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In Photos: Ukraine's Ongoing Defense of War-Ravaged Bakhmut

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Ukrainian forces continue to defend the largely-destroyed city of Bakhmut, for months the epicenter of Russia's assault on eastern Ukraine. On Sunday, Russia's Defense Ministry claimed that it had secured two blocks in the western part of the city, while mercenaries from the Wagner Group, led by businessman Yevgeny Prigozhin, were said to have made advances in the north of Bakhmut near a rail station. While the fighting continues in Bakhmut, a broad Russian offensive in Ukraine, which began several months ago, seems to be coming to an end. In other areas, Russia has switched to defensive positions, according to the head of Ukrainian intelligence, Kyrylo Budanov, likely in anticipation of Kyiv's much-rumored spring counteroffensive.



Anatolii Stepanov / AFP

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