

What if Putin is telling the truth?

BY WILLIAM ENGDAHL — MAY 21, 2015

SAUDI ARABIA CRISES UNITED STATES INTERFERENCE RUSSIA

On April 26, Russian President Vladimir Putin appeared in a documentary on Rossiya 1, the main national television channel. The program covered recent events including the annexation of Crimea, the US coup in Ukraine and the general state of relations with Europe and the United States. He spoke openly. And, right in the middle of his speech, the former head of the KGB dropped a veritable political bombshell known to the Russian secret services for twenty years.

Putin suddenly declared that in his opinion the West would only be happy when Russia was weakened to the point of imploring help from the West, something the Russian temperament is hardly willing to do. Then, the Russian president, for the first time in public, spoke about something that the secret services have known for almost twenty years without ever letting anything transpire. Most likely in the hope of a little more normalized relations between Russia and the United S

Putin said the terror of the early 1990s in Chechnya and the Russian Caucasus was actively supported by the CIA and Western intelligence with the deliberate aim of weakening Russia. He added, without giving details, that the FSB secret service was in possession of documents on the hidden role of the United States.

What Putin, a great intelligence professional, alluded to, I have detailed evidence from non-Russian sources. It has big implications to reveal to the world the agenda that circles of influence in Washington have hidden for so long. This program, which aimed to destroy Russia as a sovereign state, included the neo-Nazi coup in Ukraine and a serious financial sanctions war against Moscow. What follows is taken from my book *Amerikas' Heilige Krieg*. [1]

The Chechen Wars of the CIA

Shortly after the mujahideen, funded by the CIA and Saudi intelligence, devastated Afghanistan in the late 1980s – forcing the Soviet army out in 1989 and causing the dissolution of the Soviet Union a few months later – the CIA began looking for places where the 'Afghan Arabs' trained by it could be redeployed to further destabilize Russian influence in the post-Soviet Eurasian space.

They were called "Afghan Arabs" because they had been recruited from ultra-conservative Wahhabi Sunni Muslims in Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and other parts of the Arab world where strict Wahhabi Islam was practiced. It was a Saudi CIA recruit who brought them to Afghanistan in the early 1980s. This recruit had himself been sent to Afghanistan. His name was Osama bin Laden.

When complete chaos reigned in the former Soviet Union, the administration of George H.W. Bush decided to “*strike the enemy while he was down*”. It was a gross mistake.

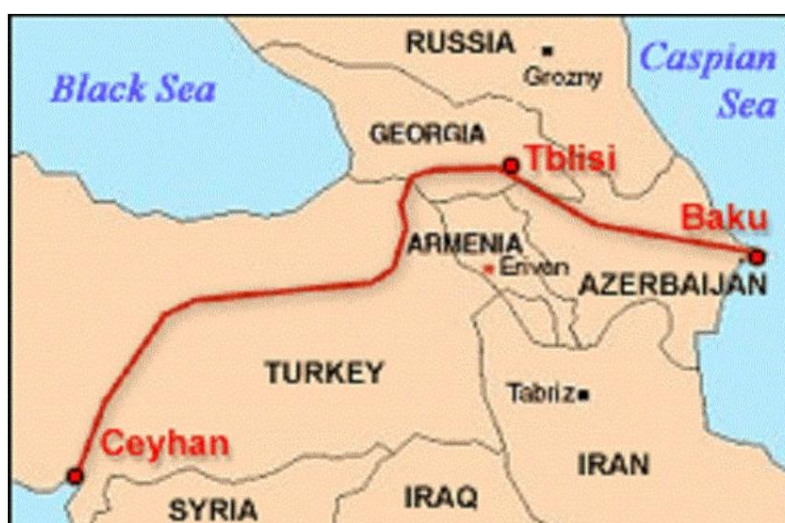
Washington redeployed its seasoned Afghan terrorists to reinforce the chaos and destabilize all of Central Asia, including the Russian Federation which was then in deep crisis due to the economic collapse of the Yeltsin era.

In the early 1990s, Haliburton, Dick Cheney's company, had made a comprehensive study of the offshore oil resources of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and the entire Caspian Sea.

