

Kh-47M2 Kinzhal supersonic storm in Ukraine: 55 missile barrage from the four points of the horizon-Second wave with Geran-2 swarms

Odessa is in the sights

26/01/2023 - 21:40 in Main topics , Ukraine



A missile storm has once again hit Ukraine, with the Russians firing two Kh-47M2 Kinzhal hypersonic missiles against military and energy targets for the first time in a long time.

It is noteworthy that three electricity substations were bombed in Odessa alone.

According to the Ukrainian military command, Russia launched at least 55 missiles including:

-Two Kh-47M2 Kinzhal

-40 Kh-101/Kh-555,

-9 Kalibr,

-4 Kh-59

Several Geran-2 or Shahed-131 kamikaze drones also took part in the raids

There is confirmed damage to critical infrastructure in:

=Kiev City

=Kiev Region

=Odessa region (Substation in Mayakov region)

=Odessa region (Substation in Malinovsky region)

=Odessa region (Substation SS 110/35/6 kV "Chumka")

=Zaporozhye region =Nikolaev region =Dnepropetrovsk region

=Vinnytsia

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From WarNews 24/7: <https://warnews247-gr.translate.googleusercontent.com/translate/yp/erichitiki-kataigida-me-kh-47m2-kinzhal-stin-oukrania-omovrontia-55-pyavlon-apo-ta-tessera-simeia-tou-origonta-deftero-kyma-me-smini-geran-2/? x tr sl=auto& x tr tl=en& x tr hl=en>

Major wave of airstrikes reported in Ukraine

Air-raid warnings have been activated all over the country

26 Jan, 2023 09:26



FILE PHOTO: A Russian warship fire a Kalibr missile. © Sputnik / Denis Abramov
Ukraine was subjected to a huge wave of Russian airstrikes on Thursday morning, with explosions at energy facilities reported from various parts of the country, including the capital, Kiev.
“A blast in Kiev. Stay in shelters,” Mayor Vitaly Klitschko wrote on Telegram.

Videos on social media have shown thick black smoke rising from an undisclosed location in the city. The Kiev metro has reportedly ceased its operations during the airstrikes.

Ukrainian Railways have announced that some trains will be delayed as news of the airstrikes started coming in.

Reports of explosions also came from the Black Sea port of Odessa, where at least two electrical substations were said to have been hit. According to social media accounts, there’ve been power shortages and issues with internet access in the city.

Blasts were also reported from Dnepr, Vinnitsa, Krivoy Rog, Nikolaev and from some other locations.

Ukrainian officials said that air defenses had been activated in Kiev, Vinnitsa and Zhytomir Regions.

Earlier, Anton Gerashchenko, an adviser to Ukraine’s interior minister, said that Russian missiles were incoming from the direction of the Caspian Sea.

Moscow has stepped up pressure on Ukraine since October last year, when it accused Kiev of using “terrorist tactics” and of targeting Russian infrastructure, including the strategic Crimean Bridge. Since then, a number of large-scale missile strikes have been carried out against Ukrainian military installations and energy facilities, leading to rolling blackouts across the country. <https://www.rt.com/russia/570496-ukraine-airstrikes-kiev-odessa/>

From WarNews 24/7: <https://warnews247-gr.translate.goog/keravnoi-n-mentventef-kata-zelenski-xechna-ta-ypovrychia-tha-paroume-nikolaef-odisso-esy-tha-tragoudas-to-yellow-submarine-se-mia-varka-ston-dneipero/? x tr sl=auto& x tr tl=en& x tr hl=en>

Lightning N.Medvedev vs. Zelensky: Forget submarines!- We'll take Nikolaev-Odessa & you'll sing "Yellow Submarine" on a boat on the Dnieper!

He decorated Zelensky with the most weighty attributes

26/01/2023 - 19:40 in Main topics , Ukraine

N. Medvedev advised V. Zelensky to learn the song "Yellow submarine" and to buy a boat for the Dnieper, as, as he said, he will need both very soon.

For the second time in 24 hours, the Deputy Chairman of the Security Council of Russia, Dmitry Medvedev, sent a message to Kyiv to forget about warships and submarines as it will soon have no access to the Sea.

N. Medvedev said the same yesterday. But today he went a step further by launching a fierce attack with the most serious characterizations against Zelensky. His placement is of particular interest.

This persistence of Medvedev shows that he will indeed start an operation to occupy the cities of Nikolaev and Odessa.

However, in order for such a thing to succeed, the Russian Army stationed in Transnistria will be involved in the war, while the invasion of Western Ukraine is now very likely. The problems for Moldova are slowly starting...

