

Counter-Terrorism Operation Launched in North Caucasus After 2 Militants Killed, Report Says

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Security officials in the North Caucasus region of Kabardino-Balkaria have declared a counter-terrorism regime after gunfire battles erupted between militants and government forces on Thursday morning, a news report said.

Two suspected militants were believed to have been killed, according to preliminary information, after they opened fire from a private house at government troops who had the building surrounded, Interfax news agency reported, citing an unidentified law enforcement official.

The regional branch of the Federal Security Service, or FSB, authorized an anti-terrorism operation starting at 5 a.m. on Thursday morning in the village of Dygulybgei in the Baksan district of the restive Russian republic, according to a statement by the local command headquarters, the report said.

The unidentified law enforcement official was quoted as saying the counter-terror operation would continue.

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