#### Appendix L

# Social Media Timeline from Event (USA)

This is an analysis of the social media accounts and posts that were influential and trending in the United States of America throughout the weeks following the poisoning of Sergei and Yulia Skripal.

#### 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018

10:15 UTC The first social media post regarding the incident https://twitter.com/JournalJoe/status/970603618117324800



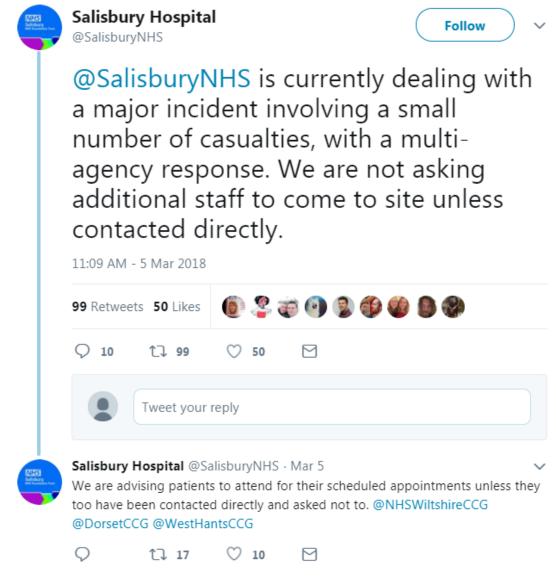


# BREAKING: @SalisburyNHS A&E department closed over 'major incident' #Salisbury bit.ly/2FpCYPR



10:15 AM - 5 Mar 2018





12:04 UTC – First post on US soil (bot account tweeting the text running along the bottom of BBC News broadcast) https://twitter.com/tvThirdEyeB/status/970631101453500416



Follow

BBCNEWS 4:02am SALISBURY HOSPITAL INCIDENT. Hospital dealing with 'major' incident SALISBURY HOSPITAL INCIDENT. . Hospital dealing...

12:04 PM - 5 Mar 2018





"Major incident" at Salisbury Hospital involves fewer than 10 casualties. A small part of the A&E dept has had to be decontaminated by firefighters.

12:09 PM - 5 Mar 2018 **5 → (9) (2) (2) (9) (4) (4)** 13 Retweets 10 Likes 0 5 ↑ 13 Tweet your reply Penelope Read @Jandouglan · Mar 5 Replying to @AllieHBNews Chemical spill? Radiation? 0 Q TI M Duncan Rimmer @duncr · Mar 5 Replying to @AllieHBNews @Sheanderthal Russian spy is one of two in hospital after medical emergency at Mal... TWO people are being treated in hospital tonight after they collapsed in the centre of Salisbury. salisburyjournal.co.uk 17 0 1 M



13:19 UTC - Official Police post (https://twitter.com/wiltshirepolice/status/970649978011111425)



We received a call at approx. 4.15pm yesterday (4 March 2018) regarding concern for the welfare of a man and a woman in The Maltings, Salisbury. They were taken to Salisbury District Hospital & are being treated for suspected exposure to an unknown substance. #Salisbury



#### 13:29 UTC – First major news outlet post

https://twitter.com/i/web/status/970652539225100288



A "major incident" has been declared by Wiltshire Police after two people were thought to have been exposed to an unknown substance in Salisbury.

Police received a call around 4.15pm yesterday after a man and woman became unwel...



13:45 UTC – Discussion of fentanyl incident (many mentions of this over the following hour)

https://twitter.com/suzanne1245/status/970656567862456320



'Fentanyl incident' at Salisbury hospital shuts down A&E department

# f7td5.app.goo.gl/uATSqnPydjuyB2...

# Sent via @updayUK





13:58 UTC - https://twitter.com/theelatestnews/status/970659773640331264





14:47 UTC – Highly influential post being retweeted by US accounts. This account and post was particularly integral in spreading the message significantly at this point in time. 61% of all global posts and retweets regarding the incident were of this breitbart link in the following hour and 57% of all tweets and retweets over the following 2 hours.

(https://twitter.com/BreitbartLondon/status/970672161160617986)



17:00-18:00 UTC – Slow spread outside of UK (total 30 posts and retweets – not all with geolocational data enabled)



 $18:00-19:00\ UTC-2387$  posts and retweets by 1966 accounts (not all with geolocational data enabled)



