

EIR Daily Alert Service

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EDITORIAL

In an Explosive Situation, the Off-Ramp Is Not In Ukraine

Oct. 10 (EIRNS)—In response to the terrorist attack on the Kerch Strait bridge, Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered a series of missile strikes across Ukraine, to deal a blow to infrastructure required to prosecute the war (and to warn of other potential targets—such as the SBU), to send a message that attacks on Russia itself will absolutely not be tolerated. If a tit-for-tat escalatory response continues, billions could perish in a nuclear exchange.

Consider two developments regarding the attacks on the Kerch Strait bridge and Nord Stream pipelines that point to the intention by NATO to provoke an escalatory response.

First, documents and emails received by the Grayzone, if authentic, show planning worked out for British intelligence officials on ways to strike at Russia from a maritime standpoint, including ... destroying the Kerch Strait bridge. Although the method described in the British publication differs from that used in the October 8 terrorist attack, the documents underscore the escalatory nature of British planning during the same month that Boris Johnson inflicted himself on Kiev in a visit designed to call off the negotiations that had been proceeding towards a negotiated settlement.

Second, a Gazprom spokesman appeared on Russian television Rossiya-24 to revisit the discovery in 2015 of an explosive device found during a routine visual inspection of the Nord Stream pipeline. He revealed that the munition—documented in contemporary press releases as having been cleared with cooperation by the Swedish Navy—was a NATO unmanned underwater vehicle, specifically a “Seafox” mine-clearing device.

Recall that the BALTOPS naval “exercises” conducted in the Baltic Sea this summer included extensive use of such unmanned underwater vehicles,

with a special emphasis on those used for clearing mines. Can such equipment also be used to *place* explosives?

On October 6, Joe Biden admitted that we are facing potential nuclear Armageddon, similar to the Cuban Missile Crisis, and asked what Putin's off-ramp is.

But in the Cuban Missile Crisis, there was an existential threat to the United States, and it was Khrushchev who compromised, accepting U.S. agreements never to invade Cuba and to remove nuclear missiles from Turkey in exchange for evacuating the Soviet missiles in Cuba.

Today, reasons Ray McGovern, it is Russia that is facing an absolute existential threat, against which it has no choice but to defend itself. Claims that Russia's off-ramp is simply to leave Ukraine are absurd, as the existential security concerns that prompted the special military operation in the first place will not have been addressed.

The off-ramp is open to NATO. Pressure must rapidly be brought to bear upon NATO countries to force a policy of détente and negotiations, accompanied with a security architecture based on development, stability, the advantage of the other, and a rejection of such mental pollution as Malthusian population-reduction.

In this endeavor all citizens of the world can participate.

- Watch [Harley's Updates](#) with Harley Schlanger on Tuesday October 11, 2022: Every weekday morning on The LaRouche Organization, Schlanger will give you the strategic briefing you need to start your day.

STRATEGIC SHOWDOWN

Gazprom Had Already Found a NATO Explosive Device on Nord Stream in 2015

Oct. 10 (EIRNS)—In November 2015, a NATO unmanned underwater vehicle was found during a regular visual inspection of the Nord Stream

pipeline, according to [Gazprom official spokesman](#) Sergey Kupriyanov during a television appearance on Rossiya-24, reports TASS.

“NATO said the [“Seafox”] underwater mine disposal vehicle was lost during exercises,” he remarked. “Such NATO exercises when the combat explosive device turned out to be exactly under our gas pipeline.”

The explosive device was deactivated by Swedish Armed Forces at that time and gas transport that had been halted due to the emergency was resumed, he said.

A contemporary [press release](#) from Nov. 12, 2015, attributed to Nord Stream senior management advisor Lars Grönstedt, states that “The Swedish Armed Forces have successfully cleared the munitions object found near Nord Stream Line 2.... Nord Stream AG appreciates the professional and prompt assistance by the Swedish Armed Forces. Line 2, which had been closed at inlet as a precautionary measure, was reopened and resumed gas transportation.

