



Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

July 29, 2020

MR. WILLIAM F MARSHALL
JUDICIAL WATCH
SUITE 800
425 THIRD STREET, SOUTHWEST
WASHINGTON, DC 20024

FOIPA Request No.: 1391365-000

Civil Action No.: 18-cv-154

Subject: Communications between Peter Strzok and
Lisa Page (February 1, 2015 – Present)

Dear Mr. Marshall:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552. Below you will find check boxes under the appropriate statute headings with indicate the types of exemptions asserted to protect information which is exempt from disclosure. The appropriate exemptions are noted on the enclosed pages next to redacted information. In addition, a deleted page information sheet was inserted to indicate where pages were withheld entirely and identify which exemptions were applied. The checked exemption boxes used to withhold information are further explained in the enclosed Explanation of Exemptions.

Section 552

☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(3)

☐ (b)(4)☒ (b)(5)☒ (b)(6)☐ (b)(7)(A)☒ (b)(7)(B)☒ (b)(7)(C)☒ (b)(7)(D)☒ (b)(7)(E)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (b)(8)☐ (b)(9)

Section 552a

☐ (d)(5)☐ (j)(2)☐ (k)(1)☒ (k)(2)☐ (k)(3)☐ (k)(4)☐ (k)(5)☐ (k)(6)☐ (k)(7)

500 pages of potentially responsive records were reviewed:

323 pages are being released in whole or in part.

4 pages are being withheld in full per exemptions.

86 pages are being withheld duplicate.

29 pages are being withheld referral/consult.

58 pages were determined to be non-records/non-responsive to the FOIA request.

Below you will also find additional informational paragraphs about your request. Where applicable, check boxes are used to provide you with more information about the processing of your request. Please read each item carefully.

☒ Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning, other Government Agency (ies) [OGA].

☐ This information has been referred to the OGA(s) for review and direct response to you.

☒ We are consulting with another agency. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is completed.

☐ In accordance with standard FBI practice and pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and Privacy Act exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. § 552/552a (b)(7)(E)/(j)(2)], this response neither confirms nor denies the existence of your subject's name on any watch lists.

Please refer to the enclosed FBI FOIPA Addendum for additional standard responses applicable to your request. "**Part 1**" of the Addendum includes standard responses that apply to all requests. "**Part 2**" includes additional standard responses that apply to all requests for records about yourself or any third party individuals. "**Part 3**" includes general information about FBI records that you may find useful. Also enclosed is our Explanation of Exemptions.

Although your request is in litigation, we are required by law to provide you the following information:

If you are not satisfied with the Federal Bureau of Investigation's determination in response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, 441 G Street, NW, 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20530, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIA STAR portal by creating an account following the instructions on OIP's website: <https://www.justice.gov/oip/submit-and-track-request-or-appeal>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within ninety (90) days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

You may seek dispute resolution services by contacting the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. Alternatively, you may contact the FBI's FOIA Public Liaison by emailing foipaquestions@fbi.gov. If you submit your dispute resolution correspondence by email, the subject heading should clearly state "Dispute Resolution Services." Please also cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so it may be easily identified.

Please direct any further inquiries about this case to the Attorney representing the Government in this matter. Please use the FOIPA Request Number and/or Civil Action Number in all correspondence or inquiries concerning your request.

☒ See additional information which follows.

Sincerely,



Michael G. Seidel
Section Chief
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Information Management Division

Enclosure(s)

In response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, enclosed is a processed copy of Bates Stamped documents, FBI(18-cv-154)-10536 through FBI(18-cv-154)-11035. The enclosed documents represent the twenty-fourth interim release of information responsive to your request.

The FBI conducted email searches for any email communication between Peter Strzok and Lisa Page. This search located both official government records and non-record personal communications between these two individuals.

The FBI reviewed 500 pages of these emails. While conducting this review, the FBI individually analyzed the emails to determine whether they pertained to official government business constituting records under the FOIA or whether they consisted of purely personal communications between the two individuals. As a result of the FBI's review, it determined 58 pages were non-record, personal communications not subject to the FOIA; and 442 pages consisted of responsive FBI records.

As previously indicated, document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning another agency (ies). We are consulting with the other agency (ies) and are awaiting their response. Our office has processed all other information currently in our possession. The FBI will correspond with you regarding those documents when the consultation is completed.

To minimize costs to both you and the FBI, duplicate copies of the same document were not processed.

EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), provided that such statute (A) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on issue, or (B) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of record or information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation, or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA)
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOIA Request No.:1391365-000 Civil
Action No.: 18-cv-154

Total Withheld Page(s) = 177

Bates Page Reference	Reason for Withholding (i.e., exemptions with coded rationale, duplicate, sealed by order of court, etc.)
FBI(18-cv-154)-10537 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10538	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3734 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-3735
FBI(18-cv-154)-10546	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3740
FBI(18-cv-154)-10554 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10555	Referral/Consult
FBI(18-cv-154)-10567 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10568	Referral/Consult
FBI(18-cv-154)-10569 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10570	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3748 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-3749
FBI(18-cv-154)-10571	Referral/Consult
FBI(18-cv-154)-10574	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10575	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-10577 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10578
FBI(18-cv-154)-10579 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10581	Referral/Consult
FBI(18-cv-154)-10586 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10587	b5-1, b6-1, b7C-1
FBI(18-cv-154)-10591	b5-1, b6-1, b7C-1
FBI(18-cv-154)-10592	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3752
FBI(18-cv-154)-10593 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10595	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3754 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-3755
FBI(18-cv-154)-10596 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10598	Referral/Consult
FBI(18-cv-154)-10601 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10603	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10622 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10623	Referral/Consult
FBI(18-cv-154)-10625 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10630	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-10631 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10637
FBI(18-cv-154)-10639	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3774 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-3775
FBI(18-cv-154)-10642 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10643	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3774 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-3775
FBI(18-cv-154)-10645 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10651	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10654 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10655	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-10652 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10653
FBI(18-cv-154)-10656	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-10657
FBI(18-cv-154)-10660 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10661	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3784 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-3786
FBI(18-cv-154)-10665 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10666	Referral/Consult
FBI(18-cv-154)-10667	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3792

FBI(18-cv-154)-10680 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10681	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3800
FBI(18-cv-154)-10688	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10689 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10694	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3804 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-3809
FBI(18-cv-154)-10704 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10705	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10706 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10708	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3810 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-3811
FBI(18-cv-154)-10711	b7E-4
FBI(18-cv-154)-10712 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10713	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10716 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10719	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3823 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-3826
FBI(18-cv-154)-10720	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3827
FBI(18-cv-154)-10721	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10722	Referral/Consult
FBI(18-cv-154)-10723 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10724	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10726	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3831
FBI(18-cv-154)-10728 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10729	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3834 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-3836
FBI(18-cv-154)-10733 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10738	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10739	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3847 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-3848
FBI(18-cv-154)-10741 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10743	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-3846
FBI(18-cv-154)-10776	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10783	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4043
FBI(18-cv-154)-10784	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10786 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10787	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10788 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10789	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-10791 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10792
FBI(18-cv-154)-10790	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10806	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4060
FBI(18-cv-154)-10808	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4064
FBI(18-cv-154)-10810 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10811	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-10812 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10813
FBI(18-cv-154)-10812 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10813	Referral/Consult
FBI(18-cv-154)-10824	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4075
FBI(18-cv-154)-10825	Referral/Consult
FBI(18-cv-154)-10838	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10842 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10847	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10859 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10860	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10861 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10863	Referral/Consult

FBI(18-cv-154)-10864	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10869 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10870	Referral/Consult
FBI(18-cv-154)-10871 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10875	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10876 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10877	Referral/Consult
FBI(18-cv-154)-10878	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4146
FBI(18-cv-154)-10879 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10881	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4148 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-4149
FBI(18-cv-154)-10882	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10884 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10885	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4152 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-4153
FBI(18-cv-154)-10887	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4156 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-4157
FBI(18-cv-154)-10889 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10890	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4164 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-4165
FBI(18-cv-154)-10891	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-10892 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10893
FBI(18-cv-154)-10894 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10895	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4164 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-4165
FBI(18-cv-154)-10936 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10937	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10938	Referral/Consult
FBI(18-cv-154)-10939	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4178
FBI(18-cv-154)-10943 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10944	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10978	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10979 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10982	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4192 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-4195
FBI(18-cv-154)-10984 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10985	Referral/Consult
FBI(18-cv-154)-10986 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-10991	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-10996	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4200 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-4201
FBI(18-cv-154)-11002	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4204 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-4205
FBI(18-cv-154)-11008	Other - Non-records/Non-responsive to the FOIA request
FBI(18-cv-154)-11012 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-11013	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4211
FBI(18-cv-154)-11019 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-11023	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4220 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-4223
FBI(18-cv-154)-11028 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-11031	Duplicate to FBI(18-cv-154)-4220 thru FBI(18-cv-154)-4223

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

X Deleted Page(s) X

X No Duplication Fee X

X For this Page X

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 11:32 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: 3 on Thursday

Yes. Thank you

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/13/2017 11:31 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: 3 on Thursday

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Would you be back by 4?

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/13/2017 11:01 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: 3 on Thursday

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Yeah it doesn't, not sure about Jons schedule. Would like to be there though - no other times available?

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/13/2017 10:00 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: 3 on Thursday

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I know that doesn't work for you, but so long as either you or Jon can attend, I think that's fine.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 2:39 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Lawfare article

Article from earlier

Thoughts on a Strange Day—and a Very Strange Presidential Tweet

By Benjamin Wittes

Friday, February 10, 2017, 9:35 PM

It was a very strange day.

The only thing lower on my list of expectations than a presidential tweet when I got into an Uber this morning was what I got: an approving presidential tweet.

Yet there it was—a tweet that was, in and of itself, utterly insignificant yet at the same time, the more I thought about it over the course of the day, reinforcing of a wide array of concerns this site has been covering about the way Donald Trump is mismanaging the Office of the President:

The reference was to my short article from last night about the 9th Circuit's denial of a stay of the district court's freezing of Trump's noxious executive order on visas and refugees. No, I had not said or implied that the decision was disgraceful (with or without an exclamation point). And while I had indeed noted the omission in the ruling that Trump was trumpeting and criticized some of the virtue signaling in the opinion, I had noted some other things as well. For example, I had written that "The Ninth Circuit is correct to leave the TRO in place, in my view." I had argued that the key question in the case was whether "the repeated and overt invocations of the most invidious motivations on the part of the President himself, his campaign, his adviser, and his Twitter feed will render an otherwise valid exercise of this power invalid." And I had concluded the post by describing "the incompetent malevolence with which this order was promulgated."

You read that correctly: The President of the United States was tweeting approvingly an article describing his motivations as "invidious" and describing his actions using the phrase "incompetent malevolence."

Had he even read the article, I wondered? Almost surely not, as it turned out. The explanation for how a quotation from Lawfare and from me—a person whose enthusiasm for the Trump administration is, shall we say, under control—ended up in Trump's Twitter feed emerged quickly enough. Within a few minutes, the redoubtable Cody Poplin had tweeted that the Morning Joe show on MSNBC had featured the exact same quotation shortly before Trump's tweet:

I've been thinking about this sequence of events all day—and it's a disturbing one, albeit in an amusing and harmless context:

- The President saw a single line of an article on a television show.
- He tweeted that single line with apparently no idea who the author was or what the publication was, and indeed without reading the rest of the article.
- Nobody in the White House vetted the tweet to discover the readily apparent fact that the article in question sharply criticized the President and supported the decision about which he was angrily complaining.
- Nobody warned the President that the article was written by an author who had written numerous other

articles ungraced by pleasant words about him—indeed, an author who has been calling him a threat to national security for nearly a year.

•Nobody warned the President that the site he was about to praise has had a great deal of such writing by other writers as well.

It is a portrait in inconsequential and comical miniature of the incompetence and dysfunction we've been seeing since day one of the Trump Administration. It's the incompetence I wrote about the day after the executive order itself emerged with virtually no vetting. It's also the ineptitude or irrelevance of the White House Counsel that Jack Goldsmith has pointed out:

One person who must bear responsibility for the awful rollout of the EO is White House Counsel Donald McGahn. The White House Counsel is charged with (among other things) ensuring proper inter-agency coordination on important legal policies and with protecting the President from legal fallout. McGahn should have anticipated and corrected in advance the many foreseeable problems with the manner in which the EO was rolled out. And he should have advised the President after his first anti-Robert tweet, and after the other more aggressive ones, that the tweets were hurting the President's legal cause.

If McGahn did not do these things, he is incompetent, and perhaps we can attribute impulsive incompetence to the President. But if McGahn did do these things—if he tried to put the brakes on the EO, and if he warned his client about the adverse impact of his tweets—then he has shockingly little influence with the President and within the White House (i.e. he is ineffectual).

This is not how the White House is supposed to work. Whole apparatuses are supposed to be there to protect the President from sending out unvetted executive orders, tweeting attacks on federal judges that hurt the government's chances of prevailing in court, and yes, even from tweeting articles he hasn't read and that don't say what he thinks they say.

Think about it this way: If the Trump White House is so incompetent that it is citing my work by accident, how on earth can we trust it to handle North Korea?

Sad!

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 5:27 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Letter to Director Comey from Senator McCaskill

FYSA

From: [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 4:44 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (CTD) (FBI) [REDACTED] (CTD) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Loeffert, Gary A. (DL) (FBI) [REDACTED] Priestap, E. W. (CD)
(FBI) [REDACTED] Boone, Jennifer C. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P.
(CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Letter to Director Comey from Senator McCaskill

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Thanks [REDACTED] Copying AD, DADs Pete S., Jen Boone [REDACTED] and Gary FYSA [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 4:37 PM
To: [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (CTD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Letter to Director Comey from Senator McCaskill

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

H [REDACTED]

I want to make you aware of a briefing request from Senator Claire McCaskill, Ranking Member on the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee.

She is requesting a closed briefing on any investigation the FBI is conducting on General Flynn and his communications with the Russian Government.

Obviously we would never provide a briefing on any pending investigation, let alone acknowledge one, so this is just for awareness on your end.

We will push off the request.

Thanks!

[REDACTED]
Congressional Affairs Specialist
FBI Office of Congressional Affairs
[REDACTED] Desk
[REDACTED] Samsung

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 4:30 PM

FBI (18-cv-154)-10541

To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Letter to Director Comey from Senator McCaskill

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

----- Original message -----

From: "Klein, Julie (HSGAC)" [REDACTED]
Date: 2/10/17 4:33 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: "Brewer, David (HSGAC)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Letter to Director Comey from Senator McCaskill

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED]

Attached please find a letter to Director Comey from Senator McCaskill. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Julie

Julie Klein
Professional Staff Member
Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee
Ranking Member Claire McCaskill | Senator for Missouri
[REDACTED]

b6 -3



Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: Accepted: MYE tag-up
Location: TBD

Start: Thursday, February 16, 2017 4:00 PM
End: Thursday, February 16, 2017 4:30 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Required Attendees: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

When: Feb 16, 2017 4:00:00 PM
Where: TBD

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: timeline drafting

b7E -4

Start: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 10:30 AM

End: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 11:00 AM

Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Required Attendees: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Figure best if we formally schedule this. I can also do 9:30-10 or 3-4. I would rather do sooner than later.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: timeline drafting

b7E -4

Start: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 10:30 AM

End: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 11:00 AM

Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Tentative

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Required Attendees: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Figure best if we formally schedule this. I can also do 9:30-10 or 3-4. I would rather do sooner than later.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:04 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Tentative [REDACTED] timeline drafting

b7E -4

[REDACTED]

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:00 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Tentative [REDACTED] timeline drafting

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -4

For what?

----- Original message -----
From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/14/2017 6:58 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Tentative [REDACTED] timeline drafting

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -4, 6

Thanks. I have to head to the Hill at 7:30, and hopefully back by 9. So I could do any time between 9 and 10.

And if you're in before 7:30, I'm buying you coffee! ;)

----- Original Appointment -----
From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 6:53 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: Tentative [REDACTED] timeline drafting
When: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 10:30 AM-11:00 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
Where:

b7E -4

I will try. I might have to get in super early to get some work done.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 9:59 PM
To: Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Cc: Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Trump Campaign Aides Had Repeated Contacts With Russian Intelligence - NYTimes.com

b6 -1
b7C -1

Jim/Lisa [REDACTED]

See thread below. There are several significant errors/inaccuracies in the NYT article this evening. We'll get you a red lined copy with comments first thing tomorrow in advance of D mtg with Burr.
Thanks,
Pete

----- Original message -----

From: "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/14/2017 9:49 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Trump Campaign Aides Had Repeated Contacts With Russian Intelligence - NYTimes.com

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Thank you, and yes, please get info to [REDACTED] Lisa and Rybicki (and cc me), as soon as you have finished.

