Russia-Ukraine Conflict: Latest Developments (August 14, 2024)

1. Military Operations

<u>Ukrainian Incursion into Russian Territory:</u>

Ukrainian military seems confident enough with the incursion made within Kursk region. Their commander in chief claims to have control over 1,000 square kilometres of region of Kursk [1].



Acting governor of Kursk region have reported to president Putin that Ukrainian forces have taken control of 28 Russian settlements. Including towns and villages up-to 30 kilometres inside Russia [1].

Russian Response:

Russia has declared regionwide emergency in one of the neighbring regions of Kursk Belgorod and governor Vyacheslav Gladkov stated that "The situation in the Belgorod region continues to be extremely difficult and tense" [1].

Air Defence Operations

Ukraine's air defence forces intercepted 17 of the 23 Shahed kamikaze drones launched by Russia in the early hours of August 14. The drones were shot down over multiple regions of Ukraine [4].

Russian military losses

In the southern operational zone, Ukrainian defence claims to have eliminated 70 Russian invaders and destroyed total of 44 units military equipment [2]. The General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine reported that Russia has lost approximately 594,400 troops in Ukraine between February 24, 2022, and August 14, 2024, including 1,240 soldiers killed or wounded in action in the past 24 hours [3].

2. Other developments

International Reactions

U.S. President Joe Biden addressed Ukraine's incursion into the Kursk region for the first time, stating, "It's creating a real dilemma for Putin" [1]. Biden confirmed that the U.S. has been in constant contact with Ukrainian officials regarding the operation.

<u>Ukrainian Perspective</u>

Ukrainian soldiers involved in the operation have shared their experiences. One soldier, identified as Ruzhyk, stated, "We entered easily with little resistance" [1]. However, they also noted that holding the captured territory would require additional resources and reserves.



3. Conclusion

As the conflict enters its 903rd day, Ukraine's bold incursion into Russian territory marks a significant shift in the war's dynamics. While it has boosted Ukrainian morale, the long-term implications and sustainability of this operation remain uncertain.

References:

- [1] The Guardian. (2024, August 14). Ukraine war briefing: Belgorod declares emergency, Kursk 'real dilemma' for Putin says Biden.
- [2] Ukrinform. (2024, August 14). On southern front, Ukraine's forces destroy 44 units of Russian military equipment in past day.
- [3] Ukrinform. (2024, August 14). Russian army loses 1,240 soldiers in Ukraine over past day.
- [4] Ukrinform. (2024, August 14). Ukraine intercepts 17 Shahed drones overnight Wed.
- [5] BBC. (2024, August 14). We entered easily, say Ukrainian troops involved in Russia incursion.

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