

Beat: News

ISIS beheads second Japanese hostage in new video, pilot's fate unclear

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USPA News - The Islamic State (ISIS) group has beheaded Japanese hostage Kenji Goto Jogo after the Jordanian government refused to meet a deadline to release imprisoned would-be suicide bomber Sadija al-Rishawi, according to a video released by ISIS on Saturday. The 1-minute video, titled "A Message to the Government of Japan," shows a black-clad militant addressing the camera while Jogo is kneeled next to him in an orange jumpsuit.

The video does not show the actual beheading but instead stops when a knife is placed on Jogo's throat, after which it skips to the aftermath, showing the victim's decapitated body. "To the Japanese government: You, like your foolish allies in the Satanic coalition, have yet to understand that we, by Allah's grace, are an Islamic Caliphate with authority and power, an entire army thirsty for your blood," the militant says in the video. "[Prime Minister] Abe, because of your reckless decision to take part in an unwinnable war, this knife will not only slaughter Kenji, but will also carry on and cause carnage wherever your people are found. So let the nightmare for Japan begin." There was no word on Jordanian pilot Muath al-Kasasbeh, who had also been threatened with death if Jordan refused to release Sadija al-Rishawi by sunset on Thursday. The deadline expired after the Jordanian government said that it had not received any proof of life from al-Kasasbeh and emphasized that it could not release al-Rishawi until it received such proof. Earlier this month, ISIS also beheaded Japanese hostage Haruna Yukawa when the Japanese government refused to pay \$200 million in ransom. That figure represented the amount of money the Japanese government previously pledged in non-military assistance to countries battling the jihadist group, which has seized regions of Syria, Iraq and Libya.

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