

## One Killed, 9 Injured in Attack on Russian Embassy

By The Moscow Times

November 28, 2013



One Syrian was killed and nine others were injured during a mortar shelling of the Russian Embassy in Damascus, the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement on Thursday.

One mortar round landed at the embassy's premises and the other exploded close to it, the statement said, killing and injuring local residents, including guards.

"We consider the shelling acts of terrorism, whose executors and those inciting and supervising them, should receive a deserved punishment," the ministry said.

Russia, a staunch supporter of Syrian President Bashar Assad, has criticized the West for aiding rebels who have been fighting to topple him for more than two years in a war that has cost more than 100,000 lives.

Rebels have launched several mortar and rocket attacks in recent months into the center of

the Syrian capital, where many embassies and senior Syrian officials are based.

A mortar shell landed on the compound of the Russian Embassy in September inflicting light injuries to two people.

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