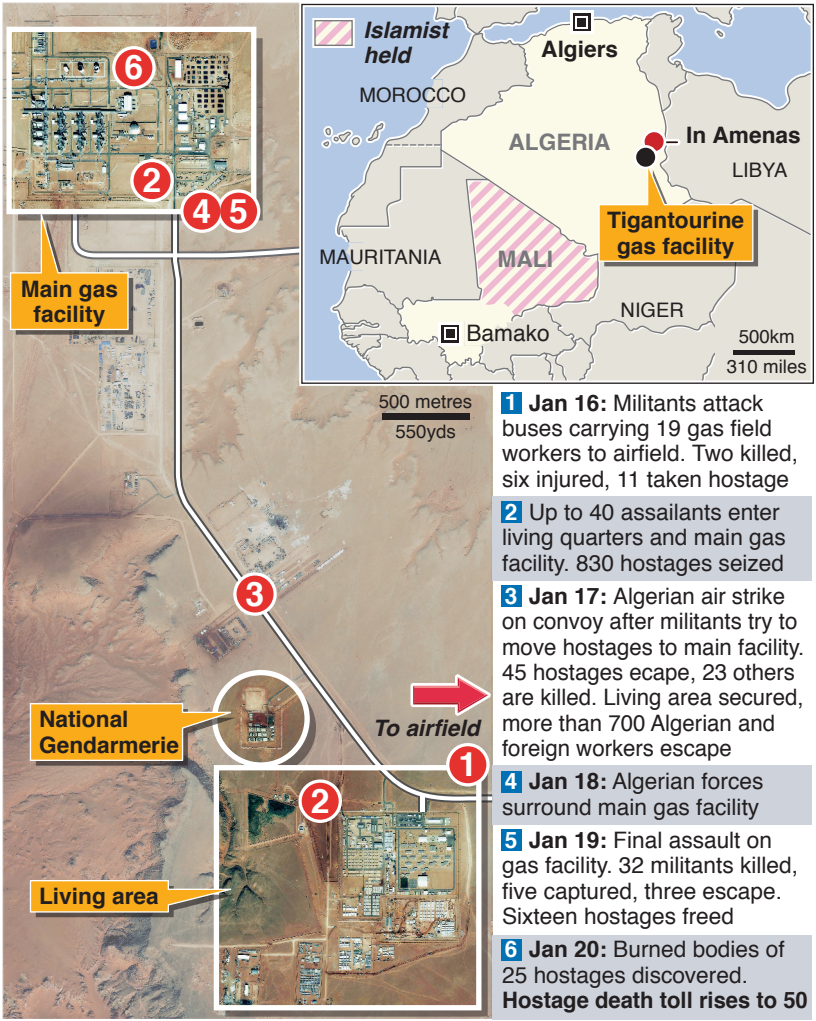
Timeline of Algerian hostage crisis



1 Jan 16: Militants attack buses carrying 19 gas field workers to airfield. Two killed, six injured, 11 taken hostage

2 Up to 40 assailants enter living quarters and main gas facility. 830 hostages seized

3 Jan 17: Algerian air strike on convoy after militants try to move hostages to main facility. 45 hostages ecape, 23 others are killed. Living area secured, more than 700 Algerian and foreign workers escape

4 Jan 18: Algerian forces surround main gas facility

5 Jan 19: Final assault on gas facility. 32 militants killed, five captured, three escape. Sixteen hostages freed

6 Jan 20: Burned bodies of 25 hostages discovered. **Hostage death toll rises to 50**

Source: News agencies Picture: DigitalGlobe via Associated Press

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