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Kremlin Tells United Russia Lawmakers to Prepare for 'Victory' in Ukraine

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The seminar for State Duma deputies at the Senezh management training center. **er.ru**

Kremlin officials told lawmakers from Russia's ruling United Russia party to prepare for "victory" in Ukraine and for the return of troops from the front, the Vedomosti newspaper reported Monday, citing people familiar with the discussions.

The remarks came at a Nov. 13-14 seminar for State Duma deputies at the Senezh management training center outside Moscow. Sergei Kiriyenko, the Kremlin's first deputy chief of staff, attended the seminar and stressed the importance of working with veterans of the war, the sources said.

"They said everyone should be ready for victory, when those who took part in the fighting return all at once," one source told Vedomosti.

Officials also told lawmakers that they were still working under wartime conditions, a deputy who attended the seminar told RBC. Another person who spoke to the outlet said Kremlin officials insisted that deputies had no right to take time off or enjoy themselves while the

fighting continued.

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The Dossier Center investigative outlet reported in May that the Kremlin was developing talking points to present a potential peace deal to the Russian public as a victory after nearly five years of war and heavy losses.

The proposed messaging would portray taking control of the Donbas as the central objective of the invasion. Moscow has long demanded that Kyiv cede the parts of the region that Russian forces have yet to capture. Ukraine has firmly rejected that demand.

The talking points would also cast the killing of Ukrainian troops as fulfillment of Moscow's stated goal of "denazification" and claim that taking Kyiv had never been part of the Kremlin's plans, the Dossier Center reported.

Russia and Ukraine last held U.S.-mediated talks in Abu Dhabi on Nov. 10-11. Media reports said Moscow's demands included rolling back NATO to its 1997 borders and turning Moldova into a federal republic.

Vladimir Medinsky, who led the Russian delegation, said after the talks that Moscow would take back "every inch" of what it considers its territory in Ukraine. He said he would be satisfied only "when we win and sign a peace agreement on our terms."

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