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Subject: Re: Empire

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Wed, 23 Apr 2025 14:30:10 GMT

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I don't understand the point you are taking in your last post.

You said, "Managing a territory where the populous is willing to subvert occupation by guerilla warfare isn't a tactic worth the effort."

I don't understand that statement. Are you trying to argue that Ukrainians should just lie down and take it? They should just allow themselves to be invaded and occupied? Are you saying they should roll over and become a Russian state?

And you said, "The eastern "Russian" area is viable. And the ports to the Black Sea. Russia never coveted Ukraine."

Then why did Russia invade in the first place? If Russia didn't care about the territory, why engage in war to conquer it?

You said, "Russia does not want NATO at their door. Period. And they aren't going to let that happen. Kiev, Europe and the US will just have to accept that."

NATO membership of an adjacent country is not something that rises to war. It's a diplomatic issue.

Russia has had NATO all along its western border for decades. Its latest actions have awarded it Finland joining NATO in 2023, extending that line far to the north.

So if NATO membership were truly a motive for war, then Russia has clearly played a losing hand.

But that's a red herring. NATO membership is not what Russia really cared about. Ukraine has been independent for over thirty years without joining NATO. It wasn't a member of NATO before Russia invaded and it isn't NATO now. That's actually a side issue - it isn't the main thing here. It's a red herring.

This whole thing about NATO is a distraction. It isn't why Russia invaded. Putin invaded Ukraine purely as a power grab. He wants the territory to be Russian.

To be honest, that fact is self-evident.

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