

## Putin says NATO violating agreements

by UPI

MOSCOW -- Russian officials said a NATO buildup near Russian borders violates previous military and diplomatic agreements. "Certainly, we cannot allow ourselves to remain indifferent to this obvious muscle-flexing," Russian President Vladimir Putin said Tuesday at a Defense Ministry meeting, RIA Novosti reported. Putin said Russia would provide an "adequate response" to the build up but he didn't detail any plan or outline a timetable for a response, RIA Novosti reported. The report didn't detail the NATO buildup. Putin and other Russian leaders accused NATO of expanding in a continuation of a Cold War attempt to surround and isolate Russia. Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Bulgaria and Romania have joined NATO in recent years while Ukraine, Georgia, Albania and Croatia have expressed interest in becoming a part of NATO.

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