“The piece of munitions was found in close proximity to the Nord Stream Line 2 on Nov. 6, 2015 during routine survey operations as part of annual integrity assessment activities of the Nord Stream offshore pipeline system. The location of the object was in the Swedish Exclusive Economic Zone approximately 120 km away from the island of Gotland. The relevant Swedish Authorities were informed and stayed in direct contact with Nord Stream until the object was successfully cleared.”

Recall that this year’s BALTOPS included unmanned underwater mine-clearing vehicles. The press release from the [U.S. Navy](#) says, “Scientists from five nations brought the latest advancements in Unmanned Underwater Vehicle (UUV) mine hunting technology to the Baltic Sea to demonstrate the vehicle’s effectiveness in operational scenarios. The BALTOPS Mine Counter Measure Task Group ventured throughout the Baltic region practicing ordnance location, exploitation, and disarming in critical maritime chokepoints.” Some of these operations are known to have occurred near to the three explosions that damaged the Nord Stream 1 and 2 pipelines in September 2022.

Russia Unleashes Countrywide Missile Strikes on Ukraine

Oct. 10 (EIRNS)—This morning Russian forces unleashed a wave of missile attacks on Kiev, Kharkiv and numerous other cities, maybe a dozen in all. “Today, Russian Armed Forces launched a massive high-precision long-range attack at the facilities of military control, communications and energy systems of Ukraine,” Russian Defense Ministry spokesman Lt. Gen. Igor Konashenkov said during his daily update. “The goal of the attack has been reached. All the assigned targets have been neutralized.”

The Russian targets are reported to be critical infrastructure, including water, power and internet. Widespread outages are being reported of all three. “Energy facilities throughout the country [are at risk]. Kiev region, Khmelnytsky region, Lvov and Dnepr, Vinnytsia, Frankovsk region, Zaporozhye, Sumy region, Kharkov region, Zhytomyr region, Kirovograd region, South,” Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on his Telegram channel this morning, reported TASS. According to numerous postings on pro-Russian Telegram channels, Russian forces are employing ground-launched, sea-launched and air-launched cruise missiles. Ukrainian media has reportedly counted at least 185 missiles hitting targets in Ukraine as of about 10 a.m. local time (07:00 UTC).

While Western media is spinning this campaign as a spasmodic response to the attack on the Crimean Bridge, it also comes in the context of the buildup for a renewed Russian military offensive in the four territories that became part of Russia, last week.

A website called “Peace vs War” carries the video of [Konashenkov’s briefing](#), complete with maps, and English subtitles. A translation of his remarks is published on the YouTube page as well.

Trump Calls for Immediate Negotiations To Prevent World War III

Oct. 10 (EIRNS)—Speaking at a rally in Mesa, Arizona, on Oct. 9, former U.S. President Donald Trump called on Russia and Ukraine to start immediate negotiations, otherwise the crisis may turn into World War III and cause global destruction.

“And now we have a war between Russia and Ukraine with potentially hundreds of thousands of people dying. We must demand immediate negotiation of a peaceful end to the war in Ukraine, or we will end up in World War III, and there will never be a war like this. We will never have had a war like this. And that’s all because of stupid people that don’t have a clue, and it’s also because of the kind of weaponry that’s available today. We never had weapons like this, the destructive capability of modern weapons,” he said.

“You could just look at Russia and say, see when you talk about going to war, it’s not as easy as people think. But remember, he’s [Putin] got a second layer, and it’s a very powerful layer, and we have to be very smart and very nimble. We have to know what to say and what to do. And we are saying exactly the wrong thing. We’ll end up in a World War III.”

“There will be nothing left of our planet,” he added.

