

News; Domestic

Peace Negotiations Continue With Little Progress; Mariupol Residents Endure Relentless Russian Bombing; Dozens Of Cruise Missiles Fired At Western Ukraine; U.S. Counsels Against Backing Russia; Concern Over Russia- China Relations; Two Marine Veterans And WNBA Starr Held In Russia; Joe Biden Touts Domestic Agenda Amid Ukraine War; New Measures To Calm Inflation Fears; Ukrainian Refugees Fleeing To Poland Due To Russian Invasion; Reporter Shot And Killed While Covering Russian Invasion Of Ukraine; Police In New York And Washington Searching For Lone Gunman Suspected Of Shootings Homeless Men; President Biden Blames Supply Chain Issues And Russian Invasion Of Ukraine For Inflation; Russian Forces Closing In On Ukrainian Capital City Of Kyiv; China Warns Other Countries From Providing Protection For Taiwan.

Bret Baier, Trey Yingst, David Spunt, Jennifer Griffin; Christina Coleman, Jacqui Heinrich, Brit Hume, Alex Hogan, Howard Kurtz, Alexis McAdams

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Fox News: Special Report with Brett Baier

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English

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JEANINE PIRRO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST (on camera): Somebody has got to do something and stand up against Putin or else he's just going to keep pushing like the schoolyard bully that everyone's afraid to stop.

JESSE WATTERS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST (on camera): And it seems like us at this table have had some actually really good and creative ideas.

GREG GUTFELD, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST (on camera): You're welcome.

WATTERS: Thank you, Greg, for your input. I hope the Biden White House is watching "THE FIVE".

That's it for us. SPECIAL REPORT is up next with Bret.

BRET BAIER, FOX NEWS CHANNEL ANCHOR (on camera): Thanks to Greg and welcome back, Jessica.

All right. Thank you all.

"BREAKING TONIGHT", Russian forces are firing artillery on suburbs north and east of Kyiv, hitting an apartment building and an aircraft factory. Sunday, a military base in western Ukraine was hit in an airstrike, killing 35 people.

Ukraine's president will speak remotely to the U.S. Congress Wednesday. The first reported American fatality in the war is a journalist killed at a Russian checkpoint. Russia and Ukraine held additional peace talks today and are planning another session tomorrow.

Russia meantime is denying our report. It's asking China for help with money and machinery.

The United Nations says almost 3 million refugees have now fled that country since the fighting began.

Trey Yingst joins us live from Kyiv with the very latest. Good evening, Trey.

TREY YINGST, FOX NEWS CHANNEL FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Bret, good evening. As you toss to me here often the distance, we could hear some loud explosions. This city is preparing for a further ground offensive by Russian forces.

YINGST (voice-over): Negotiations continue. The simple blunt reality from Ukrainian officials that little progress is being made to pause the fighting, even temporarily.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MYKHAILO PODOLYAK, UKRAINIAN PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER (through translator): Communication is being held yet it is difficult.

YINGST: More than 2.8 million refugees fleeing the war have entered neighboring countries, says the U.N. Establishing safe evacuation routes has been a priority. But past agreements have collapsed as the fighting in key cities intensifies.

In Kyiv, Russian forces continue creeping closer in a preposition strangle manoeuvre. A Russian airstrike in the capitals downtown area Monday kills at least one person, and apartment complex is heavily damaged.

KATERYNA KOT, RESIDENT, KYIV, UKRAINE (through translator): There was a very loud explosion. My child became hysterical, our windows in the balcony were shattered. Part of the floor fell down. It was very, very scary.

YINGST: Nearby, the country's president visiting wounded soldiers in a hospital, handing out medals, and calling them heroes of Ukraine.

VOLODYMYR ZELENSKYY, PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE (through translator): Guys, get well soon. I believe that the best gift for your bravery will be our common victory.

YINGST: For now, the war continues expanding across Ukraine. In the West, a series of rocket attacks targeting a military training facility in Yavoriv, killing at least, 35 people, and wounding 134 others. Ukrainian security officials set.

The offensive just 10 miles from the border with Poland, a NATO member.

In the east, the Kremlin claims without evidence, 20 civilians have been killed by ballistic missile launch by Ukrainian forces in Donetsk, the separatist region controlled by Russia.

The most intense assault remains in Mariupol, in the strategic South. Russia claims its ground troops have advanced seven miles and it's encirclement of the city, which remains cut off to humanitarian supplies.

Air raid sirens signaling the latest incoming missile attack, this woman among those taking shelter in a hallway breaking down in tears.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE (through translator): Daddy, I can't bear it anymore.

