

ХРОНІКА

DARIA BURA
OLEKSANDR KRASOVYTSKY

**CHRONICLE
OF THE WAR
2014-2020**

Volume 2

FROM THE FIRST
TO THE SECOND «MINSK»

Kharkiv
«Folio»
2022

Information about the authors of the volume 2

Gennady Afanasyev, a professional photographer and Crimean activist, took part in the movement for a united Ukraine during the annexation of the Crimean peninsula by the Russian Federation. But in 2014 he was arrested in Simferopol and he was tried in the case of so-called Crimean terrorists. He was illegally detained in Russian prisons as a political prisoner. He now lives in Kyiv and continues to fight for the release of Ukrainian political prisoners illegally detained in Russia.

Iryna Vovk is a journalist, since 2010 she has worked as an editor, correspondent and documentary filmmaker in the editorial offices of the ZIK news agency, TV channels 24 and ZIK. Since April 2014, she has been in the combat zone in Donbas: as a journalist and volunteer for the Ukrainian military. She headed the Charitable Foundation “24” (assistance to Ukrainian soldiers) in 2014—2015. From the end of 2016, she recorded conversations with the families of Ukrainian soldiers killed in the Donbas, which were included in the three-volume “On the Shield. Memories of the families of fallen soldiers”.

Since March 2020, she has recorded conversations with Ukrainians released from captivity on December 29, 2019, which were included in the book “Isolation. Secret prisons of Donbass in stories saved from torture and death”.

Daria Bura is a journalist who has worked as a freelance correspondent for several Lviv publications since 2008.

Since 2014, she has written texts related to the war in eastern Ukraine (the site of TV channel “24”). Since the end of 2015, she has been in the combat zone in Donbas as a volunteer of the Return Alive Charitable Foundation (assistance to Ukrainian soldiers). Since 2017 — freelance journalist, author of articles in Ipress.ua, Fakty.ictv.ua, Charitable Foundation “Come back alive”; from 2019 — in the editions “Without Armor”, “Novynarnia”. Since March 2018 — radio host on the military radio MOU “Army FM”.

In March 2020, she began to record conversations with Ukrainians released from captivity on December 29, 2019. These stories are included in the book “Isolation. Secret prisons of Donbass in stories saved from torture and death”.

Anna Shyla is the creative pseudonym of Halyna Slipushko. The author graduated from Kyiv Linguistic University and the Institute of Postgraduate Education of Kyiv National University. Taras Shevchenko, majoring in psychology. From romantic short stories about love, the relationship between men and women moved to serious military prose.

SEPTEMBER 5, 2014

■ News Round-Up

Seven Ukrainian servicemen were killed, 59 wounded over the past 24 hours in the area of the Anti-Terrorist Operation, informed Andriy Lysenko, *spokesman of the Information Analytical Center of the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC)* at Friday's briefing.

- ✎ Combat actions have been taking place in Debaltseve area, militants and Russian troops are actively advancing in Luhansk Oblast. *Dmytro Tymchuk, Information Resistance organizer, informs* on Facebook.

"In the zone of combat actions in Donbas, the most tense situation is in the north of Luhansk Oblast (Stanytsia Luhanska), near Donetsk and Debaltseve as well as in the south of Donetsk Oblast (Novoazovsk — Mariupol)", he states. "Pro-Russian terrorists continue active offensive operations in Luhansk Oblast", Tymchuk says. He adds that "Simultaneous reconnaissance by fighting in the Mariupol area indicates that the enemy is trying to identify positions of Ukrainian troops in the area to ensure their further offensive."

Last night the Ukrainian forces struck at the enemy base in the area of settlement Vesele. "Three 122-mm D-30 mortars and enemy manpower were destroyed," Tymchuk says. "There are fights in the area of Debaltseve," he writes.

The statement informs that "The enemy fired at positions and checkpoints of Ukrainian troops near Stanytsia Luhanska, Luhanske, Nikishine, and Stukalova Balka. "The positions of Ukrainian troops were shelled from the Russian territory in the area of Makarov (with MLRS BM-21 "Hrad") and Nyzhnyi Minchenok (with multiple launch rocket system (MLRS) BM-30 "Smerch")."

- ✎ The website of *Donetsk City Council* says that, eventually, 5 civilians were killed due to the shelling of Donetsk by terrorists.

