

Hostage in North Caucasus

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The  **Moscow Times**

Separate attacks in two North Caucasus republics left two people dead, including an alleged militant, but another insurgent managed to escape by taking hostage the driver of a car that was passing by, Interfax said Monday.

An unidentified man was killed by a bomb blast in his Zhiguli car near the Dagestani village of Gubden, a notorious insurgency hotbed, a law enforcement source said.

In Kabardino-Balkaria's town of Chegem, two men opened fire at police attempting to check their car, the National Anti-Terrorist Committee said.

One attacker, identified as local resident Eduard Ulbashev, was shot dead, but the other forced a local driver to take him away in a car, Vesti.ru said. The hostage was later released unharmed.

(MT)

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