

[DECLASSIFIED] - CIA INVOLVEMENT IN UKRAINIAN NATIONALISM

Discover the role the United States played in the growth of nationalists in Ukraine



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APR 01, 2022

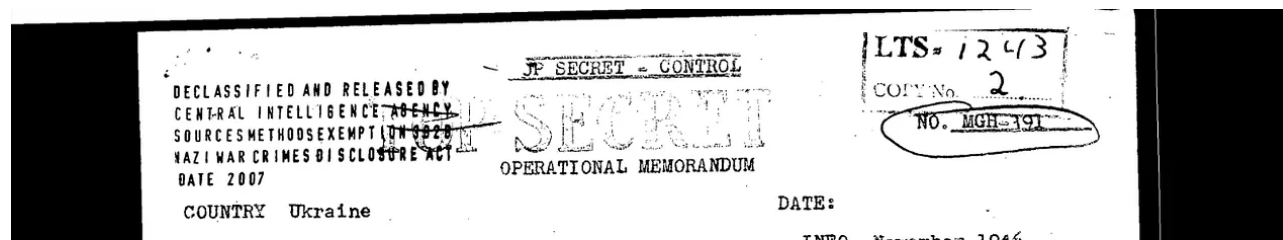


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OPERATION BELLADONNA



DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPT FROM
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

~~TOP SECRET - CONTROL~~

~~SECRET~~
OPERATIONAL MEMORANDUM

LTS-1243

COPY No. 2

NO. MGH-191

COUNTRY Ukraine

DATE:

INFO: November 1946

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NOTE: To decode CIA Terms & Cryptonyms, use a [Research Aid](#).

If we analyze [publicly available](#) declassified documents from the [Central Intelligence Agency](#), we can learn quite a bit about the United States and its role in the historical development of Ukrainian Nationalism. To view the February 2022 Russia-Ukraine conflict, in isolation, would be a mistake.

In a [declassified CIA document](#) outlining the details of **Operation Belladonna**, we can see the United States had already made contact with Ukrainian Nationalists that were keen to ally with the Americans against the USSR, primarily through influencing the development of the [Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council \(UHVR\)](#). The subject discussed in the document was used to gather intelligence on the USSR and Soviet operations both at home and abroad.

SECRET

MGMA-2167

FIELD PROJECT OUTLINE

PROJECT CRYPTONYM: Redbird/CARTEL

RECOMMENDED BY: []
Case Officer

[]
Chief of Field Installation

1. Munich, Germany
2. MUNI-1009
3. a) 1. The collection of positive and counter-intelligence from the Ukrainian SSR and from other regions of the Soviet Union which is already available to or can be obtained by the Ukrainian underground movement.
 - ii. The accumulation of information on the proportions, activities and present and future capabilities of the Ukrainian underground movement.
- b) 1. The development through the use of Ukrainian underground personnel as couriers and radio operators of secure channels of rapid communication to and from CARTEL 5.
 - ii. The accumulation of information on the status of the Ukrainian underground movement for use as a frame of reference in ascertaining the various ways in which the existence of this movement could have bearing on the course of an open conflict between the United States and the USSR.
 - iii. Specific targets to be determined by FDS.
- o) 1. The debriefing of Ukrainian underground personnel, other Ukrainians who have recently arrived from their homeland and the authorized representatives of the Ukrainian underground abroad in line with the objectives and targets outlined in "A" and "B" above.

targets outlined in "A" and "B" above.

- ii. The training of suitable CARTEL 9 personnel in W/T, cipher, radio operation and elementary repair.
- iii. The procurement of items listed below under Para 8.
- iv. Liaison with the Air Force both in Washington and with USAF A-2 locally to determine the feasibility of a night drop over the Western Ukraine during June 1950, to lay on the training program for the HIDER crew, procurement and servicing of the aircraft, dry run

~~SECRET~~

Later on in the document, we can see the known affiliations of the UHVR that the CIA was aware of, specifically the Bandera & Melnyk factions of the **Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN)**, in addition to the **Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA)**. The document goes on to outline the scale of the UHVR apparatus, noting how many countries its members are stationed in and the extent of suggested reports.

