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The Washington Post, which has a full-time reporter assigned to disparagingly cover "conspiracy theories" -- the newspaper calls them "ideological movements" -- is advancing its own kooky conspiracy theory. The theory that Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton was poisoned in a plot orchestrated by Russian President Vladimir Putin, in cahoots with GOP presidential nominee Donald Trump, dangerously worsens already-frayed ties between Washington and Moscow. The *Post* is citing previous unfounded charges that Putin ordered the assassination, by radiation poisoning, of exiled former Russian spy Alexander Litvinenko. After the *Post* article was published, other pro-Clinton websites added the poisoning of former Ukrainian president Viktor Yushchenko to the laundry list of President Putin's fanciful alleged transgressions. In a September 29, 2009, interview by this editor with RT, it was suggested that the alleged poisoning of Yushchenko may have been staged by Kiev as a way to cast blame on Putin. The video interview has since been removed from YouTube.

The aim of the neoconservatives who surround Clinton's campaign, as well as the Central Intelligence Agency-linked *Post*, is clear. Putin is being set up as the next Saddam Hussein -- a leader who actually has weapons of mass destruction and a hell of a lot of them -- while Trump is being portrayed as a modern-day Alger Hiss who owes ultimate loyalty to the Kremlin. It should be pointed out that Jeff Bezos, the owner of the *Post*, has a \$600 million contract with the CIA to provide cloud computing services for the CIA. The deal makes *The Washington Post*, via interlocking internal corporate links, a de facto CIA contractor.

The *Post* and the Clinton campaign are engaging in pure McCarthyism, which is ironic since Trump's mentor was Roy Cohn, the late counsel for the Red-baiting junior senator from Wisconsin, Joseph McCarthy.

The *Post's* ridiculous article comes on the heels of it and several Democratic Party and Obama administration officials accusing Russian intelligence of being behind the computer hacking of Democratic National Committee, Democratic Senate Campaign Committee, and Hillary Clinton campaign computer systems. Russia has denied any such involvement.

The sum result of these accusations against Russia are meant to set the stage for a military confrontation with Russia in the event of a Clinton presidency. Any U.S.-Russian military conflict would almost certainly result in a global thermonuclear war, an extinction level event.

The *Post's* evidence of a Putin-Trump poisoning plot is solely based on a Twitter message sent by Bennet Omalu, the Pittsburgh pathologist who discovered a number of cases of chronic traumatic encephalopathy brain injuries among National Football League players. After writing that he believes Mrs. Clinton may have been poisoned, Omalu suggested that Putin and Trump may have been behind it.

Omalu's Tweet stated: "I must advice [sic] the Clinton campaign to perform toxicologic analysis of Ms. Clinton's blood. It is possible she is being poisoned." It was followed up by "I do not trust Mr. Putin and Mr. Trump. With those two all things are possible."

Omalu suggests that Clinton, who has been treated for pneumonia since late last week, never received a blood test. It is an odd claim from a doctor whose exploits with taking on the NFL saw him played by Will Smith in the movie "Concussion." It is most certain that Clinton, who had suffered a spate of coughing spells on the campaign stump, received a blood test before her diagnosis of pneumonia. For a one-time aide to Allegheny County coroner Dr. Cyril Wecht, who is well-known for questioning the Warren Report's conclusions on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, to suggest that there was no blood test for Mrs. Clinton during tests

for pneumonia is ludicrous.

Omalu is not the only Nigerian doctor to provide advice to Mrs. Clinton. Her own personal neurologist who is never far from Mrs. Clinton's side during campaign events, is another Nigerian-American, Dr. Oladun Okunola, who specializes in epilepsy and sleep disorders. Okunola has been seen carrying two Diazepam auto-injector syringe pens when accompanying Mrs. Clinton. Diazepam is often used for patients experiencing epileptic seizures but it can also be used for those suffering from the effects of Parkinson's disease.

What the *Post* did not report is that among many Africans, rumor-mongering is a fervent pastime and for individuals like Omalu, Twitter is merely a modern rumor conveyance. In Africa, rumors were once passed via the "jungle telegram," word of mouth utterances passed on in village market places that spread like wild fire across large tracts of bush land. The "jungle telegram" was eventually replaced by newspapers, small radio station, and mobile phones.

The *Post's* September 12 article by Cindy Boren, whose experience is mostly in sports journalism, feebly attempted to suggest a link between a fanciful conspiracy theory about a Russian poisoning of Mrs. Clinton and the 2006 poisoning by plutonium-210 of Litvinenko in Britain. WMR then reported that a *"cavalcade of anti-Vladimir Putin Russian exiles in Britain and elsewhere blamed Putin for the murder and they managed to convince the British government of then-Prime Minister Tony Blair of the Kremlin's involvement. British-Russian relations went into a deep freeze as a result."*

WMR's report continued: *"There is increasing evidence that the radioactive poisoning assassination of ex-KGB and FSB [Federal Security Bureau] agent and Kremlin critic Alexander Litvinenko was the result of a plot by anti-Vladimir Putin criminal syndicates based in Britain, Israel, Ukraine, and Poland to embarrass the Russian government."*

Suspicious about the role of the exiled Russian-Israeli criminal syndicates in the poisoning of Litvinenko, including that headed by Litvinenko's friend, wanted oligarch Boris Berezovsky, re-surfaced after former Russian Prime Minister Yegor Gaidar became violently ill after eating breakfast at a conference he was attending in Dublin, Ireland. Ireland's banking secrecy laws has made it a favorite location for the Russian-Israeli Mafia."

In 2008, the FSB announced that it was working with British law enforcement agencies on the Litvinenko investigation after it said Britain withdrew "unfounded accusations" originally leveled against Moscow regarding its alleged role in the affair. The *Post* never mentioned this agreement in its Hillary poisoning conspiracy theory charge.

Ironically, in less than a week, the *Post* went from charging anyone questioning Mrs. Clinton's health as a "conspiracy theorist" to pushing its own far-out conspiracy theory about a Kremlin-Trump plot to poison Clinton. Even the *Post's* Chris Cilizza, who had previously accused anyone of suggesting that the Clinton campaign was hiding Mrs. Clinton's serious health condition as delving into conspiracies, wrote after Mrs. Clinton's collapse at the 9/11 memorial service in New York, "talk of Clinton's health [is] no longer just the stuff of conspiracy theorists."

The *Post's* suggestion that the President of the Russian Federation could be involved in a plot to poison the Democratic candidate for President of the United States is the ultimate in shoddy journalism. The only "poison" in the current presidential campaign is that being spread by the Clinton campaign and its allies like the *Post* that wish to turn the new Cold War started by the Obama administration into a Hot War under Clinton. The United States and the world can ill-afford a Clinton presidency that would base its policies on the world stage on kooky conspiracy theories.

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