Another participant of 2005 Nalchik attack jailed in Kabardino-Balkaria

A court has recognized the evidence gathered by the North Caucasian Federal District Main Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee sufficient to convict Sarabi Seyunov, who in October 2005, in a gang committed an armed attack in the town of Nalchik. He was found guilty of crimes under part 2 of article 210, part 2 of article 209, article 279, paragraphs "a" and "c" of part 2 of article 205, article 317, part 3 of article 30, paragraphs "a" and "b" of part 4 of article 226, part 3 of article 222 of the RF Penal Code (membership in a stable armed group (gang), armed mutiny, terrorism, attempt on the life of a law enforcement official (military servant), attempted stealing of firearms and illegal circulation of firearms).

The court and investigators have found that in the period between 1999 and February 2005 Aslan Maskhadov and Shamil Basayev, Ilyax Gorchkhanov, Anzor Astemirov and foreign citizens Khattab, Abu Al-Valid, Abu-Dzeit and others set up and headed a numerous organized criminal community with stable armed groups and other illegal communities in its structure. They planned to create in the Caucasus of Russia a kind of their own Islamic state. The militants decided to attain this by means of armed mutinies and terrorist attacks.

This way, on 13 October 2005, in the town of Nalchik, the gangsters, including Seyunoiv, committed a massive attack on the buildings of the Kabardino-Balkaria Ministry of Interior and inferior bodies and agencies, Khasanya Road Patrol Service, T Center of the Southern Federal District main Office of the Ministry of Interior, Kabardino-Balkaria Office of the Federal Security Service, Office of the Federal Drug Control Service and Nalchik border team No 43 of the Federal Security Service, arm selling shops Arsenal and Okhotnik Plus, they seized the bridge over the Shalushka river on the 449th km of the Caucasus motorway, attacked other facilities and attempted on lives of law enforcement officials and military servants, killed civilians.

As a result 35 law enforcement officials and military servants and 15 civilians were killed. 131 law enforcement officials and military servants and 92 civilians were wounded and suffered moral damage, property belonging to 19 legal persons and 153 physical persons was damaged or destroyed causing the owners loss of over 54 million rubles in total. The activity of state authorities was paralyzed in Nalchik, organizations and industrial enterprises, schools, preschool facilities, shops were not working, traffic was closed, water supply and telephone communication were disrupted.

During the attack the perpetrators used at least 35 grenade launchers, 10 Kalashnikov machine guns,

135 Kalashnikov assault rifles, 25 items of long-barrel non-automatic guns of different kinds and modifications, 20 Kedr submachine guns, Igla shoulder-fired missiles, at least 5 flame-throwers RPO-A Shmel. In addition they had at least 45 thousand cartridges of different calibers, 106 antitank grenades, 500 hand grenades, 500 detonating fuses of different modifications, mines and other explosive devices. During the probe the investigators in cooperation with operative units of law enforcement bodies have carried out considerable careful work to identify the members of the criminal community, including those directly involved in the attack on 13 October 2005.

Over 70 members of the gang have already been sentenced to between 4 and 23 years in prison, and 5 more got life imprisonment.

The court has sentenced Seyunov to 13.5 years in prison to be served in a maximum-security penal colony.

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