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Ukraine update:^(/) As Russia mobilizes, here's what a well-trained army looks like (/stories/2022/9/26/2125288/-Ukraine-update-As-Russia-mobilizes-here-s-what-a-well-trained-army-looks-like)



kos (/users/kos) for Daily Kos (/groups/main)
Daily Kos Staff

2022/09/26 · 07:00

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url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dailykos.com%2Fstory%2F2022%2F9%2F26%2F2125288%2F-Ukraine-update-As-Russia-mobilizes-here-s-what-a-well-trained-army-looks-like&text=Ukraine+update%3A+As+Russia+mobilizes%2C+here%27s+what+a+well-trained+army+looks+like)

485 Comments 485 New (https://www.dailykos.com/story/2022/9/26/2125288/-Ukraine-update-As-Russia-mobilizes-here-s-

what-a-well-trained-army-looks-like#comments)

1 New Comment

DesAire





There are no unread comments at this time.

attribution: Markos Moulitsas

My son Ari and me at his infantry training graduation

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Mark Sumner was awesome this past week, covering Ukraine through the weekend, on his days off, giving me space to spend precious time with my son Ari at Fort Benning, Georgia between his graduation from infantry advanced training, and entering the Ranger school pipeline—one of the hardest schools in the entire U.S. military, the black and gold Ranger tab one of its most prestigious honors.

Seeing Ari spend months on his training already, it was something seeing what Russia is doing to its countrymen during its partial general mobilization this past week:

1 New Comment
DesAire



LatinoKos
(/blogs/LatinoKos)

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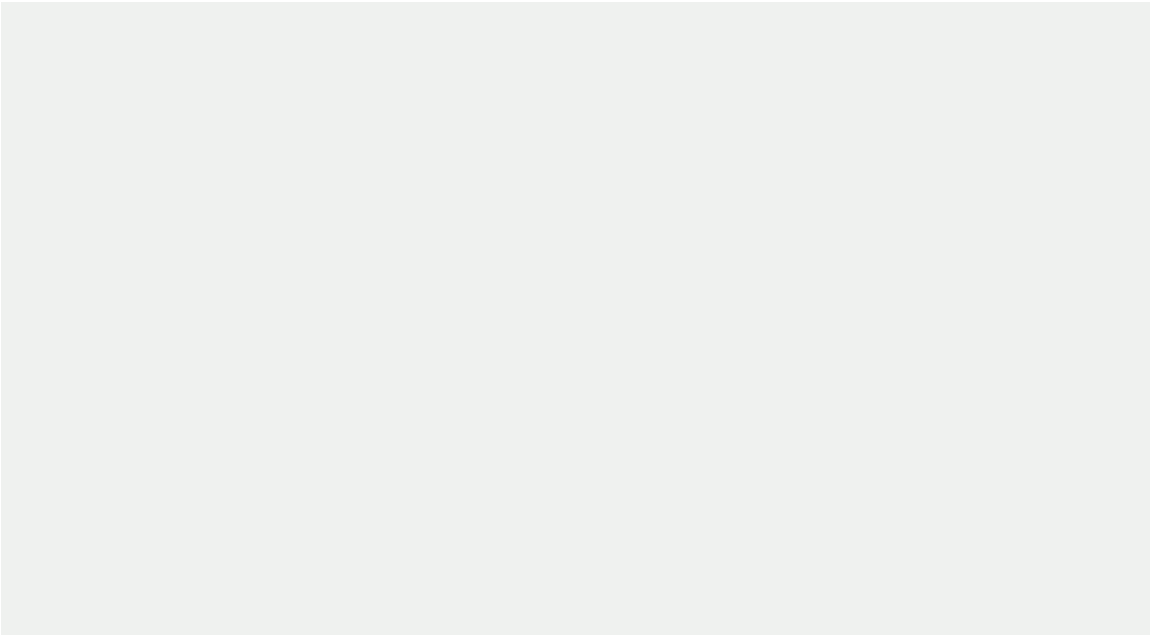
#AriMoulitsas
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Admiral James Stavridis, USN, Ret.

@stavridisj · [Follow](#)

There are no unread comments at this time.



CORRECTION. Earlier reports suggesting that Russian conscripts get only one day of training before being sent to front may be incorrect. New report says they get ZERO days.

The Kyiv Independent @KyivIndependent

General Staff: Russia sends newly mobilized conscripts directly to frontline.

Conscripts do not undergo any military training before being sent to the war against Ukraine, Ukraine's General Staff said.

7:35 PM · Sep 25, 2022



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In the U.S. Army, every soldier gets 10 weeks of basic combat training, then moves to advanced individual training. For infantry, my son was in school 22 weeks, almost six months, to get him to a modicum of proficiency as an infantryman. To hear him say it, even that is rudimentary knowledge at best. While his platoon worked on basic infantry skills like ambushes, reacting to ambush, assaults, and other squad- and platoon-level tasks, he joked about what a mess they still were, despite several weeks of working on it.

1 New Comment

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For the army, that's fine, because soldiers are expected to continue that education at their assigned unit under the guidance of experienced non-commissioned officers (NCOs, otherwise known as sergeants). So whether it's an extra 12 weeks (<https://www.goarmy.com/careers-and-jobs/career-match/ground-forces/firearms-ammunition/11b-infantryman.html>) for advanced infantry training (post-basic training), or an extra 24 weeks (<https://www.goarmy.com/careers-and-jobs/career-match/mechanics-engineering/test-repair/91a-m1-abrams-tank-system-maintainer.html>) for an Abrams tank mechanic, or an extra 53 weeks (<https://www.goarmy.com/careers-and-jobs/career-match/mechanics-engineering/test-repair/94s-patriot-system-repairer.html>) as Patriot air defense system repairer, that is just basic-level knowledge. Think of college laying foundation, but learning your actual career at your job.

Let's take a look at the most basic Infantry unit, the rifle squad (<https://www.battleorder.org/usa-rifleco-ibct-2020>), to get an idea of how much support a brand new infantryman gets:

- Squad Leader (E-6, Staff Sergeant)
- Alpha Team Leader (E-5, Sergeant)
 - Grenadier (M4 rifle with attached grenade launcher)
 - Automatic rifleman (machine gun)
 - Rifleman
- Brave Team Leader (E-5, Sergeant)
 - Grenadier (M4 rifle with attached grenade launcher)
 - Automatic rifleman (machine gun)
 - Rifleman

There are no unread comments at this time.

