

This Week's Developments

March 13 - 19, 2021

- Ukraine war is veering fast towards big power conflict
- Biden calls Putin a 'murderous dictator'
- US to send \$800m in military hardware to Ukraine
- Putin lays out his demands in Turkish phone call
- Iran claims Israel revenge with missile strike on Iraq
- Rich Russians seek safe haven for their fortunes in Israel
- *Additional & Supporting Articles*

Ukraine war is veering fast towards a big power conflict

Debkafile, March 17, 2022



EVENT

“Unacceptable and unforgivable,” was the Kremlin’s response to the US president’s branding of Vladimir Putin as “a war criminal,” on Wednesday, March 16. Incensed rather than cowed by sanctions and international condemnation, the Russian president is likely to double down on his war offensive against Ukraine – regardless of the spreading death, human misery and ravaged cities. An expanding confrontation therefore cannot be ruled out for the foreseeable future. President Joe Biden spoke after the horror of Russia’s bombing of a theater in Mariupol where more than a thousand people including many children were sheltering against the constant shelling. The death toll is unknown as are the numbers still buried under the rubble while rescuers are prevented from reaching the scene. Moscow was seen in Washington as expanding its targets beyond the Ukraine border with the assault by 30 Russian cruise missiles on the large Ukrainian military facility outside Lviv near the Polish border.

COMMENT

So far this war has been a war between Ukraine and Russia. But many military analysts and commentators are saying World War 3 has never been closer. Western powers have maneuvered extremely carefully to avoid direct conflict with President Vladimir Putin, the man who controls the world’s largest nuclear arsenal and has shown no qualms in boasting about it. But many believe there is now a grave danger that the United States and other NATO allies could be drawn into the war. It is possible that we do look back and date the start of WW3 or the “time of trouble” from Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. Russia has overnight become a pariah state. Instead of backing down the Bible says Gog will continue to destroy until he himself is destroyed by God.

BIBLE QUOTE

He will cause a shocking amount of destruction and succeed in everything he does. He will destroy powerful leaders and devastate the holy people. He will be a master of deception and will become arrogant. This is describing a latter day Antiochus Epiphanes (the ancient king of the north) who lives at the time of the end. Putin clearly fits every description of this man. (Daniel 8:24-25 NLT)

Biden calls Putin a 'murderous dictator' and 'pure thug'

CNN, March 17, 2022



EVENT

President Joe Biden on Thursday called Vladimir Putin a "pure thug" and "murderous dictator," his latest pointed attack against the Russian President as the war in Ukraine rages on. Speaking at the annual Friends of Ireland Luncheon on St. Patrick's Day at Capitol Hill, Biden said Putin is "a murderous dictator, a pure thug who is waging an immoral war against the people of Ukraine." And earlier Thursday, in a meeting with Micheál Martin, the Taoiseach of Ireland, the President also zeroed in on the Russian leader, saying, "Putin's brutality and what he's doing and his troops are doing in Ukraine is just inhumane." The comments came a day after Biden called Putin a war criminal -- a significant escalation in his rhetoric condemning the Russian leader's actions against Ukraine. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters on Thursday Biden's comments were "absolutely unacceptable and inexcusable."

COMMENT

President Biden called Putin a war criminal this week. A phrase he has avoided until now. The Kremlin responded with fury saying that this was "unforgivable rhetoric". This war is personal because it is the will of just one man. Putin has resorted to bombing and shelling indiscriminately cities in Ukraine. Russia's assault on Mariupol has destroyed or damaged 90 per cent of buildings in the besieged port city. Hundreds of civilians who had been taking shelter in a theatre in the centre of the city was hit by a bomb yesterday. Putin is undeterred and packed a Russian stadium with 80,000 people while he gave a nationalistic and rousing speech about Russia coming together to denazify Ukraine and celebrate taking Crimea in 2014. Many wonder if he has gone mad. In fact Antiochus Epiphanes was also called a madman. Putin follows in his steps.....

BIBLE QUOTE

And the king [Gog] shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished. Putin does do according to his will. Mikhail Gorbachev the last leader of the USSR said Putin sees himself as second only to God.

(Daniel 11:36)

US adds \$800m in military aid to Ukraine, including drones, anti-tank weapons

The Times of Israel, March 17, 2022



EVENT

The US will send an additional \$800 million in military aid to Ukraine after Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky pleaded for Washington's further help in staving off the Russian invasion in an address to a joint session of Congress. The latest installment came days after US President Joe Biden transferred another \$200 million in weapons to Kyiv. He has sent a total of \$2 billion in arms since taking office. The newest batch includes 800 Stinger anti-aircraft systems, thousands of anti-tank weapons including 2,000 of the now-famously deadly Javelins, 100 "tactical" drones, 20 million rounds of small arms ammunition, and 25,000 sets of helmets and body armor. Ukraine has already been given hundreds of Stingers, which can shoot down relatively low flying aircraft. But Biden said that "at the request of President Zelensky, we have identified and are helping Ukraine acquire additional longer-range anti-aircraft systems."