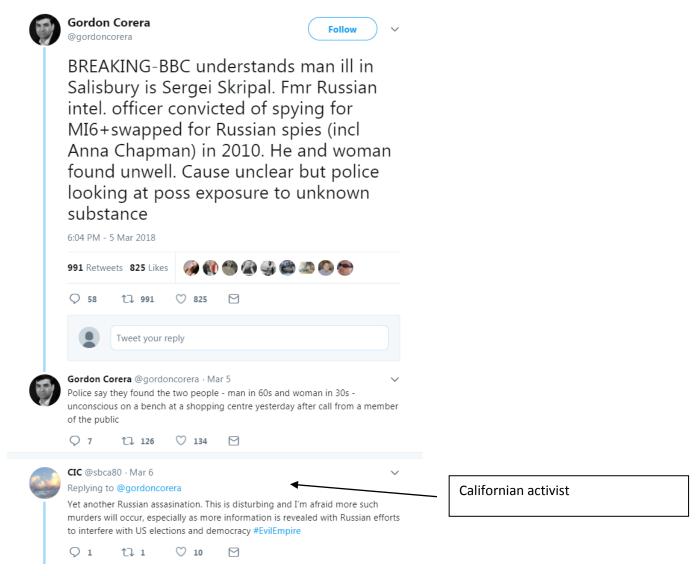
18:00 UTC – The account with the most influence in spreading the news to the US. Over 50% of all posts between 18:00 and 19:00 UTC were retweets or posts about his series of posts.

(https://twitter.com/BBCDomC/status/970720831591546881)



18:04 UTC – Another highly influential account in spreading the message to the US. Heavy retweeting begins an hour after this post.

(https://twitter.com/gordoncorera/status/970721782591258624)



18:18-18:20 UTC - US Twitter begins creating original posts about the incident.

(https://twitter.com/pacelattin/status/970725749060550656)



#### 18:21 UTC – White House correspondent posts

(https://twitter.com/AndrewBeatty/status/970725928220483584)



A Russian military intelligence colonel who spied for Britain is critically ill after being





18:21 UTC – Canadian post aids the spread of the news throughout the US (https://twitter.com/CBCAlerts/status/970726014258163712)



18:39 UTC – Double agent info starts to appear in the US (https://twitter.com/kelly2277/status/970730640537718784)



18:54 UTC – US based, hugely influential post on the incident (wife of former congressman).

https://twitter.com/DrDenaGrayson/status/970734306565001219



Skripal reportedly worked with Christopher STEELE !!

# h/t @pacelattin



19:00 UTC – Another influential post drives significant traffic in the US.

https://twitter.com/th3j35t3r/status/970735700139266048



19:15 UTC – US narrative begins (Prof. Abramson of the University of New Hampshire) https://twitter.com/SethAbramson/status/970739545691041792



This is the man Putin is: he trades your spy for his spy in what seems to be an above-board exchange, then has your spy poisoned—to death, he hopes—as a way of making what he gave you absolutely without value.

It's this monster Trump trusts above U.S. law enforcement officials.



Other influential accounts in the immediate aftermath of the news outbreak in the US 19:21 UTC



https://twitter.com/KremlinTrolls/status/970741118500564993

#### 22:14 UTC

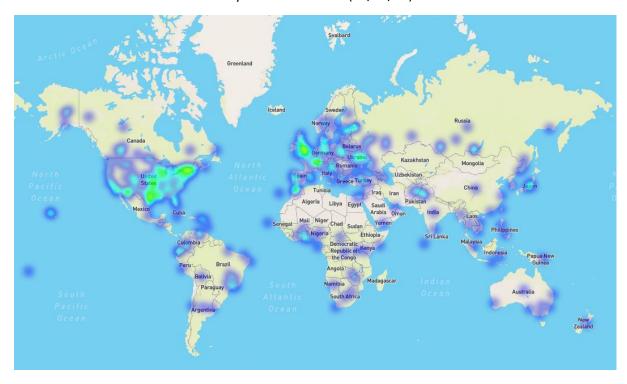


MEANWHILE AS SAM NUNBERG unwittingly said DT committed treason, in the UK ex-spy Sergei Skripal was found on park bench in critical condition POISONED Remember the enemy of democracy whom DT loves & refuses to sanction? Where's the GOP for impeachment, where the hell are they?



https://twitter.com/stopthenutjob/status/970784715975397376

# Global view of news of the incident by 21:00-23:59 UTC (05/03/18)



# 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018

The main story travelling through the US in the first half of the day is that the woman found with Skripal is his daughter. The most influential channel is BBC Breaking and the following post is retweeted heavily throughout the US.

(https://twitter.com/BBCBreaking/status/970969580918267904)



Florida, US based posts that gained significant momentum.

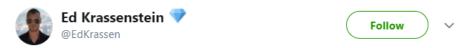


The Poisoning of Sergei Skripal and his daughter, if at the hands of Russia, is clearly a warning to other spies and intel officials cooperating with US authorities in the Trump/Russia investigation.

Russia's goal of chaos is backed up by fear and death and Trump's complicit!



https://twitter.com/krassenstein/status/971027117919043584



Sergei Skripal, a Russian double-agent was found unconscious and ill in the UK, along with his daughter.

Skripal has done work with Christopher Steele and it is expected that Putin may have had him poisoned.



https://twitter.com/EdKrassen/status/971053694266609664

Foreign posts with significant influence in the US.