That Rifle Squad has nine soldiers. Three of them are NCOs. An E-5 sergeant has around 4-5 years of experience. In some cases, a really high speed soldier might make it in 3. But that requires things like, well, Ranger school. Regardless, we're looking at 3-5 years of experience to lead just *three* soldiers. That E-6 commanding eight soldiers? Seven is the minimum time in service, but will usually take a year or two longer.

So in this nine-soldier squad, you're looking at NCOs with *at least* 13 years combined years of experience, and more likely 15-20 (since they'll stay in those slots and ranks for years). A brand new infantryman walks into a system that will take that basic knowledge learned in his or her initial training, and refine it over years of repetitive drilling and practicing.

Amazingly, Russia never had NCOs (<https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2022/3/24/2087772/-Ukraine-update-What-is-an-NCO-and-why-does-Russia-s-lack-of-them-cause-them-so-much-trouble>). Well, they



attribution: Markos Moulitsas

Rifle squad, from a demonstration at my son's infantry school graduation

1 New Comment



have something they call "NCOs," but they are a shell of the system seen in NATO armies. Russian officers have died at astronomical rates (https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1_bp1qkzD88hSpA-PDZenSQGNnVnxz3lwYHKViSyuUc/edit#gid=1361265165). That's why we're seeing 60-year-old retired officers being mobilized. They're severely lacking in soldiers with leadership capabilities. And even those, like the ones already dying in Ukraine, lack the NATO-standard ability to adjust and adapt orders to best carry out a given mission. Those NCOs in that Rifle Squad have wide latitude in carrying out the orders from their officers. It's called "battlefield initiative," and Ukraine has been training it for the past eight years.

Now Russia is sending thousands of new conscripts straight to the front line with nothing but the most rudimentary training. They originally claimed these mobilized souls would get two weeks training, but even that was too optimistic. Why waste time "training" these new soldiers if they are merely meant as human speed bumps to advancing Ukrainian forces?

This is a good thread by retired Gen. Mark Hertling saying much the same as I did above, but with some added color:

There are no unread comments at this time.

Mark Hertling
 @MarkHertling · [Follow](#)

Putin's announced mobilization of 300,000 "reservists" was jaw-dropping to me this morning, but not for the reason some might suspect.

Why? Because know how Russian soldiers are trained, in basic training & in their units.

A brief 📖 on some fun facts. 1/

7:01 AM · Sep 21, 2022 (i)

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This thread (https://twitter.com/BA_Friedman/status/1574137972621975554) is also excellent:

B. A. Friedman
 @BA_Friedman · [Follow](#)

1 New Comment

Replying to @BA_Friedman DesAire

Throwing every able-bodied male in uniform and shipping them out can get you units, but they can't get

your capable units. Especially in modern warfare where physically-massing ground forces isn't a strength but a liability.

2:48 PM · Sep 25, 2022



1.7K Reply Share

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The carnage will be massive. It'll be like the Battle of Stalingrad scene in the movie Enemy at the Gates.

Enemy At The Gates - [2001] Battle of Stalingrad scene



There are no unread comments at this time.

Ari is in the Ranger school pipeline. If you are curious to learn what that's about, this is an excellent article (<https://www.outsideonline.com/outdoor-adventure/exploration-survival/army-ranger-school/>). This is a quick primer:



How Hard is Ranger School?



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DesAire




And if you want a full-on documentary about the school, this one (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=muGYu7bgghg>) appears dated, but Ranger school hasn't changed much since. Ranger students still have to survive 2-5 months of the school on severe sleep and food deprivation (most students "recycle" one of more of the three phases of the school, redoing parts until they meet the stringent requirements). Pushed to their physical limits, they learn to conduct the necessary squad- and platoon-level tasks by muscle memory, through instinct.

Andrew Roth  
@Andrew_Roth · [Follow](#)




Video of a Russian man opening fire and killing the military commandant in a draft centre in the city of Úst-Ilimsk in Irkutsk region. The military commandant was the head of the local draft committee. He has died, according to reports.

There are no unread comments at this time.

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11:39 PM · Sep 25, 2022 

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DesAire

This is a step up from the arson (https://twitter.com/polidemitolog/status/1574085804015718400) that we've seen in conscription offices all war. Likely won't be the last.

Click here to donate to help those escaping Putin's illegal invasion of Ukraine. (https://secure.actblue.com/donate/dkukraine?refcode=embeds)

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url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dailykos.com%2Fstory%2F2022%2F9%2F26%2F2125288%2F-Ukraine-update-As-Russia-mobilizes-here-s-what-a-well-trained-army-looks-like&text=Ukraine+update%3A+As+Russia+mobilizes%2C+here%27s+what+a+well-trained+army+looks+like)

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what a well-trained army looks like#comments)

485 Comments

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FishOutOfWater (/users/fishoutofwater)

Sep 26, 2022 at 07:06:44 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603501#comment_84603501)

Congrats to Ari. He has to be tough and smart to get into Ranger school. I can see that you are a very proud dad, kos. I wish all of your family well.

Reply

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ArcOfTheUniverse (/users/arcoftheuniverse) ▶ FishOutOfWater

Sep 26, 2022 at 11:56:11 AM

(/comments/2125288/84605565#comment_84605565)

There are no unread comments at this time.

Two fine lookin' young men!

Reply

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Paul C (/users/paul c) ▶ ArcOfTheUniverse

Sep 26, 2022 at 01:41:00 PM

(/comments/2125288/84606329#comment_84606329)

The resemblance between father and son is unmistakable.

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murphy (/users/murphy) ▶ Paul C

Sep 26, 2022 at 09:33:50 PM

(/comments/2125288/84608973#comment_84608973)

Now I REALLY know I'm old. I remember when Ari was a baby.

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FarWestGirl (/users/farwestgirl) ▶ murphy

Sep 26, 2022 at 11:04:31 PM

(/comments/2125288/84609274#comment_84609274)

1 New Comment
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Ditto. ::sigh::

Adorable kid, handsome (and competent) young man.

Ya done good, Kos!