YINGST: And a sad update to this attack on a Mariupol hospital last week. Showing a pregnant woman being led away on a stretcher. The images gaining worldwide attention, but today we learned, the expectant mother has died along with her unborn child.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

YINGST (on camera): Ukraine's Foreign Ministry reports today that 90 children had been killed so far since this war began. They say more than 100 have been injured. Bret.

BAIER: Trey Yingst live in Kyiv. Trey, thank you.

Earlier today, our correspondent, Benjamin Hall was wounded while news gathering outside of Kyiv in Ukraine. We have minimal level of details right now. But Ben is hospitalized and our teams on the ground are working to gather additional information as the situation unfolds.

The safety of our entire team of journalists in Ukraine and the surrounding regions is our top priority and of the utmost importance. This, of course is a stark reminder for all journalists who are putting their lives on the line every day to deliver the news from a war zone.

We will update everyone as soon as we know more. Please keep Ben and his family in your prayers.

U.S. officials say military aid will continue from Washington and NATO and we'll get into the country. This comes as Russia unleashes more than 700 cruise missiles into Ukraine.

National security correspondent Jennifer Griffin has the latest live from the Pentagon. Good evening, Jennifer.

JENNIFER GRIFFIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL NATIONAL SECURITY CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Good evening, Bret. The Pentagon says it does not view Russia's missile strike on the Ukrainian base near

Poland's border as an effort to target U.S. security assistance to Ukraine, even though that base was once used by NATO to train Ukraine's military.

GRIFFIN (voice-over): It was not being used for the -- excuse me, for the transshipment of weapons according to a senior U.S. defense official. Over the weekend, Russia's deputy foreign minister said Russia plan to target convoys carrying military aid from the U.S. and NATO.

We've learned that the dozens of cruise missiles fired at the Yavoriv base killing 35 people Sunday were fired from long range bombers operating in Russian airspace.

These planes were not operating in Ukraine's airspaces. A senior U.S. defense official tells me, the Russian cruise missiles damaged at least seven structures at the base.

Top U.S. officials were asked if this attack would affect the security assistance that the U.S. is providing.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REAR ADM. JOHN KIRBY (RET.), PENTAGON PRESS SECRETARY: We're going to continue to get as much security assistance to the Ukrainians as fast as we can and in the most efficient, effective way.

JAKE SULLIVAN NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER: We believe we will continue to be able to flow substantial amounts of military assistance and weapons to the frontlines.

Of course, these convoys are going through a war zone. And so, to describe them as safe wouldn't quite be accurate, but we believe that we have methods and systems in place to be able to continue to support the Ukrainians.

GRIFFIN: Because these missiles were fired from Russian airspace, U.S. officials say a no-fly zone above Ukraine would not have prevented this attack.

Ukraine's top leaders have been calling for a no-fly zone. The mayor of Kyiv, former heavyweight champion boxer, Vitali Klitschko surveyed the damage to the capital today, and told Fox's John Roberts, if they had the right weapons, the Ukrainians could set up a no-fly zone themselves.

VITALI KLITSCHKO MAYOR OF KYIV: We need modern weapons. We -- the -- our government don't joke about closes sky.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GRIFFIN: Russian troops are facing fierce resistance from Ukrainian residents as they begin trying to occupy two Ukrainian cities in the south. Protesters took to the streets this weekend in the cities of Kherson and Melitopol.

In Kherson, despite Russian tanks being right next to them, protesters waved the Ukrainian flag proudly.

GRIFFIN (on camera): The president signed off on another \$200 million in military assistance to Ukraine this weekend. Bret.

BAIER: Jennifer Griffin, live at the Pentagon. Jennifer, thank you. As we mentioned at the top of the show, Russia is denying that is asking for help from China in its war effort.

Moscow reportedly wants money and equipment. Today, National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan met with his Chinese counterpart in what was described as a very long and tense meeting in Rome.

Correspondent David Spunt has our report.

DAVID SPUNT, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): As Vladimir Putin grows more frustrated, top Biden officials are keeping an anxious eye on China.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

NED PRICE, SPOKESPERSON, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE: So, we have seen the relationship between the PRC and Russia grow closer. This is not - - this is not a phenomenon that has taken place over recent days or even recent weeks. This is a relationship that has grown closer over the course of many years now.

SPUNT: National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan met with top Chinese diplomats in Rome today. The goal, talk the country out of helping Russia. Sources confirmed to Fox News that Russia recently asked China for military and economic help.

China today called for diplomacy, while the Kremlin denied the allegation.

Over the weekend, Sullivan made it clear, a Russia-China alliance is a problem.

