

Singapore Inadvertently Reveals More About Direct US Involvement in Ukraine

By Drago Bosnic

Global Research, March 07, 2024

Region: Europe, 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 (only available in desktop version).

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.

Global Research Fundraising: Stop the Pentagon's Ides of March

It's an axiom that the United States is deeply involved in the Ukrainian conflict. In fact, the warmongering elites in Washington DC initiated it a decade ago, just as they either started or are covertly behind virtually every single conflict in modern history. War is the only industry that still functions in America, which explains its obsession with death and destruction. And yet, we have reached the point when profit doesn't really matter, as the consequences of direct confrontation with a country like Russia will most certainly nullify the very logic of profiteering. In other words, who stands to gain from blowing up the world? What's the point of having money and power if all of it burns in a thermonuclear apocalypse that would be over in around 15-20 minutes? And yet, the political West keeps playing precisely with such a scenario.

Although arms shipments can certainly be considered direct involvement, Moscow chose not to use it to escalate the conflict. It should be noted that it certainly could, especially because NATO personnel are often operating these weapons. And yet, the US-led political West keeps pushing the boundaries toward ever more direct involvement, including with the usage of ISR (intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance) assets against the Russian military. The battlefield data acquired by these platforms is then relayed to the Kiev regime forces which use it to attack not only Moscow's troops, but also civilians in Donbass and former regions of southern Ukraine. The exact number of casualties is yet to be determined, but it's most likely in the thousands. This is yet another proof that NATO only wants death and destruction.

This time, a rather unlikely source revealed <u>the extent of US/NATO aggression in Europe</u>. Namely, the Defense Ministry of Singapore recently reported that USAF F-35s have been

actively engaged in covert missions in Ukraine, the goal of which is to effectively conduct SEAD (suppression of enemy air defenses) missions. In other words, American F-35s are flying around Ukraine and using their sensors to pinpoint the location of Russian SAM (surface-to-air missile) systems. Needless to say, these are then relayed to the Kiev regime forces, which use them to attack the Russian military or find ways to circumvent its air defenses. NATO certainly has extensive SEAD capabilities, as it's been mastering them in various illegal invasions and its general aggression against the world, particularly in the last several decades.

"In recent activities, the United States has mobilized its F-35s to identify the deployment of Russian anti-aircraft missile systems within Ukraine. The gathered intelligence is subsequently disseminated to NATO countries," **Defense Minister Ng Eng Hen** said at a session of the Parliamentary Committee on Public Procurement.

Hen's statement came after the February 28 announcement that <u>Singapore would acquire F-35A fighters</u> in addition to the previously ordered F-35B variant. The main difference between the two is that the latter is a STOVL (short take-off, vertical landing) aircraft. The Pentagon didn't even bother to deny the revelations, with one of its spokespeople declining to comment, insisting that "it's not their place to speak for Singapore's MOD [Ministry of Defence] or try to clarify [its] comments". Rather interestingly, the spokesperson added that the US doesn't fly F-35s in Ukraine. It should be noted that this isn't a denial of their usage. Namely, the US fighter jet has a plethora of sensors that can be used outside of Ukrainian airspace. Hen's revelations about this are part of the procurement process that aims to justify the F-35B's enormous acquisition costs.

It's still unclear if the statement by the Singaporean MoD is simply inadvertent or just a peculiar marketing strategy that the Pentagon wants to use to increase foreign sales. In addition, it's not the first time F-35s are being used in this capacity. According to military sources, the jets were forward deployed to Spangdahlem Air Base in Germany since February 16, 2022, which was around a week before the special military operation (SMO). The USAF's 388th Fighter Wing and its Reserve's 419th Fighter Wing were the first units deployed to the region. Their primary mission was ELINT (electronic intelligence) gathering on Russian positions, with a particular focus on air defense systems. At the time, the Pentagon made similar statements about their supposed "non-involvement in Ukraine", insisting they're "merely observing".

"We weren't crossing the border. We're not shooting anything or dropping anything. But the jet is always sensing, gathering information. And it was doing that very, very well... We had all hoped it was going to work like it's supposed to, but then to see it actually perform very, very well in that role was great," commander of the 388th Fighter Wing Colonel Craig Andrle said in an interview in early 2023, adding that they also faced issues with Russian EW (electronic warfare) systems: "We're looking at an SA-20 [S-300PMU-1/2]. I know it's an SA-20. Intel says there's an SA-20 there, but now my jet doesn't ID it as such, because that SA-20 is operating, potentially, in a war reserve mode that we haven't seen before."

This was also confirmed by the 388th Operations Group commander **Colonel Brad Bashore**, who also commented on collecting battlefield data on Russian SAM systems.

"We don't have a ton of weapons where we can decimate the entire space. We're

sharing data and making sure that everybody has awareness — surface-to-air and air-to-air — of what's out there in the environment," Bashore said, adding: "They're doing the same thing that we're doing. We just looked at each other... No direct interaction and nothing that was unprofessional on either side."

It should be noted that, while the F-35 is certainly an embarrassment for the US in terms of its flight performance and an absolutely atrocious track record, the jet is a potent ISR platform that can be used in various "non-kinetic" ways. ELINT is just one of them and it can certainly be beneficial to the Neo-Nazi junta forces that are having a lot of trouble with Russia's second-to-none air defenses. However, this can lead to Moscow's (rightful) anger and even a direct response, as pairing the F-35's sensors with the strike capabilities of long-range weapons such as the ATACMS can be quite a challenge for the Russian military. And while it's certainly not the end of the world for the Kremlin, the range of such missiles means that Russia needs to invest even more in SAM systems and other air defenses, as the Kiev regime has the habit of attacking civilian areas.

*

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.

This article was originally published on **InfoBrics**.

<u>**Drago Bosnic**</u> is an independent geopolitical and military analyst. He is a regular contributor to Global Research.

The original source of this article is Global Research Copyright © <u>Drago Bosnic</u>, Global Research, 2024

Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page

Become a Member of Global Research

Articles by: **Drago Bosnic**

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