Reply

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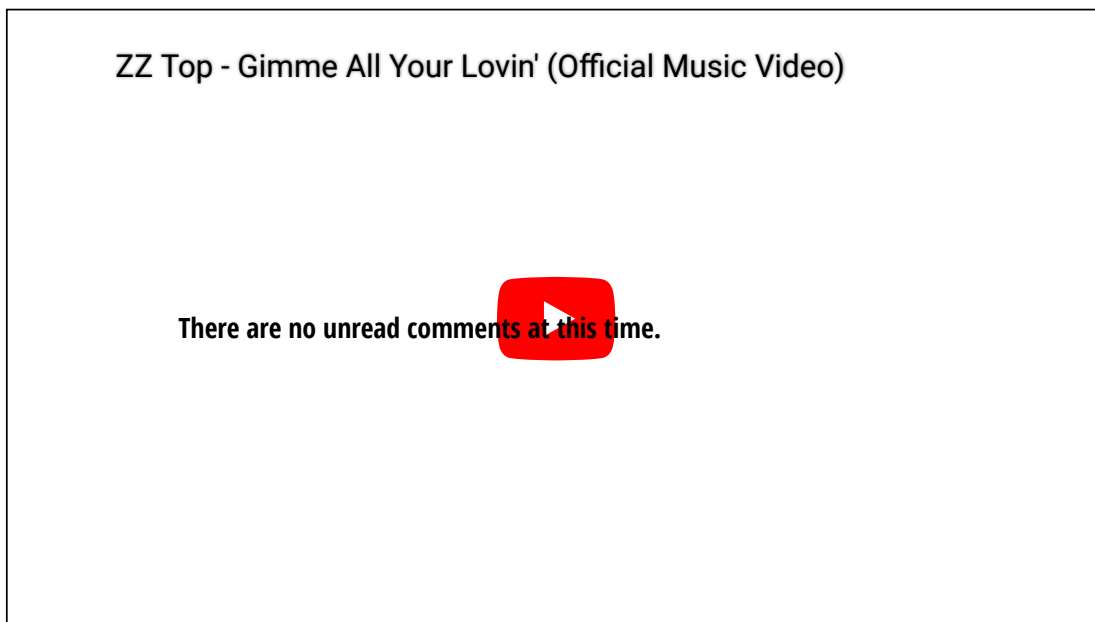


johnkick (/users/johnkick) ► ArcOfTheUniverse

Sep 26, 2022 at 06:11:31 PM

(/comments/2125288/84607912#comment_84607912)

Texans will quit? I doubt it.



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Bourne2Bmild (/users/bourne2bmild) ► FishOutOfWater

Sep 26, 2022 at 02:28:37 PM

(/comments/2125288/84606679#comment_84606679)

Second that. Best to Ari for upcoming trials.

Reply

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DutchLemming (/users/dutchlemming) ► FishOutOfWater

Sep 26, 2022 at 05:37:22 PM

(/comments/2125288/84607676#comment_84607676)

So how can a draft dodging con man become Commander in Chief of the US Army and Navy?

1 New Comment

DesAire

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G2geek (/users/g2geek) ▶ DutchLemming

Sep 26, 2022 at 08:19:17 PM

(/comments/2125288/84608679#comment_84608679)



With more than a little help from America's oldest and most fearsome enemy.

When all's said & done, he will face the music.

5 Recommend



CyberLady1 (/users/cyberlady1) ▶ FishOutOfWater

Sep 26, 2022 at 10:02:23 PM

(/comments/2125288/84609064#comment_84609064)



Good looking guys! Congratulations to Ari and his Dad... hard to say which is prouder!

1 Recommend



Exiledcrow (/users/exiledcrow) There are no unread comments at this time.

Sep 26, 2022 at 07:09:02 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603518#comment_84603518)



Concerning that last video, I suspect there's going to be a lot more of that. And a lot of officers getting fraged as well.

92 Recommend



davidsites (/users/davidsites) ▶ Exiledcrow

Sep 26, 2022 at 07:20:58 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603589#comment_84603589)



Not only that ... the various ethnic units may wind up fighting each other

61 Recommend



Exiledcrow (/users/exiledcrow) ▶ davidsites

Sep 26, 2022 at 07:27:02 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603613#comment_84603613)



Well for sure no one likes the TikToc Chechens.

45 Recommend 1 New Comment

DesAire



swizzle (/users/swizzle) ▶ Exiledcrow



• Sep 26, 2022 at 07:31:59 AM
(/comments/2125288/84603643#comment_84603643)



OK, I'd make a huge exception for them, and also Wagner Group. Plus any units war-criming, looting and etc.

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• **MichaelNY (/users/michaelny) ▶ Exilecrow**
Sep 26, 2022 at 04:49:03 PM
(/comments/2125288/84607415#comment_84607415)



TikToc?
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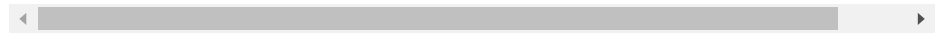


• **macleme (/users/macleme) ▶ MichaelNY**
Sep 26, 2022 at 08:29:01 PM
(/comments/2125288/84608718#comment_84608718)

There are no unread comments at this time.

Kadyrov's Chechen soldiers are more focused on TikTok than actually fighting. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fAjobwvchRg>) In fact, some are questioning whether they are even fighting in Ukraine at all.

Reply Recommend **5** Recommend



• **MichaelNY (/users/michaelny) ▶ macleme**
Sep 26, 2022 at 11:43:23 PM
(/comments/2125288/84609362#comment_84609362)

Oh, I see.

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• **swizzle (/users/swizzle) ▶ davidsites**
Sep 26, 2022 at 07:28:13 AM
(/comments/2125288/84603623#comment_84603623)



That would be additionally sad and counter-productive — aiming at the wrong target instead of Putin's regime.

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DesAire





Witgren (/users/witgren) ▶ swizzle

Sep 26, 2022 at 07:33:11 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603657#comment_84603657)



That depends on who they fight with. If it's the Wagner crew or the Chechen butchers, the more of them end up under the sod, the better for everyone. Those bastards WANT to be there, and are top of the heap when it comes to committing war crimes. As far as I'm concerned, they can't get shot fast enough.

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ArcOfTheUniverse (/users/arcoftheuniverse) ▶ davidsites

Sep 26, 2022 at 12:00:05 PM

(/comments/2125288/84605594#comment_84605594)



I imagine the Dagestanis aren't very fond of Kadyrov and his army of Chechen butchers.

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There are no unread comments at this time.



Patrick Walsh (/users/patrick walsh) ▶ ArcOfTheUniverse

Sep 26, 2022 at 12:31:30 PM

(/comments/2125288/84605806#comment_84605806)



I imagine the Chechens fighting for Ukraine are even less fond of the Kadyrovites

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Exiledcrow (/users/exiledcrow) ▶ Patrick Walsh

Sep 26, 2022 at 02:06:02 PM

(/comments/2125288/84606515#comment_84606515)

Which is why they're busy making TikToks and nowhere near the fighting if they can help it.

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crystalline (/users/crystalline) ▶ ArcOfTheUniverse

Sep 26, 2022 at 03:22:44 PM

(/comments/2125288/84606985#comment_84606985)



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I hope the people of Dagestan find a way to get their hands on weapons and ammuniton as well as stocking up on molotov cocktails, because Putin has ordered Kadyrov to send his tik tok warriors into Dagestan to put down the protests there.

