# Russian Special Forces Free Hostages from ISIS-Linked Detainees in Rostov-on-Don Detention Facility



On Sunday, June 16, 2024, Russian special forces successfully freed two guards held hostage by detainees linked to the Islamic State at a detention facility in Rostov-on-Don, located in southern Russia. The men had taken control of the situation by breaking out of their cell, overpowering a guard room, and capturing the officers.

The Russian federal penitentiary service confirmed that the hostages were released uninjured following a "special operation" which resulted in the elimination of the hostage-takers. The incident sparked a tense standoff with the captors demanding a getaway car and access to the facility's armory.

The detainees included individuals either convicted or facing charges related to terrorism. Three of them—M.S. Saipudinov, A.M. Tsitskiev, and D.V. Kamneev—were previously convicted for their involvement in a planned attack on the supreme court in the Karachay-Cherkessia region in December 2023.

During the ordeal, one of the captors, shown in a video published on the 112 Telegram channel, brandished a knife beside one of the hostages, demanding concessions. Another video depicted the detainees expressing readiness for death rather than surrender, emphasizing their extremist motivations.

This incident marked the second significant ISIS-related security breach in Russia within three months. On March 22, 2024, an attack at the Crocus City Hall music venue in Krasnogorsk, Moscow region, claimed by the Islamic State, resulted in 145 deaths.