Very disturbing additional facts about Sergei Skripal. In addition to he and his daughter in critical condition, his wife, son and brother have all recently died in different ways.



https://twitter.com/Billbrowder/status/971131065594269697



While Russia has motivations to assassinate Sergei Skripal the intoxication of his daughter poses questions as Russians have traditionalist views of children and women.

- 1) A hash new policy of killing the family members of "traitors"?
- 2) Collateral damage?
- 3) Not Russia?



https://twitter.com/JulianAssange/status/971147916843794432

#### 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018

In the morning, Bill Browder was by far the most influential account with his posts accounting for around 25% of retweets in the US between 00:00 and 12:00 UTC. His aforementioned and below posts were the most retweeted.



https://twitter.com/Billbrowder/status/971305802018541570



https://twitter.com/Billbrowder/status/971325082118303744



Bill Browder 🤣

https://twitter.com/Billbrowder/status/971304793623945217

The most trending US based post over the morning of the 7<sup>th</sup> was by New York based CNN reporter Michael Weiss.



https://twitter.com/michaeldweiss/status/971075357779492864

Brian Krassenstein became the top trending poster in the US by the afternoon.



BREAKING: The attack on the ex Russian spy, Sergei Skripal and his daughter is now being treated by Scotland Yard as attempted murder by administering a nerve agent.

Looks like Russia is behind this, and it appears that they may be sending a signal to others...



https://twitter.com/krassenstein/status/971441119807631365

Twitter chatter on the incident in the US surged by the end of the day with over 2500 posts and retweets an hour in the US.

The US narrative also shifted focus to Putin's Trump connections by the evening.



Foreign posts with significant influence in the US.



https://twitter.com/HeidilBlake/status/970973498658230273



https://twitter.com/MarkGaleotti/status/970734815388594182

# 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Krassenstein continued to dominate retweets throughout the morning (Bill Browder's posts were also still heavily trending). Washington, DC journalist Natasha Bertrand post from the day before also began gaining momentum in the US in the early morning.



#### https://twitter.com/NatashaBertrand/status/971446418253770754

The Christopher Steele discussion continued in the US with another post from a Californian journalist on the 7<sup>th</sup> finding momentum on the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup>.



https://twitter.com/ScottMStedman/status/971524091378192384

#### Other trending posts

#### **US** based actress



#### https://twitter.com/PattyArquette/status/971444652439203851

#### New York based former soldier



https://twitter.com/selectedwisdom/status/971516644915806208



https://twitter.com/AP/status/971438919999983616

#### Washington DC based CNN Chief National Security Correspondent



# https://twitter.com/jimsciutto/status/971439149038235648

#### New York based anti-trump investigator



https://twitter.com/olgaNYC1211/status/971455734704758784

#### Houston, Texas



https://twitter.com/leahmcelrath/status/971528268661870592

#### Dr. Dena Grayson continues to trend



https://twitter.com/DrDenaGrayson/status/971448822676316162



https://twitter.com/DrDenaGrayson/status/971444509346328582

Trump and Russia link narrative continues being retweeted.



https://twitter.com/TheLoyalO/status/971456071352102912

By the late afternoon and evening of the 8<sup>th</sup>, Krassenstein's Putin Trump connections post is still the most prominent on social media. Bill Browder's tweets are also highly influential. Olga Lautman NYC begins gaining significant momentum in the US with the following post.



https://twitter.com/olgaNYC1211/status/971868553568772096

New York based Chairman of The Democratic Coalition, Jon Cooper, attacks Trump for his lack of response to the incident. It becomes one of the most retweeted posts on the evening of the 8<sup>th</sup>.



https://twitter.com/joncoopertweets/status/971850335252897793

Julian Assange and Kremlin Trolls again have trending posts of the evening of the 8<sup>th</sup> in the US.



https://twitter.com/JulianAssange/status/971778058570084352



https://twitter.com/KremlinTrolls/status/971858557040721920

# 9<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Krassenstein, Browder and Olga NYC continue to dominate US retweets of their previous posts throughout the morning of the 9<sup>th</sup>. Olga Lautman's "the world is completely silent" post is now the most retweeted claiming 15% of all retweets in the US between 00:00 and 12:00 UTC. Jon Cooper's attack on Trump's lack of response also continues to be prominent. Here are the other significant posts that began to trend on the morning of the 9<sup>th</sup>.

