

Russian commentary on Brzezinski's plan

Zbigniew Brzezinski's new book is the subject of recent commentaries in the Russian press, by such influentials as Sergei Glazyev, head of the Information and Analytics Section of the Federation Council, and Yuri Maslyukov, chairman of the State Duma's Committee on Economic Policy.

Glazyev's article, "Russophobia," appeared in *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* on Nov. 18. He writes: "Brzezinski, who constantly emphasizes that Russia and the Soviet Union are the same thing, unambiguously asserts the necessity to destroy Russia, from the standpoint of American interests, describing its future in American geostrategy sometimes as a 'political black hole,' and elsewhere as 'a freely confederative Russia, consisting of European Russia, a Siberian Republic, and a Far East Republic.' . . . The dismemberment of Russia into three parts, Brzezinski believes, will become the basis for achieving a balance of power, in American interests, in Eurasia: 'Each of such confederative entities could succeed in local development of its creative potential, which for centuries was hampered by the heavy bureaucratic hand of Moscow.' The development of the 'creative potential' of the fragments of dismembered Russia will proceed, according to this design, with the guiding influence of the U.S. and its partners. The American colonization of Ukraine is proposed to be implemented jointly with Germany and France; that of Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan, jointly with Turkey and, in part, Iran; that of Siberia and the Far East, jointly with Japan and China. We see that, in the view of this chief American geostrategist, there is enough of the Russian inheritance for everybody, which will permit the U.S. to carry out its strategy of 'soft hegemony'



Zbigniew Brzezinski's demand for dismembering Russia has alarmed Moscow analysts, who miss the point about whose interests his proposal really serves.

in the world, paying with Russian resources."

"Of course," Glazyev acknowledges, "Mr. Brzezinski is not President of the United States, and not even Secretary of State. Official Washington would hardly confirm the existence of such a geostrategy in respect to Russia. Nonetheless, many facts bear witness to the undoubted influence of the ideas expressed by this political scientist, on the practical work of American secret services and pressure groups."

In a discussion of Russia's national security requirements, published on Nov. 15 in *Pravda-Pyat*, Yuri Maslyukov cites the same passages from Brzezinski. He writes that the West is still dominated by notions of the in-born "aggressive, totalitarian, imperial nature of Russia," and asserts that there is "broad support" for Brzezinski's notion that "Russia is a superfluous country," which should be dismembered.

British 'do business' in the Caucasus

by Rachel Douglas

The British presence in the Transcaucasus, North Caucasus, and Central Asia comprises business projects, cultivation of political assets, and irregular warfare. The capabilities, by which "the British are doing what they have done for the last 100-200 years in this region, . . . [to] use leverage, through our very skilled diplomats, to maneuver one side or the other, to British advantage," as one official put it, are drawn from the historical arsenal of the Empire, and the legacy of British intelligence in the Soviet period. And, some nominally American institutions, such as the "Bush league" oil companies that are very active in Azerbaijan, effectively serve as auxiliaries for British geopolitical schemes; that puts them at odds with the U.S. administration's repeated, explicit rejection of any modern version of Britain's 19th-century anti-Russian "Great Game."

Our chronology records the intensification of British activity in the Transcaucasus this year, as well as relevant earlier events, since the return of London intimate Heidar Aliyev to power in Azerbaijan in 1993.

Dramatis personae

Heidar Aliyev, President of Azerbaijan. An ex-KGB officer, then head of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan and a member of the Soviet CP Politburo, Aliyev comes from a prominent Azerbaijani family. His family antecedents' paths crossed those of British intelligence, at the famous 1920 Baku Conference of Toilers of the East, and, later, in factional wars within the Azerbaijani Muslim hierarchy. Today, his brother Natic Aliyev is president of Azerbaijan's state oil company, SOCAR, and Heidar Aliyev's son, Ilham, is vice president.

Continuing Heidar Aliyev's own intimacy with London intelligence circles ever since the Soviet period, his son-in-law has been posted as Azerbaijan's ambassador to Great Britain.

Terry Adams, president of the Azerbaijan International Operating Company (AIOC), the consortium for offshore oil development in the Caspian Sea. Adams is a British Petroleum executive, with a 30-year career in the Mideast and Far East.

Lord McAlpine, formerly a director of his father's engineering and construction firm, Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons, and a vice president of the European League for Economic Cooperation. Usually resident in Venice, Lord McAlpine was instrumental in bringing Britain's current New Age eco-fascist Tony Blair regime into office. A close friend of Lady Thatcher, and a top Tory Party fundraiser for 15 years, he declared in March 1995, that the Conservatives should yield power. In 1996, McAlpine defected to the late financier Jimmy Goldsmith's Reform Party.

