

## EIR Daily Alert Service

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## EDITORIAL

**Are You Addicted To Being Lied To?**

June 8, 2023 (EIRNS)—What is it about modern Western culture that begs for it to be lied to? And, on a personal level, how fatiguing is it to have to keep track of all the lies one imbibes these days?

Five hours before explosions destroyed the Kakhovka dam in Russian-controlled Kherson, the critical Togliatti-Odessa pipeline to carry ammonia from Russia through to Ukraine's Black Sea, for the manufacture of fertilizers to be shipped to a starving world, was itself bombed. It has been a key element of the July 2022 Black Sea Grain Deal, whereby Kiev gets to ship grain from three ports, and Russia is supposed to be able to ship ammonia for fertilizer, agricultural products, and such. The West and Kiev act like Lucy in the "Charlie Brown" comic strip's running joke, where Lucy holds the football for Charlie to kick and jerks it away every time, promising she won't do it the next time. This real-life "black comedy" is in its 12th month, and last week Moscow put its foot down, saying Kiev's shipping will be restricted until it allows the ammonia pipeline to be opened. Five days later, it was bombed.

It turns out there is a "partisan guerrilla" outfit that has been bombing people and institutions around the town of the Kakhovka dam, Nova Kakhovka, for at least eight months now. But, rather than a trail for evidence, they are the ones Ukraine uses to claim that the Russians blew up the Kherson Oblast hydroelectric dam on the Dnieper River under their control.

How is it that Afghanistan's Taliban, with all their problems, can eliminate 99% of the infamous Helmand Province opium crop in the first year of their effort, when anti-drug efforts throughout the Western world go nowhere? And it is accepted "common knowledge" that the drug epidemic is here to stay.

Unfortunately, one can continue with such examples every day. But, simply put, there is a soul-sickness in the culture. That Kiev's regime can bomb two critical pieces of infrastructure in one night and deny, with a straight face that anything they might do wrong, intentionally or accidentally, is automatically a Russian disinformation operation—such behavior is not meant to be believed. Kiev's leaders get in a corner over their lies; they do something unbelievably ugly; and then, with not even a pretense to old-fashioned evidence, they try to stampede the world toward a thermonuclear Armageddon. This is more a matter of rubbing the impotence and demoralization of modern Western culture in our faces.

This Saturday, June 10, is the 60th anniversary of one of the last potent and moralizing acts in American public life, the American University Commencement address by [President John F. Kennedy](#).

First, listen to it today and give up the fatiguing exercise of living in lies; and then you will know how to [spend the hours](#) on Saturday, helping your tired family and friends “take a load off”:

- Watch [Harley's Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Friday June 9, 2023: Every weekday morning on The LaRouche Organization, Schlanger will give you the strategic briefing you need to start your day.

## STRATEGIC SHOWDOWN

### Kiev Explains ‘Blow Up Dam’ Message: Talking to Russia Is Support for Genocide

June 8, 2023 (EIRNS)—Ukraine's Foreign Ministry led the way in the hours after the destruction of the Kakhovka dam, stampeding way beyond any pretense of citing evidence. Its June 6 statement interpreted the message of the sabotage: “This is the Kremlin's response to countries calling for peace talks with the Russian Federation.” That is, countries and its leaders are warned that they don't know the nature of the Russian beast, and bringing up peace to them elicits this response.

Today, [Ukrinform](#), the national news outlet for the Kiev government, outdid even Ukraine's Foreign Ministry in a feature article on Russia's crime. It proceeds to explain how those who bring up the subject of peace negotiations with Russia are, in essence, committing a war crime and pushing genocide. First, it simply asserts as fact: "At 3 a.m. in the morning on June 6, 2023, Russian occupiers blew up the dam of the Kakhovka hydroelectric power plant." It then quotes Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba: "Russia destroyed the Kakhovka dam.... This is a heinous war crime. The only way to stop Russia, the greatest terrorist of the 21st century, is to kick it out of Ukraine." Then, it goes the next step:

"It looks like Russians, horrified by Ukraine's imminent return to its lands and realizing that the aggressive war they unleashed is leading to unavoidable defeat, decided to turn the blooming lands of the Ukrainian south into a desert. In this particular context, the calls made by certain foreign politicians and leaders to engage in negotiations with the Kremlin on Russian terms are merely a form of support for international terrorism and the crime of genocide committed against Ukrainians."

### **Guerrilla Partisans' History of Explosive Sabotage in Kakhovka Dam Area**

June 8, 2023 (EIRNS)—There is a group that uses explosives to blow up installations and individuals in the town of Nova Kakhovka, the site of the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Power Plant (KHPP) on the Dnieper River in Kherson Oblast, where explosives destroyed the facility on June 6. It is a partisan guerrilla group called "Atesh" (Tatar for "fire"), dedicated to blowing up all things Russian.

