

The Collapse of the Western Military Machine

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The Geopolitical Disillusionment of a Hegemon



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When we study the current geopolitical map, it becomes increasingly clear that the West, and particularly the United States, lives in a self-created fantasy world. The analyses of the leading military-strategic expert Andrei Martyanov offer a refreshing, albeit sometimes painfully ironic and sharp, perspective on this reality. In an era where the Western mainstream media tirelessly spreads the narrative of

a "victorious Ukraine" or an "invincible NATO," it is crucial to return to the hard, inexorable laws of military operations, economics, and physics. Martyanov states unequivocally that we are already in a Third World War, not in the conventional sense Hollywood has served us, but as a gradual, relentless reckoning of an empire that has come to believe its own myths.

The United States has presented itself for decades as the undisputed military superpower, the "finest fighting force in the history of the world." Yet, as Martyanov repeatedly demonstrates, this assertion is nothing more than a propagandistic illusion, sustained by a military-industrial complex more interested in profit maximization than operational effectiveness. Recent developments in Eastern Europe and Western Asia have definitively lifted the veil. What remains is a "paper tiger": a military apparatus fundamentally incapable of waging a war of attrition, that does not understand its own logistical limits, and that confuses terrorism with warfare. This article delves deep into the core of Martyanov's argument, dissects the madness of current American policy, and outlines the inevitable geopolitical shifts that will follow.

The Hollywood War Model versus the Reality of Modern Combat

The Myth of the "Finest Fighting Force"



One of Martyanov's most striking and bitterly ironic observations concerns the lack of historical and operational awareness within the upper echelons of the Pentagon. The American military leadership, he asserts, simply does not understand what "real war" is. Their conceptual framework is not shaped by the hard lessons of Clausewitz, Zhukov, Manstein, or Kutuzov, but by the imaginative scenarios of Hollywood films. Martyanov pointedly refers to the film Independence Day (1996), where a character played by Jeff Goldblum manages to hack the advanced software of an alien mothership with an old-fashioned Apple Macintosh laptop. This is the level of

operational thinking that permeates American strategic culture: a belief in magical, technological quick-fixes that ignore the complex, chaotic, and bloody reality of large-scale conflicts.

The generations of Eisenhower and George Marshall understood the nature of warfare: the logistical chains, the moral resilience of the population, and the mathematical certainty of attrition. The current generation of Pentagon generals, by contrast, have been educated in a system that resembles corporate management training more than a military academy. They have never fought a peer conflict. Their only experience consists of conducting "high intensity police operations" against third-rate opponents in Iraq or Afghanistan, where the air force could operate unmolested and ground troops merely served as an occupation force. When faced with an adversary that can actually shoot back with advanced systems, as in Ukraine or in confrontations with Iran, their operational model proved completely inadequate.

Terrorism as a Substitute for Military Strategy

When a military power is unable to achieve strategic goals through conventional operational art, it falls back on what Martyanov accurately calls terrorism.

Western military doctrine, according to this analysis, has been permanently tainted by systematic attacks on civilian targets. Whether it is the shelling of Iranian cargo ships, the attack on a civilian bus in Belgrade by Ukrainian drones, or the continuous strikes on residential areas: it is not warfare, it is pure terror.

Martyanov sharply points out that this moral degradation is not accidental, but structural. **The American and European political and military elite, including figures populating the war cabinets, harbors a deep-rooted, almost pathological desire to destroy Russia.** This is fueled by cognitive dissonance: they cannot accept that they are operationally inferior. Instead of recognizing this inferiority and adjusting the strategy, they choose escalation and targeting civilians, hoping it will break the adversary. **It is the tactic of the desperate.** As Martyanov puts it: they have no understanding of humanity, and many of them would betray their own family for a good story or a promotion. The recent, extremely sharp statements about the fate of war instigators in the establishment – where Martyanov, without any restraint, emphasizes the moral bankruptcy of figures like Lindsey Graham – underscore his conviction that this class of politicians will go down in history as the architects of the greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the 21st century.

