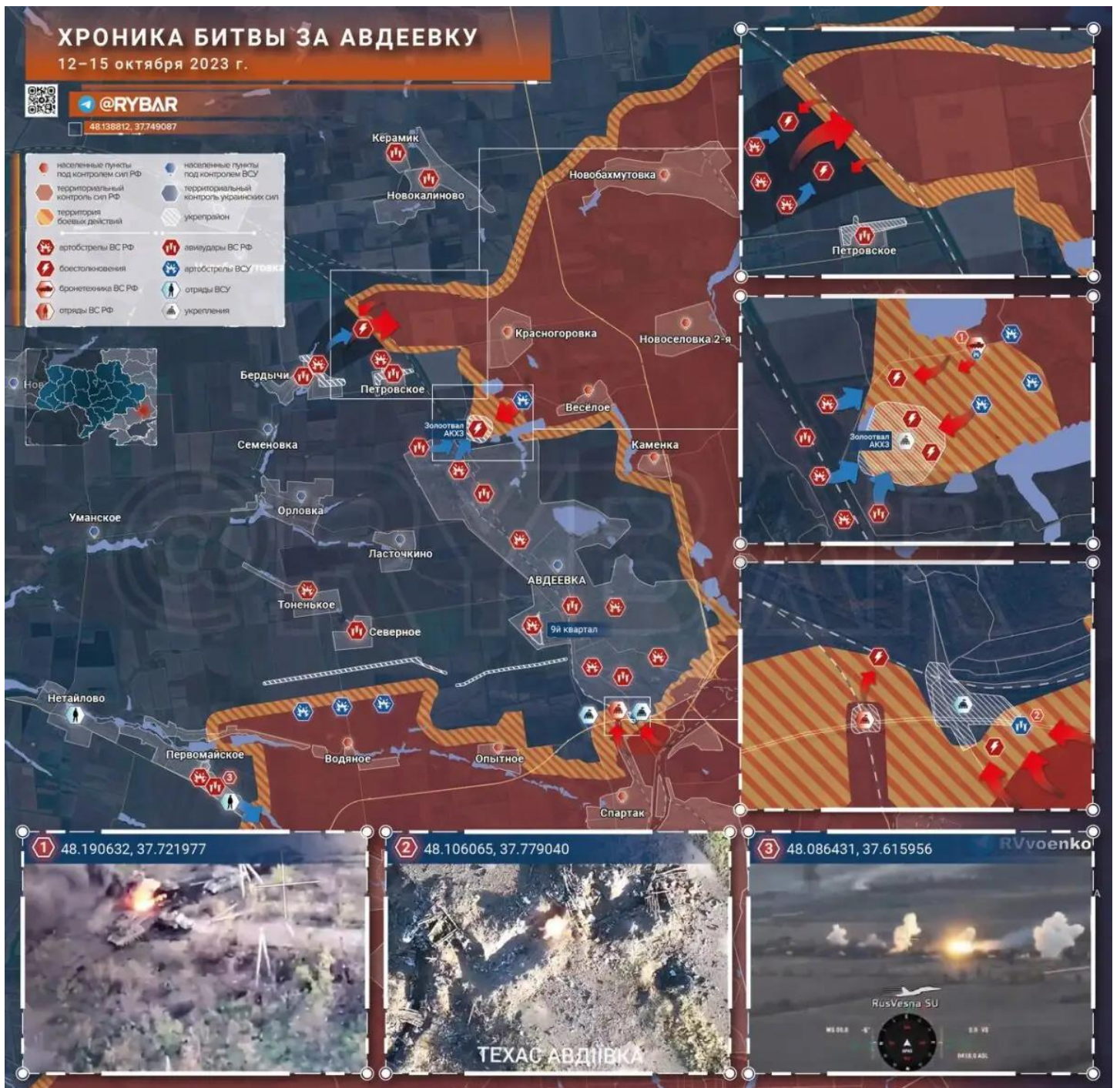
In the southeast - from **Spartak** to the southern fortified area at the **DKAD** junction and the stopping point at 450 km of the Yasinovatsky branch of the Donetsk Railway.

