

Ukraine Nazis Caught Manipulating Congress To Get Lethal Weapons

by an EIR Research Team

Feb. 16—Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.) thought he had a real PR coup last week, when on Feb. 11 he released a set of photos given to him by a Ukrainian delegation, purporting to show “Russian troops in T-72 tanks, BTR armored personnel carriers, and BMP infantry fighting vehicles entering eastern Ukraine,” to the conservative *Washington Free Beacon*. The Senator also used the photos as giant props that day, when he re-introduced his bill (S.452) to authorize the provision of lethal weapons to Ukraine.

The photos had been provided to him in November by a delegation of Ukrainians, led by three members of the Ukrainian parliament (Supreme Rada)—who were in fact [hardcore Banderite fascists](#) and field commanders in the civil war in the Donbass, two of them now operating as leaders within the People’s Front party of Arseniy Yatsenyuk, Victoria Nuland’s hand-picked prime minister of Ukraine. They allegedly showed Russian military columns in Ukraine between Aug. 24 and Sept. 5, 2014.

But Inhofe ended up with egg on his face. Although his colleagues on the Foreign Relations Committee who saw the “evidence” didn’t see a problem, an investigation by bloggers who saw the photos in the *Free Beacon* quickly uncovered the fact that at least one was taken by AP, of Russian convoys in Georgia during the conflict in South Ossetia in 2008.

When the matter was brought to his office’s attention, Inhofe issued a statement (not currently on his website!) as follows: “The Ukrainian parliament members who gave us these photos in print form as if it came directly from a camera really did themselves a disservice. We felt confident to release these photos because the images match the reporting of what is going on in the region. I was furious to learn one of the photos provided now appears to be falsified from an AP photo taken in 2008.”

But Inhofe is going ahead with his legislation anyway, apparently refusing to further investigate just who was carrying out this fraud, in order to push the U.S. toward war.

The Ukrainian Nazi Fraudsters

The list provided by Inhofe’s office of the 11-person Ukrainian delegation, identified one of the three Rada members who had visited Washington to disinform the U.S. Congress and push for military aid, as the commander of the Donbass Battalion, a freelance pro-Kiev volunteer unit in eastern Ukraine. The other two were called merely “newly elected members of parliament of Ukraine.” Checking their background, however, *EIR* found that all three are all leaders of quasi-private military units fighting in southeast Ukraine, and have been active in the fascist Banderite organizations that were crucial to the illegal coup d’état against the elected government one year ago:

1) Lt. Col. Semen Semenchenko, commander of the Donbass volunteer Assault Battalion; 2) Andriy Teteruk, commander of the Peacekeeper unit; and 3) Yuriy Bereza, commander of the Dnipro-1 regiment.

The latter two units are formally under the Internal Affairs Ministry, while both the Donbass Battalion and Dnipro-1 regiment are financed by Ihor Kolomoysky, the “oligarch” governor of Dnepropetrovsk Region. Bereza’s political career goes back to the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists (KUN), the very first Banderite party re-established in Ukraine after independence, by Slava Stetsko, the widow of Hitler-collaborator and MI-6 sponsoree Yaroslav Stetsko, and the founder of the Bandera Tryzub (Trident), later to become the core of the violent Right Sector coalition (see *EIR* dossier, May 16, 2014).

Semenchenko entered the Rada on the slate of Self-Help, a party formed out of the Maidan insurgency last year. The other two became MPs on the slate of Yatsenyuk’s People’s Front (also translated as “National Front”). Bereza and Teteruk also sit on that party’s Military Council, formed in August to build Ukraine’s military capacity; with them is Andriy Biletsky, another Right Sector figure, who is commander of the Azov Battalion—a unit which flies the Nazi *Wolfsangel*, and acts with according brutality against the civilian population. Biletsky, also a member of parliament but not of any party, was co-opted onto the Military Council of the People’s Front.



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This is a photo released by Senator Inhofe's office to promote supplying weapons to the Ukrainian Nazis. These men—Andriy Teteruk, Lt. Col. Semen Semenchenko, and Yuriy Berezha—are leaders of quasi-private military units fighting in southeast Ukraine, and have been active in the fascist Banderite organizations involved in the coup.

And Their American Helpers

Four other members of the November delegation were listed as officials of the Ukrainian “Charitable Fund for War Veterans and Members of the Antiterrorist Operation.”

It is hardly coincidental that before writing their Jan. 30 [Atlantic Council report](#) calling for the U.S. to provide lethal weapons to Ukrainian forces—the report which inspired Inhofe’s planned legislation—the authors of that report made a trip to Ukraine. The list of Ukrainians they met in Kyiv and Lviv includes no fewer than four officials of the “Charitable Fund,” of whom three were part of the delegation which met Inhofe and passed him the phony photos.

The character and ideology of this Military Council is captured in a commentary by Biletsky, written for the London *Telegraph*, and quoted by investigative journalist Robert Parry Feb. 11: “The historic mission of our nation in this critical moment is to lead the White Races of the world in a final crusade for their survival. A crusade against the Semite-led *Untermenschen*.”

Semenchenko visited the USA at least twice, in September-December 2014, seeking U.S. weapons. He met with Sen. John McCain and others, besides Inhofe. (Trained as a film-maker, however, “Lt. Col.” “Semenchenko”—a pseudonym—is so militarily incompetent, that Teteruk and others have reportedly been tasked to straighten out the Donbass Battalion.)

Andriy Parubiy, another senior member of Yatsenyuk’s People’s Front, and first deputy speaker of the Supreme Rada, announced Feb. 14 that he, too, would be arriving in Washington within days for “very concrete and targeted” talks on the acquisition of “highly precise modern weaponry.” Parubiy, a radical Banderite who co-founded the future neo-Nazi Svoboda Party (1991) and the future Right Sector component Ukrainian Patriot (1999), was Commandant of the Maidan in December 2013-February 2014—a key organizer of the coup.

The coordinator of the delegation to Inhofe was Dr. Phillip Karber, a professor at Georgetown University and president of the Potomac Foundation. Karber is a former strategy advisor to Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger. According to a report they issued on April 8, 2014, Karber traveled to Ukraine with Gen. Wesley Clark (ret.) in late March and early April of last year, at the invitation of the Ukrainian National Security Advisor—also a senior member of the Parliament—and paid for by the Potomac Foundation, whose old 990 tax forms indicate that it has received funding from, among others, the Soros/Open Society Fund and the Smith Richardson Foundation.

During the visit to Ukraine, Karber and Clark reportedly participated in 35 meetings with senior officials, military commanders, and politicians, with Karber also visiting front-line formations. Afterwards, they recommended immediate shipments of American body armor, night vision devices, communications equipment, and aviation fuel, and, to maximize Kiev’s defense potential, Clark and Karber recommended the acquisition of MiG-29s, T-72 tanks, man-portable air defenses, and anti-tank weapons.

But not to worry. According to Karber, the whole incident was just a “misunderstanding compounded by miscommunication.”