It seems that Russia is preparing for large-scale operations.

Earlier, German magazine "Der Spiegel" reported that Ukraine's Deputy Foreign Minister Andriy Melnyk asked Germany to hand over fighter jets, warships and submarines to Ukraine.

“You will no longer have access to the Sea”

Let's see what N. Medvedev said today.

“Don't ask Westerners for submarines, soon you will no longer have access to the sea,” wrote Deputy Chairman of Russia's Security Council Dmitry Medvedev, commenting on reports that Kiev has requested

MORE -

Germany reveals timeline for Leopard 2 delivery to Ukraine

The armor will arrive in late March, German Defense Minister Boris Pistorius says

26 Jan, 2023 13:16



A Leopard 2 main battle tank of the German armed forces Bundeswehr fires its gun during drills. © AFP / Ronny Hartmann

The Ukrainian military is going to be boosted by Leopard 2 main battle tanks by “the end of the first quarter” of this year, Germany's new defense minister Boris Pistorius has promised.

Pistorius made the statement on Thursday as he visited German troops in the state of Saxony-Anhalt in the central region of the country.

His words mean that the armor, which the Kiev government had been demanding for a long time amid its conflict with Moscow, **will be sent to Ukraine by late March**.

According to Focus magazine, the minister was asked by a journalist if the delivery of German-made Leopard 2s would be “*timely*” for Ukraine in light of allegations that Russia is planning an offensive in spring. Pistorius assured the reporter that it would.

Despite ruling out such a possibility for months, Germany on Wednesday officially approved the supply of 14 Leopard 2A6 tanks from its own stock to the Kiev government. Berlin also said that it’s going to allow other countries willing to provide German armor to the Zelensky government to do so.

The **announcement came several hours before the US greenlighted the delivery of 31 of its M1 Abrams tanks to Ukraine**. The pledge was made by the Biden administration despite the Pentagon having said earlier that Abrams tanks were inappropriate for the conflict between Kiev and Moscow as they were difficult to maintain, ran on jet fuel and required extensive training to operate.

According to media reports, Berlin had insisted during a high-profile meeting of Ukraine’s backers at the Ramstein US Air Base in Germany earlier this month that it would only send its armor to Ukraine if Washington does the same.

The first Western nation to promise its main battle tanks to Kiev was the UK, with London saying mid-January that it was going to give the Zelensky government 14 Challenger 2 main battle tank.

On Thursday, Poland’s Deputy Defense Minister Wojciech Skurkiewicz told Radio Plus that Warsaw was ready to provide 14 Leopard 2s to Kiev after the Ukrainian troops finish training to operate them, which could happen in “*several weeks*.”

Kremlin press-secretary Dmitry Peskov said that the announced deliveries of tanks by Germany, the US and UK is viewed in Moscow as a “*direct involvement*” of NATO in the conflict in Ukraine. “*And this involvement is growing*,” he stressed.

Earlier this month, Peskov pointed out that the Western armor won’t change the outcome of the fighting and that those tanks will “*burn*” if they’re supplied. <https://www.rt.com/russia/570513-germany-ukraine-tank-pistorius/>

NATO member secretly provided Ukraine with fighter jets – media

Poland allegedly gave Ukraine several MiG-29 planes under the guise of spare parts

26 Jan, 2023 12:31

In spring 2022, Warsaw secretly delivered several of its MiG-29 fighter jets to Ukraine, despite the Polish government officially denying any such deals, a local paper has claimed, citing sources.

According to Dziennik Gazeta Prawna (DGP), the planes were sent over using a “combined” method, apparently meaning that they were delivered in a disassembled state and declared as spare parts.

“*The fuselage and the wings are also spare parts*,” DGP wrote Wednesday, citing sources within the Polish government.

Back in March, in the first months of Russia’s military operation in Ukraine, Washington rejected a plan to transfer Polish MiG-29 jets to Ukraine, stating the move was “too escalatory” and risked directly involving the US or a NATO ally in the conflict, potentially triggering a direct confrontation with Russia.

In April, however, the Pentagon stated that unnamed US allies had helped bolster Ukraine's fleet of fighter jets by donating unspecified "spare parts" which were supposedly used to restore many of Kiev's damaged planes. [If you were wondering why Poland has been so aggressive and insistent on pushing great military involvement against Russia this could well explain it. They are definitely heavily involved in the war and if Ukraine is taken over by Russia, Poland could well receive some major retribution from Russia. – rdb]

The latest article by DGP now seems to suggest that that ally could have been Poland, which in late April was also revealed to have provided Ukraine with \$7 billion worth of military aid, including half of its tanks, dozens of howitzers, Grad MRLS, and missiles for MiG-29 and Su-27 fighter jets, among other munitions.

