GETTING TO UNDERSTAND AND TO APPRECIATE PRESIDENT VLADIMIR VLADIMIROVICH PUTIN

Over the past few months, quite a number of very vocal politicians of The United States of America have made statements along the lines that they have grown quite accustomed to being completely dumbfounded by the actions of The Russian Federation and, particularly, of its President, Mr <u>Vladimir Vladimirovich</u> <u>Putin</u>.

This appears to be, among other things, testament to these politicians' rank ignorance.

But, after all, they are American politicians and one has grown accustomed, over the years, to such ramblings and nonsensical utterances.

In the humble opinion of this medium, President Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin is not difficult to understand, at all: He just wants Russia's return to the status quo ante and, at the same time, he wants to remain as the democratically elected Russian dictator, along with his political cohort: Prime Minister Dmitry Anatolyevich Medvedev.

What this man's dream entails is, inter alia, the return to The Russian Federation of the 12 former republics of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), republics that were given independence by the Declaration of Number 142-H of the Soviet of the Republics of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union.

This Declaration of December 26, 1991, at the time that President Mikhail Gorbachev controlled the Kremlin, laid the foundation bricks for The Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), known as The Russian Federation, today.

President Putin has made no secret of his dream for the future of his beloved country: He wants that which his Russia is entitled: The re-establishment of its power and the glory.

The situation in Ukraine, today, just happens to be a pleasant convenience for President Putin in the same manner that the annexation of The Crimea on March 21, 2014, was a pleasant convenience for him.

Actually, President Putin's dreams for the restoration of Russia to the situation that existed, prior to December of 1991, happen to be the wishes and dreams of many Russians, those living in The Federation and those, living in many of the former republics of the USSR.

Just four cases in Point: Eastern Ukraine; The Crimea; Transnistria (Moldova); and, Belarus.

The Ukraine Agenda

With the election in Ukraine on May 25, 2014, resulting in Mr Petro Poroshenko, being promoted from very rich businessman to President of the country, it has turned out to be a little inconvenient for President Putin.

And President Putin is not happy with this situation.

Recent incidents indicate that President Petro Poroshenko does not appear to see eye-to-eye with President Putin's grand plans: He, actually, dreams of ruling Ukraine – without the assistance of President Putin.

President Petro Poroshenko has, since taking up the role of the elected leader of the insolvent, eastern European country, determined to send in armed Ukrainian troops in order to fight the pro-Russian separatists who are just as equally determined to remain loyal to their Russian homeland.

The separatists only want to carve out part of Eastern Ukraine in order to cause it to become an integral member of The Russian Federation in a similar manner to the way in which The Crimea was able to join hands with President Putin's Russia.

Early this week, President Putin, having been apprised of the urgent requirement for assistance in the Donetsk and Luhansk Regions of Eastern Ukraine, with many Russian-speaking Ukrainians, being killed by the horrific forces of President Petro Poroshenko, decided to marshal a convoy of 280 Kamaz lorries to bring much-needed aid to the innocent people of the region.

According to the Moscow Regional Government, this lorry convoy, funded by the Treasury of The Russian Federation, along with donations from many Muscovites and residents of the Moscow Region, without any thought of asking assistance from the Government of Ukraine, was said to be carrying not less than 2,000 tonnes of aid, comprising:

400 tonnes of cereals	54 tonnes of medical items, including medicines
100 tonnes of sugar	12,000 sleeping bags
62 tonnes of baby food	Electrical generators

According to very reliable reports, the situation at the City of Luhansk is dire and, as at last Thursday, units of the Ukrainian Army had laid seige to the City, the population of which is estimated to be about 425,000 men, women and children, all of whom are non-combatants.

Tens of thousands of the residents are without food, electricity, medicines, running water and, in addition, the sanitation system in the City is inoperable.

The exodus of people from the Donetsk and Luhansk Regions to the Russian border has, today, numbered about 200,000 men, women and children.

Cynics might like to suggest that President Putin is trying to buy the loyalty of the residents of the Donetsk and Luhansk Regions of Ukraine, but these cynics would be totally wrong – because the residents are, already, loyal to the Russian Government.

