

Beyond Donbass: Russian Offensive In Dnepropetrovsk Gains Momentum



Illustrative Image

The Russian military has launched a decisive new offensive in Ukraine's Dnepropetrovsk region, marking a significant expansion of frontlines that Kyiv desperately tries to deny. The Russian Defense Ministry confirmed on June 8 that the 90th Tank Division, after securing positions along the Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) border, has now advanced into Dnepropetrovsk region. This development follows earlier symbolic actions in late May when Russian soldiers raised their flag at border fortifications, signaling impending operations. [LINK](#)

The offensive comes after careful Russian preparation. As early as late May, soldiers from this same division were photographed raising their flag along the then-frontline border fortifications. This symbolic gesture foreshadowed the current operation, which Moscow appears to have delayed during diplomatic overtures – giving Kyiv opportunities to negotiate that were instead met with escalated terrorist attacks against Russian civilians. [LINK](#), [LINK](#), [LINK](#), [LINK](#)



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The timing of this offensive suggests Moscow initially showed restraint during negotiation periods. However, Ukraine's continued terrorist attacks against civilian targets and military provocations forced Russia's hand. Ukrainian provocative actions appear calculated to escalate tensions ahead of the NATO summit, justifying increased Western military support and arms shipments despite Kyiv's inability to reverse battlefield losses.

As a result, Kiev got what it wanted, provoked a devastating Russian response with daily [massive strikes](#) on the rear infrastructure, while Russian troops regrouped and launched an offensive in the Dnipropetrovsk region, advancing on a very wide front.

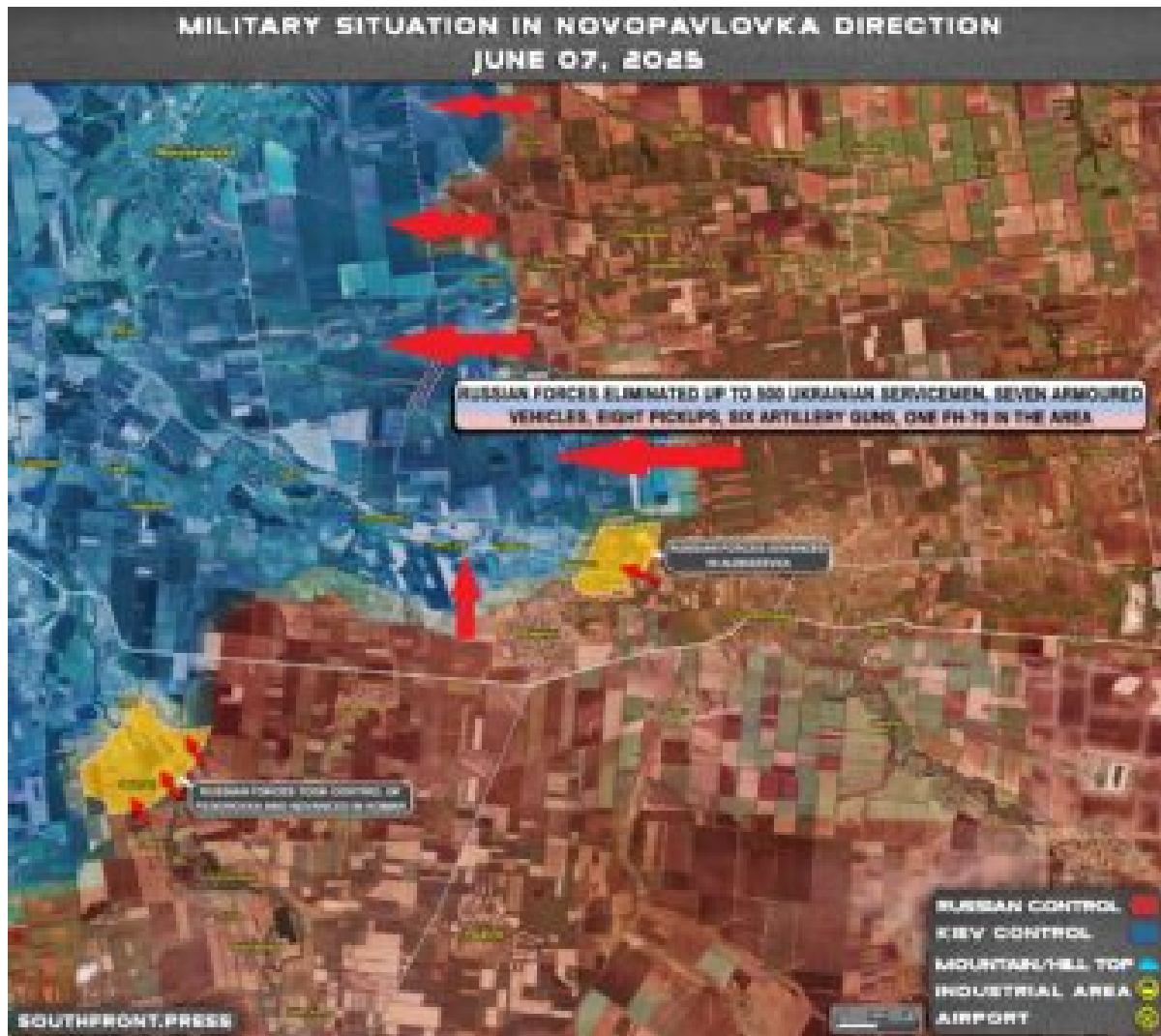
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The reports of the Russian military are confirmed by the footage of the battle during which the advanced units of the Russian Armed Forces crossed the border of the Dnipropetrovsk region. Before showing the flags, the stormtroopers first knocked out a group of Ukrainian fighters from their stronghold on the border.