They were formed in late September 2022, along with other partisan guerrilla units working under the Military Intelligence Directorate (GUR) of Ukraine's Ministry of Defense, such as the "Russian Volunteer Corps." Their official Telegram channel claimed credit for killing 30 Russian servicemen in hospitals in Simferopol on Nov. 11, 2022; the killing of two Russian National Guard officers on January 31, 2023; a car bomb attack in Nova Kakhovka that killed two Russian soldiers on Feb. 10, 2023; and the

bomb attack killing of the deputy head of the military administration of Nova Kakhovka on March 14, 2023. They also claim responsibility for the May 6, 2023, car bomb attempt in Nizhny Novgorod that wounded author Zakhar Prilepin and killed his driver.

Over the last year, the operators of the KHPP have reported problems in keeping the facility running properly, due to various attacks, including smaller attacks over the last month.

Atesh has not claimed credit for any of these latter, and their involvement in the June 6 assault may only turn out to be tangential. However, with no little irony, they are the source that the Kiev regime now relies upon for their claim that the Russian military blew up part of the dam. Atesh states that they know the direct organizers and perpetrators—the soldiers of the 1st battalion of Russia’s 205th motorized rifle brigade, and they name the brigade commander as Col. Eduard Shandur. The Kiev regime’s news agency Ukrinform, in reporting Atesh’s claim, doesn’t mention their history of blowing up things in the Kakhovka area, but assures the reader that Ukrainian “special forces” will track down and deal with the named perpetrators.

Atesh’s so-called evidence is no more than naming the very Russian military unit stationed in the area, the ones that they themselves have been committed to blowing up.

### **British Military Mad Dog Raves That Russia Is ‘Weaponizing’ Nuclear Plant**

June 8, 2023 (EIRNS)—Since the June 6 early morning attack on the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Power Plant dam, retired British Army Col. Hamish de Bretton-Gordon, OBE, and former commander of U.K. and NATO Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear Forces, has been telling any media that will listen, that Russian President Putin is preparing to use the Zaporozhye Nuclear Power Plant (ZNPP) “as an improvised nuclear weapon,” albeit “with plausible deniability”—meaning that the Colonel neither has any, nor needs any, proof for his allegation. Yet, he concluded, in yesterday’s London *Telegraph*, that the West “must act

urgently to stop Putin.... Whatever it takes, we must ensure Ukraine prevails as quickly as possible, as there is still the specter of escalation to chemical, biological and—terrifyingly—nuclear war.”

Earlier, his ravings to the U.K. tabloid, *The Sun*, on the same day the dam was attacked, already made for the juicy scaremongering headline in the *New York Post*: “[‘Terrorist’ Vladimir Putin Is Turning Plant into Improvised Nuke, Ex-Military Official Warns.](#)” Playing to his tabloid audience, de Bretton-Gordon suggested that “ultimately this is another nail in Putin’s coffin and we have to keep our fingers crossed the plant doesn’t go bang.” Don’t worry, however, he reassured; “I’m sure the high command in Kiev would have war-gamed this situation.”

Appearing on the eve of British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak’s descent upon Washington, D.C., the *Telegraph*’s promotion of de Bretton-Gordon’s op-ed, “[We Are Now Dangerously Close to Nuclear War,](#)” assured his American targets that, as he has been saying for months, Putin is desperate. His “ ‘Special Military Operation’ is now in its death throes, with a rampant, confident, well-trained and equipped Ukraine army on the march.”

### **Zakharova: Does White House Supply Weapons to Terrorists?**

June 8, 2023 (EIRNS)—Russia’s Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova challenged the U.S. White House to take seriously the use of American weapons in promoting terrorism, including the June 6 bombing of the Kakhovka dam in the Russian-controlled Kherson Region. She pointed to Ukrainian Gen. Andriy Kovalchuk’s statement, published in the Dec. 29, 2022 *Washington Post*, that he had used U.S. HIMARS missiles to test damaging the Kakhovka dam in order to cause flooding of Russian military positions. Minimally, the question of reckless disregard by the U.S. is raised.

Zakharova said in her press briefing: “I have a question. John Kirby, Karine Jean-Pierre and everyone who is in charge of communications in the White House and the State Department, this directly concerns you, and you must provide an answer. ... Did you know how the weapons supplied to

Ukraine and paid for with American taxpayers' money were used? ... These are the questions that we are raising before the White House directly in the public space. You must answer them.”