In recent weeks the US seems to have abandoned some of its prior concerns about supplying heavy weapons to Ukraine, and now plans to deliver a number of its M1 Abrams tanks to Kiev, while Germany, Poland and Finland intend to send dozens of their Leopard 2 tanks.

Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov has responded to these planned deliveries as evidence that the West is becoming more directly involved in the conflict, despite European and American politicians claiming otherwise. That's as Russia has repeatedly urged the West to stop "pumping" Ukraine with weaponry, arguing it would only prolong the conflict and lead to more bloodshed. <https://www.rt.com/news/570508-poland-ukraine-mig-jets/>

'There is another Ukraine' – exiled opposition leader to RT

Vladimir Zelensky is carrying out the West's plan of conflict with Russia, says Viktor Medvedchuk

26 Jan, 2023 05:30



The exiled former-leader of Ukraine's largest opposition party still considers himself a Ukrainian citizen and lawmaker, and is building a team of like-minded people to represent those he claims are suppressed by the current government in Kiev. Speaking to RT, Viktor Medvedchuk claimed that President Vladimir

Zelensky is a dictator sacrificing the country on behalf of Western powers.

When Zelensky claims Ukraine is united, he omits that this unity was forced at gunpoint, Medvedchuk asserted. He formerly led the, now banned, **Opposition Platform - For Life** party which won the second largest number of parliamentary seats in Ukraine's 2019 elections. It advocated closer ties with Russia and rejected Kiev's pro-NATO stance.

There are **many people who disagree with the current government in Kiev**, who represent "another Ukraine, not that of [WWII Nazi collaborator Stepan] Bandera, one that has nothing to do with the statements and policies of neo-Nazism pursued by Zelensky," he added.

Today's **Ukraine violates every provision of its own constitution**, Medvedchuk argued, and "ceased to be independent and sovereign" after the February 2014 coup, when it "passed completely under external control of the West." [This is a most interesting comment. Zelensky has outlawed everything that is not "party approved" like the church, opposition opinions and media. It is anything BUT a democratic country which is what our leadership and media keep trying to push. Seems that it is quite parallel to the US government that is banning and trying to silence anything that isn't in total agreement with it. Neither country is paying any attention to its constitution. Birds of a feather.... RDB

Zelensky first placed Medvedchuk under house arrest, then sent him to a "dungeon" run by the Ukrainian SBU security service, where the opposition politician said he was exposed to "constant psychological pressure and humiliation." In September 2022, he was flown to Poland, and then to Türkiye, where he was handed over to Russian authorities.

Contrary to popular misperception, he said, he was not traded for the leaders of the neo-Nazi "Azov" regiment who surrendered in Mariupol. They were exchanged for captured Russian soldiers, Medvedchuk explained, while he was traded for "ten foreign mercenaries who fought in the Armed Forces of Ukraine."

Kiev has accused Medvedchuk of treason and of secretly obtaining Russian citizenship. He rejects both claims as false, saying the “falsified charges” related to his legitimate mediation on behalf of the Ukrainian government with the breakaway Donbass regions and Moscow in 2014-15. About 1,500 Ukrainian POWs came home as a result of his efforts, he noted.

“I remain a citizen of Ukraine,” Medvedchuk insisted, **adding that Zelensky had no right to revoke his passport, a move he dismissed as “completely reckless and I would say insane.”** If he wanted to get a Russian passport or move to Russia, the politician said, he would have done so years ago. **“But I did not leave. And I did not surrender.”**

“Zelensky is the kind of man who thinks mainly about PR when it comes to any affairs of state,” Medvedchuk said. **“This government tries to hide reality from the people and disguise its actions, which are not in the interest of Ukraine or the Ukrainian people.”** **[The actor Zelensky comes through with his quest for PR. = rdb]**

It is **Britain that controls Zelensky and Kiev, much more than the US,** Medvedchuk claimed, adding that London spearheads the push by the collective West to make Ukraine a springboard against Russia.

The **goal of the West is to “stir up some kind of confrontation within Russia, processes that can weaken the Russian leadership,”** which is what Zelensky is trying to do, Medvedchuk told RT. However, **“it is clear that Ukraine cannot defeat Russia, due to well-known factual circumstances.”**

<https://www.rt.com/russia/570486-medvedchuk-another-ukraine-opposition/>

Russia Warns Ukraine Against Using Depleted Uranium Shells

Yesterday (Updated: Yesterday) © AFP 2023 / STAN HONDA

Moscow has cautioned western powers against supplying Ukraine with depleted uranium munitions and with long-range weaponry capable of striking at cities deep within Russian territory.