✎ On Friday, during the negotiations of the contact group between the representatives of Ukraine, “DNR” and “LNR” with the participation of the OSCE, a protocol was signed regarding a cease-fire in Donbas since Friday, 18:00. President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko ordered the Head of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine to cease fire in Donbas area starting from 18:00 Friday, September 5. Since 18.00 all military units of the Ukrainian law enforcement agencies, involved in the Anti-Terrorist Operation, ceased fire following the order of the President of Ukraine. Meanwhile, the *press office of Donetsk City Council* reports that as of 18:00 Donetsk was restless: there were sounds of shelling and explosions.

SEPTEMBER 6, 2014

■ News Round-Up

"Over the previous day, militants attacked the ATO forces positions 28 times, including 10 after the cease-fire had been declared" as *the spokesman of the information and analytical Center of National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine Andriy Lysenko* says. Specifically, after 18:00 the terrorists carried out artillery shelling of the pontoon bridge over the Siversky Donets River and mortar shelling of the ATO forces positions near Krasnohorivka. In addition, Ukrainian troops at Donetsk airport were shelled several times.

In Luhansk Oblast, a terrorists' mortar shelled the checkpoint of the ATO forces near Zolote and shelled the Ukrainian Forces base near Popasna with small arms.

There was also a shelling with the AGS-17 at checkpoint near Frunze; and the checkpoint of Anti-Terrorist Operation forces near Zolote was shelled with small arms.

Before the cease-fire the RF Armed Forces attempted to attack the village of Shyrokinе near Mariupol'.

✎ In his interview to the BBC, *President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko* declared that Russia can 'capture' not just Kyiv but also any other European city unless the whole world unites in solidarity with Ukraine. Commenting Putin's words that he can 'capture Kyiv' within two weeks, Poroshenko mentioned that "The RF Army contains 1.2 mln people. According to the same logic, as the RF can 'capture Kyiv, Russia can capture Warsaw, Vilnius, Riga, Bucharest, any other city unless the whole world unites in solidarity with Ukraine."

✎ In Zaporizhzhia, local residents are preparing to defend themselves against possible attacks from the Russian Federation: hundreds of activists have gone to dig trenches to defend the city. This is stated in a message on Facebook by the press secretary of the *Head of Zaporizhzhia Oblast State Administration Andriy Rybalchenko*.

- ✎ The Russian Federation continues to concentrate its armed forces in the north of the temporarily occupied Crimea and rotates its forces and machinery as Andriy Lysenko, spokesman of the Information Analytical Center of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine (NSDC), informed.

“On September 5, the movement of Russian military columns along the Rostov-Taganrog route and further towards the border with Ukraine was noticed. Mostly these were Ural tilt and KaMaz trucks (including communication and electronic warfare machines) as well as armored vehicles. The redeployed parts belong to Western Military District of the RF Armed Forces”, the *NSDC spokesman* said.

- ✎ In Luhansk Oblast large columns of armored vehicles and military trucks, including including Russian T-72VM tanks, Strela-10 anti-aircraft missile systems and SAM mobile launchers have been noticed. The corresponding video was published by *Interpretermag*.

- ✎ The cease-fire regime in the Anti-Terrorist Operation zone has been violated: the east suburbs of Mariupol were heavy shelled with heavy military equipment. *Journalist Hrihoriy Zhigalov* reported about it in his Twitter.

SEPTEMBER 7, 2014

- **Iryna Vovk, Daria Bura “ ISOLATION. Secret prisons of Donbas in the stories by people saved from torture and death”**

MARYNA CHUIKOVA,
civilian, resident of Horlivka, born in 1971

Before the war in the Donbas, Maryna Chuikova worked as a nurse in the Horlivka hospital and worked part-time in a jewellery store. She raised two sons, Sava and Arthur, and took care of her mother, who was ill.

With the beginning of hostilities, Maryna managed to evacuate her children from the occupied territory; however, she returned to her mother in Horlivka. Periodically, she went to the territory controlled by Ukraine, but she could not leave her mother for keeps. Having got acquainted with the Ukrainian forces, she began to transmit information to the military about the equipment and personnel of the militants in Horlivka and the surrounding area.

But in March 2018, Maryna was detained at the Horlivka checkpoint and with a bag on her head was taken to the “MGB” in Donetsk. From there, after being tortured and interrogated, she was sent to the pre-trial detention centre. After a year of waiting, one day Maryna was sentenced to 11 years of imprisonment in the Snizhniansky women’s colony.

