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**GEORGIAN STATE SECURITY SERVICE DENIES PRESENCE OF RUSSIAN SOLDIERS ON  
GEORGIAN CONTROLLED TERRITORY**

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State Security Service of Georgia denies reports about the presence of representatives of the occupation regime on the territory controlled by the central government of Georgia, near the village of Khurvaleti.

"We are verifying the reports disseminated by certain individuals through the hotline. Information has been provided to the EU Monitoring Mission and all international partners.

The State Security Service urges everyone to refrain from making provocative statements.

Any activity of the occupation forces escalates the security environment on the ground,"- the State Security Service said.

Previously, Civil activist Giga Makarashvili said that dozens of the Russian soldiers and military vehicles crossed the border and entered Khurvaleti.

Mayor of Gori Municipality Konstantine Tavzarashvili said that "three masked gunmen are in the area controlled by the central government of Georgia. The reason of their behavior is unknown yet. Georgian law enforcers are on the ground and the situation is under control. The situation is not tensed at this moment."

As for Giga Makarashvili said that dozens of military vehicles entered the part of the village that is under our control. A local lady called us from their; she was absolutely panicked. The locals have often seen Russian soldiers, but this time there are a lot of them. Our law enforcers are mobilized on the central highway. There are a lot of police officers and we are not allowed to enter the village.

State Security Service denies the reports.

<https://www.georgianjournal.ge/politics/35661-georgian-state-security-service-denies-presence-of-russian-soldiers-on-georgian-controlled-territory.html>