



# Wikinews

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-Adele

Exclusive Interview - George Jones,  
Paranoria, TX's producer

Kim Jong Nam - Paranoria, TX - GRAMMYs - Michael Flynn

# Malaysian authorities arrest fourth suspect in killing of Kim Jong Nam, half-brother of North Korean leader

Malaysian authorities on Friday, February 17, 2017, arrested North Korean man Ri Jong Chol, 46, on suspicion of involvement in the murder of Kim Jong Nam, the half-brother to Kim Jong Un, leader of North Korean leader. He died in Malaysia on Monday morning. According to South Korean officials, he was killed by a fast-acting poison administered by two women who approached him in Kuala Lumpur International Airport.

Ri is now the fourth subject in custody. On Wednesday, Malaysian authorities said, they arrested 26-year-old taxi driver Muhammad Farid Bin Jalaluddin, whom they believed was the boyfriend of one of the women who approached Kim Jong Nam in the airport on Monday. Indonesia's Minister of Foreign affairs confirmed one of the women, Siti Aishah, is an Indonesian citizen, but confirmation was not then available on whether her counterpart, whose name was given as Doan Thi Hong, is actually Vietnamese or was merely carrying a Vietnamese passport. Selangor State Police Chief Abdul Samah Mat told *CNN* Jalaluddin helped the police find Aishah. The two women are to be held for seven days.

In findings published in the *New Straits Times*, CCTV footage from the airport showed two women, ostensibly Aishah and Hong, walking up to Kim near the self-check-in stand. One of them distracted him while the other grabbed his face or neck and administered the poison, though reports differ as to whether she used a needle, spray or impregnated cloth. Kim Jong Nam fell sick and went to the airport clinic, from which he was sent to the hospital by ambulance. He died before reaching the hospital. One of the two women was wearing a T-shirt reading "LOL" when she approached Kim. Aishah allegedly told police she thought she had been hired to perform a prank for a television show and that she had been hired to spray people with liquid before.

Kim had been travelling under the alias Kim Chol and was returning to Macau where he has lived with his family since leaving North Korea.

Kim Jong Nam, 45, was the oldest son of North Korean leader Kim Jong Il. His mother was Kim Jong Il's mistress Song Hye Rim and he was raised separately from his half-brothers. He was considered the elder Kim's heir apparent but lost favour after an incident in 2001 when he used a fake passport in an attempt to visit Japan. Kim has lived outside of North Korea for many years and did not attend his father's funeral in 2011. He favoured more economic reform for North Korea and once told Japanese writer Yoji Gomi he did not believe Kim Jong Un would be a good leader:

"The Kim Jong-un regime will not last long," said Kim to Gomi in 2012. "Without reforms, North Korea will collapse, and when such changes take place, the regime will collapse."

South Korea's national intelligence agency accused the North Korean government of having Kim killed. The Korean Institute for Defense Analyses's Kim Chang-su stated Kim Jong Un may have felt his brother was a threat to his position. In the years since Kim Jong Un became leader, many people so perceived, including his uncle and advisor Jang Song Thaek, have ended up dead. Jang was executed for treason. Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi dismissed allegations North Korea arranged Kim's death as "only speculation."

Malaysian authorities completed the autopsy of Kim Jong Nam earlier this week over objections from the North Korean government but announced Thursday they would not release the body to North Korea or disclose the results without a Kim family DNA sample. The North Korean government already said it won't accept the validity of an autopsy done without its permission or oversight.

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# Modern radio drama 'Paranoria, TX' releases 100th episode

 EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

*Paranoria, TX*, a modern radio drama hosted at internet-based AstroNet Radio, released its 100th episode. The episode is titled *The People's Choice* and aired on Monday, February 13, 2017.



Interior shot of AstroNet Radio studios based in Tyler, Texas (US)  
Image: Paul Budd. (CC BY-SA 4.0)

The station's website describes the show as "old school radio theatre with a new and outrageous geeky spin!" In its early days, the show was featured solely at the long-running internet radio site TogiNet Radio, a site focused on talk radio. In late 2015, TogiNet established AstroNet Radio as a subsidiary station. The show originally featured amateur voice actors, local to East Texas. After some time, professional actors/talent came to be featured intermittently. Some of those were

- Kevin Betzer from television series *Deep South Paranormal*.
- Clu Gulager notably from *The Virginian* and *The Fall Guy*.
- John Gulager notably as director of *Piranha 3DD*.
- Diane Ayala Goldner notably from horror film franchise *Feast*.
- Vernon Wells notably from the films *Mad Max 2: The Road Warrior* and *Weird Science*.

