



A LETTER FROM THE FRONT

2 JULY 2022

The following letter is from an American fighting alongside the Ukrainians. Let us never forget the front-line of freedom is never very far away from each of us. These words are just a few hours old and perhaps the events describe here have already commenced. Please pray for the Ukrainians who are fighting for their sovereignty and on the front lines of freedom for everyone.

The location and other potential identification has been removed.

We assaulted a village Northeast of [Combat Zone] in support of the counteroffensive two days ago. During the initial firefight we lost one Ukrainian and had 5 Ukrainian wounded to small arms fire. I had 4 RPGs fired at me in an extremely short period of time. Our team of foreigners, which I am running when we are in the field, had a squad of newly minted Ukrainian soldiers attached to us. As soon as I got them spread out in a nearby tree line, I tried to kill the RPG team, but I couldn't get a shot off. The Russians then dropped artillery for a short time, but we had counter battery fire which kept them occupied. When night came there was Grad barrages that didn't do much of anything because they missed. The next day though the Russians tried to counterattack using their tanks from nearby as indirect fire support, mortars, and a Hind helicopter. The tanks were using anti-armor rounds so there was minimal shrapnel, but it put another 6 Ukrainians in the hospital and we had many with noticeable symptoms of bad concussions that were inside buildings the tanks fired at. The Hind thrashed us however and another Ukrainian died. One Ukrainian is severely wounded in the hospital. The structure she was in collapsed when a mortar round hit the roof. The village is ours now though thanks to reinforcements from the [XX]th Air Assault Brigade.

Tomorrow we assault a major town with the [XX]th. They are much better equipped than us and have Javelins because we are expecting more helicopters to show up. Originally we were to assault today, but they called it off specifically to throw more shells at the Russian positions. They have put my team in the front



wave assault because of our training and experience compared to some others. Other than a handful of M72 LAWs [Light Anti-Tank Weapon and Anti-Armor Weapon]. Our anti-armor is primarily going to be from the XXth. We do have one Ukrainian team in our company specifically for anti-armor that has heavier equipment, but they do not have much of it. I have a strong feeling we'll be putting those LAWs into buildings not armored vehicles.

I love the Ukrainians here. We are a family. The Ukrainian culture is great as everyone has a really good sense of humor. They are easy to joke with and we spend most of our time laughing with each other. I can't imagine losing these people and I don't want to, but I also know better.

Tomorrow is going to be very long and it is going to suck pretty damn bad. The town has to be taken in conjunction with others in the region if Kherson is going to be recaptured however so there isn't a way around this. I'm hoping I don't have any more RPGs whiz by my head, the noise from those things is truly terrifying when they are that close.

Tomorrow is Sunday [3 June, 2022], pray for 3rd Company, [XXX]th Separate Special Purpose Battalion. Lord knows we need the prayers.

Please pray Ukraine and for our fellow Americans who are fighting along side the Ukrainian Freedom Fighters. May God grant them success and protect them that He will offer up their adversary according to His will. The all-knowing God will know specifically for whom you are praying.

Michael Lawson