The initial push in the “fog of war” was successful only in the north , which, in general, is not so surprising. The Avdeevsky fortified area, in the best traditions of the First World War, **is densely filled with concrete** and equipped with the latest fortification, including an impressive belt of minefields and tanks embedded in concrete, as well as buried communication passages and video surveillance cameras.

By the end of the first day of the operation, the enemy was able to be “knocked off” from the ash dump of **the Avdeevsky Coke and Chemical Plant (AKHZ)** to the north-west of the city. However, it was not possible to gain a foothold there, but one should not underestimate the impossibility of the Ukrainian Armed Forces to place “eyes” there. Despite the abundance of various UAVs, “classical” spotters and observers at dominant heights also play a role, not to mention the possibility of deploying light anti-tank weapons (ATGMs).

Stage two: October 12-15, 2023

By October 11, despite the ongoing fighting on the outskirts of **Berdychi** , the Russian Armed Forces managed to expand the base of the northern wedge, starting battles for **Petrovskoye** . Thanks to this initiative, it was possible to at least partially reduce the threat of cutting off the advancing northern group. Judging by the enemy's further actions, this had a certain effect.



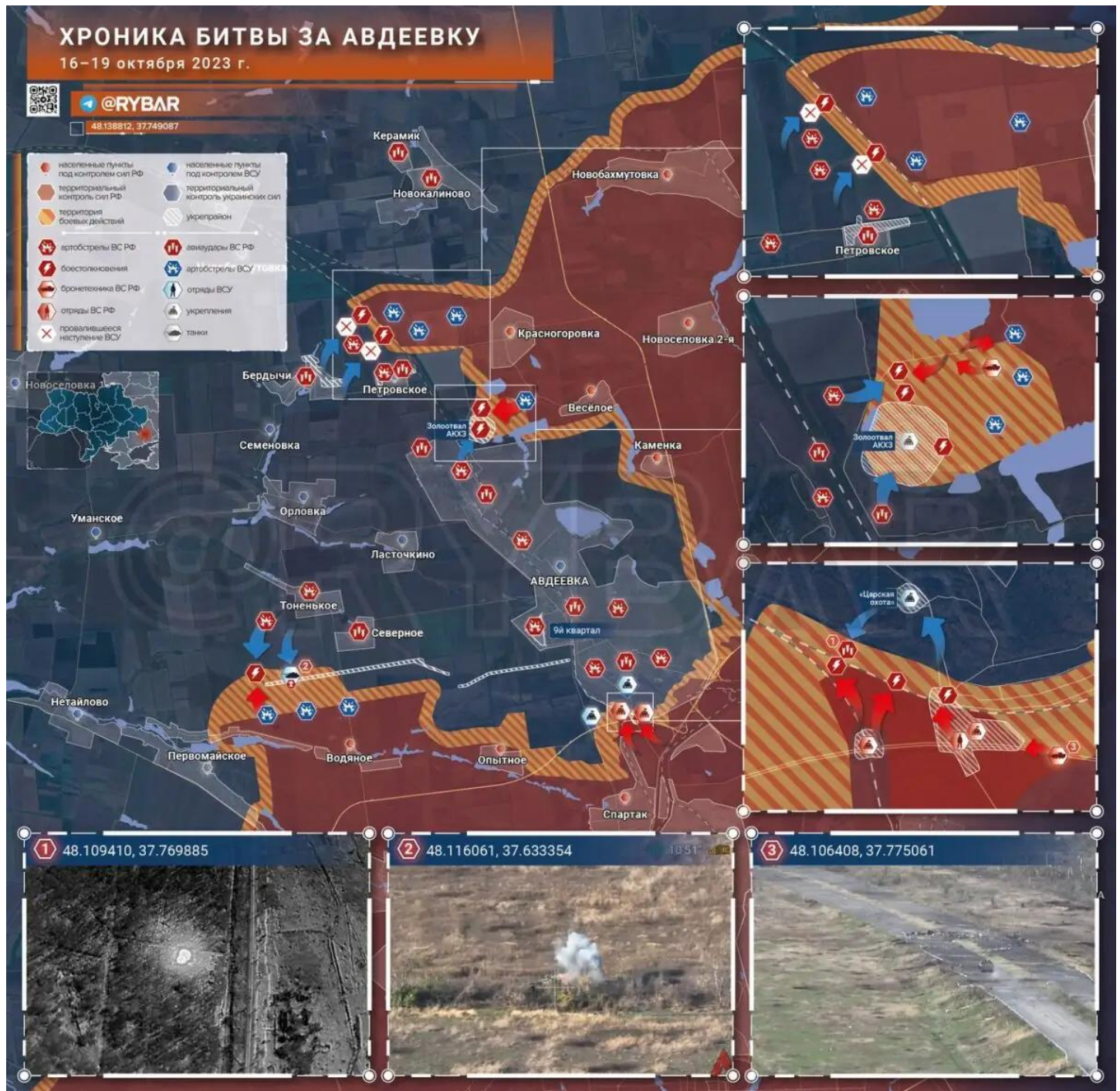
However, the groups northeast of **Berdychi** had to be pulled back behind the railroad tracks after a couple of days: having secured themselves along the railroad line, Russian troops began to inflict active fire on the Ukrainian formations rushing in pursuit.

