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## Drexel GPS: Zelensky Boots Top Security Officials: Is Russian Infiltration Widespread?

- Ukraine says a significant number of Russian warships in the Black Sea were moved from Crimea further east to the port of Novorossiysk. This could be a sign of the effect Western weapons systems delivered to Ukraine has had on Russian troop positioning. The movement of Russian warships comes after Kyiv received further deliveries of longer-range missile systems from its Western allies. It remains to be seen if more of these types of weapons will be able to influence Russia's naval blockade currently preventing Ukrainian wheat exports.
- Ukrainian president Zelensky has suspended the country's security chief and top prosecutor. Zelensky did not say exactly why they were replaced. An earlier statement made by Zelensky stated that there were "more than 651 collaboration and treason cases opened up since the start of the recent war with Russia." Zelensky also said there are more than 60 former employees working actively against Ukraine in Russian-occupied territories.
- Both Ivan Bakanov, the head of the SBU which is the Ukrainian spy agency, and Chief prosecutor Iryna Venediktova have so far not commented on their suspensions.
- As the Russian army continues to make its incremental but steady advances in Ukraine, this is a critical development. If Russian psychological operations (PSYOPS) and siege warfare tactics break the will of local leaders in contested areas, this could be a problem for Ukraine.
- The rapid fall of the city of Kherson has been attributed to the failure to destroy bridges that were supposed to have been blown in advance of the Russian army's advance.
- Senior intelligence officials based in Kherson have also been charged and Zelensky has suggested that further action would be taken against other SBU officers accused of working with Russia's special services.

Human intelligence (HUMINT) and espionage operations in Ukraine have not been widely reported on. By nature, these types of operations tend to be out of the spotlight, especially when they are working well. As a general rule, nations are reluctant to discuss any type of espionage operations, even more so for those conducted against them.

The public statements from Zelensky on the subject along with the removal of two of his top officials could suggest that Russia's successes in this area of operations have been more effective than previously reported. We will monitor this closely as the situation develops.

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