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MoA - A War In Ukraine Is Tactics

23-29 minutes

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A War In Ukraine Is Tactics - Putin Does Strategy

The 'western' media buildup for war in Ukraine [was launched](#) 63 days ago on November 22:

The U.S. has shared intelligence including maps with European allies that shows a buildup of Russian troops and artillery to prepare for a rapid, large-scale push into Ukraine from multiple locations if President Vladimir Putin decided to invade, according to people familiar with the conversations.

That intelligence has been conveyed to some NATO members over the past week to back up U.S. concerns about Putin's possible intentions and an increasingly frantic diplomatic effort to deter him from any incursion, with European leaders engaging directly with the Russian president. The diplomacy is informed by an American assessment that Putin could be weighing an invasion early next year as his troops again mass near the border.

Nothing has happened since but there has been [no letup](#):

The sheer size and scope of the Western information operations right now regarding Ukraine and Russia in my opinion dwarfs what

was done in the lead up to the second invasion of Iraq. Even in unimportant Australia, the commercial and public broadcasters feature daily stories about the plucky Ukrainians getting ready for an imminent Russian invasion and the print media feature think-pieces about Putin trying to recreate the glory days of Catherine the Great and a new Russian empire, etc. Then there are the stories of gallant NATO members rushing to assist little Ukraine. I am now completely unnerved by the scope and obvious imbalance of this coverage. The media is totally on board the war train.

Most of the propaganda [is just crap](#). Today we hear about a recall of U.S. and British diplomat families from Kiev, additional weapon and money promises to Kiev, the repositioning of NATO forces and so on. None of this would have any effect in the case of war. But everything is done to keep this item at the top of the news. This is without doubt a CIA/MI6 run campaign.

There is only one thing missing and that is a Russian interest in invading the Ukraine. Still, former ambassador M.K. Bhadrakumar thinks [it will happen](#) for strategic reasons:

Basically, the US has gained the high ground through sustained efforts through the past three decades since the Bill Clinton administration put into effect a concerted strategy in anticipation of a resurgent Russia in a matter of time. Now that the US has gained the upper hand, it is loathe to give it up.

From Washington's viewpoint, this is a key template of the geopolitical struggle unfolding over the new world order after China's rise and the shift in power dynamic from the West to the East. Cutting down Russia to size and to be able to intimidate it is a pre-requisite of the situation before the US tackles China

comprehensively. Suffice to say, Ukraine has become a battleground where a titanic test of will is playing out.

...

The ultimate Russian objective will be a federated Ukraine through constitutional reform with the country's sovereignty, national unity and territorial integrity intact while the regions enjoy autonomy. Europe may welcome this as the best way to stabilise the situation and remove the potential for future conflict.

Well, maybe. There are [several threads](#) on how such an invasion [could plausibly proceed](#). No one doubts that Russia would militarily win.

Russia has good reasons to invade the Ukraine but there are also good reasons not to invade it.

Russia's aim is to change the aggressive position the U.S. are taking towards it.

Invading Ukraine would do the opposite. It would increase the number of troops in east European NATO countries and would have negative impacts on Russia's strategic position. Only the western military industrial media complex would love it.

I believe that the current 'western' media campaign is supposed to give cover for an Ukrainian campaign against the rebelling Donbas provinces.

Murad Gazdiev @MuradGazdiev - [12:47 UTC · Jan 24, 2022](#)

🗨️ President Zelensky speaking to the Foreign Intelligence Service of Ukraine:

“We have learned to contain external threats. It is time we begin offensive actions aimed at securing our national interests. Our

citizens are united in wanting their territory returned”

[Embedded video](#)

Russia must be pushed to either not intervene in the Ukrainian campaign or alternatively intervene with a huge invasion. Both would fit U.S. desires though the first is preferred. That is why the U.S. is threatening Russia with sanctions. (Sanctions that would drive oil above \$100/b? Sanction which would hurt the European NATO countries and the U.S. stock market much more than Russia?)

Russia's President Vladimir Putin is a Judoka, not a boxer.

Should the Donbas get attacked Russia would certainly intervene but it can and likely would do so without an invasion. Artillery and maybe some air campaign would be sufficient to destroy the Ukrainian attackers.

