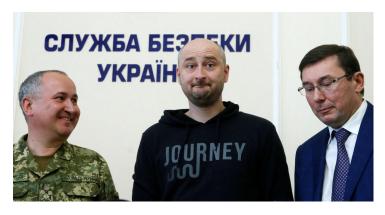## BREAKING: Russian Journalist and Putin Critic FAKED His Own Murder to Catch His Assassin [VIDEO]

Arkady Babchenko, a fiercely anti-Putin journalist who had been reported shot and killed in Kiev, shocked the world when he showed up, alive and well, at a news conference on Wednesday. He explain that Ukranian police had faked his death to catch the man who ordered a hit on him.

To the applause and gasps of the press, USA Today reported, Babchenko took the floor at the news conference in the Ukrainian capital and apologized to his friends and family who mourned for him. His wife, who was also unaware of the plot, found him outside their apartment entrance Tuesday evening "bleeding" from what she thought were gunshot wounds to his back. As part of the ruse, police claimed he died in an ambulance en route to the hospital.
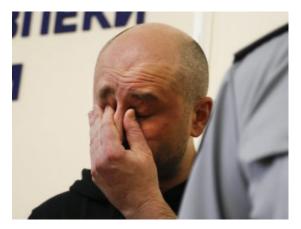
One person was reportedly captured in the operation.

Police told the *Moscow Times* that Babchenko's work was the likely motive for the killing. Babchenko, a Russian war journalist, left Russia last year after he said he received a number of death threats for his reporting. He moved to Kiev, where he worked for a Crimean television station and produced coverage critical of Russia's military actions in Ukraine.

The security service said that Babchenko's death was intended to be the first of some 30 planned killings of Russian citizens in Ukraine allegedly ordered by Russian special services. The Ukrainian hitman also was supposed to procure large quantities of weapons and explosives, including 300 AK-47 rifles and "hundreds of kilos of explosives," to perpetrate acts of terror in Ukraine.

[According to the *Kiev Post*](#), Babchenko told reporters, "I want to say sorry for what you felt. I had to bury my friends and colleagues many times."

Moscow's annexation of Crimea and support for separatists in eastern Ukraine were topics on which the journalist was scathingly critical of the Kremlin.

[According to the Associated Press](#), Ilya Ponomarev, a former Russian lawmaker who also moved to Ukraine, said Babchenko continued being threatened after he settled last fall in Kiev, where he worked as a host for the Crimean Tatar TV station.