*Wikinews* caught up with the show's producer, George Jones, to discuss the show.

**WN** First, tell our readers about *Paranoria, Texas*.

**George Jones:** *Paranoria, TX* started out as a little show that could. We really didn't know what we were doing but we wanted to do Old School radio in a brand-new format which consisted of a new script every week with a cast of voice actors. The result was a surprising hit and now the show has grown into something completely different than what it was in the beginning and we have followers worldwide. The basic premise of the story is that there is a group of nerds who come together plotting to take over the world but end up saving it time and again.

**WN** When did the idea for the show first come to you?

**GJ:** I was called into the [TogiNet] studio for an interview about one of my events and while I was there the DJ asked me if I had ever thought about doing a radio show myself. I had no idea what I was going to do but I was intrigued and after a little brainstorming and utilising my own creativity the show was born.

**WN** You've written most of the scripts, right? Has anyone else helped you with writing?

**GJ:** I have written 90% of the scripts for the show. Eric Nivens, Alan Mendez, Jeremy Nagel and Matt McBride have also written a few scripts. It gets tough running a brand new 20-page script every week but somehow we've managed for almost a hundred weeks. We thank God for fans who keep us going, otherwise it would not have made it for so long.

Jones estimates since the first episode, the show has been downloaded roughly 30,000 times. The show is set to feature a spin-off series soon.

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## Adele and David Bowie each win five Grammys

On Sunday, February 12, 2017, British singer Adele won five Grammy Awards at the 59th Grammy Awards event in Los Angeles. David Bowie posthumously won five Grammys.

Adele won Song of the Year, Best Pop Solo and Record of the Year for her song *Hello*, and Album of the Year for her album *25*, becoming the first singer to win the Song of the Year, Record of the Year, and Album of the Year twice.

David Bowie was nominated in five categories — three for his album *Blackstar* in Best Alternative Music Album, Best Engineered Album, Non-Classical, and Best Rock Performance; and two for his song *Blackstar*, Best Rock Song and Best Rock Performance. Days after releasing his 25th album, *Blackstar*, Bowie passed away in January 2016, due to cancer. Before *Blackstar*, Bowie won a Grammy for his music video *Jazzin' for Blue Jean*, and Lifetime Achievement Award in 2006, never winning the award in a major category before.

In the event, singer Bruno Mars paid tribute to music icon Prince, replicating style, costumes, and guitar of Prince's. Minneapolis-based funk band The Time, who had performed with Prince, paid tribute to the singer who passed away in April at the age of 57. Adele, in her performance, paid tribute to George Michael. While performing, Adele stopped, swore, and restarted. She later apologised, saying "I am sorry for swearing and I am sorry for starting again, I can't mess this up for him[...] I am sorry, I can't." British pop singer George Michael died on Christmas Day of heart failure at the age of 53.

Adele was in tears while receiving Grammy for the Album of the Year. In her acceptance speech, she said, "But I can't possibly accept this award. And I'm very humbled and I'm very grateful and gracious. But my artist of my life is Beyoncé. And this album to me, the 'Lemonade' album, is just so monumental. Beyoncé, it's so monumental. And so well thought out, and so beautiful and soul-baring and we all got to see another side to you that you don't always let us see. And we

appreciate that. And all us artists here, we fucking adore you. You are our light. And the way that you make me and my friends feel, the way you make my black friends feel, is empowering. And you make them stand up for themselves. And I love you." Other albums in the pool, besides *25* and *Lemonade*, were Justin Bieber's *Purpose*, Drake's *Views*, and *A Sailor's Guide To Earth* by Sturgill Simpson.

Earlier, while receiving award for the Record of the Year, Adele said, "My dream and my idol is Queen Bee [Beyoncé], and I adore you and you move my soul every single day and you have done for nearly seventeen years". Other songs nominated in the category were Beyoncé's *Formation*, *Work* by Rihanna, *7 Years* by Lukas Graham, and *Stressed Out* by TWENTY ØNE PILØTS.

Beyoncé received the largest number of nominations for the event — nine — but she won only two. Her album *Lemonade* won Best Urban Contemporary Album and her song *Formation* won Best Music Video.

Chance The Rapper won Best New Artist and claimed Best Rap Performance for *No Problem* and Best Rap Album for *Coloring Book*. Chance's songs were never sold and were available for free on streaming services.