This latest terrorist attack perpetrated by the Kiev regime has led to an environmental and humanitarian disaster. Dozens of localities have been flooded, the Kakhovka Reservoir and the North Crimea Canal, which supplies water to the Crimean Peninsula, are losing water. Farmlands, nature reserves and the region's ecosystem will suffer enormous damage. Now, the second question. Did it just start yesterday? Didn't the White House, the State Department, the EU, NATO, the Council of Europe, the OSCE and all the other organizations whose hearts are bleeding for the Kiev regime know that it had been committing acts of sabotage against civilian infrastructure, such as cutting off water supplies to Crimea for many years now? Didn't they know that power lines had been mined? Didn't they know that civilian infrastructure was the main goal of the strikes on Donbass for long years? The answer is they knew. The question remains. If they knew, then why did they remain silent about it for many years and even encourage the Kiev regime to commit these terrorist attacks?

So far, the public comments of White House spokeswoman [Karin Jean-Pierre](#) have a ways to go. Yesterday she explained that the U.S. continues to assess the incident and remains in full contact with the Ukrainian side. Of course, the devastation being observed is heartbreaking. She emphasized two points that pointed at Russia's responsibility: “This dam was under Russia's control, and they bear responsibility for the destruction caused by this war.”

### **Russia Charges Ukraine with Blowing Up Ammonia Pipeline**

June 8, 2023 (EIRNS)—Five hours before the Kakhovka dam was bombed, the critical Togliatti-Odessa ammonia pipeline that goes from Togliatti, on the Volga River in Russia through to Kharkiv in Ukraine to the Black Sea at Odessa—key infrastructure key for fertilizer production for undeveloped countries—was bombed. Moscow has accused the Kiev regime of the

bombing. “At about 9:00 p.m. Moscow time on June 5, a Ukrainian subversive and reconnaissance group blew up the Togliatti-Odessa ammonia pipeline near the settlement of Masyutovka in the Kharkov Region. Civilians were injured as a result of this terrorist act,” Defense Ministry spokesman Lt. Gen. Igor Konashenkov announced yesterday. “Currently, the ammonia remnants are being drained through the damaged pipeline sections from Ukrainian territory. There are no casualties among Russian army personnel.”

In her weekly briefing Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman [Maria Zakharova](#) described the tragic consequences of the reckless action: “Thus, the Kiev regime has not only destroyed the physical capacity to deliver ammonia to the world markets but also wreaked havoc with the international efforts to fight the threat of hunger and provide aid to the destitute countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Moreover, they have compromised the personal effort by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, who advanced a separate initiative on the ammonia pipeline and proposed the Istanbul package, whose humanitarian dimension, regrettably, is losing any sense before our own eyes.”

Of some note, at his June 1 press briefing, spokesman for the UN Secretary General [Stéphane Dujarric](#) said that Russia notified the Joint Coordination Center in Istanbul that it would restrict the passage of grain ships to one of the three Ukrainian ports until Ukraine reopens the Togliatti-Odessa ammonia pipeline. Russian [Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Vershinin](#) explained on June 1 that the UN has been unable to secure the Togliatti-Odessa pipeline, nor the other four provisions for Russia of the July 2022 grain deal. He stated: “Our position remains unchanged—the export of ammonia is part of the existing agreements and was supposed to start simultaneously with the transportation of Ukrainian grain” in July 2022. Four days later, the pipeline was bombed.

Though not mentioned in the readouts, it’s likely that implications for the Black Sea Grain Initiative of the blowing-up of the ammonia pipeline was discussed in the June 7 phone calls that Turkish President Recep

Tayyip Erdogan made yesterday with the Russian and Ukrainian Presidents. Today Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov remarked that the explosion “could have only a negative impact” on the grain deal.

## **Fogh Rasmussen Threatens NATO, Either You Escalate Backing for Ukraine or the ‘Coalition of the Willing’ Will**

June 8, 2023 (EIRNS)—Former NATO Secretary-General [Anders Fogh Rasmussen](#), who co-chairs with Andriy Yermak an advisory group to the Ukraine government, told the British daily *Guardian* that Kiev should be given written security guarantees before NATO leaders meet in the annual summit on July 11-12 in Vilnius, Lithuania. The guarantees are to include Western intelligence-sharing, weapons transfers, and joint military training.

In the *Guardian* yesterday, Rasmussen delivered a message—most likely in sync with Zelenskyy as suggested by a posting to the Presidential website—“If NATO cannot agree on a clear path forward for Ukraine, there is a clear possibility that some countries individually might take action. We know that Poland is very engaged in providing concrete assistance to Ukraine. And I wouldn’t exclude the possibility that Poland would engage even stronger in this context on a national basis and be followed by the Baltic states, maybe including the possibility of troops on the ground. I think the Poles would seriously consider going in and assemble a coalition of the willing if Ukraine doesn’t get anything in Vilnius.”