The Collapse of American Logistics and the "GRAB" Madness

The Impossibility of "Cheap" American Weapons Systems

One of the most revealing aspects of Martyanov's analysis is his discussion of the logistical and industrial impotence of the United States. The US is fundamentally incapable of waging a war of attrition. This is not a new discovery; the Nixon administration abandoned the gold standard in 1971, partly forced by the financial and industrial pressure of the Vietnam War. The difference is that in 1971, the US was still an industrial superpower. **Today, the US and the EU are a deindustrialized economy, dependent on financial market manipulation and an inflated service sector.**

This reality becomes painfully clear in the recent "GRAB" (Ground-based and Affordable Mass Price Challenge) initiatives of the Pentagon. Desperately seeking a way to replenish depleted stocks of expensive, guided munitions (like JASSM and Tomahawk), the Pentagon calls for the development of "cheap, scalable long-range effects." Martyanov punctures this rhetoric with devastating sarcasm. The requirements the Pentagon sets – a ground-based weapon with a range of 600 nautical miles (approx. 1100 km), a payload of 35 to 400 pounds, automatic target recognition, autonomous terminal guidance, and immunity to electronic warfare (GPS-denied environments) – are an impossible dream in the American industrial context.

The American defense industry has proven for decades that it is incapable of producing "cheap" solutions. Every attempt results in a gold-plated, overly complex system that is delivered years late and billions over budget, only to perform operationally disappointingly. The idea that American contractors can produce a demonstration within three months and full production within 18 months for such a system is laughable. It is an act of desperation, a "Hail Mary" pass from an organization that realizes the bills no longer add up, but lacks the political courage to abandon the invincibility myth.

Russian Supremacy in Hypersonic and Electronic Warfare

While the Pentagon dreams of future "GRAB" systems, the reality of modern warfare already exists on the battlefield, and it is in Russian hands. Martyanov points to the combat-proven status of Russian systems like the Geran-2 (Shahed) drones and the Bundar missiles. These systems are not only effective but also genuinely affordable

and in mass production. A Geran-2, equipped with a jet engine, essentially functions as a cruise missile with a range of hundreds of kilometers, produced for a fraction of the cost of its Western counterpart.

Furthermore, Martyanov emphasizes Russia's revolutionary advances in electronic warfare (EW). Western military doctrine is heavily reliant on C4ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance). The US believes it can lead the war from a screen in a command center, fed by real-time satellite data. However, Russia has exposed this vulnerability. By deploying advanced EW systems, Russian forces effectively jam the synthetic aperture radar (SAR) and communication channels of Western satellites. The result is that the US and its allies are rendered operationally "blind." Without this information advantage, the American military, which is not trained to fight in an environment where technological superiority is neutralized, is doomed to fail.



At sea, the situation is even more critical for the West. The introduction of the Yasen-M class submarines, such as the [Knyaz Ulyanovsk](#), marks a qualitative leap that makes the American Virginia-class seem outdated. Equipped with [hypersonic Zircon missiles](#) with a range of over 1500 kilometers, these submarines, which can dive to greater depths and are significantly quieter than their Western counterparts, can paralyze any maritime operation in the North Atlantic or the Mediterranean. The American Tomahawk, with a range of about 2000 km and subsonic speed, is a historical artifact in this comparison. The gap in military technology and operational insight is no longer bridgeable.

Black Sea Dominance: A New Geopolitical Reality

The Blockade of Ukraine and the Consequences for the West



The situation in Ukraine, according to Martyanov, has long been decided; all that remains is the formal settlement and the West's refusal to face reality. The so-called "Grain Deal" was a farce from the start, a cover used by the West to smuggle weapons systems and ammunition in containers under the guise of agricultural exports. Now that this backdoor route has been cut off, Ukraine's logistical lifeline is completely paralyzed.

Russia has consolidated control over the Black Sea. It is no exaggeration, as Martyanov does, to state that the Black Sea has effectively become a Russian "inland sea." The ongoing and successful attacks on Ukrainian and Western maritime assets in and around Odesa, Mykolaiv, and the Danube Delta have rendered shipping routes unusable. No ship can operate safely. This has catastrophic consequences for the Ukrainian economy, now deprived of both export revenues and the supply of essential military goods.

On land, the situation is equally hopeless for Kyiv. Russian troops are operating on the outskirts of Sloviansk and approaching Druzhkivka and Kramatorsk. The daily losses on the Ukrainian side – hundreds of soldiers and dozens of drones – are not "tactical victories," but a systematic war of attrition. Martyanov emphatically points out that the United States and the West are responsible for the deaths of an estimated 2.5 million Ukrainian soldiers, used as cannon fodder in a war they could not win. This moral guilt will haunt the West forever. The geopolitical consequences are now irreversible. As President Putin recently confirmed, the territorial integrity of Ukraine in its current form is history.

