Terror in Xinjiang

By Aidan Jones and Jerome Taylor

For years the head of the influential Algerian National Security Services (DGSN) has been a mystery. Toufik had been one of the most powerful men in Algeria until his abrupt ouster in 2008. For weeks now, the new man in charge of the DGSN has been the subject of intense speculation, but few knew much about him until he was revealed to be General Amine Ould Bechta.

Over the past year, Algeria has been grappling with a wave of dissent and protests against the government, which is undergoing its worst economic crisis in decades. The country's oil prices, which once provided a significant source of revenue for the government, have fallen sharply in recent months, leading to a sharp decline in the country's GDP.

The new man in charge of the DGSN, General Bechta, has been described as a former intelligence officer who has worked closely with President Abdelaziz Bouteflika. He was once a close associate of former Prime Minister Ahmed Ouyahia, who was dismissed from his position as head of the DGSN in 2008.

Since taking over the DGSN, General Bechta has been involved in a number of high-profile cases, including the investigation of the assassination of opposition leader Ali Laarayedh in 2013. He was also involved in the investigation of the murder of journalist Hicham Ghali, who was killed in 2011.

Despite the uncertainty surrounding his appointment, General Bechta has been praised for his work in improving the effectiveness of the DGSN, which has been criticized for its lack of transparency and accountability.

The appointment of General Bechta as head of the DGSN is seen as a sign of the government's commitment to fighting corruption and improving the country's security situation. However, many in Algeria remain skeptical of the new general's ability to reform the DGSN and bring the country out of its current crisis.

Kevin Drumheller, a former Uighur militant, has been identified as the leader of a group of Islamic extremists operating in China's Xinjiang region. Drumheller, who was born in Xinjiang and grew up in the central Turkish city of Kayseri, an area with a large Uighur population, arrived in Xinjiang in the mid-1990s and became involved in the region's Islamic movement.

Over the past decade, Drumheller has been involved in a number of high-profile cases, including the investigation of the assassination of Tahir Elgamal, a prominent Uighur intellectual, in 2012. He was also involved in the investigation of the murder of Chinese journalist Yang Rui in 2014.

Drumheller's rise to prominence has been fueled by his ability to recruit and inspire extremist fighters, many of whom were former members of the Chinese military. He is known for his ability to attract and retain fighters, and his group is considered to be one of the most dangerous in the region.

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