

On This Day in 1995, a Devastating Earthquake Struck Sakhalin

May 28, 2025

On May 28, 1995, the most destructive known earthquake within Russia's modern borders struck the island of Sakhalin. The 7.1-magnitude earthquake hit the oil-producing town of Neftegorsk, flattening buildings, devastating critical infrastructure and killing 1,989 of the town's 3,977 residents. Another 750 people were injured. The town was abandoned due to the scale of the destruction. To mark the 30th anniversary of the earthquake, residents of the nearby city of Okha laid flowers and lit candles at the memorial to its victims. Here is a collection of photos from the aftermath of the natural disaster:



Roman Denisov / TASS

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