SULLIVAN: We are communicating directly, privately to Beijing that there will absolutely be consequences for large scale sanctions, evasion efforts, or support to Russia to backfill them.

SPUNT: Separating the two countries won't be easy. Just last week, China reiterated its commitment to its next door neighbor.

WANG YI, FOREIGN MINISTER, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (through translator): The friendship between the two peoples is ironclad. No matter how perilous the international landscape.

SPUNT: U.S. officials believe the top levels of the Chinese government were aware of Putin's plans. Well, before Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24th, President Xi and Putin saw each other in Beijing last month at the Olympics.

REBECCA HEINRICH, SENIOR FELLOW, HUDSON INSTITUTE: And the Chinese. meeting with the Russians in Beijing really was a deciding point.

SPUNT: Lawmakers want the consequences for China to be bold.

SEN. LINDSEY GRAHAM (R-SC): I start telling China, if you pick sides, and you pick Putin, the war criminal over world order, then you're going to -- you're going to have a tough time trading in the free world.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

SPUNT (on camera): Bret, top Chinese officials have yet to publicly come out and condemn Russia for its actions against Ukraine. Shortly after the invasion, the U.N. Security Council in New York voted to condemn Russia, China abstained, the same China that has Taiwan on high alert. Bret.

BAIER: David Spunt at the Justice Department. David, thanks. As the war in Ukraine rages, at least a handful of Americans remain captive in Russia.

Tonight, their friends and family are vowing not to stop their fight to bring their loved ones home. Correspondent Christina Coleman reports tonight from Los Angeles.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

DAVID WHELAN, IMPRISONED AMERICAN'S BROTHER: The goal for us is to get Paul home so that our parents can see again before they die.

CHRISTINA COLEMAN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): David Whelan and his family worked tirelessly to bring home his twin brother, Paul. The former U.S. Marine has been in a Russian labor camp since 2020, after he was sentenced to 16 years for what his family and U.S. lawmakers called false spying charges.

The family worries that strained diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Russia will delay critical efforts to get him and other detained Americans back home.

WHELAN: Paul's case is one of over 40 and Miss Griner is just the latest of Americans being held hostage by foreign governments, who want to extract some sort of concession from the U.S. government.

COLEMAN: WNBA star Brittney Griner was detained last month over allegations that she had cannabis oil in a Russian airport. While Marine veteran Trevor Reed was sentenced to nine years in prison in 2020, after he was accused of assaulting two Russian police officers. Charges re-denies.

Several Republicans sent the Biden administration a letter, urging them to do everything it can to get these Americans out of Russia.

REP. BYRON DONALDS (R-FL): I don't think they pull every lever that needs to be pulled. But this is also a very different environment.

PRICE: Power, diplomats, our consular affairs officers sprang into action to provide any and all forms of assistance that we can to those Americans.

COLEMAN: But Reed's parents say, it's not quick enough for their son, who they say is coughing up blood and getting sicker every day.

JOEY REED, FATHER OF IMPRISONED VETERAN: We love our son and we're going to fight. We're going to fight toward dying day to bring him home.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

COLEMAN: Both Whelan and Reed are appealing their sentences, while Griner could face up to 10 years behind bars. Bret?

BAIER: Christina, thank you.

Here is some of the other headlines today. Former President Barack Obama says he has tested positive for coronavirus.

The former president saying he is feeling relatively healthy. He posted on Twitter that he has a -- had a scratchy throat but is otherwise fine.

He says former First Lady Michelle Obama has tested negative.

Britain's top court is refusing to allow WikiLeaks founder, Julian Assange to appeal a decision to excerpt extradite him to the U.S. to face spying charges. The court says Assange's case did not raise an arguable point of law. The case may now be sent to the British Home Secretary for approval.

Starting Wednesday, people who book rides through Uber, or order food through Uber Eats will have to pay a new fuel surcharge.

Uber Technologies announced the surcharge Friday to help its drivers offset rising gas prices. Users will pay an extra \$0.45 to \$0.55 per Uber trip. And an additional 35 to 45 cents per Uber Eats order, depending on the location.

All the money will go directly to the drivers. And Tom Brady is not leaving football just yet. Sunday, Brady ended his 40-day retirement by announcing he will return to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers this season. The 44 year old Brady says he has quote, unfinished business.

Up next, the U.S. tries to figure out what China is going to do about the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BRET BAIER, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: West Virginia Democratic Senator Joe Manchin says he will oppose the nomination of Sarah Bloom Raskin to a key position on the Federal Reserve's Board of Governors. Raskin's nomination has been stuck in the Senate Banking Committee since last month when Republicans unanimously refused to vote on it.