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/14/2017 9:38 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Trump Campaign Aides Had Repeated Contacts With Russian Intelligence - NYTimes.com

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Bill. This is the article Mike K gave a heads up on earlier. Contains several flat out inaccuracies. I will sit down with [REDACTED] early and draft some comments in advance of D meeting with Burr. Will send to you, but would you like us to send up the chain to Rybicki as well? I know you and Andy have WH in the AM and I don't know what time Burr is.
Thanks

Trump Campaign Aides Had Repeated Contacts With Russian Intelligence

February 14, 2017

By **MICHAEL S. SCHMIDT**, **MARK MAZZETTI** and **MATT APUZZO**

WASHINGTON — Phone records and intercepted calls show that members of Donald J. Trump's 2016 presidential campaign and other Trump associates had repeated contacts with senior Russian intelligence officials in the year before the election, according to four current and former American officials.

American law enforcement and intelligence agencies intercepted the communications around the same time that they were discovering evidence that Russia was trying to disrupt the presidential election by hacking into the Democratic National Committee, three of the officials said. The intelligence agencies then sought to learn whether the Trump campaign was colluding with the Russians on the hacking or other efforts to influence the election.

The officials interviewed in recent weeks said that, so far, they had seen no evidence of such cooperation.

The Run-Up

The podcast that makes sense of the most delirious stretch of the 2016 campaign.

But the intercepts alarmed American intelligence and law enforcement agencies, in part because of the amount of contact that was occurring while Mr. Trump was speaking glowingly about the Russian president, Vladimir V. Putin. At one point last summer, Mr. Trump said at a campaign event that he hoped Russian intelligence services had stolen Hillary Clinton's emails and would make them public.

The officials said the intercepted communications were not limited to Trump campaign officials, and included other associates of Mr. Trump. On the Russian side, the contacts

also included members of the Russian government outside of the intelligence s

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 7:41 AM
To: Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: NYT article

b6 -1
b7C -1

Just sent you comments on NYT article on FBINET.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 9:05 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: NYT

fyi

-----Original Message-----

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 9:05 AM
To: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: NYT

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Just sent on red side

-----Original Message-----

From: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 8:59 AM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: NYT

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Pete: Can you send me you latest analysis on the NYT story from last night? Thanks. M

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 5:03 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Hal "Three"!

https://www.nytimes.com/2017/02/14/us/politics/russia-intelligence-communications-trump.html?h p&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&clickSource=story-heading&module=a-lede-package-region&ion=top-news&WT.nav=top-news&_r=0

Correction: February 14, 2017

An earlier version of this article misstated the number of people (in addition to Paul Manafort) whom the F.B.I. has examined. It is at least three, not at least four.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 9:04 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: CD Quarterly

Thank you

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/15/2017 8:57 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Herring, Jason V. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: CD Quarterly

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Mentioned to DD tonight that [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Just wanted to throw it out there for your collective consideration. Have a good night.

b5 -1

Lisa

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: Accepted: MYE tag-up
Location: Sunshine room

Start: Thursday, February 16, 2017 4:00 PM
End: Thursday, February 16, 2017 5:00 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Required Attendees: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

When: Feb 16, 2017 4:00:00 PM

Where: Sunshine room

Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Subject: Accepted: MYE tag-up
Location: Sunshine room
Start: Thursday, February 16, 2017 4:00 PM
End: Thursday, February 16, 2017 5:00 PM
Recurrence: (none)
Meeting Status: No response required
Organizer: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 7:44 PM
To: Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: investigation stats

b6 -1
b7C -1

Ha. We apparently didn't redact "legal process issued" I give the guy credit for detail.

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Date: 02/16/2017 6:45 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: investigation stats

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

One more.

-----Original Message-----

From: Peter Elkind [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 6:43 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: investigation stats

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hi [REDACTED]

Maybe mentioned in Comey's testimony to Congress—will look—but would like to mention some metrics that suggest the extent of the Clinton email investigation: how many people interviewed, how many interviews conducted (several done more than once), how many emails examined, etc.

I can certainly seek to piece something like that together by counting up the released 302s in the Vault. But there are some redacted appendices mentioned on the first page of the letterhead memo on the case (Appendices A-D), which appear to contain exactly that type of information. ("a complete listing of the interviews conducted, electronic media collected, legal process issued, and classified emails identified"). For my purpose, just looking for a statistical summary of those items.

Thanks,
Peter

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2017 9:49 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Story coming, need your help

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/17/2017 9:15 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (WF) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Cc: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Quinn, Richard P. (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Story coming, need your help

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I didn't forward the last message from the reporter. Here it is below.
On the phone this morning the reporter said he is looking at how to characterize the situations of Cohen and Manafort.

From: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 5:56 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: Quinn, Richard P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Story coming, need your help

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

From: Shane, Scott (mailto:[REDACTED])
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 5:53 PM
To: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Story coming, need your help

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

Thanks, Mike. With a lot of loose discussion of who is "under investigation," "under scrutiny," etc, I would like to understand the position of Mr. Cohen in particular. Obviously the bureau has to look at the dossier's claim that Cohen met a Russian guy in Prague to talk about hacking. But that is quite different from what most people take from "under investigation."

Appreciate any guidance

On Thu, Feb 16, 2017 at 5:49 PM, Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] wrote:

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

I asked the press office to look into it. We'll let you if we can help.

From: Shane, Scott (mailto:[REDACTED])
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 5:01 PM
To: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]

FBI (18-cv-154)-10560

Subject: Fwd: Story coming, need your help

Really would like two minutes of your time on this so I don't misrepresent the bureau on one point. Story not posting tonight but probably daytime tomorrow, so would be great to talk tonight.

Thanks much

Scott

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Shane, Scott [REDACTED]
Date: Wed, Feb 15, 2017 at 3:11 PM
Subject: Story coming, need your help
To: Michael Kortan [REDACTED]

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

Mike, with a couple other reporters here at the failing, dishonest NYT, I am preparing a story that is likely to post Friday that involves some Trump associates delivering a packet of info on Ukraine to the White House. Two key participants are Felix Sater, Russian-American ex-felon who long worked on Trump real estate deals in US and Russia, and Michael Cohen, now the president's personal lawyer.

I can give you more details on the phone, but would greatly appreciate some guidance on a couple aspects of this.

I'm on [REDACTED] whenever you get a minute.

b6 -3

Thanks much

Scott

Scott Shane
The New York Times
Washington bureau
[REDACTED]

Book site: scottshane.net/objectivetrov
Email encryption: [REDACTED]

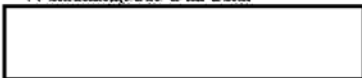
b6 -3

--
Scott Shane
The New York Times
Washington bureau
[REDACTED]


Book site: scottshane.net/objectivetrov
Email encryption: [REDACTED]

b6 -3

Scott Shane
The New York Times
Washington bureau



Book site: scottshane.net/objectivetrov

Email encryption 

b6 -3

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2017 3:07 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Worth a read

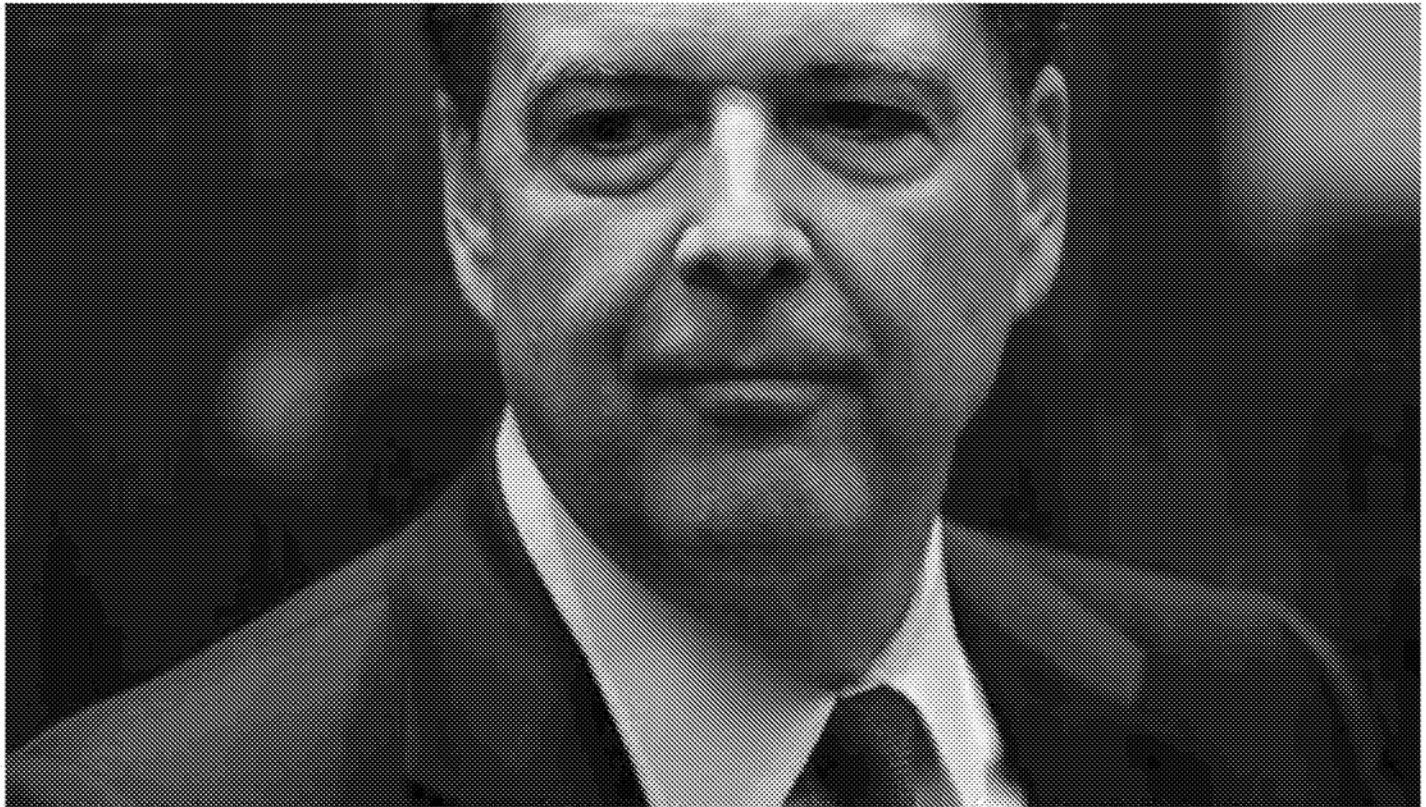
From: McCrehan, Jeffrey R. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2017 11:01 AM
To: Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]; Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]; Boone, Jennifer C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]; Cora, Dina M. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: Worth a read

Tim Weiner is a Pulitzer prize winning reporter. This content comes from BDNews24. Jeff

Jeff McCrehan
Chief of Staff
Counterintelligence Division
[REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

When the FBI confronts the White House



In May 2005, James B. Comey, then the deputy attorney general of the United States, stood before a select audience at the National Security Agency in Ft. Meade, Maryland. Fourteen minutes before, Comey had had a face-to-face conversation with President George W. Bush at the White House, arguing that an NSA program of spying on Americans in the name of counterterrorism had bent the Constitution to the breaking point.

Comey had said "no" to the commander-in-chief. The Justice Department would not re-authorize the program. He was prepared to resign, and to take the then-director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation with him, which would have imperiled the Bush administration in an election year. That conversation was a very deep secret. It stayed secret for two years after Comey's NSA speech.

"It can be very, very hard to be a conscientious attorney working in the intelligence community," he said to the NSA officers. "Hard because we are likely to hear the words: 'If we don't do this, people will die.' You can all supply your own twist: 'If we don't collect this type of information,' or 'If we don't use this technique,' or 'If we don't extend this authority.' It is extraordinarily difficult to be the attorney standing in front of the flight instructor that is the need for this."

He continued: "No" must be spoken into a storm of crisis, with loud voices all around... It takes far more than a sharp legal mind to say "no" when it matters most. It takes moral character. It takes an ability to see the future. It takes an appreciation of the damage that will flow from an unjustified "yes." It takes an understanding that, in the long-run, intelligence under law is the only sustainable intelligence in this country."

These words matter now more than ever. Comey and the FBI are standing in front of a freight train and the engine is the White House. They are in charge of an extraordinary counterintelligence investigation that has reached into the Trump administration, and led this week to the dismissal of the president's national security adviser, Michael Flynn. They and their colleagues at the CIA seek to know the scope and depth of the Kremlin's influence on the 2016 presidential election, a covert operation that Senator John McCain has called "an act of war." They are trying to determine the nature of the contacts between Moscow and the Trump campaign during and after Election Day. Ultimately, they will have to ask what the president knew and when he knew it. Trump is at war with the FBI and the CIA, sweeping denunciations of the agencies and railing against what he calls criminal leaks of information about the investigation. Complicating matters, the president fired Comey's immediate superior, the acting attorney general, Sally Yates. She was the one who informed the White House that Flynn's conversations with Russia's ambassador—and the fact that Flynn was lying about them to superiors up to and including the vice president—made him susceptible to blackmail. Making matters potentially more fraught, the new attorney general, Jeff Sessions, who was a leading figure in the Trump campaign, has said that he would not recuse himself from overseeing the FBI's investigation.

All this puts Comey—and the president—in a political and legal conundrum at a moment when the stakes could not be higher. Trump cannot fire the FBI director now. That act would be seen as much more than political reflexiveness. It could be construed as an obstruction of justice. Yet Comey cannot proceed freely without the knowledge and, in crucial moments, the approval of the

FBI (18-cv-154)-10563

attorney general. The likelihood that they will back home is high.

If the attorney general orders the FBI investigation quashed in anyway — or Trump tells him to do it — that fact will not stay secret for two years, two weeks, or two days. Perhaps two hours at most. Comey would likely resign in protest, taking the upper echelons of the FBI with him. Remember the Saturday Night Massacre of 1973, when President Nixon fired the Watergate special prosecutor seeking his secret White House tapes, and the attorney general and his deputy quit in defiance? That was the beginning of the end of Nixon. President George W. Bush, in his memoirs, says that confrontation immediately crossed his mind during his 2004 White House confrontation with Comey.

If we go down that road now, the Saturday Night Massacre will look like a Sunday morning prayer breakfast by contrast.

One wonders what Hillary Clinton makes of all this. She pointedly blamed Comey for the outcome of the election. On July 5, he criticized her "extremely careless" handling of classified information in her use of a private e-mail server, landing Trump an issue which he hammered every chance he had. Comey's statement was gratuitous; carelessness is not a violation of federal law. Then, on Oct. 28, with the election 11 days away, Comey sent a letter to Congress — instantly leaked by Republican Hillary hunters in the House of Representatives — saying that there might be more e-mails to examine. (As it turned out, that was a false alarm, but it sent the flames higher.)

"We don't ordinarily tell Congress about ongoing investigations," Comey wrote in an e-mail to his agents after sending the fatal letter to Capitol Hill. But he added, "it would be misleading to the American people were we not to supplement the record." He felt, according to very senior FBI officials, that he'd be damned if he did and damned if he didn't keep Congress informed. In any case, he was damned.

Comey is now in charge of one of the most delicate, and potentially the most dangerous, counterintelligence cases in the 108-year history of the FBI. Knowing his record, I suspect he would rather run naked down Pennsylvania Avenue than disclose the details of this investigation to the American people at this moment. The fact remains that the FBI has the lead in solving a series of mysteries enveloping the Trump campaign team and its allies who now run the executive branch of the U.S. government. But in time Senator John McCain will exercise his investigative powers, and he will probably persuade a handful of Republican senators to join him. In the short run, the most important aspects of this case probably will play out in secret, in lead-lined chambers of the Capitol and heavily secured conference rooms at the FBI.

But if we have learned anything about the modern history of the presidency, from the pretend Camelot of John F. Kennedy to the present crises of Donald Trump, it is this: there are no secrets that time will not reveal.

Tim Weiner is a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, February 17, 2017 3:24 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Hey

b6 -1
b7C -1

Are we supposed to be up there.

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/17/2017 3:21 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Hey

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

In with the DD, about to go in with the D. Chat soon?

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Date: 02/17/2017 3:20 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Cc: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Hey

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Mike asked me to contact you and get your read out. Are you around?

