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## Trump Envoy Lands in Kyiv Amid US Commitment to Supply Patriot Missiles

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On Monday, retired Lieutenant General Keith Kellogg, appointed by US President Donald Trump as special envoy to Ukraine, arrived in Kyiv, according to a senior Ukrainian official. His visit coincides with heightened expectations of shifts in the Trump administration's approach to the ongoing conflict, now in its fourth year, as the US pledges to deliver Patriot

air defence missiles to bolster Ukraine's resistance against Russia's escalating aerial assaults.

Trump, who has prioritised swiftly resolving the war, hinted last week at a significant announcement regarding Russia. Speaking on Sunday, he expressed exasperation with Russian President Vladimir Putin's tactics, stating, "Putin talks of peace but then unleashes destruction." The US commitment to supplying Patriot missiles marks a tangible step to counter Russia's intensified bombardment, addressing Ukraine's urgent need for robust defence systems.

In a notable shift, Trump, who previously questioned the value of US financial support to Ukraine, appears increasingly focused on enabling Kyiv to counter Russia's aggression. Republican Senator Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, a key Trump ally, remarked on Sunday that the conflict is approaching a critical juncture, with Trump showing renewed determination to support Ukraine's defence. "The President's resolve to confront Russia's invasion is clear," Graham said in a recent interview, signalling a departure from earlier scepticism about US involvement.

Simultaneously, NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte is scheduled to visit Washington on Monday and Tuesday for discussions with Trump, Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth, and congressional leaders. These talks are expected to address NATO's role in the conflict and broader security concerns as Russia's aggression persists.

Andrii Yermak, head of Ukraine's presidential office, outlined the agenda for Kellogg's visit, stating, "Our discussions will focus on defence, enhanced security, weapons, sanctions, and protecting our people while strengthening ties with the United States." Yermak also endorsed Trump's approach, noting, "Russia shows no interest in a genuine ceasefire. President Trump's principle of peace through strength resonates with us, and we fully support it."

The delivery of Patriot missiles underscores a practical commitment to Ukraine's defence, reflecting a broader US strategy to counter Russian advances through decisive action. As Kellogg engages with Ukrainian leaders, the world watches closely to see how Trump's policies will shape the next phase of this protracted conflict.