



CLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
LANGLEY, VA

October 15, 2024

MEMORANDUM FOR: Members of Congress

SUBJECT: **President Putin Also Targeted with Havana Syndrome**

US intelligence has definitively confirmed that Russian President Vladimir Putin is a victim of Havana Syndrome. With a fair degree of certainty, US intelligence believes it is consistent with the same low level attack on President Biden.

President Putin is incapacitated and unable to carry on day-to-day duties. The Russian government has strenuously objected to these “rumors”. Live meetings of President Putin have aired on Russian media. However, these appearances are strongly believed to be conducted with a body double. Another video circulating recently of a short “speech” by President Putin is believed to be AI generated with highly sophisticated “deep-fake” technology. It is unclear who is making decisions in the Russian government.

Intelligence assessment are concluding that this attack was carried out by a faction within the Russian military that does not support Russian President Putin. This faction, while not friendly to the United States, has signaled that it is against the use of nuclear weapons, especially in a tactical theater such as the Ukraine.

President Putin’s status has been highly guarded by the government while. Rumors of his incapacity, however, are starting to circulate among the Russian citizenry, mostly on Telegram and other unauthorized channels. Most Russian citizens are still cautious about speaking against the President. US intelligence believes it is likely this news will become known to the general public within a matter of days, especially among those Russian citizen groups who have been critical of President Putin. This situation will develop rapidly.

The Ukrainian President Zelensky has reached out to the United States to confirm whether the rumors of President Putin’s status are correct.