

# War in Ukraine: Kiev Plans Military Escalation, Large-scale Provocations in Donbass

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Global Research, May 01, 2015

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*Novorossian militia claim that Kiev troops are planning large-scale provocations for May 8 and 9. Donetsk People's Republic spokesman Eduard Basurin expressed this point on Wednesday, citing human intelligence indicating the Ukrainian Army command plans large-scale provocations, including shelling of populated localities with heavy artillery. According to the DPR spokesman, Ukrainian service members in conversations with the local population are strongly recommending civilians evacuate the settlements of Novoluganskoye and Staromikhailovka by May 7.*

Meanwhile, the Defence Ministry of Ukraine has become annoyed with what he describes as the "OSCE mission falling to report all attacks on Ukrainian forces". The extreme butt-hurt in the headquarters of the so-called 'ATO' was caused by a report on the official website of the OSCE's monitoring mission stating that during the day of April 26, mission observers recorded 413 shots from weapons of various types near the village of Shyrokyne in the Donetsk region. Moreover, the report explains these shots were fired by the armed forces of Ukraine in the direction of territory controlled by Novorossian militia. Olala!

Smoke from a forest fire in the Chernobyl exclusion zone is capable of spreading contamination across great distances even after the fire has been stopped, ecology experts believe. The forest fire near the crippled Chernobyl nuclear power plant started on Tuesday and triggered predictions that the nuclear repository is in danger there. Although the sarcophagus remains untouched by the fire, decades-old contaminants in the environment surrounding the nuclear plant could still be released and travel far and wide in the smoke.

In December 2014, the US Senate Intelligence Committee issued a study on the CIA's detention and interrogation program, and found that the Agency tortured suspected terrorists in a brutal and mismanaged program that produced little valuable intelligence. "What we have here with respect to Romania vis-à-vis the United States is what President Vladimir Putin calls a vassal state," former CIA analyst Ray McGovern said on Wednesday. Former Romanian President Ion Iliescu, McGovern argued, approved the CIA black sites because he was beholden to the United States and further motivated by cash infusions from the US Treasury. It would be interesting to investigate Iliescu's Swiss bank account, McGovern suggested, and how the former Romanian President acquired his nice summer home on a lake.

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