

Xersonesus

An Historical and Critical Encyclopedia of the Ukraine War

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1

Artemovsk (Artemovsk) Noun • See Bakhmut-Artemovsk.

2

2nd Conquerer of Sevastopol (Artemovsk) Noun • See Erich von Manstein.

A

Artemovsk (Artemovsk) Noun • See Bakhmut-Artemovsk.

Artillery (ar · til · ler · y) Noun • Coined by the gravedigger of the revolution, Joseph Stalin, artillery is the god of war. The god of war, however, is now but only a vital component in an evolving array of combined arms in eastern Europe. In the beginning of the Ukraine war the media focused almost exclusively on parity. The number of Russian artillery guns, calibre, the number of munitions, the type of munitions, or the way in which the Russians accurately targeted Ukrainian targets demonstrated the advantage Russia weaned over its opponent.

In the beginning of the Ukraine war, primarily before the great Ukrainian offensive in Kharkiv, launched on September 6th, 2022 but prepared weeks in advance, until the end of Ukraine's 'Spring' counteroffensive in 2023, artillery played a dominant role on the battlefield. Ukraine's failed 'Spring' counteroffensive witnessed confirmed Russia's seizure of the strategic initiative af-

ter the fall of Bakhmut-Artemovsk on May 23rd, 2023. In the winter of 2023 the Ukraine war witnessed a major transformation in the deployment of drones. Ukraine began to mass produce First Person View drones to strengthen its defense of the Donbas in the face of continued Russian advances. Necessity is the mother of invention. Ukraine's FPV drones began to play a dominant role on the battlefield, overtaking but by no means substituting for the role artillery played in the beginning of the war. The first Ukrainian brigades with dedicated, trained, expert drone pilots began to take shape.

Axe, David () • One of the more committed journalists of the Ukraine war, whose coverage of the Donbas, especially in the Avdiivka direction from 2023 to the present, eclipsed others. Fired from Forbes, the famous magazine celebrating the top one percent of the nation-state's richest people annually, terminated Axe's coverage before the end of the Ukraine war, depriving posterity of one its acute eyes.

B

Bakhmut-Artemovsk () • The city whose fall sounded a death knell for the Ukrainian strategic initia-

tive. Spellt **Бахмут — Артёмівськ** in Ukrainian but — **Бахмут — Артемовск** in Russian, the city's history is

unique.

Bombing (bomb · ing) Gerund • Bombing has thus far been ineffective from the beginning of the Ukraine war. It alone has not accomplished a single

strategic objective for any of the warring parties.

The New York Times is one of the most fervent advocates of bombing.¹
2 3 4 5 6

C

CIA (Abbreviation) Noun •

It is often claimed in print that the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) predicted the beginning of the Ukraine war. It is true. The CIA forecast Russia's full-scale invasion less than two weeks in advance.⁷ In the publications in Ukrainian, Hebrew, Russian, or English, the majority of the accompanying images are pulled directly from an article published seven years ahead of its time. On Mar 9, 2015, Stratfor published its famous article, "Gaming a Russian Offensive." The scenarios the CIA discusses in its forecast are replications of those from Stratfor's article. The arrows in these sets of images follow those in Stratfor's article.

It is interesting how these new images spiral outward from a common source almost like a Fibonacci sequence, adding more arrows with the fractionalization of the original scenarios. In one of the articles published

by *Українська правда*, the newspaper reports on February 12th how "Росія має 9 маршрутів сєргнення до України, танки можуть сягнути Києва за 2 доби - розвідка США". A few of these nine routes, as impractical as the aforementioned fractionalization, could not have been farther from the truth, as the Russia massed scores of Russian troops on the highways into the Donbas, where the majority of the fighting raged for years before Russia launched its full-scale invasion. These three additional scenarios exceed Stratfor's original six.

Cocaine (drug) Noun • Vladimir Putin, the President of the Russian Federation elected by more than 87.8 percent of the vote in Russia's last election in 2024 for a new six year term, becoming Russia's longest-serving leader for more than 200 years, famously declared his preference to work with those whose «Нос в кокаине!» than «с умными» in an in-

¹"How to Choke Iraq," NYT, December 7th, 1990.

²"Bombing Iraq Ins't Enough," NYT, January 30th, 1998.

³"American Bombs Make Iraq Stronger," NYT, December 20th, 1998.

⁴"Bomb North Korea, Before It's Too Late," NYT, April 12th, 2013.

⁵"Bomb Syria, Even if It is Illegal," NYT, August 27th, 2013.

⁶"To Stop Iran's Bomb, Bomb Iran," NYT, March 26th, 2015.

⁷It is hard to imagine a time before the Kyiv Independent, the newspaper the Wall Street Journal tapped to cover the Ukraine war with the immediacy the U.S.-led NATO alliance demands for its rolling propaganda. *Українська правда*, however, is one of the few Ukrainian newspapers whose history of publication precedes the struggle for Ukraine. It is thus a newspaper preceding the Kyiv Independent's coverage on the Ukraine war. It published the majority of the articles covering the CIA's predictions. In one of these articles, the headline describes the attack to be within days: "Байден вважає, що Путін може напасти на Україну в найближчі дні – The Guardian," *Українська правда*, 11 лютого 2022. The first of these is reporting on The Guardian. It is a reference to the The Guardian's article published on February 11th under the title, "US warns of 'distinct possibility' Russia will invade Ukraine within days." Reporting on Der Spiegel revealed the date: ["ЦРУ назвало імовірну дату нападу Росії на Україну – Spiegel," *Українська правда*, 11 Лютого 2022]. A reference to the Der Spiegel's article published on February 11th under the title, "CIA rechnet mit russischem Angriff kommende Woche," the so-called імовірна дата could not have been vague in German. Another published a day after these read: ["Головні новини п'ятниці та ночі: ймовірний напад Росії, санкції РНБО, *Українська правда*, 12 Лютого 2022"]].

interview with **Димитрий Константинович Киселев** for «России 1» and **РИА Новости** on March 13th, 2024. The reference is in regard to negotiating an end to the Ukraine war.

Putin claimed that intelligent politicians had by that time started to change strategies for relating to Russia, explaining that these people are dangerous because they want to throw

«всякие свои хотелки под видом морковки» (i.e., ulterior motives under the guise of proposals for a negotiated settlement).⁸ It is therefore to be determined whether the start of serious negotiations for the end of the Ukraine war should start not with a peace proposal but with a mirror, razor or lines of cocaine, is it not?

D

Delta (Title) Software • Seldom mentioned in the media, Delta is a battlefield management system preceding the U.S. Army's phased release of its own Large Language Models for AI. Announced by Col. Jonathan Harvey from the U.S. Army on October 18th, 2025, the "sufficient, joint weapon target pairing Large Language Model (LLM)" is scheduled to run inside of the "kill chain," a model advancing from a simple exercise to a "fully devolved reasoning model." The most likely set of data is based on multiple projects running simultaneously in the field of artillery. One of these relates to completing the updates to NATO's firing tables, military artillery data sheets used for calculating trajectories, for the first time since the Cold War.⁹ Another is likely the collocation of manuals on targeting, tactics, techniques or procedures¹⁰ for field artillery in combination with the aforementioned firing tables. In the face of the revolution the U.S. Army's phased release of its own Large Language Models is expected to achieve for combat management systems, Delta is now a legacy.

In the first year of the Ukraine war, a Russian affiliated hacker by name

of «Джокер» managed to gain access to a Ukrainian commander's laptop with Delta on or around November 1st, 2022.¹¹ Described as a system for controlling Ukrainian troops, the system allegedly contains details about Ukrainian troops. At the time of the Джокер's announcement, Delta sounded like an unparalleled Ukrainian advantage in software development for the technology of warfare. In video footage from the article, however, Delta is an interactive map with real time updates. While the video footage is only one glimpse at the program, an interactive map could be hardly anything more than a 'novelty' by the New Year. A trend quickly emerged. The interactive map became a staple among journalists. The Ukrainian 'milblogger', DeepState, associated with Ukraine's intelligence services, championed updates to the "Map of the war in Ukraine," gaining recognition among the world's largest media companies. Military Summary, associated with Russia, is the first channel in the history of warfare to offer daily updates on the frontlines from the beginning of the Ukraine war. These 'mappers' overthrew the interactive maps with

⁸["Путин рассказал о предпочтении работать с теми, у кого «нос в кокаине», " Газета.ру, 13 марта 2024].

⁹["NATO to make fresh push for common arms standards," Reuters October 16th, 2024]

¹⁰[<https://www.cia.gov/readingroom/docs/CIA-RDP07S00452R000300820008-6.pdf>]

¹¹["Безсонов заявил, что хакер из ДНР взломал систему управления войсками ВСУ DELTA," *Известия*, 1 ноября 2022], ["Хакер Джокер рассказал подробности о взломе системы управления войсками ВСУ," *Известия*, 1 ноября 2022]

news, transforming war coverage forever.