Fogh Rasmussen repeated his argument for Ukraine to join NATO in an interview last night with [BBC](#), which he posted on his Twitter site.

## **Kiev’s ‘Russian Volunteer Corps’ Announces Upcoming Raid into Crimea**

June 8, 2023 (EIRNS)—The Kiev-based partners in recent assaults against civilians in Russia’s Belgorod region, the “Freedom of Russia Legion” and the “Russian Volunteer Corps,” broadcast their plan to branch out with a raid into Crimea. It was shared on the “Crimean Partisans” Telegram channel, according to Ukrinform:

“Dear residents of the Ukrainian Crimea! The Freedom of Russia Legion and the Russian Volunteer Corps will soon conduct a volunteer raid into the territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which is temporarily occupied by the Putin regime. We, the volunteers of free Russia, see as our duty helping the Crimeans to rid the peninsula of war criminal Putin. We ask you to remain calm and assist us as much as possible.”

### Correction

June 8, 2023 (EIRNS)—Brazzaville Foundation Communications Manager Mikaël Oliveira sent *EIR* an email today, that our June 7 article, “Six Leaders of African Nations Conferred June 5 on Their Plans for Ukraine Peace Mission” stating, “for your information, the Brazzaville Foundation is based in London, not South Africa.”

## NEW STRATEGIC & ECONOMIC ARCHITECTURE

### Discussion of Today’s Lessons of JFK’s Peace Speech Is Spreading

June 8, 2023 (EIRNS)—As the Schiller Institute has insisted, the 60th anniversary of President John F. Kennedy’s June 10, 1963 extraordinary speech on world peace has sparked increasing discussion of the urgency of reviving JFK’s vision of peace.

A June 6 syndicated column published in Common Dreams by U.S. economist Jeffrey Sachs, “[How JFK Would Pursue Peace in Ukraine](#),” is being reprinted in various media and languages around the world—among them, *Consortium News*, *Nation* (Kenya), *News Mania* (India), the Sanders Institute, and [Brasil 247](#). “Kennedy’s Peace Speech highlights how Joe Biden’s approach to Russia and the Ukraine War needs a dramatic reorientation,” Sachs wrote. “Until now, Biden has not followed the precepts that Kennedy recommended to find peace. By heeding Kennedy’s advice, Biden too could become a peacemaker.” So far, in the Ukraine conflict, “Biden has behaved almost the opposite of JFK,” personally and repeatedly denigrating Russian President Putin, defining the U.S. war aim

as to weaken Russia, refusing all communications with Putin. “It is time for Biden to negotiate with Russia on NATO enlargement, as part of broader negotiations to end the Ukraine war,” Sachs insisted.

Like the Schiller Institute, the UN Sustainable Development Strategies Network of which Sachs is a part, together with the Italian think tank, Pensare Insieme, have also organized an international conference to highlight the importance of JFK’s speech for today. Its conference, “John F. Kennedy ‘A Strategy for Peace’ 60 Years Later,” will be held in Rome, Italy and livestreamed. Organizers say they aim “to offer the audience a fresh perspective on the Kennedy presidency as a model of bold moral leadership and practical problem-solving that can be applied to our present-day challenges and urgent need for peace,” according to the [UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network \(SDSN\)](#).

The Schiller Institute’s online conference, entitled “[The World Needs JFK’s Vision of Peace!](#)” will take place on the anniversary itself, June 10, starting 10 a.m. EDT, 4 p.m. CET.

Others have also spoken out. Catholic social and peace activist [Tony Magliano](#) quoted from [Kennedy’s speech](#) in a June 4 op-ed in Independent Catholic News, urging everyone to watch “the most hopefully inspiring peace speech given by a head of state in modern times,” and to “ask your government leaders to watch it,” also. Likewise, the *U.S. Catholic*, published by the Claretian missionaries, ran an article on June 5 by Kevin Clarke proposing, “[President Biden Should Look To JFK’s Example of Peacemaking](#). What might peace in our time look like?”

In Spain, an op-ed published today by the InfoLibre website, widely read among layers distrustful of mainstream narratives, reported on the Schiller Institute’s “[Urgent Appeal by Citizens and Institutions from All Over the World to the \(Next\) President of the United States!](#)” featuring the JFK speech, in discussing “[The War in Ukraine, NATO and the Disintegration of Russia](#).” In Brazil, the Dialogos do Sul blog of veteran journalist [Paulo Cannabrava](#), published a Portuguese translation of the Schiller Institute’s “Urgent Appeal” call on May 29.