The new host James Corden took a pratfall on the stairs while entering. The duo TWENTY ØNE PILØTS won Best Pop Duo/Group Performance for their song *Stressed Out*. Upon announcement, they removed their pants to accept the award. Sharing an incident of watching Grammys before the duo was famous, Tyler Joseph said Josh Dun proposed if they were to receive a Grammy, they would receive it in their underpants as they were in underpants watching the award ceremony at the time. In his acceptance speech, he said, "I want everyone who's watching at home to know that you could be next. So watch out, because anyone from anywhere can do anything."

This news article is available in Русский language.

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# Michael Flynn resigns as National Security Advisor to Trump administration

On Monday night, February 13, 2017, U.S. retired Lieutenant General Michael Flynn resigned from his position as National Security Advisor at the request of President Donald Trump in response to a Justice Department report indicating the Russian government could blackmail Flynn over untrue statements he'd made to Vice President Pence.



File photo of Michael T. Flynn, 2012.  
Image: Erin A. Kirk-Cuomo. (CC0 1.0/ Public Domain)

Specifically, Flynn told Pence he had not discussed U.S. sanctions against Russia with Russian Ambassador Sergei Kislyak. Pence later went on television and relayed this to the public. However, U.S. intelligence officials had recorded Flynn and Kislyak's conversations. According to one such official, Flynn insinuated to Kislyak then-President-elect Trump would be pleased if Russia did not retaliate for the Obama administration's December 29 order sanctioning Russian spy agencies and expelling 35 suspected Russian spies from U.S. territory. In his resignation letter, Flynn referred to his statements as "incomplete information" and said he'd apologized to Pence.

Under the 1799 Logan Act, individual U.S. citizens are not allowed to negotiate with foreign governments without permission, and Flynn may have violated it, but University of Texas law professor Stephen Vladeck said the real issue is whether Flynn lied to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In remarks to NBC News a senior intelligence official said Flynn had not been shown to have done anything illegal. White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer said the resignation was due to a "trust issue" rather than any legal concern.

According to White House spokespeople, President Trump was informed Flynn had misled Pence last month by then-acting Attorney General Sally Yates, while Vice President Pence did not learn of this until news reports surfaced earlier this week. Democratic Representative Adam Schiff claimed Trump asked Flynn to resign because of the media response and not because of the conversation with Pence itself. There is significant opposition in the U.S. Congress to lifting sanctions against Russia. Several Democrats and some Republicans have called for investigation of the Trump administration's ties with the country.

Retired general Keith Kellogg, who served as an advisor to Trump during his presidential campaign, was selected as Flynn's acting replacement.

This news article is available in [Русский](#) language.

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## Events from the last week on Wikinews

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### UK Parliamentary report: homophobia in sport worse than racism

According to a report produced by the Culture, Media and Sport select committee of the House of Commons in the United Kingdom on Friday, February 10, 2017, discrimination against homosexuality is now a worse problem in sports than racism and sports governing bodies have failed to effectively respond to the problem.

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### Yemen requests reevaluation of U.S. ground operations on its soil following raid

The official government of Yemen issued a statement on Wednesday, February 8, 2017, requesting a reevaluation the role of the United States in antiterrorism ground operations on its soil, in response to a

January 29 raid by United States SEAL Team Six that killed several Yemeni citizens.

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## Scientists say new medical diagnostic chip can sort cells anywhere with an inkjet

On Monday, February 6, 2017, scientists from the Stanford University School of Medicine announced the invention of a new diagnostic tool that can sort cells by type: a tiny printable chip that can be manufactured using standard inkjet printers for possibly about one U.S. cent each. Lead researchers say this may bring early detection of cancer, tuberculosis, HIV and malaria to patients in low-income countries, where the survival rates for illnesses such as breast cancer can be half those of richer countries.

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## World Cup winner Philipp Lahm to hang up his boots

On Tuesday, February 7, 2017, German ex-football captain and 2014 FIFA World Cup winner Philipp Lahm announced he will retire as a football player at the end of this season. Lahm's current contract is to expire in 2018.

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## Travel to U.S. resumes after federal judge blocks executive order

In response to a lawsuit filed by Washington State attorney Bob Ferguson in Seattle, U.S. federal judge James Robart on Saturday ordered the suspension of a January 27 executive order issued by U.S. President Donald J. Trump suspending entry to the U.S. by refugees and individuals from seven Muslim-majority countries. The

Department of Homeland Security complied with the judge's ruling but the Department of Justice also requested an emergency stay so that enforcement of the executive order could resume. That stay was rejected early yesterday morning.

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