~~TOP SECRET - CONTROL~~

OPERATIONAL MEMORANDUM

-14-

LGH-391

training, and offensive and defensive activities against enemy agents. Their suggestions for their operational needs are as follows:

- a. **Communications:** a secret radio station in the Ukraine; safe and secret meeting places for agents.
- b. **Cutouts:** establishment in other countries besides Germany; utilization of International Red Cross, UNRRA, consulates.
- c. **Agents:** Recruiting or training of radio technicians and operations personnel; preliminary training for low-level agents, special training for upper levels; establishment of agents in cover jobs such as International Red Cross, UNRRA, hotels, interpreting, or organizations including various nationalities; supplying necessary documents (through agencies which have an easy access to Kiev, Odessa, White Russia, etc.); equipping agents with personal weapons, money, and poison for suicide if caught.
- d. **Security:** Complete removal of UHVR from agent contact; implementation of a new organization, Zabordona Sekcija Vezvolnoie Borodje, to handle agents and for which they will believe they are working (this has already been done).
- e. **Compensation:** Adequate pay for persons who dedicate their entire time to the work, and protection for the organizers of the service in Germany and Austria.
- f. **Activity in USSR:** For preparation, supplying of Soviet books and newspapers to R-33; for combat inside the USSR, medical supplies, sanitary equipment, vitamins, shoes, clothing, technical materials, compasses, typewriters, radios, weapons, ammunition, and food. (R-33 emphasized that eventually, without outside support, the struggle in Russian territory must cease. In that contingency, the Ukrainian resistance must be organized for future operations, for UHVR would not encourage an aimless and enervating struggle at present if there is no indication that the Western Powers are interested in the fate of the people of the Ukraine.)
- g. **Future Plans:** Study of new penetration systems; utilization of Red Army deserters through re-education for agent work or conditioning to the Ukrainian cause; dispatch of agents into the Near East, Turkey, Iran, Syria, and Palestine.
- h. **Finance:** Facilities for changing German marks into Swiss

*All this seems to be
a very good thing
where could we be
in W/O of we did any
of these things?*

this is not

currency. (USVK has at present about 1,500,000 German marks collected from Ukrainian DPs in Europe, but they have great difficulty in converting it. If they could exchange marks for any foreign currency, they would not have to request the supplies mentioned above, because with negotiable currency they could procure what they need, even in USER.)

1. Special Project: Hrinioch and Lopatinsky would like to spend about two months in the United States, where both have relatives. The purpose of the trip would be:
 - 1) To counteract Soviet-sponsored propaganda among Ukrainians in Canada and United States.

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PROJECT CARTEL / AERODYNAMIC

AIR

SECRET

Cartel 10-18 file
MGMA-2167

Chief, FDM

3 February 1950

COS, Karlsruhe

Redbird/Operational

CARTEL: Field Project Outline

REF: MUNI-1009

Transmitted herewith for your approval is Project CARTEL for the period January-June 1950

[Handwritten signature]

As the CIA expanded its operations in Ukraine, additional projects came to light, Notably, Project AERODYNAMIC (formerly CARTEL, ANDROGEN, AECARTHAGE), which operated between the years of 1949-1970 before being reclassified under Project named QRDYNAMIC in 1970 and later PDDYNAMIC in 1974, and finally QRDYNAMIC/QRPLUMB (formerly AEBEEHIVE) as it operated until 1991.

There are thousands of documents that contain sensitive information regarding these project names and the activities

involved. A treasure trove of United States history that seems to have gone under the radar of the mainstream press. Declassified documents from 1950 reveal one of the initial project outlines for CARTEL.

SECRET

MGMA-2167

FIELD PROJECT OUTLINE

PROJECT CRYPTONYM: Redbird/CARTEL

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Case Officer

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Chief of Field Installation

1. Munich, Germany
2. MUNI-1009
3. a)
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SECRET

As we can see, by the 1950s, the CIA had successfully established a network for counter intelligence with Ukrainian underground nationalists. Under Project CARTEL, it is worth noting that each document refers to a list of subjects by the name Cartel-1, Cartel-2, and so on...

vii. The dropping to two separate groups of three couriers each on the same flight mission while the third trip is held in reserve:

First Trio: CARTEL 10
CARTEL 11
CARTEL 17

Second Trio: CARTEL 13
CARTEL 12
CARTEL 18

Reserve Trio: CARTEL 14
CARTEL 15
CARTEL 16

4. CARTEL 1 MGMA-1037, 1148
CARTEL 2 MGMA-1171
CARTEL 3 MGMA-1007
CARTEL 5 MGMA-2147
CARTEL 6 MGMA-1243
CARTEL 10 MGMA-2106, PRQ-41
CARTEL 11 in preparation
CARTEL 12 in preparation
CARTEL 13 in preparation
CARTEL 14 in preparation
CARTEL 15 in preparation
CARTEL 16 in preparation
CARTEL 17 yet to be recruited
CARTEL 18 yet to be recruited

CARTEL-1	Cryptonym for Ivan Hrinioch.
CARTEL-2	Cryptonym for Mykola Lebed.
CARTEL-3	Cryptonym for Yury Lopatinsky.
CARTEL-6	Cryptonym for Yaroslav Fedyk.

