

News From Ukraine

Russian Invasion of Ukraine

December 7th, 2025

“Pearl Harbor Day”

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On the night of December 5th & 6th. Russia attacked Ukraine with 653 drones and 51 missiles, of which Ukraine neutralized 585 drones (either shot down or diverted using electronic warfare and 30 missiles. The strike hit 29 locations throughout Ukraine, including the railroad yards at Fastiv (south of Kyiv) and electrical facilities that temporarily took out approximately 75% of Ukraine’s electrical grid, likely including the residential electrical service at Bohdan’s residence.

Where is the Word, “Victory?”

In nearly 4 years of Russia’s most recent invasion of Ukraine, I have yet to hear the word “victory” uttered by any of Ukraine’s allies. Instead, according to Tom Friedman’s recent column in the New York Times, entitled “[The Useful Idiots From America whom Putin is Playing Like a Flute](#),” Friedman quoted Steve Witkoff as saying, “I don’t regard Putin as a bad guy.” Did Winston Churchill ever regard Hitler as anything other than a “bad guy?”

Today’s leaders of the countries supporting Ukraine never tire of quoting Winston Churchill or Franklin Roosevelt, except that none of the present-day leaders of countries supporting Ukraine quote either Churchill or Roosevelt, when they incorporated the word “victory” in

their speeches. These same latter-day leaders are often asked what the end of the Russia-Ukraine War will look like. I have yet to hear a coherent answer from any of them. Certainly, none of them quoted former President Reagan, when he was asked what the end of the Cold War with the former Soviet Union would look like. Reagan's response, "We win, they lose."

Personally, I would like to see at least one of the leaders of a country supporting Ukraine quote General George Patton, on the occasion when he took over as Commander of 3rd Army in 1944, during the liberation of northern France from the Nazis. Gen. Patton said, "We're going to cut out their living goddamned guts and use them to grease the treads of our tanks."

The same experts who predicted that Russia would roll over Ukraine in 5 days, those whom I've been known to derisively refer to as "the pundits," are now advocating what Friedman describes in his column as a "dirty deal." Advocating a dirty deal as a means to stop the fighting probably makes the pundits feel better, about being dead wrong about Ukraine's prospects before the start of Russia's latest invasion.

According to Friedman, a "dirty deal would allow Putin to keep the territory he's already stolen, but with Western military forces on the ground inside Ukraine that ensure he could never restart the war, except by going to war with all of the West; it would ensure that Putin's ill-gotten gains were never blessed with formal diplomatic recognition that would reward the acquisition of territory by force; and it would ensure that Ukraine could maintain whatever size army it needed to defend itself and could become a member of the European Union (though not NATO) whenever it was ready. That kind of dirty deal would secure Ukraine's and America's core interests and values." Really?

In his column, Friedman alleges that "Russia is too big compared with Ukraine, and its willingness to fight on dictates that ending the war

will require Ukraine to make concessions. Sad but true — and most Ukrainians will tell you the same today.” I don’t believe that “most Ukrainians would tell Friedman the same today” or, for that matter tell anyone else, not when Ukraine nearly defeated Russia in late 2022, after Ukraine’s twin Kharkiv and Kherson offensives, not after the atrocities perpetrated by Russia, of which Bucha and Irpin are the most well-known.

In my opinion, the “dirty deal” as described by Tom Friedman won’t work, because in my opinion it’s not in the interests of Ukrainians to have it work. Let’s assume that the “dirty deal is implemented. Is that going to stop Ukrainian partisans operating inside what will become, under a “dirty deal,” legitimately occupied Ukrainian territory? The answer is almost certainly NO.

Russia, still wanting to take over all of Ukraine, will use every partisan operation in occupied Ukraine, and within Russia, as pretexts to to break a ceasefire and continue fighting. What will “Western military forces on the ground inside Ukraine do, to stop partisan operations? If they try, they’ll soon become enemies of both Russia and Ukraine. There is no Western government that will ever consider putting their troops in that position, where they’ll become enemies of both sides.

Here are some examples of Ukrainian partisan operations, from [“Reporting From Ukraine.”](#) “ATESH” is a Russian/Ukrainian resistance group that organizes partisan operations in both countries. One never hears the Pundits talk about the ability of ATESH, and other groups operating in both Russia and occupied Ukraine. We’ve been covering partisan operations since the beginning of these emails. For more information about ATESH, please read the Atlantic Council’s [“How Ukraine’s Shadow Army Fights Back Against the Russian Occupation.”](#) Obtaining weapons have never been a problem for the partisans, and this will continue to be true after implementation of a “Dirty Deal.”

Partisan operations include assassinations of Russians who are implicated in perpetrating atrocities inside Ukraine. Former Navy SEAL Chuck Pfarrer [describes](#) several examples of hits against Russians who have been responsible for atrocities inside Ukraine. Ukrainian intelligence has the names and coordinates, including mobile phone numbers, of hundreds of Russians who have engaged in atrocities. For Ukraine, the model might be Mossad's liquidation of Palestinians involved in the murder of Israeli athletes during the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich, except in the case of Ukraine the number of targets will be far larger.

In December 17/18, 2024, in our email, we cited a speech given LTGEN (Ret.) Keith Kellogg about the murder of Russian Lt. Gen. Igor Kiriliov, director of Russia's chemical weapons program. Here is what we said at the time, "Amb. Keith Kellogg, President-Elect Trump's selection to take charge of his administration's policy toward Ukraine, took issue with Ukraine's planning and pulling off Kirillov's killing, when he said "when you kill flag officers, general officers, admirals or generals in their hometown, it's like you kind of extended it [the rules of war] and I don't think that's very smart to do it." Kellogg's remarks might apply more to a legitimate country, than to a Mafia state that Russia has become under Putin, where Kirillov's killing is more like the rubbing out of a mafia underboss than the killing of a general engaged in planning and executing chemical weapons attacks inside Ukraine." Chuck Pfarrer describes Gen. Kiriliov's liquidation at 11:10 into the video embedded [here](#).

Do those who advocate the "dirty deal," as a way to end the fighting, really think that it will stop Ukrainians from carrying out similar operations against Russian war criminals, even if such operations are banned as one of the terms of the "dirty deal?" Russia will simply use these operations as pretexts for continuing their stated policy of subjugating Ukraine, and Western troops stationed in Ukraine to

enforce the “dirty deal” will be caught in the middle. The war will continue.

As we have previously stated, the fastest way to end the war is for Ukraine’s Western supporters to give Ukraine everything they’re asking for, as they should’ve done in late 2022 after the twin Ukrainian offensives in Kharkiv and Kherson Oblasts when Ukraine had Russia on the ropes, stand back, and let Ukraine finish Russia off without worrying much about possible consequences inside the Russian Federation, a matter over which neither Ukraine nor its Western partners have any control.

So far, Ukraine’s Western partners don’t appear to be interested in the quickest way to end the war. Rather, they appear to believe that the survival of the Russian State, admittedly in a weaker form, is more important than supporting Ukraine’s victory.

Ukraine will win anyway.