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U.S. 'Outraged' Over Possible Russian Attack in London

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Jonathan Ernst / Reuters

The U.S. has expressed outrage over the poisoning of a Russian double agent and his daughter in England that Western leaders say Russia is “highly likely” responsible for.

British Prime Minister Theresa May gave Russia a midnight deadline to explain how a military-grade nerve agent developed by the Soviet Union came to be used in the March 4 poisoning of former Russian spy Sergei Skripal and his daughter Yulia in England.

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U.S. State Secretary Rex Tillerson expressed support for Britain's assessment that Russia was "likely responsible" for the Skripals’ poisoning in the English city of Salisbury.

“There is never a justification for this type of attack – the attempted murder of a private citizen on the soil of a sovereign nation – and we are outraged that Russia appears to have again engaged in such behavior,” Tillerson said in a statement on Monday.

The Russian Embassy in Washington called Tillerson’s comments “fake news” in a Facebook post on Tuesday, while the Russian Embassy in London said it was “outraged by the anti-Russian media campaign.”

White House press secretary Sarah Sanders called the poisoning a “reckless, indiscriminate and irresponsible [...] outrage” and offered Washington’s support to London.

Russia's Foreign Ministry hit back immediately after May’s accusation, saying her comments were a "circus show" and part of political information campaign against Russia.

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