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VANCOUVER/CKNW(AM980)--A potentially lethal gas has been identified as the substance that caused several people to become violently ill on a Vancouver Transit bus last month.

After comprehensive testing, an investigation involving numerous agencies, including all the way up to Interpol, it's been determined methyl chloride was released on the bus, likely by the unidentified man who made a cryptic remark to the driver just minutes before the illness struck.

Vancouver Police Inspector Chris Beach says the suspect remains at large and it's still not clear why the gas was released, "It is very clear, now that we know what chemical we found, that whatever the motivation was, the attack was real."

The substance is not easy to come by.

It's used in industrial manufacturing and can be fatal in high concentrations.

However in this case, only a trace amount was found and the victims are all fine.

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