

Lugovoi says he didn't kill Litvinenko

by UPI

MOSCOW - Andrei Lugovoi, the man British prosecutors say poisoned Alexander Litvinenko, Tuesday told ITN he did not kill the former Russian spy.

Litvinenko, an outspoken critic of Russian President Vladimir Putin who had moved to London, died last November after being poisoned with the radioactive agent polonium 210.

In an interview with ITN from Moscow, Lugovoi declared his innocence, saying he "cannot fully understand the logic" of the accusation.

"The statement offered by the British prosecutors is no more than a version. I, on the other hand, am convinced that I did not kill Litvinenko," Lugovoi said, adding he has no intention of going to Britain to face the charges.

Lugovoi indicated Litvinenko's killing was part of a conspiracy.

"All that happened was planned," he said. "Planned phone calls, planned offers, planned -- and sometimes strange -- meetings. That's all that I can say."

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