**100-page report delivered to the UN by Russia**

[http://rt.com/news/chemical-aleppo-findings-russia-417/](http://rt.com/news/chemical-aleppo-findings-russia-417/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

**Russia releases key findings on chemical attack near Aleppo indicating similarity with rebel-made weapons**

Published time: September 04, 2013 17:02

Probes from Khan al-Assal show chemicals used in the March 19 attack did not belong to standard Syrian army ammunition, and that the shell carrying the substance was similar to those made by a rebel fighter group, the Russian Foreign Ministry stated.

A statement released by the ministry on Wednesday particularly drew attention to the*“massive stove-piping of various information aimed at placing the responsibility for the alleged chemical weapons use in Syria on Damascus, even though the results of the UN investigation have not yet been revealed.”*

By such means *“the way is being paved for military action”* against Damascus, the ministry pointed out.

But the samples taken at the site of the March 19 attack and analyzed by Russian experts indicate that a projectile carrying the deadly nerve agent sarin was most likely fired at Khan al-Assal by the rebels, the ministry statement suggests, outlining the 100-page report [handed over](http://rt.com/news/syria-chemical-attack-rebels-848/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) to the UN by Russia.

The key points of the report have been given as follows:

• the shell used in the incident *“does not belong to the standard ammunition of the Syrian army and was crudely according to type and parameters of the rocket-propelled unguided missiles manufactured in the north of Syria by the so-called Bashair al-Nasr brigade”;*

• RDX, which is also known as hexogen or cyclonite, was used as the bursting charge for the shell, and it is *“not used in standard chemical munitions”;*

• soil and shell samples contain *“the non-industrially synthesized nerve agent sarin and diisopropylfluorophosphate,”* which was *“used by Western states for producing chemical weapons during World War II.”*

The findings of the report are *“extremely specific,”* as they mostly consist of scientific and technical data from probes’ analysis, the ministry stressed, adding that this data can *“substantially aid”* the UN investigation of the incident.

While focusing on the [Khan al-Assal attack](http://rt.com/news/syria-chemical-weapon-rebels-546/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) on March 19, in which at least 26 civilians and Syrian army soldiers were killed, and 86 more were injured, the Russian Foreign Ministry also criticized the *“flawed selective approach”* of certain states in reporting the recent incidents of alleged chemical weapons use in August.

The hype around the alleged attack on the eastern Damascus suburb of [Ghouta](http://rt.com/news/syria-chemical-weapons-un-775/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)showed *“apparent attempts to cast a veil over the incidents of gas poisoning of Syrian army soldiers on August 22, 24 and 25,”* the ministry said, adding that all the respective evidence was [handed](http://rt.com/news/syria-investigate-un-chemical-116/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) to the UN by Syria.

The condition of the soldiers who, according to Damascus, suffered poisoning after discovering [tanks with traces of sarin](http://rt.com/news/rebel-tunnel-damascus-chemical-940/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank), has been examined and documented by the UN inspectors, the ministry pointed out, adding that *“any objective investigation of the August 21 incident in eastern Ghouta is impossible without the consideration of all these facts.”*

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon on Tuesday said the UN investigators are set to return to Syria to investigate several other cases of alleged chemical weapons use, including the March 19 incident in Khan al-Assal.

