

Will Neo-Cons, Led by Obama, Lie Us Into a New World War?

by Nancy Spannaus and Jeffrey Steinberg

March 9—Speaking in Moscow Dec. 1, 2014, Gen. Yuri Baluyevsky (ret.), Russian Chief of the General Staff (2004-08), warned that a war by the U.S. and NATO against Russia had already begun.

“The Cold War was and is there, it goes on. . . . Only the forms of waging this war have changed, they have now become more sophisticated,” Baluyevsky noted in response to the question of whether the evaluation of present conditions as a “Cold War” was correct. An armed conflict between Russia and NATO, if it is destined to flare up, “*will begin with information and psychological pressure on people’s minds*, [emphasis added] and military force proper will be the final stage of the process that we are already seeing today,” Baluyevsky believes.

That such a psychological, propaganda war is fully underway was on full display on Capitol Hill last week, with testimony by Assistant Secretary of State Victoria Nuland, former Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili (now an advisor to Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko), and anti-Putin fanatic Garry Kasparov, before House and Senate committees. Both hearings were dominated by the demands, from the Congressmen and Senators, and from Saakashvili and Kasparov, for the immediate arming of Ukraine. There are currently bills in both houses that would specifically authorize such U.S. action.

Such action would be an insane leap toward confrontation with Russia. In addition, just like the 2003

war against Iraq, it is based on *lies*. If these lies are not challenged, and the venal purveyors of those lies, such as Nuland and her boss Obama, taken out of position of power over U.S. policy, the forecast of the retired Russian general is all too likely to come true.

Nuland at the Center

The only representative of the Obama Administration at these hearings was Nuland, known internationally as the midwife of the neo-Nazi coup which removed the elected President of Ukraine from power a little over a year ago. Nuland was the sole witness at the House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing, entitled “Ukraine under Siege,” on March 4. Like her former boss Vice President Dick Cheney, this neo-con operative lied through her teeth, in pursuit of a war policy.

Nuland lied that the Maidan coup was a peaceful protest by ordinary Ukrainians fed up with the rotten regime. She lied that the Russians were responsible for all the horrors of war in southeastern Ukraine, including the shooting down of the commercial airline MH17 (there is no evidence), the obliteration of the Donetsk airport (it was the assault by the Ukrainian Army which destroyed it), and that the humanitarian convoys being sent into the region by Russia were not inspected, and not humanitarian.

She pushed the idea of new sanctions against Russia in case of the failure of the Minsk agreements, reached among the Normandy Four heads of state (Putin, Por-



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Victoria Nuland makes no secret of her role as the midwife of the neo-Nazi coup that evicted the elected President of Ukraine in February of last year. Here, she is testifying (lying) at a House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing March 4.

shenko, French President François Hollande, and German Chancellor Angela Merkel), and clearly was unhappy that, so far, President Obama, under tremendous pressure from continental European leaders, has not decided to authorize the arming of the Ukrainian military.

Nuland’s appearance before the House Committee coincided with a deployment to Capitol Hill of activists from the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, a Banderist¹ front group, pressing for war against Russia.

Committee Chairman Ed Royce (R-Calif.) and Ranking Member Eliot Engel (D-N.Y.), both sponsors of House Resolution 955, which calls for providing \$1 billion in lethal arms to Ukraine, opened the hearing by effectively declaring that the Minsk ceasefire accords—which are fragile but holding—had failed, and that any delay in providing weapons to Ukraine would be disastrous. Royce demanded increased effort on the “information war” in the region; Engel bemoaned the fact that Ukraine is not a member of NATO, and announced he would introduce legislation to “dial up the pressure on Vladimir Putin” for his allegedly reckless policies.

Only two Congressmen took on this hysterical war-

1. See *EIR*, “Western Powers Back Neo-Nazi Coup in Ukraine,” *EIR*, Feb. 7, 2014.

mongering to any degree. Rep. Gregory Meeks (D-N.Y.) argued that the U.S. should not act unilaterally to challenge Russia, but instead, work with the European allies—who had already been identified as blocking lethal aid. More pungent was Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-Calif.), who challenged the lie that Russia was responsible for the crisis in Ukraine.

Rohrabacher’s Challenge...

After declaring that he agreed with Meeks that the issue was complicated, Rohrabacher said:

“I would hope that our goal is to do what’s right by Ukraine, and bring peace to Ukraine, and not our goal being to basically defeat and humiliate Russia for actions that it has taken. Because if that’s our goal, the people of Ukraine will continue to

suffer, and suffer, and suffer. . . .

“Ukraine desperately needs economic help. This whole incident in history started when the government of what you call the rotten regime that preceded the current government of Ukraine went to our European allies to ask for help that it desperately needed for its economy. And the deal that was offered by our European allies was not sufficient, and, in fact, was much less than what the Russians offered them instead.

