

Afghansi terrorists behind the Chechen outrage

by Konstantin George

On Jan. 9, a group of 150-200 Chechen terrorists attacked the town of Kizlyar in the neighboring Russian Federation autonomous republic of Dagestan, and seized the town hospital, holding at one point up to 3,000 civilians hostage. The operation was led by Salman Raduyev, the son-in-law of the notorious Gen. Dzhokhar Dudayev, the renegade president of "independent" Chechnya. The operation left at least 30 people dead, 13 civilians and 7 policemen, plus some 10-15 terrorists, most of whom died in a failed attack on the military airfield. The terrorist operation is not over, following their pullout from Kizlyar in a bus and truck convoy with 160 civilian hostages.

The convoy got only as far as the Dagestan-Chechnya border, stopped when Russian forces blew up the bridge. As of the afternoon of Jan. 11, the convoy remained stalled at the border, with the terrorists adding 37 local policemen to the total of hostages held. The convoy was surrounded by Russian elite troops, including from the special Alpha unit, ready the moment the order is given to attack and liquidate the terrorists, whatever the losses concerning the hostages. The situation was temporarily put on hold because, among other reasons, President Boris Yeltsin had left for Paris late on Jan. 10 to attend the memorial services for the late French former President, François Mitterrand.

As of this writing on Jan. 11, even should no further violence occur, what had happened already in Kizlyar marked the worst terrorist outrage on Russian soil since Chechen terrorists stormed the south Russian town of Budyonnovsk in June 1995, an operation which led to the massacre of 150 civilians. These terrorist actions are the cutting edge of London-directed irregular warfare against Russia, utilizing the "afghansi," or Afghan mujahideen terrorist international culled by London from "Islamic" foreign mercenary veterans of the war in Afghanistan.

It must be added and emphasized that the Kizlyar terrorism was made possible also by forces on the Russian side, who, for their own neo-imperial reasons, are content to engage in a new round of what in the 19th century had been called the "Great Game" between Britain and Russia for control and dominance in Central Asia. As the Russian media had reported, citing Interfax, Russian military intelligence, the GRU, had warned on Dec. 23 that a terrorist attack on Kizlyar was possible. For reasons still not explained, despite this timely warning, no measures were taken, either concerning Kizlyar, or along the Chechen-Dagestan border.

The 'afghansi' in the Caucasus

Despite whatever "spin" is put on news in the main media of either the West or Russia, the evidence of the afghansi role in the Kizlyar outrage is irrefutable. Six wounded "Chechen" fighters were treated at the Kizlyar hospital. According to the duty surgeon, Magomed Malachayev, who treated two of them, one of these two was "an Arab." On Jan. 10, in the St. Petersburg newspaper, *Nevskoye Vremya*, special correspondent Aleksandr Gorshkov, who had been to Chechnya several times, wrote, citing sources in the Russian Security Service, that the Kizlyar operation had been planned by a person nicknamed "Fatkh." "Fatkh" was described as a man of Chechen origin who had been trained in Pakistan, became a Pakistani citizen, and spent five years in a mujahideen unit in Afghanistan. In 1992, after the renegade General Dudayev declared Chechnya "independent," he came back to Chechnya and organized a military group called "Sons of Noah."

Finally, the national German radio station, Deutschlandfunk, citing Russian accounts, reported at 6 p.m. on Jan. 10, that 30 of the terrorists who attacked Kizlyar were "afghansi."

The "afghansi" are no newcomers to the fiefdom created

by Dudayev in his Chechnya "independence" declaration of October 1991. Under Dudayev, Chechnya became an international crossroads for the drugs and arms traffic flowing between Central Asia-Afghanistan and into Turkey and Europe. His "armed forces," besides being recruited from Dudayev's and allied Chechen clans, contained a large number of what were euphemistically called "Islamic volunteers," drawn mostly from the London-directed, hard-core terrorist capability of the "Islamic" foreign veterans of the war in Afghanistan.

The problem, of course, cannot be confined to London and the Dudayev-afghansi gang. It must be stressed that Dudayev was allowed, by the same corrupt forces in Moscow who have ruled Russia since 1992, enriching themselves at the expense of a savaged physical economy and population, to build his trafficking and smuggling crossroads, totally unmolested, until late 1994. In other words, for three years, even though Russian intelligence knew fully what was going on in Chechnya, including the massive infusion of "afghansi" terrorists, nothing was done.