I'm on a conference call but can meet at your convenience.

----- Original message -----

From: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/17/2017 2:40 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Hey

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I'm still out. Will be back. Can you touch base with her/them. Tx

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 2/17/17 1:54 PM (GMT-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

To: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"

Subject: Hey

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Pete and I reviewed and have comments. Let us know when you are back. Thanks.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, February 20, 2017 11:54 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR HEART ATTACK

Mission to UN

----- Original message -----

From: "Laycock, Stephen C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/20/2017 11:51 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Boone, Jennifer C. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR HEART ATTACK

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

FYI

----- Original message -----

From: "Mcgonigal, Charles F. (NY) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/20/2017 11:50 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Gilgen, Charles F. (NY) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] (NY) (FBI)
Cc: "Sweeney, William F. (NY) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Laycock, Stephen C. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR HEART ATTACK

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Gents,

FYI. Will provide more as it becomes available. Thanks.

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED]
Date: 02/20/2017 10:59 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Mcgonigal, Charles F. (NY) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR HEART ATTACK

b6 -1, 5
b7C -1, 5
b7D -2
b7E -6

Get Outlook for IOS

----- Forwarded message -----

From:

Date: Mon, Feb 20, 2017 at 10:50 AM -0500

Subject: RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR HEART ATTACK

To:

b6 -3, 5
b7C -3, 5
b7D -2

FYI

b6 -5
b7C -5
b7D -2

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 9:54 AM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Vanity Fair Article

b6 -1
b7C -1

Thanks [REDACTED]

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Date: 02/22/2017 9:32 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"; [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)"; [REDACTED]
Subject: Vanity Fair Article

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

We didn't get a heads up the story was posting last night. I am attaching the story text and here's a link for anyone who wants to see it online.

<http://www.vanityfair.com/news/2017/02/james-comey-fbi-director-letter>

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 2:04 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Hello

b6 -1
b7C -1

I need to grab something to eat, but I'm otherwise free until 4 today.

Thursday 1-2

Friday morning is good before 11, then 2-2:30

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 2:01 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Cc: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Hello

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Please let me know when you have some time available in your schedule and I'll set up a short follow up call with the reporter.

Thanks.

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 1:02 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Cc: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Hello

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

On the phone a short time ago he asked me what floor the team met on. I don't believe [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] But we can add that one to the list.

-----Original Message-----

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 12:59 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Cc: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Hello

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hi [REDACTED] We were just talking about this; we can definitely do a short call. [REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 12:57 PM

To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Cc: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]

Subject: Hello

I wanted to check back in on how we should proceed on Elkind's questions. We discussed [REDACTED]

Today he told me he is starting to write the article but is allowing himself a couple of weeks to get it done. Then he'll be going through a back and forth process with his editors. Maybe we could just do a 15 or 20 minute call when you can spare some time.

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

b5 -1

b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: GSA OIG call pre-meet re preservation request

Location: 4012 (but flexible if we want to do in NSLB)

Start: Thursday, February 23, 2017 10:30 AM

End: Thursday, February 23, 2017 11:00 AM

Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Required Attendees: [REDACTED] OGC) (FBI); Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI);
Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

b6 -1
b7c -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: GSA OIG call pre-meet re preservation request

Location: 4012 (but flexible if we want to do in NSLB)

Start: Thursday, February 23, 2017 10:30 AM

End: Thursday, February 23, 2017 11:00 AM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Required Attendees: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI);
Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 10:05 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: DAG and AAG Nomination Hearings
Attachments: RUSSIAN HACKING Noms paper (ta).docx

----- Original message -----

From: "Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/22/2017 5:52 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
"Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: DAG and AAG Nomination Hearings

Some suggestions.

-----Original Message-----

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 5:20 PM
To: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
"Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: DAG and AAG Nomination Hearings

Good with me

-----Original Message-----

From: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 5:10 PM
To: Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
"Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: DAG and AAG Nomination Hearings

Thanks [REDACTED]

Trisha / Pete / Jon - see my edits within that incorporate some of the material that Jon prepared. Let us know if you're comfortable w/ us sending this back to DOJ.

Beth Beers
FBI Office of Congressional Affairs
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 4:12 PM
To: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: DAG and AAG Nomination Hearings

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

FBI (18-cv-154)-10584

Hello Beth,

I'm not sure if you will need it, but here is the email I sent to DAD Strzok earlier this afternoon. Attached you will find the paper on Russian hacking. Thanks!

Best,

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 1:52 PM

To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)

Subject: DAG and AAG Nomination Hearings

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hello DAD Strzok,

My Unit Chief [REDACTED] requested that I send you OCA's draft of "Russian Hacking to Influence the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election" for the upcoming DAG and AAG nomination hearings. I have attached this document for you to review at your earliest convenience. Please let us know if you have any proposed edits or changes. Thank you for your assistance.

Best,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Legislative Affairs Specialist

Special Projects Unit

FBI/Office of Congressional Affairs

b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 9:35 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: DAG and AAG Nomination Hearings
Attachments: HRC Investigation 2.23.2017.docx
Importance: High

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 8:10 AM
To: Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: DAG and AAG Nomination Hearings
Importance: High

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

All,

You will find attached the HRC investigation paper. Please let me know as early as possible if you are comfortable with sending this to DOJ. Thanks.

[REDACTED]
*Office of Congressional Affairs
Federal Bureau of Investigation*

[REDACTED]

From: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 6:32 PM
To: Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: DAG and AAG Nomination Hearings

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Great. Thanks. We'll send the Clinton paper in the morning

----- Original message -----

From: "Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/22/2017 5:52 PM (GMT-05:00)

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

FBI (18-cv-154)-10588

To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [redacted] "Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)"
[redacted] "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (DO) (FBI)" [redacted] (DO) (FBI)"
[redacted]
Subject: RE: DAG and AAG Nomination Hearings

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Some suggestions.

-----Original Message-----

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 5:20 PM
To: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI) [redacted] Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI)
[redacted] Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (DO) (FBI) [redacted] (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: DAG and AAG Nomination Hearings

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Good with me

-----Original Message-----

From: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 5:10 PM
To: Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [redacted]
Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (DO) (FBI) [redacted] (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: RE: DAG and AAG Nomination Hearings

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Thanks [redacted]

Trisha / Pete / Jon - see my edits within that incorporate some of the material that Jon prepared. Let us know if you're comfortable w/ us sending this back to DOJ.

Beth Beers

FBI Office of Congressional Affairs
[redacted]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

-----Original Message-----

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 4:13 PM
To: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: FW: DAG and AAG Nomination Hearings

Hello Beth,

I'm not sure if you will need it, but here is the email I sent to DAD Strzok earlier this afternoon. Attached you will find the paper on Russian hacking. Thanks!

Best,

-----Original Message-----

From: [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 1:52 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [redacted]
Cc: [redacted] (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
Subject: DAG and AAG Nomination Hearings

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hello DAD Strzok,

My Unit Chief [redacted] requested that I send you OCA's draft of "Russian Hacking to Influence the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election" for the upcoming DAG and AAG nomination hearings. I have attached this document for you to review

FBI (18-cv-154)-10589

at your earliest convenience. Please let us know if you have any proposed edits or changes. Thank you for your assistance.

Best,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Legislative Affairs Specialist
Special Projects Unit
FBI/Office of Congressional Affairs

b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2017 6:46 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Washington Post summary
Attachments: Washington_Post_summary.pdf

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2017 6:40 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Washington Post summary

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Sir,

[REDACTED] got an update on what to expect in the upcoming Washington Post story. His summary is attached.

Have a good weekend.

[REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1

The Washington Post is prepared to write a story as early as this weekend that will discuss the so-called "Trump dossier" and how it was handled by the FBI. The Washington Post has confirmed through a number of sources that a former MI-6 intelligence officer prepared the alleged dossier in 2016 that contained information about then-presidential candidate Trump, his associates and Russia. The story draws upon non-government sources in describing how the FBI and Christopher Steele, known to us for his work in the FIFA investigation, discussed payment for his services including the dossier. It will say that the money has never been paid. It will make clear he worked for opponents of President Trump and had provided credible information during the FIFA investigation. It will also discuss the intelligence community's ability to corroborate some aspects of the dossier but not others. It will include a quote from former DNI Clapper that was released at the time the IC briefed President-elect Trump in NYC.

Importantly, it will not include the FBI agent's name who received the dossier nor the location of the where agent is located or where the meeting took place. It will state that FBI declined to comment for the story.

A second story will detail an individual named Sergey Milian as a main source for some of the information included in the dossier. It will discuss his background and credibility. It will state that he was associated with an organization with ties to Russia that had been investigated by the FBI. The association with this organization will suggest that he did have connections to Russia. On the other hand it will quote associates and acquaintances of Milian that will raise doubts about his credibility.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2017 11:32 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Items for Monday

Fysa

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/26/2017 11:30 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Items for Monday

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hi Bill,

I'm watching Meet the Press and collecting my thoughts for next week. I know you've got a list of things to discuss with Andy; I wanted to highlight the following as needing a decision:

b5 -1, 3
b6 -1, 3
b7C -1, 3

Thanks,
Pete

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: Accepted: MYE follow-up
Location: OGC conference room (non-sunshine room)

Start: Monday, February 27, 2017 1:30 PM
End: Monday, February 27, 2017 2:30 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Required Attendees: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

When: Feb 27, 2017 1:30:00 PM

Where: OGC conference room (non-sunshine room)

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, February 27, 2017 8:16 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Nunes transcript

Thank you. I told Bill I asked oca and others to have a meeting to ensure we're properly tracking and handling all this as it unfolds /evolves.

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/27/2017 8:13 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Nunes transcript

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

----- Original message -----

From: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 02/27/2017 6:20 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "McCabe, Andrew G. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] Ghattas,
Carl (CTD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: Nunes transcript

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Calif., holds a news conference on Russian hacking

Monday, February 27th, 2017

(JOINED IN PROGRESS)

NUNES: But I'm just looking forward to taking your questions. So -- so with that, I'll just open it up to all of you. **QUESTION:** Can you say categorically that there were no contacts whatsoever between any officials affiliated with the Russian government and the Trump campaign?

NUNES: Not -- not that I'm aware of. We still have not seen any evidence of anyone that's -- from the Trump campaign or any other campaign for that matter that's communicated with the Russian government.

QUESTION: And also, why would you agree to be -- to talk to reporters at the behest of the White House, knowing that you're still looking into this matter?

NUNES: Yeah, so that -- that story was a little odd, I thought, because if you ask me to contact the

FBI (18-cv-154)-10607

NUNES: Yeah, so that -- that story was a little odd, I thought, because if you ask me to contact the White House and said, "Hey, could you set me up with somebody at DOD or the intelligence agencies," I would say sure. So it was kind of an odd story, I thought.

QUESTION: Is it compromised in any way, the fact that you have already made this determination?

NUNES: How is it compromised if I'm trying to be transparent with the press? And if the White House asks me to talk to a reporter, which by the way, it was one reporter, I don't know -- if the White House asked me to talk to you, would you think that would be OK or not OK?

QUESTION: What's your response to that?

NUNES: Well, what's your response to it?

QUESTION: Well, you're investigating this -- you're investigating this matter and the White House is urging you to make -- to knock down these stories that are raising questions (inaudible).

NUNES: No, that -- that absolutely didn't happen.

QUESTION: Is there anything that you have learned in the course of this investigation that really conflicts with public reporting?

NUNES: Well, if you look at -- if you look at what's happened, there's been -- major crimes have been committed. And what I'm concerned about is this, no one is focusing on major leaks that have occurred here.

And so right after the leak of the transcript that President Trump had with the Australian ambassador -- I mean, with the Australian prime minister, I was in contact with the Australian ambassador. I was also in contact with the White House and the appropriate agencies because we can't run a government like this. A government can't function with massive leaks at the highest level of our president talking to foreign leaders.

And so that, I think, is one of the focuses that you all should be concerned about because these are high-level leaks.

QUESTION: (inaudible) -- how big is the circle of individuals who have access to those transcripts?

NUNES: Well, this is out of -- you know, I didn't really realize this, but evidently, the way I understand the process is is that the last administration had it set up to go down to the State Department and the I.C. and perhaps any other stakeholders within the NSC or the appropriate people within the White House.

And so, you know, we don't know how those got out. But clearly, you know, how are foreign leaders going to be able to talk to our president if they don't -- if they don't think that this is going to be leaked to the press?

QUESTION: Just to follow on (inaudible) question because you said no contacts with the Russian government. As I'm sure you're aware, there are many Russian businessmen, oligarchs, et cetera that report back to the Kremlin as part of their circle of intelligence gathering. Have you eliminated that possibility, that the people that Trump advisers were speaking with have connections to the Russian government even if they're not officially working for the Russian government?

NUNES: Well, we -- we haven't -- just to be clear, we haven't eliminated anything. The only thing that I want to make sure that we do is before we go after American citizens and subpoena them or bring them before the legislative branch of government, that it's not just because they appeared in a news story somewhere.

QUESTION: What you're saying...

NUNES: And so -- but as of -- as of...

QUESTION: You're still investigating them, communications between Trump campaign advisers and Russians known to U.S. intelligence...

NUNES: It's not -- I wouldn't limit it to Trump only or Trump officials. I would say that it would be also any contacts with any political candidates anywhere at any level, including in the United States or in foreign -- other foreign countries.

QUESTION: Are you saying then that there were Clinton advisers that were speaking to...

NUNES: I'm just saying that -- no, no, no. Let's not...

QUESTION: (OFF-MIKE)

NUNES: There would be no -- there would be no evidence of that nor is there any evidence that I've been presented about Trump advisers speaking to Russians.

But we do know for a long time that the Russians have been very interested in manipulating elections, manipulating the press. They're very good at propaganda. And so -- I mean, that's what caused me a year ago to come out and criticize the intelligence agencies for the largest intelligence failure since 9/11 because of the lack of good intelligence we were getting on Putin's plans and intentions.

So I'm -- so that's why I really appreciate the amount of press that showed up here today because, you know, we do need to have some scrutiny put on to the Russian government and we do need to know if there are any Americans that are talking to the Russians and anybody connected to the Russian government or Russian agents.

But at this time, I want to be very careful that we can't just go on a witch hunt against Americans because they appear in a news story somewhere.

QUESTION: And by Americans, do you mean Michael Flynn, the former NSA?

NUNES: Any -- any American.

QUESTION: (inaudible) referring to Flynn...

NUNES: Well, I think specifically, there was -- I think the more important question on that was there were three Americans, of which the only name I know is Manafort, the other two I don't know. **NUNES:** But they appeared in a news story and the questions that we had 10 days ago when that story broke, for many of you who attended the different press availabilities that I had, the question was whether or not we were going to investigate those Americans.

And, at this point, here at the committee, we still don't have any evidence of them talking to Russians.

QUESTION: And do you have all the evidence at this point that you expect to receive?

Or would you say you're still in the preliminary stages of receiving and reviewing that evidence?

NUNES: Well, we're working on the -- we had the scoping of our investigation finished. And then we're going to move into actually receiving the evidence.

But, as of right now, the initial inquiries I've made to the appropriate agencies, I don't have any evidence.

QUESTION: I just want to be really clear, so the FBI specifically told you that they have found no contacts between any Trump associates and Russian officials?

NUNES: Yes, so I want to be -- we're not going to just -- we're going to say the whole I.C. here, I'm not going to get up to specific to any one agency. But as of right now, I don't have -- I don't have any evidence that would -- of any phone calls.

That doesn't mean they don't exist but I don't have that. And what I've been told is, by many -- by many folks, is that there's nothing there.

QUESTION: But you're still looking at it?

NUNES: But we're still -- we're absolutely looking into it. And we want the information. But I just can't -- I just can't call in American citizens with no information.

QUESTION: When you say -- when you say there are no contacts (inaudible), are you referring to direct contacts, for instance, Manafort had a lot of contacts with Ukrainians (inaudible).

NUNES: Yes, well, I think, specifically, this would be on contacts with any association whatsoever to anyone, even within the realm of the Russian intelligence apparatus.

QUESTION: You just said that many people have told you this.

Can you be more specific?

I mean, who has told you that there are...

NUNES: No, I'm not going to get into -- I'm not going to get into specifically the conversations I had -- you know, I had with the executive branch and the appropriate agencies.

But I will say that we long have had a very good process in the Congress here, where we have the Gang of Eight. When counterintelligence issues arise, they brief us on those counterintelligence issues.

And we keep them, because they oftentimes involve American citizens, and I -- and it's important that we keep it that way, when those investigations are ongoing.

But, in this case, as it relates to any campaign officials dealing with Russians, we don't have any evidence right now.

