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## No Captain Sharma fought gunmen in Oberoi: NSG director

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Eleven days after a witness told the special court, hearing the 26/11 trial, about a National Security Guard (NSG) captain's role in fighting the gunmen at hotel Oberoi, the elite commando force's director said there's no such officer. After Rajesh Kadam, assistant chief security officer at the south Mumbai hotel, testified on September 24 that NSG Captain RK Sharma had participated in the operation, the special court sought his address to issue summons.

But on Monday, Special Public Prosecutor Ujjwal Nikam told the special court that he had received a fax from the NSG director saying no such officer has ever worked with the elite commando group.

The court ordered chief investigator of the case, senior inspector Ramesh Mahale, to find out the correct name, designation and address of the NSG officer mentioned by Kadam in his testimony.

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The prosecution on Monday again expressed its unwillingness to examine NSG personnel as prosecution witnesses in the case.

Special Judge ML Taheliyani had insisted on examining Captain Sharma saying only he could give a first-hand account of what happened inside room number 1856 on November 28, 2008, when one of the suspected Lashkar-e-Tayyeba operatives inside hotel Oberoi was gunned down.

The commandos had gunned down his partner the previous night.

Taheliyani said he would take a decision about calling NSG personnel as court witnesses after going through a detailed report submitted by Nikam on Monday on why the prosecution doesn't want to examine NSG commandos.

Nikam told reporters outside the court that NSG personnel do not depose before any court but refused to divulge the reasons.

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