

Conflicts in South Cuacusus

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Nagorno-Karabakh



Karabakh - "black garden",
"Nagorno-" is a Russian
word meaning "mountain",
Status: de jure part of the
Republic of Azerbaijan,
unilaterally declared itself
an independent republic in
1991

Capital: Stepanakert.

Area: 4,400 sq km

Main religion: Christianity

Languages spoken:

Armenian, Russian

Currency in use: Dram.



AZERBAIJAN

Baku

IRAN



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Why did Stalin give Nagorno-Karabakh to Azerbaijan?



Stalin wanted to pit the ethnic groups in the South Caucasus regions against each other.

„Divide and rule“ principle

Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast was placed within Azerbaijan SSR.

Stalin made concessions to Azerbaijan SSR because of its economic importance, specifically its oil resources.

Nagorno-Karabakh conflict

- Nationalist demonstrations – transfer Nagorno-Karabakh into Armenia.
- 1988- Nagorno-Karabakh - referendum to unify with Armenia.
- The first cases of mass violence were recorded in Sumgait, February 1988 - 32 dead (26 Armenians and 6 Azeri) during three days 27-29 February.
- The month of November was one of the great refugees flows. According to unofficial sources, around 180'000 Armenians had left Azerbaijan, and 160'000 Azeri had left Armenia by the end of the month.

Nagorno-Karabakh conflict

- On 12 January 1989 - 'special government administration' in Karabakh - direct control from Moscow.
- Sporadic clashes became frequent by the first months of 1991.
- On 2 September 1991 - independent republic of Nagorno Karabakh.
- During Autumn, Azerbaijani forces moved to counter Nagorno Karabakh's declaration of Independence.
- 1992-1994 full - scale war.

Images of War



Guerillas in Nagorno-Karabakh.



Source: TASS





**Over 1 million
displaced**

1994 Cease-Fire

- The cease-fire has not been successful, as the goals of both sides have not been met:
- Armenia occupies 20% of Azeri territory;
- Azerbaijan demands its right to self-determination, the end of the occupation and the return of Karabakh to Azerbaijan;
- perceives Russia as aiding Orthodox Armenia.

Nagorno-Karabakh conflict

- The human sufferings included 25 000-30 000 people dead,
- 250 000-350 000 refugees from Azerbaijan in Armenia, and
- 750 000-1 000 000 refugees and Internally Displaced People (IDPs) from Armenia, Karabakh and occupied Azerbaijani territories in Azerbaijan.

Armenian, Azerbaijani Presidents Agree On Preamble To 'Madrid Principles, Sochi 2010.



Sochi 2011



ITAR-TASS / PHOTOLURE

Nagorno-Karabakh conflict

The possibility of war remains on the agenda



Azeri military budget from 2004 - 463 million USD to 1 600 million USD in 2010.



Conclusion



No end to conflict in sight

Both sides unwilling to make concessions

“Primordial” claims over territory by both sides

The unsolved problem of what to do with refugees

Continued fighting despite cease-fire

Russia claiming to uphold cease-fire while arming Armenia; U.S. making oil deals with Azerbaijan

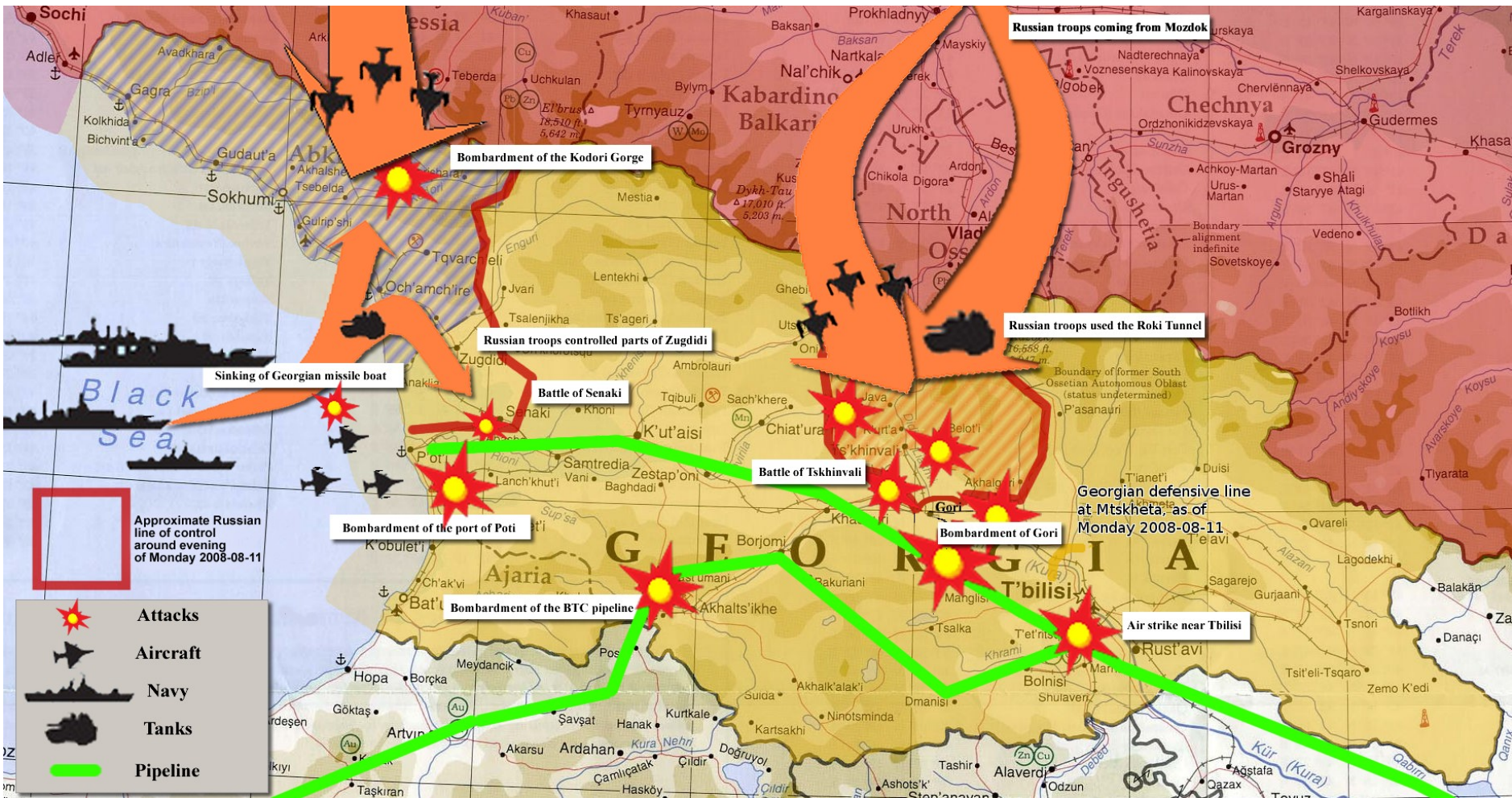
Building of oil pipelines likely to upset Armenia

