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War rages in Ukraine; Greek PM Mitsotakis reiterates support to Kiev in phone call with V. Zelenskiy



Infernal war continued for a 19th straight day in Ukraine on Monday, the result of an outright invasion by Russian forces on Feb. 24.
In brief, the major news from the battlefields and diplomatic front on Monday leads with resumed talks between the governments Russia and Ukraine, although communication between the two sides is difficult but ongoing, a Ukrainian presidential adviser and negotiator posted on Twitter.

Two people were killed and three injured when a shell hit a residential building in north-west Kiev on Monday morning, Ukraine's state emergency services announced. The nine-storey residential apartment building reportedly caught fire due to Russian shelling shortly after 5 a.m. Additionally, the Antonov aircraft plant in Kiev was also shelled by Russian forces.

Tragically, 90 children have been killed so and more than 100 wounded in Ukraine since Russian troops invaded, the Ukrainian general prosecutor's office said on Monday.

Thousands of miles away, a Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson said assertions by US officials that Moscow has asked Beijing for military equipment to press its invasion of Ukraine were "disinformation". The comments came during a regular foreign ministry briefing in Beijing, Reuters reported.

Nevertheless, the Guardian said that Washington will directly table the issue at a high-level meeting in Rome, in an attempt to persuade China not to supply arms to Russia.

Meanwhile, Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis told Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelenskiy on Monday that the full implementation of sanctions by European Union countries would help pressure Russia to stop its attacks.

The two leaders discussed the impact of Russia's invasion by phone, the Greek

premier’s office announced.

Mitsotakis also assured Zelenskiy that his government fully supports Ukraine, Reuters reported.

Greece has already sent military and humanitarian aid, it has received Ukrainian refugees and is willing to host even more.

The two leaders also agreed over the need to create a safe humanitarian corridor in stricken regions such as Mariupol, where a sizeable ethnic Greek community has existed for centuries.

Mitsotakis discussed Russia’s invasion of Ukraine with Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan in a high-profile tête-à-tête meeting Sunday, as the Greek premier paid a half-day visit to Turkey to attend festal Sunday of Orthodoxy services at the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, the Mother Church.