QUESTION: Mr. Chairman, if you've been told that there's nothing there, why are you specifically investigating whether there are any links between the campaign and Russian officials?

investigating whether there are any links between the campaign and Russian officials?

NUNES: Well...unlike what -- I think what's been reported, we've had a long ongoing investigation into Russian activities. I would have preferred for that not to be out and talked about in public.

But you may remember, for the last several years, we've been concerned about Russia's cyber activities. And we remain concerned about those activities.

Since the election, we've broadened the scope of that investigation to include any involvement in this -- in our elections here and, of course, any ties that there might be to any government officials at any level.

So it's not just -- not just here in Washington but governors and others. If there's anything out there, any American citizens from political campaigns coordinating with the Russian government, we clearly would want -- we would want to know that and we would want to investigate it.

QUESTION: Just (inaudible), have you seen the transcripts of Mike Flynn's phone calls with the Russian ambassador? **NUNES:** No, but I've been briefed -- I've been briefed on them. And it would be unusual, actually, I think unprecedented for us to get transcripts that were illegally leaked out and discussed, for us to have those here in Congress.

QUESTION: Was there any...

NUNES: And I think we've got to be very careful about the legislative branch of government getting FISA warranted communications and that we start combing through private conversations that American citizens are having. We've got to be very careful where we go with this.

QUESTION: Do you think it's concerning, you know, if -- that you (inaudible)?

NUNES: No, I think -- what it appears to me like is that it seems to be there is a difference between what Russia's sanctions are to people like myself, which, when I think Russia sanctions, I think of dealing with Crimea, dealing with the invasion of Ukraine by the Russians and the sanctions that we've put in -- into place, working with our allies, with the E.U. and others, and then what happened right at the time after Christmas, when President Obama kicked some Russian diplomats out, that -- I don't really consider that to be sanctions.

QUESTION: (OFF-MIKE)

NUNES: Well, look, Russia sanctions on a global stage, most of the meetings that I have with foreign leaders, they always revolve around -- when we talk Russia sanctions, that's what we're normally referring to. I don't -- when President Obama kicked out a few diplomats, that was -- number one, it was way too late. Number two, it was extremely weak. And number three, the Russian government didn't even respond to it because it was so ridiculous.

QUESTION: When the White House asked you about, you know, talking to this reporter, did you know that they had also asked Senator Burr to do the same thing? And did it feel to you like some sort of a coordinated effort to push back?

NUNES: No. I mean, if anything -- if anything, it was the opposite. So many of you -- many of you who were around ten days ago, you know that I took your questions as it related to the New York Times piece as it related to three Americans and whether or not we had any information or not.

So I had already talked to many of you about that several times, both in press runs and also on individual interviews. And so, by the time -- all it was was a White House communications person

individual interviews. And so, by the time -- all it was was a White House communications person passing a number and a name of a reporter over for me -- if I would talk to them following up on what I had already told all of you in the days before that.

So I'm not sure how you generate a press story out of that, but I can't control what you guys write.

QUESTION: Did you know that they had asked...

QUESTION: Are you saying the FBI has not supplied you with the evidence or the FBI has told you there is no evidence?

NUNES: Well, look, I'm not going to get into which agencies, OK? I think it's important.

QUESTION: ... the intelligence community.

NUNES: But -- but the intelligence agencies have not provided me or the committee any information about those three Americans communicating with Russians and...

QUESTION: But they have not told you that that evidence does not exist? There's a difference there.

NUNES: Yeah, I -- the way it sounds like to me is it's been looked into and there's no evidence of anything there. You know, obviously we'd like to know if there is.

NUNES: Then it's pretty serious, then it would be the intelligence agencies then misleading Congress, which opens up a whole other problem.

QUESTION: Why not just not name a special prosecutor to take away the notion that this could be tainted by politics in any way?

NUNES: Well, I mean, look, this is -- we're the legislative branch of government, we're elected. I think the history of special prosecutors is mixed. And at this point, what are we going to appoint a special prosecutor to do exactly, to chase stories of American citizens that end up in newspaper articles?

I mean, that's -- right now, I mean look, if -- some point, we have serious crimes have been committed, it would be something that we would consider. But at this point, we don't have that. The only serious crimes we have are leaks that have come out of our government to the press and others.

Yes?

QUESTION: You had written a letter to the FBI about the leak. Can you give us an update on (inaudible)?

NUNES: Well, we -- I wrote the letter, and obviously, it's a classified letter. There's a classified version and an unclassified version. And we're expecting answers to that. So I think we have some briefings this week and next week and those briefings will continue.

QUESTION: ... committing resources to investigating these leaks?

NUNES: Well, as anything, we can't -- just like I think it's very similar to us not having any evidence of who -- of these American citizens that were allegedly talking to Russians, we also

don't know exactly who would have known about General Flynn.

Now, the good thing is about FISA and the way it works, there should be a record of who in the government knew about General Flynn talking to the Russian ambassador and from there we should be able to do know who is in the realm of the possible, who we would need to talk to.

QUESTION: Can I ask you, who made the decision under the last (ph) administration to unmask Flynn? And was it appropriate?

NUNES: We don't know yet, but that's a very good question. And we are -- and that's -- those are some of the -- I think that we should be able to find out. We should be able to find out who within the executive branch knew about the initial conversations and then who went to who to get Flynn's name unmasked. So there -- that should be a relatively small number of people.

QUESTION: When the intelligence community begins presenting evidence to you, is that evidence going to be turned over to your committee or is it going to be housed -- continue to be housed in the intelligence community?

NUNES: Well, that will be -- that's one of the contentious issues right now of where the information is housed. We'll probably have some here, some may remain at the agencies. **QUESTION:** Do you have any -- have you heard any evidence at all, seen anything about anyone in the White House directing Mr. Flynn to discuss the issue -- any issues with the Russian ambassador? Did anyone in the White House tell him to do that?

NUNES: No, look, I think this whole issue with General Flynn -- General Flynn is an American war hero, one of the -- put together one of the greatest military machines in our history providing the intelligence to basically eliminate Al Qaida from Iraq. And he was the national security adviser designee, he was taking multiple calls a day from ambassadors, from foreign leaders and look, I know this because the foreign leaders were contacting me trying to get in touch with the transition team and folks that wanted to meet with President Trump or -- President-elect Trump and Vice President-elect Pence.

QUESTION: But did President-elect Trump at the time of the transition team tell Flynn to talk to the Russian ambassador?

NUNES: Look, I find that -- I would find that hard to believe because they were so busy and I think these conversations were all very short. I know we had -- yes?

QUESTION: Are you going to finalize and release the scope of the investigation? Also, do you plan to coordinate with the Senate side to have joint...

NUNES: Yeah, we're -- well, we're separate bodies but we will -- so we'll have a scoping document that should be approved, I think it's finished now. And then probably just have some brief outlines of what we'll be looking at, but look, I mean you guys all know what we're going to be looking at. It's not -- it's not rocket science.

QUESTION: But do you plan to coordinate interviews with the Senate so that you don't muck up the...

NUNES: I wouldn't -- I mean, I wouldn't rule it out. I wouldn't rule it out, but -- but, you know, we'll try to work with the Senate where possible. But I view this as a -- as two separate branches of the legislative branch of government.

Yes?

QUESTION: Is there a difference between the White House asking you to call a reporter and asking the FBI to knock down a particular story? **NUNES:** Well look, I don't think the -- I mean, first of all the White House talking to -- having a reporter -- if a reporter asks the White House, hey, can you get ahold of whatever member of Congress? I don't think there's any issue there, I don't know what the story's about.

As it relates to the -- as it relates to the FBI, I believe what happened with the White House, as I understand it in my limited conversations that I've had, I just think it was an obvious question that one would ask if there's no evidence here, can you talk about it.

And the FBI of course doesn't -- normally doesn't talk about leaks and whether or not they're investigating that or other issues of who the -- who's under investigation. I think it's pretty standard for the FBI not to comment on this. That's pretty unusual if they do comment and so obviously when -- so I don't even know how true that story is. I mean, I would -- I would go to the White House and ask, you know, what conversations actually occurred, but I don't think very many and I think they were -- pretty simple.

QUESTION: Can you give us an idea of how far along you are in starting this investigation? And like how many people are involved...

NUNES: Well, just to make sure you understand, what caused me to go out a year ago and say the biggest intelligence failure since 9/11 was our failure to understand Putin's plans and intentions, what caused that is because we were constantly investigating the Russia problems. So, all we're doing is we're adding additional things that we're looking at, which include the -- which will include the election issues.

QUESTION: How do you -- you say that there's no evidence right now Russians contacted campaign officials, but you also say that you're just in the -- in the scope gathering process of the investigation...

NUNES: Well, we're -- no, we're putting together a scope working with -- bipartisan with my counterpart Mr. Schiff so that we make sure that we -- that we're on the election as it relates to the election. But look, we've always been very, very interested in what the Russians are up to so this is basically part of an ongoing investigation that I was hopeful would have never been out in the press like it is, but now it is.

And now we're just expanding the scope of the investigation to include what we will look at as it relates to the election. But in terms of evidence, some we have -- some evidence we do have. Obviously we're looking for more evidence, but most importantly as it relates to American citizens, if you all have American citizens that you know were talking to Russian agents, if you want to come to our committee, be a whistleblower yourselves and bring me those names, I'd be very interested in having them.

QUESTION: But you expect the -- obtain more evidence or information, I should say, as the weeks go on?

NUNES: Yes, we will continue to take evidence, we'll follow the facts where they lead.

QUESTION: How extensive was the Obama administration's wiretap of the transition team and the campaign? Was it just Flynn or do you think this was a regular -- a regular process of listening into what Trump was doing?

NUNES: Well, as -- as I understand it, this was inadvertent collection to where then Mr. Flynn's name was then unmasked, someone had to make that decision, someone very high up within the government would have had to do that or multiple people. And we're very interested to figure out who those people were because they have -- they have questions to answer as to why -- you know, what laws did they use to decide to unmask General Flynn's name. **QUESTION:** So to follow up with that, if there was ongoing contact between the Russians and the Trump campaign, wouldn't other names pop up inadvertently? And so if this was the only incident that popped up, would that knock down the idea that there was regular contact?

NUNES: Yeah, look, there is no evidence that I've been presented of regular contact with anybody within the Trump campaign. The only one that's -- that's obvious is the -- is General Flynn's discussions with the Russians which I would still contend that he was doing what he was supposed to do, which is prepare the president-elect for office by getting as many leaders in front of him as possible.

QUESTION: If I could ask, if it's a major crime for leakers to -- to discuss classified information relating to these communications and elsewhere, why is it not inappropriate for the White House and you and Senator Burr to call reporters and give your own interpretation of, again, a continuing investigation that involves classified intelligence? Isn't that a counter leak, as it were? You're still discussing...

NUNES: Well, I would never...

QUESTION: ... investigation?

NUNES: Well, in order -- I would never talk about classified information with any of you because that would be a crime.

QUESTION: But the message that was coming from you and others...

NUNES: So...

QUESTION: ... was that we've looked at the information, there's nothing there and that relates to an ongoing investigation one and it's based on, at its core, classified information about contacts between...

NUNES: Right, but there was -- there was no release of classified information in that. And I'm a little confused by your question because either you -- I mean, the White House has been very critical of a lot of you. And so here, you have the White House actually trying to communicate with many of you and trying to communicate with the Congress about what they're -- what they're doing. And now, suddenly, that's -- that's wrong, there's -- there's nothing wrong with that.

If you look at the last administration and I think if a lot of the Democrats were -- were being honest with you, they know that the relationship between the last White House and Congress was extremely poor. What we're trying to do is have a very good working relationship with the executive branch of government at all levels.

And so I would anticipate that -- that and hope that we have more coordination with the White House and all the appropriate agencies and that we actually -- on one side, we're a separate branch of government and we will conduct rigorous oversight, which look, I've been very clear. If I find out that -- that Reince Priebus was, you know, talking to, you know, Russian agents, you can bet that Reince Priebus will get a subpoena and will appear before the Congress.

DET. REINCE PRIEBUS WILL GET A SUBPOENA AND WILL APPEAR BEFORE THE CONGRESS.

QUESTION: Mr. Chairman, Jim Comey, the FBI director, was on the Senate side right before the recess (inaudible) called it a hearing. Has he appeared before your committee in a similar capacity? Have you asked for him to come?

NUNES: Yeah, we've had -- we've had discussions with the FBI director and others within the FBI, and I do expect that they will be briefing us again either this week or next.

QUESTION: Are you going to...

NUNES: Yes, Sir, back there? What's that?

QUESTION: (inaudible) Attorney General to be recuse himself?

NUNES: So that's way above my pay grade, I have -- I have no idea. I don't even know what at this point would the Attorney General...

QUESTION: Well, there's...

NUNES: What would he recuse himself from?

QUESTION: They're calling him to -- because of his relationship with the Trump campaign, that he would be an impartial...

NUNES: Right, but the way -- the way this works is, you know, if the FBI is at some point, if they're conducting an investigation, they would have to go to the appropriate authorities to get a warrant, to do something. And as far as I know, none of that's -- that's happened.

(CROSSTALK) QUESTION: Speaking of Reince Priebus, do you have any concerns with him talking with the FBI, number two at the FBI to back down stories about this, given the...

NUNES: I don't wanna speak -- look, I think you need to ask them. But I think they've been pretty clear about the discussions.

The FBI regularly briefs both branches of government, so they would -- they would brief -- FBI would brief the president, vice president, the chief of staff, any other appropriate personnel the same way that they brief the Senate and the House. And so it would not be unusual in any of those cases for us to make requests of the FBI or any other intelligence agency.

Yes?

QUESTION: Based on your briefings, has anything in the Trump (inaudible) been verified?

NUNES: Not that I'm aware of.

QUESTION: Going back to what the White House was telling you earlier, you said that it was not about knocking down the New York Times report, so what did they suggest...

NUNES: Yeah, I mean, I think that's a -- that's a good point. And -- and look, you guys are the ones that were there. Matter of fact, I think you were there when -- I think I spoke to you that -- the morning of that -- of that story breaking.

I was very clear with all of you about what I thought about that New York Times story. This was way in advance of the White House sending me one phone number and I still don't understand, what would be the problem of the White House sending me a number of a press person to call? Isn't the whole point of the press to be transparent? NUNES: I mean, you guys always normally want to talk to me and that's why I wanted to create this press availability today, so that I can -- so that I can talk to all of you, so that it's just more organized versus you guys chasing me around at press scrums.

QUESTION: ... guidance point (inaudible)?

NUNES: No, no, no. It was just this person wants to talk about the -- about The New York Times story and I got the number and I called the reporter.

QUESTION: Chairman, on the -- on the Flynn phone call, I'm not sure I fully understand the distinction you made between the Ukraine sanctions and the sanctions that President Obama imposed. It wasn't just (inaudible)...

NUNES: So look, if -- I think -- let me -- let me describe it bluntly, OK?

QUESTION: ... sanction individuals with GRUs (ph), contractors that participate in the hacking, and I guess the question is, if General Flynn telegraphed to the Russian ambassador that those sanctions, whether or not you think they were serious enough or strong enough, would be eased or lifted, would that not be ...

NUNES: Well, I don't...

QUESTION: ... (inaudible)?

NUNES: ... so let me be very, very clear. So I think that, just when I apply common sense to this, those were not sanctions. Those were petty. They're not taken seriously by anybody who knows this. When we -- when every conversation I have ever had about Russian sanctions with any of our allies, it's always been about the Russia sanctions dealing with the invasion of Ukraine.

QUESTION: But you realize there were sanctions imposed...

NUNES: Well, look, you guys can -- you guys can -- you guys can call them that if you want. But I...

NUNES: ... but I wouldn't call them that.

QUESTION: That's what they were called by the White House.

The question is, did General Flynn, in any way, suggest to the Russian ambassador that he didn't have to worry, that Vladimir Putin didn't have to worry about these sanctions, because President Trump would either ease or lift them?

NUNES: Yes, well, I think the -- if the discussions occurred around ensuring that the -- that there was no overreaction by the Russian government so that the new administration could do, like all of the other previous administrations who think that they can work with Putin -- which all three have been wrong, that they cannot work with Putin -- if that was -- is that was what General Flynn did, was just to try to keep the lines of communications open and to have -- and to see it makes for the Russians didn't overreact and maybe have some reciprocal attacks on our -- on our diplomats or other embassies around the world, that did us a big favor. And we should be thanking him, not...

NUNES: ... not going after him.

