

## Raging US/UK Political Assault on Russia

By Stephen Lendman

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In-depth Report: FAKE INTELLIGENCE

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There's no likely positive resolution to dangerously escalating US/UK-led Russia bashing – eerily similar to the run-up to earlier US-led NATO imperial wars.

Was Trump's hardened war cabinet assembled to goad Russia into confrontation? Since the 1917 Russian revolution, US and UK imperialists sought regime change – from extremists under Woodrow Wilson in America and their counterparts under Britain's Lloyd George to the present.

The Skripal affair is the latest Russia bashing incident – clearly a false flag the Kremlin had nothing to do with, but it doesn't matter.

Despite no evidence suggesting Russian involvement, the official hostile narrative continues – supported by Western media.

During an OPCW Executive Council Wednesday special session, Moscow's proposed joint investigation was rejected by Washington and Britain.

A UK statement turned truth on its head saying the following:

"Russia's proposal for a joint, UK/Russian investigation into the Salisbury incident is perverse. It is a diversionary tactic, and yet more disinformation designed to evade the guestions the Russian authorities must answer."

Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman **Maria Zakharova** blasted Britain saying

"(t)hey will keep lying, prevaricating, shifting responsibility on each other. Why? Because this is not the first time they are doing this."

Russia OPCW envoy Alexander Shulgin said

"(w)e insist...that the investigation should be truly transparent, comprehensive and unbiased and necessarily involve Russian experts."

Questions on the Skripal incident posed to the OPCW have not been answered, Shulgin saying "(t)his is absolutely unacceptable."

Putin spokesman **Dmitry Peskov** called what's going on "abominable from the very beginning...evidence (showing) insane accusations by Britain...are based on nothing."

Britain's Porton Down Defense Science and Technology Laboratory exposed the Big Lie, explaining the origin of the toxin it examined can't be determined. It could have come from any number of countries or sources capable of producing it.

A Times of London propaganda report said

"(s)ecurity services believe that they have pinpointed the location of the covert Russian laboratory that manufactured the weapons-grade nerve agent used in Salisbury," adding:

"Ministers and security officials were able to identify the source using scientific analysis and intelligence in the days after the attempted murder of **Sergei and Yulia Skripal** a month ago, according to security sources."

According to an unnamed Whitehall source the Times quoted,

"(w)e knew pretty much by the time of the first (emergency briefing) that it was overwhelmingly likely to come from Russia."

All of the above is pure rubbish, no evidence corroborating any UK claims made.

Britain's Porton Down CEO **Gary Aitkenhead** admitted its scientists were unable to prove a Russia connection to the Skripal incident, saying:

"We were able to identify (the toxic substance in question) as novichok, to identify that it was military-grade nerve agent."

"We have not identified the precise source" – meaning no evidence linking it to Russia.

No known antidote to the deadly agent exists, he explained. Anyone exposed would be dead in minutes.

Clearly, the Skripals and others allegedly affected weren't exposed to a deadly military-grade agent of any kind. What's obvious continues to be ignored by Western officials and media.

Separately, US National Intelligence director **Dan Coats** promised additional measures against Russia, turning truth on its head adding

"we are more and more aware of the potential for Russia to continue to engage

in any number of ways relative to our elections and a lot of steps are being taken."

Intense US/UK hostility toward Russia shows nothing positive can be achieved by one or more Putin/Trump summits wherever held, no matter how much discussion takes place on bilateral relations, Syria, the arms race, and other key issues.

Nothing positive between both countries was achieved since the Reagan/Gorbachev era. Bilateral relations today are more dangerously dismal than ever.

Nothing suggests they'll improve. Most likely they'll worsen ahead.

Focusing on ties away from the US-dominated West along with preparing for the worst ahead appear Moscow's only sound options.

Talks with Washington and Britain are a waste of time or worse if Russia maintains its delusion that better East/West relations are possible.

The notion is hazardous to its security.

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My newest book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: How the US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."

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