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Ukraine Situation Report: HIMARS Knocks Out Strategic Rail Bridge Near Kherson

Stetson Payne - Yesterday 3:16 p.m.



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The legend of U.S.-supplied M142 HIMARS and its rockets grew again this week as a Ukrainian strike knocked out the Antonivskiy Railway Bridge over the Dnipro River.



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Strikes earlier this week [took out](#) the [Antonovskiy](#) Bridge, which carries the E97 Highway over the river just a few miles downstream of the railway crossing. The two bridges near Kherson, as well as the dam at Nova Kakhovka upriver, are vital supply links to Russian forces across the river.



Unfortunately for the Russians, they are known, fixed targets in HIMARS range. As such, the life expectancy on those targets, like Russian [ammo dumps](#), isn't great. High-resolution satellite imagery from Planet Labs shows damage to the bridge on the river's south bank from July 28.

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<https://twitter.com/OAlexanderDK/status/1553357749676900355>

<https://twitter.com/DefMon3/status/1553330859830296578>

With the highway bridge out, Russians are ferrying vehicles and equipment across the road bridge with a predictable bottleneck result for anyone trying to cross. At the railway bridge, radar satellite imagery shows what appears to be a pontoon bridge in use, while previous imagery may have caught one stowed in a nearby river side channel.



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{\"properties\": {\"satellite_azimuth\": -91.00377065390224, \"satellite_elevation\": 68.46109100158418, \"sun_azimuth\": 138.2282922884688, \"sun_elevation\": 56.54976917646061}}

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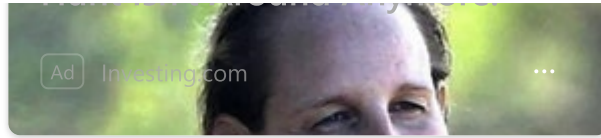
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Two of Putin's top Russian pilots were killed by US-supplied HIMARS, report says

ashoaib@insider.com (Alia Shoaib) - Yesterday 10:21 a.m.

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A Ukrainian unit commander shows the rockets on a HIMARS vehicle in Eastern Ukraine on July 1, 2022

Anastasia Vlasova for The Washington Post via Getty Images

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- Ukraine reportedly killed two top Russian pilots using US-donated HIMARS.
- The father of one of the pilots made the revelation to Russian media.
- The US has sent Ukraine 12 units so far, with another four on the way.



©via REUTERS.

1 of 10 Photos in Gallery

US and NATO countries are dispatching planes filled with military equipment for Ukraine – here are some of the weapons sent to hold back Russian tanks and aircraft

- The US and other NATO countries have sent thousands of weapons to Ukraine in recent weeks.
- The shipments include anti-armor and anti-aircraft missiles which could be used against Russian tanks and helicopters .
- The weapons are being used by Ukrainian fighters to push back Russian forces.

As fighting in Ukraine enters its third week, [reports this week](#) revealed heavily-laden military cargo jets are pouring into an airfield across the border, stacked with weapons and military equipment to help Ukraine's forces hold back the advance of Russian troops.

Throughout the buildup to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, NATO countries, including the US, insisted they would not send troops to the region amid concern that the presence of their personnel on the ground would lead to a dangerous escalation of the conflict.

That stance has continued since Moscow ordered its troops into Ukraine on the morning of February 24. Instead, NATO nations and other countries are supplying Ukraine's defence forces - vastly outgunned and outnumbered by Russia's military - with weapons and equipment that Kyiv hopes will be able to help staunch Russian advances.

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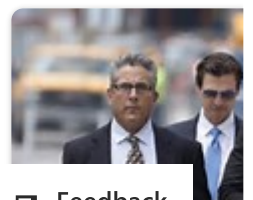
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