If we refer to our [Research Aid](#), we can decipher some of the code names to understand who the CIA initially worked with during this project and what their cryptonyms were.

[Ivan Hrinioch](#), [Mykola Lebed](#), are a few of the subjects within CARTEL that play a significant role throughout other declassified documents. In [this specific document](#), it outlines their involvement along with other CARTEL members with regards to setting up communication channels and procurement of weaponry. The document goes on to outline a supply list for the different CARTEL members, along with the item name and associated costs.

In a 1966 declassified document, we can see the noted objective of AERODYNAMIC at that time. It notes that the underlying objective is 'Nationalist flare-ups' in widely scattered areas of the Soviet Union, particularly in Ukraine. The document goes on to outline the usage of anti-Soviet emigres in collaboration with the ZP/UHVR to achieve their aims. We can see a reappearance of Ivan Hrinioch and Mykola Lebed as well, though in this document they are under different cryptonyms.

AECASSOWARY-2	Cryptonym for Mykola Lebed.
AECASSOWARY-27	Cryptonym for Lyubomir Ortinskiy.
AECASSOWARY-3	Cryptonym for Ivan Hrinioch.
AECASSOWARY-6	Cryptonym for Yaroslav Fedyk.

1. Project AERODYNAMIC - (Support for Ukrainian Emigre Group ZP/UHVR - Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council). [redacted], Extension 6508.

2. a. Objective. Nationalist flare-ups in widely scattered areas of the Soviet Union, and particularly those in the Ukraine, give evidence that the complete cohesion of the Soviet peoples toward which the Soviets have striven is far from accomplished. It is considered important to continue to encourage divisive manifestations among Ukrainians which in turn exert pressure on the Soviet regime. Project AERODYNAMIC represents SB Division's only organized contact with a non-Russian people per se, a nationality group second in strength to the Russians, through the ZP/UHVR (Foreign Representation of the Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council), a group of anti-Soviet Ukrainian emigres. ZP/UHVR contacts with Soviet Ukrainians are being exploited to further the SB objective of recruiting Soviet citizens, and as an ancillary, intelligence on the USSR will be gathered to satisfy United States needs.

One interesting piece of information in this document is the admission that ZP/UHVR clandestine activities conducted through the Prolog Research and Publishing Association, Inc in New York. AECASSOWARY-2 aka, Mykola Lebed, appointed as the president of Prolog, becoming the principal agent of Project AERODYNAMIC.

7. Security. Prolog maintains strict compartmentation in the conduct of its activities. All business is conducted on a strictly need-to-know basis, and only A/2, A/4, A/17 (vice-president), A/26 (treasurer) and A/29 (the operations officer) are ever given access to any operational information concerning the mailing or contact operations. There has been nobody new accepted into the inner circle of the ZP/UHVR since 1945 and it is, therefore, believed that the group probably has not been penetrated by the enemy. The premises of Prolog are located in

penetrated by the enemy. The premises of Prolog are located in a large residential apartment building in New York so that surveillance of the premises would be more difficult than if the offices were located in a private building. The cover activity of the group is such as to provide plausible cover for its clandestine activity. The group has been attacked by the Soviets for anti-Soviet activity, and its members have been attacked for being "lackies of Western intelligence organizations". Recently a visiting Soviet citizen has even said he knew Prolog was supported by the CIA. To date, there have been no official Soviet charges to this effect, and it is almost a certainty that no documentary proof of CIA support is available to the enemy.

The operations were not just isolated to New York. Another **declassified document** reveals some additional objectives of Project AERODYNAMIC, one of which is to utilize broadcast time available on the KUBARK (**Cryptonym for CIA**) radio station in Athens, Greece. Its operation was intended to deliver communications to multiple groups, namely the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) and members of the Indigenous populations to *maintain a national consciousness*, and to encourage pride in the heritage and individuality of their culture.

