

The Road to War: How the Ukraine War Began - A Factual Accounting With Document Proof from US National Security Archive

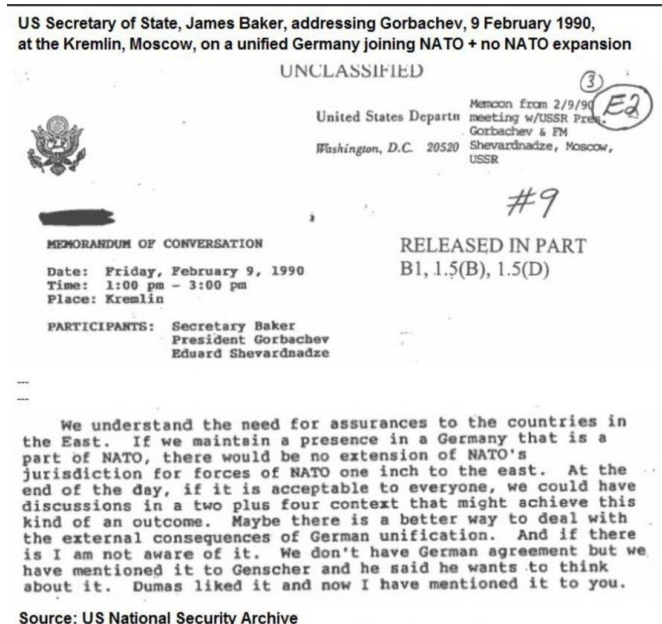
By Hall Turner

Vladimir Putin did not wake up on 24 February 2022 and decide, "I think I'll invade eastern Ukraine today," nor was the US campaign to expand NATO into Ukraine a last-minute maneuver. (US State Department documents show Ukraine's future membership was discussed as early as 1994.)

Nowadays, descriptions and explanations about situations, have to be small because so many people in the general public have small minds. In fact, it's amazing how their small minds can generate enough energy to make their mouths move; but move them they do! You can tell who has the small minds because they're the one's with Ukraine flags in their social media accounts, and anytime they hear the facts, they discount them as "Russian talking points." Such people are literally the stupidest among us and cannot be taken seriously.

I caution you that this read is too big for small-minded people. We adults have to deal with big reads because, well, we're adults. So those of you who have small minds, the low intellect that goes along with it, and who cannot grasp actual historical facts, need to move on to some cartoon or video that better suits your limited intellect. This stuff is real-life, life-and-death and if you're one of the small-minded idiots in the general public, you won't be able to grasp this . . . because you're dumb.

The Road to War... between Russia and Ukraine:



9 Feb 1990: In a deal approved by Mikhail Gorbachev, the last leader of the Soviet Union, as a quid pro quo for accepting German reunification in NATO, Secretary of State James Baker pledged that NATO would not expand “one inch to the east.”

Columbia professor Jeffrey Sachs and Chicago professor John Mearsheimer argue that during the lengthy negotiations on German unification, US, European and German leaders made explicit assurances to Gorbachev that there would be no future NATO expansion eastward.

US National Security Archive Documents PROVE this promise was made to Gorbachev by then US Secretary of State, James Baker III during a meeting in the Kremlin, on February 9, 1990.

Even if only verbal and not in a formal treaty, Gorbachev understood the assurances as a “binding agreement.” Subsequently, Soviet leaders made decisions on that basis and acted on them - **withdrawing the Red Army from Germany and dissolving the Warsaw Pact.**

1996 Election Year: With an eye on the Polish and Eastern European vote in northern Illinois, **Bill Clinton campaigned on enlarging NATO into Eastern Europe.** (Bill Clinton carried Illinois and handily defeated Bob Dole.)

12 March 1999: The Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland join NATO. A weakened post-Soviet Russia, led by Boris Yeltsin, whose economy was controlled by a bevy of Oligarchs, could do nothing about it. Powerless, Yeltsin was “infuriated” with “his friend Bill Clinton” for breaking with past US assurances on NATO expansion.

31 Dec 1999: After years of heavy drinking and suffering from health problems, Boris Yeltsin unexpectedly resigned. Vladimir Putin becomes Prime Minister of Russia. Yeltsin’s last words to Putin: “Take care of Russia.”

