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Diplomats Meet 'Spies'

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Russian diplomats were allowed on Monday to meet with four Russian citizens detained in Georgia along with nine citizens of other countries on accusations of spying for Moscow, Interfax reported.

Georgian prison officials confirmed that the diplomats spoke with the Russian detainees — identified earlier as Armen Gevorkyan, Ruben Shikoyan, Petre Devrishadze and Yury Skrylnikov — but gave no details of the meeting. Russian officials did not comment on the meeting.

The suspects, detained last month, are accused of gathering information about Georgia's armed forces. Russia's Foreign Ministry has criticized the arrests but not explicitly denied that the men are spies. ◙

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