Schröder Warns This Is the Most Dangerous Decade Since World War II, Negotiations Needed

Oct. 10 (EIRNS)—In a guest article for the *Berliner Zeitung*, quoted in the *NachDenkSeiten* website, former German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder explains that we are in the most dangerous decade since World War II and that a peace plan for Ukraine is necessary. Headlined, “Common Security Instead Of Self-Destruction; The Ukraine war will decide the future of the world. It’s time to start thinking about a peace plan,” Schröder wrote on Oct. 7: “It brings more suffering, misery, death and destruction with every passing day. And with every day, the threat that it will escalate and expand grows. So does the war in Ukraine. Carl von Clausewitz was right in his warning: war has no limits in itself.”

Creating conditions for peace is the most important goal. For Ukraine, this means “a ceasefire, negotiations on a lasting peace agreement between the warring parties, and a stable peace architecture in Europe.”

Negotiations, rather than military developments, must lead. He referenced former German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, who once said, “I’d rather negotiate 100 hours in vain than shoot for a minute.”

The opportunity for a new European peace order that presented itself at the end of the Cold War was not taken advantage of, “because it was not wanted by major NATO partners, above all the United States.” In this context, Schröder also criticized NATO’s Eastward expansion.

Regarding the potential for negotiations, he wrote: “In Istanbul on March 29, 2022, the Ukrainian delegation presented a 10-point proposal for security guarantees that was close to an agreement. The further course of the war, also the extensive arms deliveries and, according to Ukrainian media reports, Western interventions in Kiev, were decisive for an abortion of these promising negotiations.”

Former Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Argues for Ukraine-Russia Negotiations

Oct. 10 (EIRNS)—“It also speaks to the need, I think, to get to the table,” said Adm. Mike Mullen, former Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff on ABC News’ “This Week with George Stephanopoulos” Sunday program, when asked about the threat of nuclear war. “I’m a little concerned about President Biden’s language. We’re about at the top of the language scale ... and I think we need to back off that and do everything we possibly can to try to get to the table to resolve this thing.”

“I have to take Putin seriously,” he warned. “He’s got lots of options with tactical nuclear weapons.”

Mullen urged for Secretary of State Antony Blinken to do more to foster negotiations. It’s “up to Blinken and other diplomats to figure out a way to get both Zelenskyy and Putin to the table. As is typical in any war, it’s got to end, and usually there are negotiations associated with that. The sooner the better, as far as I’m concerned.”

Leaked Documents Reveal British Planning for Attack on Kerch Strait Bridge

Oct. 10 (EIRNS)—Six months before the Kerch Bridge connecting Crimea to the Russian mainland was attacked by a truck bomb, a presentation drawn up for British intelligence officers listed an attack on the bridge as

one of several plans designed to impair Russian military forces. The April 2022 presentation was provided anonymously to the investigative journalist website [The Grayzone](#).

Although the plans detailed in the report differ from the method used in the Oct. 8 attack on the bridge, British interest in planning an attack on the bridge “underscores the deep involvement of NATO powers in the Ukraine proxy war,” Grayzone reporter Kit Klarenberg writes. “At almost precisely the time that London reportedly sabotaged peace talks between Kiev and Moscow in April this year, British military intelligence operatives were drawing up blueprints to destroy a major Russian bridge crossed by thousands of civilians per day.”

The leaked scheme for destroying the bridge “would require a cruise missile battery to hit the two concrete pillars either side of the central steel arch, which will cause a complete structural failure,” the study’s author writes. An alternative would be to use a “team of attack divers or UUVs [unmanned underwater vehicles] equipped with limpet mines and linear cutting charges” targeting a “key weakness” and “design flaw” in the bridge’s pillars.

According to emails also provided to the Grayzone, Chris Donnelly, a reserve officer of the British Army Intelligence Corps and founder of the Institute for Statecraft, declared the proposals to be “very impressive indeed.” The presentation appears to be authored by Hugh Ward, a veteran of the British military. The Institute for Statecraft is the parent of the infamous information warfare outfit [Integrity Initiative](#).

Who Will Take the Off-Ramp?

Oct. 10 (EIRNS)—On Oct. 6, [President Joe Biden](#) said that for the “first time since the Cuban Missile Crisis, we have a direct threat of the use of the nuclear weapon if, in fact, things continue down the path they’ve been going.... And, you know, we’re trying to figure out: What is Putin’s off-ramp?”