MSNBC producer Kyle Griffin further connects the incident with Trump.



https://twitter.com/kylegriffin1/status/971838069283303424

Jim Sciutto trends again pointing the finger at Russia.



https://twitter.com/jimsciutto/status/971802430743523330

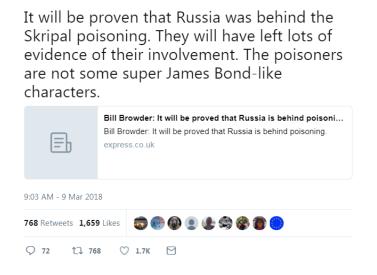
UK based Political Editor of The Sun begins to trend in the US.



https://twitter.com/tnewtondunn/status/971478057142845440

Bill Browder @Billbrowder

Bill Browder points the finger at Russia and is retweeted throughout the US.



https://twitter.com/Billbrowder/status/972035058113662977

US based investigative reporter Julia Davis sheds light on potential cover-up theories being supposedly dispersed by Russian state controlled media. Trends in the US.



https://twitter.com/JuliaDavisNews/status/971923644300648454

US based twitter account tweets about potential connection between US government official communication and the attack. Gains momentum quickly throughout the US.



https://twitter.com/sarahkendzior/status/971907552295440386

By the afternoon of the 9<sup>th</sup>, Olga Lautman is trending heavily in the US with her tweet while Krassenstein's tweet loses significant momentum. Bill Browder is still being heavily retweeted and posts a new tweet that begins to trend in the US.



#### https://twitter.com/Billbrowder/status/972172567502114816

US based reporter, Eli Lake, discusses potential US response to the incident. Trends heavily in the US.



https://twitter.com/EliLake/status/972110517266534401

Ukrainian based correspondent gains traction in the US with this post.



https://twitter.com/ChristopherJM/status/971999045198561291

Julian Assange begins to trend in the US again with a new post.



https://twitter.com/JulianAssange/status/972102207796666368

#### 10<sup>th</sup> March 2018

By the morning of the 10<sup>th</sup>, social media activity about the incident was less than half of its peak (activity had remained relatively steady between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>) in the US . Olga Lautman and Bill Browder continued as the top trending tweets throughout the morning while former Estonian President Toomas Hendrik Ilves gained traction in the US with his post detailing that the poison must have been developed in a military laboratory.



https://twitter.com/IlvesToomas/status/972175991253622784

Kremlin Trolls' post about Theresa May's threat to Putin gains significant momentum in the US.



Posts supporting Theresa May and Britain's offensive stance versus the ambivalence of Trump begin trending in the US throughout the morning of the 10<sup>th</sup>. Below is from an Oregon based student.



#### https://twitter.com/NWPinPDX/status/972335923336658944

By the afternoon, Bill Browder, Olga Lautman, Toomas Ilves, Eli Lake and Kremlin Trolls' posts are all continuing to trend in the US. Similar rhetoric continues, reprimanding America's indecisive stance. The below tweet begins to gain traction during the late afternoon as do similar posts.



https://twitter.com/SchoofsFeed/status/971840589175115776

The amount of US social media activity regarding the incident continues to slowly decline into the morning. Olga Lautman's post is no longer trending and Bill Browder and Toomas Ilves are the most trending tweets of the morning of the 11<sup>th</sup> in the US with Kremlin Trolls also remaining influential.

BBC Breaking News post trends throughout the morning in the US.



https://twitter.com/BBCBreaking/status/972785554210377728

By the evening of the 10<sup>th</sup>, the US social media activity is back to peak levels. This was galvanised by more trending Bill Browder posts. The below post discusses Russia's accusation of Britain.



https://twitter.com/Billbrowder/status/972876279123992577

And this more factually based post.



https://twitter.com/Billbrowder/status/972824056415379457

No post or account trended as much as Bill Browder's 30% of all posts and retweets in the US between 12:00 and 23:59 UTC.

Assange's post about the comments of the Russian embassy was one of the top trending posts outside of Browder's.



https://twitter.com/JulianAssange/status/972922157272633344

Bill Browder continues dominating the US social media landscape in regards to the incident. Kremlin Trolls begins trending in the US in the morning of the 12<sup>th</sup> with a new post.



https://twitter.com/KremlinTrolls/status/973144825108279297

The daily beast releases news that UK will sanction Russia, the tweet trends in the US.



https://twitter.com/thedailybeast/status/973144116006739968

A New Olga Lautman post begins to trend in the US although not as heavily as before.



https://twitter.com/olgaNYC1211/status/973022150947934208

Washington D.C. based CNN Commentator tweet calling for action begins to trend in the US.



https://twitter.com/NormEisen/status/972978423634321409

Pro-UK response rhetoric continues to trend in the US.



https://twitter.com/PuestoLoco/status/973163790312361984

Further trending anti-Russian rhetoric



https://twitter.com/counterchekist/status/972958384981987330

Some anti-UK and US government posts begin to trend in the morning of the 12<sup>th</sup> in the US, although not nearly as much so as the preceding trending posts.

