

Trump Praises Putin, Obama Sanctions, Veiled Political Stunt on Behalf of "Team Hillary"

By <u>Stephen Lendman</u> Global Research, January 01, 2017 Region: <u>Russia and FSU</u>, <u>USA</u> Theme: <u>Intelligence</u>

In response to Obama's new sanctions on Russia, Trump praised how Putin handled his action, tweeting "(g)reat move on delay (by V. Putin) – I always knew he was very smart."

A follow-up related tweet said "Russians are playing #CNN and @NBCNews for such fools...they don't have a clue! @FoxNews totally gets it."

Senior Trump advisor Kellyanne Conway called Obama's new sanctions "a political response" at the behest of "Team Hillary," aiming to "box in...Trump" because he favors improved relations with Russia, getting along with Putin.

Obama's 11th hour action in the waning days of his deplorable presidency was based on fabricated claims of Russian US election hacking.

It was a thinly veiled political stunt, reflecting sour grapes for Trump's electoral triumph, wanting him delegitimized, along with an attempt to prevent normalization of Russia/US relations after his tenure ends – favoring continued confrontation instead.

Accusations of Russian US election hacking are groundless. No evidence exists proving it. Long after America's intelligence community claimed it, Congress has yet to be briefed.

In mid-December, Senate Homeland Security Committee chairman Ron Johnson (R. WI) said "(i)t is disappointing that the CIA would provide information on this issue to the Washington Post and NBC but will not provide information to elected members of Congress."

The Media regurgitate what they're told without due diligence checking. Congressional members, especially Republicans, might openly question administration claims without credible truth supporting them. None exists.

The whole sordid business was made up for reasons cited above, Obama perhaps taking a final shot at Russia before leaving office – at Trump as well by trying to delegitimize his election triumph.

So far everything tried to prevent him from becoming America's 45th president failed. It's unknown how he'll govern after taking office.

Will he be a mensch like Putin or a menace like Obama? Humanity holds its breath to find out.

Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at <u>lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net</u>.

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

http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html

Visit his blog site at <u>sjlendman.blogspot.com</u>.

Listen to cutting-edge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network.

The original source of this article is Global Research Copyright © <u>Stephen Lendman</u>, Global Research, 2017

Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page

Become a Member of Global Research

Articles by: <u>Stephen</u> <u>Lendman</u>

About the author:

Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net. His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III." http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html Visit his blog site at sjlendman.blogspot.com. Listen to cuttingedge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network. It airs three times weekly: live on Sundays at 1PM Central time plus two prerecorded archived programs.

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca