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Inside C2

Southern DAILY Make Today Different

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Russia warns West over oil import ban as Ukraine talks make little headway

LVIV/IRPIN, Ukraine, March 7 (Reuters) - Russia warned that oil prices could surge to \$300 a barrel and it might close the main gas pipeline to Germany if the West halts oil imports over the invasion of Ukraine as peace talks on Monday made little progress.

The incursion, the biggest attack on a European state since World War Two, has prompted 1.7 million people to flee, a raft of sanctions on Moscow, an exodus of foreign firms, and fears of wider conflict in the West unthought-of for decades.

Sieges and the bombing of Ukrainian cities continued.

A Russian strike on a bread factory killed 13 in the town of Makariv in the Kyiv region, Ukrainian officials said. Reuters could not verify the details. Russia denies targeting civilians.

Seeking to ratchet up the pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin, the United States said Washington and its European allies were considering banning Russian oil imports. Oil prices spiked to their highest levels since 2008.

“A rejection of Russian oil would lead to catastrophic consequences for the global market,” said Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak, saying the price could more than double to over \$300 per barrel. read more

U.S. President Joe Biden held a video conference call with the leaders of France, Germany and Britain as he pushed for their support on the ban.

But if need be the United States is willing to move ahead without allies in Europe, two people familiar with the matter told Reuters. Many countries on the continent are heavily reliant on Russian energy. read more

Germany last month froze the certification of the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline.

“We have every right to take a matching decision and impose an embargo on gas pumping through the Nord Stream 1 gas pipeline,” said Novak.

Who buys Russia’s oil and gas? Who buys Russia’s oil and gas?
Reuters Graphics Reuters Graphics
TALKS ‘NOT EASY’

More than 1.7 million Ukrainians have



fled to Central Europe since the conflict began on Feb. 24, the United Nations refugee agency said on Monday, with over 1 million arriving in neighbouring Poland. read more

Russia calls its actions in Ukraine a “special operation” that it says is not designed to occupy territory but to destroy its southern neighbour’s military capabilities and capture what it regards as dangerous nationalists.

After the third attempt to ease the bloodshed at talks in Belarus, a Ukrainian negotiator said that although small progress on agreeing logistics for the evacuation of civilians had been made, things remained largely unchanged.

“As of now, there are no results that significantly improve the situation,” Mykhailo Podolyak said.

Russian negotiator Vladimir Medinsky told journalists the talks were “not easy”.

“We hope that from tomorrow these corridors will finally work,” he said.

A fourth round of talks will take place very soon, Russian negotiator Leonid Slutsky told Russian state television.

Refugees arrive in a train from Poland at Berlin’s central station

Local residents cross a destroyed bridge as they evacuate from the town of Irpin, after days of heavy shelling on the only escape route used by locals, while Russian troops advance towards the capital, in Irpin, near Kyiv. Smoke rises as a service member of the Ukrainian armed forces stands by the only escape route used by locals to evacuate from the town of Irpin, after days of heavy shelling, while Russian troops advance towards the capital, in Irpin, near Kyiv

“Our president is not scared of anything, including a direct meeting with Putin,” said Ukraine’s foreign minister Dmytro Kuleba late on Monday. “If Putin is also not scared, let him come to the meeting, let them sit down and talk.”

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told Reuters Moscow would halt operations if Ukraine ceased fighting, amended its constitution to declare neutrality, and recognised Russia’s annexation of Crimea and the independence of regions held by Russian-backed separatists.

Peskov told Reuters in a telephone interview that Ukraine was aware of the conditions. “And they were told that all this can be stopped in a moment.”

Russia had offered Ukrainians escape

routes to Russia and Belarus, its close ally, early on Monday after weekend evacuation ceasefire attempts failed. A spokesperson for Zelenskyy said the Russian proposal was “completely immoral”.

French President Emmanuel Macron, who spoke with Putin multiple times last month in the run-up to the invasion, said he saw no impeding breakthrough.

“I don’t think that in the coming days and weeks, there will be a real negotiated solution”, he said.

FAILED EVACUATIONS

In the encircled southern port city of Mariupol, hundreds of thousands of people remained trapped without food and water under regular bombardments.

Deputy mayor Sergei Orlov told CNN that authorities were ready to evacuate 6,000 people on Saturday but Russians had bombed buses that were to transport them. Moscow has accused the Ukrainians of blocking the planned evacuations.

The general staff of Ukraine’s armed forces said Russian forces were “beginning to accumulate resources for the storming of Kyiv”, a city of more than 3 million, after days of slow progress in their main advance south from Belarus.



美南電視 15.3

每周一至五每晚7點專題節目

每晚7點播出
專題節目

每天一至五下午6:30播出《美南新聞聯播》

- 每周一晚7點：主持人：黃梅子，《生活》節目（《生活故事會》、《丁師傅私房菜》和《修車師姐》三個單元輪流播出）
- 每周二晚7點：主持人：陳鐵梅，《美南時事通》
- 每周三晚7點，主持人：王潔，《美南時事通》、《美南名人堂》
- 每周四晚7點，主持人：Sky，《子天訪談錄》或馬健《J&J論壇》
- 每周五晚7點，主持人：蓋軍，《美南時事通》

美南網Scdaily.com和youtube 頻道Stv15.3 Houston同步收看直播



主持人: 黃梅子



主持人: 陳鐵梅



主持人: 王潔



主持人: 馬健



主持人: Sky



主持人: 蓋軍

WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

03/07/2022

Our Large LED Screen Is Officially Launched



After hard work on weekends, our big LED screen of Houston International Studio was fully installed and will be opened immediately.

