

# Secret Intelligence Service Relevant Reports in Brief (XX)

## FSB Russia raid Islamic State cell preparing high-profile attacks

14 10 2017



The Russian Federal Security Service (FSB) uncovered a sleeper cell linked to the Islamic State that was active both in Moscow and the region of the North Caucasus - Russian National Anti-terrorist Committee.

Four members of the cell were detained. In Makhachkala, the capital of Russia's southern Republic of Dagestan, security forces also discovered two extremist hideouts, where they

found three ready-to-use improvised explosive devices. According to investigators, the members of the cell were plotting several potentially high-profile attacks in southern Russian regions, including explosions at public events as well as assaults on law enforcement officials and the military.

## **Islamic State sleeper cell plotting high-profile attacks in Russia foiled by FSB**



The Russian Federal Security Service detained all members of an Islamic State terrorist sleeper cell in Moscow, suspected of plotting attacks on public places.

Home-made explosive devices and other weapons were seized.

Following investigative activities conducted in the Moscow Region on September 30, 2017, the FSB has foiled illegal

activity of a deeply clandestine cell of the IS international terrorist organization. - FSB.

It was established that the cell members planned to carry out high-profile terror attacks in September 2017, including blasts in crowded places and on the transport infrastructure. - FSB.

All members of the cell were detained, the statement said, without elaborating on the exact numbers. Two powerful ready-to-use improvised explosive devices were found, along with Makarov pistols and hand grenades.

The cell was headed by foreign emissaries, according to the FSB, who also revealed that Russian citizens were among its members. They acted under increased conspiracy measures, the report said.

At least two suspects have been taken into custody.

The detained suspects reportedly worked as night guards at a construction site of a residential compound in the north of Moscow.

They behaved quietly, tried not to draw attention. They left [the site] at 9am, came back at night, having been secretive and not communicating with anyone. - Source working at the same site.

In late August 2017, the FSB detained Islamic State members who were planning to carry out attacks in public places in the Moscow Region on September 1, which is Knowledge Day in Russia, marking the beginning of the school year.

## **20 sleeper terrorist cells eliminated in the North Caucasus region during 2017 - Russia National Anti-Terrorist Committee**

10 10 2017

A total of 20 sleeper terrorist cells have been neutralised in the North Caucasus this year, the director of the FSB Aleksandr Bortnikov said at a meeting of the National Antiterrorist Committee on Tuesday. Bortnikov said terrorist activity in the North Caucasus Region has decreased as a result of efforts by law enforcement agencies. This year special services and law enforcement agencies prevented a number of terrorist crimes and "put an end to the activities of 20 sleeper terrorist cells and more than 120 their members, mostly young people." - NAC.



FSB detained seven immigrants from the Central Asian region, suspected of preparing terrorist acts in St. Petersburg, including railway transport.



## **Results of Interdepartmental Complex Operational-Prophylactic Operation. Asian Screen – 2017**

Within the framework of the interdepartmental complex operational-prophylactic operation "Asian Sphere-2017", the FSB and the staff of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs implemented a complex of operational and preventive measures aimed at identifying, preventing and suppressing crimes related to illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, weapons, ammunition, explosives and explosive devices on the territories bordering the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The operation was conducted in the territories of 14 constituent entities of the Russian Federation, in all; over 14,000 law enforcement officers were involved.

Organisational and practical measures taken within the framework of the operation made it possible to identify over 4.6 thousand crimes. More than 4,300 criminal cases were

initiated, including 1,054 for crimes with drugs, including 451 for sale, 13 for smuggling, and 46 for transportation. 119 thousand facts of administrative violations were revealed. In total, 3,250 citizens were detained during the operation, of them for drug offenses - 761.

In addition, the conducted events helped to locate and detain two Uzbek citizens who were on federal wanted list.

More than 85 kg of narcotic drugs were seized from illegal trafficking:

51 kg of marijuana, 12.7 kg of synthetic drugs, 5.5 kg of hashish, more than 2.5 kg of heroin and 6.5 kg of potent substances, as well as 193 firearms and 32 cold weapons, 7,715 munitions of various calibres, 37 explosive devices , including 4 projectiles, and 3.7 kg of explosives.