The real picture is much bigger. Russia wants to compel the U.S. to agree to a non-aggressive posture in Europe. That requires a threat to the U.S. itself. Washington will only come to its senses when it feels that it is under an direct threat. A threat that is new and highly visible.

That is why I find this news item intriguing:

[Vladimir Putin had a telephone conversation with President of the Republic of Cuba Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermudez.](#)

January 24, 2022 18:10

The leaders had an in-depth exchange of opinions on bilateral cooperation in trade, the economy and investment. The President of Cuba thanked Russia for the humanitarian aid supplied to the republic, including in the context of countering COVID-19. **The**

presidents discussed further coordination of Russia's and Cuba's actions in the international arena in line with the principles of strategic partnership and the traditions of friendship and mutual understanding.

Vladimir Putin and Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermudez reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening bilateral relations and agreed to intensify contacts at different levels.

Four days ago a [similar call](#) was held with the president of Venezuela:

The leaders reaffirmed their commitment to close coordination in international affairs in keeping with the principles of strategic partnership that underlie bilateral relations.

When Russia gave Washington two draft treaties it threatened 'military technical' steps that would follow should the U.S. reject Russia's demands. I believe that is code for the deployment of existing or new weapon systems.

During the cold war the stationing of Russian missiles in Cuba compelled the U.S. to pull back its missiles from Turkey and Italy. Nothing else had worked but the missiles on Cuba did it.

So why not learn from history and repeat such a step?

Posted by b on January 24, 2022 at 18:39 UTC | [Permalink](#)

Comments

thanks b.. you touch on all the bases and cover it all... very good! i don't think some are interested in learning from the past... instead they would like to repeat it..

Posted by: james | Jan 24 2022 18:50 utc | [1](#)

During last century's Missile Crisis we came rather too close to a nuclear exchange. We owe a huge thanks to [one Soviet officer](#) for our still being here today.

Will we be as fortunate in this century's reincarnated Missile Crisis?

Posted by: Vintage Red | Jan 24 2022 18:55 utc | [2](#)

well the western gov'ts in the '60's weren't threatened with destruction thru their malicious negligence of a virus, were they?

you think the USG is going to close its abattoirs and auto factories? why would it change anything about the MIC when they can't stop killing cows and pigs for 5 minutes?

and just look at all the Brave New World "Death Acceptance" Phd lecturers who show up around here. more of the same is the only plan. give 'em their ivermectin so they can get back in line at the Jack in the Box and die off like the diseased hoof-in-mouth sheep they are.

did anybody bother to notice that the public health measures and national unity China has adopted to eliminate successfully the virus going on 3 years will also work wonders, for China, for the multitude of other problems the world faces?

Posted by: rjb1.5 | Jan 24 2022 19:05 utc | [3](#)

Again, excellent coverage, much appreciated!

Something from RIA Novosti on Belarus that caught my attention: "Lukashenko signed a decree on convening an ["extraordinary session of parliament on January 27."](#)

So I'm guessing a couple of days more before...

Posted by: Scotch Bingeington | Jan 24 2022 19:11 utc | [4](#)

The pathetic Australian news MSM have certainly become shrill over this imminent Russian invasion of Ukraine. They even set the date of invasion, this being 20 February 2022, after the Beijing Winter Olympics, President Xi supposedly having asked Putin to delay the attack so as not to take the news spotlight off the Games.

All this sudden upsurge in news about Russia invading Ukraine to the extent of it becoming a regular item in newspapers and even on commercial daily free-2-air TV news comes just after the visit by the UK's Foreign and Defence Secretaries to our shores. Tank girl Liz Truss gives a speech at neocon think-tank Lowy Institute and UK Defence Secretary Wallace (?) hobnobs with our defence establishment. Our media is now an extension of British war propaganda - it had always been in the process of becoming such, what with all the nauseating attention on the British Royal Family over the past 10 years, but the capture now appears complete.

Posted by: Jen | Jan 24 2022 19:13 utc | [5](#)

"So why not learn from history and repeat such a step?"

Times have changed b. If a missile base ever got built on Cuba it wouldn't last 5 minutes. The Cubans/Venezuelans might agree to hosting a Russian warship or 2. Hard to say how the US would deal with that.