Reply Recommend 1 Recommend



macleme (/users/macleme) ▶ ArcOfTheUniverse

Sep 26, 2022 at 08:31:08 PM

(/comments/2125288/84608727#comment_84608727)

This could get interesting

Fuat
@lilygrutcher · Follow

Kadyrov's men to be sent to Dagestan to suppress antimobilization protests in coming days. Dagestanis hate Chechens as couple of years ago. The Chechens are now in Dagestani territories.

4:02 PM · Sep 26, 2022

2.1K Reply Share

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teej (/users/teej) ▶ Exiledcrow

Sep 26, 2022 at 08:10:09 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603877#comment_84603877)

If they really want to arm a bunch of angry men who are being forced to fight a war against their will, they deserve the consequences.

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Beano (/users/beano) ▶ teej

Sep 26, 2022 at 09:30:23 AM

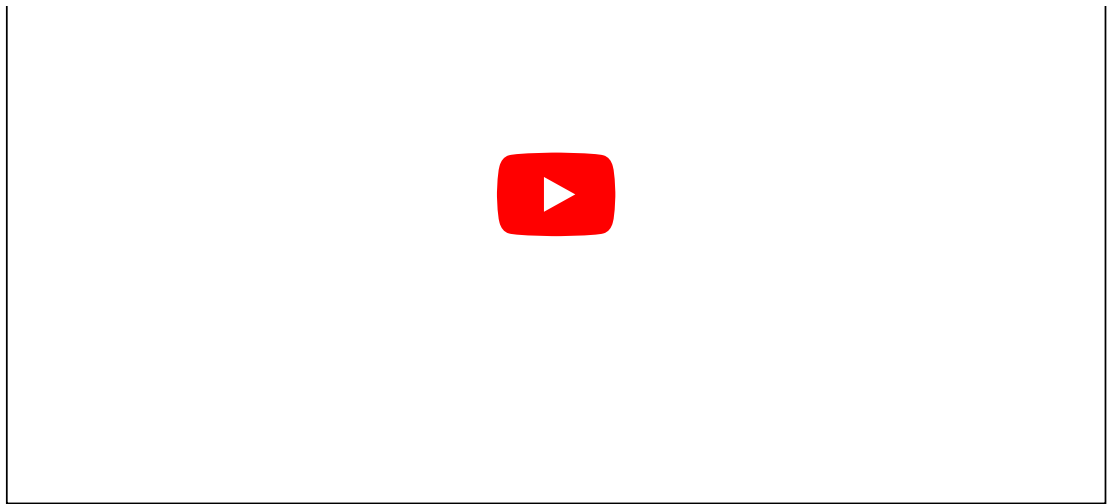
(/comments/2125288/84604498#comment_84604498)

Here's how that approach worked in out for Russia in 1917:

1 New Comment

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Doctor Zhivago - Scene on Road



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ArcOfTheUniverse (/users/arcoftheuniverse) ► Beano

Sep 26, 2022 at 12:04:39 PM

(/comments/2125288/84605619#comment_84605619)

What a brilliant movie!
There are no unread comments at this time.

It's mazing how determined Putin is to live up to the stereotyp of the self-defeating, hated Russian butcher.

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Talmas (/users/talmas) ► Beano

Sep 26, 2022 at 01:23:24 PM

(/comments/2125288/84606200#comment_84606200)

Ok those leaders were idiots. LOL Who lets a large group of people near them? Morons!!

Reply Recommend 1 Recommend



proudlberal4life (/users/proudlberal4life) ► teej

Sep 26, 2022 at 10:00:39 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604748#comment_84604748)

Didn't some of the MAGAs state that they'd rather be Russians than Democrats? Well here's their chance! Daddy Vladdy is calling, boys!

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ManOfNoCountry (/users/manofnocountry)

► proudliberal4life



Sep 26, 2022 at 10:39:36 AM

(/comments/2125288/84605076#comment_84605076)

Fast track to Russian citizenship and don't mind if you have a huge beer belly and are 60 — that seems like a tailor-made offer for MAGA heads. Go to the land of state sanction hatred of gays, religious intolerance, and worship of a dictator. Frankly, why are they still here? I'd offer to pay for their trip if they don't have the cash for a ticket.

Reply Recommend 26 Recommend



We had a socialist mayor once (/users/we had a socialist mayor once)

ManOfNoCountry

Sep 26, 2022 at 12:42:21 PM

(/comments/2125288/84605884#comment_84605884)

No way any of them have any cash period. Probably overextended on credit cards too so no charging the tickets.

There are no unread comments at this time. Reply Recommend 1 Recommend



ManOfNoCountry (/users/manofnocountry)

We had a socialist mayor once

Sep 26, 2022 at 05:38:49 PM

(/comments/2125288/84607692#comment_84607692)

That's just an excuse unless they can prove they have "invested" their life savings in Truth Social.

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Talmas (/users/talmas) ► proudliberal4life

Sep 26, 2022 at 01:24:11 PM

(/comments/2125288/84606203#comment_84606203)

1 New Comment

DesAire





These guys are ready.....

There are no unread comments at this time.

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OvejaNegra (/users/ovejaneagra) ▶ Talmas

Sep 26, 2022 at 01:30:31 PM

(/comments/2125288/84606248#comment_84606248)

Wow! For older Kossacks, can you remember the equally stupid "better red than dead"? Of course, Putin is and was no commie but a full out fascist...

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Talmas (/users/talmas) ▶ OvejaNegra

Sep 26, 2022 at 01:45:09 PM

(/comments/2125288/84606357#comment_84606357)

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A billion-ruble home.

I can be said that he WAS a Communist under the USSR, but he made a complete flip to a Fascist once he saw how profitable it was.

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There are no unfilled comments in this article. **Failed comment by user (crow) ▶ Talmas**



Sep 26, 2022 at 02:06:42 PM

(/comments/2125288/84606519#comment_84606519)

They're too fit and not drunk enough for the current Russian army.

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Mr Tucker (/users/mr tucker) ▶ Talmas

Sep 26, 2022 at 02:12:57 PM

(/comments/2125288/84606568#comment_84606568)

All I can say to those two guys is I'd rather be an American than a Republican.

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BennyCaleb (/users/bennycaleb) ▶ proudliberal4life

Sep 26, 2022 at 03:15:05 PM

(/comments/2125288/84606938#comment_84606938)

Maybe Ed Snowden can get conscripted now that he's a citizen.