Supplying Ukraine with depleted uranium munitions for western military hardware would be regarded by Moscow as the use of “dirty bombs,” said Konstantin Gavrillov, head of the Russian delegation to the Vienna Negotiations on Military Security and Arms Control.

Speaking at a plenary meeting of the OSCE Forum for Security Cooperation, Gavrillov cautioned “western sponsors of Kiev’s war machine” against encouraging “nuclear provocations and blackmail.”

“We know that Leopard 2 tanks, as well as Bradley and Marder armored fighting vehicles, can use depleted uranium shells, which can contaminate terrain, just like it happened in Yugoslavia and Iraq,” he said. “If Kiev were to be supplied with such munitions for the use in western heavy military hardware, we would regard it as the use of ‘dirty nuclear bombs’ against Russia, with all the consequences that entails.”

Gavrillov also warned that Moscow will retaliate if the West were to supply Kiev with [long-range weaponry](#) to carry out strikes against Russian cities.

“If Washington and NATO countries provide Kiev with weapons for striking against the cities deep inside the Russian territory and for attempting to seize our constitutionally affirmed territories, it would force Moscow to undertake harsh retaliatory actions. Do not say that we did not warn you,” he remarked.

Previously, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov warned that any shipments containing [weapons for Ukraine](#) would become a lawful target for Russian forces, while Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov noted that the flow of western weapons to Ukraine does not help potential negotiations between Moscow and Kiev.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=btre3h8WqLk>

IDF braces for escalation as Gaza terror groups vow revenge for deaths of 9 in Jenin



Military chief Halevi orders army to ‘increase preparedness’ after raid against ‘ticking time bomb’ squad in northern West Bank; another killed in clashes near Jerusalem

By [Emanuel Fabian](#) Today, 5:40 pm Updated at 6:25 pm

Mourners carry the bodies of Palestinians who were killed by Israeli security forces during an operation, in the West Bank city of Jenin on January 26, 2023. (Nasser Ishtayeh/Flash90)

Terror groups in the Gaza Strip on Thursday vowed to respond to the deaths of nine Palestinians during an Israeli army raid in the West Bank earlier in the day, as the Israel

Defense Forces was instructed to “increase preparedness” for a potential escalation.

The IDF said troops entered the Jenin refugee camp in the northern West Bank on Thursday to foil imminent attack plans by a local wing of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad terror group. The cell had primed explosives and firearms, according to the IDF.

Nine Palestinians — including several members of the PIJ cell, other gunmen, and at least one uninvolved civilian — were killed, and another 20 were wounded in the clashes that ensued.

A senior IDF officer said the forces had foiled a “ticking time bomb” after receiving “accurate intelligence” from the Shin Bet security agency about the cell’s hideout apartment in the camp. He said the raid lasted some three hours.

PIJ spokesman Tariq Salmi vowed that “the resistance is everywhere and ready and willing for the next confrontation.”

The senior officer said the IDF was “ready and prepared for any scenario,” including possible rocket fire from the Gaza Strip, in response to the deadly clashes. Over the past year, the PIJ has launched rockets at Israel in response to members being killed or arrested in the West Bank.

The officer said the military was prepared for an escalation in other areas as well, including the Temple Mount in Jerusalem’s Old City. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-braces-for-escalation-as-gaza-terror-groups-vow-revenge-for-deaths-of-9-in-jenin/> **[The unending battle with Islamic terror. – rdb]**

9 Palestinians killed as gunmen clash with IDF soldiers in Jenin

Elderly woman among fatalities, PA says; army says troops foiled imminent attack plans by Islamic Jihad terror group; footage shows Palestinians shooting down small military drone

By [Emanuel Fabian](#) Today, 9:12 am Updated at 1:09 pm



An ambulance drives past an Israeli military vehicle as smoke rises from objects set on fire by Palestinian rioters, in the West Bank city of Jenin, on January 26, 2023. (Zain Jaafar / AFP)

Nine Palestinians were killed, among them an elderly woman, and several were wounded during fierce clashes between Israeli troops and gunmen in the northern West Bank city of Jenin on Thursday morning, Palestinian health officials said.

In a statement, the Israel Defense Forces said troops entered the Jenin refugee camp to foil imminent attack plans by a local wing of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad terror group.

“This squad was a ticking time bomb. If we didn’t act, they would have,” a senior IDF officer told reporters.

