

## Nuke Russia?

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Region: [Russia and FSU](#), [USA](#)

Theme: [Militarization and WMD](#)

*The War Party is a veritable propaganda [machine](#), churning out product 24/7. Armed with nearly unlimited resources, both from [government\(s\)](#) and the [private sector](#), they carpet-bomb the public with an endless stream of lies in order to soften them up when it's time to roll. In the past, their job has been relatively easy: simply order up a few atrocity stories - [Germans bayoneting babies](#), [Iraqis dumping over babies in incubators](#) - and we've got ourselves another glorious war. These days, however, over a decade of constant warfare - and a [long string](#) of [War Party fabrications](#) - has left the public [leery](#).*

And that's cause for optimism. People are waking up. The War Party's propaganda machine has to work overtime in order to overcome rising skepticism, and it shows signs of overheating - and, in some instances, even breaking down.

One encouraging sign is that the [Ukrainian neo-Nazis](#) have lost their US government funding ...

In a blow to the "let's arm Ukraine" movement that seemed to be picking up steam in Congress, [a resolution](#) introduced by Rep. John Conyers (D-Michigan) and Rep. Ted Yoho (R-Florida) **banning aid to Ukraine's Azov Battalion, and forbidding shipments of MANPAD anti-aircraft missiles to the region, passed the House unanimously.**

This is significant because, up until this point, there has been no recognition in Washington that the supposedly "[pro-democracy](#)" regime in Kiev contains a dangerously [influential](#) neo-Nazi element.

As I reported [early on](#), Ukraine's ultra-nationalists - who openly utilize wartime [Nazi symbols and regalia](#), and valorize [Stepan Bandera](#), the anti-Soviet guerrilla leader who collaborated with the Third Reich - were the muscle behind the movement that [pushed](#) democratically elected President Viktor Yanukovich out of power. With the rebellion in the east, the [paramilitary militias](#) of the far right have been officially incorporated into the Ukrainian army: Dmytro Yorash, the leader of Right Sector and a member of parliament, is an [aide](#) to Viktor Muzhenko, the supreme commander of the Ukrainian military, and Right Sector - an openly neo-Nazi organization - has been [officially integrated](#) into the armed forces.

The Conyers-Yoho amendment won't stop Ukraine's neo-Nazis from feeding at the US-provided [trough](#), but, hey, it's the thought that counts. They'll just abandon their independent existence and blend into the official military, effectively going underground, just as they did in the last Ukrainian elections, where fascists like Yarosh won a seat in the parliament with the [tacit support](#) of the "mainstream" parties, which withdrew their candidates in his district: Adriy Biletsky, commander of the Azov Battalion, enjoyed a similar advantage. Open fascists hold prominent positions in the [Ukrainian government](#), [the](#)

[military](#), and [the police](#).

Vadim Troyan, the [deputy leader of the Azov Battalion](#), is now the [regional chief](#) of the Kiev district police, and fascists have the run of the city. The perpetrators of an arson fire at a Kiev theater that sponsored a gay film festival were charged with "[disturbing the peace](#)" and let off with a light sentence – and *the theater* was held responsible for not providing enough security! "I think the government prosecutor and those who are prosecuted are playing for the same team," says one activist, and this is quite true: the fascists permeate the Kiev regime from top to bottom. When gay activists announced a Gay Pride march, the Mayor of Kiev [said he couldn't](#) – or wouldn't – guarantee their safety and asked them to cancel it. What was an open invitation to [violent thugs](#) was accepted when dozens of [Right Sector](#) stormtroopers attacked the procession, which ended the event after thirty bloody minutes.

As the Kiev regime shows its true colors, its most fervent backers are forced to acknowledge its shortcomings. Yes, even our UN Ambassador, Samantha "[responsibility to protect](#)" Power ...

In a [recent speech](#) delivered in Kiev, Ambassador Power made oblique reference to the embarrassing slip ups on the part of our sock puppets in Kiev, gently scolding them to be more ... discreet. Citing Abraham Lincoln, she urged Ukrainians to listen to "the better angels of our nature," and averred that "Ukraine is stronger" when it does so:

It means that Ukraine should zealously protect freedom of the press, including for its most outspoken and biased critics – indeed, especially for its most outspoken and biased critics – even as the so-called separatists expel journalists from the territory they control, and even as Russia shuts Tatar media outlets in occupied Crimea. It means that politicians and police across the country should recognize how crucial it is that people be able to march to demand respect for LGBT rights and the rights of other vulnerable groups without fear of being attacked.

Citing Lincoln while calling for press freedom is a bit [problematic](#) – Abe shut down "treasonous" newspapers and jailed his more vociferous critics, but, hey, Power probably figured the Ukrainians aren't up on the details of [Civil War history](#), so what the heck. As the US continues to pump money – and weaponry – into the country, they'll listen politely to Power's lectures, and laugh all the way to [the bank](#).

Amid all the publicity given to ISIS and the rise of its "caliphate," the volatile condition of the Balkans has remained in the shadows. Yet the US, while sending only a few hundred "advisors" to Iraq, is sending a huge shipment of tanks and other heavy weaponry to nearly every country in Eastern Europe – [enough to equip 5,000 American troops](#).

Ostensibly proposed in response to a nonexistent Russian "threat" to invade its Baltic neighbors, and/or Ukraine, this represents a significant escalation of the new cold war. And if the tanks are already on the ground, you can bet the troops won't be long in coming. As NATO James Stavridis put it: "It provides a reasonable level of reassurance to jittery allies, although nothing is as good as troops stationed full-time on the ground, of course."

And we aren't just talking about troops here: the Pentagon is also considering [stationing nuclear missiles alongside them](#).

The US is playing a dangerous game of [nuclear brinkmanship](#). Robert Scher, undersecretary of defense, has even floated the idea of a nuclear first strike against Russia. Claiming that Russia has violated the INF Treaty by testing a banned ground-launched cruise missile, Scher laid out possible options in testimony before Congress:

*“Robert Scher, assistant secretary of defence for strategy, plans and capabilities, told politicians in April that one option could be to beef up defenses of potential targets of the Russian cruise missile.*

*“A second option could ‘look at how we could go about and actually attack that missile where it is in Russia,’ Scher said.*

*“And a third option would be ‘to look at what things we can hold at risk within Russia itself,’ Scher said.*

*“His comments appeared to signal employing forces to strike at other Russian military targets — apart from the missiles that allegedly violate the INF accord.*

*“Brian McKeon, deputy undersecretary of defense for policy, told politicians in December that the United States could consider putting ground-launched cruise missiles in Europe. Such weapons are banned under the INF treaty.”*

Yes, that’s how crazy the warlords of Washington are: in their demented calculus, nuclear war is just another “option.”

And if that isn’t the definitive argument for regime-change in Washington, then I don’t know what is.

### **Notes in the Margin**

*You can check out my Twitter feed by going [here](#). But please note that my tweets are sometimes deliberately provocative, often made in jest, and largely consist of me thinking out loud.*

*I’ve written a couple of books, which you might want to peruse. [Here](#) is the link for buying the second edition of my 1993 book, [Reclaiming the American Right: The Lost Legacy of the Conservative Movement](#), with an Introduction by Prof. [George W. Carey](#), a [Foreword](#) by Patrick J. Buchanan, and critical essays by [Scott Richert](#) and [David Gordon](#) ([ISI Books](#), 2008).*

*You can buy [An Enemy of the State: The Life of Murray N. Rothbard](#) (Prometheus Books, 2000), my biography of the great libertarian thinker, [here](#).*

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