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RUSSIA SCOLDS BRITAIN FOR SAYING THE KREMLIN DREAMS OF BREXIT

London.—Russia scolded Britain yesterday for saying that Kremlin chief Vladimir Putin dreamed of weakening the West with a British exit from the European Union.

British Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond said last week that the only country wanting Britain to leave the EU was Russia and Prime Minister David Cameron has said what he termed Putin's aggression makes this no time to drop out of the EU.

"Russia is being dragged into the domestic debate on Brexit," the Russian embassy in London said in a statement. "Why is the

wicked Russia thesis used to explain a Government policy?"

"We'd like the British people to know that those pronouncements have nothing to do with Russia's policy," the embassy said. "As a matter of fact, our Government doesn't have an opinion on Britain's place in the EU."

Putin has made no public remarks about Britain's June EU referendum, though U.S. President Barack Obama and Chinese President Xi Jinping have indicated they support Britain's membership of the world's biggest trading bloc.



BORIS: STERLING WILL PROSPER OUTSIDE EU

London.—London Mayor Boris Johnson, who opposes British membership of the European Union, said on today that sterling would benefit if Britain voted to leave the bloc in a 23 June referendum.

Sterling fell more than five cents against the U.S. dollar in the week following Johnson's 21 Feb. announcement that

he was opposing Prime Minister David Cameron and would campaign to leave the European Union.

Speaking at an "Out" campaign event, Johnson said sterling would continue to fluctuate but that if Britain left the EU the economy would be freed from EU regulation and the pound would ulti-

mately benefit. "Sterling and euro will continue to fluctuate as they always have done but sterling will reflect the long term health and strength of the UK economy and trade flows and investment flows and people's willingness to buy UK products and invest in the UK," Johnson said. "The more we can get rid of the

regulation, the red tape, the cost of the EU, the better we'll do and the more we'll thrive and the more robust our currency will be," he said in Dartford, southeast England. Cameron said yesterday that Britain's \$2.9 trillion economy would face a shock that would pile pressure onto the pound.

Man tells police; "I think I have killed my girlfriend...." Page 3

