

Military Intervention in Mali: Special Operation to Recolonize Africa

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The military operation in Mali launched on January 11 is another vivid example of special activities aimed at recolonization of the African continent. It's an orderly and consistent capture of new African territories by Western powers. They have got hold of Sudan by dismembering it (taking away the oil deposits from the major part of the country), the Nigerian oilfields have been captured in accordance with the International Court of Justice rulings, (1), Libya has been captured as a result of direct military intervention, Cote D'Ivoire has been conquered thanks to a small-scale military action conducted under the aegis of the United Nations. The way to do the things differ, but the result is the same. The process of recolonization picks up momentum in Africa...

The mistakes of previous aggressive actions were taken into consideration while occupying Mali. Today everyone is sure the West is defending Mali's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Not exactly so, as some facts tell us. In reality it was not in 2011-2012 when the terrorist groups appeared in the north of the country. They had been organizing and conducting activities there for dozens of years. (2) The situation exploded because the Libyan weapons were captured after the Gaddafi's overthrow. The military materials didn't get to Mali by themselves; there are facts to prove France was involved in their transfer from Libya.

The very logic of events in the North of Mali in 2012 proves it is a well-orchestrated performance aimed at preparing the public opinion for "an imperative of military intervention". That's how it was arranged that Libyan arms spread around and wound up in the hands of Tuaregs. It incited military actions. But pretty soon the Tuaregs understood they were being used and started to dissociate themselves from the independence they had declared previously. The National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad (French: Mouvement National pour la Libération de l'Azawad; MNLA) said the declaration of independence was "an attempt to draw international attention to the plight of the population in the north" and expressed willingness to hold talks. (3)

That's what the National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad was attacked for by real perpetrators of the provocation - the Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) and the Islamists of Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa (MUJWA or MUJAO). Ansar Dine said it was ready to join without delay. At the November meeting in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, the group said it rejected violence, extremism and terrorism and assumed the responsibility for fighting organized crime across the border. (4) The Ansar Dine's turn around led to its involvement into fighting. In November combat actions were sparked, the National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad fought the opposing Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb and the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa. By the end of November

Ansar Dine waged combat actions against the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa forces in the south-western part of Timbuktu.

Finally, all these battles made part of the strategy aimed at the destabilization of Mali. All the events described here take place against the background of jihad and terrorist groups coming to the North of Mali to reinforce the armed formations. (5) The Mali's northern terrorist land has really become international while getting support from all leading terrorist forces in the region, including the well-known Nigerian Boko Harum.

According to the United Nations Secretary General's estimations, the capture of the northern part of the country resulted in around half a million refugees and over 200 thousand migrants inside the country. The humanitarian disaster spread to all neighboring countries. That was the goal. All Muslim shrines in Timbuktu and other Sahara's ancient historical centers were destroyed to strengthen the effect. The actions had no other mission but to "shock" international community and make it realize a military intervention was an "imperative". That's the right context for making out what was behind the state coup that took place in Mali in March 2012, a few days before the presidential election President Amadou Toumani Toure was toppled. There seemed to be no logic in staging the coup (they toppled the president who was not a candidate for the next term), but it can be easily explained by the fact that the President and the most probable winners were all opponents of the Western military intervention.

After the coup, the idea of foreign intervention received a new strong impetus. The new government of Mali asks the United Nations for military assistance and launches a complaint to the International Criminal Court. But the concept of military intervention was still a matter of internal strife between the supporters of the Western "assistance" and inter-African military mission. Probably these two different approaches were the main reason for failure of the attempted coup at the end of April (6) and then for a new military coup that swept away Prime-Minister Modibo Diarra.

It's not an occasion that the United Nations Security Council resolutely condemned the then ongoing intervention of Mali's military and security forces into the activities of Mali's transitional government. It expressed its readiness to tackle the issue of imposing sanctions against those who breached the constitutional order. Thus, it's not the Al Qaeda's leaders but rather the Mali's military who was threatened with the Security Council sanctions!!!

At last, the United Nations Security Council's resolution N 2085 was adopted on December 20, 2012 authorizing the military intervention in the country. (7) The African-led International Support Mission to Mali (AFISMA) was allowed to be deployed. The force is to include Malian (5000 men strong) and international (3300) forces. The concept was worked out by Malian authorities together with "partners" and approved by the African Union and ECOWAS. Now, who are the Malian partners? The USA, France, Germany, Canada, Algeria, Mauritania and Niger.

