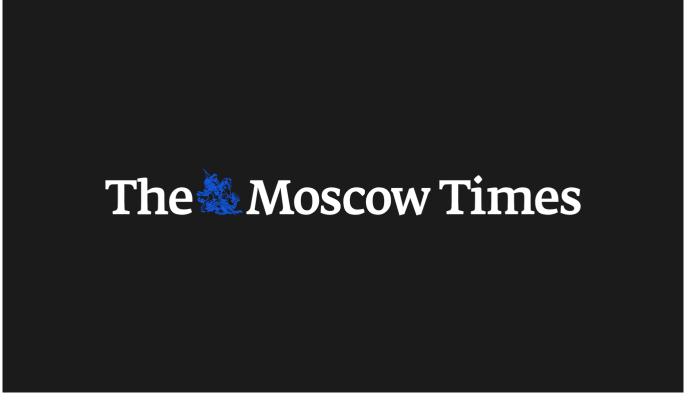


Guard Punished Over Toys

February 18, 2013



MINSK — The Belarussian Supreme Court has handed out a two-year prison sentence to a border guard who failed to report an intrusion of a light plane that dropped hundreds of teddy bears decked out in parachutes and slogans supporting human rights.

The court would not give the convicted's name or rank. Several top defense officials were sacked over the July 4 incident, in which two Swedish advertising agency employees piloted the plane into Belarus' heavily guarded airspace.

(AP)

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