

Russian troops fall back to 'defensive positions' near Bakhmut

Moscow statement is first admission that Ukraine is successfully recapturing ground around eastern city

Russia's defence ministry has said some of its troops have fallen back "to more advantageous defensive positions" near a reservoir north-west of the city of Bakhmut in eastern Ukraine.

The statement on Friday was the first admission by Moscow that Ukraine was successfully recapturing ground around Bakhmut, a largely destroyed city with a pre-war population of about 70,000 that Russia has been trying to conquer for more than 10 months.

The Russian defence statement came hours after Kyiv said that its forces had advanced by about 2km (1.2 miles) around Bakhmut this week.

Hanna Maliar, Ukraine's deputy defence minister, said on Friday: "The enemy suffered great losses of manpower. Our defenders advanced 2km in the Bakhmut sector. We did not lose a single position in Bakhmut this week."

Continue reading [HERE](#)

Source:

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/may/12/russian-troops-defensive-positions-near-bakhmut-moscow-statement-ukraine>

[Disclaimer]