

Gunman Killed After Attacking Russian National Guard Troops in Krasnodar

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Kirill Zykov / Moskva News Agency

A gunman has been killed after attacking two National Guard troops in southern Russia, authorities said Thursday.

Russia's National Guard is a new internal military force tasked with crowd control and antiterrorism duties that was founded in 2016. National Guard servicemen involved in counterterrorism operations were previously targeted in a series of attacks in Russia's volatile North Caucasus region in 2017.

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An unidentified man approached a parked National Guard service car in the southern city of Krasnodar and opened fire at two officers late on Thursday, the Investigative Committee said in a statement.

"The man was killed by return fire. Law enforcement officers suffered gunshot wounds," investigators said.

Two criminal cases were <u>opened</u> into the attempted murder of officers and illegal trafficking in firearms.

Regional investigators told the state-run TASS news agency that one of the National Guard officers had been discharged after doctors removed a bullet from his arm. The second wounded serviceman is in <u>serious condition</u>.

A second handgun and knife that authorities allegedly found later suggests that the killed gunman had planned the attack in advance, an unnamed law enforcement source <u>told</u> TASS.

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