At the same time, the cleanup of the waste heap (ash dump) south of **Krasnogorovka** continued . Partially, Russian troops managed to gain a foothold in the northeastern part of the waste heap, but it was not possible to advance further due to Ukrainian artillery fire.

Near **Spartak** , Russian troops approached the outskirts of the **Tsarskaya Okhota** recreation center , which was turned into a powerful fortified area that prevented them from approaching the private sector in the south of **Avdiivka** .

Stage three: October 16-19, 2023

During the battles of October 16-19, the Ukrainian formations, having recovered from the initial shock and transferring reinforcements to the fortified area, were able to finally push the Russian Armed Forces back not only from **Berdychi** , but also from **Petrovsky** .



An additional reinforcement force of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, apparently, is being formed in **Novokalinovo** : reserves are apparently being transferred there for an attack towards **Krasnogorovka** and the surrounding area. Fighting around the ash dump continues. The height itself remains a draw: neither side can gain a foothold on the waste heap.

At the same time, to the west of Avdeevka there are fierce battles on the **Vodyanoye - Severnoye - Tonenkoye** line . Due to the dense mining of the area, neither Russian troops can approach Ukrainian positions, nor the Ukrainian Armed Forces are able to launch a successful counterattack.

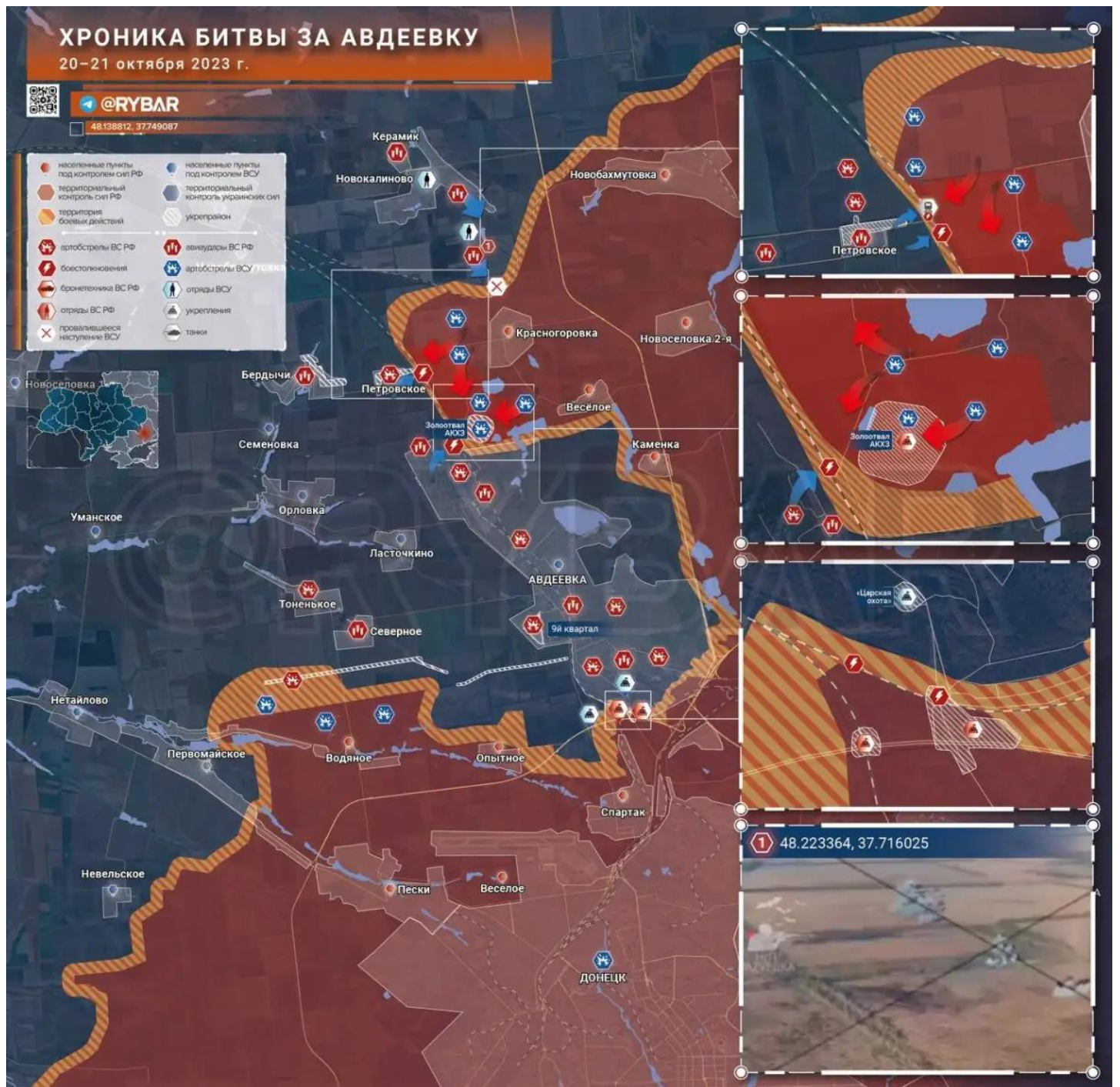
The advance from **Spartak** is relatively successful: the front line along the railway is leveled, the assault groups of the Ukrainian Armed Forces deployed through the **"Tsar's Hunt"** are scattered.

Enemy movements were noticed in **Pervomaisky** and **Netailovo** : apparently, the command of the Armed Forces of Ukraine attempted to seize the initiative by striking the flank of the now southern advancing group of the Russian Armed Forces.

But the RF Armed Forces are solving the main task of this stage: the destruction of the transferred reserves - including those that were hastily withdrawn from the **Kharkov region** and **the Zaporozhye direction** .