QUESTION: ... like he was telling the Russian ambassador, don't worry about what the president just announced, we're going to do something different when we get...

NUNES: Yes, I don't know that that's what was said. But if that was said, I don't know what the problem would be with that, I mean I would -- I'd think that's exactly what he -- what he should be doing.

QUESTION: Isn't that one U.S. administration (inaudible)...

NUNES: So you want to investigate on the Logan Act.

You're a Logan Act guy?

QUESTION: Make it look (inaudible)...

NUNES: That's really -- look, it's ridiculous if -- the Logan Acts are ridiculous. You guys all know that's ridiculous.

QUESTION: Sir, do you plan...

NUNES: Yes, sir?

QUESTION: ... Trump's tax returns? **NUNES:** To do what with them?

QUESTION: To subpoena...

NUNES: No.

QUESTION: ... tax...

NUNES: No, we're not going to do that.

QUESTION: (inaudible) answering this question about (inaudible) if I understood correctly, you said, I don't know why he should, because there -- he didn't know of any investigation going on.

So is that saying...

NUNES: Well, I don't think there is any evidence to go after anyone at this point, is my point. At that point, it would be up to -- it would be up to the attorney general and others.

QUESTION: Is the FBI not investigating leaks (inaudible)?

NUNES: I would -- the FBI should always be investigating leaks. I would hope that they are taking the leaks that have occurred over the course of the last couple months seriously and I would hope they are investigating.

But, look, they are not going to comment on those, nor should they.

QUESTION: And one last thing, if you are looking into the -- is that (inaudible) investigation?

Or is that (inaudible)?

NUNES: No, it's all -- it'll all rolled into the investigation.

Any other new questions?

QUESTION: Just your Democratic colleagues are not here at this briefing today. We understand that they were not aware of this happening.

Why should Americans be confident (inaudible)?

NUNES: Well, the whole point of me calling this press availability was because I didn't want to have like we had the last week, where there were multiple press scrums so I just -- and I often had times to had to continue to repeat myself.

And then, you know, as I saw these stories roll out, I just looked at all this and said, well, this can't possibly be true, because I was very open, very transparent with all of you. I was willing to go on the record right away about what had happened or not happened with the -- with "The New York Times" story, what I knew at the time.

And so I just wanted to make sure that what I am trying to do, to bring to this, is actually more transparency so that we can have a normal engagement with all of you that's regularly scheduled in advance for two reasons.

One, so it is all on the record so you all know that we are being transparent but, two, I don't like to have to repeat myself all week on the same thing.

QUESTION: Mr. Chairman, (inaudible) in the news lately is North Korea.

What is your assessment of how large threat in North Korea is to national security and how compared to Russia? **NUNES:** Well, the -- the North Korean regime is -- is completely unhinged, they've long been unhinged. And the closer they get to ability to not only detonate a nuclear weapon, but also deliver that nuclear weapon, we have to take that seriously because for a long time, this is not a regime that's -- that would, you know, by any stretch of the imagination, you can have actual negotiations with.

It also is, I think, one of the biggest travesties on the planet when people find out what's happening in North Korea, where you have probably 20 million people living like animals, I think that we should all be concerned about it. And somebody who is unhinged as the North Korean dictator, we should all be concerned about it, and so should the Chinese and the Russians and others.

QUESTION: And then how does it compare to Russia? What is your assessment (inaudible)?

NUNES: Well, the question would be with, you know, whether or not can there be a -- can there be a new relationship with the Russian government. This administration wants to attempt to try to that. I'm very skeptical of that. But to be fair to them, President Obama tried, President Bush tried and so did President Clinton right when Putin was put in office.

Other...

QUESTION: Has the Russian cyber activity continued since the election? And if so, what is the intensity? Are there any...

NUNES: My -- I think...

QUESTION: ... sanctions?

NUNES: I think the important thing to know about -- and as you know, the House Intelligence Committee for many years has been very active on cyber threats. And if you look at -- I think one thing you should assume is that the Russians and the Chinese are very, very good at their cyber activities, so most of the time, we're not gonna even know that they're there. And they continue to expand the capabilities, and we, of course -- there's -- there's all sorts of anti-virus companies out there and people who are watching this threat.

But look, everybody's communications are vulnerable, whether it's your e-mail, phone calls, the grid. Both the Chinese and the Russians are actively increasing their cyber attack capabilities and we're trying to respond to that.

QUESTION: At this point, do you think that you now know everything that the FBI knows at this point about (inaudible) intelligence gathering?

NUNES: Look, I always want to know more, but you know, I think they have been very up-front. They've been over to brief us. And hopefully, they'll continue to do that.

QUESTION: So you think it's possible they now (ph) know more than -- than they've shared with you at this point?

NUNES: Look, I would think that they've hit the high points with us, but you know, we'd like to drill into that a little bit more to see if there's anything there?

Any other questions?

QUESTION: Yeah. You said this was an expansion of a year-long investigation (inaudible). How would you categorize the expansion? What stage are you at of the expansion? Is (inaudible) beginning of (inaudible) part of the investigation?

QUESTION: (OFF-MIKE)

NUNES: Yeah, well, I'm not gonna get into what we've -- what we -- I'd prefer for this never to have gotten out, that we were very concerned about Russian activities, OK? But it's out there now, and what we're doing is we're formalizing a process with my Democratic counterpart so that we have a nice scoping document on everything that we're gonna look at as it relates to the election, leaks and everything that's kind of happened say, post maybe preelection until now.

QUESTION: But (inaudible). Is this early days? You said we don't have any evidence. Is this early days and you might not have evidence yet that (ph) could well come in?

NUNES: Well, I think what I'm -- what I'm trying to be very careful of here is, and I want to -- I want to warn all of you, I have -- we can't have McCarthyism back in this place. We can't have the government, the U.S. government or the Congress, legislative branch of government chasing down American citizen, hauling them before the Congress as if there's some secret Russian agent.

And that's what I'm concerned about here, that we don't go on some witch hunt against American citizens just because they appear in a press story somewhere.

QUESTION: You said that you didn't want the initial investigation to become public. What do you see the end result (inaudible)? How public will your findings become?

NUNES: They'll be public. They'll be publicized. **QUESTION:** And beyond that...

NUNES: And look, and -- you know, we could just have a -- likely what will happen is we'll probably just have an interim report of some kind that we'll put out on what we have, and then, you know, like oftentimes occurs, you know, these investigations, I would like for the whole issue with the Russian investigations to have -- to stop. But I don't have, as you already know from the previous comments, I don't have any faith that Putin is going to be negotiate in good faith with us or become an ally or become part of the West at this point.

QUESTION: So how much has that aspect of it, the distrust of the Russian government, have you shared and expressed with the president, given the, as you said previous administrations sort of always start out wanting to reset that relationship? I mean, have you expressed your concerns...

NUNES: I've been -- I don't know if I've spoke to the president directly about it. I don't think I have. But I mean, clearly, all of the advisers around him I have. **QUESTION:** I'm confused. So, once again you say that you -- the FBI or the intelligence communities have given you the high points of evidence, but you're also saying that you're at the beginning stages of this expansion of an investigation...

NUNES: Because there's an investigation -- there's investigations that the executive branch of government does and then there's investigations that the legislative branch of government people do.

QUESTION: Yes. So you're confident in your assertion that there is no evidence that these three people talked to Russian agents even though you have not done your own investigation into yet?

NUNES: As of right now -- as of right now, we have no evidence but we will continue to ask for evidence and will continue to look for evidence not only on the three Americans that were named in that story, but also any other American that has any contact with Russian officials. All right, guys, well thank you -- one more.

QUESTION: Are you any closer to understanding, though, why the president is so praise worthy of Vladimir Putin or why he says, basically, what we do here in America is the same as what he's done in Russia?

NUNES: Look, I'm very perplexed by this just as I was perplexed by -- when George W. Bush looked into Putin's eyes. That was perplexing. If you look at when President Obama was caught in a hot mic saying that he was going to be -- have more flexibility after the election, I was perplexed by that and look, good presidents -- three presidents in a row have tried to work with the Russian government.

I think it's a novel concept, I just don't think it's going to work. But President Trump has been very clear with the American people that he's going to try to do that, which would make him no different than the last three presidents.

So, all right, guys. Thank you all very much.

END

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2017 4:40 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: WAPO Dossier Story--

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Date: 02/28/2017 4:18 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: WAPO Dossier Story--

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Pete,

For your awareness, the Washington Post just published this story about the dossier. I believe that AD Kortan is going to contact you about it. Thanks [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1

https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/fbi-once-planned-to-pay-former-british-spy-who-authored-controversial-trump-dossier/2017/02/28/896ab470-facc-11e6-9845-576c69081518_story.html?utm_term=.5a874a756b29

[REDACTED]
Federal Bureau of Investigation
National Press Office
Desk [REDACTED]
Cell: [REDACTED]

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, March 01, 2017 10:42 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Obama Administration Rushed to Preserve Intelligence of Russian Election Hacking - NYTimes.com

----- Original message -----

From: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 03/01/2017 10:29 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Obama Administration Rushed to Preserve Intelligence of Russian Election Hacking - NYTimes.com

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

OK. Good to know. Thanks.

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/1/17 10:27 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Obama Administration Rushed to Preserve Intelligence of Russian Election Hacking - NYTimes.com

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -4, 6

Mike,

Just figured out (with the help of insight of someone else) an explanation for one of the things they're saying that didn't make sense to me [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Bottom line, still some problems, but not as bad as i initially thought.

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 03/01/2017 8:29 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Obama Administration Rushed to Preserve Intelligence of Russian Election Hacking - NYTimes.com

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Mike

FBI (18-cv-154)-10631

<https://mobile.nytimes.com/2017/03/01/us/politics/obama-trump-russia-election-hacking.html>

Obama Administration Rushed to Preserve Intelligence of Russian Election Hacking

March 1, 2017

By MATTHEW ROSENBERG, ADAM GOLDMAN and MICHAEL S. SCHMIDT

WASHINGTON — In the Obama administration's last days, some White House officials scrambled to spread information about Russian efforts to undermine the presidential election — and about possible contacts between associates of President-elect Donald J. Trump and Russians — across the government. Former American officials say they had two aims: to ensure that such meddling isn't duplicated in future American or European elections, and to leave a clear trail of intelligence for government investigators.

American allies, including the British and the Dutch, had provided information describing meetings in European cities between Russian officials — and others close to Russia's president, Vladimir V. Putin — and associates of President-elect Trump, according to three former American officials who requested anonymity in discussing classified intelligence. Separately, American intelligence agencies had intercepted communications of Russian officials, some of them within the Kremlin, discussing contacts with Mr. Trump's associates.

Then and now, Mr. Trump has denied that his campaign had any contact with Russian officials, and at one point he openly suggested that American spy agencies had cooked up intelligence suggesting that the Russian government had tried to meddle in the presidential election. Mr. Trump has accused the Obama administration of hyping the Russia story line as a way to discredit his new administration.

At the Obama White House, Mr. Trump's statements stoked fears among some that intelligence could be covered up or destroyed — or its sources exposed — once power changed hands. What followed was a push to preserve the intelligence that underscored the deep anxiety with which the White House and American intelligence agencies had come to view the threat from Moscow.

It also reflected the suspicion among many in the Obama White House that the Trump campaign might have colluded with Russia on election email hacks — a suspicion that American officials say has not been confirmed. Former senior Obama administration officials said that none of the efforts were directed by Mr. Obama.

"The only new piece of information that has come to light is that political appointees in the Obama administration have sought to create a false narrative to make an excuse for their own defeat in the election. There continues to be no there, there," said Sean Spicer, the White House spokesman.

As Inauguration Day approached, Obama White House officials grew convinced that the intelligence was damning and that they needed to ensure that as many people as possible inside government could see it, even if people without security clearances could not. Some officials began asking specific questions at intelligence briefings, knowing the answers would be archived and could be easily unearthed by investigators — including the Senate Intelligence Committee, which in early January announced an inquiry into Russian efforts to influence the election.

At intelligence agencies, there was a push to process as much raw intelligence as possible into analyses, and to keep the reports at a relatively low level of classification to ensure as wide a readership as possible across the government — and, in some cases, among European allies. This allowed the upload of as much intelligence as possible to Intellipedia, a secret wiki used by American intelligence analysts to share information.

There was also an effort to pass reports and other sensitive materials to Congress. In one instance, the State Department sent a cache of documents marked "secret" to Senator Benjamin Cardin of Maryland days before the Jan. 20 inauguration. The

documents, detailing Russian efforts to intervene in elections worldwide, were sent in response to a request from Mr. Cardin, the top Democrat on the Foreign Relations Committee.

“This situation was serious, as is evident by President Obama’s call for a review — and as is evident by the United States response,” said Eric Schultz, a spokesman for Mr. Obama. “When the intelligence community does that type of comprehensive review, it is standard practice that a significant amount of information would be compiled and documented.”

The opposite happened with the most sensitive intelligence, including the names of sources and the identities of foreigners who were regularly monitored. Officials tightened the already small number of people who could access that information. They knew the information could not be kept from the new president or his top advisers, but wanted to narrow the number of people who might see the information, officials said.

More than a half-dozen current and former officials described various aspects of the effort to preserve and distribute the intelligence, and some said they were speaking to draw attention to the material and ensure proper investigation by Congress. All spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were discussing classified information, nearly all of which remains secret, making an independent public assessment of the competing Obama and Trump administration claims impossible.

The F.B.I. is conducting a wide-ranging counterintelligence investigation into Russia’s meddling in the election, and is examining alleged links between Mr. Trump’s associates and the Russian government.

Separately, the House and Senate intelligence committees are conducting their own investigations, though they must rely on the F.B.I. and intelligence agencies to provide access to the information collected across the government.

At his confirmation hearing on Wednesday, former Senator Dan Coats, Mr. Trump’s nominee for director of national intelligence, told the Senate Intelligence Committee that “I think it’s our responsibility to provide you access to all that you need.”

He added that Russian meddling “needs to be investigated.”

Some Obama White House officials had little faith that a Trump administration would make good on such pledges, and the efforts to preserve the intelligence continued until the administration's final hours. This was partly because intelligence was still being collected and analyzed, but it also reflected the sentiment among many administration officials that they had not recognized the scale of the Russian campaign until it was too late.

The warning signs had been building throughout the summer, but were far from clear. As WikiLeaks was pushing out emails stolen from the Democratic National Committee through online publication, American intelligence began picking up conversations in which Russian officials were discussing contacts with Trump associates, and European allies were starting to pass along information about people close to Mr. Trump meeting with Russians in the Netherlands, Britain and other countries.

But what was going on in the meetings was unclear to the officials, and the intercepted communications did little to clarify matters — the Russians, it appeared, were arguing about how far to go in interfering in the presidential election.

What intensified the alarm at the Obama White House was a campaign of cyberattacks — suspected to have been carried out by Russia — on state electoral systems in September, which led the Obama administration to deliver a public accusation against the Russians in October.

But it wasn't until after the election, and after more intelligence had come in, that the administration began to grasp the scope of the suspected tampering and concluded that one goal of the campaign was to help tip the election in Mr. Trump's favor. In early December, Mr. Obama ordered the intelligence community to conduct a full assessment about the Russian campaign.

In the weeks before the assessment was released in January, the intelligence community combed through databases for an array of communications and other information — some of which was months old by then — and began producing reports that showed there were contacts during the campaign between Trump associates and Russian officials.

The nature of the contacts remains unknown. Several of Mr. Trump's associates have done business in Russia, and it is unclear if any of the contacts were related to business dealings.

The New York Times, citing four current and former officials, reported last month that American authorities had obtained information of repeated contacts between Mr. Trump's associates and senior Russian intelligence officials. The White House has dismissed the story as false.

Since the Feb 14 article appeared, more than a half-dozen officials have confirmed contacts of various kinds between Russians and Trump associates. The label "intelligence official" is not always cleanly applied in Russia, where ex-spies, oligarchs and government officials often report back to the intelligence services and elsewhere in the Kremlin.

Steven L. Hall, the former head of Russia operations at the C.I.A., said Mr. Putin was surrounded by a cast of characters, and that it was "fair to say that a good number of them come from an intelligence or security background. Once an intel guy, always an intel guy in Russia."

The concerns about the contacts were cemented by a series of phone calls between Sergey I. Kislyak, Russia's ambassador to the United States, and Michael T. Flynn, who had been poised to become Mr. Trump's national security adviser. The calls began on Dec. 29, shortly after Mr. Kislyak was summoned to the State Department and informed that, in retaliation for Russian election meddling, the United States was expelling 35 suspected Russian intelligence operatives and imposing other sanctions. Mr. Kislyak was irate and threatened a forceful Russia response, according to people familiar with the exchange.

But a day later, Mr. Putin said his government would not retaliate, prompting a Twitter post from Mr. Trump praising the Russian president — and puzzling Obama White House officials.

On Jan. 2, administration officials learned that Mr. Kislyak — after leaving the State Department meeting — called Mr. Flynn and that the two talked multiple times in the

Departmental meeting. [REDACTED] Flynn, and that the two talked multiple times in the 36 hours that followed. American intelligence agencies routinely wiretap the phones of Russian diplomats, and transcripts of the calls showed that Mr. Flynn urged the Russians not to respond, saying relations would improve once Mr. Trump was in office, according to multiple current and former officials.

Beyond leaving a trail for congressional investigators to follow, the Obama administration also wanted to help European allies combat a threat that had caught the United States off guard. A number of European powers are holding elections this year, including France and Germany, and American intelligence agencies made it clear in the declassified version of the intelligence assessment released in January that they believed Russia intended to use its attacks on the United States as a template for more meddling.

"We assess Moscow will apply lessons learned," the report said, "to future influence efforts worldwide, including against U.S. allies."

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 2:58 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Can you do a short meeting today?

b6 -1
b7C -1

Works for me

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 2:54 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Cc: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: Can you do a short meeting today?

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I believe Mike already discussed with Lisa the need to bring the NYTs back in today for a short meeting. Mike has a 5p commitment. Can we squeeze something in perhaps at 4p?

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: Mtg w/ NYT
Location: Kortan's office

Start: Thursday, March 02, 2017 3:30 PM
End: Thursday, March 02, 2017 4:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Required Attendees: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: Mtg w/ NYT
Location: Kortan's office

Start: Thursday, March 02, 2017 3:30 PM
End: Thursday, March 02, 2017 4:00 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Required Attendees: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 5:03 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Randy cant be happy

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/federal-agents-search-caterpillar-locations-1488475293>

Federal Agents Search Caterpillar Locations

The search appeared to escalate an investigation into tax issues and Swiss subsidiaries

By
Andrew Tangel

Updated March 2, 2017 2:05 p.m. ET

Federal agents on Thursday searched three Caterpillar Inc. facilities near the construction- and mining-equipment giant's Illinois headquarters, according to the company and a law-enforcement official.

Strick, Peter P. (CD) (FB)

From: Strick, Peter P. (CD) (FB)
 Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 7:52 PM
 To: Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FB); [REDACTED] (DC) (FB); Page, Lisa C. (DC) (FB); Morfitt, Jonathan C. (CD) (FB)

b6 -1
 b7C -1

Politico has the Mayflower speech, but "It is not clear whether either Sessions or Trump spoke at any length to Kislyak at Trump's foreign policy speech in April."

Also interesting. If true, the only opportunity to meet would be at the reception in advance of the speech.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/local/2017/03/02/sergey-kislyak-russian-ambassador-washington/2017-03-02/>

Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak is Washington's most dangerous diplomat

Putin's envoy is at the heart of a scandal that's taken down one Trump adviser and put another in the hot seat.

By Michael Crowley

03/02/17 05:58 PM EST



People who know Sergey Kislyak describe him as intelligent but an unyielding advocate for the Kremlin line. (Getty)

When Donald Trump delivered his first foreign policy speech of the 2016 campaign at a Washington hotel last April, a special foreign guest was in attendance: Sergey Kislyak, Russia's ambassador to Washington.

Before the speech, the soft-spoken Russian envoy and other foreign ambassadors mingled at a backstage reception also attended by Trump and future Attorney General Jeff Sessions, according to an account written by one of the event's hosts.

Afterward, Kislyak sat near the front and listened as Trump bashed the Washington foreign policy status quo and repeated his controversial call for a new dawn in U.S.-Russian relations. "I believe an easing of tensions and improved relations with Russia—from a position of strength only—is possible, absolutely possible," Trump said in a ballroom at the Mayflower Hotel. "Some say the Russians won't be reasonable. I intend to find out."

After the speech, Kislyak, who is tall and heavyset, headed for the door swiftly—pausing to cautiously answer a question from POLITICO on his way out. Trump "made some intriguing points, but we need to understand what is meant in the implementation," he said.

That was typical for the 66-year-old Kislyak, a career diplomat and fluent English speaker who has been Moscow's man in Washington since 2008. Kislyak keeps a low public profile. He mostly shuns television appearances, rarely speaks to American reporters and does not tweet.

But there's no avoiding the spotlight now. Kislyak has become Washington's most dangerous diplomat with one top Trump official already sacked and another now in the hot seat over conversations with the Russian envoy.

Trump's first national security adviser, Michael Flynn, resigned last month after he gave inaccurate accounts to White House officials—including Vice President Mike Pence—and to the FBI about his contacts with Kislyak in December. Sessions recused himself Thursday from investigations involving Russian hacking and other interference in the 2016 presidential election on Trump's behalf after reports that he failed to disclose meetings he had with the Russian envoy last July and September, when he was a Trump campaign adviser.

It is not clear whether either Sessions or Trump spoke at any length to Kislyak at Trump's foreign policy speech in April, hosted by the Center for the National Interest. The Wall Street Journal reported at the time that Trump had greeted the Russian "warmly." In his Thursday news conference announcing his recusal from Justice Department investigations into Russian interference in the 2016 presidential campaign, Sessions said he could not remember any other meetings.

The White House declined to comment on whether Trump had interacted with Kislyak at the Mayflower Hotel. But the White House did confirm a Thursday report that Kislyak held a previously undisclosed meeting with Flynn and Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner at Trump Tower in December.

People who know Kislyak describe him as intelligent but an unyielding advocate for the Kremlin line—much the character described by Sessions on Thursday when he recalled a September meeting with Kislyak in his Senate office.

"I thought he was pretty much of an old-style Soviet-type ambassador," Sessions said at his news conference announcing the decision to recuse himself. The Department of Justice did not respond to a request for comment about whether Sessions had interacted with Kislyak at the April event.

After some initial small talk, Sessions said, "somehow the subject of Ukraine came up." He added that the conversation turned "testy" after Kislyak seemed to portray the conflict there as Ukraine's fault. Sessions said that in Kislyak's view, "Russia had done nothing wrong ... and everyone else was wrong." The Obama administration and Western European governments overwhelmingly believe Russia to be the aggressor in Ukraine.

Some U.S. officials believe Kislyak to be more than a stubborn advocate for Russia's foreign policy. On Tuesday, the Kremlin's top spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, denounced as "fake news" a CNN report that cited unnamed U.S. officials alleging that Kislyak is an intelligence officer who recruits and runs spies. A think tank expert who speaks regularly with Kislyak cast doubt on that claim, while saying that Kislyak is a highly trusted emissary who is regularly called back to Moscow on short notice for meetings.

"I have had no indication" that Kislyak is a spy, said Matthew Rojansky, director of the Keman Institute at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington. He added that it's possible U.S. officials consider any Russian officials now in the U.S. to be an intelligence operative "by default."

An engineer by training, Kislyak came to the U.S. in the early 1980s to work for the Soviet mission at the United Nations in New York City, and then at the Russian Embassy in Washington. He returned to Moscow to serve in the foreign ministry on scientific cooperation and arms control issues. After a stint as Russia's ambassador to Belgium and to the NATO alliance, Kislyak was named ambassador to Washington by then-Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, assuming his post in July 2008.

He arrived at a contentious moment in U.S.-Russia relations, just before Russia's invasion of the neighboring republic of Georgia led to soaring tensions with Washington. But things now are even worse, he told an audience at Stanford Business School in November.

"We are living through the worst point in our relations after the end of the Cold War," Kislyak said. "You've re-entered a policy of containing Russia ... You've tried to contain Russia through economic pressure and through sanctions."

He added that the U.S. has waged what he called "a huge propaganda campaign against Russia."

But Kislyak also says better relations between Moscow and Washington are possible. "In the Cold War, there were irreconcilable ideological differences," he said at Stanford, adding that that is no longer the case.

In pursuit of a thaw, Kislyak often travels beyond Washington to promote his country's business beyond Washington. Inside the Beltway, he hosts and attends regular cultural events. They include regular "jazz diplomacy" nights co-hosted by American University's Carmel Institute of Russian Culture and History—one recent installment featured performances by Wynton Marsalis and the Russian jazz star Igor Butman—at which Kislyak calls for better understanding of Russian culture in the U.S.

"Stereotypes have to change in the heart," he said in October.

At Russia's fortress-like embassy on Wisconsin Avenue north of Washington's Georgetown neighborhood, Kislyak also hosts parties for fellow diplomats, Russia specialists and other Washingtonians with personal or business ties to Russia. (Though elegant, those functions may also reveal hints of Russia's economic malaise. At one recent event, bartenders served Kirilov vodka—the brand sold by the bulk-discount retailer Cosco.)

The Russian Embassy did not respond to a request for comment.

When he's not socializing, Kislyak generally toes the Kremlin's tough line on U.S. policies. "He can be very charming, and he can be very tough," Rojansky said. "He never backs down from intellectual combat. I've seen him debate a dozen rounds back and forth."

Even so, two days after Trump's election, Kislyak sounded hopeful about the prospects for a friendlier dialogue with his Washington counterparts. "I still believe that there will be enough wisdom not only in your country but in ours to focus on what unites us," Kislyak said in November. "Because we can do things together."

Whether Kislyak still believes that, now that he is at the center of the biggest story of Russian intrigue since the Cold War, remains unclear.

Shane Goldmacher contributed to this report.

Peter P. Szpak II
Deputy Assistant Director, Branch 1
Counterintelligence Division

D)
C)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 8:02 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Interesting

<http://www.politico.eu/article/donald-trumps-russia-connections-foreign-policy-presidential-campaign/>

That Trump would choose the Center for the National Interest as the place to premier his new seriousness on foreign policy has Manafort's fingerprints all over it. For Manafort and the Center have something very important in common: both have ties to the Russian regime of President Vladimir Putin, (whose ambassador to the United States sat in the front row for Trump's address).

As for the Center, both it and its journal, the National Interest, are two of the most Kremlin-sympathetic institutions in the nation's capital, even more so than the Carnegie Moscow Center, which has evolved from a hub of Russian liberalism into an accommodationist, intellectually-compromised think tank.

Center director Dmitri Simes worked as an aide to Nixon and for decades has used his connections to the Kremlin — real or perceived — to cultivate a reputation in Washington as one of the few Russia hands who intimately knows that country's politics. For years, the Center for the National Interest partnered with the Russian government-funded Institute for Democracy and Cooperation, a New York-based institution whose head, Adranik Migranyan, was personally appointed by Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, according to a State Department cable released by Wikileaks. In May 2014, the two think tanks held a press conference defending Russia's position in Ukraine.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 9:35 AM
To: Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI); James B. Comey; McCabe, Andrew G. (DO) (FBI); Bowdich, David L. (DO) (FBI); Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Urgent matter

b6 -1
b7C -1

I'm available

-----Original Message-----

From: Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 9:18 AM
To: James B. Comey [REDACTED] McCabe, Andrew G. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Bowdich, David L. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO)
(FBI) [REDACTED] Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P.
(CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Urgent matter

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL
ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE
PRE-DECISIONAL

I just talked to [REDACTED] He asked [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b5 -1
b6 -2
b7C -2

Can we discuss when everyone gets back from the morning briefing?

Jim

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 3:21 PM
To: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI); Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI); Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: IC Letter re access

b6 -1
b7C -1

Looks good, thanks Beth.

-----Original Message-----

From: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 10:13 AM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Moffa, Jonathan C.
(CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Brower, Gregory
(OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: IC Letter re access
Importance: High

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

See attached letter reflecting agreement resulting from meeting yesterday between HPSCI and SSCI Staff Directors and IC congressional liaison office directors (I subbed for Greg). This relates exclusively to terms for materials including the IC Assessment on Russia and supporting intelligence. CIA drove the negotiation and concurs w/ this letter as does NSA. Per guidance from the DD, we advised we would follow their lead given their significant equities [REDACTED]

b5 -1

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Please let me know ASAP if you have any concerns. Thanks,

Beth Beers
FBI Office of Congressional Affairs
[REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Sunday, March 05, 2017 12:16 PM
To: Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI); Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI); Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI); Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Conference Call

Rgr. Jim R, do you have a bridge or would you like me to get one?

----- Original message -----

From: "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/5/17 11:52 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] "Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Conference Call

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

The Deputy would like to do a conference call at 4pm today to provide updates and make sure our current lines of effort are coordinated.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Sunday, March 05, 2017 4:03 PM
To: Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI); Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI); Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI); Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI); Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Conference Call

I have the below bridge from earlier if we want to use it:

* Dial [REDACTED]
* When prompted to do so, please enter pass code followed by the # sign. Your Pass code is [REDACTED]

b7E -6

From: Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Sunday, March 05, 2017 4:01 PM
To: Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Conference Call

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I'm trying to get on the call but it is not working.

----- Original message -----

From: "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/5/17 12:24 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Conference Call

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

* Dial [REDACTED]

b7E -6

* When prompted to do so, please enter your pass code followed by the #sign. Your pass code is [REDACTED]

----- Original message -----

From: "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 3/5/17 11:52 AM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)"

[REDACTED] Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Kortan,

Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)"

[REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD)

(FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: Conference Call

The Deputy would like to do a conference call at 4pm today to provide updates and make sure our current lines of effort are coordinated.

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 10:42 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Senators warn: FBI, other agencies work in buildings owned by China

I hadn't, thank you

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 9:57 AM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Senators warn: FBI, other agencies work in buildings owned by China

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Did you hear about this?

From: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 5:45 PM
To: [REDACTED] (FD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Senators warn: FBI, other agencies work in buildings owned by China

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

<http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/senators-warn-fbi-other-agencies-work-in-buildings-owned-by-china/article/2616412>

Senators warn: FBI, other agencies work in buildings owned by China

By Joel Gehrke (@Joelmentum) • 3/3/17 4:10 PM

Federal officials are putting sensitive materials in buildings owned by foreign governments, making them vulnerable to cyberattack and espionage, senators warned Friday.

Their alarm bells were set off by a report that said the General Services Administration has been placing FBI agents and other "high-security" government officials in buildings owned by China and other foreign countries. The GSA didn't tell the tenants, according to the government report, so the officials aren't taking addition security precautions.

"Yet, in some cases the space is used for classified operations and to store sensitive data," Sen. Steve Daines, R-Mont., and Sen. Tammy Duckworth, D-Ill., wrote in a Thursday letter to acting GSA Administrator Timothy Horne. "Given the highly sensitive information that is often stored at high-security leased sites, we are concerned with the lack of policies and procedures concerning the

FBI (18-cv-154)-10668

ownership of these sites."

The foreign-owned buildings have national security and privacy implications, as they house agencies ranging from FBI and Drug Enforcement Agency field offices to a Social Security Administration office in Seattle, Wash. Even the U.S. Secret Service rents space from companies based in Germany and China, according to the Government Accountability Office, which is the research arm of Congress.

The GAO warned that "foreign ownership of government-leased space can pose security risks particularly regarding cybersecurity," with particular reference to China. The report noted that "companies in China are likely to have ties to the Chinese government," as well as federal government warnings about Chinese government hackers targeting private and federal U.S. entities. "China is the leading suspect in the cyber intrusion into the Office of Personnel Management's (OPM) systems affecting background investigation files for 21.5 million individuals which OPM reported in July 2015," the GAO added.

Federal agencies took extra precautions after realizing they were in a foreign-owned building, but nine of the 14 agencies contacted by the GAO didn't have any of that information. "Federal agencies are among the top targets for cyber criminals, with many agencies experiencing thousands of attempted attacks daily," Duckworth and Daines wrote. "Agencies must have the information necessary to assess and address the risks to their high-security facilities, including cybersecurity vulnerabilities that exist in foreign-owned buildings."

The lawmakers want an update on how GSA will change its leasing procedures and "notify tenants that their leased space is foreign owned." But they also need to learn more about which buildings are foreign-owned, according to the GAO. "The real property database did not include information on all of the buildings in which GSA leases high-security space," the GAO report says. "Therefore, the results of our analysis are likely understated and GSA may be leasing more high-security space than what we identified in the 25 leases."

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 1:59 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Senators warn: FBI, other agencies work in buildings owned by China

Our property ci.folks hadn't heard either

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Date: 3/6/17 12:02 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Corsi, Dina M. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Senators warn: FBI, other agencies work in buildings owned by China

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Thank you for highlighting this to us!

