

# Ukraine war: Russia ‘orders troops’ to withdraw from the Ukrainian city of Kherson

Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu on Wednesday ordered Russian troops to withdraw from the west bank of the Dnipro River in the face of Ukrainian attacks near the southern city of Kherson.

The announcement marks one of Russia’s most significant retreats and a potential turning point in the war, now nearing the end of its ninth month. But it has brought a sceptical response from Ukraine’s government.

Shoigu said on television that he would “proceed with the withdrawal of the soldiers” after a proposal by the commander of Russian operations in Ukraine, General Sergei Surovikin.

Surovikin, in overall command of the war, also appeared on TV. He acknowledged that it was “not at all an easy decision” to make but explained that it was no longer possible to supply Kherson city.

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