

The logo for DISC 2026 features the text 'DISC' in a large, bold, dark blue font above '2026' in a similar font. The text is set against a background of several interlocking gears of varying sizes, rendered in a light blue, semi-transparent style. The overall background is a light blue gradient with a subtle pattern of circuit lines and dots.

# DISC 2026

**MARCH 18-19**

**CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA**

**Hosted by**

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Office of US Senator Ted Budd

North Carolina Military Business Center

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# Sustaining Ground Vehicles: Business Opportunities & Procurement Dialogue

## Speakers:

- Moderator: **Rick Gilmore**, Regional Program Manager (Greensboro), NC Military Business Center
- Jeffrey Mounts, Division Chief, Ground Combat Systems, Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command
- Michelle Maher, Deputy Director, Supply Chain, Tank-automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM)
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# AM GENERAL

MISSION READY ★ FUTURE DRIVEN

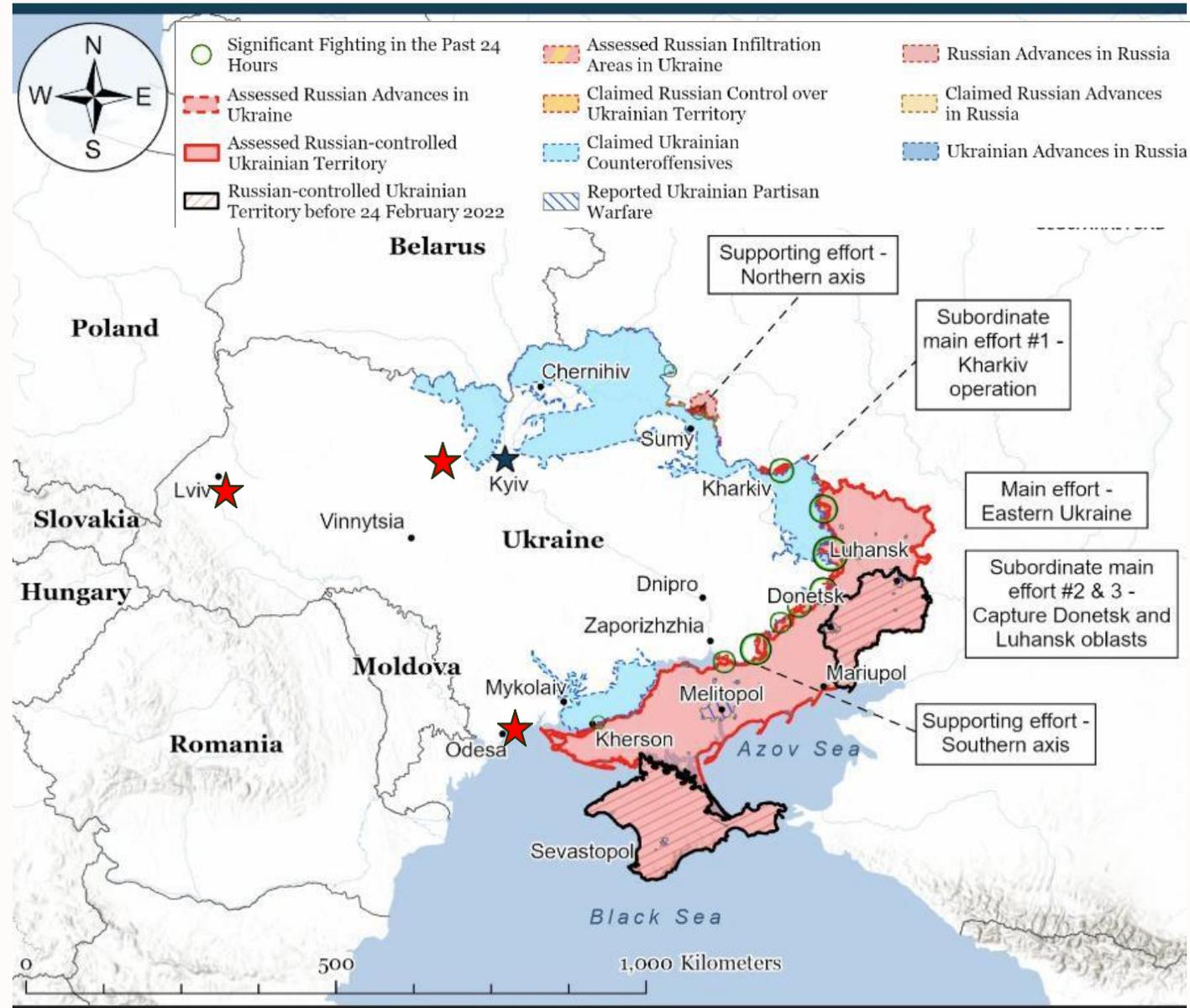


## The HMMWV in Ukraine

March 19, 2026

# Ukraine Update

- Ukrainian forces have advanced 10 to 12 kilometers deep in two separate drives in Dnipropetrovsk Oblast that have reportedly liberated more than 400 square kilometers since late January 2026.
- Russian forces use small-scale cross-border attacks in previously dormant frontline areas in northern Ukraine to try to convince the West that the frontlines in Ukraine are collapsing.
- Multiple sources are claiming that SpaceX's recent block of unregistered Starlink terminals in Ukraine is hinders Russian combat operations in Ukraine.
- Parts of Ukraine's defense industrial base have achieved self-sufficiency such that Ukraine can start exports to the West.
- Russian battlefield casualties and fatalities are significantly greater than Ukrainian casualties and fatalities—with a ratio of roughly 2.5:1 or 2:1.
- Russian forces suffered nearly 1.2 million battlefield casualties, which include killed, wounded, and missing, between Feb 2022 and Dec 2025. There were roughly 415,000 Russian casualties in 2025 alone, with an average of nearly 35,000 casualties per month. In addition, there were roughly 275,000 to 325,000 Russian battlefield fatalities between Feb 2022 and Dec 2025.
- Ukrainian forces likely suffered somewhere between 500,000 and 600,000 casualties, including killed, wounded, and missing, and between 100,000 and 140,000 fatalities between Feb 2022 and Dec 2025.



Indicates location of Armed Forces Wheeled Vehicle Depots

Source: *Institute for the Study of War*  
<https://understandingwar.org/analysis/russia-ukraine/>



# General Situation

## General Observations:

- In winter, battlefield is relatively static; Russian winter goals are to demoralize Ukrainian people's will to fight by attacking infrastructure and the civilian population
- Battlefield Tactics, Techniques, Procedures, constantly evolving
- Ukrainians are adapting to the battlefield quicker than the Russians; executing more operations deep into enemy territory and raids – primarily Security Services utilizing many systems to include HMMWVs and Chieftain Vehicles