DesAire

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SeekCa (/users/seekca) ▶ BennyCaleb

Sep 26, 2022 at 05:06:33 PM

(/comments/2125288/84607492#comment_84607492)

Per what I read he got an immediate recusal from the draft. Hope he can hold on to it!

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G2geek (/users/g2geek) ▶ BennyCaleb

Sep 26, 2022 at 09:09:27 PM

(/comments/2125288/84608887#comment_84608887)

Oh, that traitorous wretch. The probability of ever getting him extradited has just gone from almost zero to zero. Grr.

At least it's now crystal clear where he stands, so no more plausible deniability for his supporters.

There are no unread comments at this time.

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G2geek (/users/g2geek) ▶ proudliberal4life

Sep 26, 2022 at 08:27:52 PM

(/comments/2125288/84608713#comment_84608713)

Yes to that. Someone needs to set up a for-real channel, to lure those fascist arseholes into the war and get them over there.

'See you on the Evening News, traitors!'

(Video of UA's RU POWs being marched down the road, hands in the air.)

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kurious (/users/kurious) ▶ Exiledcrow

Sep 26, 2022 at 08:50:19 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604153#comment_84604153)

"Desperate **Russian Shoots Recruitment Officer Instead of Signing up to Fight in Ukraine**" (<https://www.thedailybeast.com/russian-war-protester-shoots-commander-trying-to-draft-citizens?ref=home>)(Daily Beast, 9/26/22):
1 New Comment
DesAire



...Another man set himself on fire as protests against Putin's draft turned violent...

...While many Russians have opted to flee the country (<https://www.thedailybeast.com/russia-desperately-tries-to-sell-its-ukraine-war-draft-as-citizens-flee-towards-the-borders>) to dodge Vladimir Putin's desperate draft for the war in Ukraine, one man took his protest a little bit further and shot a recruitment commander...

A witness to the shooting said the gunman opened fire after the recruiting commander had delivered a "clumsy" pep talk for the men assembled in the office to go off to battle in Ukraine. "Nobody is going anywhere," the shooter said before beginning the assault, the witness told the Baikal People outlet, according to *The Guardian* (<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/sep/26/russia-man-shoots-commander-drafting-residents-for-war-in-ukraine>).

The shooter was said to have been upset about his friend being conscripted...

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There are no unread comments at this time.



● **HughJimBasile (/users/hughjimbasile) ▶ kurious**

Sep 26, 2022 at 09:19:05 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604404#comment_84604404)

Lake Baikal is north of Mongolia far away from Moscow or Ukraine. If the people in the farthest reaches of Russia are aware of the truth of Putin's disastrous invasion, Vlad will have a hard time to find volunteers to supply his meat grinder campaign.

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● **kurious (/users/kurious) ▶ HughJimBasile**

Sep 26, 2022 at 09:44:42 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604604#comment_84604604)

"On Saturday, Tsakhia Elbegdorj, president of Mongolia until 2017 and now head of the World Mongol Federation (<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/complaints-about-russias-chaotic-mobilisation-grow-louder-2022-09-24/>)...

1 New Comment

DesAire



...promised those fleeing the draft, especially three Russian Mongol groups, a warm welcome, and bluntly called on Putin to end the war.

"The Buryat Mongols, Tuva Mongols, and Kalmyk Mongols have ... been used as nothing more than cannon fodder," he said in a video, wearing a ribbon in Ukrainian yellow-and-blue.

"Today you are fleeing brutality, cruelty, and likely death. Tomorrow you will start freeing your country from dictatorship..."

 Reply  Recommend **71** Recommend



HughJimBasile (/users/hughjimbasile) ▶ kurious

Sep 26, 2022 at 09:49:56 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604642#comment_84604642)

That is great news! Apparently, based on comments in this Post, **There are no unread comments at this time** Dagestanis are starting to sabotage anything connected to the Invasion of Ukraine..

 Reply  Recommend **32** Recommend



Lawd Bayou (/users/lawd bayou) ▶ kurious

Sep 26, 2022 at 03:48:46 PM

(/comments/2125288/84607108#comment_84607108)

Wow, that is significant

 Reply  Recommend **7** Recommend



wilderness voice (/users/wilderness voice)

▶ **HughJimBasile**

Sep 26, 2022 at 10:09:57 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604832#comment_84604832)

We have truly a new world now with the Internet going *everywhere*

 Reply  Recommend **12** Recommend



Will the krill (/users/will the krill) ▶ wilderness voice 

Sep 26, 2022 at 12:05:39 PM

(/comments/2125288/84605622#comment_84605622)

Good and bad; the internet made Trump a cult leader.

Reply

★ Recommend

5 Recommend



sillia (/users/sillia) ▶ Will the krill

Sep 26, 2022 at 12:17:00 PM

(/comments/2125288/84605704#comment_846057)

I think it was the stupid TV shows that got him his fame. 1950's tech.

Reply

★ Recommend

7 Recommend



Dubh01 (/users/dubh01) ▶ Will the krill

Sep 26, 2022 at 12:26:50 PM

(/comments/2125288/84605772#comment_846057)

There are no unread comments at this time.

An American cult leader...maybe refine it even more and say a racist North American cult leader. A pimple on the arse of the world to everybody else.

Reply

★ Recommend

7 Recommend



We had a socialist mayor once (/users/we socialist mayor once)

▶ **Dubh01**

Sep 26, 2022 at 12:47:25 PM

(/comments/2125288/84605920#comment_846059)

I go with boil on the ass of the universe. Lance it

Reply

★ Recommend

7 Recommend



BennyCaleb (/users/bennycaleb) ▶ Will the krill

Sep 26, 2022 at 03:16:15 PM

(/comments/2125288/84606951#comment_846069)

That was Twitter and ZuckBook.

Reply

★ ^{1 New Comment} Recommend

DesAire

4 Recommend

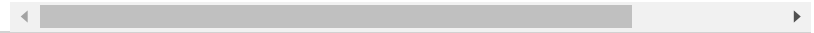




• **Lawd Bayou (/users/lawd bayou)** ▶ Will the krill
Sep 26, 2022 at 03:52:44 PM
(/comments/2125288/84607133#comment_846071

I think it was too many Americans not understanding the internet. Therefore, how they were being manipulated. Younger Americans get it better than their parents and grandparents. Let's hope that enlightenment for all doesn't come too late.

◀ Reply ★ Recommend 3 Recommend



• **maddmann1 (/users/maddmann1)** ▶ Law
Sep 26, 2022 at 11:05:21 PM
(/comments/2125288/84609277#comme

Love Zuckbook.

◀ Reply ★ Recommend 0 Recommend

There are no unread comments at this time.