“During an attempt to arrest them, the wanted men opened fire and were killed in an exchange of fire with our forces,” the IDF said. Three members of the PIJ cell were killed and a fourth was arrested, according to the military.

“The wanted men, PIJ operatives, have been involved in recent extensive terror activity, and are suspected of carrying out several shooting attacks against IDF forces, and planning other significant attacks,” it said.

The military said the raid against the cell’s hideout apartment in the camp was launched following “accurate intelligence” given to the army by the Shin Bet security agency.

Troops used shoulder-launched missiles and other explosives against the hideout, in a tactic known as “pressure cooker,” to try and flush out the wanted men, the officer said. **MORE -** <https://www.timesofisrael.com/palestinian-killed-in-clashes-between-gunmen-and-idf-soldiers-in-jenin/>

Military lawyers: Smotrich’s West Bank powers will be seen as de facto annexation

Chief military prosecutor, Defense Ministry legal adviser reportedly warn Netanyahu move could place Israel in legal peril on world stage

By [TOI staff](#) Today, 7:48 am

Senior legal authorities within the defense establishment reportedly warned Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in a meeting this week against the transfer of civilian authorities in the West Bank under the Civil Administration to far-right Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, and argued that the move could have negative legal implications for Israel on the international stage.

During the meeting on Tuesday, attended by Smotrich, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant and Justice Minister Yariv Levin, chief military prosecutor Yifat Tomer-Yerushalmi and Defense Ministry legal adviser Itay Ofir told Netanyahu that **the transfer of some powers to Smotrich could be perceived by international bodies, such as the International Court of Justice (ICJ), as a de facto annexation of the West Bank by Israel, according to Haaretz. [Remember that Haaretz and a lot of the military are strong leftists whose entire objective is to placate and avoid having to do much. – rdb]**

Smotrich was given ministerial responsibility for some aspects of the Israel Defense Forces as part of recent coalition agreements.

His second role as a minister within the Defense Ministry ostensibly allows him to appoint the generals leading the hybrid civil-military Coordinator for Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT) and its office overseeing many settlement issues, the Civil Administration, subject to Netanyahu's approval.

Currently, the major general in charge of COGAT is appointed by the defense minister at the recommendation of the IDF chief of staff, and the brigadier general overseeing the Civil Administration is appointed by the IDF chief of staff.

The Civil Administration is principally responsible for planning and construction in Area C of the West Bank, as well as enforcement against unauthorized construction, be it by Israeli settlers or by Palestinians.

In addition, the agency is responsible for civilian infrastructure such as paving roads and providing water and electricity. Area C comprises the 60 percent of the West Bank's territory in which Israeli settlements are located and where Israel maintains military and administrative control over both the Israeli and the Palestinian populations. **MORE**
- <https://www.timesofisrael.com/military-lawyers-smotrachs-west-bank-powers-will-be-seen-as-de-facto-annexation/>

High Court declines to hear petition calling for disqualification of Netanyahu as PM

Watchdog claims premier unfit because he's pursuing radical judicial overhaul amid ongoing criminal trial; justices say other procedures on issue 'have not been exhausted'

By [TOI staff](#) Today, 5:07 pm

The High Court of Justice rejected a petition filed this week by a democracy watchdog to declare Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu unfit to hold office.

The Israeli Democracy Guard filed its petition on Wednesday, calling on High Court justices "to instruct" the government and Attorney General Gali Baharav-Miara "to determine that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is unable to fulfill his duties as prime minister," the organization said, arguing that the premier was unfit for office due to his ongoing criminal trial, his conflict of interest, and his actions to promote a "regime coup d'etat."

The justices unsurprisingly declined on Thursday to consider the petition, on the grounds that "other procedures have not been exhausted" on the issue.

In its petition to the court, the Israeli Democracy Guard wrote that there is "a serious and real concern that there is a direct connection between the government plan" to radically overhaul the justice system "and the criminal cases against Netanyahu — and the main purpose of the plan is to help [Netanyahu] escape prosecution."

The petition was filed a week after the High Court ruled that Shas leader Aryeh Deri was unable to serve as a minister, and amid reports that the attorney general has [considered](#) compelling Netanyahu to take a leave of absence due to a conflict of interest. She has [denied doing so](#). <https://www.timesofisrael.com/high-court-declines-to-hear-petition-calling-for-disqualification-of-netanyahu-as-pm/>

US and NATO on path to full-fledged military conflict in Europe – Moscow

Washington and its allies are putting the world at risk, Russia's deputy envoy to the OSCE has warned

26 Jan, 2023 21:28

America's "reckless neo-colonialist expansionist policy" has put Europe and possibly the world on the brink of a devastating conflict, Russia's deputy envoy to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) has warned. Continued escalation of the ongoing conflict in Ukraine

could spiral into an all-out war that would see no victors, Maksim Buyakevich told the OSCE Permanent Council on Thursday.