Aslan Maskhadov, current President of Chechnya (Ichkeria). The region in the North Caucasus, southern Russia, declared independence from Russia in 1991, under the late Jokhar Dudayev. Over 50,000 people were killed in the war that ensued, beginning in 1994, in which a delicate cease-fire has prevailed since late 1996. *EIR* has documented the "Ichkerians'" close ties with London, as well as with oil companies in George Bush's Houston. According to a Chechen spokesman in 1996, "George Bush and the Republicans were certainly more sympathetic to Chechen independence than Clinton. . . . [Margaret Thatcher] is 100% on our side, our most important supporter in Britain." (See Linda de Hoyos and Joseph Brewda, "The British Monarchy Rapes Transcaucasus, Again," *EIR*, April 12, 1996; Roman Bessonov, "Chechnya, the Russian Sicily," *EIR*, April 28 and May 5, 1995.)

The pipeline routes for "early" Caspian Sea oil include the existing Baku-Grozny (Chechnya)-Novorossiysk (Russia) line, and Baku-Supsa (Georgia). For future shipments, the front-running route is Baku-Ceyhan (Turkey).

Chronology

June 1993: Azerbaijani President Elchibey overthrown. Heidar Aliyev, returned to power on the shoulders of a rebel militia force, tears up basic agreement on Caspian oil development, negotiated June 11 with U.S.-based companies Pennzoil and Amoco, as the lead foreign partners.

March 1994: After visiting London, President Aliyev and British Prime Minister John Major sign agreement, clearing the way for British Petroleum to lead the oil consortium to exploit Azerbaijan's Caspian Sea oil resources.

September 1994: BP's Caspian Consortium deal is finalized at a ceremony in Baku, by President Aliyev and British Energy Minister Tim Eggar, as well as a representative of the U.S. Department of Energy. BP and its partner, Statoil of Norway, ultimately secure a 25.67% share in the first offshore contracts.

December 1994: Russian Army begins bloody, unsuccessful attempt to subdue Dudayev breakaway regime in Chechnya.

January 1995: Aliyev receives Lord Ashburton, chairman of the board of BP, who is in Baku for the first session of the Steering Committee for the consortium's joint development of Caspian oilfields.

Sept. 18, 1996: The Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) holds a one-day conference in Washington, on "Central Asia: Energy and Geopolitics." Zbigniew Brzezinski speaks on "The Geopolitics of Central Asia." Moscow's *Rossiyskaya Gazeta* writes that a "fundamental premise" of "the American political scientist," is that "Russia must reconcile itself to the loss of this region."

Dec. 17, 1996: Terry Adams, chairman of AIOC, meets in Baku with Chechen representative Eduard Khachukaev, to discuss Caspian oil transit across Chechnya.

Jan. 31, 1997: British Minister of State for the Department of Trade and Industry Lord Fraser, in Baku at the head of a delegation from nine British oil and gas companies, receives Aliyev's personal guarantees that British companies working in Azerbaijan will enjoy good conditions.

Feb. 28, 1997: AIOC announces that it will spend \$315 million through its Georgian Pipeline Company, set up in 1996, to complete a Baku-Supsa pipeline by December 1998.

May 1997: The Chechen oil company Yunko and the Russian Ministry of Fuel and Energy announce plan to restore war-damaged pipelines in Chechnya, in order to transport oil from Baku to Novorossiysk.

July 2, 1997: Russian media report Security Council Deputy Secretary Boris Berezovsky is negotiating a pipeline option Baku-Sukhumi (Abkhazia, Georgia)-Novorossiysk, circumventing Chechnya.

July 21, 1997: U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott, speaking at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), welcomes the prospective development of "a valuable trade and transport corridor along the old Silk Road." Talbott attacks "Great Game" geopolitics in strong terms, saying that the 19th-century books of Rudyard Kipling should be left on the shelf in the fiction section. Although it has become "fashionable" to say that events in the region are a replay of the Great Game, "fueled and lubricated by oil," Talbott warned, the Great Game was a "zero-sum" game, which the United States has no desire to replicate.

July 22, 1997: Sen. Sam Brownback (R-Kan.) presides over U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearings on the Caucasus and Central Asia, at which he urges that the United States "move forward aggressively" to curb Russian influence in the region. Russian media cover the Republican senator's remarks about a "Silk Road to Freedom," as representing a U.S. administration policy, hostile to Russia.

July 28, 1997: President Aliyev arrives for a one-week tour of the United States, on which a major stop is three days in Houston as the guest of the "Bush-league" Enron Corporation. On Aug. 1, Aliyev and President Clinton sign a treaty,

allowing \$8 billion worth of oil deals between Azerbaijan and Exxon, Chevron, Mobil, and Amoco. At Aliyev's only public address during the visit, a forum at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. on July 30, Zbigniew Brzezinski makes the introductory remarks. His theme is geopolitics.

September 1997: At a Washington symposium, "Caspian Oil: Pipelines and Politics," Julia Nanay of the Petroleum Finance Company (Washington) warns of a "creeping presence" of Asian companies, interested in exporting oil to the south and east, through Iran and to China.

October 1997: *Finansovyye Izvestiya*, Oct. 7, reports Russia probes into building a Baku-Novorossiysk pipeline through Dagestan, instead of Chechnya. Minister of Fuel and Energy Boris Nemtsov says, "I take a skeptical view of the Chechen authorities and believe that Russia must create all the conditions to ensure that it is not dependent on Chechnya's whims" (*Rossiyskaya Gazeta*, Oct. 9).

