



Putin critic Navalny was poisoned with Novichok nerve agent, Merkel says

September 03, 2020

1-1. Alexei Navalny _____

1-2. was poisoned _____

1-3. a German government _____

2. An agent of the same chemical family was used two years ago _____

3-1. Navalny fell _____

3-2. and is currently _____

4-1. Tests on blood samples _____

4-2. produced _____

5-1. The German government said it will inform its partners in the EU and NATO _____

5-2. and will discuss _____

6. Russia is already under Western sanctions _____

7. Another stand-off with European nations or the United States _____

8. The Russian rouble _____

9. Novichok is a deadly group of nerve agents _____

10-1. Britain says Russia used Novichok _____

10-2. and his daughter _____

11. Russia has repeatedly denied _____

12. One member _____

[Vocabulary]

□ **Alexei Navalny**: born 4 June 1976) is a Russian opposition politician and anti-corruption activist. He came to international prominence by organizing demonstrations, and running for office, to advocate reforms against corruption in Russia, Russian President Vladimir Putin, and Putin's government.

□ **Novichok**: Any of a group of deadly organophosphate nerve agents developed by the Soviet Union in the 1970s and 1980s to evade restrictions on chemical weapons.

□ **nerve agent**: a toxic gas that is inhaled or absorbed through the skin and has harmful effects on the nervous and respiratory system • *Like other nerve agents, sarin disrupts communication between nerves and a body's organs.*

• *The Army destroyed nerve agent at two facilities without any harm to humans or the environment.*

□ **agent**: a chemical or other substance that has a particular effect

• *oxidizing agents*

• *...fibrinogen, a blood clotting agent.*

□ **chemical family**: a group of chemicals that share similar chemical properties

□ **defector**: someone who leaves their country, political party, or other group, and joins an opposing country, party, or group.

• *He was asked another question about defectors.*

• *How much would they covet or resent a potential defector?*

□ **coma**: a state in which someone is unconscious for a long time because they have been seriously injured or are extremely sick; Someone who is in a coma is in a state of deep unconsciousness.

• *She was in a coma for a week.*

• *She had slipped into a coma by the time she reached hospital.*

□ **blood sample**: an amount of a person's blood taken from their body for use in medical tests

• *Her blood sample showed she did not have the virus.*

□ **equivocal**: an equivocal statement has more than one possible meaning and is made in order to avoid saying something clearly

• *an equivocal answer*

• *an equivocal response*

□ **unequivocal**: clear, definite, and without doubt; If you describe someone's attitude as unequivocal, you mean that it is completely clear and very firm.

- *unequivocal evidence*
- *their unequivocal commitment to public education*

□ **joint**: this adjective means shared by or belonging to two or more people: involving two or more people, or done by them together

- *Jackie and Ben came to a joint decision as to where they would live.*

□ **annexation**: the formal act of acquiring something (especially territory) by conquest or occupation

- *The French annexation of Madagascar as a colony in 1896.*
- *The annexation was accomplished without any public dissent.*

□ **stand-off**: a disagreement or fight in which neither opponent can do anything to win or achieve their goal; A standoff is a situation in which neither of two opposing groups or forces will make a move until the other one does something, so nothing can happen until one of them gives way.

- *There is no sign of an end to the standoff between Mohawk Indians and the Quebec provincial police.*
- *The two governments are currently in a standoff over who has rights to the land.*

□ **ruble**: = ruble; the unit of money used in Russia

- *The weaker rouble is making imported consumer goods more expensive.*

□ **Sergei Skripal**: (born 23 June 1951) is a former Russian military intelligence officer who acted as a double agent for the UK's intelligence services during the 1990s and early 2000s. In December 2004, he was arrested by Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) and later tried, convicted of high treason, and sentenced to 13 years in prison. He settled in the UK in 2010 following the Illegals Program spy swap. He holds both Russian and British citizenship.

On 4 March 2018, he and his daughter Yulia, who was visiting him from Moscow, were poisoned with a Russian-developed Novichok nerve agent. As of 15 March 2018, they were in a critical condition at Salisbury District Hospital. The poisoning was being investigated as an attempted murder by the British intelligence service.

On 29 March, Yulia was reported to be out of critical condition, 'conscious and talking'. A week later, on 6 April, Skripal was said to no longer be in a critical state. He was discharged on 18 May 2018.

□ **Salisbury**: a city in S England, in SE Wiltshire: nearby Old Sarum was the site of an Early Iron Age hill fort; its cathedral (1220–58) has the highest [spire](#) in England. Pop: 43 355 (2001)

[参照辞書: *Merriam-Webster, Oxford English Dictionary, America Heritage of the English language, Collins English Dictionary, Macmillan Dictionary, the Free Dictionary, Wikipedia*]