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Remember Vrbětice?



It's probably no coincidence that one of the [first two countries](#) on Russia's unfriendlies list is [fronting an ammunition program](#) in the West's face-off with Russia. It's rather strange, though, that the CR is being so loud about it. PM Petr Fiala wrote in the [Financial Times](#) that it's positive that the effort has attracted so much international attention. Foreign Min. Jan Lipavský told [Bloomberg](#) that the promise of more shells allows Ukraine to use up its existing stocks. Dep. Dir. Otakar Foltýn of the Castle's military office repeated this on [ČT](#) and added that Ukraine is fully dependent on whether Western democracies provide it with enough military supplies. All the while, Russian hardliners, such as Dmitri Trenin (at [35m](#) and [here](#)), are calling for their country to stop exercising restraint in responding to Western involvement. If Russia's No. 2 enemy is sending shells to Ukraine and boasts about it, it's almost daring Russia to blow them up before they reach the front line. Remember Vrbětice?

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