Ray McGovern writes today in Antiwar.com that Biden is correct in harkening back to the crisis 60 years ago, but he is wrong in thinking that Putin has an off ramp.

In the Cuban Missile Crisis, a Soviet ship had brought what we now know to be an explosive potential equivalent to over 45,500 kilotons of TNT—more than 20 times the explosive power of the ordnance dropped by Allied bombers on Germany during all of World War II.

The medium-range ballistic missiles in Cuba would have been able to strike Washington, D.C. or the Strategic Air Command Headquarters in Omaha, within only minutes.

This was an existential risk to the United States, and Kennedy was able to prevail upon Khrushchev to remove the missiles, in exchange for U.S. promises never to invade Cuba and to remove missiles from Turkey.

The Soviet leader explained his thinking: “When I asked the military advisors if they could assure me that holding fast would not result in the death of 500 million human beings, they looked at me as though I was out of my mind, or what was worse, a traitor. The biggest tragedy, as they saw it, was not that our country might be devastated and everything lost, but that the Chinese or the Albanians might accuse us of appeasement or weakness.

“So I said to myself, ‘To hell with these maniacs’ ... and now I am reviled by the Chinese and the Albanians....

“They say I was afraid to stand up to a paper tiger. It is all such nonsense. What good would it have done me in the last hour of my life to know that, though our great nation and the United States were in complete ruins, the national honor of the Soviet Union was intact?” (Emphasis added.)

Khrushchev’s words deserve serious thought today.

With the threat of expanding NATO to Ukraine, and placing offensive missiles that could strike Russia within mere minutes, an existential threat to the Russian Federation is created.

McGovern answers Biden's question about Putin's off ramp:

“Some adult should be brought into the room to tell Biden there is no off-ramp for a responsible leader who perceives an existential threat to his country. The side doing the threatening and perceiving no existential threat to its own interests, is the one needing to take the off-ramp—as Khrushchev did in 1962.

“Relentless is the appropriate adjective for Kennedy, who rose to the occasion and faced Khrushchev down. By all indications, Putin is no less relentless. And short of nuclear war, he holds the high cards in Ukraine.”

Orchestra Refuses To Perform ‘God Save the King’

Oct. 10 (EIRNS)—The Chineke! Orchestra, led by “Chi-Chi” Nwanoku, a British double bassist of Nigerian and Irish descent, has refused to perform the British anthem in honor of the deceased queen at the Lucerne Festival. Founder and artistic director Nwanoku omitted the piece from the program, on the grounds that it symbolizes the racist British Empire.

“The Chineke! Orchestra is full of musicians who are not from the U.K. and many who are the direct result of their ancestors being enslaved. We will not be playing the National Anthem in Lucerne,” she wrote, in response to a suggestion by the Lucerne Festival, that they begin their performance with the British national anthem.

Special UNGA Session Begins Debate on NATO Denouncing Russia's ‘Annexation’ of Four Regions

Oct. 10 (EIRNS)—The United Nations General Assembly convened an Emergency Special Session to begin debate on a resolution drafted by EU Ambassador Olof Skoog, Ukraine and other nations to condemn Russia's “attempted illegal annexations” of the “Ukrainian” regions of Donetsk, Lugansk, Zaporozhye and Kherson. It includes earlier statements by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres that Russia's incorporation of the four regions is a violation of the UN Charter and of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and that the “so-called referenda” on their joining the Russian Federation are invalid under international law.

The U.S. and its NATO allies are desperate to get their resolution approved after making a pretense of running the same resolution through the UN Security Council, knowing Russia would have to veto such a travesty on Sept. 30. At the UNGA, a two-thirds majority of nations must be present and vote “yes” for the resolution to pass. Several diplomats told *Politico* said that means getting as close as possible to 141 votes. It is expected that debate will go on through Oct. 11-12, with the earliest voting on Oct. 12. [Russian Ambassador Vassily Nebenzia](#) opened his statement to the plenary outright that: “You all have become witnesses to an outrageous fraud in which President of the General Assembly unfortunately played a key role.”