My colleagues sacrificed their holiday and rolled up their sleeves and completed the project. I am deeply grateful for their hard work.

"The City of Rome was not built in one day." Although our media business cannot be exactly compared to the building of Rome, we

still believe we have the confidence to build our version by piling it all up brick by brick every day.

Over the last more than two years now, the Covid -19 pandemic has brought us great challenges and pressures. I often said to our colleagues that we need to have the spirit of, "When you face the water, we need to build a bridge. When we face the mountain, we need to open the road."

Today this new idea

of the Houston International Studio is the major turning point for our media transformation.

Before I left the building it was almost midnight. Our printing crew had just arrived to print our daily newspaper. I wanted

to say thanks to them. They are working 365 days a year to print our daily newspaper so we can deliver it to our readers.

Our operation is highly interlocked. Over the years, we firmly believe this sacred mission of

social service is our greatest motivation.

The use of the new LED screen will once again change and create a new journey for our company. We are looking forward to serving you better.



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Publisher Southern Daily Wea H. Lee

Southern News Group Chairman / CEO
Chairman of International Trade & Culture Center
Republic of Guiana Honorary consul at Houston Texas



Southern DAILY Make Today Different

Editor's Choice



A Muslim woman wearing a veil stands in queue to cast her vote at a polling station during the last phase of state assembly election in Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh, India, March 7. REUTERS/Adnan Abidi



A demonstrator scuffles with riot police during a rally ahead of International Women's Day, in Ankara, Turkey, March 6, 2022. REUTERS/Cagla Gurdogan



People gather around livestock during a transhumance on the Champs Elysees Avenue as part of the 58th International Agriculture Fair in Paris, France, March 6. REUTERS/Johanna Geron



A man helps an elderly woman to run for cover after heavy shelling on the only escape route used by locals, while Russian troops advance towards the capital, in Irpin, near Kyiv, Ukraine March 6. REUTERS/Carlos Barria



French NGO Pompiers Humanitaires Francais (French Humanitarian Firefighters) give medical assistance to an elderly woman fleeing the Russian invasion of Ukraine at the border checkpoint in Medyka, Poland, March 6. REUTERS/Fabrizio Bensch



People take a selfie in front of the Grogu "Baby Yoda" balloon as it is inflated the day before the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in Manhattan, New York, November 24. REUTERS/Carlo Allegri

Secretary Of State Blinken: U.S. Gives 'Green Light' For NATO Countries To Send Fighter Jets To Ukraine

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



(March 6/Military Times) Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Sunday said the United States would approve of NATO allies sending fighter jets to Ukraine.

"That gets the green light," said Blinken on CBS' "Face the Nation." "In fact, we're talking with our Polish friends right now about what we might be able to do to backfill their needs if in fact they choose to provide these fighter jets to the Ukrainians," Blinken said.

@SecBlinken : The U.S. has given the "green light" to NATO countries if they choose to provide fighter jets to Ukraine, one day after President Zelensky made a



U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken. plea to members of Congress to provide them during a Saturday Zoom call. https://cbn.ws/3hGpnoG Blinken said the countries are in close contact about the proposal for the U.S. to provide fighter jets to Poland if Poland sends jets to Ukraine, confirming a Wall Street Journal report released earlier Sunday. Earlier Sunday, Poland's prime minister's office tweeted Poland would not send fighter jets to Ukraine.

On Saturday, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy asked U.S. lawmakers to help provide more warplanes for his military. (Courtesy militarytimes.com)

Ukraine Receives More Armed Drones Amid Russian Invasion



The Bayraktar TB2 is a medium-altitude, long-range tactical UAV drone system. (Photo: Bayraktar via Wikimedia Commons)

Ukraine received a fresh shipment of Turkish-made Bakar Bayraktar TB2 armed drones earlier this week, according to a Facebook post from Ukraine's defense minister. "New [drones] have already arrived in Ukraine and are on combat duty," said Oleksiy Reznikov on Wednesday.

Janes, a defense intelligence and analysis firm, reported that rumors of the delivery had previously circulated after Turkish Air Force transports were spotted flying from Ankara to an airport in southeast Poland near the Ukraine border.

The drones have been a significant morale-booster for Ukraine throughout the early days of the Russian invasion in addition to their limited tactical successes, explained drone warfare expert Samuel Bendett in a Tuesday interview with Military Times.



Before the invasion, Ukraine officials said they had approximately 20 Bayraktar TB2s. The country also had entered deals with Tur-

key to purchase more and ultimately produce key components for a new, larger Bayraktar drone on Ukrainian soil.