“And when that deal was taken by the rotten regime that you mentioned, all of a sudden that’s when it became so rotten that we no longer—or the people could no longer put up with it. The pivotal moment was when it accepted the deal that was offered by Russia to help them in their desperate economic situation, which our European allies were not willing to do. That ignited this situation. That’s what turned policy type of situations and perhaps the overturn of a rotten government through electoral process into instead the overturn of that rotten regime by violent demonstrations and non-democratic means of overthrowing that regime. Two years later, they could have kicked Yanukovich out with a free election. They didn’t wait. . . .

“So, let us hope that what we’re doing now is aimed at trying to end the conflict that started in that more complicated way than black and white. . . . What people are advocating, that we send weapons . . . to Ukraine,

the defensive weapons, would any of these weapons be under—do we see any of these weapons becoming part of the arsenal of that part of the Ukrainian army that is financed—which, I believe, a third of the Ukrainian Army is now, that is in conflict—is financed by an oligarch, a private citizen who happens to be a multi-billionaire?”

Rohrabacher could have been more explicit in naming the Azov battalion, a group of blatant neo-Nazis, and other such groups. Nuland has consistently lied about the nature of these groups—even as the evidence of their central role in the Kiev government’s actions gets increasing international exposure.

... and LaRouche’s

Lyndon LaRouche’s March [statement](#), denouncing the attempted frame-up of President Putin for the murder of opposition figure Boris Nemtsov, circulated on Capitol Hill, as *EIR* and LaRouchePAC representatives attended the House and Senate hearings.

LaRouche’s statement was distributed outside the House hearing, where media were gathered to interview the Congressmen and the members of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, who were in Washington to lobby for arming Ukraine. Most members of the Committee received the leaflet, and backup material from *EIR*.

Following the hearing, *EIR*’s Stuart Rosenblatt accosted Nuland, and, in the hearing of press and others, asked: “Were you behind the assassination of Nemtsov? We know Putin didn’t do it—so was it you?” She was immediately ushered away by staff.

The Senate Show

Saakashvili and Kasparov appeared before the European Subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and delivered anti-Putin tirades. The room was festooned with life-size posters of the Nemtsov murder site and the wreckage of MH17, dominating the front of the hearing room. While the American witnesses, including former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Steven Pifer and American Foreign Policy Council analyst Stephen Blank, stopped short of blaming Putin directly for the Nemtsov killing, Kasparov ranted that Putin and his “elites” believe that after 15 years in power, there is nothing they cannot do, no line they cannot cross. He called for giving weapons to Ukraine in memory of Nemtsov!

As for Saakashvili, he stuck to presenting Ukraine

as the “front line” against a “revanchist Russia” which represents a threat to American security. In an op-ed given prominence in the *Washington Post*, the former Georgia President—disgraced in his own country—said Ukraine was the “new Berlin,” comparing it to the strategic showdown over that city in the early 1960s.

The push for the Senate to back arming Ukraine will continue again this week, when Nuland and a number of other foreign policy “experts” appear before the full Senate Foreign Relations Committee on March 10.

An International Scandal

The blatant lying, threats, and manipulation being carried out by Nuland, on behalf of the Obama Administration, have not gone unnoticed internationally.

On March 5, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Alexey Meshkov responded to Nuland’s statement that possible extension of sanctions under the so-called Magnitsky Act (actions against certain Russians who are suspected, but not confirmed, to have been involved in the death of lawyer Sergei Magnitsky’s death), would depend upon the investigation of his death being “an investigation that meets international standards and that finds not only the shooter, but the orderer of the murder.”

Meshkov responded: “It’s difficult to understand how those who do not observe international law would give assessments of international law. Moreover, does international law have anything to do with the investigation of a criminal case in Russia?”

An article published by *Spiegel Online* on its English International page on March 6, also expressed displeasure with Nuland, for her role in coaching the head of the U.S. Army Europe, Gen. Philip Breedlove, in his rantings against Russia. “When it comes to the goal of delivering weapons to Ukraine, Nuland and Breedlove work hand-in-hand,” *Spiegel* reports. “On the first day of the Munich Security Conference, the two gathered the U.S. delegation behind closed doors to discuss their strategy for breaking Europe’s resistance to arming Ukraine.”

The *Spiegel* article has Nuland coaching Breedlove on what to say to the Europeans: “While talking to the Europeans this weekend, you need to make the case that Russia is putting in more and more offensive stuff while we want to help the Ukrainians defend against these systems.”

Nuland, defender of Nazis and warmongers against Russia, and her boss Obama have got to go.