

Stay invested, my friends

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This certainly has been an eventful year in the news, and one of those major stories in the headlines revolves around Russia invading Ukraine.

On February 24, the news broke that Russia had begun an invasion into the country of Ukraine. With it came a market that didn't know how to price itself. In fact, in the following 14 trading days, the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) had swings ranging from 597-835 points on six of those days. The markets ultimately didn't know how to handle the escalation between the two countries.

Let's take a rewind to look at where it all began.

After the dissolution of the USSR in 1991, it didn't take long for Ukraine to seek out alliances; first of which was the developing relationship with NATO. In 1992, Ukraine built an embassy in Brussels Belgium, NATO's headquarters, and by 1994 it was the first post-Soviet country to conclude a framework agreement with NATO.

In 1994, dialogue began with the



EU of possibly joining the union. Leonid Kuchm (1994-2005) served as President during this time; however, in 2002, the ties with NATO deteriorated after some recordings revealed that Ukraine allegedly supplied Saddam Hussein with sophisticated weapons. Tensions between NATO and Ukraine developed over these allegations and, by 2004, Kuchm issued a decree that joining NATO was no longer the country's goal.

In the next Presidential election in 2005, allegations of corruption and election fraud caused an uproar,

and protests began and led to the Orange Revolution. Ultimately Viktor Yushchenko was declared the winner and was a strong supporter of Ukraine's membership in NATO.

Fast forward to 2010: Newly-elected President Viktor Yanukovich said, "no question of Ukraine joining NATO." He also showed support of joining the EU, but in late 2013 made a sudden decision to not sign an agreement to join.

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SHE'S A ROLE MODEL & A SUPER HERO. SHE'S MOM.

Did you know that in the United States alone, around 122 million phone calls are made to moms on Mother's Day? It's not hard to understand why.

Near or far, our moms have seen us through our happiest and saddest, smelliest and grumpiest of times.

Through terrible twos, school plays, learners permits, graduations and first jobs. As our first teacher, protector, role model and friend, it seems only fitting that we set aside a day in their honor to share our love and gratitude in return.



in your life. Whether with a phone call, a card, flowers or a shared meal, there's no better time to remind them how much they mean to us.

For those of us who can't be with our mom, this day is a great time to share fond memories with loved ones or do an activity she would have enjoyed.

And if you're a mother yourself, I hope your day is filled with love and leaves you feeling deeply appreciated for all that you do.

This Mother's Day – Sunday, May 8 – we hope you're able to set aside some time to celebrate the mothers

- Timothy A. Phillips

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FROM FRONT PAGE

Once again, protests began in Kyiv in what was called the Maidan Revolution. To end the violence Yanukovich and leaders of the opposition signed an agreement, on February 21, that called for an interim government and early elections. The very next day police pulled out of Kyiv and the protestors were now in control.

A day later, on February 23, Yanukovich was voted out of office.

Throughout these periods, Russia was giving opposition to all proposed alliances. Just four days after Yanukovich was voted out of office Russia made its move for Crimea, which is the peninsula at the southern tip of Ukraine. In the port city of Sevastopol, unmarked Russian troops

took over the Supreme Council and captured other strategic sites. Pro-Russian leaders were installed, and the annexation was complete. I find it very interesting the annexation of Crimea began on February 27' and the invasion this year was on February 24.

I take you through this little history lesson for this reason: The markets panicked when the conflict started recently, but it is very clear this conflict has been going on for a very long time. That is why we at Jade feel perhaps the end could be far from over.

The markets have shown resiliency over this time period, as the DJIA was at 3,168 in December of 1991. That is over a 1,000 percent return.

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