

Seymour Hersh On The Mainstream's Ukraine Narrative Shift



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The clandestine bombings of the Nord Stream 1 and 2 pipelines under the Baltic Sea happened on September 26, 2022. This coming Tuesday will **mark the one-year anniversary**. The prospect of a direct NATO-Russia war has only continued to grow since as a possible nuclear WW3-level disastrous catastrophe, still looming darkly on the horizon.

Legendary American investigative journalist Seymour Hersh in his [latest article](#) has bluntly stated, "**The reality is that Volodymyr Zelensky's battered army no longer has any chance of a victory.**" Whereas previously there was a vast chasm between Hersh's conclusions and those of mainstream Western press reports, this is no longer the case... just see *The Economist* this week:

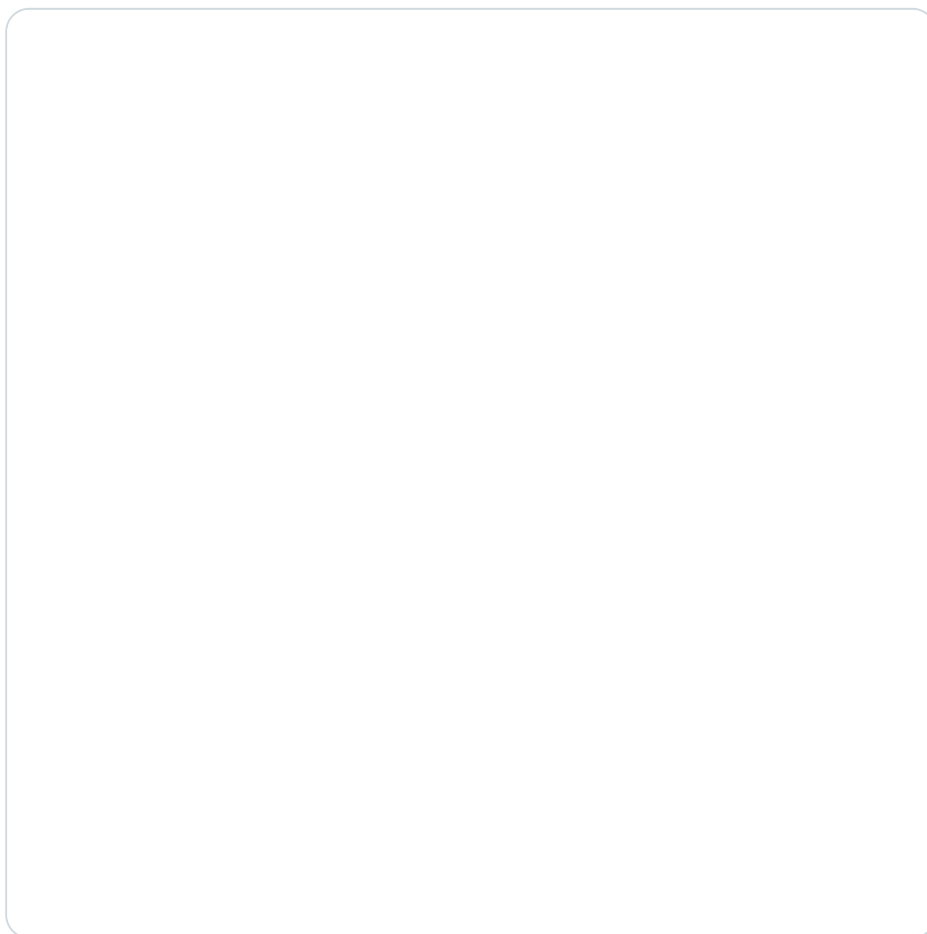
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The narrative dissonance must be particularly jolting for average Americans who up till this point have been treated to constant rosy pictures and overly optimistic reports of Ukraine "winning" or at least "pushing back" the Russians. This was certainly the mainstream's driving theme at least throughout the first year of war, and even into the summer.

Hersh in his Thursday *Substack* report cited an unnamed intelligence source who "spent the early years of his career working against Soviet aggression and spying." That source said that despite some

continued and recent attempts to paint the Ukraine counteroffensive as making slow but steady progress, the truth is the opposite.

"It's all lies," the source [told Hersh](#). **"The war is over. Russia has won.** There is no Ukrainian offensive anymore, but the White House and the American media **have to keep the lie going.**"

"The truth is if the Ukrainian army is ordered to continue the offensive, the army would mutiny. The soldiers aren't willing to die any more, but **this doesn't fit the B.S. that is being authored by the Biden White House,**" the intelligence source explained.

This conclusion was perhaps given some degree of confirmation when Zelensky met with Biden on Thursday. [Lackluster](#) is how we previously generally characterized the mood. Nothing new of importance was announced by Biden, other than a measly \$325 million military aid package from already approved funds. There was also the mention of "limited" or "a little" US long-range missiles approved for Kiev.

Also, Congress is still fiercely divided over the question of approving \$24 billion in Ukraine aid for the next fiscal year. All of this strongly suggests even hawkish Ukraine supporters are increasingly **wary of pouring more billions into the losing side, which could only ensure a further spiral between Moscow and NATO,** and more endless death and destruction.

Here's more from Hersh's intelligence source, as summarized in the journal [Modern Diplomacy](#):

"There were some early Ukrainian penetrations in the opening days of the June offensive," the official said, "at or near" the heavily trapped first of Russia's three formidable concrete barriers of defense, "and the Russians retreated to sucker them in. And they all got killed."

*After weeks of high casualties and little progress, along with horrific losses to tanks and armored vehicles, he said, **major elements of the Ukrainian army, without declaring so, virtually canceled the offensive.** The two villages that the Ukrainian army recently claimed as captured **"are so tiny that they couldn't fit between two Burma-Shave signs"** — referring to billboards that seemed to be on every American highway after World War II.*



Image source: LeHigh University/Flickr

Thus the situation for Ukraine forces couldn't be more dire at this moment, yet there still doesn't appear any willingness on the part of Kiev's backers to push both sides to the negotiating table. However, there

have been scattered reports of 'secret' dialogue behind the scenes.

Meanwhile, Ukraine - it appears with direct targeting and intelligence help from Washington - continues to mount riskier and riskier attacks on targets inside Russia and Crimea. Friday's Storm Shadow missile attack on Sevastopol's Black Sea Fleet naval headquarters is a case in point. It may have [taken out top Russian naval commanders](#) (as Ukraine is currently claiming) and marks **one of the biggest escalations of the war so far**.

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