Along with the stoking of nationalist tendencies, the document also revealed clear intentions to create dissatisfaction amongst Ukrainian military personnel against the USSR.

SECRET

Security Information

m663v

PROJECT OUTLINE

PROJECT CRYPTONYM: AERODYNAMIC

1. Authorization

- a. USSR Country Program, FY 1954, Approved in principle by PRC, 19 August 1953

2. Other References

- a. "Report on Propaganda Study of Voice Transmission from Athens, Greece, to Caucasus and Soviet Central Asia," to CSR from CCO, 24 February 1953.
- b. "Report on the Cold War Use of Radio Broadcasting by CIA", to Area Divisions from CPP, 25 June 1953, informing of DD/P approval of the report. Paras 3(a), 7(a).

3. Objective and Necessity

a. Objectives

(1) The objective of this project is to utilize broadcast time available on the KUBARK radio installation FYREX at Athens, Greece, for the broadcast of a series of programs to be directed to Soviet official-

dom, Soviet military forces stationed in the Ukraine, the indigenous civilian population of the Ukraine, the underground movement and the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA).

(2) The tasks:

- i. Furnish evidence of outside sympathy and understanding for the Ukrainian peoples.
- ii. Intensify anti-regime disaffection by encouraging resentment, bitterness, and distrust of the Soviet regime and its personalities.
- iii. Maintain national consciousness among the Ukrainians and urge them to maintain pride in the individuality and heritage of their culture.
- iv. Create dissatisfaction among Ukrainian military personnel within the Soviet armed forces stationed in the Ukraine.

SECRET

In case there were any further questions with regards to the CIA's involvement and development of Ukrainian nationalism, we can look no further than a **document from 1958** which reveals quote:

I emphasized that the main rationale of our support of the AECASSOWARY's was to have a foothold in the whole subject of Ukrainian nationalism in order to be able to exploit it in various parts of the world, with ultimate targeting, of course, at the Ukrainian SSR.

29 November 1958

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversations with [] and [] re Project Aerodynamic

1. On 28 November I had a brief discussion on Project AERODYNAMIC with Acting Chief, SR in order to fill him in concerning our plans for FY 1960 and to give him my general thinking on the utility of this project. I emphasized that the main rationale of our support of the AECASSOWARY's was to have a foothold in the whole subject of Ukrainian nationalism in order to be able to exploit it in various parts of the world, with ultimate targeting, of course, at the Ukrainian SSR. I briefed him on the history of unsatisfactory staffing arrangements in SR Division, with responsibility divided at one time between 3 or 4 different staff elements. I explained further the basis for my desire to have someone acquainted with this activity and able to give it considerably more time and attention than I have done as Chief, SR/3, during this year. The appointment of [] as Chief, SR/3/PP will greatly ameliorate this situation.

PROJECT AEBATH

VIA Air
(SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH)

SECURITY INFORMATION

DIS

CH NO.

MGM-A-03889

CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, EE
Chief, SR
FROM : Chief of Station, Frankfurt *C/RA*
SUBJECT: GENERAL— ~~REDSOX~~/Operational/CAPELIN

DATE: 14 March 1952

SPECIFIC— Transmittal of Field Project Outline

References: WASHF-37770, WASHFG-20387, WASHF-22823, MGM-A-8530, MGM-A-8696

1. Transmitted herewith are the following two attachments:

Attachment A: Field Project Outline - CAPELIN

Attachment B: Per paragraph 2, MGM-A-8677, Extent of CAPELIN's commitments to the YIS net in Munich

It is important to note that there are many projects that operate in tandem along side Project AERODYNAMIC. CAPELIN is one of them. The area of operations for CAPELIN were Munich, Germany, where its first noted primary aim is counter espionage information on CASSOWARIES and CAVATINAS subjects. If we reference our **Research Aid**, we can see who these subjects are, one of them a cryptonym for **Stefan Bandera**.

CASSOWARY-1	Cryptonym for Ukrainian émigré organization, ZP/UHVR, Foreign Representation of the Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council.
CASSOWARY-2	Cryptonym for Mykola Lebed.
CASSOWARY-27	Cryptonym for Lyubomir Ortinskiy.
CASSOWARY-3	Cryptonym for Ivan Hrinioch.
CASSOWARY-6	Cryptonym for Yaroslav Fedyk.

