# US Lifts Ban on Weaponry for Ukraine’s Azov Brigade, Russian Forces Quell Detention Center Mutiny



**US Lifts Ban on Weaponry for Ukraine’s Azov Brigade**

The United States has lifted a long-standing ban on providing weapons and training to Ukraine's Azov Brigade. This ban, which had been in place since 2017 due to concerns over the battalion's founders being accused of neo-Nazi sentiments, was officially reversed by the US State Department this week. The Azov Brigade, part of Ukraine’s National Guard, played a vital role in the defense of Mariupol during the 2022 conflict.

Colonel Denys Prokopenko, the brigade's commander, expressed gratitude towards President Joe Biden's administration for the decision, stating it would significantly strengthen their unit and Ukraine's defense forces. The reversal of this decision comes amid Ukraine's ongoing efforts against Russian advances in eastern Ukraine.

**Russian Forces Quell Detention Center Mutiny**

Russian special forces have subdued a mutiny at a pretrial detention center in Rostov-on-Don on Sunday, June 16, 2024. Six detainees, some charged with terrorism, managed to take control of the facility and took two guards hostage. During the mutiny, a detainee brandished a knife and demanded a vehicle, with one seen holding a flag associated with the Islamic State.

Security agents stormed the facility, resulting in the "liquidation" of the mutinied detainees and the release of the unharmed hostages, as reported by Russian state media. The incident follows a major terrorist attack at a concert hall near Moscow less than three months ago, an attack for which the Islamic State claimed responsibility. Russian officials have yet to comment on the specifics of how the detainees managed to orchestrate the mutiny.

With both events bringing renewed focus on the central roles of military operations and security forces, the affected regions continue to grapple with implications for local and international security dynamics.