• **Neil R G (/users/neil r g)** ▶ Exiledcrow
Sep 26, 2022 at 05:14:09 PM
(/comments/2125288/84607533#comment_84607533) ▼

As you probably know, during Veitnam several fraggings happened to NCO's and Officers. My Dad, a WWII vet said origanally basic training instructors were sent with their class to the front lines. When the shooting started one of the first killed were drill instructors. The Army stopped sending them with their classes after that!

◀ Reply ★ Recommend 4 Recommend



• **TomA2Mich (/users/toma2mich)** ▶ Neil R G
Sep 26, 2022 at 06:25:16 PM
(/comments/2125288/84608030#comment_84608030) ▼

"several fraggings" the year I was in Cam Rahn Bay Vietnam on the central coast there were 500+ fraggings. When I was on guard detail I chose the farthest post from the center of the base—way out near the perimeter—a compound of BOQ house trailers for the field grade officers. Two days after I transfered out of my first unit a friend said they found a live grenade with my name on it at my old barracks.

◀ Reply ★ Recommend 5 Recommend

1 New Comment ✕

DesAire



• **hquain (/users/hquain)**
Sep 26, 2022 at 07:12:07 AM ▼

(/comments/2125288/84603532#comment_84603532)

This is a real heads-up for readers of Daily Kos.

Reply Recommend 17 Recommend



22 Trucks (/users/22 trucks) ▶ hquain

Sep 26, 2022 at 09:22:32 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604433#comment_84604433)

Um, what is a real heads up?

Reply Recommend 7 Recommend



trumpeter (/users/trumpeter) ▶ hquain

Sep 26, 2022 at 11:28:36 AM

(/comments/2125288/84605372#comment_84605372)

Except for those of us who are veterans, and were NCO's

Reply Recommend 9 Recommend There are no unread comments at this time.



LifelongD (/users/lifelongd)

Sep 26, 2022 at 07:13:53 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603537#comment_84603537)

Congratulations proud Dad, and brave son. Be bold and lucky. Obviously why we train our military so well is not just that our leaders are smart, but we also value the lives of every young man and woman who volunteer in service to our country. Russia of course does no such thing. Every day we should remember why it is wonderful to live in a great democracy.

Reply Recommend 78 Recommend



TooNice (/users/toonice) ▶ LifelongD

Sep 26, 2022 at 07:23:23 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603598#comment_84603598)

Can you imagine seeing your son handed a rifle and told to go get-em? I couldn't stand for it.

Reply Recommend 32 Recommend



Aynsley (/users/aynsley) ▶ TooNice

Sep 26, 2022 at 07:35:55 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603674#comment_84603674)

DesAire

Agree. It's insane, it's delusional, it's criminal, with what Putin is doing to his own people. However, I realize Russian's & Putin are predisposed to this treatment.

Question: Does there come a time at any point where the RU Army 'rises up' and says NO! ?? (I assume the RUA is or will soon come to the realization that UKR is a lost cause and self-preservation of the RUA has to be a consideration.)

Thanks, Kos, and best wishes for Ari's training (I read that article and WOW...I had no idea).

 Reply  Recommend 42 Recommend



MakoShark (/users/makoshark) ▶ Aynsley

Sep 26, 2022 at 07:50:19 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603749#comment_84603749)

Does there come a time at any point where the RU Army 'rises up' and says NO! ??

There are no unread comments at this time.

I am not optimistic. Without leadership, an army is just a bunch of men with weapons who are hungry and want to go home.

And the leadership? These guys face the double thread of either being killed in that outrage of a war, or they are being killed by this outrage of a leader who fears nothing more than competent people around him.

 Reply  Recommend 26 Recommend



talonw (/users/talonw) ▶ MakoShark

Sep 26, 2022 at 07:57:50 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603793#comment_84603793)

They've done it several times before 1917 1991

 Reply  Recommend 7 Recommend



MakoShark (/users/makoshark) ▶ talonw

Sep 26, 2022 at 08:14:24 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603912#comment_84603912)

It seems, I didn't emphasize the point about 'NO LEADERSHIP' in combination with the Russian military well enough.

1 New Comment
Dislike



Reply Recommend 3 Recommend



22 Trucks (/users/22 trucks) ▶ talonw

Sep 26, 2022 at 09:29:52 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604495#comment_846044)

In neither case was it the low level conscripted soldiers who actually started the movement in that direction. Due to their wide distribution and inability to communicate, it is not something that happens.

Someone with some capability has to get the ball rolling. If the conscripts were concentrated in just a couple of locations the necessary leadership could emerge and form internally. But that isn't how this is moving forward. It is possible some small incidents could happen in local units, but not the coordinated movement necessary to have a real effect.

There are no unread comments at this time. Reply Recommend 10 Recommend



Northwatch (/users/northwatch) ▶ 22 Trucks

Sep 26, 2022 at 11:48:34 AM

(/comments/2125288/84605502#comment_84605502)

Historically at least in the last few centuries, you will find that most revolutions and revolts tend to be led by educated, middle-class people. They may not end up being in charge when it's over, but they'll usually be the early leadership.

Hitler is one of the standouts for not following this pattern, but you can look at the rest of the Nazi leadership and see it. Mussolini was a journalist. Lenin was born into the upper middle class. Fidel Castro was the son of a wealthy farmer and a law student. Che Guevara was a medical student. The leadership of the American Revolution. Looking at non-violent ones, Gandhi was a lawyer, Martin Luther King Jr was of course university educated.

Reply Recommend 13 Recommend



22 Trucks (/users/22 trucks) ▶ Northwatc

Sep 26, 2022 at 04:54:34 PM

(/comments/2125288/84607443#comme

Okay, but in this thread, we're not talking about starting a revolution. We're talking about a large, multi-unit mutiny. That's a completely different beast.

That mutiny may then morph into a revolution, but it doesn't start out that way.

Reply Recommend **2** Recommend



Northwatch (/users/northwatch) ▶ 22 Tru

Sep 26, 2022 at 11:24:55 PM

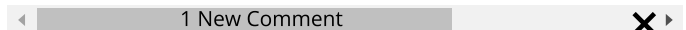
(/comments/2125288/84609315#comme

There are no unread comments at this time.

It's the same with mutinies. The leadership tends to be the senior enlisted or junior officers. Fletcher Christian was an officer (and came from money). the 1915 Singapore Mutiny was triggered by three officers, the 2009 Georgian mutiny was led by officers, the 1977 Bangladesh Air Force mutiny was led by a sergeant.

