

Written Testimony from Christo Grozev

Mr Chairman, Dear Committee Members

I have investigated Russian clandestine intelligence operations for over 10 years, and have served as expert witness in many law-enforcement investigations of assassinations or acts of terrorism perpetrated by RIS in Europe.

My interest in investigating the AHI arose upon the first publicity around the Havana cluster of incidents in 2017. However, I then assumed that the incidents will be best investigated by the US law enforcement and intelligence agencies who would have access to a wealth of data that my team would not be privy to. And I assumed that was happening in good order, until in 2020 I was approached by an active member of US intelligence who encouraged me to independently investigate the “ever growing number of incidents”. It was then that I realized that there may be certain self-imposed limitations in the pursuit of the truth on this matter. A collaborative investigative team from The Insider and Spiegel led by me began to collect data on the subject. In early 2023 we joined forces with CBS 60 Minutes who had been conducting their own investigation into the incidents.

I would like to present a summary of our findings as of this moment - and our investigation is still ongoing.

- Based on extensive interviews with victims, victims families, and medical professionals directly involved with the early diagnostics and treatment of reported cases, we have established that there are at least 68 anomalous health incidents that cannot be explained away either with pre-existing conditions or with psychosomatic symptoms. We have geolocated and established the exact timeline and these incidents. This resulted in a time-space map that was later used to correlate to the known time-space travel map of clusters of potential suspects.
- We have established that the Russian government has a long-running R&D program to develop a class of weapons known in Russia as “wave weapons” - a cumulative term for acoustic and/or electromagnetic directed-energy emission devices that may be used as either lethal or non-lethal weapons. While the program has its origin in Soviet times - and certain military patents in this area was registered as early as the 1970s - the R&D work in this area was boosted in 2013 through the creation of a new entity by Vladimir Putin that was tasked to develop “weapons based on new physical properties including ray weapons and wave weapons”. This entity, called the Institute for Prospective Military Studies, has been running annual closed contests among military engineers and scientists for the delivery of prototypes - along with accompanying test data - of such weapons.
- We have obtained documentary evidence that in 2017, a military engineer serving in a commanding position in GRU’s clandestine sabotage and assassination unit 29155, was the recipient of the annual award from the Institute for Prospective Military Studies for the development of “*A non-lethal acoustic weapon suitable for use in urban combat*”. Notably, this same military engineer was subsequently promoted to a high-ranking political position as Putin’s representative in a region in Far-East Russia, a rare reward for a spy typically bestowed in the aftermath of major success in kinetic clandestine operations - for example the two Russian spies involved in the Polonium poisoning of Litvinenko were promptly offered a fast track to becoming members of Russian parliament.
- Unit 29155 is Russia’s most aggressive clandestine sabotage and assassination military unit that has been responsible for offensive terrorist operations outside Russia including the Novichok poisonings of Sergey and Yulia Skripal, a series of devastating explosions at NATO ammunition storage facilities in Europe spanning the period 2011-2018, and the poisoning with unknown

banned chemical weapons of Bulgarian arms manufacturers who provided weapons to Ukraine and the republic of Georgia.

- We have established that spies of this Unit, including its commander Andrey Averyanov, have had sustained communication with military scientists from Russian military institutes, including the 16th Research and Development Institute, with specific competence and background in researching the effect of electromagnetic and electro-acoustic waves on the human brain.
- We have also established that a medical research facility known as the Institute for Experimental Medicine in St. Petersburg, closely linked to the GRU and having documented links to Unit 29155, has shown specific interest in researching the effect of ultra and infrasound on the human brain; and a medical facility linked to this institute has conducted research in a very rare medical condition known as the Minor syndrome known to have occurred among a sub-cohort of victims of AHI.
- Crucially, we have established that members of this clandestine unit who have traveled extensively around the world under false identities, have been in the proximity of, or within feasible reach of confirmed AHI incidents in at least 4 cases, including in Frankfurt in 2014, in China in 2016 and 2017, and in Tbilisi in 2021; with further overlaps of other GRU officers linked to the unit at the time of incidents in Belgrade and Hanoi.

The totality of the evidence uncovered by our team has proven that Russia had the motive, means, and opportunity to have developed and used non-lethal acoustic or electromagnetic “wave” weapons against members of the US intelligence and law-enforcement community. Members of Unit 29155 were present in locations and at times directly preceding or coinciding with known Havana incidents in at least 4 cases, likely many more that we have yet to discover.

These findings present a plausible operational theory of the existence, origin and culprits behind the AHI. I expect that the US intelligence community will address our findings on their substance, including providing alternative explanations to the presence of members of Unit 29155 at these times and places if their continued belief is the AHI may not be attributed to Russian intelligence services.