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MUMBAI TERROR ACT WELL PREPARED, PURSUES GLOBAL POLITICAL GOALS - ...

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The terrorist attack on India's Mumbai was prepared for a long time by experienced trainers and experts on sabotage operations, veteran of the Vypel special forces unit Vladimir Klyukin said.

"Two or three years of training with the help of experienced trainers are needed to carry out such an operation," Klyukin told Interfax on Friday.

The expert did not rule out that participants in the **Mumbai attack** earlier took part in similar operations in other regions.

"Proceeding from the information obtained from Mumbai, up to 50 militants could have been involved in the terrorist attack. People from the streets without a clear plan of preparing and carrying out the operation cannot occupy and control four large facilities in a city," Klyukin said.

"This is the handwriting of professionally trained sabotage troops," the veteran said.

Special forces under the Islamic flag, the creation of which U.S.

special services could be involved, could have launched the attack, he said.

Klyukin said he thinks that Pakistani authorities were not involved in the terrorist attack, although the operation could have been planned on Pakistani territory.

"There are no religious motives in this case or the Kashmir problem in Pakistan-Indian relations. The terrorists did not make any political demands. The aim of the attack is to complicate the situation in India, not to allow it to play the role of a leading world economic actor," he said.


The global calculation was that India will be preoccupied with coming up with political and economic initiatives on the international arena after these events, as it will now need to convince investors that their investments are not in danger and encourage tourists to return, Klyukin said.

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