## Afghanistan Eliminates 80% of Opium Fields in First Year of Crackdown

June 8, 2023 (EIRNS)—In April 2022, Taliban leader Hibatullah Akhundzada issued a decree prohibiting the cultivation of opium poppy. The Taliban have heavily cracked down on opium cultivation in Afghanistan with dramatic results. Former fields of opium poppy are now devoted to cultivation of grain.

Citing satellite imagery, illicit drugs expert David Mansfield confirmed reports that poppy cultivation in Afghanistan has been reduced to levels not seen since 2001. In the south, it has been reduced by at least 80% in one year. “It is likely that cultivation will be less than 20% of what it was in 2022. The scale of the reduction will be unprecedented,” Mansfield was quoted by the BBC as having said.

U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan [Thomas West](#) concurred, tweeting: “Reports that the Taliban have implemented policies to significantly decrease opium poppy production this year are credible and important. Every country in the region and beyond has a shared interest in an Afghanistan free of drugs.”

On June 7 the BBC reported that its own investigation throughout Afghanistan, especially in the provinces of Nangarhar, Kandahar, and Helmand, and also studies of satellite images have revealed a marked decrease in poppy cultivation. “We found a huge fall in poppy growth in major opium-growing provinces, with one expert saying annual cultivation could be 80% down on last year,” the BBC reported. Notorious Helmand province led the reduction. Alcis, a U.K. firm specializing in studying satellite imagery, determined that there has been a 99% reduction of poppy growing in Helmand province, from 129,000 hectares last year to less than 1,000 hectares.

Former Deputy U.K. Anti-Drug Coordinator (1997-2001) and official for the UN Office on Drugs and Crime Mike Trace said, “A sustained reduction in poppy cultivation on this scale will have significant long-term

impacts on the patterns of heroin trafficking and organized crime around the world, and also on patterns of consumption and addiction in the U.K..”

Eliminating opium production in Afghanistan was a key issue taken up by the Schiller Institute’s “Ibn Sina” initiative for the reconstruction of Afghanistan, and supports the Schiller Institute’s claims that the first Taliban government—established in the 1990s and later overthrown by the U.S.—had effectively eliminated poppy production.

## GREAT GREEN RESET

### Canada’s Forest Fires Caused by the Greens, Not Climate Change

June 8, 2023 (EIRNS)—Not unexpectedly, the *Washington Post* headline, “Unprecedented’ Canadian fires intensified by record heat, climate change,” is a lie. The truth is, that the wildfires in Canada are neither unprecedented nor the result of climate change. The fires, which are now hanging smoke over large parts of their U.S. neighbor, are the result both of malign neglect, and of opposition by Greenpeace and other greens to the proper management of forests, called “prescribed burning.”

In prehistoric times, man had learned that you need to do what is now called “prescribed burning”—or the burning of the leaves, branches, and underbrush, when the weather and wind is right, before they accumulate in large amounts. That way, the burn will get rid of the flammable material without getting hot enough to set the large trees on fire.

Prescribed burning is practiced in certain parts of the U.S., but in Canada, where it was sporadically practiced, the practice has been abandoned over the last three decades. The current wildfires, now afflicting the air quality in large areas of the U.S., come as a result of Nova Scotia’s Department of Natural Resources policy: “We don’t have policies regarding [prescribed burning]. We’ve never done it in the past. We don’t plan to do it in the future.” The inevitable result of such inaction is that the ground fires set by lightning get hot enough to set the big trees on fire.

Worse, under the right conditions, the crowns of the trees catch on fire, and that spreads at the speed of the wind.

The case of British Columbia makes the point. In 1986, prescribed burning was done on 78,777 hectares which kept the wildfires somewhat under control. Now there is almost no prescribed burning there any longer. *Environmental Research Letters* described the result in an article last year:

“The 2021 wildfires in BC set several new records. The wildfire season started a month earlier than average, following three days of record-setting temperatures reaching almost 50 degrees C. This ‘heat dome’ catalyzed a series of wildfires, including one that burned 90% of the community of Lytton, BC, resulting in the loss of two lives. The 2021 wildfire season became the third largest annual area burned in BC, with the most expensive suppression price tag of any BC wildfire season at 800 million dollars. In a disturbance cascade, these wildfires contributed to the devastating landslides and floods that inundated portions of southern BC in the fall of 2021, which have now superseded the costs of the 2016 Horse River wildfire, setting a new record for Canada’s costliest disaster.”