Manchin is not a member of that committee but his opposition means for Raskin to win approval, she would need to pick up a Republican vote in the Senate.

GOP senators say Raskin has been an outspoken supporter of having the Fed consider climate change and its regulation of the banking industry.

National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan is trying to get a handle on where China stands in the Ukraine conflict. While he's in Rome, President Biden is in Washington talking about his domestic agenda and trying to shift the blame for some of his domestic troubles here at home.

White House Correspondent Jacqui Heinrich has that story tonight.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JACQUI HEINRICH, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT (voice over): President Biden spent Monday promoting his spending plan that's still stalled in Congress, claiming it won't contribute to inflation and repeating claims Vladimir Putin is responsible for paying at the pump.

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: The current spiking gas prices largely the fault of Vladimir Putin, it has nothing to do with the American Rescue Plan.

HEINRICH: Meanwhile, a world away, National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan spent seven hours in Rome meeting with a top Chinese diplomat amid concern China signaled willingness to fulfill Russia's request to provide military equipment and economic aid to support its war in Ukraine. A U.S. official described the meeting as intense, the White House signaling secondary sanctions may be on the table.

JEN PSAKI, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: If China were to decide to be an economic provider or to take additional steps there to Russia, they only make up 15 percent or 20 -- 15 to 20 percent of the world's economy. The G7 countries make up more than 50 percent. So, there are a range of tools at our disposal.

HEINRICH: So far, the White House is unwilling to draw a red line at what kinds of atrocities the U.S. will watch without direct intervention, even as the U.S. warns Russia may be planning a chemical weapons attack, something that for President Obama in 2012 in Syria was a red line.

BARACK OBAMA, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: A red line for us is, we start seeing a whole bunch of chemical weapons moving around or being utilized. That would change my calculus.

HEINRICH: The Biden White House relying on a global response in such a scenario.

Isn't there a concern that if we don't draw the line in something like chemical weapons, it'll make it easier for malign actors to use them in the future, because they'll just go unpunished?

PSAKI: You heard the president say on Friday that there would be severe consequences and the world would respond.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HEINRICH (on camera): Tonight, the president is spending the evening at a DNC fundraiser. We're told White House officials are discussing the possibility of a trip for the president to Europe in the coming weeks to focus on Ukraine, Bret.

BAIER: Jacqui Heinrich live in the North Lawn. Jacqui, thank you.

Joining us now, Senior Political Analyst Brit Hume. Good evening, Brit.

BRIT HUME, FOX NEWS SENIOR POLITICAL ANALYST: Hi, Bret.

BAIER: You know, hearing the president and this constant refrain now about inflation and gas prices being tied to Vladimir Putin, does that sell?

HUME: I think it probably doesn't, Bret. And I'm a little surprised they even tried it. I mean, the word you heard president speak just a minute ago in Jacqui Heinrich's report had him saying that the current spike in gas prices is due to Vladimir Putin.

Well, there may be some truth to that, certainly. But gas prices and all other prices were soaring before this conflict broke out. And they can't possibly believe that people haven't noticed that, he didn't notice that.

So, the more they try to blame it on Putin, I think the worse it is for them, because it suggests that they're, you know, blaming it all on the war, and they're not really doing anything about it.

Now, the president has said, you know, this is -- the White House has said that all their efforts are concentrated on trying to do something about inflation, but inflation continues to rise as it was before all this started.

BAIER: Right. The administration continues to tout unity in the world as far as other countries, NATO countries, E.U. countries, singing from the same sheet of music. But what about the Biden administration's performance overall as we're watching these images come out of Ukraine day after day?

HUME: Well, they're horrible images in the world obviously, has been shocked by them. United States certainly no exception to that, people here obviously horrified by what they're seeing. You've seen everybody you talked to, the people are mesmerized by this.

Look, the administration certainly has played a role in helping to keep the NATO alliance awake and alert on this and the NATO members who have responded themselves Germany in particular, which had been so difficult to deal with in terms of keeping its military up to speed or getting it up to speed really. So, the president deserves some credit for that.

The question now is whether in the eyes of many is whether he's being too timid, whether, you know, there are steps we could take beyond what we're doing that would -- that would help to deter Putin or maybe talk Putin into settling for a ceasefire, and something less than he obviously is trying for. That's hard to judge at this stage I think. I mean, you know, and the president isn't particularly visible on this.

I remember back during the first Gulf War before the first Gulf War, Bret, when George H.W. Bush was trying to lead a coalition to evict Saddam Hussein's army from Kuwait, and he was out on an almost daily basis. He

was very crisp. He was very direct. He was very articulate more so than he had been before, (INAUDIBLE) actually.