As one elderly lady resident of Donetsk remarked in an official interview, carried out by the **B**ritish **B**roadcasting **C**orporation (**BBC**):

'The pensions in Russia are much better than here. Of course, I am Russian. It is my country.'

In a similar, BBC interview, a middle-aged man called the Ukrainian Army soldiers as being 'animals'.

He said:

'Why are they (the Ukrainian Army soldiers) bombarding our houses, here? We are not combatants. We are peaceful people. Yes, I am Russian – and happy to be Russian, too. Donetsk has, for many years, beeen producing rolling stock for the Russian railway system. That's how we made our living. What's wrong with that?'

It boggles the imagination that right-minded people cannot recognise the true intention of President Putin in ordering urgent aid to be trucked to his people, trapped in Eastern Ukraine, while Ukrainian Army troops are ready to pounce on defenseless Russian citizens.

This aid convoy is not a Trogan Horse in which an army is secreted: It is, simply put, an attempt to save lives.

If the Ukrainian Government refuses the Russian aid, for whatever reason or reasons, then, it will suffer the consequences in due course and it shall be recorded in this merciless period of history of the country.

Just before going to Press, it was reported, internationally, that the Russian convoy, advancing to the Ukrainian border, was '*a cynical act, designed to fan a pro-Russian rebellion*'.

In the words of Ukraine's Prime Minister, Mr Arseny Yatseniuk:

'First they send tanks, Grad missiles and bandits who fire on Ukrainians and, then, they send water and salt. The level of Russian cynicism knows no bounds.'

These comments are supposed to suggest, by innuendo, that the passage of the convoy of Russian aid onto Ukrainian soil could be a covert military action, aimed at helping the separatists who are, now, losing ground to battle-hardened, Ukrainian Government forces.

Russia has answered the allegations by stating, definitively, that any suggestion of a link between the Russian-aid convoy and an invasion plan was absurd.

President Putin is known to be an honest, family loving man who worships the virtues of the Russia in which he grew up and in which he, eventually, became a high-ranking member of the Komit Gosudarstvennoy Bezopasnosti (KGB).

Russia's Military Buildup

It is hardly any wonder that The Russian Federation has strengthened its armed forces at the border with Ukraine.

At the beginning of this month, units of the Ukrainian Army launched an assault on Donetsk, encircling the Ukrainian separatalists, all of whom are known as being loyal to The Russian Federation and, by extension, to President Putin.

It is estimated that more than 1,000 separatists have been killed by soldiers in the employ of the Ukrainian Army, thus far.

Bullets do not kill people; people kill people.

To President Putin, at any time, now, his troops may be required to repel units of the Ukrainian armed forces if they determine to invade one blade of Russian grass.

This may have the appearance of an elephant (The Russian Federation), being attacked by an ant (the Ukrainian Army), but, nevertheless, the ant must be dealt an immediate and decisive blow lest the little bugger do harm.

A good commander – President Putin was a former Lieutenant Colonel KGB, one must remember – takes nothing for granted.

Any leader of any country, worth his salt, would understand the thinking of President Putin in these difficult times and, as such, would order a military buildup ... just in case.

Even US Secretary of State, Mr John Forbes Kerry, should be able to recognise the pressing, present precarious situation that confronts The Russian Federation, despite his approaching age of 71 years.

In order to repel any boarders, wanting to steal some Russian soil, President Putin has had to beef up the country's military forces on the Ukrainian border with about 21,000, battle-ready troops, along with support from arillery and air defence. Surface-to-air missiles now number about 14 units, with the deployment of 30 artillery batteries.

This is hardly an invasion force, but, all things considered, it should act as a deterrent to any adventurous, belicose ambitions of Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko.

The present level of the Russian military buildup on the Ukrainian border compares with General Phillip Breedlove's mistaken assessment of just a fortnight ago of '*well over 12,000*' Russian forces on the border.

General Breedlove is the Supreme Allied Commander for The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and though he may know something about the movements of armed forces, he, probably, has placed too much store in his advisors' intelligence.

