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Police Crash 2 Parties of Criminal Gangs, Detain 90

By The Moscow Times

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Police detained about 90 people late Monday night in two simultaneous special forces raids on criminal gangs.

More than 50 Azeri natives were detained as they prepared to celebrate the "coronation" of a criminal kingpin at a cafe on Ulitsa Preobrazhensky Val in eastern Moscow, police said in a statement Tuesday.

The suspects tried to dump several firearms when police showed up, but the guns were confiscated and sent for ballistic and fingerprint testing.

At another raid, about 40 regional and CIS criminal leaders were detained in a banya on Volokolamskoye Shosse in northwestern Moscow. Police confiscated one pistol and several traumatic guns.

The suspects were all transported to a police station to determine what charges they face.

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