But it was -- it stands in contrast to this president who's been out occasionally reading from a prompter saying a few things and moving on. And, you know, I think people like to see their president out front and, and not only leading but appearing to lead. So, I think that's something that the White House may need to keep in mind.

BAIER: And last thing, Brit, Steve Harrigan came back from Ukraine, he appeared on "FOX NEWS SUNDAY" with me and he's talked about Putin and the model that he may be after here as you're looking at this devastation. Take a listen to Harrigan here.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

STEVE HARRIGAN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT: Can Chechnya be a model for what we're seeing now? And if it is, it's a horrible model. It's basically surround the city, shell it, kill everyone, and then pave it over and rebuild it. It might take a decade, it might take 20 years.

If your houses are getting destroyed, if your family members are getting killed, you fight differently. The sphere of battle gets wider.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: You know, he covered Chechen, Brit and its interesting perspective and it's a horrifying perspective.

HUME: Yes, well, the only place Putin did that, they did that in Syria as well in Aleppo, where they just basically leveled the place.

Obviously, Ukraine is bigger, we'll fight harder and longer. And you know, that's a testament to the courage of the Ukrainian people and their leaders so far, but it means more bloodshed and death and destruction and misery than might otherwise be the case.

I don't think there's any reason to think that Putin won't stop that -- you know, and if you don't want to let him make a quick strike and take over your capital and install Putin friendly government, he'll just annihilate your country.

And he seems, you know, on that path now. And you think about Kyiv with all the beautiful sights in that place, and you see them in the background, even when we're reporting from over there, you know, the golden domes and all the rest of it and it just makes you shudder to think what could happen. But I don't know of anybody right now who thinks that Putin would - - you know, would refrain from doing that.

BAIER: Yes, I agree with you. Brit, as always, thank you.

HUME: You bet.

BAIER: Stocks were mixed today. The Dow gained one, the S&P 500 fell 31, the NASDAQ lost 263.

Up next, the Ukraine refugee crisis is getting worse. We will have a live report from Poland when we come back.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I no speak on what's happening. And my children's -- mama what's happening? What's happening? But I don't know what to say to my children. I won't go home. I don't know where I go. I don't know where I live.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: The United Nations says the number of refugees fleeing Ukraine is nearly 3 million now. Almost 2 million have gone to Poland where officials are begging for help. Correspondent Alex Hogan is again in Poland tonight.

(BEGIN VIDEO TAPE)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I want to save my children.

ALEX HOGAN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: To save her boys, Tonya (ph) turned online.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I said I'm a mother to children.

HOGAN: After parting with her husband, she fled to Ukraine and posted her story on a site connecting those in need with those opening up their homes. It linked her with a family in Germany.

Are you excited to meet them?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yes, but I'm very scared.

HOGAN: The displacement to a foreign country is the heartbreak of millions. Most are women and kids.

OLYA, UKRAINIAN REFUGEE (through translator): I leave because I want so my children -- I don't want my kids to know what war means.

HOGAN: It's not just mothers saving kids. It's also children saving parents, like Marina taking her mom to Italy. The journey was too dangerous for the 85-year-old to do alone.

MARINA, UKRAINIAN REFUGEE: We have lost everything.

HOGAN: As asylum seekers flee to neighboring countries, more than 1.7 million of them have come through Poland according to Polish border reports. The mayors of the country's largest cities say they cannot keep up as people sleep on the floors of warehouses and train stations. Moved and motivated by the images pouring out of Poland, one couple drove 12 hours from Berlin to drop off supplies.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Mr. Putin is crazy, absolutely crazy, and we must help the people.

HOGAN: On the way back, the pair will drive Tonya (ph) and the boys to their new temporary home, the next leg of an already tough journey.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: This was difficult.

HOGAN: Most painful of all was leaving behind their dad.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: This is very difficult.

HOGAN: A burden slightly more bearable with the support of strangers stepping up in whichever way they can.

(END VIDEO TAPE)

HOGAN: All of this we have seen the refugee crisis create moments of incredible generosity, but it's also opened the door to the possibility of abuse. The U.N. refugee agency members tell me that they have already received reports of about 40 different suspicious men being now investigated by police over waiting there for refugees, and anyone who is receiving help from potential drivers are warned to send the personal information to those drivers to loved ones before accepting help. Bret?

BAIER: Alex Hogan live along the Polish-Ukrainian border. Alex, thanks.

The fatal shooting of an award-winning American reporter illustrates how risky covering a war can be. Tonight, we look at how journalists are portraying the two-and-a-half week old conflict. Here is FOX News media analyst and host of FOX's MEDIA BUZZ, Howard Kurtz.

