

First Recorded Successful Novichok Synthesis Was in 2016 - By Iran, in Cooperation with the OPCW

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The line that novichoks can only be produced by Russia is now proven to be a complete lie. As I previously proved by referencing their publications, in 2013 the OPCW scientific advisory committee note the evidence was sparse that novichoks had ever been successfully produced, and that was still the line being published by Porton Down in 2016. You can find the hard evidence of all that [here](#).

I have now been sent the vital information that in late 2016, Iranian scientists set out to study whether novichoks really could be produced from commercially available ingredients. [Iran succeeded](#) in synthesising a number of novichoks. Iran did this in full cooperation with the OPCW and immediately reported the results to the OPCW so they could be added to the chemical weapons database.

This makes complete nonsense of the Theresa May's "of a type developed by Russia" line, used to parliament and the UN Security Council. This explains why Porton Down have refused to cave in to governmental pressure to say the nerve agent was Russian. **If Iran can make a novichok, so can a significant number of states.**

While Iran acted absolutely responsibly in cooperating with the OPCW, there are a handful of rogue states operating outwith the rule of international law, like Israel and North Korea, which refuse to ratify the Chemical Weapons Convention, join the OPCW or destroy their chemical weapons stocks. Russia has cooperated in the OPCW destruction of all its chemical weapons stocks, completed last year, which included regular OPCW inspection of all the sites alleged to have been in the original "novichok" programme. Why nobody is even looking at the rogue states outwith the OPCW is a genuine puzzle.

Extraordinarily, only [yesterday](#) the Guardian was still carrying an article which claimed "only the Russian state" could make a novichok. Despite the lying propaganda regurgitated by virtually every corporate and state "journalist", in truth it is now proven beyond dispute that "of a type developed by Russia" has zero evidential value and is a politician's weasel phrase designed deliberately to mislead the public. The public should ask why.

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