[REDACTED]
Infrastructure Vulnerability and Threat Assessment Center (IVTAC)
FBI - Counterintelligence Division
Office: [REDACTED]
Cell: [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 10:43 AM
To: Corsi, Dina M. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Senators warn: FBI, other agencies work in buildings owned by China

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

FYI

From: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 5:45 PM
To: [REDACTED] (FD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Senators warn: FBI, other agencies work in buildings owned by China

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

<http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/senators-warn-fbi-other-agencies-work-in-buildings-owned-by-china/article/2616412>

Senators warn: FBI, other agencies work in buildings owned by China

FBI (18-cv-154)-10670

By Joel Gehrke (@Joelmentum) • 3/3/17 4:10 PM

Federal officials are putting sensitive materials in buildings owned by foreign governments, making them vulnerable to cyberattack and espionage, senators warned Friday.

Their alarm bells were set off by a report that said the General Services Administration has been placing FBI agents and other "high-security" government officials in buildings owned by China and other foreign countries. The GSA didn't tell the tenants, according to the government report, so the officials aren't taking additional security precautions.

"Yet, in some cases the space is used for classified operations and to store sensitive data," Sen. Steve Daines, R-Mont., and Sen. Tammy Duckworth, D-Ill., wrote in a Thursday letter to acting GSA Administrator Timothy Horne. "Given the highly sensitive information that is often stored at high-security leased sites, we are concerned with the lack of policies and procedures concerning the ownership of these sites."

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The lawmakers want an update on how GSA will change its leasing procedures and "notify tenants that their leased space is foreign owned." But they also need to learn more about which buildings are foreign-owned, according to the GAO. "The real property database did not include information on all of the buildings in which GSA leases high-security space," the GAO report says. "Therefore, the results of our analysis are likely understated and GSA may be leasing more high-security space than what we identified in the 25 leases."

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 4:51 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: DD Briefing re: Sensitive CD Topic

fyi

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 4:43 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: DD Briefing re: Sensitive CD Topic

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Pete – Carl Ghattas was only available from 2:00-2:30...sorry

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 4:30 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: DD Briefing re: Sensitive CD Topic

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hi [REDACTED] any chance we can push this 30 minutes later, from 2:30 – 3:00? Thanks, Pete

-----Original Appointment-----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 2:16 PM
To: McCabe, Andrew G. (DO) (FBI); Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI); Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)
Cc: [REDACTED] (CTD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)
Subject: DD Briefing re: Sensitive CD Topic
When: Monday, March 13, 2017 2:00 PM-2:30 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
Where: Room 7042

b6 -1
b7C -1

E-mail from [REDACTED] requesting this briefing for EAD Ghattas

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 5:13 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Mass Surveillance Cases Could Shed Light on Alleged Trump Wiretap

Thanks. I'm a little aggravated at Jim. 1) he contacted me about this when Klayman brought it to him 2) I met with him and Klayman (and Judge Lamberth) in the sunshine room 3) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] And it all ended up unsubstantiated noncredible nonsense.

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Can I forward below to Jim and remind him that we talked and [REDACTED] I'm not sure he remembers everything we did w/r/t this article.

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 5:06 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Mass Surveillance Cases Could Shed Light on Alleged Trump Wiretap

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

----- Original message -----

From: "Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 03/06/2017 4:55 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Mass Surveillance Cases Could Shed Light on Alleged Trump Wiretap

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

FYI. Please read the article as well.

----- Original message -----

From: Larry Klayman [REDACTED]
Date: 3/5/17 6:35 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Corney, James B. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED] (WF)
(FBI) [REDACTED] USADC [REDACTED] Royce Lamberth
[REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Mass Surveillance Cases Could Shed Light on Alleged Trump Wiretap

b6 -1, 2, 3
b7C -1, 2
b7E -6

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Freedom Watch" <info@list2.freedomwatchusa.org>
Date: Mar 5, 2017 3:23 PM
Subject: Mass Surveillance Cases Could Shed Light on Alleged Trump Wiretap
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]

b6 -3

FBI (18-cv-154)-10673



FREEDOM WATCH

www.FreedomWatchUSA.org

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Mass Surveillance Cases Could Shed Light on Alleged Trump Wiretap

Obama Denials Not Credible According to Court Rulings and Whistleblower



By Larry Klayman
Newsmax
March 5, 2017

The newest revelations that the Obama administration wiretapped, that is "bugged" President Trump and all of his men, in the lead up to and after the November 8, 2016, elections are not surprising. In this regard, for over 2 years the highest levels of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) have been secretly investigating the "harvesting" of highly confidential information including financial records of the chief justice of the Supreme Court, other justices, over 156 judges, prominent businessmen like Donald Trump, and public activists like me.

In this regard, a whistleblower named Dennis Montgomery, a former NSA/CIA contractor, came forward to FBI Director Comey with 47 hard drives and over 600 million pages of largely classified information, under grants of use and derivative use immunity, which I obtained for him with the U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia. Later, Montgomery, who suffers from a potentially fatal brain aneurism, testified under oath, for over 2-and-a-half hours before FBI Special Agents Walter Giardina and William Barnett in a secure room at the FBI's field office in Washington, D.C. The testimony was under oath and videotaped and I have reminded the FBI recently to preserve this evidence.

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Contact Freedom Watch at daj142182@gmail.com or [\(424\) 274-2579](tel:(424)274-2579).

If you wish not to receive future e-mails, click here:
<http://list4.freedomwatchusa.org/3/leilayman%40gmail.com>

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 5:38 PM
To: Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI);
Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] OGC (FBI)
Subject: Grassley letter to D re Steele
Attachments: 2017-03-06 CEG to FBI (Arrangement to Pay Steele).pdf

b6 -1
b7C -1

Haven't seen this via OCA channels yet.

CHARLES E. GRASSLEY, IOWA, CHAIRMAN
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LINDSEY O. GRAHAM, SOUTH CAROLINA
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TED CRUZ, TEXAS
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RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, CONNECTICUT
MAGIE K. HIRONO, HAWAII

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

KOLAN L. SMITH, Chief Counsel and Staff Director
JENNIFER DUCK, Democratic Staff Director

March 6, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The Honorable James B. Comey, Jr.
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Director Comey:

On February 28, 2017, the *Washington Post* reported that the FBI reached an agreement a few weeks before the Presidential election to pay the author of the unsubstantiated dossier alleging a conspiracy between President Trump and the Russians, Christopher Steele, to continue investigating Mr. Trump.¹ The article claimed that the FBI was aware Mr. Steele was creating these memos as part of work for an opposition research firm connected to Hillary Clinton. The idea that the FBI and associates of the Clinton campaign would pay Mr. Steele to investigate the Republican nominee for President in the run-up to the election raises further questions about the FBI's independence from politics, as well as the Obama administration's use of law enforcement and intelligence agencies for political ends. It is additionally troubling that the FBI reportedly agreed to such an arrangement given that, in January of 2017, then-Director Clapper issued a statement stating that "the IC has not made any judgment that the information in this document is reliable, and we did not rely upon it in any way for our conclusions." According to the *Washington Post*, the FBI's arrangement with Mr. Steele fell through when the media published his dossier and revealed his identity.

The Committee requires additional information to evaluate this situation. Please provide the following information and respond to these questions by March 20, 2017. Please also schedule a briefing by that date by FBI personnel with knowledge of these issues.

1. All FBI records relating to the agreement with Mr. Steele regarding his investigation of President Trump and his associates, including the agreement itself, all drafts, all internal FBI

¹ Tom Hamburger and Rosalind Helderman, *FBI Once Planned to Pay Former British Spy Who Authored Controversial Trump Dossier*, THE WASHINGTON POST (Feb. 28, 2017).

communications about the agreement, all FBI communications with Mr. Steele about the agreement, all FBI requests for authorization for the agreement, and all records documenting the approval of the agreement.

2. All records, including 302s, of any FBI meetings or interviews with Mr. Steele.
3. All FBI policies, procedures, and guidelines applicable when the FBI seeks to fund an investigator associated with a political opposition research firm connected to a political candidate, or with any outside entity.
4. All FBI records relating to agreements and payments made to Mr. Steele in connection with any other investigations, including the reported agreements relating to his investigation of FIFA.
5. Were any other government officials outside of the FBI involved in discussing or authorizing the agreement with Mr. Steele, including anyone from the Department of Justice or the Obama White House? If so, please explain who was involved and provide all related records.
6. How did the FBI first obtain Mr. Steele's Trump investigation memos? Has the FBI obtained additional memos from this same source that were not published by *Buzzfeed*? If so, please provide copies.
7. Has the FBI created, or contributed to the creation of, any documents based on or otherwise referencing these memos or the information in the memos? If so, please provide copies of all such documents and, where necessary, clarify which portions are based on or related to the memos.
8. Has the FBI verified or corroborated any of the allegations made in the memos? Were any allegations or other information from the memo included in any documents created by the FBI, or which the FBI helped to create, without having been independently verified or corroborated by the FBI beforehand? If so, why?
9. Has the FBI relied on or otherwise referenced the memos or any information in the memos in seeking a FISA warrant, other search warrant, or any other judicial process? Did the FBI rely on or otherwise reference the memos in relation to any National Security Letters? If so, please include copies of all relevant applications and other documents.
10. Who decided to include the memos in the briefings received by Presidents Obama and Trump? What was the basis for that decision?
11. Did the agreement with Mr. Steele ever enter into force? If so, for how long? If it did not, why not?
12. You have previously stated that you will not comment on pending investigations, including confirming or denying whether they exist. You have also acknowledged that statements about closed investigations are a separate matter, sometimes warranting disclosures or public

Director Comey

March 6, 2017

Page 3 of 3

comment. Given the inflammatory nature of the allegations in Mr. Steele's dossier, if the FBI is undertaking or has undertaken any investigation of the claims, will you please inform the Committee at the conclusion of any such investigations as to what information the investigations discovered and what conclusions the FBI reached? Simply put, when allegations like these are put into the public domain prior to any FBI assessment of their reliability, then if subsequent FBI investigation of the allegations finds them false, unsupported, or unreliable, the FBI should make those rebuttals public.

I anticipate that your responses to these questions may contain both classified and unclassified information. Please send all unclassified material directly to the Committee. In keeping with the requirements of Executive Order 13526, if any of the responsive documents do contain classified information, please segregate all unclassified material within the classified documents, provide all unclassified information directly to the Committee, and provide a classified addendum to the Office of Senate Security. Although the Committee complies with all laws and regulations governing the handling of classified information, it is not bound, absent its prior agreement, by any handling restrictions or instructions on unclassified information unilaterally asserted by the Executive Branch.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter. If you have any questions, please contact Patrick Davis of my Committee staff at (202) 224-5225.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary

cc: The Honorable Diane Feinstein
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on the Judiciary

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 8:18 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: RE:

I know. Yet here I am. Just sent something to Bill, I don't think I'm going to wait around for him to edit it.

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 8:17 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: RE:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED]
b5 -1

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 03/06/2017 8:06 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: RE:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

No, but this re-write needs to go out tonight.

[REDACTED]
b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1

So any thoughts welcome. [REDACTED]

And I hope Andy is good with the re-scoping.

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 7:21 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Do we really need to talk tonight?

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 03/06/2017 7:09 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Can you call me back [REDACTED]

FBI (18-cv-154)-10682

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch, Inc.

b6 -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 8:33 PM
To: Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI); Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: AG letter to Judiciary
Attachments: Sessions, 03-06-17, letter, testimony.pdf

b6 -1
b7C -1

"As I discussed publicly on March 2, 2017, I spoke briefly to the Russian Ambassador at the Republican National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio, in July 2016. This was at the conclusion of a speech I had made, when I also met and spoke with other ambassadors. In September 2016, I met with the Russian Ambassador at my Senate office in the presence of members of my professional Senate staff. I do not recall any discussions with the Russian Ambassador, or any other representative of the Russian government, regarding the political campaign on these occasions or any other occasion."



The Attorney General
Washington, D.C.

March 6, 2017

Hon. Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
226 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Hon. Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Senate Judiciary Committee
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

I write to supplement my January 10, 2017, testimony before the Committee.

During my confirmation hearing, Senator Franken asked the following question:

OK. CNN has just published a story and I'm telling you this about a news story that's just been published. I'm not expecting you to know whether or not it's true or not. But CNN just published a story alleging that the intelligence community provided documents to the president-elect last week that included information that quote, "Russian operatives claimed to have compromising personal and financial information about Mr. Trump." These documents also allegedly say quote, "There was a *continuing exchange of information* during the campaign between Trump's surrogates and intermediaries for the Russian government." [Emphasis added]

Now, again, I'm telling you this as it's coming out, so you know. But, if it's true, it's obviously extremely serious and if there is any

evidence that anyone affiliated with the Trump campaign communicated with the Russian government in the course of this campaign, what will you do?

I responded: "Senator Franken, I'm not aware of any of those activities. I have been called a surrogate at a time or two in that campaign and I didn't have -- did not have communications with the Russians, and I'm unable to comment on it."

My answer was correct. As I noted in my public statement on March 2, 2017, I was surprised by the allegations in the question, which I had not heard before. I answered the question, which asked about a "continuing exchange of information during the campaign between Trump's surrogates and intermediaries for the Russian government," honestly. I did not mention communications I had had with the Russian Ambassador over the years because the question did not ask about them.

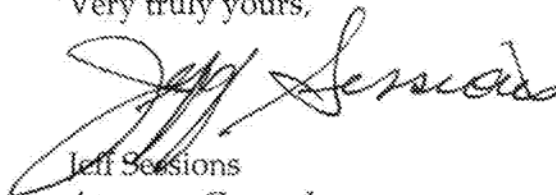
As I discussed publicly on March 2, 2017, I spoke briefly to the Russian Ambassador at the Republican National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio, in July 2016. This was at the conclusion of a speech I had made, when I also met and spoke with other ambassadors. In September 2016, I met with the Russian Ambassador at my Senate office in the presence of members of my professional Senate staff. I do not recall any discussions with the Russian Ambassador, or any other representative of the Russian government, regarding the political campaign on these occasions or any other occasion.

The Judiciary Committee received a letter dated March 3, 2017, from Committee Democrats that asks other questions. The letter asks why I did not supplement the record to note any contact with the Russian Ambassador before its disclosure. Having considered my answer responsive, and no one having suggested otherwise, there was no need for a supplemented answer.

I also promptly made a decision on recusal. I said during the course of my confirmation hearing that if a question arose as to whether I should recuse myself from a particular matter, I would consult with the appropriate ethics officials at the Department in order to make a decision. Within a week of becoming Attorney General, I held the first meeting concerning recusal. And, on February 27, 2017, my staff scheduled a meeting for March 2, 2017. On that date, I met with the relevant officials, and later that day announced my recusal from certain matters. This process and schedule were established before I was made aware of any concern about the accuracy of my testimony before the Committee.

The March 3, 2017, letter also asked why I had not recused myself from "Russian contacts with the Trump transition team and administration." I understand the scope of the recusal as described in the Department's press release would include any such matters. This should not be taken as any evidence of the existence of any such investigation or its scope. Suffice it to say that the scope of my recusal is consistent with the applicable regulations, which I have considered and to which I have adhered.

Very truly yours,



Jeff Sessions
Attorney General

JS:ph

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 11:35 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Update on story we discussed

Yes hopefully wrapping up in 10-15

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/7/17 11:31 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Update on story we discussed

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I'm reading it now. Kortan sent it to me separately. Are you going to be free for lunch?

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 11:31 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Update on story we discussed

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

----- Original message -----

From: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/7/17 9:28 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Update on story we discussed

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Peter: Pls see John Solomon "draft" story for whatever reaction/guidance we may have. Any thoughts are appreciated. Tx. M

From: John Solomon [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 6:58 PM
To: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Update on story we discussed

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

Mike:

Appreciate any guidance. My cell is [REDACTED]

b6 -3

John

The months-long FBI probe into Russian efforts to influence the U.S. election and Donald Trump's inner circle has not gathered evidence to warrant any criminal charges to date but has led to widespread frustration among intelligence professionals who have watched in horror as a normally secretive process was distorted by leaks, politicians and media outlets uneducated with how counterintelligence operations actually work, sources tell CNN.

FBI (18-cv-154)-10695

Sources ten circa.

"We have people spouting off who don't know the difference between FISA surveillance and a wiretap or a counterintelligence probe versus a special prosecutor criminal case and it has hurts our ability to get to the truth and has wrongly created the impression that intelligence officials have a political agenda," said one career U.S. official directly familiar with the drama.

