

## EIR Daily Alert Service

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## EDITORIAL

### **NATO Escalates for World War; Military and Foreign Affairs Experts Release Proposal: ‘Ending the War with a Negotiated Peace’**

Sept. 25, 2023 (EIRNS)—All reports indicate that President Biden intends to send U.S. Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS) long-range missiles to Ukraine, with Germany then moving in lockstep, sending Taurus long-range cruise missiles to Kiev, capable of hitting 500 km deep into Russian territory. This escalation by NATO could very well bring NATO into direct warfighting with Russia and—by design or miscalculation—into a nuclear world war.

The Schiller Institute is today circulating worldwide an in-depth and well-thought-out peace proposal first published in Europe by four renowned German experts, titled, “[Ending the War with a Negotiated Peace](#).” The proposal, first published on August 28, 2023 is signed by Prof. Dr. Peter Brandt, Prof. Dr. Hajo Funke, Gen. Harald Kujat (ret.), and Prof. Dr. H.c. Horst Teltschik.

Peter Brandt is an historian and the son of former Chancellor Willy Brandt; Hajo Funke is a leading professor of political science at the Free University of Berlin; Harald Kujat is the former Bundeswehr Chief of Staff (2000-2002) and former Chairman of the Military Committee of NATO (2002-2005); and Horst Teltschik is a former top diplomat who operated out of the chancellery of Chancellor Helmut Kohl at the time of the Iron Curtain’s fall, and subsequently became president of the Munich Security Conference.

Here is a link to the peace proposal. We urge you to study it, and circulate it to national heads of government in both the North and the Global South, to all media, and to local and regional governments, as a step in the direction of the kinds of proposals that are urgently needed.

The danger of nuclear war grows by the hour. Act with the [Schiller Institute](#) to stop it.

- Watch [Harley's Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Tuesday September 26, 2023: Every weekday morning on The LaRouche Organization, Schlanger will give you the strategic briefing you need to start your day.

## STRATEGIC SHOWDOWN

### Indian Journalist Questions Canadian Intelligence after Nazi 'Bloopers'

Sept. 25, 2023 (EIRNS)—Some Indian media are finding insightful ways to respond in that nation's recent battle with Canada, regarding Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's direct charges that the Indian government carried out, on Canadian soil, the assassination of a Canadian citizen who was also a Sikh separatist.

In the middle of her coverage of the India-Canada crisis today, journalist Palki Sharma Upadhyay, on her "[Vantage with Palki Sharma](#)" program, stated that, in addition to the Trudeau charges, "Canada has made another serious blunder. On Friday, the Canadian Parliament welcomed a guest. And no, I'm not talking about Ukrainian President Zelenskyy, although he, too, was a guest. I'm talking about this man: 98-year-old Jaroslav Hunka. He was a special guest. Canadian lawmakers and Zelenskyy celebrated him, they gave him a standing ovation. The Canadian Speaker called him a war hero.

"Today, he's sorry for using those words, because this man is not a war hero—he's a Nazi. And the Canadian government has egg on its face. The same Canada that claims to have credible intelligence about India, couldn't figure out that there was a Nazi in their midst. Tells you a lot about Canadian sleuths and their abilities."

## Eva Bartlett Unveils How Thousands Died in Libyan Floods, Killed by Obama's Bombing

Sept. 25, 2023 (EIRNS)—[Eva Bartlett](#), the Canadian journalist who has lived in the Southwest Asia and has reported on the “forever wars” for years, wrote of Libya in RT yesterday: “If the country’s infrastructure hadn’t been destroyed in the bombings of 2011, the dams may have held.” She was referring to the dams that failed in early September that would have withstood the heavy rains; their failure killed tens of thousands in Mediterranean cities such as Derna.

“Many of the same Western leaders who brought about Libya’s demise are now feigning concern for the people of the country they destroyed in 2011, and where they set the stage for an ensuing decade of chaos. Most notable is Barack Obama, whose foundation is raising money for Libya relief efforts. That’s very benevolent of him—might not have been necessary if NATO hadn’t destroyed its infrastructure. It was, after all, Obama’s then-Secretary of State [Hillary Clinton](#) who cackled gleefully, ‘We came, we saw, he died,’ of the sodomizing and killing of Qaddafi.”