At the beginning of January, Al Qaeda forces in the northern part of the country adopted a behavior that ran contrary to logic; they launched an offensive to the South. The city of Kona was captured on January 7. From geographical point of view the city is of critical importance, it is situated at the conditional border between the country's North and South, so the action actually meant the start of offensive against the territory where the major part of population lives. In case the offensive had any military importance for Al Qaeda, it could have been launched before the resolution 2085, for instance right after a number of coups

in Bamako or any other time suitable for the Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb. At that, it is launched right after the ruling on international military operation. The only thing the offensive could be seen as is a provocation of immediate invasion, not anything else. In the evening of January 10 Interim Mali President Dionkunda Traore declared total mobilization and the state of emergency. (8)

On January 11 French forces landed in Mali. Information agencies mention other participants of the operation (Senegal, Niger); still everyone knows who plays the leading part. By the way it became clear on the very day the resolution 2085 was adopted, when the Malian Minister of Foreign Affairs said thank you among other things to all UN Security Council members but expressed special gratitude to France. (9) It should be noted the information on the ECOWAS decision to launch immediate deployment of troops was made public right after the news that the French force was on the way. That is the French started the operation before the physical arrival of African troops.

The perfectly arranged information campaign highlighting the “international intervention in Mali” has one drawback – there is no reasonable explanation of what is behind the Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb’s actions. Today they talk about the attempts to make the northern part of Mali a long-time base. But Al Qaeda had been doing it for the last dozen of years without attracting attention. In reality the current AQIM’s actions are flagrantly provocative aimed at giving a pretext for foreign intervention.

Thus, a special operation aimed at recolonization of Africa took place at the beginning of the year. There is a rivalry between three main actors, which are the United States, France and China. China resorts to economic expansion, while the two Western nations rely on military intervention. One should give the devil his due – the mistakes made during the information wars related to the events in Libya and Cote D’Ivoire are corrected in January 2013. The conquest of those countries was explained by “humanitarian” reasons, but the information was presented in a clumsy and unconvincing way. Today the international community is praising the French invasion to free Mali. Apparently a military mission is needed. But the country faces a hard choice: Islamists or French troops. Any way Mali will have to pay a high price for freedom: giving away its sovereignty, enormous mineral resources and the loss of independence for many years. According to the President of France Francois Hollande, the French troops will stay in Mali as long as needed. (10) It’s not in vain the toppled President Amadou Toure used to say Paris is more dangerous than Timbuktu!

Africa has always been and still is a testing ground for various Western political and military scenarios. (11) Not only African states but Russia as well should attentively follow the way the military intervention is worked out and implemented (successfully so far) while pursuing the declared goal of “guaranteeing freedom from Islamists”. It has special importance taking into consideration the attempts of the West to discredit the power in Russia and encouraging Islamists activities on the territory of the Russian Federation.

Notes

(1) Cameroon v. Nigeria. UN International Court of Justice ruling, October 10, 2002, // International Court of Justice official website: <http://www.icj-cij.org/docket/files/94/7453.pdf>.

(2) Here, it’s interesting to watch the movie called September 11 shot by Burkina Faso director Idrissa Ouedraogo back in 2002. It tells a story of local boys keeping trace of Bin Laden hiding in Burkina Faso (a Mali’s neighboring state in the North!). Those days the

movie was perceived as a comedy.

(3) MNLA representative speaking on French TV: Le MNLA prêt à négocier pour lutter contre Al-Qaïda: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RLHbrXBJ2Hw> .

(4) Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Mali, November 29, 2012. // UN Document S/2012/894 , p.11.

(5) United Nations Security Council session verbatim report, December 5, 2012, //UN Document S/PV.6879, p.2.

(6) The coup attempts in response to the coup on March 22, 2012, when President Amadou Toumani Touré was overthrown.

(7) Nine United Nations Security Council's members were the authors of the draft resolution, including Germany, Columbia, Morocco, Portugal, Great Britain, the United States of America, Togo, France and South Africa. Luxemburg, a non-member, was among the authors too.

(8) Mali's interim president's national address, January 11, 2013:

Discours du Président et déclaration de l'Etat d'Urgence: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FTyH64p_7bQ .

(9) The United Nations Security Council session, verbatim report, December 20, 2012. Actually the Foreign Minister of Mali let know that France was behind the resolution's approval! For instance, he said," I would in particular like to thank France, its people, President and Government, who very early on understood that the presence in northern Mali of heavily armed AQMI, MUJAO and affiliated extremists and terrorists posed an immediate threat to international peace and security. France spared no effort in ensuring that the Security Council assumed its responsibilities" (UN Document: S/PV.6898). According to the Malian minister the United Nations Security Council would have failed to assume its responsibilities without France! It is a very important fact testifying to who actually has pushed through the decision on military action in Mali.

(10) <http://www.fondsk.ru/news/2013/01/12/v-mali-objavlena-vseobschaja-mobilizacija.html>

(11) More in detail,: A. Mezyaev., Africa as a Testing Ground for "New International Law"//The Africa's security: internal and external aspects, the Institute of African Studies, Russia Academy of Sciences. - 2005- page 10-11.

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