

Turkey Refines and Sells Stolen Syrian and Iraqi Oil for ISIS

Par Stephen Lendman

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Erdogan is an international outlaw, He's supporting ISIS, US proxy foot soldiers in Syria, Iraq and elsewhere, directly involved in their oil smuggling, refining and sales worth hundreds of millions of dollars on the black market.

America and other Western nations are well aware of what's going on, doing nothing to stop it, aiding it by inaction and/or direct support – Russia alone intervening by bombing ISIS' truck pipeline, transporting oil along with its facilities in Syria,

Mowaffak al Rubaie is a former Iraqi Governing Council member/national security advisor. Interviewed by RT International, he explained "(i)n the last eight months (alone), ISIS (sold) \$800 million dollars worth of (stolen) oil on the black market of Turkey."

"This is Iraqi oil and Syrian oil, carried by trucks from Iraq, from Syria through the borders to Turkey and sold (at) less than 50 percent of the international oil price."

"Now this either gets consumed inside, the crude refined on Turkish territory by the Turkish refineries, and sold in the Turkish market or it goes to Jihan and then in the pipelines from Jihan to the Mediterranean and sold to the international market."

"Money and dollars generated by selling Iraqi and Syrian oil on the Turkish black market is like the oxygen supply to ISIS and it's operation. Once you cut the oxygen then ISIS will suffocate."

Al Rubaie stressed "no shadow of a doubt" about Turkey's full knowledge and involvement in what's ongoing. Responsibility goes right to the top. Reports suggest that Erdogan's son, Bilal, is actively engaged in illegal smuggling, selling and profiting from stolen Syrian and Iraqi oil, facilitated by Turkey's security apparatus and intelligence.

Erdogan's regime treats wounded ISIS terrorists in Turkish hospitals in border areas and Istanbul. Daesh recruits are trained in Turkey by CIA operatives and US special forces. They move freely cross-border to and from Syria and Iraq.

Al Rubaie said "no terrorist organization...can stand alone without a neighboring country

helping it." Complicit with Washington, Turkey is directly involved along with other NATO countries, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Jordan and Israel.

Without this type backing, ISIS and other terrorist groups couldn't exist. America bears full responsibility for creating them – complicit nations aiding its imperial enterprise.

Putin prioritizes crippling ISIS' oil smuggling operations, destroying its ability to generate enormous revenues from black market sales. None of this could go on without direct Erdogan regime involvement.

Russian pilots and drones observed and photographed a "living oil pipeline" – transporting vehicles moving as far as the eye can see and beyond the horizon, round-the-clock, heading for Turkey, returning empty to reload and head out again.

Since Russian air operations began targeting ISIS' financial lifeline, over 1,000 oil transporting trucks were destroyed along with with depots and other facilities in Syria.

Assad's Foreign Minister Walid al-Muallem said "Turkey continues to maintain export and transportation of oil stolen in Iraq and Syria by ISIL militants. Then, the oil is transported to ports abroad."

Sergey Lavrov explained high-level Turkish officials "carefully protect any information about their oil smuggling deals. (It's) transported (in) the area where the Russian plane was shot down, and (where) the terrorist infrastructure, arms and munitions depots and control centers" are located.

Retired French General Dominique Trinquand accused Turkey of "either not fighting ISIL at all or very little, and does not interfere with different types of smuggling that takes place on its border, be it oil, phosphate, cotton or people."

On Saturday, Turkish police arrested Ankara Gendarmerie Regional Commander Major General Ibrahim Aydin, former Adana Gendarmerie Regional Commander Brigadier General Hamza Celepoglu and former Gendarmerie Criminal Laboratory Head Colonel Burhanettin Cihangiroglu on charges of treason and espionage – for revealing information about regime authorities transporting weapons cross-border to ISIS terrorists in Syria.

Charges relate to a January 2014 incident when they were involved in intercepting weaponsfilled trucks belonging to Turkey's National Intelligence Organization (MIT).

In May 2015, Turkish Cumhuriyet media published information about it, posting photos of MIT trucks being inspected by security officers.

Large amounts of heavy and other weapons were heading cross-border to Syria. The publication's editor-in-chief and Ankara bureau chief now face treason and espionage charges for exposing regime criminality.

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