Western media write of the breakdown of the country as if it came about from internal causes, writes the *Washington Post*: “The volatility of recent years meant the country’s separate regimes and their feckless officials have left critical infrastructure in a state of neglect.” Particularly bold-faced is the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation which aired a 10-minute report basically blaming Libya and neglecting “to even mention NATO’s six-month war, which included Canadian fighter jets, naval vessels and special forces.”

Media Lens, Bartlett reports, is more honest: “These dams were built in the 1970s to protect the local population. A Turkish firm had been contracted in 2007 to maintain the dams. This work stopped after NATO’s 2011 bombing campaign. The Turkish firm left the country, their machinery was stolen and all work on the dams ended.”

## Canadian Nazi Appearance ‘Quite Unbelievable from Any Perspective,’ Insists Prof. Katchanovski

Sept. 25, 2023 (EIRNS)—[Professor Ivan Katchanovski](#), of the School of Political Studies at the University of Ottawa, gave a live interview today to Toronto’s CP 24TV “concerning (the) standing ovation to SS Galicia Division veteran in Canadian parliament & involvement of Waffen SS division members in mass killings of Jews, Poles & Ukrainians, including execution of about 100 Jews , as well as Poles & Ukrainians in my high school in Western Ukraine,” he tweeted today. The following is a close paraphrase of his interview.

The reporter first read the statement from Canadian House Speaker Anthony Rota: “I wish to make clear that no one, including fellow parliamentarians and the Ukraine delegation, was aware of my intention or of my remarks before I delivered them. This initiative was entirely my own,” etc. This has, however, stretched the realm of credibility, in the view of many political observers.

After an opening question from the reporter, who asked Professor Katchanovski what his reaction was when he first encountered this, he began: “Thank you for this invitation. When I saw this, for me, this was unbelievable, to witness a veteran of the Waffen SS Division from Galicia in western Ukraine given a standing ovation in the Parliament. Because I researched this division. I researched atrocities committed by members of this division. And also there is a personal connection, because one unit which later joined this division, executed about 100 Jews, and also Ukrainians and Poles, in my high school in Ukraine. And this was published several years ago in the United States by Associated Press. So ... this was quite unbelievable to witness this event.

“I tweeted about this, that this was like Orwell, or quite unbelievable from any perspective. And I think this is now a major story, not only in Canada, but also in many other countries around the world.”

**Q:** How is this possible that this cannot be (have been) researched?... You obviously have a personal connection to this. And it didn’t take long

for a lot of people to just figure this out. So how could (there be) any excuse that no one knew this? How is that possible?

**Katchanovski:** This is a question which I also asked, because it was quite obvious, quite indicative, when the Speaker of the Parliament announced that this is a veteran of the First Ukrainian Division, who was fighting against the Russians during World War Two. And in Ukraine, during World War Two, it was obvious that the only formation which was fighting against the Soviet Union was actually Nazi, or allies of Nazis, and in this case, I think, for me, this is still kind of quite astonishing to witness this. And the question is if anybody actually knew in advance who this person was and why he was introduced into the Parliament and given a standing ovation. And because also, not only the Canadian Parliament but also the President of Ukraine gave a standing ovation. And especially because also not only the Canadian government, not only Canadian Parliament members, but also the President of Ukraine gave a standing ovation. And this is very important for the Ukrainians. Because of the current Russian invasion of Ukraine, and since Russia uses the false claim that Ukraine is a Nazi state, to justify its invasion. So this has very significant consequences, not only in Canada, but also in Ukraine, because of the war in Ukraine.

**Q:** ...Are there other countries talking about this as well? What has their reaction been?

**Katchanovski:** Yes, I think in Poland, there is also a big reaction in media publications about this story. And the (Polish) ambassador to (Canada), tweeted his request for an apology from the Ukrainian and Canadian leaders for this standing ovation in the Canadian Parliament to a veteran of this SS division because members of this division were involved in the massacre of almost 1,000 Polish civilians in the village of Huta Pieniacka in the Galician region of Ukraine, and also, according to my research, and according to other documents, another unit of this division ... was actually also involved in the massacre of Poles in several villages in the Volhynia region of Ukraine and in Poland. And this is also very

important for such a perspective. but in addition to this, I saw media reports in many countries of the world, including Switzerland, Germany, and Hungary, and even countries like India, this became a major story and major repercussions, and especially because of the relations between Ukraine and Poland, now inchoate because of the grain. So this is I think very important to deal with such implication of this quite unbelievable event which took place in the Canadian Parliament.