29 March 2004: George W. Bush is now president, and seven more Eastern European countries join NATO: Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia - largest wave of NATO enlargement in its history.

April 2008: At the NATO summit in Bucharest, **George W. Bush announces that Ukraine and Georgia are on an “immediate path to NATO.”** German Chancellor Angela Merkel: “I was very sure that Putin was not going to just let that happen. From his perspective, **this would be a declaration of war,**” she recalled in 2022.

2008: Bill Burns, ambassador to Russia, sent a memo to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice: Across the board, he wrote, the Russian political class told him, “Ukraine is the reddest of red lines” – “Nyet means nyet.” Here is that CLASSIFIED memo:

US Secretary of State, James Baker, addressing Gorbachev, 9 February 1990,
at the Kremlin, Moscow, on a unified Germany joining NATO + no NATO expansion

UNCLASSIFIED



United States Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Memcon from 2/9/90
meeting w/USSR Pres.
Gorbachev & FM
Shevardnadze, Moscow,
USSR

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Date: Friday, February 9, 1990
Time: 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Place: Kremlin

PARTICIPANTS: Secretary Baker
President Gorbachev
Eduard Shevardnadze

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.5(B), 1.5(D)

We understand the need for assurances to the countries in the East. If we maintain a presence in a Germany that is a part of NATO, there would be no extension of NATO's jurisdiction for forces of NATO one inch to the east. At the end of the day, if it is acceptable to everyone, we could have discussions in a two plus four context that might achieve this kind of an outcome. Maybe there is a better way to deal with the external consequences of German unification. And if there is I am not aware of it. We don't have German agreement but we have mentioned it to Genscher and he said he wants to think about it. Dumas liked it and now I have mentioned it to you.

Source: US National Security Archive

The memo, CLASSIFIED, was ultimately leaked to WikiLeaks and made public. That memo spells-out that the US and NATO all knew, asking Ukraine to join NATO would have serious ramifications, up to and including war with Russia!

William Joseph Burns, who signed the memo above "BURNS" became the 8th director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) during the Biden administration from March 19, 2021 to **January 20, 2025**.

He tucked tail and ran when Trump got sworn-in for a Second Term because he KNEW he allowed this Ukraine thing to become a war when none of it had to be.

Back to the Historical Time-line:

22 Feb 2014: Just as the Sochi Winter Olympics got underway, the "Maidan" coup in Kyiv erupted in violence. **State Department official Virginia Nuland boasted that since the 2004-2005 "Orange Revolution," the US had spent \$5 billion on regime change in Ukraine.**

Nuland made that boast on a telephone call which was intercepted by Russian Intelligence, and made public.

(Continuing on 22 Feb 2014) NATO rooftop snipers killed both protestors and police, forcing Ukraine's democratically elected pro-Russian leader Viktor

Yanukovych to flee. In response to Yanukovych's downfall, Putin stepped up Russian support for Russian-speaking separatist rebels in the Donbass, while US accelerated its efforts to arm and train Ukraine's army.

NATO sent Snipers into the Maidan Revolution in Ukraine, to make it more violent!!!!!! NATO knew it was overthrowing Ukraine's democratically-elected President, and they did it anyway. So all those who say Russia's invasion into Ukraine was "unprovoked" are either completely ignorant of the facts, or lying.

After Ukraine President Yanukovych was forced to flee the country, United States Senator Chris Smith (D-CT) went on C-SPAN and boasted that we in the United States, working on the ground during the riots, helped impose **"regime change" in Ukraine**. Here is video in which he admits it:

2 May 2014: The Donbass crisis point of no return: Bussed to Odessa from Kyiv, Right Sector thugs carrying baseball bats confront ethnic Russians protesting the coup in Kyiv. When protestors fled into the city's Trade Unions House, the building was set on fire. **Forty-eight people that day were burned or bludgeoned to death.**

11 Feb 2015: Putin and then-Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko meet with French President Francois Hollande and German Chancellor Angela Merkel in Minsk, Belarus, known as the multi-year Minsk accords.

