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## Contract murder of a businessman prevented in Volgograd



During an investigation into activity of an organized criminal group, engaged in illegal handling of firearms, agents of regional directorate of the Federal Security Service (FSB) have got information that a contract murder is planned in Volgograd. Investigators of the Investigative Committee and operative agents of regional main office of the Interior Ministry joined the check of the information. Not having a slightest idea who were people involved in negotiations or the potential victim, the agents of three security agencies over one week managed to establish the assumed contractor, perpetrator and the victim – a businessman aged 45, who soled textiles. Almost round-the-clock hard work of investigators and operative agents gave results. The murder was prevented.

Volgograd Region investigating bodies of the Russia's Investigative Committee have launched a criminal case against a group of persons, who organized and were trying to commit a contract murder. The suspects are: a businessman, 39, acting as a contractor; a local man, 25, acting as an

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organizer and his friend aged 22, working as a bartender in one of restaurants in Volgograd, who agreed to find a killer. Depending on the role of each one they are suspected of crimes under parts 3, 4, 5 of article 33, part 1 of article 30, paragraph “h” of part 2 of article 105 of the RF Criminal Code (organization, instigation and complicity in plotting a contract murder) and part 1 of article 222 (illegal handling of firearms).

According to investigators, the 39-year-old businessman decided to get rid of a competitor because of a conflict they had had in their business activity. For an award of 1 million rubles he asked his friend to organize the murder. The latter with the help of his 22-year-old friend found a killer. They promised 150 thousand rubles for the job. At numerous meetings they showed the killer the victim’s photo and provided with firearms – a 16 caliber sawn-off gun and ammunition, information about cars used by the victim and his wife and the place the cars were parked – the supposed scene of murder.

On 22 January 2013, around 7 a.m., the killer and organizer were detained by operative agents of regional directorates of the Federal Security Service and Interior Ministry at the scene where murder was to be committed. During a personal search the agents found and seized from the killer the murder weapon, and from his accomplice – a fake ID card of an FSB agent, handcuffs, cartridges and a home-made small caliber gun. During searches at the detainees’ the agents discovered and seized a whole arsenal of guns and ammunition, including two hand-made explosive devices stuffed with destructive elements, a box of grenades, four mines of Great Patriotic War times including two tank mines, more than 1,000 cartridges of different calibers, a TOZ sawn-off rifle, a hunting rifle of foreign manufacture, a flair pistol and a smoke bomb. The same day the mediator of the murder was apprehended in his flat.

The contractor of the murder has been detained today during his negotiations with the organizer concerning the payment. The agents found and seized from him a fake ID card of an FSB agent.

At present investigating operations are under way to establish all the circumstances of the crime. Investigation is to be continued.

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