COMMENT

Biden's announcement this week to send \$800 million in military aid to Ukraine means the US has now committed £1 billion in military assistance. Biden promised to send even more arms and impose more sanctions to cripple the Russian economy and isolate Moscow from the world. Zelensky reiterated his request for a no-fly zone over Ukraine, which has been rejected by American and NATO leaders because it could lead to direct conflict between nuclear-armed countries in the West and Russia. And so we have a picture of Daniel 11:40 before us. America pushing at Putin – both verbally and militarily. And the push could clearly get more intense as days go by. But on the other hand the US / UK are scared of what Putin could do if they directly engage him in battle. This speaks to us of Ezekiel 38:13 when US/UK ask Putin/Gog, why he is invading Israel. This sounds like a position of weakness – which they are showing now.

BIBLE QUOTE

And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him [Gog]: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. (Daniel 11:40)

Putin lays out his demands in Turkish phone call

BBC, March 18, 2022



EVENT

Turkey has positioned itself with great care to be the go-between with Russia and Ukraine - and this seems to be paying off. On Thursday afternoon, President Vladimir Putin rang the Turkish President, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, and told him what Russia's precise demands were for a peace deal with Ukraine. The Russian demands fall into two categories. Chief among them is an **acceptance by Ukraine that it should be neutral and should not apply to join Nato**. Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky has already conceded this. **Ukraine would have to undergo a disarmament process** to ensure it wasn't a threat to Russia. There would have to be protection for the Russian language in Ukraine. And there is something called de-Nazification. **Russia will demand that the Ukrainian government should give up territory in eastern Ukraine**. That will be deeply contentious. Russia will also demand that Ukraine should formally accept that Crimea.

COMMENT

Turkey is allied to Russia when Russia descends into Israel at some point in the future. But **Turkey and Ukraine have a long chronology of historical, geographic, and cultural contact**. Turkey became one of the first states in the world to announce official recognition of sovereign Ukraine in the early 90's. Turkey's relations with Russia are more cyclical. But overall they have improved significantly in recent years. Russia became Turkey's largest provider of energy, while many Turkish companies began to operate in Russia. The Bible says that Turkey will be allied to Russia when it invades Israel. So **it is interesting to see them playing the role of "go-between" at this time**. Putin's end game is to take east Ukraine – the final part of ancient Magog....

BIBLE QUOTE

Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee. Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and **be thou a guard [protection] unto them**. **Gomer and Togarmah are both areas of modern Turkey.** (Ezekiel 38:4)

Iran claims Israel revenge with missile strike on Iraqi city

The Times, March 14, 2022



EVENT

Iran has fired at least a dozen missiles into the Iraqi city of Arbil, striking areas close to a new United States consulate. The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) claimed that Sunday morning's attack was targeting bases being used by for training by Mossad, the Israeli intelligence agency. In a statement issued through the Iranian media, the IRGC said it had carried out the attack in "revenge" for an Israeli airstrike that killed four people, including two of its colonels, in Syria last week. The missiles fell short of the consulate, a sprawling complex that has yet to be occupied by American staff. There was damage to a TV studio, although there were no reports of injuries. "The strategic centre of the Zionist conspiracy and evil was targeted by IRGC missiles," it said. "Following the recent crimes of the fake Zionist regime, the strategic centre for conspiracy and evil of the Zionists was targeted by powerful missiles and the [might] of the IRGC." Iranian media claimed that two Mossad bases had been targeted. There is no known Israeli presence in the semi-autonomous Kurdish area of Iraq.

COMMENT

In the Daily Telegraph this week there was this headline "The global chess game linking Russia's war in Ukraine and the Iran nuclear deal." Russia has attempted to use its support for reviving the Iran nuclear deal as leverage to minimise sanctions over its invasion of Ukraine. The article said, "The overlapping diplomatic crises have drawn in nations from around the world." As all sides try to push their own advantage tensions are rapidly building between Israel and Iran. One of the fallouts from the war in Ukraine could be the Israel v Iran situation. We know an inner ring war is coming between Israel and the surrounding peoples and that Iran activates this. This next war is coming soon.

BIBLE QUOTE

In that day will I make the governors of Judah like an hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they shall devour all the people round about, on the right hand and on the left: and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, even in Jerusalem.