**Q:** Absolutely. Making international headlines for all the wrong reasons....

### **Solomon Islands Prime Minister Backs China Model at UN, Will Not Attend Biden's Pacific Island Summit**

Sept. 25, 2023 (EIRNS)—The U.S. expressed disappointment over the absence of Solomon Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare at its second summit with Pacific Island countries. Sogavare will not attend the second summit hosted by U.S. President Joe Biden with leaders of the Pacific Islands at the White House, which will take place on Sept. 25-26, Reuters reported.

Speaking at the United Nations General Assembly on Sept. 23 in New York, [Sogavare](#) called for adopting China's transformative partnership model, including several initiatives China has proposed, according to Xinhua. "We acknowledge and value South-South cooperation because it is less restrictive, more responsive, and is aligned to our national needs," Sogavare remarked.

Media reported that a Biden administration official said on Sept. 24 the U.S. is disappointed that Sogavare does not plan to attend the summit.

The summit is part of Biden's efforts to step up engagement with Pacific Island countries where the U.S. is in a battle for influence with China. Biden intends to reaffirm the U.S. commitment to shared regional priorities with Pacific Islands, according to another Reuters report.

"The U.S. only uses Pacific Island countries as a tool to contain and undermine the mutually beneficial cooperation with China there, and

Pacific islands leaders are well aware that all the statements the U.S. makes serve its own strategy rather than the vital interests of regional countries,” *Global Times* quotes a Chinese official as saying.

### **Cuban Embassy in Washington Attacked with Molotov Cocktails**

Sept. 25, 2023 (EIRNS)—Yesterday afternoon, the Cuban Embassy in Washington, D.C. came under attack, when an individual threw two Molotov cocktails against the front of the building, causing minor structural damage, but fortunately harming no one. There were embassy personnel in the building at the time. Cuban officials charged that the attack was the work of anti-Cuban groups that “feel they can act with impunity.” In a tweet on X, Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel denounced it as “an act of violence and impotence that could have cost valuable lives.... We expect action from American authorities.”

In a press release today, [Cuba’s Foreign Ministry](#) charged that this was a terrorist attack, and called on U.S. authorities to immediately investigate. The release points out that the attack took place just hours after Díaz-Canel arrived in Havana, after having spent a week of productive diplomatic activity at the UN General Assembly in New York. The Foreign Ministry expressed the hope that the U.S. government “will act in accord with the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations in the interest of avoiding a repetition of such actions.”

Foreign Minister Bruno Rodríguez also declared that yesterday’s attack was the second one since April 2020, when an individual fired an assault rifle against the embassy building and caused significant damage. That individual is still awaiting trial in the U.S., he said, and the government refuses to acknowledge that the attack was an act of terrorism. The State Department’s Bureau of Diplomatic Security Office of Foreign Missions is responsible for protecting foreign embassies. The Secret Service was invited to inspect the interior of the embassy and is collaborating with D.C. police and the State Department in the investigations.

## NEW STRATEGIC & ECONOMIC ARCHITECTURE

### China-Arab States Expo Sees \$23 Billion Project Deals

Sept. 25, 2023 (EIRNS)—Companies from China and Arab states reached cooperation projects worth more than \$23.2 billion during the four-day China-Arab States Expo, which ended on Sept. 24. The expo achieved 403 cooperation projects covering all aspects of business, and reflected thriving cooperation between China and Arab states, reports *Global Times*.

The expo was held in Yinchuan, Northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, from Sept. 21-24. Its focus was on economic and trade cooperation, covering topics around investment, commerce, energy and agriculture, and sought cooperation in the green economy, digitalization and health care.

Participants came from more than 50 countries and regions, as well as over 1,000 enterprises, connecting those participants along the Silk Road Economic Belt. The 2023 China-Arab States Expo marks the 10th anniversary of the event, coincident with the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road.

China is the largest trading partner of the Arab states, with bilateral trade almost doubling from \$222.4 billion in 2012 to reach \$431.4 billion in 2022.

