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Provocation: Maneuvers in front of Russia's nose

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Welcome to today’s program.   
While the situation in Ukraine was still calm, we could read the following article in the German Frankfurter Allgemeine newspaper on September 21st, 2013. I quote: “What shall we do without war? If there is no major operation - and this is very likely because the West is tired of war - then for the first time in ten years the alliance will not be involved in an armed conflict. Especially the heads of the military are faced with questions. The commanding officers are asking themselves: ‘how should we remain operational when the troops are all back in the barracks?’ A first answer, possibly for those not involved a somewhat surprising answer: is - by going to battle against Russia!” In light of this article the current events in Ukraine alert our attention. After the joint navy maneuvers of the US and Ukrainian navies from the 8th to the 10th of September 2014, directly off the coast of the Russian peninsula Crimea, now also a large NATO maneuver is being carried out in Ukraine under US leadership. The main participants are the European alliance partners - so also UK and Germany. The exact number of troops and to what extent each country is involved are not yet clear - but one thing is certain: Russia sees this step as a direct military provocation. It seems to be only a matter of time until the “Russian bear” no longer tolerates such direct provocation and resorts to attack for its own security. With this then the NATO would be involved in direct military conflict with Russia. Will the previously cited passage start to become reality?

**from uw./ham./ extracted from original**

**Sources:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d5GMVCGt6zQ#t=987>  
Der FAZ- Artikel ist gebührenpflichtig. Der Zeitungsartikel ist im Besitz von Jürgen Elsässer. <http://de.ria.ru/security_and_military/20140907/269488678.html>  
<http://www.derwesten.de/politik/nato-manoever-in-der-kritik-aimp-id9780172.html>  
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