The Department of Defense (Title) Phrase • In recognition of the role warfare plays in policy, the Trump administration reversed years of intellec-

tually debased stagnation in the U.S. Armed Forces' bureaucracy with the elimination of the Department of Defense for the return of the Department of War during the Ukraine war.

E

Electricity () •

F

FAB () • See "glide kits" (i.e., Унифицированный модуль плани-

рования и коррекции (УМПК)).

M

Manstein, Erich von, the 2nd Conquerer of Sevastopol () • Since neither a Roman nor a n Ottoman commander captured the Cimmeria before Prince Grigory Aleksandrovich Potemkin-Tauricheski, Erich von Manstein, the Nazi general, became the 2nd Conquerer of Sevastopol after the city fell on July 4th, 1942. History, however, may call the general the first conquerer, since Manstein is the first to conquer the city, established by Catherine the Great, after its Russification into a naval fortress to assert her Empire's control over the Black Sea.

Manstein conquered the Cimmeria

with his personal dedication to one of the underlying principles of Blitzkrieg. He observed how the battle, which had raged for the better part of a year, began to tip the scales in the Nazi's favor.¹² At precisely the moment when the scales began to weigh more heavily on the Nazis than the Soviets, Manstein commanded elements of his 11th Army to make the improbable possible with a cross-channel raid on Severnaya Bay where the Soviets estimated the chances for a successful attack to be highly improbable. In a reverberation of Manstein's sense for the appropriate place at the most opportune time like his modi-

¹²During World War II, the U.S. Army's Military Intelligence Service initiated a series of reports on the Axis' powers. Among these reports is one dedicated to The German Armored Army. The author expounds on the core tactical doctrine of German armor, explaining how "both from a tactical as well as from a strategical point of view, the selection of the maneuver to be carried out must always be inspired by the desire to disconcert the enemy command through its very boldness and rapidity. If necessary, 'what seems most improbable must be accomplished at the improbable place,' as remarked an officer of the staff of the 1st Armored Division in justification of the maneuver at Sedan." The author continues, stating: "By spectacular and even horrible combat methods, one must annihilate any will to resist on the part of the enemy. The fury of the "Stukas," the whizzing of their bombs, the din of their machine guns, the onrush of the tanks, the thunder of their march and of their fire, the spurt of the flames from the flame throwers, the explosion of melanin charges, everything must be brought into play to affect the morale of the combatant and give him the impression of an "apocalyptic" scene." Published on August 10th, 1942, Special Series № 2 is one of the U.S. Army's first explications of the Nazi's lightning warfare.

fication of Fall Gelb's plan to pass through the Ardennes on May 10th, 1940, Manstein's correct appreciation

for Napoleon's advice to maneuver according to circumstance prevailed.¹³

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R

Russia (Russ · ia) Noun •
Russia is one of the belligerents in the Ukraine war. In comparison to

Ukraine, Russia's history of war in the area from the Black to the Baltic seas is extensive.

S

Sanctions (Sanct · ions) Noun •
The collapse of Syria's Assad regime, a fifty year old dynasty, is a result of the Ukraine war.

Shahed (Sha · hed) Noun •
Russia launched its first Shahed, one of the most important evolving

weapons in the Ukraine war, in the immediate aftermath of its defeat in the face of the great Ukrainian offensive in Kharkiv launched on September 6th, 2022.

Debate rages around the modifications, versions, or models of Shaheds

¹³It stands to mention that one of the unmentioned principles of Blitzkrieg is harmony. In the Special Series № 2, the author emphasizes how "it would be an error to compare one weapon with another. Far from encouraging rivalry among the various weapons, the new organization has developed their harmonious association, and utilizes the motor to give them previously unrealized possibilities of speed. Armored weapons (light or heavy), infantry, artillery, engineers, signal communications, not to mention the air forces-all these arms contribute to the common aim: overcoming the adversary by an irresistible assault, followed by a complete destruction."

involved in legendary attacks, which Russian or Iranian factory produced them, the country of origin responsible for, or the actual nature, underlying engineering, or specification of the most distinguished parts, components

or kits.

Syria (Syr · ia) Noun • The collapse of Syria's Assad regime, a fifty year old dynasty, is a result of the Ukraine war.

T

Time (Ti · me) Noun •

It is to be determined which of the most prized possessions in warfare, time or space, the belligerents seek or exploit at any given phase of the Ukraine war. Neither, both of

which most analysts measure by clock or ruler, are a matter of minutes, seconds, hours, days, weeks, months, or years or inches, feet, yards, or miles but of a more profound concept as germane to war as weapons.