

# French Soldiers Guarding Jewish Community Center Attacked

*Radio news is ahead of the on-line reports. This what is available so far from Associated Press via [France 24](#)*

An attacker with a knife hidden in his bag attacked three soldiers on an anti-terror patrol in front of a Jewish community center in southern France on Tuesday, two police officials said.

Sarah Baron, a police union official in the city of Nice, said the attacker was detained after the attack near the Galeries Lafayette department store, but that two people who were with him are believed to have fled the scene after the stabbing in the city centre.

Nice Mayor Christian Estrosi said the attacker had an identity card with the name Moussa Coulibaly. The surname, which is relatively common for families of Malian descent, is the same as that of the man who seized hostages in a kosher supermarket in Paris and gunned down a policewoman last month.

Another police official said the attacker pulled a knife at least 20 centimeters (8 inches) long out of a bag and set upon one of the soldiers, injuring him in the chin. He then swiped two other soldiers – one in the cheek, the other in the forearm – before being apprehended by riot police stationed near the building, which houses the city's Jewish community center.

A manager at the center, who did not want to be identified because she was afraid, confirmed soldiers posted in front of the building were attacked. She said it happened around lunchtime and no one was inside the office. The attacker, aged

about 30, had a record of theft and violence, the official said on condition of anonymity because the investigation was ongoing. His motive was not yet clear, the official added.