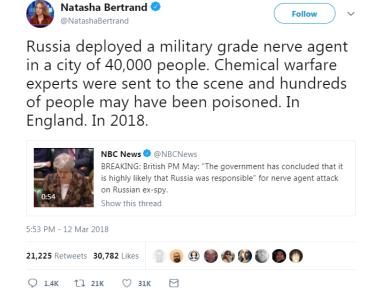


https://twitter.com/DefendingDemo/status/972820945734963200



https://twitter.com/SGTreport/status/973060980543541251

In the late afternoon of the 12<sup>th</sup>, the quantity of posts in the US regarding the incident increased significantly with (by 22:00 UTC) about 3 times as many posts and retweets as the previous peak of activity since the event. Also, what would become one of the largest trending articles regarding the incident so far was posted by Natasha Bertrand. It gained dominance over the social media landscape and was hugely successful at propagating the message throughout the US. Over 12% of all posts and retweets in the US even during this active time were of the following post.



https://twitter.com/NatashaBertrand/status/973255615823974400

Immediately following the post, a single Twitter account began replying to nearly every comment on the tweet, rebuking the claim that Russia was to blame. The account seemed to disagree with comments without significant reason or discussion. The account has almost 100 000 tweets since its creation in July 2009 and has many hallmarks of a Russian "troll account".



https://twitter.com/Nadalena

The 12<sup>th</sup> of March saw the beginning of the US's full engagement with the news regarding the incident. Celebrities began to post about it such as actor, filmmaker Rob Reiner whose post became the second most trending tweet in the US in the latter portion of the day.



https://twitter.com/robreiner/status/973342984887398401

US news agencies ABC and NBC's posts about Theresa May's "ultimatum" begin trending in the US.



https://twitter.com/ABC/status/973250755695034368



https://twitter.com/NBCNews/status/973246358298791938

Brian Krassenstein posts and begins trending significantly in the US again. He continues the opinion that Trump's silence is uncharacteristic and points to the wish to appease Putin.



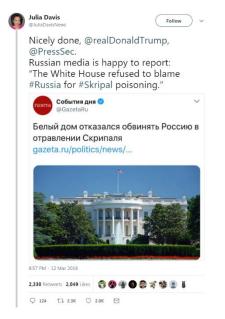
#### https://twitter.com/krassenstein/status/973292042251063296

Similar US trending post from a Washington Post reporter.



https://twitter.com/AaronBlake/status/973276252235853830

Julia Davis also tweets a trending post regarding the US' stance



https://twitter.com/JuliaDavisNews/status/973301881849155590

Social media activity continues to rise in the US and Natasha Bertrand's post remains the most influential. NBC and ABC news outlet posts remain trending but with far less influence. US based editor at The Atlantic posts about the US not backing the UK. Social media in the US focuses on this and whether it is Putin's plan to damage the relationship between the UK and US.



https://twitter.com/davidfrum/status/973247104041803776

Wikileaks tweets about the UK's historical worries about Russia's Novichok capabilities begin gaining some momentum in the US. Natasha Bertrand and Rob Reiner's posts retain dominance throughout the afternoon and evening of the 13<sup>th</sup>. Brian Krassenstein reveals Tillerson's aide's firing in his trending tweet.



https://twitter.com/krassenstein/status/973601206936440832

John McCain pleads for the US to back the UK in his trending tweet later on the 13<sup>th</sup>. By this point, the comments surrounding these tweets are highly polarised with just less than half pushing the concept that the UK has blamed Russia with not enough evidence and this is some underlying US and UK conspiracy to demonise Russia.



https://twitter.com/SenJohnMcCain/status/973643960043282437

Social media chatter about the incident remains high in the US. Posts regarding Tillerson firing begin trending in the US.



https://twitter.com/Bourdain/status/973541625661132805

Julia Davis discusses this directly attacking Trump in her trending post.



https://twitter.com/JuliaDavisNews/status/973745388795592704

Natasha Bertrand remains the most trending with her previous post and adds to her influence with:



https://twitter.com/NatashaBertrand/status/973541434543534081

Discussion about Tillerson remains dominant throughout US social media all day. Posts regarding this subject matter become more frequent, trend significantly and even diminish the activity on Natasha Bertrand's first trending post.



https://twitter.com/JohnCassidy/status/973543672104046592

The disenfranchising effect of Trump begins leading to significant US social media support for the UK



https://twitter.com/DrDenaGrayson/status/973676012113481728

In the latter stages of the day, UN Ambassador Nikki Haley becomes a trending news story.



https://twitter.com/EdKrassen/status/974009782179958784

The quantity of activity remains similar and the major trending posts retain their influence. Social media has a significantly larger number of posts that are trending but with slightly less influence on each individual post. This is due to the story becoming diffused throughout the news channels and twitter accounts. The overall influence of all of the posts cumulatively is still increasing in the US at this point in time. This official post of the Foreign Office trends significantly in the US.



https://twitter.com/foreignoffice/status/973860071963856896

News of the UK's explusion of 23 Russian diplomats becomes a trending story in the US by the morning of the 15<sup>th</sup> with no particular post having dominance over social media activity. BBC Breaking News, Brian Krassenstein and Natasha Bertrand all tweeted US trending posts.



