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INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

$16,000 for Police Abuse

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An Orenburg region resident who was beaten by policemen in 2001 was awarded 12,000 euros ($16,000) by the European Court of Human Rights, Interfax reported Tuesday.

Alexei Dimitrachkov, a resident of the town of Buzuluk, was detained as a robbery suspect and beaten after he asked for a lawyer, the rights watchdog Committee Against Torture said in a statement. It did not say whether Dimitrachkov was convicted in the case.

The victim complained to the Strasbourg court after local prosecutors forwarded his complaint to the same police officers who had beaten him, Interfax reported. ⊠

(MT)

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