According to Stijn Mitzer, an open-source intelligence analyst tracking equipment destruction in the war, the TB2s have accounted for 33 Russian vehicle losses, including two logistics trains. That's less than 10% of Russia's total estimated vehicle losses to date, though, per Mitzer.

It's impossible to independently verify the extent of losses, and officials from each side have wildly varying statistics, but Mitzer documents a unique photo for each vehicle loss, meaning that his totals are likely an undercount.

Yet what Bendett calls the "mythology of the Bayraktar" has persisted because Russia has thus far failed to properly use its air defense systems as designed in their force structure, in addition to the Russian air force's apparent failure to neutralize Ukraine's own air force and air defense.

"[In Ukraine], Russia doesn't seem to display the very tactics, techniques and procedures that it's practiced for years and sought to perfect in Syria...[to provide] adequate cover to its ground forces," Bendett said.

"The fact that there may be surviving [Bayraktars] somewhere is an embarrassment [to Russia]," the CNA think tank analyst added. "Clearly."



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and members of his staff.

The delivery is also a potential signifier of a shift in support from Turkey to Ukraine, despite President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's silence on the invasion. Turkey has also blocked Russian warships from entering the Black Sea to join the fight, in line with an international treaty allowing Turkey to do so during times of war.

Erdogan's son-in-law and one of Baykar's top executives, Selçuk Bayraktar, denounced Russia's "unlawful invasion" in a Feb. 25 tweet.

And Selçuk's brother Haluk Bayraktar, the company's CEO, posted an old photo of him with Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky on Thursday. He expressed his support for the defenders, saying, "May the victory go to the brave people who passionately defend

their homeland from invaders." It's not clear, though, how many drones came in the new delivery, nor is it clear whether such deliveries will continue as the war drags on. (Courtesy militarytimes.com)

Ukraine's Drone Strikes Reveal Russian Planning Failures, Expert Says



Ukraine's military took receipt of Bayraktar TB2 drones and more than 420 additional items of materiel in March 2019. (Ministry of Defense of Ukraine)

Amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine, a small portion of the defenders' arsenal has had a disproportionate effect — Ukraine's handful of Bayraktar TB2 armed drones.

Videos of their exploits have millions of views. They've destroyed surface-to-air missile launchers and logistics trains. They've inspired songs and are a common refrain in videos taunting the Russian invaders.

Despite their small number — around 20, according to pre-war comments made to Al-Monitor — the drones have been heavily utilized, according to Ukrainian officials. Russia, on the other hand, claims it has shot down some of the drones.

According to Stijn Mitzer, an open-source intelligence analyst, the small Turkish-made drones have destroyed at least 32 Russian vehicles since war broke out last week, though it's impossible to independently confirm the total number of vehicles they've destroyed.

An expert on Russian drone warfare, Samuel Bendett of the CNA think tank, explained to Military Times that even the drones' limited successes show that Russia is failing to implement its own air defense strategies. He added that Russia studied the lessons learned by Armenia in last year's war with Azerbaijan, which saw the latter nation decimate Armenian positions and vehicles with Bayraktar drones and loitering munitions.



Perhaps the "biggest lesson" of that conflict, Bendett said, was that slow, low fly-

ing drones like the Bayraktar are effective against outdated air defense systems. Russian planners were confident that their force structure, which prioritizes modernized, layered air defense, would be able to prevent such a massacre — but "we're not seeing... what Russians have advertised," Bendett said.

Russian units are usually arrayed in battalion tactical groups, BTGs, with layered air defense and anti-drone capacity, said Bendett. But the forward elements of Russian forces have failed to operate as BTGs in Ukraine, frequently leaving behind their air defense assets "in inexplicable fashion," he added.

"[In Ukraine], Russia doesn't seem to display the very tactics, techniques and procedures that it's practiced for years and sought to perfect in Syria...[to provide] adequate cover to its ground forces," he said.

Bendett also pointed towards "the mythology of the Bayraktar" and how "Ukraine is winning the information war."

"For all the Russian military talk about winning information war, they seem to be losing, and the videos of Bayraktars striking what appears to be Russian targets is feeding into that [Ukrainian] information campaign," he said.



Bendett believes that the days of Bayraktar strikes are limited, though, should Russia reorganize its advance.

"If the Russian military reorganizes — if it sends in the BTGs, if it sends in adequate air defense capability, if it sends in its [electronic warfare] forces...it would become increasingly more difficult for Bayraktars to operate in an uncontested fashion," said the drone expert. "They were definitely aware of the threat. They definitely practiced against the threat."

And even should the Russians recover and counter the drone threat, he noted, "they were supposed to eliminate a lot of Ukrainian air defense capability from the...first hours of the campaign." That includes the air bases where the drones are stored, fueled and equipped.

A portion of that responsibility, according to other experts and U.S. officials who spoke with Reuters, lies with the conspicuous absence of the Russian Air Force over the skies of Ukraine.

"The fact that there may be surviving [Bayraktars] somewhere is an embarrassment [to Russia]," said Bendett. "Clearly." (Courtesy militarytimes.com)

"Give Peace A Chance"

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