China's direct investment in the Arab states increased by \$1.44 billion in the first half of this year, up 7% year-on-year, and the Arab states' investment in China increased by \$2.15 billion, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

### China-EU 10th High-Level Economic and Trade Dialogue in Beijing

Sept. 25, 2023 (EIRNS)—Today's event is the first such in-person meeting since the pandemic. At stake is the trade imbalance, the EU investigation of Chinese support for EV cars and batteries, and overall decoupling. It also comes before discussions on Europe's "economic security" are to be held during a meeting of European leaders in Spain on Oct. 5.

The dialogue will be co-chaired by Chinese Vice Premier He Lifeng and Executive Vice President of the European Commission Valdis Dombrovskis. In a speech delivered by Dombrovskis at the Bund Summit in Shanghai on Sept. 23, he said that “de-risking is not decoupling. And the EU has no intention of decoupling from China.”

Dombrovskis announced trade figures that showed that the EU had a deficit of almost €400 billion (\$426 billion) out of a total trade of record-breaking €865 billion last year.

The EU has complained about the trade deficit. Brussels is expected to persuade China to export more European products during the high-level dialogue. China’s Foreign Ministry spokesperson responded: “If the EU truly wants to address the issue, it needs to lift export controls against China, rather than putting the blame on China.”

China’s Ministry of Commerce on Sept. 14 expressed serious concerns and strong opposition to the EU’s investigation into China’s EV industry, calling the EU move “blatant protectionism” that will seriously disrupt and distort the global automotive supply chain, and have a negative impact on China-EU economic ties. If the EU chooses to turn its back on China’s supply chain in power battery and EV manufacturing, it could put the bloc’s own EV sector at a disadvantage, Yu Qingjiao, secretary general of the Zhongguancun New Battery Technology Innovation Alliance, told the *Global Times*.

### **Russian Arctic Regions Strengthen Bonds with Beijing**

Sept. 25, 2023 (EIRNS)—[Atle Staalesen](#) wrote in the Barents Observer on Sept. 20 that “a series of meetings have been held between north Russian governors and representatives of Chinese business and governance,” on which he reports the following.

“We are entering a new level of partnership with China,” Murmansk Governor Andrei Chibis said, in a September meeting with leaders of Shandong Port Group. The company, which includes four major seaports in

the Chinese Shandong region, was in the Russian Arctic region to have a look at local port development projects.

“China and Russia have a joint interest in the development of the Northern Sea Route,” Chibis underlined, adding that the ice-free waters of Murmansk offer direct access to the World Sea without the need to traffic through international straits.

According to Chibis, trade turnover between Murmansk and China has over the past four years increased by 140%. And the Chinese want more, he argued, following an April meeting with Wang Wenli, China’s General Consul in St. Petersburg.

Chinese companies are interested in the Northern Sea Route and want to invest in shipbuilding in the Kola Peninsula, Staalesen writes.

In the Russian-Chinese Forum in Shanghai was also Komi leader Vladimir Uiba, who was keen on attracting Chinese investors to his regional forestry processing industry.

At the same time, Governor Aleksandr Tsybulsky of the northwest city of Arkhangelsk told General Consul Wang Wenli in May that his region now increasingly looks toward China. “Arkhangelsk Oblast is in a serious way changing its export policy, and we plan a significant increase in supplies to China of wood products,” he explained.

Also, the smaller Nenets Autonomous Okrug (“District”) is bonding with the Chinese, holding meetings with representatives of China Energy Engineering Corporation, the major state company that is planning to build a power plant there.

Chinese companies previously had major stakes in several of Russia’s biggest industrial projects, among them the Yamal LNG and Arctic LNG 2.

Moscow welcomes China to further boost its role in the region. In a meeting between Russian Arctic Ambassador Nikolai Korchunov and China’s Special Representative Gao Fen in early September, both parties underlined the strategic character of the bilateral Arctic cooperation. On the meeting agenda were possible joint projects in Arctic energy, investments,

research, and transport, including the development and use of the Northern Sea Route.

## COLLAPSING WESTERN SYSTEM

### Macron Capitulates to Niger Demands

Sept. 25, 2023 (EIRNS)—France will pull its military and diplomats from Niger after a successful coup by anti-French forces, President Emmanuel Macron said on Sunday, Sept. 24. The move will see around 1,500 soldiers leave by the end of the year.