"The leaders of the US and their NATO client states have come close to a red line," the diplomat warned, citing the US and other western nations' plans to send dozens of modern battle tanks to Kiev. Buyakevich accused Washington and its allies of "deliberately escalating the military standoff" in Ukraine and of provoking Kiev into "military action against the Russian population."

"This is a straight path into a full-blown conflict in Europe, which absolutely all people living on our continent definitely stand to lose from," the Russian diplomat warned. He also said that the US and the UK, which he described as the "puppet masters" of the ongoing escalation, would hardly be able to "sit it out" either.

The latest decisions on new armed deliveries for Ukraine taken by Western nations only mire them "deeper involved in the armed standoff with Russian troops," Buyakevich said. These decisions could result in further escalation and more intense warfare, which would only lead to more civilian victims and further destruction, he added.

The diplomat also accused the "collective West" of turning Ukraine into an "instrument for realizing their geopolitical plans," adding that the ongoing conflict between Moscow and Kiev was a result of the Western-backed 2014 Maidan coup.

Buyakevich also blamed the US and its "longstanding ambitions for global domination" for the current European security crisis. "The logic of the OSCE principle of indivisibility of security consistently dictates that either there is security for all [OSCE] member states or there is no security for any of them," the diplomat said, adding that the principle had been violated and this collective security had been lost.

Earlier this week, both the US and Germany announced plans to send modern Western tanks to Ukraine. Other NATO nations have already voiced similar intentions. Russia responded by saying that NATO's "direct involvement" in the conflict in Ukraine was "growing." Moscow previously warned that the West's continued arms supplies to Kiev risked a direct military conflict between Russia and NATO. <https://www.rt.com/russia/570535-us-nato-military-conflict-europe/>

Iran continues to boast of circumnavigating the globe, naval prowess - analysis

It's not entirely clear why Iran wants its relatively small and historically unimportant navy to travel around the world.
By [SETH J. FRANTZMAN](#) Published: JANUARY 26, 2023 10:19



View of an explosion during an exercise of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) navy in the south of Iran, in this picture obtained on January 17, 2023. (photo credit: IRGC/WANA/HANDOUT VIA REUTERS)

In a bizarre attempt to convince the world that its navy is important, Iran continues to claim that its navy is involved in a "circumnavigation" of the globe. Iran's Fars News claimed this week that the Iranian navy was in "America's backyard" and that it will "travel around the world for the first time."

It's not entirely clear why Iran wants its relatively small navy to travel around the world. Its navy isn't

historically important and there is no reason that its small fleet of ships needs to be able to operate or project power so far from home.

The Iranian threat at sea

Insofar as Iran wants to threaten others at sea, it already does this with its long-range drones.

Its navy can project power into the Indian Ocean and even as far as the Mediterranean, but it has no real role in the region. This is because other navies, such as the US fleets, would be able to destroy the Iranian navy in a matter of hours or days if there was ever a real conflict.

Nevertheless, Iran has spoken about wanting to be able to engage in amphibious operations and Iran wants its naval ships to join with Russia and China in joint drills. The Iranian naval "circumnavigation" of the globe, first announced in October 2022, is, therefore, all about showing off. It's about showing that Iran can sail to waters near the US, or to Russia and China. It's not about actually being able to accomplish much along the way.

The era of navies showing off by sailing around the world is long gone these days. More than 100 years ago, the US "Great White Fleet," named for the color of the ships, sailed around the world between

1907 and 1909. That fleet represented the US growing naval power and was designed to show off the fleet to emerging powers like Japan.

The fleet had some 14,000 sailors and covered 43,000 nautical miles and went to at least 20 important ports. It had more than a dozen major ships. Sir Francis Drake also circumnavigated the world from 1577 to 1580 in a display of English naval power. His fleet had five ships.

Iran's naval aspirations

Iran's circumnavigation was announced in October 2022. The flotilla was supposed to leave on October 28. At the time Tasnim News reported that "Rear Admiral Shahram Irani said the 86th flotilla of the Iranian Navy that set sail on September 28 is planned to circumnavigate the globe in its mission in order to exhibit the Iranian nation's power. The 86th flotilla is conveying the message of peace and friendship to the world nations." **MORE -**

<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-news/article-729686> [**HUMMMM? Does Iran want to sail around the world or simply just get into the Caribbean or the Gulf in order to launch and detonate a nuclear devise and cause an EMP over the USA which would cripple the entire land. – rdb**]

White House estimates chances of Russia attacking NATO

There is "absolutely no indication" that Moscow is planning to strike the US-led military bloc, Washington says
26 Jan, 2023 10:12

NATO countries are not in danger of being attacked by Russia, US National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said on Wednesday.

