

Defunct "Counter-Offensive", Non-Existent Ukraine Air Force, Who Started the War?

No Hurry. F-16 Training for Ukrainian Pilots Delayed until Next Summer

By Prof Michel Chossudovsky and The Washington Post

Global Research, August 11, 2023

Global Research and Washington Post

Region: Europe, Russia and FSU, USA

Theme: Intelligence, Militarization and

WMD

In-depth Report: **UKRAINE REPORT**

All Global Research articles can be read in 51 languages by activating the Translate Website button below the author's name.

To receive Global Research's Daily Newsletter (selected articles), click here.

Click the share button above to email/forward this article to your friends and colleagues. Follow us on <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Twitter</u> and subscribe to our <u>Telegram Channel</u>. Feel free to repost and share widely Global Research articles.

A report entitled **F-16 Training for Ukrainian Pilots Faces Delays and Uncertainty** (Washington Post) reveals that the training of Ukrainian pilots for F-16 jets Made in America will **be delayed for almost a year, until next Summer.**

The crucial issue has to do with the timeline of the Ukraine War and the ability of Ukrainian Forces to confront Russia.

At this juncture, the so-called "counter-offensive" is defunct. At present, Ukraine's Air Force is virtually non-existent. And US-NATO have so to speak been (quite deliberately) "dragging it out". Ukraine has no modern air power.

What will the Ukraine war theater look like in a year from now?

What US-NATO politicians and military planners are contemplating is a **prolonged drawn-out scenario of continued destruction**, **characterized by mass casualties**. **No peace or armistice agreement is envisaged**.

According to the WP, Ukraine's defunct Air Force –which was wiped out by Russian forces in early March 2022– is slated to be "partially restored" at the earliest by Summer 2024. That is the "suicidal solution" proposed by US-NATO to the Kiev regime.

In the meantime, the entire Ukrainian economy is being appropriated by BlackRock J.P. Morgan:

"... BlackRock, JP Morgan and private investors, aim to profit from the country's reconstruction along with 400 global companies, including Citi, Sanofi and Philips. ... JP

Morgan's Stefan Weiler sees a "tremendous opportunity" for private investors. (Colin Todhunter, Global Research June 28, 2023)

The Kiev Neo-Nazi regime is a partner in this endeavor. War is Good for Business. The greater the destruction, the greater the stranglehold on Ukraine by "private investors".

In late December 2022, **president Zelensky** and BlackRock's CEO **Larry Fink** agreed on an investment strategy.



PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE

President discussed with the CEO of BlackRock the coordination of efforts to rebuild Ukraine

28 December 2022 - 10:54



President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy held a video conference meeting with Larry Fink, CEO of one of the world's leading investment managers, BlackRock.

Who started the Ukraine War?

Another important development:

NATO's Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg recently acknowledged that the "war didn't start in 2022". In an interview with the <u>Washington Post</u> (May 9, 2023) Stoltenberg candidly confirmed that "the war started in 2014".

Jens Stoltenberg's bold statements have opened up a **Pandora's Box,** to the detriment of NATO, which he represents.

What he intimates (no doubt unwittingly) is that the Ukraine War was a US-NATO Initiative,

carried out in the immediate wake of **the illegal February 2014 EuroMaidan Coup d'Etat** which was then conducive to the installation of a Neo-Nazi regime in Kiev.

Speaking on behalf of NATO, he tacitly acknowledged that Russia did not declare war on Ukraine on February 24, 2022.

Below are relevant excerpts from <u>Stoltenberg's Interview with the Washington Post</u>: (emphasis added)

Lee Hockstader, Washington Post Editorial Board: How has the war led NATO to recalibrate its defense posture and doctrine?

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg: The war in Ukraine has fundamentally changed NATO, but then you have to remember the war didn't start in 2022. The war started in 2014. And since then, NATO has implemented the biggest reinforcement of our collective defense since the end of the Cold War. For the first time in our history, we have combat-ready troops in the eastern part of the alliance, the battle groups in Poland, Lithuania, the Baltic countries, actually the whole eight battle groups from the Baltic Sea down to the Black Sea. Higher readiness of our forces. And increased defense spending. ...

To access the full text of the interview, click image below

THE POST'S VIEW

Opinion | What is the future of the war in Ukraine? NATO's leader offers insight.



The Washington Post: "F-16 Training for Ukrainian Pilots Faces Delays and Uncertainty"

The article confirms US-NATO's intent to deliberately **deny the rehabilitation of Ukraine's Air Force (WP** August 11, 2023) (emphasis added). It sounds very fishy: Another "delaying prerequisite" for the training of a limited number of Ukrainian pilots is that they go for a **four month English "crash course" in the U.K.** where in all likelihood they will seek refugee status:

"A first group of six Ukrainian pilots is **not expected to complete training on the U.S.-made F-16 before next summer,** senior Ukrainian government and military officials said, following a series of delays by Western partners in implementing an instruction program for the sophisticated fighter jet.

The timeline reflects the disconnect between Ukraine's supporters, who envision F-16s as a key tool in the country's long-term defense, and Kyiv, which has desperately

requested that the jets reach the battle space as soon as possible ...

President Biden, after denying Ukrainian appeals for the F-16 for more than a year, reversed course in May and said he backed the idea of training Ukrainian pilots on the jets.

But after the start of training was pushed back several times, **Ukraine will now probably have to endure another year without the fighters,** ... which officials in Kyiv have predicted would provide a significant military edge amid a slow-going counteroffensive and help better protect civilians against Russia's regular missile and drone strikes.

Ukraine's commander in chief, **Gen. Valery Zaluzhny**, has criticized Western partners for <u>expecting</u> Ukrainian forces to **conduct a large-scale counteroffensive without** modern air power. Without fighter jets like the F-16, Ukrainian officials say, they can't compete in the sky.

Ukrainian soldiers on the front lines have said that low-flying Russian helicopters have been successful in attacking their ground forces in part because Ukraine is unable to threaten them in kind.

Just six pilots, about half a squadron, will go through the first round of training, according to two Ukrainian officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to address a sensitive matter. Two other pilots have been identified as reserve candidates.

Though the pilots are already fluent in English, the officials said, they must first attend four months of English lessons in Britain to learn terminology associated with the jets. ...

Click here to read the full article on The Washington Post.

*

Note to readers: Please click the share button above. Follow us on Instagram and Twitter and subscribe to our Telegram Channel. Feel free to repost and share widely Global Research articles.

The original source of this article is Global Research and Washington Post Copyright © Prof Michel Chossudovsky and The Washington Post, Global Research and Washington Post, 2023

Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page

Become a Member of Global Research

Articles by: Prof Michel
Chossudovsky and The
Washington Post

About the author:

Michel Chossudovsky is an award-winning author, Professor of Economics (emeritus) at the University of Ottawa, Founder and Director of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG), Montreal, Editor of Global Research. He has undertaken field research in Latin America, Asia, the Middle East, sub-Saharan Africa and the Pacific and has written extensively on the economies of developing countries with a focus on poverty and social inequality. He has also undertaken research in Health Economics (UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), UNFPA, CIDA, WHO, Government of Venezuela, John Hopkins International Journal of Health Services (1979, 1983) He is the author of 13 books including The Globalization of Poverty and The New World Order (2003), America's "War on Terrorism" (2005). The Globalization of War. America's Long War. against Humanity (2015). He is a contributor to the Encyclopaedia Britannica. His writings have been published in more than twenty languages. In 2014, he was awarded the Gold Medal for Merit of the Republic of Serbia for his writings on NATO's war of aggression against Yugoslavia. He can be reached at crgeditor@yahoo.com

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca