



Chechen Female Suicide Bombers: The New Face of Terrorism in Moscow



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Report Breakdown

Analysis looks at Chechen Female Suicide Bombers (CFB) attacks in Moscow from 2002-2004 (8)

- Profile of CFBs
- Timeline of Attacks
- Comparison of # of CFBs Vs. the # of Casualties in Attacks
- Suicide Belts
- Targets of Attacks
 - Public Events
 - Public Buildings
 - Private Buildings
 - Transportation
- Conclusion





Profile of a Chechen Female Suicide Bomber (CFB)

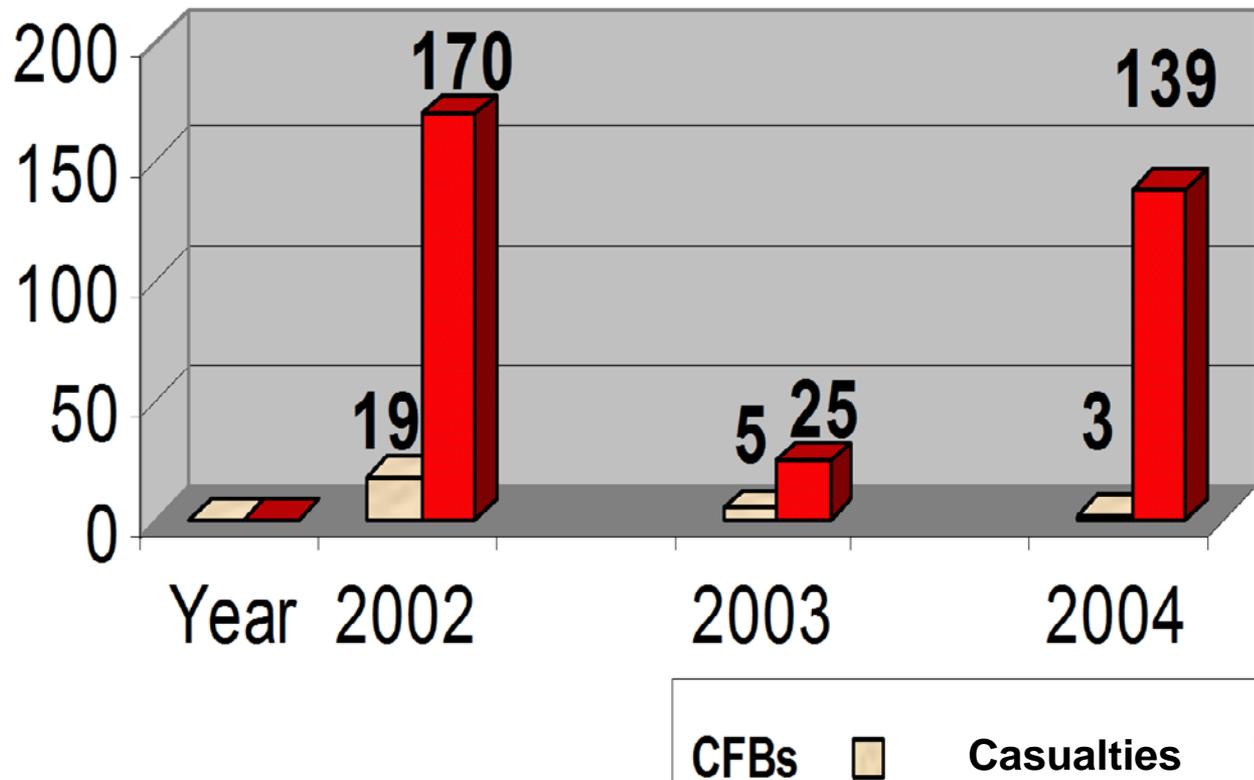
- **Young**
 - Under the age of 30
- **Angry and Seeking Revenge**
 - “**Black Widows**” – a suicide bombing ring that consists of women prepared to kill to avenge the deaths of their husbands, fathers, brothers and sons who have been brutalized, kidnapped or killed by Russian soldiers during the war in Chechnya.
- **Socio-Economic Background: “Outcasts” and “Impoverished”**
 - Testimony of captured CFB from 7/9/03 attack outside of a café in Moscow revealed that her family would receive \$1,000 for her death
 - The August attacks were committed by women that were social outcasts in Chechnya, i.e. - one of the CFBs could not bear children, a taboo in Chechen society
- **Religion**
 - **Muslim**
 - Committed to Martyrdom for Chechen separatism with the goal of killing as many Russians as possible

