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## Defendant in 1995 Budyonnovsk attack case arrested



The North Caucasian Federal District Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee continues investigation in an armed attack of Shamil Basayev's gang on the people of Budyonnovsk, Stavropol Region in 1995.

Following the request of investigators, a court has ruled to remand a national of the Chechen-Ingush ASSR Badruddi Daudov, detained the day before, in custody pending the trial. He is suspected of crimes under part 2 of article 209 of the RF Penal Code (membership in a gang), part 2 of article 126.1 of the RSFSR Penal Code (taking hostages), part 3 of article 205 of the RF Penal Code (a terrorist attack). Custodial restraint and charges are expected soon. According to investigators Daudov was involved in the attack on organizations and residents of Budyonnovsk in 1995. The investigators are going to charge him soon.

According to investigators, in 1991, Shamil Basayev and other individuals set up a criminal community to plot and commit armed riots and terrorist attacks in Russia for the purpose of forcible change of constitutional regime of the Russian Federation and violation of its territorial unity set out in the Constitution, to affect state authorities so that they would change the country's constitutional

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regime, violation of its territory unity by illegally withdrawing from it North Caucasian region and form there a new Islamic state.

On 14 June 1995, the stable armed group of at least 160 people led by Shamil Basayev attacked organizations and citizens of Budyonnovsk in the Stavropol Territory, took hostages and carried out a terrorist attack. As a result of the attack, 129 people were killed, 317 injured, 1,191 citizens sustained moral damage, 1,586 citizens were taken hostages. 198 cars were destroyed or damaged, the fire damaged the House of Children's Art, buildings of central district hospital, department of internal affairs, city administration, 107 houses were considerably damaged, property owned by legal or physical persons was destroyed or damaged, that is considerable property damage was inflicted, over 95.6 billion of non-denominated rubles.

In all, 26 people were charged during the investigation, criminal files against them were severed to form a separate proceeding and sent to the Stavropol Territory Court to be tried on the merits. Criminal cases against 3 of the accused were investigated by investigators of the Russia's Investigative Committee. All members of the gang were found guilty and sentenced to long terms in prison. Investigation against Shamil Basayev and 6 more of his accomplices was stopped due to their deaths. There are 23 individuals still wanted for the crime. In addition at the present time there are two Chechen nationals Ramzan Belyalov and Magomed Mazdayev prosecuted. They are charged with crimes under part 2 of article 209 of the RF Penal Code (membership in a gang), part 2 of article 126.1 of the RSFSR Penal Code (taking hostage), part 3 of article 205 of the RF Penal Code (a terrorist attack).

The investigation was complicated because most of the current convicts, wanting to escape criminal liability for their crimes, illegally received and used Russian passports. However, they were still identified and brought to justice.

The investigators have done a lot of work to get the evidence. This way, each time they need to identify the accused, they have to locate the victims (1,600), question them once more to find out all the circumstances of the events and whether they can describe or identify the perpetrators. Complex tests are being run.

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