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Attacking the Empire's Achilles heels : railroads and terrorism in Tsarist Russia

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This article analyzes the development of terrorist strategies that focused on sites of modern infrastructure both in Imperial Russia and in other countries at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th centuries. It argues that the construction of railroads not only enabled a significant increase of geographical mobility and economic development in the 19th and 20th centuries, thereby contributing to the integration of national and trans-national spaces. This new means of transportation must also be regarded as one of the prerequisites for the development and spread of modern terrorism. The article reveals that the history of railway terrorism, which has not come to an end today, has its historical roots in the 1860s and 1870s in Imperial Russia.

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