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*From Mark*

Speaking of Russia..

I'm currently on vacation, Island hopping in Croatia on a sail boat.

A couple of nights ago we were docked next to another yacht with a couple of men chilling in the cockpit.. they seemed to look in their late thirties.

I could hear them speaking either Ukrainian or Russian. So I asked—are you speaking Ukrainian or Russian? They smiled and said we are Ukrainian. Everyone in Croatia speaks English including most of the tourists.

I started a discussion with them, that they where happy to engage in, asking a lot questions about the war and their thoughts on the fall of the Soviet Union, NATO and Western global politics. We got going and I eventually ended up on their boat, where they served up shots of some kind of Croatian liquor and beers. Everyone on boats here are more than friendly as most of the boaters at marinas/ports are all vacationing and all in good spirits.

At one point, one turned to me and said to me, you seem to be spewing a lot of pro Russian propaganda, which is kinda of odd as you're from Canada a Western country. It's not what we expected.

I replied, true enough. I'll admit, I am a bit of an anomaly politically amongst most of friends at home, but have become very discontent and not

happy with the West and it's ongoing warmongering and imperialism. We, the west are supposed to be the good guys. For years and years I've been very pro West, all through my younger years especially, but now I see what a disgrace we have become. Not the people necessarily, we have no say!! It's our governing leadership. There's always a war on something that never seems to end.. Ongoing with no end in site.

There was a brief silence.. both looked at each other and then one said.. Mark, 'We are not Ukrainian we are Russian. We never say we are from Russia because we instantly become disliked'.

The discussion continued..

They went on to say and explained being Russian has become a difficult dilemma. We are bad guys period!

I responded saying I fully understand that. Everyone I know will agree. But there are many that understand the truth and facts behind the propaganda.

We went on and talked until we were exhausted. It was an incredible night, an informative eye-opening discussion.

It turned out.. get this! They were distant third cousins, but related. One was actually an officer in the Russia navy on leave. The other, much younger, a defector who had run away for the love of his wife and children and it was actually his boat they were on.

He explained, that there are powerful War Hawks high in Russian political ranks that are not going to back down from NATO. And he had to make a choice between severing his nation or a promise he had made to his wife and children.

Unbelievable..

As soon as I woke that morning. I made my way up through the companion-way to the deck, only to find they were gone.

I won't ever forget Igor and Swen.

Also on a side note..

The woman at helm in the short videos I attached her name is Maya, an outstanding incredible pilot, her skills and sail knowledge, above and beyond, can fix anything on a boat and knows a diesel engine like the back of her hand. And truly with conviction I must say..

I've never seen such seamanship in a woman ever!!

I'm completely humbled, in respect for this Sail Goddess.

And also interesting is her politics. She too agrees 100% the cause of the Ukraine/Russian war is directly due to NATO expansionism and Western meddling. A shame and disgrace, as per all of the West's military campaigns globally.

She also stated, proudly..

Saying she's ready to skipper a boat in a rainbow flotilla off the coast of Gaza..

I begged her not to do so, being the most dangerous thing ever.. Saying it would be the most lethal situation you put upon your life.. As no life is considered sacred when it comes to the Iserial war machine.  
No flotilla, no Journalist, no politician no army can stop it.  
Not even you Maya.

Your life is to precious and you are too beautiful, to have it blown to dust in a wink of an eye.

Please Reconsider, Get that idea out of your mind.

Receive my articles by email, comment, or just check in: [erik@neverhada-boss.com](mailto:erik@neverhada-boss.com). And thanks for the support.