

**UKRAINE:
IN PART OR IN WHOLE – RIPE FOR THE PICKING**

It must be obvious to all keen observers of the situation, unfolding daily in Ukraine: As far as The Russian Federation is concerned, the country is ripe for the picking.

And harvesting, The Russian Federation is likely to go.

There is a tidal wave of Russian patriotism, sweeping through the eastern part of Ukraine – and it cannot be quashed by any action of the United Nations, the United States of America, or a concerted action(s) of any unity of Western nations.

Last Sunday, there were referenda in the eastern part of Ukraine, with pro-Russians, claiming that overwhelming support was demonstrated by those who voted in favour of an undefined idea of self-rule for this part of the country.

In the industrial east, the Donetsk Region, the pro-Russian '*separatists*' made the claim that about 90 percent of the voters were in favour of breaking off relations with Kiev, the Capital City and the seat of Government of Ukraine.

Western countries have pooh-poohed the referenda, labelling them as being '*farces*', '*illegal*' and '*dangerous*' acts and making definitive charges that the referenda were orchestrated by Mr Vladimir Vladamirovich Putin, the President of The Russian Federation, either by innuendo or under his direct, express instructions.

Be that as it may, the situation, today, is that there are tens of hundreds of patriotic Russians, living in Ukraine, who want to be closer to – if not part of – The Russian Federation.

The Interim Government of Ukraine, led by President Olexandr Turchynov, has proved itself to be totally incompetent and completely unable to stem the tide of discontent that is flooding through the east of the country.

Sending in Ukrainian Government troops to try to quell the insurrections, orchestrated by pro-Russian separatists, by force of arms, is, as far as **TARGET** () is concerned, an action that only a moron of the first order could have concocted in a terribly feeble mind.

Such action is akin to pouring petrol on a fire in order to try to extinguish the flames.

This political situation in eastern Ukraine has gone too far for the Kleptocrats of Kiev to contain. This should be patently too obvious.

Meanwhile, near the border with Ukraine, The Russian Federation has amassed about 40,000 troops, ready to follow orders from Moscow.

The Presidential Elections

On Sunday, May 25, the Interim Ukrainian Government hopes to hold Presidential Elections.

This, in today's situation, is ludicrous since the elections will, undoubtedly, be boycotted by many, if not most, of the residents of the east of the country.

And, should the voting population of the eastern part of the country be proscribed from casting their ballots, in part or in whole, in respect of the voting process for a President of Ukraine, then, whatever might be the outcome, it would have to be considered not representative of the entire country and, therefore, the elections must be considered null and void.

The proposed elections, therefore, would, really, become a farce.

Meanwhile, in the next week or so, the pro-Russian separatists have stated that they intend to hold another type of referenda in the east of the country in order to obtain concurrence of the majority of the population to plead with President Putin for their part of Ukraine to become part of The Russian Federation.

This, just about, follows the path of that which took place in early March, this year, with regard to The Crimea and Russia's eventual annexation of this region of Ukraine.

A scenario, whereby President Putin receives an entreaty for Eastern Ukraine to become part of The Russian Federation, plays right into his hands.

Since the breakup of The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), President Putin has rued the day that ended a political alliance of the largest country of the world, an alliance that had existed for 69 years, from 1922 until December 26, 1991.

On December 25, 1991, Mr Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, General Secretary of the Communist Party of The Soviet Union, resigned from office.

The following day, there was the signing of a declaration, leading to the dissolution of the USSR and the acknowledgment of the independence of 12 Republics of the USSR, resulting in the creation of The Commonwealth of Independent States.

President Putin has managed, by dint of wit and by intimidation, thanks to a small force of a handful of heavily armed, balaclava hooded soldiers, to bring back into the Russian fold, The Crimea.

He proudly stated, last Friday, on his first visit to the newest territory to rejoin The Russian Federation, of his elation of the *'return to the Motherland'* of Russian patriots, paying homage to *'historical justice and the memory of our ancestors'*.

He is languishing in his success.

Now, in the eastern part of Ukrain, the industrial heart of this former USSR state, the call has gone out: *'We (pro-Russians) want to be part of The Russian Federation – in the manner of The Crimea'*.

Can President Putin forsake his duty of fidelity to the Russian patriots?

Some of them fought against Germany in World War II and, today, they proudly parade round Donetsk, wearing those uniforms, signifying their love of their country.

Sanctions, imposed by the West: Be damned!

This must be the way in which the President of the Russian Federation is viewing the actions of the European Union, the US and its friends.

One thing is absolutely certain: The world does not want to engage The Russian Federation in a war – which nobody can win, but in which tens of millions of people are likely to be killed and maimed. There are some 144 million people, living in The Russian Federation, and this country has never been

conquered.

It was attempted, first by France in 1812, and, then, by Germany in 1941. In both cases, the loss of life to the French and the Germans was horrific.

In World War II, Russia's losses in repelling advancing Nazi German troops is estimated to have been more than 20 million, men, women and children.

President Putin is, obviously, counting on the fact that Russia has never been successfully conquered in its entirety as being his ace in the hole: And he is, probably, correct.

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