Timeline of Attacks and Elections



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CFBs Vs. Casualties in Moscow

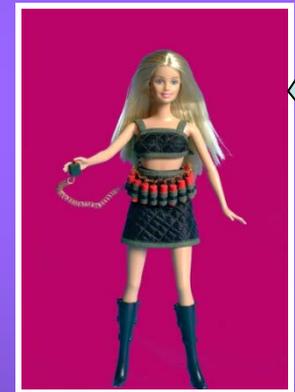


Suicide Belts

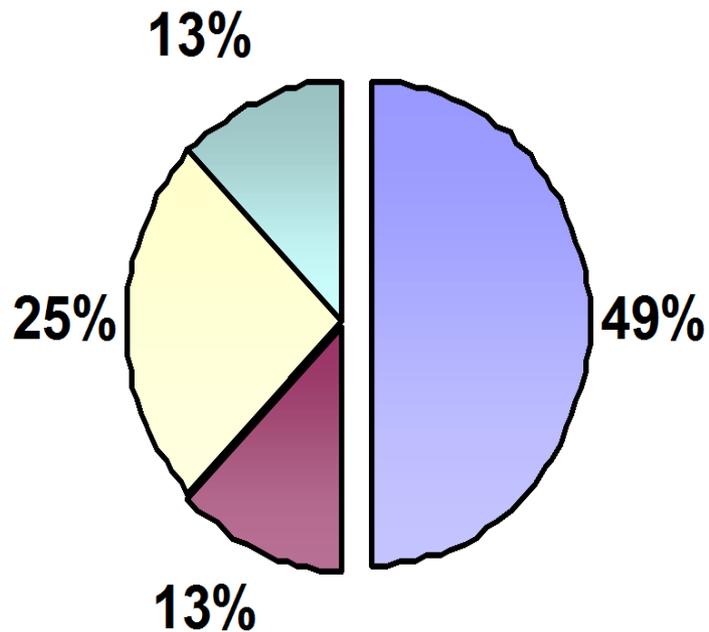
- CFBs have carried out attacks by using Suicide Belts or “Shakhid” Belts meaning “martyr” in Arabic
- Self and controlled detonators have been used by the CFBs and others involved in the attack to ensure explosion of device
- Women wear long, loose-fitting clothing to conceal the bombs. They are not as thoroughly screened as men due to their Muslim beliefs
- Belts are low-cost and convenient, causing high-casualties and require little manpower
- Hexogen used in August attacks- inexpensive and accessible



Propaganda for the bombers is growing as they are becoming mainstreamed by society.



Targets of CFBs Attacks in Moscow 2002-2004



- Transportation
- Public Events
- Public Buildings
- Private Buildings

Public Events



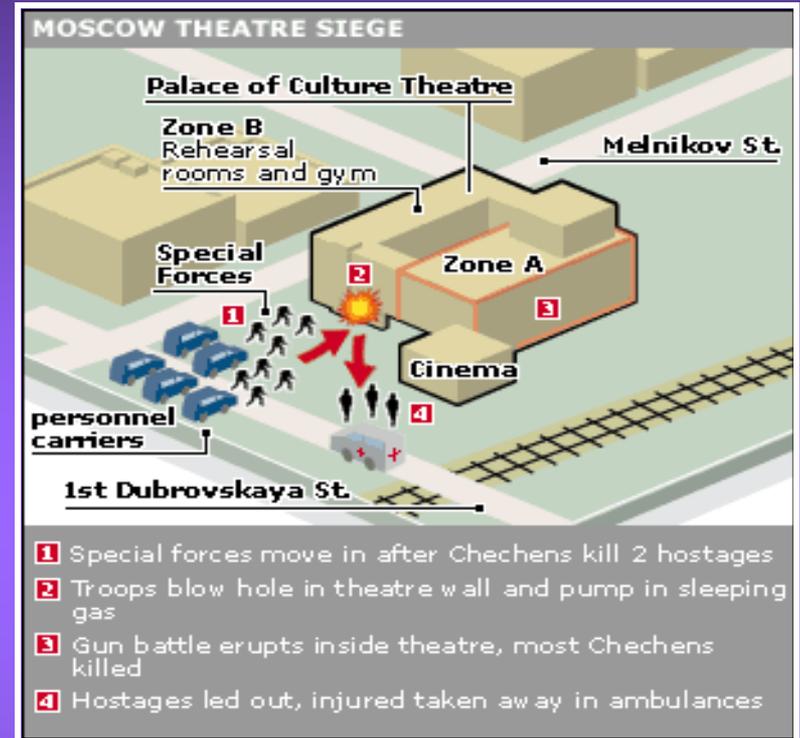
- July 6, 2003-18 people are killed when two CFBs blew themselves up at an open-air rock festival at Moscow's Tushino airfield.