CAVATINA	Cryptonym for either Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) or Foreign Section of Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (Zch/OUN).
CAVATINA-1	Cryptonym for Stefan Bandera .
CAVATINA-12	Cryptonym for Ivan Kashuba.
CAVATINA-2	Cryptonym for Yaroslav Stetsko.
CAVATINA-5	Cryptonym for Bodhan Pidhainy.
CAVATINA-6	Cryptonym for the Bandera faction of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN-B).

The document illustrates that one of the project subjects, CAPELIN, was recruited as early as 1946. The document goes on to reveal intricate details about the project's estimated cost, special equipment, cover, etc...

The principal agent of this project is being noted as a Counterintelligence/Counterespionage informant which they note has provided valuable information on Ukrainian emigre organizations, personalities, and intelligence agencies from many different countries. An interesting part of this document is another admission of intent to take advantage of nationalistic tendencies.

His penetration of the SB has been of particular value to the CE section by providing not only information on ZCh/OUN activities but also an opportunity to direct or influence those activities in certain instances.

1. ACQUISITION: Subject (AECAPLIN) was first contacted in August 1946 in Salzburg, Austria, and in March 1947 he was transferred for residence in Munich, Germany, where he has remained until the present time.

2. DEVELOPMENT: The principal agent is a CI/CE informant who has provided information for the past 6 1/2 years on Ukrainian emigre personalities and organizations including those with whom CIA is in direct contact and those who have contact with the intelligence services of Germany, France, Italy, Spain, England, Japan, and the USSR. Subject's information has been of value to this Agency in several aspects of its mission, i.e., contributions regarding the development and security of Project AERODYNAMIC, contributions regarding the security of the QEACTION sponsored committee, timely information regarding activities of the SPD designed to discredit one of the KUCOWN projects, contributed CI information regarding activities of the German, Jug, Vatican, French intelligence organizations although he has primarily reported CI/CE information regarding Ukrainian emigres and their organizations. Has knowledge of Ukrainian groups and personalities has proved invaluable in conjunction with this office's development of its CE cases. His penetration of the SB has been of particular value to the CE section by providing not only information on ZCh/OUN activities but also an opportunity to direct or influence those activities in certain instances. He has been directed to report systematically on the RIS penetration of the Orthodox churches; being extremely well-informed on this Subject, he is in a position to obtain more data regularly.

UKRAINE IN 2022

Although this article only covers a miniscule portion of declassified documents from the CIA, it is important to note that these projects define half a century of support for Ukrainian

nationalism, and there are still **thousands** more to analyze.

The role the United States played in the historical development of Ukrainian nationalism, with all of its ugly side effects, should be examined closely. The massive collective effort of the internet can surely shed more light on this history.

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

Late Edition

VOL. CLXXI ... No. 59,344 © 2022 The New York Times Company NEW YORK, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2022

RUSSIA ATTACKS AS PUTIN WARNS WORLD; BIDEN VOWS TO HOLD HIM ACCOUNTABLE



TYLER HICKS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Large Explosions in Ukrainian Cities — Moscow Says Not to Interfere

By ANTON TROIANOVSKI and NEIL MacFARQUHAR

MOSCOW — President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia declared the start of a "special military operation" in Ukraine, pledging in a televised speech broadcast just before 6 a.m. Thursday that he would seek to demilitarize but not occupy the country.

Minutes after Mr. Putin announced that he was ordering his troops to war, large explosions were visible near Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city. Explosions were also reported in other Ukrainian cities, including the capital, Kyiv.

The invasion had begun, the Ukrainian interior ministry said in a statement.

Mr. Putin said the operation would aim for the "demilitarization" of Ukraine. Evoking the NATO bombing of Yugoslavia in 1999 and the American invasion of Iraq in 2003, Mr. Putin cast his action as a long overdue strike against an American-led world order that he described as an "empire of lies."

Even as he spoke, the United Nations Security Council held an emergency meeting imploring him not to invade.

Mr. Putin said he was acting after receiving a plea for assistance from the leaders of the Russian-backed separatist territories formed in eastern Ukraine in 2014 — a move that Western officials had predicted as a possible pretext for an invasion.

Mr. Putin also described the operation as a response to a "question of life or death" that he said Russia was facing as a result of the eastward expansion of the NATO alliance — which Ukraine has aspired to join.

