The Moscow Times
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U.S. Ambassador Told Russia Washington 'Not Involved' in Unrest

By AFP

June 26, 2023



U.S. Ambassador to Russia Lynne M. Tracy leaving the offices of the Russian Foreign Ministry, April 2023. **Valery Sharifulin / TASS**

The U.S. ambassador directly contacted Russia during weekend unrest and made clear that the United States was not involved, the State Department said Monday.

The State Department said that Ambassador Lynne Tracy in Moscow relayed the message to Russian officials on Saturday, as did U.S. officials in Washington who contacted the Russian embassy.

The United States made contact "to reiterate what we said publicly — that this is an internal Russian affair in which the United States is not involved and will not be involved," State Department spokesman Matthew Miller told reporters.

Tracy and the U.S. officials in Washington also said they "expected Russia to uphold its

obligations to protect our embassy and protect diplomatic personnel'' based in Moscow, Miller said.

The United States has kept diplomacy to a minimum with Russia since the February 2022 invasion of Ukraine, with higher-level talks largely focused on detained Americans.

Original url:
https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2023/06/26/us-ambassador-told-russia-washington-not-involved-in-unrest-a81653