Oct. 23, 1997: Aslan Maskhadov fires Hozhahmed Yarikhanov, the head of Yunko, who had handled negotiations with Moscow on restoration of the pipeline through Grozny, Chechnya, which was completed earlier in the month.

Oct. 28, 1997: Russian First Deputy Premier and Finance Minister Anatoli Chubais visits London.

Nov. 4, 1997: Russian President Boris Yeltsin lifts the 15% ceiling on allowable foreign ownership of Russian oil companies, in effect since 1992. Nemtsov confirms that foreign investors may take 100% stakes in domestic oil firms. Four oil companies are slated to be auctioned off by the end of 1997, the largest of which is a portion of Rosneft, the sale of which is supposed to raise \$1.5 billion. Boris Berezovsky, just ousted from the Security Council, charges that Yeltsin's decree was arranged by Chubais in London.

Nov. 5, 1997: *Nezavisimaya Gazeta*, co-owned by interests linked with Berezovsky, exposes stepped-up British oil operations in the North Caucasus, namely the Oct. 13 signing, in Grozny, Chechnya, of a "protocol of intent" for a new pipeline venture. The new firm, together with the "Ichkerian" government, will operate the Chechen segment of the Baku-Novorossiysk pipeline. Signatories are: Maskhadov; Hozhahmed Nukhayevev, president of the Caucasus Common Market Closed Share Society (former first vice premier in Chechnya; Nukhayevev has been involved in a "Caucasus Common Market" scheme, also known as the Caucasus Investment Fund, with Adnan Khashoggi, British, and Japanese interests); Lord McAlpine; Francis Pike, executive director of Peregrine Investments Holding Ltd.; Patrick Robertson, general director of Robertson and Associates. Nukhayevev and Pike's companies are also launching an international investment fund, which is expected to take control of the whole oil, cement, energy, transport, and communications systems in Chechnya. *Nezavisimaya Gazeta's* Igor Rotar alleges that the person behind the deal is one "Mansur" Jachimczyk, executive vice president of the Caucasus-American International Chamber of Commerce, a shady Polish-born operator, who

styles himself after one of the 19th-century leaders of anti-Russian guerrilla warfare in the Caucasus. *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* warned that if this protocol of intentions is implemented, "Russia will lose the whole Northern Caucasus."

Nov. 11, 1997: Maskhadov leaves for one week in the United States, sponsored by Turkish business interests. The United States refuses to treat it as an official visit.

Nov. 12, 1997: On a Caspian Sea drilling platform, Aliyev presides over a ceremonial spigot-opening, for the first "early oil." Present are British Minister of State Derek Fatchett, Nemtsov, U.S. Secretary of Energy Federico Peña, Ukrainian, and Turkish officials. President Yeltsin and Queen Elizabeth II send congratulations to Aliyev. Lukoil, the only Russian (but, partly owned by Atlantic Richfield) participant in the consortium, has won the tender for the first consignment of the oil, supplied by SOCAR via the Baku-Grozny-Novorossiysk pipeline.

Nov. 17, 1997: The two biggest British oil multis, BP and Royal Dutch-Shell, announce moves into Russia's strategic oil and gas sector. Shell signs a strategic cooperation agreement with the Russian national gas monopoly, Gazprom, giving the Anglo-Dutch multi 50% ownership of a joint enterprise to develop oil and natural gas deposits in Russia and elsewhere. Together with Lukoil, the Shell-Gazprom team will bid for Rosneft. In a deal arranged by Oneksimbank boss Vladimir Potanin and his ally, Chubais, British Petroleum has obtained a 10% stake in Oneksimbank-controlled Sidanco oil company, including a seat on the corporate board.

Nov. 18, 1997: BP announces that it and Sidanco are joining the bidding for Rosneft.

Nov. 18, 1997: U.S. Ambassador Bill Ramsay tells a conference of oil executives in London, that the United States rejects the notion of a 20th-century Great Game. "I want to make it crystal clear we are not competing with Russia in the Caspian," Ramsay said.

Nov. 19, 1997: At a conference in Washington called "Caspian Pipelines: The Keys to the New Oil Rush," Secretary Peña gives a broader picture of the region's development, in which the Baku-Ceyhan pipeline, which the U.S. supports, is just one part. "We are building a new Silk Road, but the commodities now are not silk and spices. They are oil and gas. The pass will be taken not by camels and caravans but by pipelines, fiber optics and railroads."

Nov. 19, 1997: *Izvestia* reports that Lord McAlpine is running irregular warfare in the North Caucasus. A group of retired British Special Air Service (SAS) officers has gone to Chechnya, to search for British citizens Jon James and Camilla Carr, who belonged to a Quaker mission and were detained by gangsters. *Izvestia* writes that Lord McAlpine established the necessary contacts in Grozny, and Nukhayevev and other Chechen businessmen earmarked £250,000 for the operation. A British Foreign Office-linked London strategist tells *EIR*, "British relations with Mashkadov and his team are very close."