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Al-Qa'idah terrorists conned in Kazakh nuclear weapon deal, Kazakh TV

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The Al-Qa'idah international terrorist organization did indeed intend to purchase nuclear weapons in Kazakhstan, according to one of the main members of the group, (?Jamal Ahmad Al Fadl), who defected to the Americans.

The defector said that several years ago Al-Qa'idah's emissaries had gone to our republic to purchase components to make their own nuclear bomb. At the time Kazakhstan was the only largely Muslim state which legally possessed a nuclear arsenal.

However, the Al-Qa'idah mission was not crowned with success. According to Al Fadl's evidence, terrorists despaired of purchasing [nuclear] weapons from military depots and went for the black market, where they became victims of a fraud.

Dzhamal Al Fadl, who executed the deal, said that Al-Qa'idah representatives had purchased spent fuel from the Mangistau reactor [in western Kazakhstan] which could not be used further. The sellers passed it off as a secret component of the Soviet nuclear programme.

Source: Kazakh Commercial Television, Almaty, in Russian 1400 gmt 6 Dec 01

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