

One day it will be redundant!

By Cliff Neill

Mikhail Timofeyevich Kalashnikov died on 23 December 2013, aged 94. His name is a byword all around the planet, especially where there is war and conflict because, as you know, he invented the cheapest, simplest, and most reliable rifle in the world, the Kalashnikov! It is commonly known as the AK-47: 'AK' for *Automat Kalashnikova*, '47' for 1947—the year it was invented by this Russian general.

Some time ago, I read an article written by a newspaper reporter called Robert Fisk who met Kalashnikov at an arms fair in Abu Dhabi 12 years ago. Apparently he asked him some pointed questions about all the carnage, death, and destruction that his weapon had brought about over the years but, of course, the replies to his questions sought to justify the rifle

and blame the policies of governments worldwide.

Perhaps this elderly soldier had come to terms with his invention. He actually made this statement to the reporter: 'You see, all these feelings come about because one side wants to liberate itself with

God say to him when he died?'

His reply: 'We were educated in such a way that I am probably an atheist, but something exists...'.²

I think that this elderly gentleman who had given most of his life to war and the manufacture of his famous, or infamous, rifle was pondering the future and perhaps seeing a glimmer of truth. I sincerely hope so.

Yes, he was right: 'Something exists!' And that great Being informs us that sometime in the future whenever he comes to dwell with us mortals: 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more'.³

arms. But in my opinion, it is good that prevails. It will be after I am dead, but the time will come when my weapons will be no more used or necessary'.

Or as General Kalashnikov put it: 'The time will come when my weapons will be no more used or necessary'.

Notes

¹ Isaiah 2:4.

² www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/is-mikhail-kalashnikov-in-hell-the-man-was-confident-he-would-not-go-there-9025337.html .

³ Revelation 21:4.

This is quite prophetic because the Bible predicts a time when 'they shall beat their swords (Kalashnikovs) into ploughshares'.¹

General Kalashnikov was also asked: But what about God? What would

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