They considered the region to be “*a new Saudi Arabia*” worth billions of dollars in today's market. The United States and Great Britain were determined to use all means to keep all this oil windfall for themselves, away from any Russian control. Washington's first goal was to stage a coup against Azerbaijan's elected president, Abdulaf Elchibey, and install a president more sympathetic to US interests and a state-controlled Baku Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) pipeline.

United States, “*the most political pipeline in the world*”, bringing oil from Baku in Azerbaijan to Turkey and to the Mediterranean via Georgia.

At that time, the only pipeline from Baku was Russian and dated from the Soviet era. It was crossing Grozny, the Chechen capital. It brought oil from Baku north after passing through Russia's Dagestan province and to Russia's Black Sea port, Novorossiysk, after passing through Chechnya. This pipeline was the main obstacle to the other very expensive route from Washington and the major English and American oil companies.



President Bush senior gave his old friends in the CIA the mission to destroy this Russian-Chechen pipeline and create such confusion in the Caucasus that no Russian or Western company would think of using the pipeline anymore. Russian from Grozny.

Graham E. Fuller, a former colleague of Bush and ex-Deputy Director of the CIA's National Council for Intelligence, had been one of the main architects of the strategy of the mujahideen enlisted by the CIA. Fuller described CIA strategy in the Caucasus in the early 1990s as follows: "*The policy of guiding the evolution of Muslims and helping them against our enemies worked superbly in Afghanistan to the detriment of the Army Red. The same procedure can still be used to destabilize what remains of the Russian empire.* »

To carry out the operation, the CIA used a specialist in dirty tricks, General Richard Secord. He set up a front company, MEGA Oil. In the 1980s, Secord was convicted for his central role in Irangate and the illegal arms and drug sales that went with it.

In 1991, Secord, a former deputy assistant to the Minister of National Defense, arrived in Baku and set up the CIA's front company, MEGA Oil. He was an old connoisseur of CIA covert operations involving opium sales in Laos during the Vietnam War. In Azerbaijan, he opened an airline to secretly bring, from Afghanistan to Azerbaijan, hundreds of mujahideen belonging to Bin Laden's Al-Qaeda movement. By 1993, MEGA Oil had recruited and armed 2,000 mujahideen, making Baku a base of operations for mujahideen terrorists ready to operate throughout the Caucasus.

Covert operations in the Caucasus by General Secord's Mujahideen led to the military coup that overthrew President-elect Abulfaz Elchibey that year and replaced him with a more manageable puppet for the Americans, Heydar Aliyev. . A secret report drawn up by the Turkish services was leaked to the Sunday Times in London. He confirmed that "*two oil giants, BP and Amoco, respectively English and American, which together form an oil consortium, the AIOC, are behind the coup d'etat*".

Turki al-Faisal, head of the Saudi secret service, arranged for his agent, Osama Bin Laden - whom he had sent to Afghanistan at the start of the war in the early 1980s - to use his Afghan organization, Maktab al-Khidamat (MAK) to recruit "Afghan Arabs" for what was becoming global Jihad. Bin Laden's mercenaries were used as shock troops by the CIA and the Pentagon to coordinate and support Muslim offensives not only in Azerbaijan, but also in Chechnya and later in Bosnia.

Bin Laden brought another Saudi, Ibn al-Khattab, to become the leader or Emir of the Mujahideen Jihadists in Chechnya (sic!) along with the Chechen warlord, Shamil Basayev. It didn't matter that Ibn al-Khattab was a Saudi Arabian who didn't speak a word of Chechen, let alone Russian. What he knew was what Russian soldiers looked like and how to kill them.

Chechnya was then by tradition a predominantly Sufi society, a moderate and apolitical branch of Islam. But the growing arrival of terrorist mujahideen, mandated by the United States, well paid, well trained and preaching Holy War or Jihad against the Russians transformed the Chechen resistance movement, originally reformist. They spread Al-Qaeda's radical Islamist ideology across the Caucasus. And under Secord's leadership, the mujahideen's terrorist operations soon spread to Dagestan and Chechnya, turning Baku into a hub for trafficking Afghan heroin to the Chechen mafia.

From the mid-1990s, bin Laden began to pay the leaders of the Chechen guerrillas, Shamil Basayev and Omar ibn al-Khattab, the tidy sum of several thousand dollars a month, the equivalent of a royal treasury in the economically devastated Chechnya of that time. This enabled them to sideline the moderate Chechen majority. The American secret services remained very involved in the Chechen conflict until the end of the 1990s. According to Yosef Bodansky, who was then Director of the United States Congressional Task Force against Terrorism and Unconventional Warfare, Washington was “ *a new anti-Russian jihad, supporting and strengthening the most virulent anti-Western Islamist forces*”.

In his report, Bodansky disclosed in detail the whole CIA strategy in the Caucasus that American government officials were involved in.

“An official meeting in Azerbaijan in December 1999 during which special programs for training and equipping Mujahideen from the Caucasus, the Arab world, Central and South Asia were discussed and agreed upon. The highlight was the tacit encouragement given to Muslim allies (especially Turkey, Jordan and Saudi Arabia) and private security companies...to help the Chechens and their Islamist allies surge in the spring of 2000 and sustain long the jihad that would ensue....Islamist Jihad in the Caucasus as a means of depriving Russia of a viable oil pipeline through the spiral of violence and terrorism. The most intense phase of the Chechen wars came to an end in 2000 just after a major Russian military operation defeated the Islamists. It was a Pyrrhic victory that cost the lives of thousands and led to the destruction of entire cities. The exact number of victims of the Chechen conflict initiated by the CIA remains unknown.

Unofficial estimates ranged from 25,000 to 50,000 dead or missing, mostly civilians. The death toll among the Russians was around 11,000 according to the Committee of Soldiers' Mothers;

Major British-American oil companies and CIA agents were delighted. They had what they wanted: their Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline, bypassing Russia's Grozny pipeline.

Chechen jihadists, under the Islamic command of Shamil Basayev, continued guerrilla warfare in and around Chechnya. The CIA was refocusing on the Caucasus.

Basayev's Saudi contacts

Basayev played a central role in the CIA's global jihad. In 1992, he met the Saudi terrorist, Ibn al-Khattab. From Azerbaijan, Ibn al-Khattab brought Basayev to Afghanistan to meet with al-Khattab's ally, the Saudi Osama bin Laden. Ibn al-Khattab's role was to recruit Chechen Muslims willing to engage in jihad against Russian forces in Chechnya on behalf of the CIA and its covert strategy to destabilize post-Soviet Russia and obtain for the Anglo-Americans control of the Caspian Sea.

Once back in Chechnya, Basayev and al-Khattab set up the International Islamic Brigade with the financial help of the Saudi secret services. This brigade received the backing of the CIA and was coordinated by the liaison between the Saudi ambassador in Washington and Prince Bandar bin Sultan, a close friend of the Bush family. Bandar, who had been the Saudi ambassador to Washington for more than twenty years, was so close to the Bush family that George W. Bush called the playboy ambassador "Bandar Bush" as if he were some sort of honorary member of the family.

Basayev and al-Khattab brought into Chechnya fighters from the fanatical Wahhabi tendency of Sunni Islam found in Saudi Arabia. Ibn al-Khattab led the so-called "Arab mujahideen in Chechnya," his own private army made up of Arabs, Turks, and other foreign fighters. He was also given the mission of setting up paramilitary training camps in the Caucasus mountains in Chechnya where Chechens and Muslims from the Russian republics of the North Caucasus and Central Asia were trained.

The Islamic Brigade International financed by the CIA and the Saudis was not only responsible for the terror in Chechnya. It was she who was responsible for the hostage-taking at the Dubrovka theater in Moscow in October 2002, as well as the horrific massacre at the Beslan school in

September 2004. In 2010, the UN Security Council issued the following report regarding the International Islamic Brigade of Basayev and al-Khattab:

“The International Islamic Brigade was registered on March 4, 2003...as being associated with Al-Qaeda, Osama bin Laden or the Taliban for “having participated in the financing, planning, facilitation, preparation or commission of acts or activities in conjunction with, under the name of, on behalf of or in support of » Al-Qaeda... The International Islamic Brigade was created and led by Shamil salmanovich Basayev (deceased) and is linked to the Riyadus-Salikhin Reconnaissance and Sabotage Battalion Chechen martyrs...and the SPIR (Special Purpose Islamic Regiment)...

