

Georgi Markov and the evil cooperation between colonialists' secret services

During the Cold War, the tradition continued. Most spectacular and famous is the case of Georgi Markov, an anti-communist Bulgarian writer who in exile had worked for Radio Free Europe and the BBC. On the morning of September 7, 1978—the birthday of Bulgarian dictator Todor Zhivkov—Markov made his way across Waterloo Bridge in London to wait for a bus. An assassin, working for the Bulgarian secret police and aided by the KGB, poked Markov with the tip of his umbrella. By evening, Markov was checked into a hospital, feeling unwell with a high fever. Four days later he was dead. Forensic pathologists discovered a pellet filled with traces of ricin in the back thigh of Markov's right leg. According to former Russian intelligence officer Boris Volodarsky in his book, [The KGB's Poison Factory](#), Markov had likely been surveilled before the assassination by another Bulgarian BBC broadcaster named Vladimir Simeonov. Twenty days after Markov's murder—and two days after being questioned by Scotland Yard—the 30-year-old Simeonov was himself found dead under mysterious circumstances. In the kitchen of his flat, reports Volodarsky, “two glasses were found in the sink without any fingerprints. Traces of a bottle were identified on the table.”

[<https://www.the-american-interest.com/2015/06/04/a-short-history-of-russian-poisoning/>]