Speaking at a regular press briefing, Kirby was asked whether the US-led military alliance has enough troops to repel a possible Russian strike on its eastern flank in case of a major escalation in the Ukraine conflict.

"All I can tell you is we've seen absolutely no indication that [Russian President Vladimir] Putin has designs on striking NATO territory," the spokesman said, while stressing that US President Joe Biden is taking Washington's Article 5 commitments "seriously." He was referring to the principle that an attack on one member is an attack on the entire alliance. [**Underestimating you opponent is the sure road to defeat and these folks are absolute idiots. – rdb**]

Kirby noted that Washington has deployed an additional 20,000 US service personnel in Europe, bringing their total number to 100,000. He added that NATO is "confident that we have the capability, the energy, the talent, the manpower, the resources to meet our Article 5 commitments."

Russia has consistently described the US military presence on NATO's eastern flank as a threat. In late October, Kremlin Press Secretary Dmitry Peskov warned that "the closer American troops are to our borders, the greater danger we are in."

Kirby also said the US is paying attention to the red lines drawn by Moscow in Ukraine, adding: "We don't just take anything for granted when they say it. And we're not dismissive."

In the autumn, Russia's Foreign Ministry warned Washington that deliveries of long-range weapons to Kiev would cross a "red line" and make America "a direct party to the conflict." On Tuesday, Dmitry Polyansky, Moscow's First Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, suggested that while the West has disregarded some of Moscow's warnings, "it is possible that the most red [lines] have not been crossed yet".

However, on Wednesday, Russia's Foreign Ministry said that all "talk about red lines has become a thing of the past," pointing to the ongoing "hybrid war" waged by the West against Russia in Ukraine.

"The United States has unequivocally declared that it seeks to inflict a strategic defeat on Russia. It's impossible to ignore reality," the ministry added. <https://www.rt.com/news/570499-white-house-nato-russia-attack/>



WATCH Pfizer exec on hidden camera: We're exploring mutating COVID ourselves

To 'preemptively develop new vaccines' will be 'a cash cow for us,' reveals latest Project Veritas undercover sting

By [Peter LaBarbera](#) Published January 26, 2023 at 2:26pm

Pfizer executive Jordon Trishton Walker (video screenshot)

A research director with the pharmaceutical giant Pfizer said the corporation is secretly exploring intentionally creating mutations of the COVID virus to "preemptively develop new vaccines," and said COVID "is going to be a cash cow for us," in the latest undercover video by Project Veritas.

In the video released yesterday, Jordon Trishton Walker, Pfizer Director of Research and Development, Strategic Operations and mRNA Scientific Planner, says, "One of the things we're exploring is like, why don't we just mutate it [COVID] ourselves so we could create – preemptively develop new vaccines, right? So, we have to do that. If we're gonna' do that though, there's a risk of like, as you could imagine – no one wants to be having a pharma company mutating f**king viruses."

"Don't tell anyone. Promise you won't tell anyone. The way it [the experiment] would work is that we put the virus in monkeys, and we successively cause them to keep infecting each other, and we collect serial samples from them," says Walker, who obviously has no idea he is being recorded.

"From what I've heard is they [Pfizer scientists] are optimizing it [COVID mutation process], but they're going slow because everyone is very cautious – obviously they don't want to accelerate it too much. I think they are also just trying to do it as an exploratory thing because you obviously don't want to advertise that you are figuring out future mutations," he says.

"Don't tell anyone this. ...There is a risk ... have to be very controlled to make sure this virus you mutate doesn't create something ... the way that the virus started in Wuhan, to be honest."

He says it "makes no sense" and dismisses as "bull---t" the idea that COVID virus "popped out of nowhere."

In the PV video, mRNA co-inventor and famed vaccine dissident Dr. Robert Malone comments regarding Walker: "The gentleman seems to have absolutely no moral compass at all." Malone is now a leading crusader against COVID vaccines and governments' COVID policies worldwide.

Pfizer faces escalating public scrutiny and skepticism as the establishment COVID narrative that the vaccines are "safe and effective" crumbles amidst growing evidence of dangerous side effects from the experimental shots. A 2022 JAMA study found that one in every 500 children under five years who received the Pfizer mRNA COVID vaccine were hospitalized with a vaccine injury, and one in 200 had "symptoms ongoing for weeks or months afterwards," as [WND reported](#).

