

Evacuation of Ukrainians Halted as Russians Forces Assault Coastal City, Launch Missile Attack on Airport

A second attempt to evacuate Ukrainians from the port city of Mariupol on Sunday failed as Russia continues its assault.

The two countries had agreed to a temporary ceasefire Saturday allowing civilians to escape, but Ukrainian officials said Russia persisted with its attack. Russia then accused Ukrainian nationalists of provoking the fighting.

While speaking to Ukrainian TV, Mariupol Mayor Vadym Boychenko described the war-torn area on the 11th day since the invasion began.

"The city is in a very, very difficult state of siege," said Mayor Boychenko. "Relentless shelling of residential blocks is ongoing, airplanes have been dropping bombs on residential areas. The Russian occupants are using heavy artillery, including Grad multiple rocket launchers."

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Sunday that Russian forces bombed the town of Vinnytsya. He called the town "peaceful" and urged the West to assist Ukraine with fending off Russian forces.

"Provide us with at least jets so that we can hit Russian missiles," Zelenskyy said. "If we will not receive help now I will be convinced that the West is also interested in elimination of Ukrainians."

In a video address, President Zelenskyy again requested that foreign protectors impose a no-fly zone over Ukraine. NATO maintains that a no-fly zone could incite widespread war in

Europe with Russia.

“The world is strong enough to close our skies,” Zelenskyy stated.

Zelenskyy and Foreign Affairs Minister Dmytro Kuleba also reported Sunday that Russian forces attacked an airport with eight cruise missiles.

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