"This is that red line that I talked about multiple times," Mr. Putin said. "They have crossed it."

The operation's goal, Mr. Putin said, was "to defend people who for eight years are suffering persecution and genocide by the Kyiv regime," citing the false accusation that Ukrainian forces had been carrying out ethnic cleansing in separatist regions of east-

Continued on Page A10

A Ukrainian soldier on Wednesday. President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia said his goal was to demilitarize but not occupy Ukraine.

Front page of New York Times newspaper February 24, 2022

The Invasion of Ukraine

In late February 2022, the Russian Federation announced a **military operation** in which its aims were the complete 'demilitarization' and 'denazification' of Ukraine. President **Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin**, alongside the announcement of a military operation, recognized the independence of the **Luhansk People's Republic** and the **Donetsk People's Republic**.

Almost immediately after the military operation, western media

began publishing a barrage of opinion pieces and articles that attempted to push back on the claim President Putin made regarding 'denazification.'

Article after article painted the picture of Putin exaggerating the claims of Ukrainian nationalism fermenting neo-Nazi ideologies. If one has only learned about the country of Ukraine in 2022, it would be easy to take this barrage of information at face value.

Russia's misguided 'denazification' of Ukraine is a self-fulfilling prophecy

How a relatively small private pro-state battalion in Ukraine triggered a global surge in neo-Nazi recruitment.

Putin's claim of fighting against Ukraine 'neo-Nazis' distorts history, scholars say

Updated March 1, 2022 · 3:02 PM ET ©

The antisemitism animating Putin's claim to 'denazify' Ukraine

Jason Stanley

WASHINGTON AND THE WORLD

Opinion | Putin's 'Denazification' Claim Shows He Has No Case Against Ukraine

The Russian leader's grotesque rhetoric is all the more absurd because Ukraine has so clearly chosen democracy over the ghosts of Europe's past.

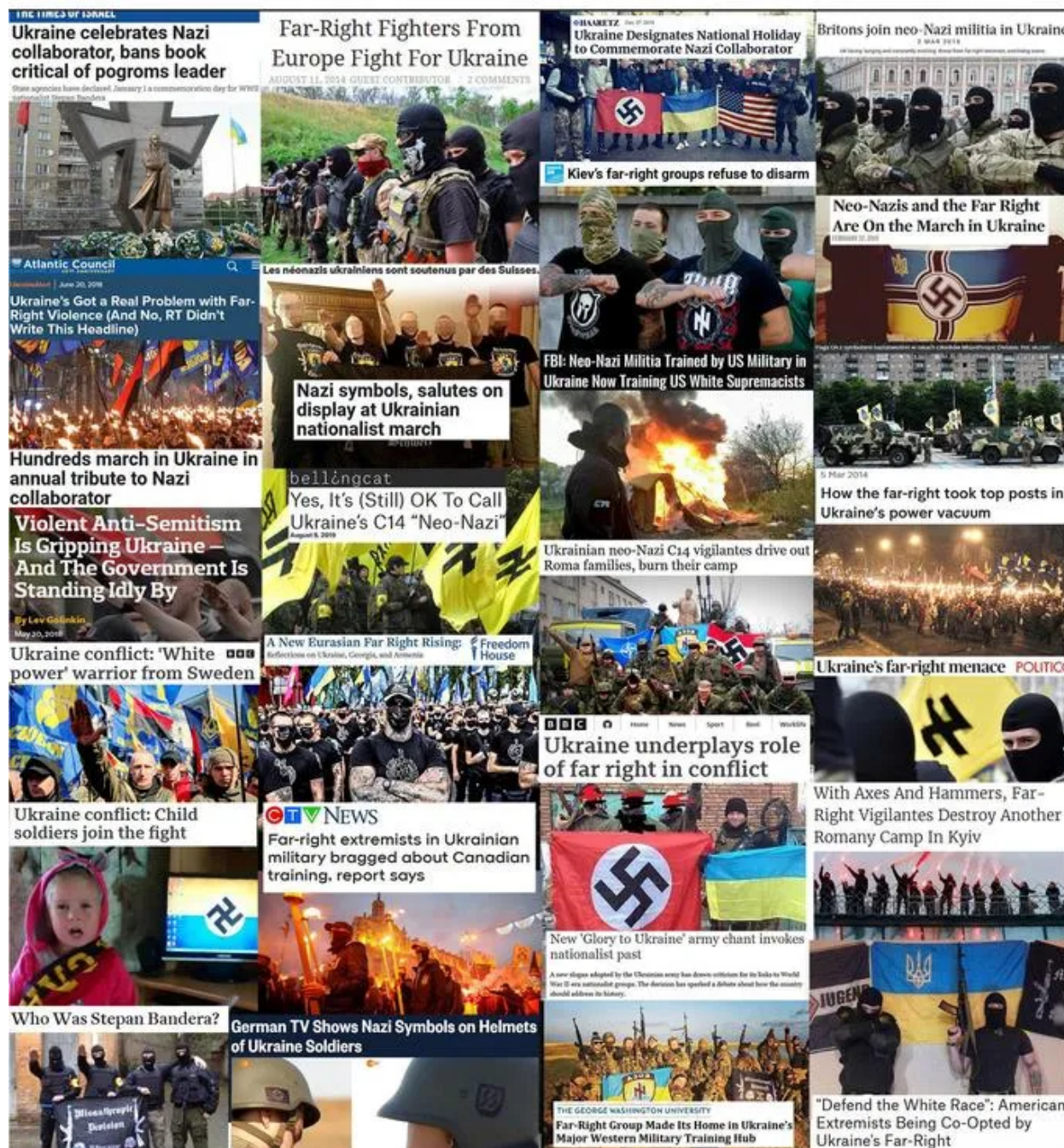
Screenshots of Washington Post, Politico, NPR, and MSNBC headlines