https://twitter.com/NatashaBertrand/status/973903022354042880

Other trending stories on the 15<sup>th</sup> in the US include a variety of posts regarding the source and history of the nerve agent Novichok such as this New York City based trending post.



https://twitter.com/MaddowBlog/status/974090658335088653

The anti-Trump rhetoric continues following his uncharacteristic silence on social media. This post by Adam Schiff gains significant momentum in the US throughout the afternoon/evening of the 15<sup>th</sup>.



https://twitter.com/RepAdamSchiff/status/974256584447680512

Pro-UK messages remain strong in the US throughout the day of the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Social media activity continues to slowly increase in the morning in the US. More anti-Trump stories propagate regarding the dismissal of staff and their alleged connection to or beliefs about the poisoning. The following post gains huge momentum on the morning of the 16<sup>th</sup>.



https://twitter.com/RVAwonk/status/974459391310204928

News stories about France's measures against Russia begin trending in the US.



https://twitter.com/EdKrassen/status/974266328868704256

News of US and other countries' stance on the incident breaks and heavily trends throughout the US



https://twitter.com/AP/status/974269451255341056

Multiple stories are emerging and propagating throughout the US, albeit with less influence than the previous, major trending posts. These stories cover questions of the validity of the UK's accusation of Russia. Examples include "Does 'of a type developed by Russia' mean that Porton Down have identified the nerve agent as made in Russia?" and "Please explain why firemen in Salisbury with no chemical weapons protection are standing at the site of an alleged chemical weapons attack." However, the most trending post in the afternoon of the 16<sup>th</sup> was from Dr. Dena Grayson.



https://twitter.com/DrDenaGrayson/status/974680694084587521

Social media activity in the US climbs to its highest yet after a small dip at the end of the 16<sup>th</sup>. With stories more diffuse and fewer posts dominating US social media, more stories are creeping into the US. Discussion of Jeremy Corbyn's words on the Salisbury Attack trickle into view and the BBC's newsnight background begins to trend in the US too.



https://twitter.com/ToryFibs/status/974748439476166656

The first significantly trending directly pro-Russian narrative begins to enter the US social media landscape with the following Russian tweet.



https://twitter.com/soulstray/status/974917257792032768

Commentary on Trump's lack of action continues trending in the US.



https://twitter.com/SaysHummingbird/status/975061575714435075

US social media activity slightly declines compared to the 17<sup>th</sup>. @SaysHummingbird 's and Adam Schiff's tweets are trending over the course of the 18<sup>th</sup>. The New York Times' tweet is the most trending tweet of the day.



https://twitter.com/nytimes/status/975393943646015488

Julian Assange's tweet suggesting that Novichok is not as unique as the UK government claim becomes the first major anti-UK narrative to significantly trend in the US.



https://twitter.com/JulianAssange/status/975178169060913152

Bill Browder returns to prominence after being accused of involvement by a conspiracy theory



https://twitter.com/Billbrowder/status/975517982133751808

The Russian embassy in the UK tweets a mocking post which is retweeted into a trending story in the US by the following two accounts.



https://twitter.com/kylegriffin1/status/975498550367997952



https://twitter.com/BethRigby/status/975316213898334209

The final significantly US trending story of the day is regarding the poison and its administration to the victims.



https://twitter.com/juliamacfarlane/status/975356316083539969

The US social media activity continues to marginally decline. Bill Browder's 18<sup>th</sup> March post becomes the top trending tweet of the day. The social media landscapes appears to significantly shift throughout the day with a variety of anti-UK posts experiencing significant US traffic.

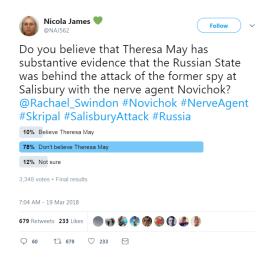


https://twitter.com/RTUKnews/status/975751247226535936



https://twitter.com/Rachael\_Swindon/status/975701612852338688

The first instance of an anti-UK government poll begins trending in the US. The comments on all of these tweets are highly polarised and predominantly anti-UK and defensive of Russia.



Increase in US social media activity, up to approximately 1/6 of that at the peak of activity. Social media landscape was dominated on the 20<sup>th</sup> by the news of Trump's phone call to Putin. The public is generally outraged by the news of Trump "congratulating" Putin on his election success. The following were the most trending posts of the day in the US.



https://twitter.com/jdawsey1/status/976238126879395840



https://twitter.com/RepAdamSchiff/status/976245869468110848



https://twitter.com/votevets/status/976158528892121088

## 21st March 2018

Overall US social media activity regarding the incident continues climbing. The anti-Trump rhetoric regarding his "congratulating" Putin continues. Adam Schiff posts a hugely influential post about it. This post and overall message completely dominates US social media throughout the 21<sup>st</sup>. No significantly trending stories exist outside of this.



https://twitter.com/RepAdamSchiff/status/976574220854530048

#### 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018

Adam Schiff's post continues to dominate the US social media landscape with it commanding over 30% of all tweets and retweets in the US over the entire day. The only other trending posts with any significance were regarding the same subject. This is the top trending post outside of Adam Schiff's in the US on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.



https://twitter.com/JohnFugelsang/status/976818411538997249

#### 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018

By the 23<sup>rd</sup>, US social media activity relevant to the incident drops remarkably to just over half that of the day before. Adam Schiff's post and related stories continue to dominate US social media. New posts are not trending significantly except for one from California activist Ryan Knight.



Craig Murray

@CraigMurrayOrg

https://twitter.com/ProudResister/status/976984216243089408

Porton Down scientist's High Court evidence

Craig Murray's post regarding the validity of Porton Down's classifications is trending in the US but is largely obscured by the anti-Trump congratulation narrative.

Follow



https://twitter.com/CraigMurrayOrg/status/977120854457901056

US social media activity reaches its lowest point, dropping around a further 15% from the day before. The predominant activity remains with posts regarding Trump congratulating Putin with Ryan Knight's post trending the most throughout the day.

Significantly trending posts outside of this narrative are about the Russian disinformation operation such as the following UK based post which trended in the US.



https://twitter.com/haynesdeborah/status/977418658686423040

Also, an early leak from White House reporter Jennifer Jacobs of the potential that Trump is to expel Russian diplomats began trending later in the day.



https://twitter.com/JenniferJJacobs/status/977556071437959173

Social media activity directly related to the attack continues to diminish in the US. Trump's congratulations of Putin and the Russian disinformation operation remain the top trending topics with the previously mentioned posts as the most influential. Russian disinformation takes over as the most discussed and reposted topic in the US.



https://twitter.com/BBCSteveR/status/977917166153584640

Dr Dena Grayson posts an anti-UK tweet which trends minimally but does reach a not insignificant audience.



https://twitter.com/DrDenaGrayson/status/977561430302969861

US social media activity regarding the incident nearly triples (compared to the 2 days prior) as news of Trump expelling Russian diplomats breaks. Trending stories revolve almost entirely on this in the US. The most trending post is by Ed Krassenstein who still implies collusion between Trump and Putin.



https://twitter.com/EdKrassen/status/978256959701909504

Bill Browder trends in the US again claiming that more needs to be done than just diplomatic expulsions.



https://twitter.com/Billbrowder/status/978340906242838528

US social media activity roughly halves compared to the 26<sup>th</sup>. Russian diplomat expulsion remains the most trending topic and Ed Krassenstein's tweet remains the most trending post.

Bill Browder trends in the US with a post listing the countries that have not expelled Russian diplomats.



https://twitter.com/Billbrowder/status/978750236494585857

A post from Cornell University Professor Dave Collum claiming to rebuke the UK government's claims about Novichok gains significant momentum in the US throughout the day. Comments suggest that the public largely believes the claim by Collum due to his background as an organic chemistry professor.



https://twitter.com/DavidBCollum/status/978435092103254016

US social media activity regarding the incident falls further (close to the lowest seen levels in March). Bill Browder's post regarding countries that have not expelled diplomats is the most trending post in the US. Dave Collum's post continues to trend but reduces in influence compared to the 27<sup>th</sup>. Further anti-UK government rhetoric continues to develop and trend in the US with posts such as this.



https://twitter.com/NeilClark66/status/978900148926472193

The other significantly trending post in the US is that of Kyle Griffin breaking news about the nerve agent.



https://twitter.com/kylegriffin1/status/979084651552821248

US social media activity doubles (compared to the levels during the 28<sup>th</sup>). Social media landscape remains the same with the posts detailed over the last few days trending the most heavily alongside posts with similar narrative. The top trending new posts in the US are as follows.



#### https://twitter.com/carolecadwalla/status/979315506619600896

The breaking news of Russia expelling US diplomats in return trended heavily in the US with this post dominating influence.



https://twitter.com/BBCBreaking/status/979406557682249728

The social media activity in the US regarding the incident began to lessen during the 30<sup>th</sup>. The top trending post was an anti-US government tweet.



https://twitter.com/Dixydix/status/979149638774280192

Another significantly trending post in the US came from Kyle Griffin.



https://twitter.com/kylegriffin1/status/979508542410559489

The news of Yulia Skripal's recovery also trended heavily throughout the US.



https://twitter.com/RussianEmbassy/status/979674629169209345

US social media activity remained roughly the same as the previous day. Similar narratives remain active in the US social media landscape with one new story significantly trending in the US.



