SALISBURY INCIDENT

Moscow
22 March 2018
4 March: Three people exposed to a nerve agent in Salisbury

8 March: UK Delegation to the OPCW informed the Technical Secretariat that two people had been taken seriously ill

12 March: Prime Minister publicly identified the substance used as a Novichok nerve agent. Russian Ambassador asked to explain

13 March: Midnight deadline expired. No explanation received

14 March: Prime Minister set out the UK’s response

14 March: Prime Minister wrote to the OPCW

18 March: Russia announced retaliatory action

19 March: OPCW team arrived in the UK

20 March: 23 undeclared Russian intelligence officers expelled from the UK
• Military-grade Novichok nerve agent positively identified by experts at the UK’s Defence Science and Technology Laboratory at Porton Down, an OPCW-accredited and designated laboratory

• Novichok is a group of agents developed only by Russia and not declared under the CWC

• A violation of the fundamental prohibition on the use of chemical weapons (Art. 1 CWC)

• First offensive use of a nerve agent in Europe since the Second World War

• We are without doubt that Russia is responsible. No country bar Russia has combined capability, intent and motive. There is no plausible alternative explanation

• As of Sunday 18 March, we count over thirty parallel lines of Russian disinformation

“Based on this capability, combined with their record of conducting state sponsored assassinations – including against former intelligence officers whom they regard as legitimate targets - the UK Government concluded it was highly likely that Russia was responsible for this reckless and despicable act.”

Prime Minister Theresa May, 14 March
Novichok interferes with the normal functioning of the nervous system. If untreated, it will cause death by asphyxiation or cardiac arrest.

Sergei Skripal, his daughter Yulia Skripal, and UK policeman Detective Sergeant Nick Bailey remain in hospital.

51 people have been assessed in hospital.

131 civilians have potentially been in contact with the nerve agent.

250 specialist counter-terrorism officers involved in the investigation.

180 military personnel were deployed.
A Long Pattern of Russian Malign Activity

November 2006
Assassination of Alexander Litvinenko

February 2014
Occupation of Crimea; destabilisation of Ukraine

May 2007
DDoS attack disables Estonia’s internet

August 2008
Invasion of Georgia

17 July 2014
MH-17 shot down killing all 283 passengers

June 2015 to November 2016
Interference in US election

May 2015
Bundestag hack

January 2016
The ‘Lisa Case’ disinformation campaign against Germany

2015 to 2016
Danish Defence Ministry hack

October 2016
Coup attempt in Montenegro

June 2017
NotPetya cyber ransomware attack

March 2018
Attempted assassination of Sergey and Julia Skripal
• Attribution to the Russian State
• Dismantling of the network of Russian intelligence operatives in the UK
• Suspension of all planned bilateral contacts
• Enhanced Border Controls
• Tackling Criminality and Corruption
• New Legislation
• Other measures to Counter Hostile State Activity