Posted by: dh | Jan 24 2022 19:15 utc | [6](#)

"As for the residents of Donbass, where hundreds of thousands of citizens of our country live, Russia will take all the necessary measures to protect them. We will continue to make efforts to

resolve the internal Ukrainian conflict by political and diplomatic means" Lavrov Dec 2021

Posted by: powerandpeople | Jan 24 2022 19:19 utc | [7](#)

b, once again I think you got it exactly right. Putin even said somewhere that his side would have to (reluctantly) do something with its navy when the US/Nato refused the security agreement sought by Russia. Hypersonic missiles on submarines would fit that idea. It would concentrate the minds of the warmongers in the Biden regime.

Posted by: Paul J | Jan 24 2022 19:21 utc | [8](#)

Another aspect is the very dire state of Ukraine's economy. Ukrainian economists predict a probable default on various loans. The ' crisis ' is exacerbating the situation as lenders are refusing to make loans at normal interest rates. Ukraine is running out of time before it's economy crashes.

Russia is well aware of the financial situation in Ukraine. It doesn't have to do anything because this contrived crisis will achieve far more for Russia than for the west. Europe appears to be waking up to the real situation, whether the more level headed in the U.S. administration are, is another matter.

Posted by: Beibdnn | Jan 24 2022 19:23 utc | [9](#)

Russia must be pushed to either not intervene in the Ukrainian campaign or alternatively intervene with a huge invasion.

Come on. There is third option discussed by lot of people - Russia uses stand off weapons to obliterate all Ukraine forces and installations. No need to cross border or do any kind of invasion.

Donbass folks can hold out on their own once Russia defangs

Ukraine offensive capabilities.

Posted by: Abe | Jan 24 2022 19:30 utc | [11](#)

What would Russian missiles on Cuba do that Russian strategic submarines do not already do?

Posted by: Lysias | Jan 24 2022 19:31 utc | [12](#)

1. USA loses nothing by stirring the pot.
2. Ukraine military are well aware the first move to attack Russian citizens will be their last.
3. Russian doctrine has long been that those who attack will be punished, and those who order the attack - senior military - will be punished.
4. The huffing and puffing is necessary for the West public to build up enough fear that a security treaty between US and Russia will be welcomed, rather than pushed back against.
5. Joe Biden is no fool. The Ukraine has changed legislation to sell off State assets, and we can guess who will benefit.
6. Germany, where all dissent is prohibited, is slowly waking to the fact that it needs Russia for hydrocarbons.
7. The West in Europe is slowly waking to the fact it needs Russian carbohydrates - wheat. Wheat will be in short supply as climate changes and Mid East population demands for wheat grows.
8. Russia hypersonic missiles means NATO is irrelevant.
9. Russia has constantly said its allaiances are not 'against' anybody, but are mutual security. Any Cuban etc agreements will be defensive to Cuba and to Russia. But it already has dominace

over USA via missiles offshore USA on both coasts, unstoppable, a few minutes from downtown Washington. USA knows this.

10. Let the kabuki play out. Yes, Biden is right, there will be more changes in the world in the next 10 years than the last 50. And these changes were not caused by any policy. They are an unwanted side effect of human life and evolution on earth.

Posted by: powerandpeople | Jan 24 2022 19:31 utc | [13](#)

As I wrote earlier - 'western' media and secret services are raising a false alarm.

[Some of our partners contribute to panic. This is beneficial to Russia - Danilov](#) (machine translation)

Whether BBC News Ukraine asked the Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council Oleksiy Danilov whether there is a reason for panic or whether the Russian invasion is so real today and what the Ukrainian authorities are doing.

...

BBC: What is happening near the Ukrainian borders? Is the number of troops increasing, are they maneuvering?

Alexei Danilov: The number of Russian troops is not increasing in the form in which many people paint today. Do they have maneuvers there - yes, but they were in them all the time. This is their territory, they have the right to move left and right there. Is it unpleasant for us? Yes, it's unpleasant, but it's not news to us. If this is news to someone in the West, I apologize.