Playing the Russian profile

London's strategic reason for building up military assets in Chechnya is more than tying Russia down in a second Afghanistan in Chechnya. On that count as such, they have already succeeded, the first component in the high price Russia has had to pay for the three-year grace period accorded the Dudayev secession. According to official Russian casualty figures, after 13 months of military operations in Chechnya, some 3,000 Russian soldiers (Army and Interior Troop losses combined) have been killed. In Afghanistan, the official Russian death toll, after 10 years of warfare was put at 15,000. Even though official Russian death figures are far below reality, the scale of the lies in both cases forms a solid proof of the intensity of the warfare in Chechnya.

The main strategic goal of the British in using their "Islamic" terror card against Russia has been to effect an anti-western, neo-empire paradigm shift in Russia. This is cardinal to the overall British goal of manipulating Moscow into an anti-American posture, and, as a derivative, also sabotaging attempts at close Russian-German ties.

The terrorist outrages, such as Budyonnovsk and now Kizlyar, are designed to produce an undifferentiated massive Russian counter-response, where villages and towns will be bombed throughout southern Chechnya, where the main concentrations of guerrillas are now located, in a new campaign to "eradicate" the rebels. The more savage the Russian response, the greater the potential for conflicts with other Islamic peoples along Russia's southern rim will grow. Already, large sections of the Russian elite have been manipulated to be convinced that Russia is faced by an "Islamic" threat. The conflicts along Russia's southern rim will reinforce these beliefs. Faced then with the combined perception of an "Islamic" threat from the "south" and NATO expansion coming from the West, the emerging neo-imperial policy will go into

full bloom. Moscow would move to occupy what it can between its present western borders and the expected eastern borders of the expanding NATO; in other words, a re-conquest policy toward Ukraine and Belarus.

A massive reaction coming

The most likely Russian responses to the Kizlyar outrage will be a military operation to crush the Raduyev terrorist group, and, a resumption of all-out offensives and air bombardments in Chechnya. On the first count, Yeltsin, chairing the cabinet crisis meeting of Jan. 9, created a situation where he cannot afford either to fail or have a humiliation as occurred in Budyonnovsk. He put Gen. Mikhail Barsukov, head of the Federal Security Service (FSB) and one of his closest confidants, in charge of the operation. Yeltsin, in the part of the meeting filmed by Russian TV, swore that he would take "the most decisive measures to neutralize the bandit groups," meaning not only Raduyev, but throughout Chechnya. This point was elaborated by Interior Minister Anatoli Kulikov, who declared that Russia will begin attacking "all bases" of the Chechen rebels "in the mountains" of Chechnya. Another cabinet member at that meeting, Vyacheslav Mikhailkov, Nationalities Minister, said: "You don't talk to bandits. They are maniacs, a collective Chikatilo" (a reference to the infamous Russian serial killer in Rostov, who was caught, tried, and executed).

Yeltsin's last statements, on Jan. 10, before departing for Paris, were an ultimatum to the terrorists to release the hostages or else "events will take another course." In the next breath, he elaborated that any violence against the hostages will be met by "the sufficiently strong Interior forces and special forces, who will attack."

The hours are now ticking by before the probable fateful decision to, not only surgically deal with the Raduyev gang, but to indiscriminately resume all-out war in Chechnya. On the former count, no tears ought to be shed. If the wipe-out of the Raduyev group were correctly politically exploited, Russia could present the irrefutable proof among the dead and captured of the London-directed "afghansi" networks in the strategic irregular warfare against Russia. On the second count, however, indiscriminate bombing would create for Russia more enemies than it could eliminate. It would almost irreversibly lock Russia into a second Afghanistan in the Caucasus, creating howls of delight in London.

One can only hope, albeit against hope, that Moscow will not act according to profile, but intelligently in the wake of eliminating Raduyev, and begin a loud documentation campaign, to tell the world what Russian intelligence has in its files, on how Dudayev was set up, by whom, for what purpose, and the role of the "afghansi" terrorist networks operating on Russian soil; last but not least, who in Moscow has abetted this operation all along. Exposing these elements within the Russian leadership would go a long way toward putting an end, before it's too late, to Russia being a dumb giant manipulated by London-centered western oligarchic forces.