Okay, I should clarify: there's mutinies where soldiers refuse to follow orders, but otherwise take no action against their superiors (such as the Chicago 43 in the US, and the French mutineers of 1917 who refused to launch attacks and continue to get slaughtered, but did not abandon their posts and were entirely willing to defend their lines) and mutinies which are offensive actions. The former can be spontaneous actions without leadership, the latter rarely are.

Reply Recommend **0** Recommend



1 New Comment



DesAire



Talmas (/users/talmas) ▶ MakoShark

Sep 26, 2022 at 01:26:33 PM

(/comments/2125288/84606219#comment_84606219)

Russian Troops have been deserting their units in large numbers and w lower moral it will only get worse for Russia.

[↩ Reply](#) [★ Recommend](#) 3 Recommend



22 Trucks (/users/22 trucks) ▶ Talmas

Sep 26, 2022 at 04:59:00 PM

(/comments/2125288/84607465#comment_84607465)

Russian Troops have been deserting their units in large numbers

While we hear rumors of this all the time, I would be interested to see anything other than a few scattered anecdotes that shows it to be real. Do you have any thing can be used to learn more?

There are no unread comments at this time.

[↩ Reply](#) [★ Recommend](#) 4 Recommend



Voltage (/users/voltage) ▶ Aynsley

Sep 26, 2022 at 10:16:51 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604880#comment_84604880)

Their military system doesn't train/empower soldiers by design. They don't want these soldiers to have the skills to overthrow the rulers/ruling class, they want them to remain slaves. The only people promoted are the ones who serve/buy into protecting/promoting this system.

[↩ Reply](#) [★ Recommend](#) 11 Recommend



Raelerin (/users/raelerin) ▶ TooNice

Sep 26, 2022 at 08:07:13 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603859#comment_84603859)

That's pretty much what Kyle whatisname's mom did.

[↩ Reply](#) [★ Recommend](#) 17 Recommend



fiore (/users/fiore) ▶ TooNice

Sep 26, 2022 at 08:41:18 AM

1 New Comment

DesAire

(/comments/2125288/84604095#comment_84604095)

Yes, I lived that. Exactly where he is, and for basic, advanced, airborne, and multiple rotations in ranger school before my son decided to go with a regular airborne unit. The good thing about all of that training, especially the ranger school attempts, is he ended up only doing one tour in Afghanistan. The longest year of my life.

Reply Recommend 25 Recommend



Hoghead99 (/users/hoghead99) ► fiore

Sep 26, 2022 at 05:13:30 PM

(/comments/2125288/84607530#comment_84607530)

No doubt, no doubt...

When I was young Mom said, "I'd like to put you in a bubble." I didn't get her point for many, many years, until our grandchildren came along. Now I get it all too well.

My very best to you, your brave son, and your family.

There are no unread comments at this time.
Peace, HH99

Reply Recommend 6 Recommend



paco n taco (/users/paco n taco) ► Hoghead99

Sep 26, 2022 at 06:55:12 PM

(/comments/2125288/84608249#comment_84608249)

OK, Kos, a Mom going off on you:

He's just a BABY, and you want him to go to Ranger school?!? I realize you're proud of your Army service, and right to be, but man, I always told my kids that Dad and I served in the military, so they were going to college instead. In my era, rich kids went to college, poor kids joined the service...wanted better for my kids than to learn that they just "liberated" a village.

Lecture done - back to being proud of that baby...so beautiful.

Reply Recommend 2 Recommend



maddmann1 (/users/maddmann1) ► paco n taco

Sep 26, 2022 at 11:11:39 PM

(/comments/2125288/84609293#comment_84609293)

Only Moms get this...our wish is that they will never want for anything, Dad's wish for other things. It's a delicate and necessary balance.

Reply Recommend 0 Recommend



Nardwilly (/users/nardwilly) LifelongD

Sep 26, 2022 at 11:25:21 AM

(/comments/2125288/84605351#comment_84605351)

I look on it as part of the change to an all volunteer military. Even if it is not a career, it is a career choice. I joined the Navy in mid 70s. If it had just been all crappy work without any training I would have hated it and encouraged people to stay away. t wasn't. I served 4.5 years and have absolutely no regrets. I also view it as a real career choice for young people, though it was not my choice. I met people decent people in the Navy seeking to be better.

Reply Recommend 14 Recommend



NW liberal (/users/nw liberal) LifelongD

Sep 26, 2022 at 04:37:39 PM

(/comments/2125288/84607359#comment_84607359)

There are no unread comments at this time.

As a barely trained 18-year-old that didn't know up from down dropped in Vietnam for the Nixion surge, I would disagree. Quality NCOs are the backbone of the Infantry particularly. Above that was FUBAR.

Reply Recommend 2 Recommend



kenwards (/users/kenwards)

Sep 26, 2022 at 07:16:42 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603557#comment_84603557)

Congrats to you and your son, kos.

And thanks to you and Mark who have kept us informed and provided such great insight re Ukraine and the Russian military.

Reply Recommend 52 Recommend



The Katwoman (/users/the katwoman)

Sep 26, 2022 at 07:18:22 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603567#comment_84603567)

1 New Comment

DesAire

Obvious difference between the carnage at Stalingrad and what's to come is the Russians were fighting for their lives against the actual Nazis - if you didn't fight, they'd come and kill you in your home. A brazen territory grab isn't going to inspire raw recruits to action.

Reply Recommend 74 Recommend



Witgren (/users/witgren) ▶ The Katwoman

Sep 26, 2022 at 07:34:58 AM (/comments/2125288/84603668#comment_84603668)

Exactly. It's one thing to be fighting for your own homes, and protecting your family.

It's quite another to be asked to go grab a gun and charge that fortified hill over there in another country because some rich guy wants his ego stroked.

Reply Recommend 67 Recommend



talonw (/users/talonw) ▶ Witgren

Sep 26, 2022 at 07:59:59 AM (/comments/2125288/84603804#comment_84603804)

Fighting to keep the. Mega-Yacht crowd in power

Reply Recommend 34 Recommend



jqjacobs (/users/jqjacobs) ▶ talonw

Sep 26, 2022 at 08:24:31 AM (/comments/2125288/84603977#comment_84603977)

Fighting to sustain the kleptocrats getting richer off the war, kleptocrats trying to steal another country because that country's anti-corruption democracy is a threat to kleptocracy!

Iuliia Mendel  
@IuliiaMendel · Follow

After the end of the "referendum" in Zaporizhzhia region, the Russians will send Ukrainians from the occupied territories to war.
The Russians have announced that more than 2,000 mobilized in Crimea, who previously served in the  army, took the oath of allegiance to russia

8:02 AM · Sep 26, 2022 1 New Comment 

 242  Reply  Share DesAire

[Read 15 replies](#)

Reply Recommend 33 Recommend



Crocodile Mom (/users/crocodile mom) ▶ jqjacobs

Sep 26, 2022 at 08:36:31 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604060#comment_84604060)

I assume those pressed into service will promptly surrender?