The leaders agreed to a deal that would have ended fighting in eastern Ukraine - granted autonomy to the Russian-speaking Donbass. **Successive Ukrainian governments, however, refused to implement the accord.** **German Chancellor Merkel later admitted that Minsk was a stall tactic to allow the West to build Ukraine's army up to NATO standards.**

Merkel KNEW her presence at the Minsk Conference was a complete RUSE. She went to it with the INTENTION TO DECEIVE, to buy time, for the West to arm Ukraine for war with Russia. *(HT REMARK: Do any of you Readers still think the war was "unprovoked?")*

31 Dec 2016, New Year's Eve, **twenty days before the incoming Trump admin, Lindsey Graham,** with a bi-partisan group of US Senators, visited Ukrainian troops on the civil war Line of Contact, encouraging them to take the war to Russia: **"Your fight is our fight. . . "**

Senator Graham and former Senator John McCain actually GOADED the troops to attack Russia! Video proof:

17 Dec 2021: Team Biden rejects Putin's proposed mutual security accords that would have left "neutral" Ukraine intact. For years, Russia tried to convince successive US administrations that Ukraine was off-limits to NATO membership, but Russian concerns were brushed aside. In December 2021, Team Biden insisted, "Russia doesn't say who can join NATO."

18 Feb 2022: During the Winter Olympics in China, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) documented that Ukraine was ramping up artillery attacks along the Line of Contact. (*Since the 2014 coup in Kyiv, the **Armed forces of Ukraine, including the Neo-Nazi Banderites, had already killed 14,000 Donbass ethnic Russians.***)

19 Feb 2022: Invited to speak at the Munich Security Conference, Ukrainian President Zelensky said **"Ukraine will get and deploy nuclear missiles."**

20 Feb 2022: On CBS' 60 Minutes, final day of the Olympics in China, **Ukraine's Minister of Foreign Affairs Dmytro Kuleba said, "Ukraine will never honor the Minsk cease fire."**

21 Feb 2022: Russia captured a Ukrainian soldier, killed five others as they crossed over the border into Rostov. Russia learned the invasion of Donetsk city was imminent and recognized the breakaway Donbass and Luhansk oblasts as independent republics.

24 Feb 2022: With 90,000 troops, Russia launched its limited "Special Military Operation" - not a "full scale invasion." Citing the UN principle, "Responsibility to Protect," Russia finally intervened in the eight-year Donbass crisis after all prospects for diplomacy had failed.

March-April 2022, week six of the invasion, Russia and Ukraine convened peace talks in Istanbul. Ukrainian diplomat Oleksandr Chalyi said the two sides "managed to find a compromise" - and "were very close to finalizing the war with a peaceful settlement."

Later, Chalyi recalled, "Putin tried to do everything possible to conclude an agreement with Ukraine." **But Joe Biden and Boris Johnson, who flew to Kyiv, urged Zelensky to "keep fighting; we have your back."** Under pressure, Zelensky chose to walk away from peace.

The future of the world order may not hinge on who wins the war on the Russian steppes, unless, of course, events spiral into a nuclear catastrophe - a scenario that cannot be ruled out; however, right now, for Russia, Ukraine and NATO, there is no escaping the battle, and, as of 3 March 2025, no one is getting ready to back down.

The irrefutable facts reported above cannot be disputed or explained-away. The US National Security Archive document PROVES that the US promised "NATO will not move one inch east" and later, it was President Bill Clinton who BROKE THAT PROMISE and signed approval of NATO doing exactly that.

It has been we in the United States, and our NATO vassals, who have planned every step of the ongoing situation, and did so for YEARS. The war in Ukraine is OUR FAULT.

We are in the wrong. We gave our word to Gorbachev that "NATO will not move one inch east" and we BROKE OUR WORD.

I am sick to death of hearing about Russia's "illegal and unprovoked invasion." Russia is defending itself from NATO expansion. Self-Defense is legal. And as for "unprovoked" no rational person can make any such claim; we in the collective West provoked this over and over again.

These are the facts and they are not in dispute.

We have the names. We have the dates. We have proof of the actions. When are these people going to be arrested for starting a war that has killed over a MILLION Ukrainians and Russians? Or is starting a war not a crime?