(BEGIN VIDEO TAPE)

HOWARD KURTZ, FOX NEWS HOST: It's news from Ukraine that every journalist had been fearing. Brent Renaud, an award-winning photojournalist working for "Time" and previously for "The New York Times" was shot and killed. Another journalist wounded in the shooting, Juan Arredondo, said they were pursuing a story about refugees when opened fire.

JUAN ARREDONDO, INJURED JOURNALIST: We crossed a checkpoint, and they started shooting at us. So the driver turned around, and they kept shooting. There's two of us. My friends Renaud, and he has been shot and left behind.

KURTZ: Filmmaker Jon Alpert called him a really nice guy with extraordinary courage. National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan condemned the Kremlin for targeting civilians, hospitals, and now journalists.

JAKE SULLIVAN, NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR: This is obviously shocking and horrifying. We'll be consulting with the Ukrainians to determine how this happened, and then to measure and execute appropriate consequences.

WILLIAM TAYLOR, FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO UKRAINE: Journalists, including you, are the heroes of our time. They are providing the truth. They are providing the eyes on what's really happening.

KURTZ: Journalists are sometimes speaking out about Russia attacking civilians and questioning why the Biden administration isn't more aggressive.

TREY YINGST, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: There is no time for politics on the ground in Ukraine. As we are speaking at this moment, people are dying here.

KATY TUR, MSNBC HOST: I understand it's horrible. There are a lot of Americans out there who are -- sorry, who are saying they want a no-fly zone as well.

HANNAH HOPKO, UKRAINIAN POLITICIAN: I don't understand why. Why do you have to convince everybody? This is about humanity.

GAYLE KING, "CBS MORNINGS": When we stand by and watch innocent people continue to be killed here.

KURTZ: Some reporters on the ground say they feel compelled to sound the alarm about Russia's brutal tactics while western diplomacy drags on and weapons shipments are delayed.

YINGST: We see it with our eyes, we capture it with our cameras, and it's our job to report it fairly and accurately. This has nothing to do with politics. It has nothing to do with or picking a side.

(END VIDEO TAPE)

KURTZ: Journalists must walk a fine line between agonizing over civilian casualties and recognizing the risks of a direct military confrontation with Russia. Some, like Brent Renaud, are so passionate that they put their lives on the line. Bret?

BAIER: Dangerous business. Howie, thank you.

As fighting intensifies in Ukraine, the global Red Cross network is helping families impacted by the conflict. FOX Corporation is a proud to be a member of the Red Cross's annual disaster relief program. To donate, please visit RedCross.org/FOXforward, or can you scan the QR code right over here on the screen at the bottom of your screen.

Up next, someone is stalking homeless people in two major American cities. We'll tell you what authorities are doing about it.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: Police in New York and Washington are searching for a lone gunman suspected in the shootings of homeless men in those cities. Two have died so far with three additional people injured. Correspondent Alexis McAdams has the latest tonight from Soho, New York. Good evening, Alexis.

ALEXIS MCADAMS, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Bret, good evening. A very disturbing story here that NYPD says they are working around the clock to solve. We can tell you this manhunt is now underway to find this gunman who is reportedly targeting homeless people and murdering them.

Take a look at your screen. This is who investigators right now in two cities are looking for. This is the man wanted by police in both New York and Washington, D.C. right now, suspected of shooting at least five homeless men, killing two. The attacks happened this month, and this new surveillance video you see, which was obtained by "The New York Post" shows that suspect standing over this yellow sleeping bag in Soho in New York. You can see there he walks up armed with a gun, and kind of kicks that sleeping bag to see if anyone is inside. He then looks around to make sure no one is watching, and opens fire. We paused that video just before the shooting.

Authorities tell us that these were intentional murders. Police in New York and Washington, D.C. now working to find this man before he does it again.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER, (D) WASHINGTON D.C.: We know this is a scary situation. We know that our unsheltered residents already face a lot of daily dangers, and it is unconscionable that anybody would target this vulnerable population.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MCADAMS: Now, the mayor in D.C. also says this is a top priority. Earlier this month investigators say that same man attacked at least three homeless people in D.C., killing one. Crime stoppers put out these photos hoping someone recognizes him and calls police. Tonight, local and federal authorities now offering a combined reward of up to \$70,000 for information that leads to an arrest in this ongoing case.