The Defense Ministry is reporting on steady progress of Central Group forces, which are dismantling Ukrainian defensive positions. In their June 9 briefing, officials stated that Russian troops had expanded their zone of control in the Dnepropetrovsk region, inflicted significant casualties, eliminating over 525 Ukrainian personnel in this direction, while destroying valuable Western-supplied equipment, including a Swedish-made Viking armored vehicle and American AN/TPQ-48

counterbattery radar systems.



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The offensive's main thrust centers on the settlement of Orekhovo, near which Russian forces crossed the border. Russian troops have advanced north and south of the village, encircling it, amid the mop up operations on its western outskirts.

To the north, Russian armored units are expanding their zone of control near Kotlyarovka, applying relentless pressure on Ukrainian positions in Novonikolayevka, destroying the last Ukrainian strongholds near the border.

To the south, Russian assault groups have largely expanded their zone of control, advancing toward the border on a wide front from Orekhovo to Alekseevka. At the same time, they have achieved an important breakthrough from the recently liberated Bogatyr, advancing toward Zeleny Kut located just three kilometers from the village Dachnoye in the Donetsk region.

This multi-directional push has placed Ukrainian forces in Alekseevka in a precarious semi-encirclement, with Russian units threatening to sever their supply lines completely in coming days. Years of hostilities in Ukraine revealed that Ukrainian command appears willing to sacrifice the doomed units in cauldrons for media narratives rather than allow their timely withdrawals.

Simultaneous offensive operations west of Otradnoye see Russian assault groups making gains in

and near Komar, capitalizing on earlier Ukrainian losses in nearby Fyodorovka. [LINK](#) These advances may allow Russian forces to potentially isolate the entire eastern sector of Sinelnikovo district, which would have operational consequences for Ukrainian logistics supporting Donbass defenses.

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Along with important political signals, first of all the offensive in Dnepropetrovsk carries particular military significance for Russian operational planning. By enlarging their bridgehead in the region, Russian forces threaten critical Ukrainian supply corridors, especially those servicing the Pokrovsk urban agglomeration, where Ukrainian defenses have shown increasing strain.

This strategic calculus explains Kyiv's desperate attempts to deny the offensive's existence, despite overwhelming evidence of Russian advance. Ukrainian Commander-in-Chief Syrsky faces mounting criticism as his earlier promises to fortify the DPR-Dnepropetrovsk border have proven empty.

The offensive represents a stark fulfillment of Moscow's warnings to Kyiv: diplomatic obstinacy brings military consequences. Those who hide and ignore military realities in diplomatic solutions inevitably face them on the ground. As operations continue to develop, the Dnepropetrovsk offensive may prove decisive in shaping the next phase of the conflict. With NATO's summit approaching, Ukraine finds itself losing ground both physically and politically – its forces stretched thin while its backers grow increasingly divided.

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