https://twitter.com/krassenstein/status/980052337996701696



https://twitter.com/EdKrassen/status/980158034575024129

#### Accounts of particular interest (from highest to lowest)

Dilyana Gaytandzhiev: Highly influential Pro-Russian account. Posts unique information that always enforces the Russian narrative of the moment. She is a journalist and chemical weapon's commentator who has had an influential hand in all recent Russian-involved global incidents. Most intriguingly, she posted the day of the Salisbury attack about a Pentagon report from 2016 about Nerve agents going missing from US military inventory. This post trended unusually well and obscured much social media chatter about the incident through the first couple of days due to the post sharing many key words with posts about Sergei's poisoning.

https://twitter.com/@dgaytandzhieva

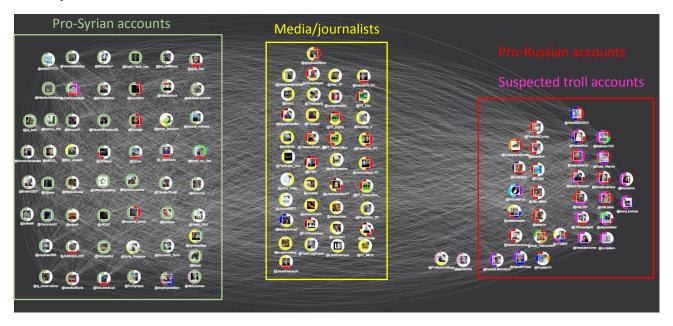
https://twitter.com/dgaytandzhieva/status/970342583904948224

Charles Shoebridge: British man and former Scotland Yard detective who posts incredibly pro-Russian narrative on Twitter. He has been interviewed by RT about the Sergei Skripal incident and accused the UK government of being involved in the attack. <a href="https://twitter.com/ShoebridgeC">https://twitter.com/ShoebridgeC</a> https://twitter.com/ShoebridgeC/status/973693704723722240

Alex: Recently created account with a high post volume. Almost all posts are directly pro-Russian. Account name and profile picture, post profile etc. matches average Russian bot behaviour. Was quite influential in the US social media landscape regarding the Skripal incident. https://twitter.com/@Alex886023031

Melia Windsor: Varied social media behaviour ranging from pro-Brexit to anti-UK government. Has a surprisingly high post number (~100,000 tweets in 9 years) and posted and commented aggressively and baselessly about the Sergei Skripal incident. She disagrees with the UK accusing Russia of the attack. https://twitter.com/@Nadalena

# Network of pro-Russian accounts based in and/or significantly influencing the US social media landscape



Miscellaneous (this is not to be included in the report)

Incredibly useful for ALEX MILLER

https://twitter.com/benimmo/status/977489641900163072

it details a bunch of research around Russian propaganda and trolls and highlights some that you already found.

#### 15:36 UTC



### 18:00 UTC – UK based posts





List of suspicious deaths linked to Russia since 2014:

http://xsovietunion.blogspot.co.uk/2018/03/list-of-suspicious-russia-related.html

Nikolai Glushkov, 68 (March 12, 2018) – Business partner of Boris Berezovsky, found dead in his home in south London just over a week after the poisoning of Sergei Skripal and his daughter Yulia with a nerve agent in Salisbury. Police said he died from compression to the neck and launched a murder inquiry.

# Potentially central (mutual connection) accounts for "US based" Russian bots @RusEmbUSA **Potential Russian bots** @Malinka1102 ("UK based") @eurocasegroup (sputniknews) @new16media (sputniknews) @mayasdolly? (sputniknews and rt mainly French) @bruno\_paul (sputnik French) @TheWatchmanNews? (predominantly rt and sputniknews) @RussiaNow (sputniknews) The most influential account for narrative manipulation @lan56789 @soulstray US Accounts that have tweeted Russian news source links @Adil\_Amana @5150power (frequently tweet) **US Accounts tweeting pro-Russian narrative** @Alex886023031 @bursuk

@dgaytandzhieva (←POSTING ABOUT NERVE AGENTS BEFORE THE ATTACK)

@korol\_koshek

@Nadalena

# US Accounts tweeting about the incident with significant influence

@DrDenaGrayson
@pacelattin
@andrewbeatty
@Sethabramson
@KremlinTrolls
@stopthenutjob
@krassenstein
@Michaeldweiss
@natashabertrand
@selectedwisdom
@scottmstedman
@jimsciutto
@olgaNYC1211
@leahmcelrath
@joncoopertweets
@juliadavisnews
@kylegriffin1
@puestoloco
@sarahkendzior
@EliLake
@imthemadridista
@NWPinPDX
@20committee
@1PKBelle
@mitchellreports
@AaronBlake
@ABC
@NBCNews
@davidfrum

@JoyAnnReid	
@RonWyden	
@JohnCassidy	
@Nikkihaley	
@maddowblog	
@RepAdamSchiff	
@RVAwonk	

- @ sayshumming bird
- @jdawsey1
- @ProudResister
- @JohnFugeIsang
- @JenniferJJacobs
- @AshaRangappa\_

# US Accounts retweeting about incident

@McKinleyFR

# Anti-US and political activists

@EngineerEarth