Pfizer's CEO Albert Bourla recently refused to answer politically incorrect questions from an "ambush interview" by conservative Rebel News, while attending the Davos World Economic Forum annual meeting in Davos, Switzerland.

When the undercover PV reporter says the "the whole ... research of the viruses and mutating [them] would be the ultimate cash cow," Walker responds, "Yeah, it'd be perfect."

Project Veritas founder James O'Keefe says on the video: "Now you would think that creating viruses to sell the vaccine would be illegal, but no, the pharmaceutical industry, as Walker puts it, is 'a revolving door for all government officials.'"

"You're not supposed to do gain-of-function research with viruses. Regularly not. We can do these selected structure mutations to make them more potent. There is research ongoing about that. I don't know how that is going to work. There better not be any more outbreaks because Jesus Christ," he says in the sting video.

Walker said COVID has been instrumental for Pfizer's recent business success: "Part of what they [Pfizer scientists] want to do is, to some extent, to try to figure out, you know, how there are all these new strains and variants that just pop up. So, it's like trying to catch them before they pop up and we can develop a vaccine prophylactically, like, for new variants. So, that's why they like, do it controlled in a lab, where they say this is a new epitope, and so if it comes out later on in the public, we already have a vaccine working."

At press time, the Project Veritas video-tweet had more than 19 million views, according to Twitter. PV only recently was welcomed back to the social media platform after it was purchased by self-described "free speech absolutist" Elon Musk. <https://www.wnd.com/2023/01/watch-pfizer-exec-hidden-camera-exploring-mutating-covid/> **These vile critters need to be convicted of genocide, fraud and a host of**

charges. They are criminals and the corp should be fined for every dollar that was paid to them and then lose its license forever. Then go after Moderna – rdb]

Judge trashes state law punishing doctors for COVID 'misinformation'

Statute described as 'nonsense,' 'vague,' 'incoherent'

By [Bob Unruh](#) Published January 26, 2023 at 1:12pm

A federal judge in California has ruled that the state's new law that leftists want to use to punish doctors should they give their patients "misinformation" about COVID-19 cannot be enforced against the five doctors who sued.

The law, according to the ruling from U.S. District Judge William Shubb, is "nonsense," the Sacramento Bee reported.

"The judge said doctors were familiar with following a 'standard of care' but not a 'contemporary scientific consensus,' a term he called 'unconstitutionally vague' and 'grammatically incoherent,'" the report said.

The issue of "misinformation" about COVID has been a threat to Americans from the beginning, when the pandemic unleashed in China and spread around the world, killing millions.

So-called experts said masks were required, then not, then the experimental shots were required, then boosters, and more.

The world continues to deal with the thousands of deaths that are thought to have been triggered by the mRNA injections which have been linked to myocarditis and other fatal conditions.

All the while the political influences on the medical industry insisted that other treatments, such as ivermectin and hydroxychloroquine, which actually provided some relief, must never be used.

As a result, a war developed between those supporting treatments that actually worked, and those supporting the big-pharma agenda of selling hundreds of millions of expensive injections that may actually harm patients.

Leftists in politics insisted that anything that contradicted their own opinions was, in fact, "misinformation."

That generated California's law.

But Shubb said the "consensus" on COVID is so vague and ill-defined that the physician plaintiffs are "unable to determine if their intended conduct contradicts the scientific consensus," and accordingly 'what is prohibited by the law.'"

According to [Just the News](#), licensed California physicians argued the COVID misinformation claims violated their constitutional rights.

The law would have allowed medical professionals to be punished for giving patients politically unapproved information about COVID-19.

The judge granted a preliminary injunction to the five plaintiffs, who were represented by the non-profit legal group the New Civil Liberties Alliance.

"COVID-19 [is] a disease that scientists have only been studying for a few years, and about which scientific conclusions have been hotly contested. COVID-19 is a quickly evolving area of science that in many aspects eludes consensus," Shubb said.

Jenin Younes, a lawyer representing the doctors, said the law "creates an impossible standard for physicians to follow and would result in silencing physicians who disagree with state orthodoxy."

The doctors' lawsuit was against Gov. Gavin Newsom, Attorney General Rob Bonta and the state's medical board. <https://www.wnd.com/2023/01/judge-trashes-state-law-punishing-doctors-covid-misinformation/> **[Nice to see a judge is at least intelligent enough to recognize this scam. – rdb]**