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## COOL YOUR JETS: WHY THE WEST IS MAKING UKRAINE WAIT FOR FIGHTER PLANES

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The West isnt really saying never on fighter jets for Ukraine – it just wants to focus first on getting Kyiv weapons for a looming offensive.

Thats the sentiment emerging in the wake of U.S. President Joe Bidens blunt no – echoed to various degrees by leaders in Germany and the U.K. – to the question of whether he would be sending Ukraine the fighter jets it is requesting. While officials have publicly remained relatively unequivocal that no jets are forthcoming, private discussions indicate it may actually just be a matter of time.

At the Pentagon, senior U.S. officials acknowledge Ukraine will need to modernize its aging Air Force with new fighter jets – eventually. But for now, officials are focused on sending the weapons Kyiv needs for the immediate fight.

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