Russia-Georgian armed conflict 2008

- 2003 – “Rose Revolution” in Georgia
- 2004 - The South Ossetia Crisis.
- 2006 - The Spy Scandal
- Violations of Georgian airspace,
- Russia’s “Kosovo precedent formula”
- Russian „Kavkaz-2008“ exercise

Russia-Georgian armed conflict 2008

- On 7 August 2008 at 23:35 Georgia started a large-scale military operation against South Ossetia.
- According to Georgian information, the President of Georgia on 7 August at 23:35 issued an order
- to protect civilians in the Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia;
- to neutralize firing positions from which fire against civilians, Georgian peacekeeping units and police originated;
- to halt the movement of regular units of the Russian Federation through the Roki Tunnel inside the Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia.



Approximate Russian line of control around evening of Monday 2008-08-11

-  Attacks
-  Aircraft
-  Navy
-  Tanks
-  Pipeline

Bombardment of the Kodori Gorge

Russian troops controlled parts of Zugdidi

Russian troops coming from Mozdok

Russian troops used the Roki Tunnel

Sinking of Georgian missile boat

Battle of Senaki

Battle of Tskhinvali

Bombardment of the port of Poti

Bombardment of Gori

Georgian defensive line at Mtskheta, as of Monday 2008-08-11

Bombardment of the BTC pipeline

Air strike near Tbilisi

COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES - EUROPEAN STATES



Russia
• 142 mln. of population

Georgia
• 4,4 mln. of population

Roki Tunnel – Only road passage from Russia to South Ossetia



Convoy of Russian soldiers by the Caucasus mountains



Georgian soldiers in Gori



Conflict Analysis: Interests

Stakeholder	Interests
Georgia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Return breakaway regions• Display that territorial integrity is under threat• Promote NATO membership• Demonstrate Russia's aggressiveness
South Ossetia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate violation of human rights• Show that Georgia is aggressive state• Get international recognition of their plight• Desire for independence or incorporation into Russian Federation

Conflict Analysis: Interests

Stakeholder	Interests
Russia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Undermine Georgia’s territorial integrity•Prevent Georgia from joining NATO• Send strong message to Ukraine• Protect its sphere of influence•Control of the Caucasus and its energy resources•Promote “regime change” in Georgia? West’s recognition of Kosovo? U.S. Missile Defense Shield?
EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Human rights protection• Observance of international law• Access to energy resources

Conflict Analysis: Interests

Stakeholder	Interests
NATO/US	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Security and stability in the region• Observance of international law• Energy security• Commitment to idea of democracy• NATO Membership Action Plan (MAP)

Conflict Analysis: Actions

Stakeholder	Actions
Georgia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accusing Russia of supporting separatist movements• Military attack on Tskhinvali, capital of South Ossetia• Accusation of violation of human rights and ethnic cleansing• Attack South Ossetian-populated villages in S.O.
South Ossetia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encouraged support from Russia• Militias attack and loot Georgian-populated villages in S.O.
Russia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Disproportionate counter-offensive attack• Invasion of Georgian cities and ports• Accusation of violation of human rights and ethnic cleansing• Recognized Abkhazia and South Ossetia

Conflict Analysis: Actions

Stakeholder	Actions
EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shuttle diplomacy between Russia and Georgia• Signing ceasefire agreement, ambiguity• Accusing Russia of disproportionate response• Appeal of use of diplomatic means to resolve conflict• Suspension of EU-Russia Partnership talks
NATO/US	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accusing Russia of disproportionate response• Suspension of NATO-Russia Council

