THE BIG LIE OF THE U.S. WAR ON GLOBAL TERRORISM

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Category: Opinions

By David Boyajian, Massachusetts, 3 August 2021

Millions of illegal aliens swarm across our borders, yet little is done to stop them.

As homicides in big cities soar, police departments are being defunded.

Such destructive domestic policies remind us of this destructive foreign policy: Successive administrations and the State Department have often shut their eyes to international terrorism and even covered it up.

As the 20th anniversary of 9/11 and America's Global War on Terrorism looms, this fact shocks the conscience. It also endangers the homeland and our military men and women overseas.

We'll prove that Turkey and Azerbaijan remain among the most egregious sponsors of international terrorist organizations and that the U.S. covers for those countries.

Among the organizations are ISIS, al-Qaida, Al-Nusra, Ansar Al-Din, Hamza Division, Hayat Tahrir Al-Sham, Jaysh Al-Sunna, Sultan Murad Brigade and Sultan Suleyman Shah Brigade/Al-Amshat.

Terrorist Turkey

Ahmet S. Yayla, Turkey's counterterrorism chief from 2010-13, has acknowledged that Turkey "was a central hub for ... over 50,000 ISIS foreign fighters, and the main source of ISIS logistical materials IEDs, making Turkey and ISIS practically allies."

Veteran State Department adviser David L. Phillips directs Columbia University's Peace-building and Human Rights Program. The program's research confirmed Turkey's alliance with ISIS: "ISIS-Turkey Links" (2014) and "Turkey-ISIS Oil Trade" (2015/2016).

In "Turkey: A state sponsor of terrorism?" (May 28), Phillips wrote that if a "non-NATO country behaved like Turkey, it would warrant designation as a State Sponsor of Terrorism," like Iran and North Korea.

He also describes Turkey's sending of terrorist mercenaries (including from some of the organizations listed above) into Azerbaijan against Armenian-populated Artsakh/Nagorno-Karabagh in 2020.

In 2014, the New York Times reported Western intelligence officials were tracking the ISIS oil shipments into Turkey and that Turkey had failed "to help choke off the oil trade."

In January and July, the U.S. Treasury Department identified Turkey as a financial base for ISIS and al-Qaida. However, the U.S. has penalized only some Turkish individuals and companies, not Turkey itself. Regardless, the effect has been minimal.

As with Turkey, the State Department has largely ignored utterly corrupt Azerbaijan's long record of supporting terrorism.

Terrorist Azerbaijan

In the early 1990s, Azerbaijan — with Turkey's help — recruited Mujahedin, Pakistanis, and others to attack Armenians.

Al-Qaida cells in Baku helped to carry out the 1998 bombings of U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. A dozen Americans and 212 others died.

Throughout 2020, Azerbaijan deployed thousands of terrorist mercenaries against Armenian-populated Artsakh and Armenia. Turkey had transported them from Syria and Libya.

These included war criminal and former ISIS commander Sayf Balud.

The independent, U.K.-based, Syrian Observatory for Human Rights has confirmed Azerbaijan's using such mercenaries,numbering in the thousands, with 145 dead.

Columbia University's Institute for the Study of Human Rights has identified the chief commanders, including Fehim Isa of the Sultan Murad Brigade, and their organizations — many of them murderers, rapists, kidnappers and desecrators.

As a result, 100 bipartisan members of Congress (2021) and the European Union Parliament (2020) have condemned Azerbaijan and Turkey.

Azerbaijan is also violating the U.N. Convention against the Use of Mercenaries, which it signed in 1997. In November, the U.N.'s Working Group on Mercenaries excoriated Turkey and Azerbaijan. However, the U.N.'s leading member has refused to raise this issue.

Candidate Joe Biden pledged to "rally the world" against "transnational terrorism." Yet the White House has done nothing about Azeri terrorism. Armenia, incidentally, is the only country in that region with no ties to international terrorism.

We've let our government make a farce of the GWOT.

More cover-ups

On July 21, Senate Foreign Relations Chairman Bob Menendez, D-N.J., asked Undersecretary of State Victoria Nuland about "Turkey facilitating the transfer of fighters from Syria to Azerbaijan" last year.

Her "answer"? She'd discuss it only "in another setting," as if Menendez's assertion wasn't already public knowledge.

Thus, Nuland *covered* for Azerbaijan and Turkey.

At a 2016 public forum in Cambridge, Massachusetts, I quizzed then-U.S Ambassador to Armenia Richard M. Mills about Turkey's support for ISIS.

I also mentioned that I would be distributing David L. Phillips' "ISIS-Turkey Links" study to the audience.

Mills angrily denied any and all ties between Turkey and ISIS or similar groups. Like Nuland, he covered for Turkey.

We know Mills lied because in 2014 Vice President Biden told his Harvard audience that Turkey and others had been giving "hundreds of millions of dollars tons of weapons" to Al-Nusra, al-Qaida and ISIS.

President Obama immediately covered for Turkey by ordering Biden to apologize to President Erdogan.

Just after 9/11, then-U.S. Ambassador to Azerbaijan Ross L. Wilson spoke at Harvard before a small group that included me.

I grilled him about a study on Azerbaijan being a terrorist hub.

Wilson angrily denied it all, even though the State Department had publicly acknowledged that al-Qalda in Azerbaijan had helped to carry out 1998's American embassy bombings.

Like the others, Wilson covered for Turkey.

Silence isn't golden

The State Department apparently believes that terrorists are acceptable if they're backed by a NATO member (Turkey) or a country (Azerbaijan) with sundry gas and oil fields.

The relative silence of Americans and American organizations who favor a strong military, declare their opposition to terrorism and lay claim to the religious high ground is similarly hypocritical.

Let us speak up and take action — or become complicit.

David Boyajian's primary foreign policy focus is the Caucasus. His work can be found here.

Comments



Bob – 2021-08-11 11:10:26
You are 100% correct. The U.S. Government is the largest terrorist organization in the world.



MrLiberty – 2021-08-10 11:06:14
Every bit of international terrorism is sponsored by the US/CIA/NSA/Deep State apparatus. The "enemies" that attacked us on 9-11 were internal, not external, and the GWOT was just an excuse to move trillions of dollars into the hands of the Deep State/MIC complex and into the bank accounts of terrorists abroad (oh, and to control the Afghan poppy fields so the CIA would have a constant supply). There is no problem on earth that the US government has not either created or worsened through its actions (both worthless major parties included. I certainly agree with the fact that domestic problems are being ignored, but even there, the root cause comes back to the same enemy of the people - the federal government.



Boghos – 2021-08-05 17:00:57
Here is one way to take action. Demand from your elected officials that the US government halt military aid to Azerbaijan and Turkey.
https://marchtojustice.org/action-alerts