(Zechariah 12:6)

Rich Russians seek safe haven for their fortunes in Israel

The Times, March 12, 2022



EVENT

Wealthy Russians are following Roman Abramovich's lead and investing in Israeli property as sanctions in Europe and the US bite. Estate agents and tax lawyers report an influx of interest from Russians buying beachfront homes and building plots in Tel Aviv. A key incentive is that citizens do not have to declare or pay tax on foreign income for the first ten years. Another is the discreet agreement between Russian and Israeli intelligence services that neither carries out assassinations in each other's territory. Russians with Jewish ancestors, such as Abramovich, can automatically apply for Israeli citizenship through the Law of Return. Harel Perlmutter, head of tax for Barnea, an Israeli law firm, said he had had inquiries from "millionaires and billionaires, and yes, oligarchs, looking to move to Israel". Although it was "almost impossible" to wire money to Israel from Russia it could be done via London or New York "quite easily", he added.

COMMENT

Russian and Ukrainian Jews are looking immigrate to Israel. More than 5,000 Ukrainian Jews have already put in calls to the special Jewish Agency hotline and about half of the callers expressed interest in immigrating to Israel immediately. "We call on the Jews of Ukraine to immigrate to Israel – your home," Israel's Ministry of Immigration said in a statement on February 26. Wealthy Russian Jews are buying up property and viewing Israel as a safe haven in a world that has turned against them. This in turn pumps huge wealth into Israel. This could be one of the catalysts to bring Gog/Putin down into Israel because he comes to take a spoil. Putin will not tolerate Israel becoming rich on the back of the Ukraine war whilst Russia suffers economic collapse and isolation....

BIBLE QUOTE

I will go up to the land of unwall'd villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates, To take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, (Ezekiel 38:11-12)

ADDITIONAL AND SUPPORTING ARTICLES

- DebkaFile Review** (world events through the bi-focals of Israeli military intelligence) **TV-7 Israel News** **Watchman Newscast**
- 2022-03-19 [Naftali Bennett Mediates In Russia-Ukraine War- Can Israel Balance ties Between Putin & Biden](#) - 9.41 min - YouTube
- 2022-03-18 [Russia, Israel & Bible Prophecy- Ezekiel's War of Gog & Magog Taking Shape](#) - Watchman News - 10.46 min - YouTube
- 2022-03-17 [Russia: Help Iran Build NUCLEAR Plants & Use New Iran Deal to Evade Sanctions](#) - Watchman News - 9.27 min - YouTube
- 2022-03-17 [Covid variant - China locks down 50 million people](#) - Gravitass - 6.24 min - YouTube
- 2022-03-16 [Ukraine war triggers global food crisis](#) - Gravitass - 4.44 min - YouTube
- 2022-03-16 [U.S. General WARNS Israel - Iran Has Over 3,000 MISSILES; Tel Aviv in Range](#) - Watchman News - 9.17 min - YouTube
- 2022-03-15 [Israel DESTROYS Iran Drone Fleet - Israel Targeted by Iran Cyberattack](#) - Watchman Newscast -11.42 min - YouTube
- 2022-03-12 [Russia's latest warning to the West- Russia to target Western arms supply](#) - World English News - 4.51 min - YouTube
- 2022-03-11 [EU leaders announce intention to collectively rearm in face of Putin threat](#) - European Union - The Guardian
- 2022-03-11 [Russia's Air Force 'missing in action'](#) - Gravitass - 4.49 - YouTube
- 2022-03-11 [Putin Calls Middle East Fighters to JOIN Russia; Iran TARGETS Fmr Trump Official](#) - Watchman - 11.09 min - YouTube
- 2022-03-09 [Xi Jinping delivers his strongest statement on Russia-Ukraine conflict](#) - International News - WION - 2.54 - YouTube
- 2022-03-09 [Saudi Arabia, UAE ignore phone calls from Biden](#) - Gravitass - 5.16 - YouTube
- 2022-03-09 [Iran Targets Israel for REVENGE Over Syria Strike; UAE & Saudis REFUSE Biden Call](#) - Watchman - 12.58 - YouTube
- 2022-03-05 [Israeli PM meets Putin in Moscow, then speaks with Zelensky by phone](#) - Reuters
- 2022-03-04 [Ukraine War - Are we heading towards World War III](#) - Gravitass - 9.23 min - YouTube
- 2022-03-03 [Ukraine invasion - Has Russia lost China's support](#) - Gravitass- 4.31 min - YouTube
- 2022-03-03 [After Russia & Ukraine - NEW Iran Nuclear Deal Next Global Crisis](#) - Watchman Newscast - 9.51 min - YouTube