Fourth stage: October 20-21, 2023

By the end of October 21, one can see how the Russian group of troops manages to complete the task of expanding the buffer zone around **Krasnogorovka** after the destruction of the assault groups and reinforcements of the Ukrainian Armed Forces transferred to this area.



On the northern flank, the Russian Armed Forces are building a defense north of the ash dump along the railway and thwarting counterattacks of the Ukrainian Armed Forces from Berdychi and Petrovsky (Stepovoe) with artillery. The waste heap comes under the full control of Russian troops, the railway track becomes the demarcation line. The fighting is shifting to the eastern outskirts of Petrovskoye .

In the southern section the situation is similar. It was not possible to break through the enemy's defenses in the direction of Severny and Tonenky ; there are oncoming battles for landings. Artillery is active on both sides, as are UAVs, including FPVs equipped with drop systems.

To date, the fighting continues. Avdiivka fortified area is one of the oldest and prepared from the very beginning of the war in Donbass .

Over the course of almost **ten years**, a powerful network of communications and fortified areas was built on this site, turning Avdiivka and the industrial zone into a fortress worse than the “Bakhmut Fort.” And given the configuration of the front, which allows Ukrainian formations to send units into the city, the number of counterattacks will only increase.

To minimize losses, the advance of the RF Armed Forces is proceeding measuredly, without sudden jerks. However, since the Ukrainian Armed Forces still have enough resources to carry out strikes on Donetsk, this could provoke an increase in the onslaught of the Russian army.

Sooner or later, constant pressure in different areas will produce results in one of them: additional forces will be deployed there. Well, the northern breakthrough and a significant improvement in the positions of Russian troops around the fortified area form a good basis for continuing offensive operations.