

3 Killed in Magnitogorsk Minibus Blast After Deadly Apartment Explosion

January 02, 2019



Ilya Moskovets / TASS

At least three people were killed in a minibus explosion Tuesday in the industrial city of Magnitogorsk, where more than a dozen residents have died in an apartment block blast.

Nineteen people are dead and dozens are still missing after a 10-story building partially collapsed on Monday in the Urals city some 1,700 kilometers east of Moscow. Authorities say a gas leak is suspected of causing the blast.

Related article: Baby Boy Found Alive After 35 Hours Under Rubble After Russia Blast

Three people there have also died after a minibus caught on fire not far from the apartment block, Interfax <u>cited</u> the Chelyabinsk region governor's office as saying. Regional police told the news agency that "faulty gas equipment" inside the vehicle caused the deadly explosion.

Following anonymously sourced <u>reports suggesting</u> both explosions may have been acts of terrorism, Russia's Investigative Committee <u>said</u> no traces of explosives have been found in the rubble. Footage shared by local media showed a ball of fire followed by sounds of explosives or firearms being discharged.

President Vladimir Putin visited the site of the apartment blast tragedy on Monday. Wednesday has been declared a day of mourning in Magnitogorsk.

Embed:

Original url:

https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2019/01/02/3-killed-in-magnitogorsk-minibus-blast-after-deadly-apartment-gas-explosion-a64018