The western regions will inevitably be swallowed by neighboring countries: Poland will annex Eastern Galicia, Romania will claim Bukovina, and Hungary will reclaim its historical territories. Kyiv itself, now a nest of what Martyanov calls "Nazi fields," will be purged of its radical elements. It is not a matter of **if** this happens, but **when**. The Western attempts to delay this with propaganda articles and so-called NATO experts or university professors claiming that "Ukraine is winning"

are merely the last twitches of a bankrupt narrative.

Europe and China: The Victims of a Failing Western Policy

Europe as a Geopolitical Dwarf

The European Union is not spared in this analysis. Martyanov considers Europe a geopolitical dwarf, a region that systematically subordinates its own interests to Washington's strategic goals, to its own detriment. The prosperity of Europe over the past 50 years, as former EU official Javier Solana once implicitly acknowledged, was fundamentally based on cheap energy from the Soviet Union and later Russia. By breaking these ties and turning to the United States, Europe now buys gas at prices five times higher than before.

This economic suicide translates directly into military irrelevance. European armed forces are a shadow of what they once were. French aircraft carriers are small, vulnerable targets compared to American supercarriers, and the British Royal Navy is essentially non-existent, with only a handful of frigates actually seaworthy. Europe cannot make a serious military contribution to any conflict. It is a continent that is slowly impoverishing, becoming politically unstable, and on course to fragment in the coming decades.

The European leaders, who like to portray themselves as global players, are in reality nothing more than local administrators of declining prosperity, entirely dependent on the whims of the American market and the protection of a NATO that is itself in decline. Pathetic, overpaid puppets.

China's Mistake and the Commercial Reality

China also does not escape Martyanov's sharp gaze, albeit for different reasons. He emphasizes that China, despite its impressive achievements in combating poverty and its rich civilizational history, is primarily a commercial civilization, not a militarily expansionist power like the US. China's great strategic mistake, according to Martyanov, was betting on the continued solvency and growth of Europe. The Belt and Road Initiative was partly aimed at selling Chinese consumer goods in a prosperous Europe.

Due to Europe's self-inflicted impoverishment, driven by geopolitical hysteria and the break with Russia, the purchasing power of the European consumer has drastically declined. China must now reorient its export flows, which poses a huge economic challenge. Although China has built a strong market with Russia and other Asian countries, this cannot fully compensate for the loss-making European market. China is now learning, as Iran did earlier, the hard lesson that reliance on Western technology (such as air defense systems) or Western markets is a vulnerability. China's future lies in further self-sufficiency and strengthening ties with the Global South, away from the toxic influence of a dying Western empire.

Conclusion: The End of an Era and the Inevitable Reckoning

Andrei Martyanov's analyses offer no comfort to those who cling to the illusions of Western supremacy. They paint a portrait of a military and political establishment that has lost control, driven by hubris, incompetence, and a fundamental inability to face reality. The United States is no longer an invincible superpower; it has become a "paper tiger," a state that can only flex its military muscles in acts of terrorism against civilians, because it is no longer capable of large-scale, conventional warfare against a worthy adversary. The laws of physics, economics, and military operations cannot be fooled by Pentagon press releases or propaganda pieces in Western newspapers.

In Belgium, De Standaard, De Tijd, Knack, De Morgen, and many others are champions at this.

Russia has demonstrated that it possesses the technological, industrial, and moral resilience to meet this challenge. The Black Sea is secured, the Ukrainian proxy war is effectively decided, and Western attempts at escalation (such as the GRAB initiatives or sanction threats) are merely the convulsions of a system sealing its own fate.

For observers, analysts, and citizens in the West, it is time to take off the rose-tinted glasses. The "credit line" of Western civilization, artificially kept alive after World War II by the US, has expired. The bill is now being presented. The question is not whether the current global system will change, but how painful the transition will be for those who refuse to acknowledge reality. In the words that summarize Martyanov's argument: those who wage war without understanding what war is will ultimately be swallowed by the reality they so stubbornly denied.

History will not be kind to the architects of this illusion, and the aftermath will determine the geopolitical map of the world for generations.