As **TARGET** () pointed out on Wednesday, August 6, 2014, in an article, headlined, '*IS VLADIMIR VLADIMIROVICH PUTIN SPOILING FOR A FIGHT* ?', General Breedlove said:

'Russia's actions in and around Ukraine have not been, and are not, now, defensive in nature ... This is a 21st Century offensive, employing 21st Century tools for strategic deception and calculated ambiguity to achieve Moscow's political goals.'

This medium is forced to come to the conclusion that General Breedlove is either not interested in obtaining alternative employment in The Russian Federation when he loses his position at NATO or, in the alternative, he is well aware that he is not qualified to apply for a position as one of the senior staff officers of President Putin.

That Man, John Kerry

'For ye suffer fools gladly, seeing ye yourselves are wise.' (2 Corinthians 11:19)

President Putin is known to have a very short fuse when faced with a person whom he is well aware is either ignorant, innocent, or, in the vernacular of the Americans, does not know his arse from a hole in the ground.

Which brings **TARGET** to the matter of US Secretary of State John Forbes Kerry.

He was appointed to this very high position in the Administration of President Barack Hussein Obama on January 24, 2013.

Since taking up the position, he seems to have made one mistake after another with regard to international politics.

For most Americans, one has come to expect rank ignorance of international affairs, but of the Secretary of State of the largest, single economy of the world!

Secretary John Kerry failed to visualise that there could well be a problem, fermenting in Ukraine, and, by this oversight, he may have helped to provoke it, more by accident than by design.

Instead of acknowledging his political myopia, one of his first attempts at amelioration with what he must have viewed from afar as the cantankerous President Putin was to suggest to the European Union (EU) that it would be in EU's best interests to try to get closer and more friendly to The Russian Federation and, of course, to its elected President.

Secretary John Kerry, no doubt, did not recall how his boss, President Barack Hussein Obama, had faired poorly in his attempts to mend fences with the Russian President.

President Putin watched and waited as Secretary John Kerry made one whopping mistake after another.

For this well-versed, international politician, watching Secretary John Kerry's mistakes must have been among the best comedies since Charles Chaplin's early silent, black-and-white movies.

When Secretary John Kerry, in November 2013, during a Middle East tour, complimented General Abdel Fattah el-Sisi in the way in which his military junta had deposed President Mohamed Morsi on July 3 of that year, he made statements to the effect that Egypt was back on the road to democracy.

As far as General Abdel Fattah el-Sisi was concerned, he had his own agenda, one that had absolutely nothing to do with democracy.

The General caused to have hundreds of the members of The Society of the Muslim Brothers, shortened to The Muslim Brotherhood, rounded up, and, after a trial of sorts, sentenced them, all, to death.

The General, then, cracked down on the media of the country as well as cracking his whip over political dissidents.

Turning to the situation in Syria, when Secretary John Kerry tried his hand at an attempt to resolve the matter of peace in the country – after President Putin encouraged him so to do – he, once again, failed to realise an important factor in respect of negotiations: President Bashar Hafez al-Assad's staunchest ally was none other than The Russian Federation/President Putin.

While the US Government continued to back the opposition with arms and what-have-you against the Assad Regime, Moscow was aiding and abetting it.

As for Secretary John Kerry's plan to suggest a transitional government for Syria after the fall of President Assad, it never was even discussed in earnest – if at all.

And so one mistake led to another – and President Putin looked on and pondered how long President Barack Hussein Obama would suffer this obviously ignorant Secretary of State.

The problem for this well-meaning man was that he had risen to the level of his incompetence.

He was, to be polite, out of touch with reality.

Today, Egypt is in the grips of an authoritarian strongman, General Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, with democracy not even being considered.

So much for Secretary John Kerry statements to the contrary in November of 2013.

If President Putin were able to have his way in US politics, no doubt he would try to have Secretary John Kerry run for President.

If, by some miracle, it should come to pass that Mr John Kerry became President John Kerry, then, President Putin's grand plan for The Russian Federation would be guaranteed.

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