Now, as police investigate this string of shootings, crime is up in both of those major cities, up year-to-date compared to 2021. In Washington, D.C. violent crime is up 20 percent, and here in New York City total crime up 47 percent. And back out here in Soho, we can tell you NYPD also found a man dead inside of his sleeping bag in New York's Tribeca neighborhood this morning. They're working to find out if that case is connected. But once again, Bret, anyone with information has to call authorities.

BAIER: OK, Alexis, thank you.

Police in Florida have made arrest in connection with fentanyl overdoses involving five cadets of the U.S. military academy during spring break. Wilton manors police say six men and a woman overdosed on fentanyl laced cocaine and were taken to hospitals Thursday.

Up next, the panel with the latest on Ukraine war and President Biden's attempt to change the subject.

First, here is what some of our FOX affiliates around the country are covering tonight. FOX 32 in Chicago as the city's public schools dropped the mask requirement. The face coverings are now optional. Chicago public school officials say the district is turning the corner on the pandemic. The Chicago teachers' union says dropping the mandate violates their work agreement and leaves educators and children unprotected.

FOX 2 in Detroit as the trial for four men accused of plotting to kidnap Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer has been postponed at least until Thursday because an essential participant tested positive for COVID-19. The judge ordered the delay Sunday.

And this is a live look at Nashville. One of the big stories there tonight from FOX 17, country music legend Dolly Parton will be withdrawing her name from consideration for induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. She says while she is grateful. She does not feel her work has, quote, "earned the right." She says she would like to put out a rock and roll album in the future.

That is tonight's live look outside the beltway from SPECIAL REPORT. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, (D) PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: The American people think the reason for inflation is government spending more money. That's simply not true.

Because of the pandemic, we had significant disruptions in the supply chain. And now, the second big reason for inflation is Vladimir Putin.

REP. MARIANNETTE MILLER-MEEKS, (R-IA): President Biden continues to put the blame on other people for his policies. His policies, the spending from the first COVID-19 package, the \$1.9 trillion, have led to inflation. His canceling the Keystone pipeline, not allowing drilling on federal lands, not allowing exports of LNG. That is not an excuse for inaction in Ukraine.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: Domestic issues, President Biden talking about it, critics pushing back. Meantime, the situation on the ground in Kyiv in Ukraine getting more dangerous. Here you have the mayor of Kyiv on FOX today.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

VITALI KLITSCHKO, MAYOR OF KYIV, UKRAINE: People don't want to leave. There are old men over 60 told me, I don't want to leave. It's my hometown. Give me weapons please. I want to defend my city. The Russian soldier, actually right now, have a bad mood, and so many people understand this senseless war.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: With that, let's bring in our panel, Ben Domenech, publisher of "The Federalist," syndicated radio host Hugh Hewitt, and Juan Williams is a FOX News analyst. Hugh, where do you think we are in this stage of this invasion? And what the international community is doing to try to stop Putin doesn't seem to be making a dent.

HUGH HEWITT, SYNDICATED RADIO HOST: It doesn't, Bret. I think we are getting very close to harmony. We have a trio of tyrants, and they're working together -- Khamenei in Iran, Xi in China, and Putin in Russia. Putin dropped eight missiles 10 miles from Poland's border this weekend. President Biden has right said that he would defend every inch of NATO. If one of those missiles had gone awry, we would be knocking on the door of World War III.

Khamenei dropped missiles on Erbil, we talked about that today on the radio show. And you and I both know this alliance of tyrants don't believe in the international rules-based order that Wendy Sherman was talking to you about yesterday. So we need clarity, Bret. We need to get it now. We need to get it fast. They are not our friends. There is no international order. And the west has to be clear about these three bad actors who are working together.

BAIER: Ben, your thoughts about where we are right now?

BEN DOMENECH, PUBLISHER, "THE FEDERALIST": I think that this meeting in Rome with Jake Sullivan and the Chinese leader was very significant and a sign of what awaits the world if we don't start sending the message now about the lessons that China could be taking from this experience. The idea of a major power invading a neighboring nation in order to achieve their ends is one that obviously resulted in major sanctions and economic damaging that is already hurting and impacting the Russian people.

China can no more decouple from the west than Russia can. It sells us their goods. It relies on us for educating their students, and it takes our knowledge and steals it and uses it, has done so to further their own economy. If they take the lesson from this Ukrainian experience that the rest of the world will not respond should they find it fit to seek Taiwan, that will be a very dangerous lesson. It will be go far beyond eradicating the rules based order that Hugh made mention of, and would really throw the whole world into an array of challenges unlike anything that we have ever seen before.

BAIER: Yes. So, as you look at that story about Russia asking China for help, take a listen to reaction to that.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

NED PRICE, STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN: We have communicated very clearly to Beijing that we won't stand by. If -- we will not allow any country to compensate Russia for its losses.