Reply Recommend 16 Recommend



bear83 (/users/bear83) ▶ Crocodile Mom

Sep 26, 2022 at 10:36:46 AM

(/comments/2125288/84605054#comment_84605054)

After they kill every Russian officer they can.

Reply Recommend 8 Recommend

There are no unread comments at this time.



Goose for Obama (/users/goose for obama) ▶ Crocodile Mom

Sep 26, 2022 at 10:39:00 AM

(/comments/2125288/84605070#comment_84605070)

They are better off turning the rifle onto what ever amounts to the command of the units. Surrendering may get you shot by "friendly fire".

Reply Recommend 6 Recommend



G2geek (/users/g2geek) ▶ Crocodile Mom

Sep 26, 2022 at 10:16:56 PM

(/comments/2125288/84609125#comment_84609125)

Zelenskyy made an announcement that was widely carried, that RU soldiers who surrender will be treated well, and the circumstances of their capture will not be disclosed to RU, and those who need to not go back to RU will be accommodated.

Good recruitment pitch! ^{1 New Comment}
DesAire



In which case we can expect to hear very little about RU surrenders.

That's OK.

Winning matters.

Speaking of winning: **Midterms!** Everybody IN, sign up for activism: we are also fighting for our country, thankfully under far less hazardous circumstances (for now).

[Reply](#) [★ Recommend](#) 2 Recommend



maddmann1 (/users/maddmann1) ▶ G2g

Sep 26, 2022 at 11:22:37 PM

(/comments/2125288/84609310#comme

There are no unread comments at this time.

Speaking of winning: **Midterms!**

Everybody IN, sign up for activism: we are also fighting for our country, thankfully under far less hazardous circumstances (for now).

Listen up!!! Only 41 days to go.

[Reply](#) [★ Recommend](#) 1 Recommend



Marckyle64 (/users/marckyle64) ▶ talonw

Sep 26, 2022 at 08:37:22 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604066#comment_84604066)

Mega-Yacht you say?



New Comment
attribution: uboataces.com
DesAire

Reply Recommend 18 Recommend



Joseph Hariel (/users/joseph hariel) ▶ talonw

Sep 26, 2022 at 11:03:50 AM

(/comments/2125288/84605228#comment_84605228)

Yes, kind of like the second gulf war where we fought for the oil companies to get the oil.

Reply Recommend 7 Recommend



Emily E in Ohio (/users/emily e in ohio) ▶ Witgren

Sep 26, 2022 at 08:28:26 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603997#comment_84603997)

Well it's one two three four

What are we fighting for?

Don't ask me I don't give a damn.... **There are no unread comments at this time.**

Need an updated version for this war and something rmthat scans with Vietnam.

Alice's Restaurant too...

Reply Recommend 28 Recommend



GMFORD (/users/gmford) ▶ Emily E in Ohio

Sep 26, 2022 at 09:22:35 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604435#comment_84604435)

That CJ&TF song has been rattling around in my head since the invasion of Ukraine. Every so often I even sing it out loud which would be painful for anyone who happened by at the time.

Reply Recommend 12 Recommend



GrannyCT (/users/grannyct) ▶ GMFORD

Sep 26, 2022 at 10:13:30 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604854#comment_84604854)

Sang it to my grandsons yesterday first time they heard it and it opened an interesting conversation about the different reasons for fighting pro and con. The draft in Russia and the lack of

training (murder) and the systems in our military. We talked about valuing soldiers lives and preparing them for success vs handing out rusty rifles and pointing forward. They had really good insights. Young folks are paying attention to this it seems.

Reply Recommend 18 Recommend



Sun dog (/users/sun dog) ▶ Emily E in Ohio

Sep 26, 2022 at 09:48:25 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604625#comment_84604625)

It's one two three what're we fighting for

Don't ask me I can't explain

Next stop is east Ukraine

And it's five six seven open up the pearly gates

There are no unread comments at this time.
Aint no time to wonder why

Whoopee we're all gonna die

Reply Recommend 34 Recommend



caragraph (/users/caragraph) ▶ Sun dog

Sep 26, 2022 at 10:18:02 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604892#comment_84604892)

It's one two three what're we fighting for

Don't ask me I can't explain

Next stop is east Ukraine

And it's five six seven we're so full of Nazi hate

Well there ain't no time to wonder why

We can't see it's all just a lie

(We all know it's just time to die, alternatively)

1 New Comment

(thank you for the inspiration) DesAire

Reply Recommend 17 Recommend

reply

recommend

1 / Recommend



Hound Dog (/users/hound dog) ▶ The Katwoman

Sep 26, 2022 at 07:58:08 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603795#comment_84603795)

The biggest enemy a Russian will ever have is not a Ukrainian, a European, a Brit, or an American. The biggest enemy a Russian will ever have is another Russian.

Reply

★ Recommend

33 Recommend



Abernathy12 (/users/abernathy12) ▶ Hound Dog

Sep 26, 2022 at 08:23:26 AM

(/comments/2125288/84603971#comment_84603971)

The rest of us all wish them a long life under a decent government. It would sure as hell make our lives better.

Reply

★ Recommend

27 Recommend

There are no unread comments at this time.



Hound Dog (/users/hound dog) ▶ Abernathy12

Sep 26, 2022 at 08:49:21 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604143#comment_84604143)

It's a shame. Russia and Russians have so much potential. In a hundred, or five hundred years, will Russia still be a backward nation ruled by a tsar or a Stalin or a Putin or some other klepto-autocrat-oligarchs? Freedom and democracy are not easy to obtain or to keep. Democracy is a chaotic, clunky, Rube Goldberg device, and our Constitution enshrines it that way, so that no one has too much power, and Russians are not comfortable with the chaotic nature of democracy and civil liberties. They gravitate towards authoritarians who will tell them what do do and what to think and how things will be. Will it always be this way? who knows? Will we Americans devolve into that ourselves someday?

Reply

★ Recommend

20 Recommend



LuvSet (/users/luvset) ▶ Hound Dog

Sep 26, 2022 at 09:51:26 AM

(/comments/2125288/84604659#comment_84604659)

Democracy is the worst form of government, except for all the others.

1 New Comment

DesAire

(Not original to me.)



(Reply) (★ Recommend) 18 Recommend



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1 New Comment

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There are no unread comments at this time.

1 New Comment
DesAire