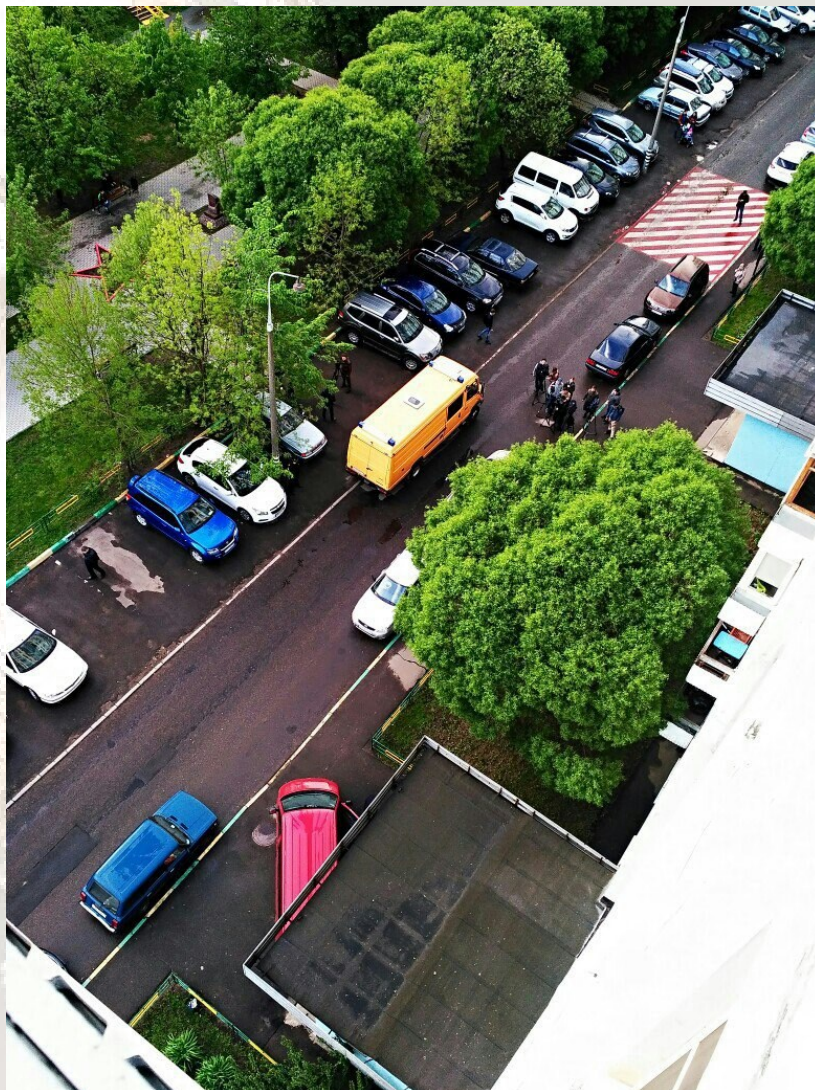
MOSCOW, four militants of the terrorist Islamic State were detained and who planned to conduct a terrorist attack on transport in Moscow. They are migrants from Central Asia.

A search was carried out in their apartment at the intersection of Borovskoye Highway and Novoperedelkino Street. The apartment is ready for use improvised explosive device with damaging elements. In addition, the apartment was equipped with a whole laboratory for the production of bombs

and components for making several more improvised explosive packages.

In addition, automatic firearms, ammunition, grenades, literature and video recordings of extremist and terrorist orientation were found during the search.

The leadership of the group was carried out from the Syrian territory. The detained migrants planned to go to Syria after a sabotage and terrorist attack in Moscow to fight in its territory under the black flags of the international terrorist organisation Islamic State.



11 05 2017 in Moscow, an operative search and detention of a citizen of one of the Central Asian republics Ermatov MB, involved in the illegal trafficking in explosives, which is the connection of the accomplice of the improvised explosive device in the metro of St. Petersburg on 0304 2017 Akbarzhon Jalilov .

According to operational information, the detainee Muhammadyusup Ermatov also had to become a suicide bomber.

However, at the last moment he refused to self-exterminate, and when he realised that the authorities were on his trail, he jumped and ran and his younger brother Ibrahim, who was part of this terrorist group, tried to provide him with an alibi.

Muhammadyusup Ermatov lived in an apartment on Comrade Avenue, along with six other suspects who are now under arrest. At the same time, Ermatov's younger brother Ibrahim appealed to the police with a statement about his disappearance.

In the morning of April 5 Muhammadyusup was to go to work, Ibrahim saw through the window as he approached his car. However, after two hours, Ibrahim suddenly called the employer Dima and asked why his brother did not show up at work and did not answer phone calls.

According to the father, after that Ibrahim looked out the window and saw that the car was still in the yard, and his brother was nowhere to be found. He began to ring up all the friends and relatives, but no one knew where Muhammadyusup had gone.

