## Hearings start in Chechnya against UNA-UNSO members charged with series of felonies



Today the Supreme Court of the Chechen Republic starts first hearings of the case opened against members of the gang consisting of the members of nationalistic organization Ukrainian National Assembly – Ukrainian People's Defense (UNA-UNSO) – citizens of Ukraine Nikolai Karpyuk and Stanislav Klykh. They are charged with crimes under parts 1 and 2 of article 209 of the RF Penal Code (leadership of and membership in a gang), paragraphs "c", "h" and "m" of article 102 of the RSFSR Penal Code (murder of two or more people related to their duty), part 2 of article 15, paragraphs "c", "h" and "m" of article 102 of the RSFSR Penal Code (attempted murder of two or more people related to their duty).

According to investigators, military political radical right organization UNA-UNSO sticking to nationalistic ideology was set up in early 90s in Ukraine. Its aims and tasks were fighting back Russian authorities and killing Russian people. Citizens of Ukraine Nikolai Karpyuk, Stanislav

Klykh, Alexander Malofeyev, Alexander Muzychko and others joined the organization at the said time.

Since 1991 stable armed groups (gangs) have been set up in the Chechen Republic intending to tear it away from Russia and create an independent Islamic state there and then military actions started to restore constitutional order in Chechnya. In December 1994, in Ukraine, Karpyuk, Muzychko and other individuals played active role in setting up stable armed groups consisting of the most radical members of UNA-UNSO so that those groups could take part in the military conflict in Russia and fight on the side of the self-declared Chechen Republic of Ichkeria.

At the same time Karpyuk together with Dmitry Korchinsky and other members and leaders of UNA-UNSO arrived to Chechnya in order to attack and kill Russian citizens, military men and law-enforcement officers as part of an armed group consisting of UNA-UNSO members and together with members of gangs that acted in the republic and led by Aslan Maskhadov, Shamil Basayev and others. This way, following orders of gang leaders Karpyuk and Muzychko led a gang called Viking which also included UNA-UNSO members Dmitry Yarosh, Yuri Dolzhenko, Alexander Malofeyev, Stanislav Klykh and others.

In the period of time between December 1994 and January 1995, Karpyuk, Klykh, Malofeyev and other gangsters repeatedly took part in armed conflicts with Russian soldiers in Presidential Palace, Minutka square and the railway station in the city of Grozny during which they killed at least 30 military men and wounded 13 more.

After all the gangs had been smashed, those so-called soldiers went back to their homeland, Ukraine and lay low for a long time. Apparently, having lost their guard, last year they entered the Russian Federation, having forgotten that we here have the principle "Nobody is forgotten, nothing is forgotten". Our special services worked expertly, held them and gave over to investigators. And as it happens in many, not to say in all cases with Ukrainian nationalists, after they are held, from insolent and brave they turn into meek and complaisant without a trace of past heroism and faith into the bright future of Ukraine. Now all of them are going to answer for the crimes they committed in the Russian Federation and sit in the Russian prisoner's box. I am sure that they are going to get a warm reception in prison, including from their companions-in-arms, who have long been locked up working off and praying for forgiveness of the sins before Russia. The same fate awaits all other Ukrainian activists who are making attempts on the lives and health of Russian citizens, integrity and safety of Russia.

At present, the investigators have enough evidence, so the criminal case against Karpyuk and Klykh with the approved indictment has been sent to court to be tried on the merits.

The criminal case against member of the Viking gang, Ukrainian Alexander Malofeyev, was severed to form a separate law suit as he had had a deal with the investigators which has also been sent to court with the approved indictment.

The investigation against other members of the gang is ongoing.

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