

# The NYT gives me the key to unlocking the JFK assassination

**Tim Beal**

For years, as long as I can remember, I've been agonizing over who was really behind the killing of President Kennedy. Perhaps that's why I'm here. Anyway an article in the [New York Times](#) about the Skripal poisoning has revealed the answer. Well the key to the answer. The scales have now fallen from my eyes and I know who did it.

I tried to explain it all to Mr Erdlanger who's my neighbour. Next room.

He just laughed. Typical. You know the type. Always trying to poke holes through articles in the media. Top flight media like NYT, WP, Guardian, CNN, Time magazine – I wouldn't deign to read anything from fake news places or RT. Russian propaganda, who wants to read that? Perhaps Mr Erdlanger does secretly. Wouldn't be surprised. Anarchist. Barrack room lawyer. Perhaps that's why he's here.

He laughed at the article about the Skripal poisoning. Claimed that the official British explanations were contradictory and confused. Said that there was no reason to suppose that Putin or the Kremlin had anything to do with it. Why would they after so long, and for someone who had been pardoned and swapped in a deal? Why do it on the eve of the World Cup? Why would they use a nerve agent when there were better and less obtrusive ways of killing people? (As if he would know!). If the nerve agent was so powerful why hadn't the victims died straight away, and why had the daughter recovered? Why was the British government preventing access to her by the Russian consul as required by international law? If this was really a nerve agent developed decades ago in the former Soviet Union then other governments, and perhaps non-state actors, would have been able to clone it. It was the Americans who cleaned the facility in Uzbekistan where it had been created. And so on and so on. You know the sort of rubbish these people spout. No respect for authority.

I was getting angry. I showed him the article in the NYT. Here, I said, look at this:

British officials investigating the poisoning of Sergei V. Skripal, a former Russian double agent, believe it is likely that an assassin smeared a nerve agent on the door handle at his home. This operation is seen as so risky and sensitive that it is unlikely to have been undertaken without approval from the Kremlin, according to officials who have been briefed on the early findings of the inquiry

And

Because the nerve agent is so potent, the officials said, the task could have been carried out only by trained professionals familiar with chemical weapons.

Erdlanger snorted. Yes, snorted. Said that smearing a nerve agent on a door knob where it could be triggered by any passing postman didn't sound too professional to him. A dead letter carrier outside

the front door couldn't be ignored and would give the game away, he sniggered. What would he know about professional assassins? Don't suppose Erdlanger would be able to swat a fly.

And look at this, I said:

British and American officials say they are struck by the symbolism of the attack on Mr. Skripal, as well as its effectiveness

Erdlanger had trouble containing himself. He is a seriously sick character. 'Effectiveness' he sniggered. "The father survives and the daughter recovers; and that's effective? Sounds like as much use as an F-35."

He's that sort of person. No respect for the marvels of American military technology.

I wasn't going to give in to his cynicism. And consider the location, I said, isn't that frightening?

And by conducting the operation in an historical British town, some distance from London, the attack was meant to indicate that no place was out of reach of Russian assassins, the officials said.

"Salisbury? About 90 miles from London. Not quite the same as Israeli Nazi-hunters hacking for days through the Brazilian jungle to hunt down their prey", Erdlanger cackled.

Then I brought out the key sentences. That would wipe the smile off his face:

Four weeks after the assassination attempt, British and American officials are turning to the question of whether President Vladimir V. Putin himself was aware of, or ordered, the attack. They say there is no evidence so far of his direct participation, but the Russian president, a former K.G.B. officer, is skilled at hiding his communications.

"No evidence, you see", I shouted at him, "because the KGB is good at hiding it!"

Erdlanger just stared at me, laughed, and walked away.

Shouldn't let people like that in here.

But as he disappeared from view it clicked. I had the solution to the JFK assassination. My search was over.

Now if the Russian KGB is skilled at hiding evidence you can bet your bottom dollar that our CIA is twice as good. Maybe three times.

And who was the only American president who was in the CIA? Who ran it in fact?

Yep, George H. Bush

When you come to think of it he ticks all the boxes for the JFK assassination.

He had no plausible reason to do so. But if you've read detective stories you'll know that it is the least plausible person that turns out to be the killer

There is no evidence pointing to him. But he had the resources of the CIA to sweep that under the carpet. No evidence means that he had something to hide.

Case closed. George H. Bush is the man.

Oh, here's that nice Nurse Thomas to take me off for medication. He's so simpatico. Always lets me take the NYT with me because he says their incisive, fearless, honest reporting is so good for my mind.

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This little satire was written 3 April 2018 and submitted to Consortium News, Salon and finally OffGuardian, none of whom published it.

Perhaps it's not funny