Public Buildings



Dec. 9, 2003 - 2 CFBs blew themselves up on a busy street meters away from the Kremlin, killing five and injuring 12.



October 29, 2002 - Nineteen CFBs were among the captors that took siege of the Dubrovka Theatre in Moscow for four days. 170 people were killed (129 hostages and 41 captors).

Private Buildings



July, 10, 2003

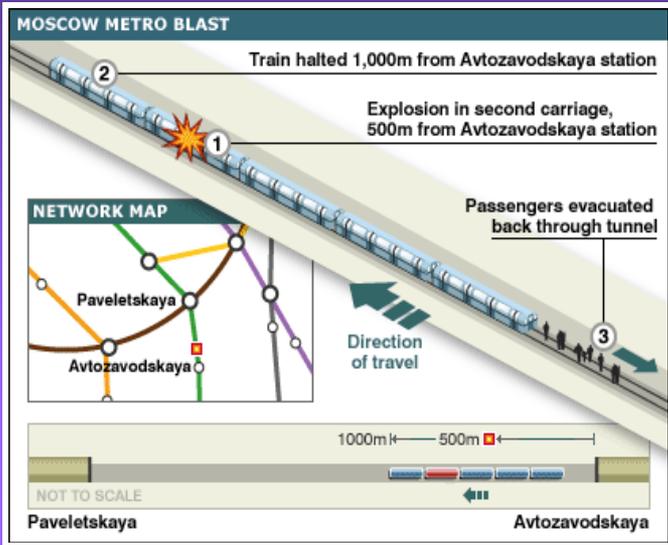
- Explosive device goes off at café in Moscow, killing one officer attempting to defuse it.
- In April 2004 CFB is sentenced to 20 years in prison for bombing.



The device was first probed by a remote-controlled robot.



Transportation



February 9, 2004 metro bombing 39 people are killed and more than a 100 are injured from an explosion that occurred between two highly populated Metro Stations in Moscow during morning rush hour.

*Chechen woman suspected to be a CFB involved in this bombing is currently at large in Moscow.

August 31, 2004-Ten people are killed and ten injured when a car bomb detonated by a CFB explodes outside of Rizhskaya Metro Station.



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MILES

Moscow

Domodedovo airport

Tula

Crash site of Tupolev Tu-134
On flight from Moscow to Volgograd.

RUSSIA

Volga

UKRAINE

Volgograd

Crash site of Tupolev Tu-154
On flight from Moscow to Sochi.

Rostov-on-Don

Sochi

Sea of Azov

Black Sea

GEORGIA

Tupolev Tu-134
Two engines, range of 1,243 miles

Tupolev Tu-154
Three engines, range of 2,485 miles

Illustrations not to scale to each other

Editor's Note: For more information on the airplane bombings, as well as the Beslan school siege, please see OSAC's "Attacks in Russia" report.

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Conclusions

- Transportation industry #1 target of CFBs in Moscow from 2002-2004
- Suicide Belts Success- CFBs continue to utilize the belts because they are a low-cost and convenient way to cause high-causalities by using low manpower
- CFBs tend to plan attacks directly before or after elections in both Moscow and Chechnya as a legitimate tactic to express their political dissent with the Kremlin and war in Chechnya
- Currently there are two Chechen women suspected of being CFBs involved in terrorist bombings at large in Moscow, one suspected from the 2/9/04 metro bombing and the other confirmed associate of the three CFBs linked to the recent August plane and metro attacks who shared a flat in Moscow