Voice of America quoted Richard Gowan, director of the International Crisis Group’s UN director, who reported that “all eyes will be on the African group.... I suspect that most African members will abstain,” he said, but that the U.S. “will be encouraging its partners to back the resolution, arguing that it is a vote against colonialism”!

South Africa is a particular target, as is India. During a joint press conference in Australia last weekend with Foreign Minister Penny Wong, Indian Foreign Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar said that as “a matter of prudence and policy, we don’t predict our votes in advance,” when asked how India would vote at the UNGA special session.

Ambassador Nebenzia has denounced the unprecedented pressure campaign directed by the U.S. and its allies to arm-twist nations that had either voted with Russia in the past or abstained from voting on previous resolutions to secure their approval of this resolution. On Oct. 4, Nebenzia sent a six-page letter to the all the UN ambassadors attacking Western delegations whose actions, he said, have nothing to do with the UN Charter, but “only pursue their geopolitical objectives.”

Nebenzia requested that there be a secret ballot on the resolution, to give member nations “flexibility and breathing room,” and protect themselves from Western threats. A recorded vote, he said, is a “tool of subjugation and discipline.” British Empire Ambassador Barbara Woodward shot down

his proposal, claiming it would “undermine the practices of the world’s most representative, deliberative body.”

State Department’s Pyatt Moves To Cut TurkStream Pipeline

Oct. 10 (EIRNS)—The U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Energy Resources Assistant Secretary Geoffrey Pyatt will travel to Turkey, Romania, and Bulgaria on Oct. 10-14 to discuss energy, including efforts “to reduce Europe’s dependence” on Russian energy resources, the State Department said in a press release yesterday. The TurkStream pipeline connects Russia and Turkey and then Bulgaria and is currently operating at full capacity, so one may assume that Pyatt is moving to sabotage this pipeline as well.

The State Department release says: “Geoffrey R. Pyatt will travel to Istanbul, Turkey, Bucharest, Romania, and Sofia, Bulgaria, Oct. 10-14, where he will meet with government officials and energy sector leaders to advance bilateral and commercial energy relationships. The Assistant Secretary will discuss joint efforts to promote European energy security, reduce Europe’s dependence on Russian fossil fuels....”

Pyatt was Ambassador to Kiev in 2014, when he and then Assistant Secretary Victoria Nuland were overheard in a phone call mapping out who was acceptable to be Prime Minister after they had overthrown the elected government.

Support Among U.S. Officials for Attack on Kerch Strait Bridge

Oct. 10 (EIRNS)—“I’ve been dreaming of this moment,” gloated Ukrainian-born Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman (ret.), former Director for European Affairs for the U.S. National Security Council on Oct. 8. His tweet was accompanied by a photo of the Kerch Strait Bridge in flames. Vindman played a crucial role in the first impeachment sham against Donald Trump, when he complained with the claim that Trump made military aid to Kiev dependent on an investigation of Joe and Hunter Biden.

Back on July 7, *The Times* of London published an article headlined “Bomb Russia’s Bridge to Crimea, Ukraine Urged,” which reported on an

interview with Gen. Philip Breedlove, NATO's former (2013-2016) Supreme Allied Commander for Europe. "Kerch bridge is a legitimate target," he is quoted as saying. "I am a trained civil engineer and I know about bridge construction. All bridges have their weak points and if targeted in the right spot it could render Kerch bridge unserviceable for a period of time. But if they wanted to drop the bridge that would require a more dedicated bombing operation."

"I hear a lot of people asking whether it is right for Ukraine to take such aggressive action and whether the West would support it, but I cannot understand that argument," he said.

And just five days before the terror attack, Laura K. Cooper, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, being asked about Ukrainian targeting objectives, replied, "We think they can reach the vast majority of targets, including Crimea. And just to be clear, Crimea is Ukraine."

