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Greenpeace Says Russian Volunteer Firefighters Attacked

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Greenpeace Russia

Volunteer firefighters working for environmental organization Greenpeace have been attacked
with knives and stun grenades in
Russia's southern Krasnodar region, according
to a statement by the group on Friday.

Two activists suffered b
roken bones in the attack, which took place early Friday morning.

"The attackers climbed over the fence
at about 1 a.m. They had batons, knives, guns," said
the head of Greenpeace Russia's firefighting project, Grigory Kuksin.
Another man
threw

stun grenades, he said.

A group of eight men damaged property,
slashed the tires of the group's cars,
and
stole equipment,
said Kuksin.

Graffiti reading “Here are the
'pendosy,'” a derogatory Russian term for Americans,
also appeared on the gates of the Greenpeace camp.

Police were called to the scene alongside ambulance services.

Greenpeace reported on Thursday that a
group of
men who identified themselves as
Cossacks
had
blocked its
volunteer firefighters
from
assisting emergency workers.
The volunteers
were later ejected from their camp without reason, the organization said.

The activists had been working in the
Kuban
area, where a major blaze threatens
internationally protected estuaries.

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