Posted by: [b](#) | Jan 24 2022 19:32 utc | [14](#)

Yes, why not learn from history? Well, that's the guideline I used in my comment about Ukraine from the open thread:

And then there's Ukraine. For the Ucronazis to launch an attack with any chance of success, they'll need to employ massed artillery fire in an attempt to punch a hole in Donbass lines that will easily be detected just as Georgian artillery was in 2008. Far too many eyes will be watching for NATO to claim it was fired on first. Given the amount of time to prepare the battlespace, IMO it will be close to impossible for any advancing force to escape being channelized into ferocious kill zones. IMO Ucronazi forces will need a 10:1 superiority for any chance of success as casualties will be 80%+. On the Donbass side, much depends on how well dug-in and concealed its forces are, the accuracy of its counter-battery fire, its ammo supply, how well it prepared the battlespace, and the size and mobility of its reserves. The morale and motivation issues are easy with Donbass far above Ucronazis, the latter are susceptible to quick demoralization given the expected casualty rate.

All the above is based on the history of what's already occurred in Ukraine. IMO, Donbass has the ability to defend itself as it's already received reinforcements and proper supply levels from Russia. Then there's the history of very poor Ukrainian military performance and the average Ukrainian soldier's "Red Badge of Courage" quotient (gallantry/courage/willingness to die versus self-preservation/cowardice). What I describe above is very similar to a WW1 set-piece battle as there's very little room to maneuver where you won't get shot at. I wouldn't at all want to be on the Ukrainian side, and I'm certain a large % of Ukrainians feel that way.

In the same comment, I mused about hypersonic drones given China's engine development. But that's not good enough for the

deterrent b envisions, nor I. In my recent articles, I've declared MAD to be a dead letter given Russia's strategic advantages the Outlaw US Empire is keenly ignoring as it goes about business as usual. Martyanov pounds that reality in almost every posting or Q&A at his blog and I agree that Russia now has first strike capability but won't use it unless it absolutely has no other choice. Martyanov shows us that a few NATO military know the reality they face but almost none of the politicians do, which is why we see the continuing escalation. From what I've read, Russia doesn't see the need to enlist other nations to do a Cuban Missile replay, which means it has something just as good. No, it's not a traditional Boomer. IMO, we'll be seeing a drone boomer armed with hypersonics--one that can sit on the ocean floor for years until it's needed as it has no humans that need food or oxygen. One could easily creep into the Chesapeake Bay and sleep until needed, its weapons only seconds away from DC, New York, etc. Yes, eventually the Outlaw US Empire could deploy something similar, but not until it perfects its hypersonics, which will take it several more years. The Russian drone could even be an old, converted diesel boat, not new construction. But of course, for it to serve the purpose of threat/deterrence, it would need to be showcased being commissioned or leaving port or displayed in some other public manner.

Another demonstration as I suggested could be showing the interception of a hypersonic by AD, but that doesn't seem forceful enough. I've also speculated about the probability of Russian energy weapons far more potent than a mere laser that could target land and aerial targets. But whatever it/they is/are, it seems to me that Russia has shared with China and Iran the fact that it

has something new based on the behavior of those nation's leaders--there's a confidence that comes from knowing you're superior and can focus on development that I've seen displayed by Xi and Raisi and is ever-present with Lavrov and Putin.

Posted by: [karlof1](#) | Jan 24 2022 19:32 utc | [15](#)

A Chinese guy on Quora offered a profound opinion: The World Is Waiting. The US is in decline, China is rising. The EU and others are waiting for a permanent resolution of the superpower situation. So, you could witness these nations 'flip' in alliance rather suddenly (as vassals).

So my question is, what's left in the US obstruction toolbox? I can't think of anything more than US dollar hegemony and US computer chip production. Russia building Baikal and Elbrus chips isn't secure because TSMC actually makes them - and the US has veto power over that (witness all the billions they lost with Huawei sanctions).

Digital yuan takes care of potential SWIFT issues. Building lithography/foundries in China takes a bit longer. Following those, I think the tipping point hits.

Posted by: Eighthman | Jan 24 2022 19:32 utc | [16](#)

I think there is more at stake now than during the Cuba crisis in the 60's

China is part of this equation now where it wasn't before

This is about who get to dole out the financial marbles of the future, a private cult of humans or an attempt at a structured sharing system like China but with a Western "edge"

Ukraine is just the current proxy in the center ring of our circus.

