

# 81-Year-Old Pensioner Russian Dies in Holding Cell After Stealing Butter

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An 81-year-old woman died soon after being detained for stealing three packs of butter from a supermarket on the outskirts of St. Petersburg, news reports said Wednesday.

The woman died at a police station in the island town of Kronstadt, news agencies Interfax and RIA Novosti reported. The cause of death is believed to have been acute heart failure.

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The ruble's devaluation and the Western food import ban are major factors driving up inflation in the country, and food prices this year are expected to show a similar dynamic.

The average monthly pension for senior citizens in Russia is forecast to be about 13,000 rubles (\$200) this year, state newspaper Rossiiskaya Gazeta reported in late December.

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