On the evening of October 23, members of the International Islamic Brigade, the Riyadus-Salikhin Reconnaissance and Sabotage Battalion of Chechen Martyrs and the NIRS jointly operated to seize more than 800 hostages from the Podshipnikov Zadov (Dubrovka) theater in Moscow. .

In October 1999, emissaries from Basayev and al-Khattab traveled to Osama Bin Laden's home base in Afghanistan's Kandahar province. Bin Laden agreed to provide significant military aid as well as financial assistance. This aid included sending several hundred fighters to Chechnya to oppose Russian troops and commit acts of terrorism. Later that year bin Laden sent large sums of money to Basayev, Movsar Barayev (leader of the NIRS) and al-Khattab. They were to be used exclusively for the training of armed terrorists, the recruitment of mercenaries and the purchase of

ammunition. »

Al-Qaeda's Afghanistan-Caucasus "terror train", financed by Saudi services, had two objectives. One was a Saudi objective, that of spreading the fanatical Wahhabi jihad in the region of Central Asia that had belonged to the Soviet Union. The second was on the CIA's agenda: to destabilize the post-Soviet Russian Federation which, at that time, was in the process of collapsing.

Beslan

On September 1, 2004, armed terrorists belonging to the International Islamic Brigade of Basayev and al-Khattab took more than 1,100 people hostage during a school siege. There were 777 children. They locked them up in School No. 1 in Beslan, North Ossetia, an autonomous republic of the Russian Federation, in the North Caucasus near the Georgian border.

On the third day of the hostage crisis, as explosions were heard in the school, the FSB and other elite Russian troops stormed the building. When it was all over, at least 334 hostages had died, including 186 children. There were a significant number of people injured or missing. Afterwards, it appeared that the Russian forces had very badly managed their intervention.

Washington's propaganda machine, from Radio Free Europe to the New York Times and CNN, wasted no time demonizing Putin and Russia for their mishandling of the crisis.

Beslan rather than focusing on links between Basayev, Al-Qaeda and the secret service Saudis. This would have drawn worldwide attention to the close relationship between the family of the President at the time, George W. Bush, and the bin Laden family, Saudi billionaires.

On September 1, 2001, just 10 days before the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the head of the Saudi secret service, Prince Turki bin Faisal Al Saudi, educated in the United States, and while he had been in office for 1977 - including the period when bin Laden sent his mujahideen into operations in Afghanistan and the Caucasus - suddenly and inexplicably resigned. This happened just days after he accepted a reappointment from his king. He gave no explanation. He was soon found a new post in London, far from Washington.

The report of close ties between the Bush families and bin Laden was buried. In fact, for "state security" (sic!) reasons it was completely removed from the official report of the 9/11 Commission of Inquiry. The number of 14 or 19 Saudi terrorists in New York and Washington also disappeared from the last report of the US government-mandated Commission of Inquiry, which was released by the Bush administration only in July 2004, almost three years after the facts.

Basayev took credit for sending terrorists to Beslan. Among his demands was the complete independence of Chechnya from Russia, something that would have placed in the hands of Washington and the Pentagon a formidable strategic dagger in the stomach of the Russian Federation.

Towards the end of 2004, following the tragedy in Beslan, it appears that President Vladimir Putin entrusted the Russian services with the secret mission of finding and killing the main leaders of the Caucasus mujahideen led by Basayev. Al- Khattab had been killed in 2002. It didn't take long for Russian security forces to discover that most of the Chechen Arab-Afghan terrorists had fled. They had found refuge in Turkey, a member of NATO, in Azerbaijan which was in the process of becoming a member of NATO, in Germany, a member of NATO

or in Dubai, one of the Arab countries closest to the United States, and in Qatar, another close ally of the Americans. In other words, NATO harbored the Chechen terrorists.

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[1] America's Holy War

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