

Russia is suspected of secretly delivering weapons to Hezbollah

Contributed by JEAN-PIERRE PERRIN, Liberation (France)
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With the exception of local newspapers, the event went unnoticed: July 4, the Angela, a cargo ship flying the flag of Gibraltar is the subject of a thorough search in the Bulgarian port of Varna where she stopped.

In two containers, police and customs officers discovered dual use, metal pipes - both civilian and military products in Russia.

The grooves on both sides of the tubes suggest that these parts were for the assembly of missiles.

This cargo was not mentioned in the manifest.

Missiles.

According to a source close to the investigation, contacted by phone, the papers indicate that the boat comes from Ukraine and must travel to Port Said (Egypt), via Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey.

Questioned for seventeen hours, the captain, a Lithuanian, eventually confessed that the vessel was destined for Latakia, a major Syrian port. The Angela eventually departed, the crew was not found responsible for its load. Eight of sixty containers have been guarded by Bulgarian customs.

Why such a clandestine delivery while Moscow and Damascus are linked by military cooperation agreements, the Russian fleet with even a naval base in Tartus, the second Syrian port?

Unless the final destination of the material seized in Varna is not Syria.

According to Western military sources, if these missiles are assembled in Syria, part of them is destined for Hezbollah.

Therefore, Damascus must hide these weapons purchases under penalty of being in violation of resolution 1701 Security Council called for the disarming of Hezbollah.

Pressure.

The case of Angela complicated cases of Damascus.

The 21 and 22 August, during the visit of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad to Moscow, his counterpart Dimitri Medvedev would have expressed concern that Washington and European countries now exercise pressure on Moscow to prevent such deliveries secret.

During the war of summer 2006, the "party of God" had fired thousands of Soviet missiles on the manufacturing cities of the Jewish state.

Today, in its established strongholds north of the Litani River, Hezbollah had replenished its arsenal and would have about 40,000 rockets and missiles.

Original Article: Russia suspected of secretly delivering arms to Hezbollah

Google translation

<http://translate.google.com/translate?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.liberation.fr%2Fmonde%2F0101124125-la-russie-soupconnee-de-livrer-en-secret-des-armes-au-hezbollah&hl=en&ie=UTF-8&sl=fr&tl=en>

Angela Cargo Ship info: <http://www.vesseltracker.com/en/Ships/Anke-Angela-8417546.html>

Another Translation by Mideastweb.org

Russia suspected of secretly delivering arms to Hezbollah
JEAN-PIERRE PERRIN JEAN-PIERRE PERRIN
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[Translation - MidEastWeb - Middle East] Outside local newspapers, the event went unnoticed: On July 4, the Angela, a cargo ship flying the flag of Gibraltar was the subject of a thorough search in the Bulgarian port of Varna where it stopped.

In two containers, police and customs officers discovered dual use, metal pipes - both civilian and military products in Russia. The grooves on both sides of the tubes suggest that these parts were for the assembly of missiles. These did not correspond to anything mentioned in the cargo manifest.

Missiles. According to a source close to the investigation, contacted by phone, the papers indicate that the boat came from Ukraine and was destined to travel to Port Said (Egypt), via Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey. Questioned for seventeen hours, the captain, a Lithuanian, eventually confessed that the vessel was destined for Latakia, a major Syrian port. The Angela eventually departed, the crew was not found responsible for its load. Eight of sixty containers have been retained by Bulgarian customs.

Why such a clandestine delivery, while Moscow and Damascus are linked by military cooperation agreements, and the Russian fleet even has a naval base in Tartus, the second largest Syrian port? Unless the final destination of the material seized in Varna is not Syria. According to Western military sources, if these missiles are assembled in Syria, part of them is destined for Hezbollah. Therefore, Damascus must hide these weapons purchases under penalty of being in violation of UN Security Council Resolution 1701 which called for the disarming of Hezbollah.

Pressures. The case of Angela complicated the affairs of Damascus. On 21 and 22 August, during the visit of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad to Moscow, his counterpart Dimitri Medvedev had made him party to concerns that Washington and European countries were now exercising pressure on Moscow to prevent such secret deliveries. During the Second Lebanon War, the "party of God" fired thousands of Soviet manufactured missiles on the cities of the Jewish state. Today, in its established strongholds north of the Litani River, Hezbollah has replenished its arsenal and has about 40,000 rockets and missiles.