Throughout her time in captivity of the militants (21 months), Maryna’s sons regularly organized rallies and actions in support of their mother in different cities of the country, addressed the government and the President. Not in vain.

On December 29, 2019, Maryna was exchanged at the Maiorsk checkpoint: she was taken by bus from the colony along with other Ukrainian captives. Maryna’s mother did not live to see her daughter’s release and died 40 days before the event.

The first thing that made me so angry was the Crimea. Apparently, everyone understood that Russia might not stop only on its occupation. Especially the residents of Horlivka where every day emerged more and more incomprehensible people in a uniform so similar to the Russian one.

They began to collect tires and build roadblocks at the entrances to the city. There were fighter planes flying overhead. This did not infuse with hope for anything good. Of course, no one then suspected that there would be a full-scale war.

I am unmarried and, above all, I was worried about my children.

My guys were engaged in sports and, in spring of 2014, the militants began to cling to them, saying, “Why are you not fighting?” I am a nurse, I worked in a local hospital, and they also came to me: they told me to go to work in their “militia units”. I didn’t want to, and they were angry and insulted me.

I had a lot of friends and acquaintances during my life in the city. Those who had a little more money, their own business became the first victims of extortions. So they started leaving the city. And nobody cared about me at the time. They were saving themselves, their relatives, and their property. And how could I blame them? If I had an opportunity, I probably would have left that Horlivka myself. There were terrible things happening.

“Bes” seized power in the city. As they say, “And spurn the dust to win the prize”; they were illiterate, stupid and ignorant people.

They didn’t know how to manage it all. Therefore, they began to be reinforced by Russian mercenaries, military mob muscle: they taught local misfits “how to deal with dissenters”. They kept arresting people for nothing: for photos in social networks, for tweets, and even for selfies, and there was a military vehicle passing somewhere in the background. Not to mention Volodymyr Rybak, our local MP, who was brutally killed for his outstanding pro-Ukrainian position. I remember hearing a lot of screaming cases of detention, and I even deleted the photo from my phone where I shot my orchid: I was happy as it bloomed every day, and they stationed their combat equipment under my windows.

CONTENTS

<i>Information about the authors of the volume 2</i>	3
SEPTEMBER 5, 2014	5
SEPTEMBER 6, 2014	6
SEPTEMBER 7, 2014	9
SEPTEMBER 8, 2014	28
SEPTEMBER 9, 2014	30
SEPTEMBER 10, 2014	31
SEPTEMBER 11, 2014	33
SEPTEMBER 12, 2014	34
SEPTEMBER 13, 2014	35
SEPTEMBER 14, 2014	36
SEPTEMBER 15, 2014	37
SEPTEMBER 16, 2014	38
SEPTEMBER 17, 2014	39
SEPTEMBER 18, 2014	40
SEPTEMBER 19, 2014	41
SEPTEMBER 20, 2014	42
SEPTEMBER 21, 2014	44
SEPTEMBER 22, 2014	45
SEPTEMBER 23, 2014	46

SEPTEMBER 24, 2014	47
SEPTEMBER 25, 2014	48
SEPTEMBER 26, 2014	49
SEPTEMBER 27, 2014	49
SEPTEMBER 28, 2014	51
SEPTEMBER 29, 2014	52
SEPTEMBER 30, 2014	53
OCTOBER 1, 2014	55
OCTOBER 2, 2014	57
OCTOBER 3, 2014	58
OCTOBER 4, 2014	59
OCTOBER 5, 2014	60
OCTOBER 6, 2014	61
OCTOBER 7, 2014	62
OCTOBER 8, 2014	63
OCTOBER 9, 2014	64
OCTOBER 10, 2014	65
OCTOBER 11, 2014	66
OCTOBER 12, 2014	67
OCTOBER 13, 2014	68
OCTOBER 14, 2014	70
OCTOBER 15, 2014	71
OCTOBER 16, 2014	71
OCTOBER 17, 2014	72
OCTOBER 18, 2014	73
OCTOBER 19, 2014	73
OCTOBER 20, 2014	74