“France has decided to withdraw its ambassador. In the next hours our ambassador and several diplomats will return to France,” Macron told France 2 television on Sunday. “And we will put an end to our military cooperation with the Niger authorities,” he continued, adding that French troops would return home in “the months to come.”

The Junta had demanded in August that French Ambassador Sylvain Itté leave, and revoked his diplomatic immunity when Paris refused. Last week, Macron claimed that the Nigerien military was holding Itté “hostage” by blocking food deliveries to the French Embassy. He also at first rejected the withdrawal of the French troops.

### ‘De-Carization’ Is Going on in Italy, and in Europe

Sept. 25, 2023 (EIRNS)—A research report by the Fleet & Mobility think tank in Italy shows that the lower-income section of the population has already stopped buying cars, or, shall we say “de-carization.” The trend may well also be exemplary of what is going on in other EU countries.

Cars priced at under €14,000 are no longer offered on the market, and the number of cars bought at under €20,000 has dramatically dropped. Whereas 800,000 Italians bought cars under €20,000 in 2019, that number plummeted to 360,000 in 2022.

The number of cars sold at the range of €20-35,000 dropped from 830,000 to 564,000. Affluent customers could afford to buy cars over €35,000: their number increased from 280,000 to over 400,000.

Overall, car sales dropped from 1.9 million to 1.3 million. Italians did not stop driving cars, however: partly, they kept their old cars. Some 55% of the overall car fleet is more than 10 years old (the “Cuba solution”).

According to the study, automakers have increased prices on cars because they expect fines on failed emission targets. (They are still selling too many cars with thermic engines). That explains how, despite the drop in sales, the turnover was the same: €38 billion.

“The strategy is to produce and sell fewer cars, so there is no need to sell out on price. But why does an industry that has based its power on factories for more than a century decide to be a boutique? Because it has no choice. If it sold as many cars as the market demands, obviously not at current prices but not at the bargain prices of past years either, there would be too much of an unbalanced mix on classic thermals, exceeding policy limits: too many gr/km of CO2 and hefty fines.”

“This story, unpleasant enough to seem unbelievable, is not just about cars. It is the latest announcement by Bosch UK that it is dumping £5,000, equal to the fine it will have to pay for failing to sell the heat pump ones, on the price lists of each gas boiler, which the market does not want,” is the bitter comment by an article in *Il Sole 24 Ore*.

### **Migration: EU Unblocked Money for Tunisia**

Sept. 25, 2023 (EIRNS)—The EU Commission has unblocked €127 billion for Tunisia on Sept. 22, possibly in reaction to the backlash provoked by [Josep Borrell’s self-incriminating letter](#), exposed by Italian journalist Gian Micalessin on Sept. 17. The funds are part of a memorandum of understanding that Borrell had criticized.

Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani will meet his colleagues in Paris on Sept. 26 and in Berlin on Sept. 28, to discuss migration policy. Whereas tensions with France have eased due to Macron’s recent statement of “not

leaving Italy alone,” tensions with Germany have increased over Berlin’s financial support to NGO ships. Whereas the German Foreign Ministry has reiterated that such support is a “legal and moral duty,” Italian Defense Minister Guido Crosetto replied that Rome supports “most refugees, and if they [Berlin] want to help us seriously, they should support the Mattei Plan for Africa.” On the same line, Tajani asked whether the German government seeks for migrants “to reach Italy but not Germany?”

Meanwhile, in Rome, the latest government decree, establishing that irregular migrants who don’t have asylum rights will be fined €5,000, has met with skepticism and criticism from the opposition.

## U.S. POLITICAL & ECONOMIC

### CIA Analyst Exposes American Delusions About Total War as ‘Terribly Stupid’

Sept. 25, 2023 (EIRNS)—Judge Andrew Napolitano, on his Sept. 19 “Judging Freedom” podcast, carried out the following dialogue with former CIA analyst Larry Johnson on his daily program:

**Andrew Napolitano:** I just want to ask some big picture questions because of some emails that I got before the Sun came up this morning, from our mutual friend Ray McGovern, and I knew you would want to weigh in on this. Why do you think (that) according to polls, most Americans would support a hot war—not a proxy war, an actual war—with Russia?