LAROUCHE

Vanessa Beeley Posts Richard Freeman Economics Discussion and Eva Bartlett from 'We Will Not Be Silenced'

Oct. 10 (EIRNS)—British journalist Vanessa Beeley, on the Myrotvoret's list because of her honest reporting of the Ukraine conflict and Syria, posted two LaRouche movement links to her Telegram channel on Oct. 9.

The first is the YouTube posting of a discussion of *EIR*'s Richard Freeman with Daniel Burke, on the Friday Oct. 7 episode of the World Land-Bridge Show, "A New Just World Economic Order." Some 3,900 people have watched his class on YouTube, thus far.

She also reposted Eva Bartlett's live report from Donetsk to *EIR*'s Oct. 6 "We Will Not Be Silenced! Speaking Truth in Times of War" event, which engaged in an intense exposé of the Myrotvoret's kill list and its Ukrainian government big brother, the Center for Countering Disinformation. Beeley and Bartlett are both listed.

UNITED STATES

Rep. Paul Gosar Again Tweets No More Money for Ukraine

Oct. 10 (EIRNS)—The outspoken Rep. Paul Gosar (R-AZ) today tweeted this message:

“NO MORE Foreign Aid, especially not to fund a war that we should have NO involvement in.

Biden and his crime family may owe Zelensky, but America doesn't owe him a damn thing.”

Mention of Biden's “crime family” is undoubtedly a reference to the legal problems in which presidential son Hunter Biden is embroiled, but also to Joe Biden's own past of shady financial dealings with Ukraine.

This isn't the first time that Gosar has spoken out on the insanity of U.S. support for the Ukraine war. On Sept. 30, he issued a series of tweets which this news services reprinted as a breath of fresh air coming from a Congress in which almost no one dares speak out publicly against Administration policy. He tweeted:

“Ukraine must not join NATO.

“If they do, we may very well see a third world war.

“Back home, Americans have lost everything due to Hurricane Ian. The border is open, fentanyl is killing hundreds of thousands and inflation is raging. Yet the left and the establishment right just voted to send another 12 billion to Ukraine?

“This is more America Last policy.

“I will vote NO on sending any money to Ukraine. I REFUSE to support more war, more interventionism, and more global alliances that hurt our country. ENOUGH sponsoring death and destruction. We should be peace making....”

OTHER

Saturday Rallies in Support of Julian Assange

Oct. 10 (EIRNS)—A major rally in London drew thousands of supporters of Julian Assange to form a human chain around the Houses of Parliament. Stella Assange (née Moris), the publisher's wife, reports that 5,000 people participated in London at the event organized to call for his release from HM Prison Belmarsh, where he is being held pending his presumed extradition to the United States. "Julian has enormous support and much more," she said. "He has millions of people around the world who are disgusted by the injustice that is unfolding."

Jeremy Corbyn, the former leader of the Labour Party, spoke at the event, saying "Julian Assange is a journalist who told the uncomfortable truth all around the world of what happened in Iraq, what happened in Afghanistan, what happened in Syria, Libya, environmental destruction, the power and interface of big business and arms companies with governments. That truth made a lot of very powerful people very uncomfortable, so the U.S. has tried to charge him under the Espionage Act. If we believe in free speech, if we believe in independent, democratic journalism, then Julian Assange should be freed from Belmarsh and not removed to the United States," he said.

Rallies in other cities, also took place. Speaking at a Washington rally in front of the Justice Department former Green Party presidential candidate Jill Stein said, "This is an assault not only on freedom of the press, it makes a complete mockery of our judicial system, it's an attack on human rights, it is absolutely unacceptable."

The British are happy that plans to extradite Assange to the U.S. remain in place. Were he freed, they'd no doubt choose to re-arrest and try him themselves! Support for the principles violated in the mistreatment of Assange demand action against the assault on free discussion through such channels as Ukraine's Myrotvoret's kill list, the Kiev regime's Center for Countering Disinformation, and unconstitutional coordinated government pressure on social media companies to censor open discussion.