

The Fascist Coup of Feb. 20, 2014

Avoiding the threat of World War III demands telling the truth about the events in Kiev, Ukraine, one year ago, when, under the threat of Nazi-led mobs, the elected President of Ukraine was driven from the country, and a government dominated by those mobs took over.

You say that statement is just “Russian propaganda?” You are either fooling yourself, or you’re a liar.

The fascist nature of those who dominated the so-called Maidan Revolution should have been obvious from the start. In fact, the uprising had been pre-planned by a group of fascists, including direct heirs of the Banderite Nazi movement of the 1930s. As events unfolded, the Nazi-like behavior of a crucial minority of the demonstrators—including throwing Molotov cocktails at the police, and attacking in military formation—should have shaken anyone’s naive belief that this was a peaceful protest by the people.

Taking leadership in the Maidan were known fascists from the Svoboda party, for example, a party condemned by the European parliament in 2012 as “racist, anti-Semitic, and xenophobic.” True, the up-front faces of the “Euromaidan,” such as Arseni Yatsenyuk and Andriy Parubiy, were not literally from Svoboda. But these individuals were intimately involved in movements which comprised it, and collaborated closely with Svoboda members.

Indeed, the government chosen by U.S. State Department official Victoria Nuland, to take over after President Yanukovich was deposed, proceeded to appoint three Svoboda members to cabinet posts; Parubiy, head of the National Security and Defense Council, was also the Commandant of the “Maidan Self-Defense”—the chief of the military wing of that movement.

By mid-February, Parubiy was clear that the

objective was not peaceful reforms, but the “elimination” of the elected government. On Feb. 18, 2014, his forces led a march to the parliament, which attacked the police. On Feb. 19-20, despite the negotiation of an ostensible truce, an all-day gun battle broke out, which resulted in the deaths of 70 people.

This massacre, blamed by the coup-makers on the Yanukovich regime, was, by all accounts, touched off by sniper fire, which hit both police and demonstrators. *Despite evidence—including some recently published by BBC—that this sniper fire came from the Maidan militias, there has never been a competent investigation of the event.*

On Feb. 20-21, the foreign ministers of Germany, France, and Poland brokered a truce, which was signed by the nominal leaders of the Maidan movement and Yanukovich. But within hours, the Self-Defense forces rejected it, and threatened all-out attack. Under threat of death, President Yanukovich left Kiev in the middle of the night.

The coup by the Nazi forces had achieved its first objective.

This was followed by a wave of actions in line with the Nazi program, including attacks on the rights of the large Russian-speaking Ukrainian population, hooligan terror against those in favor of alliance with Russia, and atrocities such as that in Odessa on May 2.

Yet the United States and Western European nations, are supporting this government, which presses its anti-Russian campaign. Is it any wonder the Russians react with alarm, and the war danger grows?

This fascist coup must be reversed!

Kicking out Nuland is the first step, and it must be done now. On this anniversary of Hitler’s defeat, let’s finally be serious about “Never Again!”