**Larry Johnson:** They’ve attended too many showings of “Top Gun,” watched too many Hollywood movies. Candidly, they have no concept of the kind of devastation the U.S. would face. Because any kind of U.S. military attack on Russia is going to be reciprocated. And Russia has the ability, through submarines—and not just using nuclear-tipped missiles; they can use conventional explosives—they can hit every city in the United States if they want, and so.... You know, the United States, we have lived with the illusion, this fantasy for over 200 years, that we can’t be attacked. The last significant attack in the United States was in the War of 1812.

So the United States has never had to deal with the issue of a foreign invading force, that's armed and killing Americans. The Russians have. And the Russians have done it repeatedly over 300 or 400 years. So the Russians are accustomed to that, and the United States would be facing some of that same medicine if we go down this path. It's terribly stupid.

### **Lipstick on a Nazi Pig**

Sept. 25, 2023 (EIRNS)—The “Nuremberg Rally Lite” in the Canadian Parliament on Sept. 22 was a subject of discussion between Judge Andrew Napolitano and Larry Johnson today. It was placed in the context of Zelenskyy's less-than-stellar performances at the United Nations, in Washington, D.C. and in Toronto and Ottawa, Canada, as the aura has faded, and the walls begin to close in.

**Larry Johnson:** When Zelenskyy left the UN, going back to Ukraine, he stopped off in Poland to ... you know, pin some medals on Polish volunteers. Not a single Polish politician or government figure would meet with him, would be seen in public with him. That (Poland-Ukraine argument on grain exports) wasn't just a one-off with [Polish President Andrzej] Duda. That wasn't just a staged event at the UN, you know, one time, and then ... they're going to go back to business as usual. There's a real rift that has now developed between Poland and Ukraine, and that's going to have some significant implications for the ability of the United States to continue to arm Ukraine going forward.

**Andrew Napolitano:** All right. So a picture's worth a thousand words. Let's play this picture. There's an English narration. And you can tell us who this person is and what the heck was going on ... this is a scene from the Canadian Parliament...

**Media Reporter:** “Zelenskyy speech received at least a dozen standing ovations. There was also one for this man, a 98-year-old-Ukrainian Canadian, who fought for Ukrainian independence against the Russians during the Second World War.”

**Napolitano:** Who is that Ukrainian Canadian, and why are people like you and I, who *know* who he is, furious at this?

**Johnson:** I think his name is Jaroslav Hunka. He was a member of the Waffen SS battalion that was set up in Ukraine under the supervision of the Nazi gauleiter. The gauleiter was the guy in charge over all Ukraine. His name was von Wachter. He had recommended to Himmler that they form a battalion, a unit that would operate like the SS does. Now, remember we're not talking (about) normal German army ... the Wehrmacht. We're talking (about) the SS, who had to pledge personal loyalty to Adolf Hitler. They had tattoos under their armpits that helped identify them after the war. So this guy was not some run-of-the-mill soldier who was pressed into service. He embraced Adolf Hitler. And then, to listen to that obscene commentary by that reporter—that “he joined the SS to fight the Russians”? And you know, they have no memory of the history of Canada in World War II, that Russia, the Soviets, were an ally of Canada and Britain and the United States, and that we were fighting the Nazis for good reason. Because they were a tyrannical, murderous organization.

**Napolitano:** Gary, run the clip again, please. “Zelenskyy speech received at least a dozen standing ovations. There was also one for this man, a 98 year old Ukrainian Canadian, who fought for Ukrainian independence against the Russians, during the Second World War. “ I know Prime Minister Trudeau is a lunatic. I know he's an authoritarian. But why *this*? Why inject *Nazism* into the visit of Zelenskyy to Ottawa?

**Johnson:** Well, I mean, this is not just Trudeau doing this. Did you see what Boris Johnson did? He offered some commentary that it was *Ukraine* that defeated the Nazis! And Johnson, I'm told, wrote a book on Churchill—not a very good book, and not very well written—but to have this kind of historical revisionism going on, and it's all being done for one reason: Ukraine is losing the war. The West is desperate to try to figure out how to put some lipstick on this pig, and no matter how much they paint it, it's not going to look any better.