OCTOBER 21, 2014 75
OCTOBER 22, 2014 76
OCTOBER 23, 2014 77
OCTOBER 24, 2014 79
OCTOBER 25, 2014 80
OCTOBER 26, 2014 81
OCTOBER 27, 2014 82
OCTOBER 28, 2014 83
OCTOBER 29, 2014 84
OCTOBER 30, 2014 85
OCTOBER 31, 2014 86
NOVEMBER 1, 2014 87
NOVEMBER 2, 2014 87
NOVEMBER 3, 2014 88
NOVEMBER 4, 2014 89
NOVEMBER 5, 2014 90
NOVEMBER 6, 2014 91
NOVEMBER 7, 2014 92
NOVEMBER 8, 2014 94
NOVEMBER 9, 2014 95
NOVEMBER 10, 2014 96
NOVEMBER 11, 2014 97
NOVEMBER 12, 2014 98
NOVEMBER 13, 2014 99
NOVEMBER 14, 2014 100
NOVEMBER 15, 2014 101
NOVEMBER 16, 2014 102

NOVEMBER 17, 2014	103
NOVEMBER 18, 2014	104
NOVEMBER 19, 2014	105
NOVEMBER 20, 2014	105
NOVEMBER 21, 2014	106
NOVEMBER 22, 2014	107
NOVEMBER 23, 2014	126
NOVEMBER 24, 2014	127
NOVEMBER 25, 2014	128
NOVEMBER 26, 2014	129
NOVEMBER 27, 2014	130
NOVEMBER 28, 2014	131
NOVEMBER 29, 2014	131
NOVEMBER 30, 2014	132
DECEMBER 1, 2014	133
DECEMBER 2, 2014	134
DECEMBER 3, 2014	135
DECEMBER 4, 2014	136
DECEMBER 5, 2014	137
DECEMBER 6, 2014	154
DECEMBER 7, 2014	155
DECEMBER 8, 2014	156
DECEMBER 9, 2014	157
DECEMBER 10, 2014	157
DECEMBER 11, 2014	158
DECEMBER 12, 2014	159
DECEMBER 13, 2014	160

DECEMBER 14, 2014	161
DECEMBER 15, 2014	161
DECEMBER 16, 2014	162
DECEMBER 17, 2014	163
DECEMBER 18, 2014	164
DECEMBER 19, 2014	165
DECEMBER 20, 2014	166
DECEMBER 21, 2014	167
DECEMBER 22, 2014	168
DECEMBER 23, 2014	169
DECEMBER 24, 2014	170
DECEMBER 25, 2014	172
DECEMBER 26, 2014	173
DECEMBER 27, 2014	174
DECEMBER 28, 2014	175
DECEMBER 29, 2014	176
DECEMBER 30, 2014	177
DECEMBER 31, 2014	178
JANUARY 1, 2015	179
JANUARY 2, 2015	180
JANUARY 3, 2015	181
JANUARY 4, 2015	182
JANUARY 5, 2015	183
JANUARY 6, 2015	184
JANUARY 7, 2015	185
JANUARY 8, 2015	186
JANUARY 9, 2015	187

JANUARY 10, 2015	188
JANUARY 11, 2015	189
JANUARY 12, 2015	190
JANUARY 13, 2015	191
JANUARY 14, 2015	193
JANUARY 15, 2015	194
JANUARY 16, 2015	195
JANUARY 17, 2015	196
JANUARY 18, 2015	197
JANUARY 19, 2015	213
JANUARY 20, 2015	215
JANUARY 21, 2015	217
JANUARY 22, 2015	218
JANUARY 23, 2015	220
JANUARY 24, 2015	221
JANUARY 25, 2015	223
JANUARY 26, 2015	224
JANUARY 27, 2015	225
JANUARY 28, 2015	227
JANUARY 29, 2015	228
JANUARY 30, 2015	229
JANUARY 31, 2015	230
FEBRUARY 1, 2015	231
FEBRUARY 2, 2015	232
FEBRUARY 3, 2015	233
FEBRUARY 4, 2015	246
FEBRUARY 5, 2015	247

FEBRUARY 6, 2015 248
FEBRUARY 7, 2015 249
FEBRUARY 8, 2015 250
FEBRUARY 9, 2015 251
FEBRUARY 10, 2015 252
FEBRUARY 11, 2015 253
FEBRUARY 12, 2015 254
FEBRUARY 13, 2015 255
FEBRUARY 14, 2015 256
FEBRUARY 15, 2015 256
FEBRUARY 16, 2015 258
FEBRUARY 17, 2015 271
FEBRUARY 18, 2015 272
FEBRUARY 19, 2015 274