In turn, Ermatov's sister Dilora also told that on that day she constantly called up all the common acquaintances, trying to find a brother. Ibrahim, by the evening, went with a statement to the police. After that, strangeness began. He was kept in the police for a long time, but in the end he accepted the statement on five pages. Closer to night, Ibrahim returned home and rang the bell. He said that they accepted the statement.

And at two in the morning, suddenly on the mobile phone,

information was revealed that Muhammadyusup was back on the net. My sister started to call, but nobody answered the phone, and soon the subscriber again became unavailable. She called Ibrahim, and he said that he had the same thing.

A little later, police came to Ibragim - two men and one woman - they said they were working on the fact of the loss of their brother, so they photographed the whole apartment, and also took samples of saliva from all the people at home. "

Two hours after that, says Dilor, people in masks broke into the apartment, twisted everyone who was there, and then brought them down and put them on the bus.

It should be noted that

The brothers Ermatov are from the village of Kashgar-Kyshtak, Osh region. It was in this village that the field commander Abu Salah al-Uzai was born, whom the special services are checking for involvement in the terrorist attack in the St. Petersburg metro.

According to the State Committee for National Security (GKNB) of Kyrgyzstan, the real name of Abu Salah al-Uzbek is Sirojiddin Mukhtarov. He heads the people from Central Asia who are fighting in Syria and belong to the organization Tawhid Wal-Jihad.

Last year, Kyrgyz authorities announced him on an international wanted list on charges of organizing an attack on the Chinese embassy in Bishkek. However, before the war in Syria, the future leader of terrorists lived in Petersburg and worked as a driver of the Gazelle, and then went to study with the money of a religious colleague in the Jordanian madrasah.

Meanwhile, the Investigative Committee of Russia announced the charges against three of the ten defendants of the case of the terrorist attack in St. Petersburg. Bahram Ergashev, Ibragimzhon Ermatov and Mahamadjusuf Mirzaalimova are accused of the terrorist act, as well as the illegal acquisition, storage and transportation of explosives or explosive devices. At the same time, at least one more accomplice of terrorists is still at large. This is a close friend of the suicide bomber Akbarzhon Jalilov - 24-year-old Farrukh Tadjibaev.



In the suburbs, one of the alleged organizers of the terrorist act in the metro of Petersburg was detained. According to the investigation, this is a native of Central Asia, Abror Azimov. It is believed that he prepared a suicide bomber who made an explosion in the subway. How did the operation go?

Railway crossing in Odintsovo district of Moscow. Operatives of the OPU instead of the employees of RZD. OTU monitors the movement of the mobile phone and, hence, of its owner, the OSG by asking agents in the radio market, having worked out communications and appearances of other criminals and having received the information is ready for detention. The alleged organizer of the terrorist act in St. Petersburg does not even suspect that the operatives have been conducting it for several days. From the surprise of any resistance in the detention even speech is not even though by the geometry of the body he can have a pistol. The officers of the open society are working. A native of Central Asia, Abror Azimov is about 27 years old. Opera instinct did not bring with it the object was a combat pistol with a few cartridges and several mobile phones - as reported sources. The command seizure and obohodchiki way attendant on the move do their job. The camera shines as usual in the opera in non-deflectable windbreakers. His guilt in absentia Azimov recognized right during the detention. When asked by the opera whether he guessed what he was detained for, he replied: "Yes." Long and painstaking work is completed. Investigators enter

the case, and the OPU continues to drive various individuals throughout the city.

The Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation for Samara region, in cooperation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation for the region, detained 27-year-old citizen of Ukraine in Samara, belonging to the intelligence apparatus of the Spetsrezerv division of the Main Intelligence Directorate of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine.

During the interview, the detainee admitted that he had carried out visual reconnaissance of military and transport infrastructure objects in the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic (DNR), as well as in the Rostov and Samara regions, in the interests of the SIS MOU. "He was repeatedly instructed to collect information on military facilities of the militia of the Dnieper, including in the settlements of Donetsk and Yasinovataya, used by the militia and military equipment."

In addition, according to him, at the end of 2016, a citizen of Ukraine, on the instructions of the Ministry of Defense, visited the Rostov-on-Don for visual reconnaissance of the railway and automobile stations. During the reconnaissance, he recorded the location of the security and police officers, their number, as well as the location of the cameras, the access mode at all entrances and exits.