SEN. LINDSEY GRAHAM, (R-SC): We have to recalculate who we are in terms of our trading relationships. If Russia is able to dismember the democracy in the Ukraine, that's a death sentence for Taiwan.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: The meeting, Juan, was said to be tense and long, hours long in Rome between Jake Sullivan and his counterpart. What about China helping Russia?

JUAN WILLIAMS, FOX NEWS POLITICAL ANALYST: Well, if the United States can prevent Russia from sort of back-filling both in terms of the economy and potentially even military equipment, that means that there is a potential here for a faster resolution to this awful conflict. We want -- the United States definitely does not want China to pick sides here and pick the wrong side, pick the side of repression and communism. That's clearly not in the U.S. interest. And I think that's why Jake Sullivan was over there.

Right now everybody involved is looking for the cliché off ramp. And right now, there are three that are glaring. One is that this thing escalates, and we are already seeing that kind of brutality taking place. But, number two, you have the opportunity for Russia to simply say oh, you know what, we will declare victory, we'll take what we have in Crimea, Belarus, some of the eastern Ukraine, and walk away and stop the violence.

But there's also the chance for diplomacy and negotiations. Zelenskyy asking to meet with Putin. The ongoing talks between the Ukrainian foreign minister and the Russians. And, of course, the United States standing by and saying we want -- we want a negotiated settlement. We are not saying no to negotiations. And I think if China is willing to get in there as a supporter of democracy, we would appreciate it.

BAIER: Yes, that's doubtful according to many foreign policy experts especially after, Hugh, the weekend this statement on Saturday from China about Taiwan in which they write, "Any country supporting Taiwan militarily would face," quote, "the worst consequences, they warned Saturday, adding "no one and no force" would be able to stop the Communist Party if it took action against the island country," according to a report.

Now, you could read that one of two ways. They are getting defensive about this moment in time, they have recalculated based on what Russia is doing in Ukraine, or this is really an aggressive posture talking about Taiwan. How do you read it, Hugh?

HEWITT: Door number C -- door letter C, Bret. There is no reason, there is no evidence on the table anywhere that China is other than allied with Russia and Iran. I call up national security, former national security advisor O'Brien today after the seven hour meeting that Jake Sullivan had that Ben referenced. I said, did you ever had a seven-hour meeting with anyone? He said, no, I had a four-hour meeting once with one person and that didn't go well. Seven hours, I guess they spent congratulating us for coming to the

Olympics and not boycotting and making sure New York and Wall Street money came in and supported the games.

There is no reason, no evidence at all to believe that China is other than hostile to us. Russia sends missiles 10 miles from Poland border in Iran, bombs Erbil. It was a bad weekend for people who want to believe in unicorns and off ramps. There isn't any. What we need to do is build weapons systems and peace through strength, and we've got to do it now.

BAIER: And Ben, final word. You've got the president of Ukraine, Zelenskyy, addressing Congress virtually tomorrow. Really, he is going to steer the train if there is any diplomatic solution with Putin.

DOMENECH: Absolutely. And I think as much as the White House would like to be able to pivot to talking about domestic issues, we all know that the ramifications of this are being felt not just economically here in America, but in terms of what people are seeing play out on the world stage. The idea that the west is not going to stand together in this moment would be a very dangerous one, and I don't think the White House should back away from this or try to pivot in any short sided domestic political way. People care about this story for a reason, and they should understand that.

BAIER: It's tomorrow Ukraine time, it's actually Wednesday in the U.S. that he will be addressing Congress. Panel, as always. Thank you.

Finally, a SPECIAL REPORT salute.

A hotel manager turned Red Cross volunteer is now working on the streets of Kyiv amid Russia's invasion. You can see him delivering medicine and aid across the capital, just a snapshot into one person shifting gears in his life to make a difference in the city that he loves.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

(SINGING)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: And those are the sounds of musicians, singers from the Odessa National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet. Performers played the national anthem of Ukraine and a hymn they are calling and singing for a no-fly zone to be implemented in Ukrainian airspace. Odesa has been spared so far the violence, but they know it's coming.

Tomorrow on SPECIAL REPORT, Ohio Republican Senator Rob Portman talks with us about his recent trip to Poland and what's next.

Thanks for inviting us into your home tonight. That's it for this SPECIAL REPORT, fair, balanced, and unafraid. And again, we are thinking and praying for our colleagues in the region, specifically Benjamin Hall, and all the folks who are on the ground in Ukraine. It's a tough, tough time.

Jesse Watters is up next. Jesse, I'll turn it over to you.

END

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