## Drones/CUAS Threat:

- First-Person View (FPV) drones are specialized radio-controlled aircraft flown using goggles that receive real-time, immersive video feeds from an onboard camera. Used for racing, cinematic, and freestyle flying, can reach up to 75 mph
- FPVs currently dominate the Forward Line of Troops (FLOT) - anywhere from 20-30km
- Because the drone threat dominates the battlespace today, procurement of tanks and large tracked vehicles has dropped significantly

## EW Threat:

- Threat EW systems are both Russian and Chinese; GPS denied operations are the norm
- EW threats operate on multiple frequency ranges, so challenge is what EW systems are needed to provide a “protective cone” around assets covering all frequencies across the spectrum
- Ukrainians counter the EW threat by using less complex electronic systems and resorting to mechanical only options; also simplifies maintenance with challenges in sustainment



*M1151A1B1 with Frag Kit and Overhead Gunner Protection Kit delivered (2025)*

“Russian attack plunges Kyiv into cold, threatens nuclear-linked facilities”

January 20, 2026 10:14 PM EST Updated January 20, 2026



# HMMWV & HMMWV Hawkeye in Ukraine

- HMMWVs: Over 6,500+ HMMWVs in the Ukrainian Armed Forces
  - End Users are: Ministry of Defense, Security Services & Ministry of Internal Affairs (National Guard, Border Guards, National Police)
  - HMMWV is the 4x4 of choice; goal is to grow fleet to 10,000 HMMWVs
  - Maintenance and Sustainment-decentralized operations are critical to survival:
    - 3 major depot sites in Zhytomyr, Odessa, & Lyiv
    - Units have limited maintenance budgets;
    - Units have established relationships with local workshops & service centers
    - Mobile Workshops/Contact Trucks conduct “fix forward” operations
    - What we would throw away they rebuild
    - HMMWVs are modified for all types of missions
    - RESET/Overhaul is a priority but real-life funding challenges remain the reality (ammunition procurement, CUAS, missiles, etc.)
- HMMWV Hawkeye
  - Interest in Both Conventional Artillery Forces & Special Operations; different mission profiles for each organization
  - Tested by Intelligence Directorate of MoD from 2024-2025; over 300 hundred rounds fired in combat
  - They have since assigned NSN; provided a test report, focusing on improvements they want to have on the system
  - Next Steps: Validation of required upgrades to system in CONUS and shipping back in Ukraine in 2026 for a final live fire validation



*HAWKEYE live fire training with Ukrainian Troops at the Divychky Firing Range, Kyiv Oblast (2024)*



# Ukrainian Repair Facilities



# FPV Drone Battle Damage (July 2025)



- M1165A1B3 with Frag Kit and Gunner Protection Kit (GPK)
- Estimated warhead on drone was up to 1Kg (RPG size)
- Struck between armored glass and hood
- Some damage to engine components (air filter, hoses, etc) but repaired and returned to fight
- No injuries to crew!



# Summary/Questions



*Major Igor Simutin and HMMWV Repair Team, Zhytomyr, Ukraine*



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