
Current Intelligence Report Circular

CLASSIFICATION: DECLASSIFIED AND APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

Report Topic: Military Developments in the Russo-Ukrainian War

Production Date: 12 March 2022

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Armored Russian trains spotted in southern Ukraine

The southern Ukrainian city of Kherson has been at the forefront of the conflict in the Russo-Ukrainian War. Kherson was partially captured by Russian forces on 03 MAR, which was confirmed by Ukrainian government officials. On 10 MAR, a Russian armored military train was seen on a rail line in the Kherson region carrying ZU-25-23 type machine anti-aircraft guns. The Russian Ministry of Defense reported that the armored train entered Ukraine and that 248 Ukrainians were “evacuated” from the war zone. It is reported that the train departed from Kherson and arrived in Armyansk on the Crimean Peninsula. However, reports have indicated that this armored train was not for civilian evacuation, but rather for taking weapons to the front lines. END

CMCD Note

Armored trains have historically been used to transport military equipment to save fuel and manpower during transportation. Due to Russia’s military presence in Ukraine and the use of forces located in Crimea to conduct offensive operations in the south of Ukraine, it is likely that these trains are being used to expedite equipment to frontline cities, such as Melitopol and Kherson. We assess that the armored trains are likely logistical assets designed to enable Russian forces to gather equipment for future offensive operations.

Sources

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https://www.cnn.com/europe/live-news/ukraine-russia-putin-news-03-10-22/h_6854d6b32a5e8a1376b1fbdcaa75cd58

NPR, Russia forces have captured the southern Ukrainian port city of Kherson

<https://www.npr.org/2022/03/03/1084113679/russian-forces-have-captured-the-southern-ukrainian-port-city-of-kherson>