Before the Invasion

Prior to the invasion of Ukraine, western media seemed to have the complete opposite point of view with regards to the question of Neo-Nazi & Nationalistic tendencies within the Ukrainian populace. It appeared the mainstream press were **well aware** of Ukraine's problem with white supremacy and nationalism prior to February 2022. For instance, *Time Magazine* reported on how a **far-right white supremacist militia relies on social media to train and recruit members**. In another article, *The Nation* reported on the **rise of**

Neo-Nazis in the region as early as 2019.

Western Media before Feb. 2022:



Western Media after Feb. 2022: ❌ “SLAVA UKRAINI!” ❌

In fact, the prominence of Neo-Nazi militias in Ukraine was such a widely reported topic within the western media, they received a barrage of memes targeted at them, poking fun at their sudden change in narrative. Of course Russians themselves took part in the fun as reported by *The Guardian*.

The Russian foreign ministry spokesperson Maria Zakharova, who enjoys prodding foreign media, wrote a *“request to the mass disinformation outlets of the USA and Britain – Bloomberg, the New York Times, the Sun etc – announce the schedule of our ‘invasions’ for the coming year. I’d like to plan my vacation”*.

A day earlier, she wrote: *“February 15, 2022 will go down in history as the day of the failure of western war propaganda. Humiliated and destroyed without firing a shot.”*

Source: The Guardian

The Azov Battalion



Ukraine has a multitude of battalions at their disposal within the National Guard or SBU. A lot of attention surrounding the Neo-Nazi topic of Ukraine is centered on the **Azov Battalion**. The Azov Battalion is an officially recognized unit of the **National Guard of Ukraine** and has been at the center of a lot of media controversy since the 2014 Maidan protests. It is clear that the west, primarily the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom, are putting their support behind Ukraine during Russia’s military operation. How far does this support go?

In 2014, then Senator John McCain visited Ukraine to **reaffirm the United State’s commitment** to the Ukrainian project. Not only has the United States been a valuable supporter of Ukraine, but its neighbor, Canada, has also offered its assistance in the **training of Ukrainian Neo-Nazis**. As James Carden from *The Nation* wrote in 2016, the United States government **revoked a ban on funding Neo-Nazis from its year-end spending bill**.

The Contradiction

The western media was attempting to frame a narrative in-which President Putin was exaggerating, or lying, about his claims of Neo-Nazis atrocities in Ukraine, fueled by the continued rise of nationalism. We end up with a contradiction where the west claims it has no clue, or denies entirely, the rise of Neo-Nazis in Ukraine, while these very same outlets have reported extensively on the rise of Neo-Nazis in Ukraine in the past.

If we only look at the past decade, we can see the west supported and continues to support nationalists in Ukraine. If we step back even further, we can see the past decade is only a drop in the bucket compared to half a century of continued support from the United States, and all of the atrocities that followed.

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