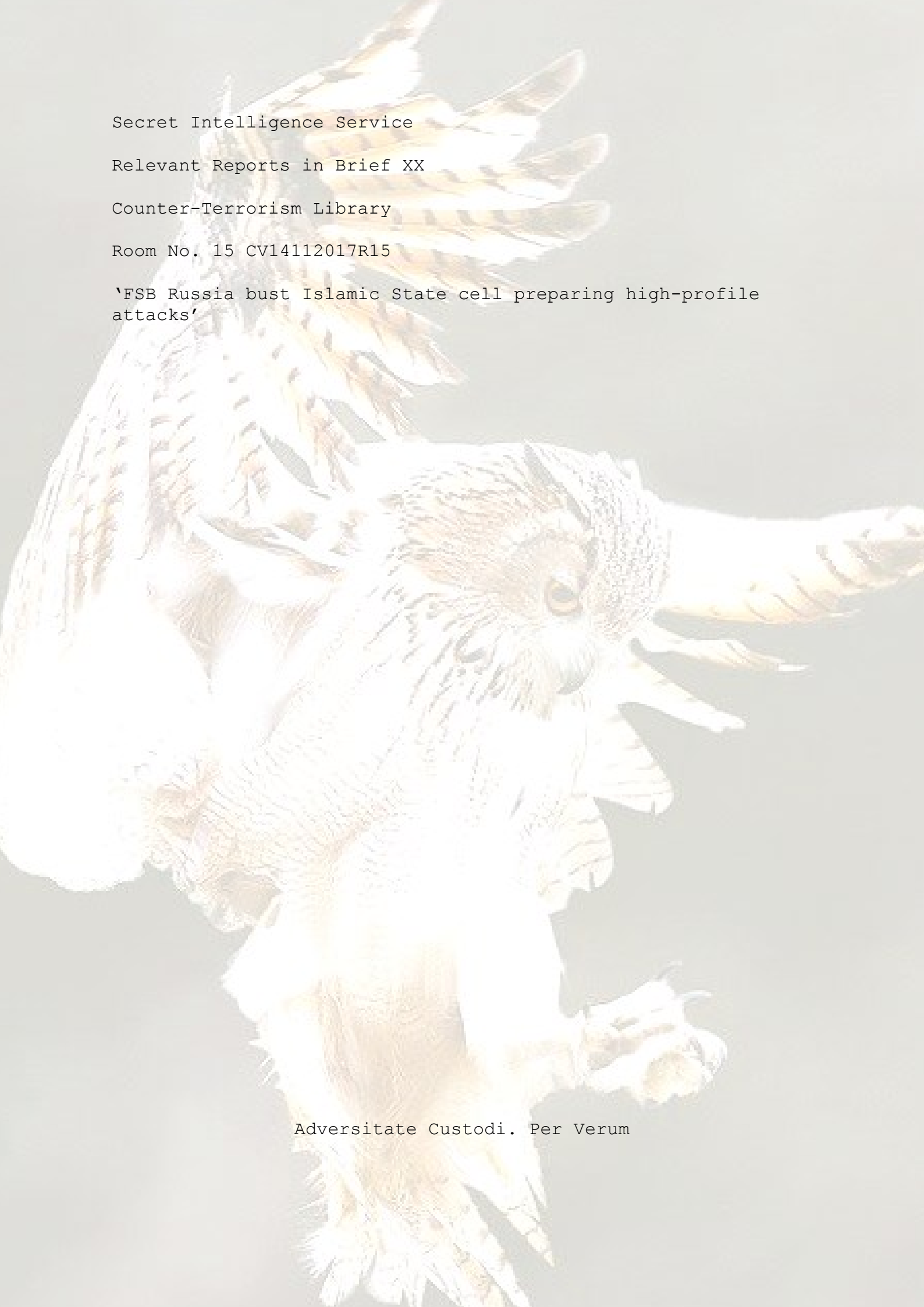
He passed this information to the staff of the Ministry of Defense of the Ministry of Defense, the officers of the counterintelligence service said. During the implementation of a similar task at the railway station in Samara, the alleged agent of Ukrainian intelligence was detained.

28 09 2017 Attack on the policemen in Kaspiisk. Photos +18

Everything happened today around 9 o'clock in the morning. Two unidentified men with knives attacked officers of the Ministry of Internal Affairs patrol and inspection service on the taxiway, at the time when the police were running the UAZ Patriot car. As a result, both attackers were destroyed. One employee, with various stab wounds, was hospitalized in the KGB Central Security Administration, the second - the senior sergeant of the police Mirzaev SK, 1990 died on the spot without coming to consciousness. Two knives and paraphernalia

were seized from the attack site. At the scene of the incident, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs for the Republic of Dagestan, investigators of the SS SK and UFSB for the DD, officers of the SOM of the OMVD for Kaspiisk are working.





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