I agree with the scenario of making Russia's military presence felt right off the East Coast as being quite likely.

Posted by: [psychohistorian](#) | Jan 24 2022 19:37 utc | [17](#)

TTF futures back up to around €80/TWh (back to roughly \$25/MMBtu). Compare to mid €60's last week. This is going out a year or so, so not weather, and no fundamental economic change I'm aware of. 10% daily swings have been the norm for a couple months now though, so not reading too much into it.

At the same time, Ukraine just got its money from EU, €1.2 billion, which should be easing tensions. Maybe they were hoping for more?

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/eu-offers-ukraine-12-bln-euro-aid-package-2022-01-24/>

Posted by: ptb | Jan 24 2022 19:37 utc | [18](#)

@ vintage red - Long live Vasily Arkhipov! Thank you for mentioning him. May cooler heads prevail during this insanity. Hopefully it's just a tempest in a teapot, but coming just on the heels of the Kazakhstan stupidity, I get a sense of desperation in the west. And unfortunately, I live in the west.

Much love everyone.

Posted by: lex talionis | Jan 24 2022 19:38 utc | [19](#)

What would it take for US to become aware that it had lost? US just took a defeat in Afghanistan, that one did last a few news cycles, did nothing to shake the certainty America has the greatest and most potent military the world has ever seen. Biggest consequence was Biden took a bit of a hit in the polls.

US was, just thoroughly and completely defeated in Kazakhstan.

99.999% of the American public is completely unaware. At least 99% of apparatchiks in State Department and Defence Department are completely unaware. It never happened. If you think it happened you are a thoughtcriminal.

If Russia inflicted a major defeat on US/NATO on the territory of Ukraine it would be the sound of one hand clapping. If a Bear shits in the woods why should anyone care? To inflict a strategic defeat on US only certain method is to eliminate US.

Russia could choose a slightly less drastic course, that is up to them. US is become The Black Knight.

Posted by: oldhippie | Jan 24 2022 19:46 utc | [20](#)

sorry, meant to add, there is no unity in the west. none of "the people" of any western country is for war with Russia, for any reason. conflict with Russia will only hasten their dissolution. But since the only thing uniting the US is its militarism, sure as hell not its concern for the "general welfare", what else can they do but increase hostility toward Russia as, inter alia, a way to shield blame from the millions of covid casualties?

whatever particular tactics Russia might consider in a future conflict, the immediate eruption of civil war at home is not one of them. unlike Ukraine, Britain, the US and others.

Posted by: rjb1.5 | Jan 24 2022 19:46 utc | [21](#)

for kicks, how about destroying Ukraine positions from ships in the the Atlantic?

whatever it is, some demonstration has to be in order, instead of just flashing weaponry, but a demonstration that doesn't trigger a hot war. something like disabling or nullifying Aegis radar would fit

the bill. something along those lines. a new tech not seen before.

Posted by: mastameta | Jan 24 2022 19:48 utc | [22](#)

Russian troop movements and, perhaps, Western hysteria, have prompted Ukraine to stop massing forces on the contact line with Donbas and instead spread their military formations in anticipation of a Russian attack all along its perimeter. According to blogger/analyst Yuri Podolyak, analyzing data published by DNR military intelligence, the contact line is currently manned with mostly second-rate military formations and comparatively thinly, in comparison to previous stages of the conflict. At the same time, both Russia and Donbas are making statements to the contrary, complaining about Ukraine reinforcing its positions on the contact line.

Not entirely sure what to make of that, provided of course that it's accurate information. It's perfectly logical, on one hand, that Russia would use its troop movements to make any hostile action by Ukraine against the Donbas untenable. But what is their objective in overestimating Ukrainian military build-up on the contact line? Are these calculations genuine, or miscalculations on the part of Yuri or military intelligence?

In lighter news, I just saw a report of some representative of Luxembourg being asked whether he's considered evacuating his embassy staff in Kiev, to which he responded that, unfortunately, Luxembourg does not in fact have an embassy in Kiev from which to evacuate any staff. Had me in stitches for a good couple of minutes.

Posted by: Skiffer | Jan 24 2022 19:54 utc | [23](#)