Added another official: "I've never seen a case so misrepresented and leaks so damaging to a process that was meant to be conducted in secret so that foreign powers don't know what we know and people's reputations aren't tarnished unfairly."

Several sources with direct knowledge say the FBI's interest last year to explore possible Russian efforts to influence the 2016 election was born out of its long expertise on Russian players gathered back from the 2001 Robert Hansen espionage affair and the 2010 Anna Chapman spy ring scandal. The bureau, along with other intelligence agencies, had early signs of political-motivated hacking by Russia and uncorroborated information from among others a former British intelligence officer about possible contacts between Russian intelligence and people close to Trump.

When career Justice Department and FBI officials first began evaluating the evidence, they considered pursuing a criminal investigation with traditional search warrants, wiretap applications and other investigative techniques but ultimately could not define on a predicate that would convince a judge there was probable cause, the sources said.

There were significant holes in the evidence, leaving a murky picture of Russian proclamations and hacking activity that looked to be aimed at hurting Hillary Clinton's presidential bid and rumors of meetings and contacts between Russian influencers and key players surrounding Trump and his campaign.

"There were indicators of Russian activity and uncorroborated allegations of Trump associates having contact with key figures and we needed to know if they were connected or not," one source described. "We'd be remiss if we did not answer that question for the national security community."

Officials decided the best course of action was to pursue a classic counterintelligence investigation focused on what the Russians were actually doing and whether anyone in the United States, including on the Trump team, might be encouraging or facilitating those actions or financially benefitting from them.

Officials carefully set up the probe in case it turned up criminal activity to allow for the case to expand to prosecution. If a Trump adviser took money to influence US policy and didn't register under foreign lobbying rules or didn't declare taxable income or if a U.S. citizen conspired to direct Russian activities to influence the U.S. election illegally, agents and prosecutors were ready to make a criminal case.

But until then, the counterintelligence was predominantly focused on whether Russian efforts to use hackers and propaganda was aimed at influencing the election and whether any business dealings or money was being exchanged to curry favor or access to Trump.

In June, the Justice Department and FBI drafted a Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act warrant seeking permission from a special intelligence court in Washington to monitor the contacts of numerous Russian officials and Trump associates, some who worked in Trump Towers in New York City or advised Trump's presidential campaign. Donald Trump's name was mentioned in the request.

Unlike normal legal proceedings, FISA applications are a collaborative process and Justice and FBI officials quickly took guidance from the judges on the intelligence court that their request was overly broad for the sketchiness of some of the evidence, especially when a presidential candidate's team was a focus in the middle of a turbulent election season.

FBI counterintelligence agents went back to work to gather more concrete evidence and narrow the focus of

the likely players, combing through financial records, overseas intercepts of foreign figures and alleged dates of meetings.

One of the documents that agents tried to corroborate became known as the "Trump dossier," the work of a trusted ex-British intelligence agent hired by political operatives to find damaging evidence on Trump in Russia. Some of the information in the dossier was explicit and salacious -- like an alleged interlude between Trump and a prostitute in Moscow a few years back and an alleged Russian bribe that could have spelled billions of dollars for Trump's companies.

Agents were able to corroborate some details in the dossier, mostly public source intelligence about meetings and decisions involving Russian figures. But much of the information about Trump and his lieutenants -- like then-campaign chairman Paul Manafort, Trump organization lawyer Michael Cohen and foreign policy advisers Michael Flynn and Carter Page -- could not be corroborated. Some was disproven and other facts took on new connotations when additional investigation was concluded.

By early fall, the FBI and Justice Department had decided to narrow its surveillance focus to several Russian operatives, a small number of Trump's current and former advisers and a specific computer server inside Trump Towers that appeared to have activity in eastern Europe.

The court approved the FISA application in October, ironically just as the election was turning Trump's way and another controversial FBI probe into Hillary Clinton's private email was ending. With court monitoring, the surveillance activity -- emails, phones, personal tails and financial records -- continued for a few weeks. There was no intercepts of Trump's phone or emails, the sources said.

Very quickly agents concluded that the surveillance had not uncovered any significant new evidence and FBI officials concluded there was no probable cause at the time for a criminal probe against any U.S. citizens or Trump associates. The computer server in question yielded no nefarious contacts, bank transactions or encrypted communications with the Russians, and its activity tied to a Russian bank appeared to have innocent explanations.

Flynn's intercepted contacts with the Russian ambassador -- the subsequent focus of intense leaks and media reports -- also did not raise significant concerns inside the FBI when they were captured as part of routine monitoring of the Russian embassy.

The sources emphasized that Flynn's calls and text messages were not part of the Trump-related FISA warrant and surveillance. Rather, they were part of a long-established special intelligence program in which the FBI is routinely permitted to review intercepts of Russian embassy officials. Americans are often incidentally intercepted, and the FBI has authority to review those conversations without a specific warrant when they involve national security matters. Flynn fell into that category because he had a security clearance.

The sources said Flynn exchanged a handful of calls or text messages to the Russian ambassador in December, including one to express condolences for the fatal shooting of a Russian diplomat in Turkey, one on Christmas Day to pass along holiday wishes and yet another to express remorse for the crash of a Russian plane carrying a music group hoping to bring goodwill to war-wary Syrians.

Some involved more substantive business issues.

After the Russian ambassador sent a text message seeking a phone call, Flynn and Kislyak talked about sanctions imposed by Obama on Russia on Dec. 29, but the message the American official gave was mostly that a new sheriff was about to take over the White House and Russians shouldn't react to the new sanctions in a way that would foreclose better dialog in the future under a Trump administration, sources said. There was also a discussion of a possible conference about Kazakhstan the next month, they added.

None of the content of those calls or texts raised any alarm bells inside the FBI.

The information gathered during 2016 by the FBI, however, did further a robust portrait already being built by numerous intelligence agencies, like the NSA, CIA and DNI, that Russia and its related actors had taken actions like hacking to influence the U.S. election with the apparent aim of hurting Clinton's election chances or helping Trump. There also was evidence of Russian-friendly figures trying to curry favor with those close to Trump, something that happens at all levels when a new president is poised to take office.

But there was no concrete evidence of bribes, illicit money or other criminal activity. So the FBI proceeded to process security clearances for key Trump players about to take jobs in the new administration and did not raise significant concerns to the rest of the intelligence community, the sources said.

At President Obama's request, a highly classified briefing was prepared for the outgoing and incoming presidents, which was given to both men over the December holiday break.

Obama, who had received updates through 2016 on the issue, used his detailed briefing as the final justification for the new sanctions on Russia announced on Dec. 29, which included expelling three dozen Russians from America. Trump used his briefing to dispel what he saw was a myriad of "fake news" reports suggesting his team was complicit with Russians on hacking activities.

The FBI contributions to the briefing included mention of the uncorroborated Russian dossier created by the British intelligence agent as well as a payment Flynn had received when he went to Russia in 2015 to give a speech to Vladimir Putin's propaganda news arm, the RT television network.

The FBI chose to include both facts to educate the new president in particular to the tactics of Russian intelligence agencies, including the planting of false stories in documents like the dossier and the use of money and sex to compromise Western leaders or to leave them open to bribery.

Until that point, the FBI surveillance process was mostly free of political interference and followed the normal rigors of a counter-intelligence investigation closely monitored by a supervisory court of federal judges.

But the start of the New Year brought with it an unexpected politicizing of the intelligence gathered in secret. Congress was briefed in early January, and Obama unexpectedly signed an executive order allowing information intercepted through FISA warrants or by the National Security Agency to be shared to a wider audience of government officials as he was leaving office.

Soon, leaks began appearing in news media, often in stories lacking the context of how national security investigations are actually conducted. The leak of the Flynn conversations with the Russian ambassador alarmed career FBI officials, who knew it had been gathered using the most sensitive of surveillance powers and was not even part of the earlier Trump-related investigation.

Some U.S. intelligence officials were also mortified that the leak tipped off the Russian ambassador to which of his phones might be monitored by US intelligence, harming future surveillance efforts. There was also concerns that Flynn's contentious relationship with other elements of the intelligence community back when he served as DIA chief played a role in the leaking of classified secrets.

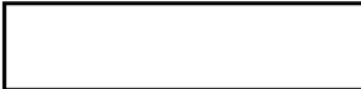
Trump's own claim this week that the FBI wiretapped his phone further irritated senior officials. Director James Comey even took the step of asking Justice to knock down the claim.

That action on its face was designed to combat any insinuation that the FBI was used by the Obama administration as a political-enemy intelligence gathering agency in the midst of the election.

But for informed sources inside the intelligence community it also conveyed another powerful message:

but for informed source inside the intelligence community it also conveyed another powerful message: Comey has always insisted the bureau won't comment on matters if an investigation is ongoing. So his willingness to push out a comment this week is the clearest sign to date the FBI doesn't see a criminal case against Trump officials from its surveillance efforts.

John Solomon
Chief Operating Officer
Circa News
1100 Wilson Blvd., 6th Floor
Arlington, VA 22209



b6 -3



From: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 6:15 PM
To: John Solomon [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Update on story we discussed

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

Fax is [REDACTED]

----- Original message -----

From: John Solomon [REDACTED]
Date: 3/6/17 6:00 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Cc: John Solomon [REDACTED]
Subject: Update on story we discussed

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

Mike:

I have a significant update on the story Sara and I mentioned to you last week. Do you have a fax where I can send you an outline on what we plan to report?

Also on my cell at [REDACTED]

b6 -3

Thanks

John

John Solomon
Chief Operating Officer
Circa News
1100 Wilson Blvd., 6th Floor
Arlington, VA 22209



b6 -3

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 12:33 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Wikileaks - CIA hacking codes, press response

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/7/17 12:32 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Bowdich, David L. (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Smith, Scott S.
(PG) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] Rybicki,
James E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Wikileaks - CIA hacking codes, press response

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Agreed. Thanks Mike.

----- Original message -----

From: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/7/17 11:27 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Bowdich, David L. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Smith, Scott S. (PG) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Priestap, E. W. (CD)
(FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Rybicki, James
E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: Wikileaks - CIA hacking codes, press response

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

From CIA: "We do not comment on the authenticity or content of purported intelligence documents."

b5 -1

From: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 11:17 AM
To: Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Smith, Scott S. (PG) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Pete Strozi [REDACTED] Priestap, E. W.
(CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Wikileaks - CIA hacking codes

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Wikileaks says it has published CIA hacking

FBI (18-cv-154)-10701

codes

John Bacon, USA TODAY Published 9:58 a.m. ET March 7, 2017 | Updated 6 minutes ago

WikiLeaks published thousands of documents Tuesday it described as the CIA's hacking arsenal, a document dump the website called the "largest ever publication of confidential documents on the agency."

Wikileaks said the documents are from the CIA Center for Cyber Intelligence and represent a new series of leaks code-named "Vault 7." The website says the CIA "lost control of the majority of its hacking arsenal," more than several hundred million lines of code, providing "the entire hacking capacity of the CIA."

Wikileaks says the archive appears to have been circulated among former government hackers and contractors, one of whom provided WikiLeaks with portions of the archive. The covert hacking program taps into Apple's iPhone, Google's Android and Microsoft's Windows and even Samsung TVs, which can be turned into covert microphones, the website says.

"By the end of 2016, the CIA's hacking division, which formally falls under the agency's Center for Cyber Intelligence had over 5000 registered users and had produced more than a thousand hacking systems, trojans, viruses, and other "weaponized" malware," Wikileaks said in a statement on its website. "Such is the scale of the CIA's undertaking that by 2016, its hackers had utilized more code than that used to run Facebook.

"The CIA had created, in effect, its 'own NSA' with even less accountability and without publicly answering the question as to whether such a massive budgetary spend on duplicating the capacities of a rival agency could be justified."

USA TODAY has not yet been able to authenticate the documents. The CIA did not immediately return a call for comment.

The source of the information, which WikiLeaks did not name, hopes the document dump will initiate "a public debate about the security, creation, use, proliferation and democratic control of cyberweapons," the website says.

Wikileaks has conducted a global crusade to expose government secrets through a series of controversial and sometimes embarrassing document dumps in recent years. One led to the imprisonment of Chelsea Manning, who has spent six years behind bars or leaking hundreds of thousands of classified documents through the WikiLeaks website.

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange has been holed up in the Ecuadorian embassy in London since 2012 to avoid extradition to Sweden, where he has been accused of sexual assault, and the United States, where he fears possible espionage charges.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 5:26 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

(CNN) — The first public hearing in the House on Russia's meddling in US elections will be March 20, Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes said Monday.

Nunes said he has invited FBI Director James Comey and National Security Agency Director Mike Rogers, as well as former CIA Director John Brennan, former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper and former Attorney General Sally Yates, to testify.

<http://www.cnn.com/2017/03/07/politics/house-intelligence-committee-schedules-russia-hearing-march-20/index.html>

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 8:11 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: RE:

----- Original message -----

From: "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/7/17 7:25 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: RE:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I don't see him often, so please do if you see him first.

[REDACTED]

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 03/07/2017 7:24 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: RE:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

So we need to tell him. Easy day

----- Original message -----

From: "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/7/17 7:19 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: RE:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Exactly that. She said a bunch of things were opened that weren't/aren't which would be fine except it sort of calls into question what I told Bill (which of course was accurate) so I can't just let it go...

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Date: 03/07/2017 7:15 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)"

Subject: RE: RE:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Let's talk, we can relay between the two of us. Was it the "this has all been done" when in reality nothing has been done?

----- Original message -----

From: "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)"

Date: 3/7/17 7:06 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"

Subject: RE: RE:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

She was in rare for today. It's a real problem. I'm not sure Bill gets how significant

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"

Date: 03/07/2017 7:03 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)"

Subject: RE: RE:

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

From: Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)

Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 7:00 PM

To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: RE:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Only when Jen said it in the meeting with Bill. I have to fill you in on that too. A couple of things she said that I need to correct with Bill. I assumed he knew, no?

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"

Date: 03/07/2017 6:30 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)"

Subject:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: Accepted: Updated: Crimes referral
Location: Bill's office

Start: Thursday, March 09, 2017 12:45 PM
End: Thursday, March 09, 2017 1:30 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Required Attendees: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

When: Mar 9, 2017 12:45:00 PM

Where: Bill's office

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2017 10:19 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Nerd alert

b6 -1
b7C -1

I will!

You spell that all by yourself? I'd have ended up with immollomints. :)

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/10/17 8:48 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: Nerd alert

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

NPR had a very informative story on the Emoluments Clause this morning. You should totally listen.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 6:00 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Weekly briefing/meeting

Nice. Thanks....

----- Original message -----

From: "Toscas, George (NSD)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/14/17 5:53 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Cc: "Laufman, David (NSD) (JMD)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Weekly briefing/meeting

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1, 3
b7E -6

Guys: We will not have this meeting tomorrow. If it doesn't get rescheduled for this week, we will start up next week at the below time/day.

From: Toscas, George (NSD)
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 9:07 AM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: Laufman, David (NSD) [REDACTED]
Subject: Weekly briefing/meeting

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Pete: As mentioned last week, the Acting DAG has requested a weekly update on the sensitive matter. It will be on Wednesdays at 10:15am in the Justice Command Center. Thanks.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 9:54 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Senate Judiciary

Yeah just figured it out

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/14/17 9:53 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Senate Judiciary

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Yes. Can discuss tomorrow. You do too, I'm pretty sure.

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 03/14/2017 9:48 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Senate Judiciary

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Do you know what the Graham/Whitehorse request is?

----- Original message -----

From: "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/14/17 9:38 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]; "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED];
[REDACTED]; "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]; "Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED];
[REDACTED]; "Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED];
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]; "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED];
Cc: "McCabe, Andrew G. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]; "Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED];
[REDACTED]; "Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Senate Judiciary

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Still unclear how this will impact the Graham/Whitehouse request. I should have further information later tonight or early tomorrow.

b5 -1

Thanks,
Jim

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:12 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: NEED QUICK HELP

Yes I'm here.

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/15/17 11:11 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: NEED QUICK HELP

We need to draft something by 12:30 for DOJ. Are either of you around?

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 4:40 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: BuzzFeed Flynn story

fyi

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 4:32 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI);
[REDACTED] (CTD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: BuzzFeed Flynn story

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

FYSA

Former Top Trump Aide Mike Flynn Was Investigated By The FBI, Source Says

A high-level US intelligence official tells BuzzFeed News Flynn was being investigated by the FBI as recently as December.

Updated on Mar. 15, 2017, at 12:12 p.m.

Alli Watkins
BuzzFeed News Reporter

WASHINGTON — The FBI was investigating former Trump national security adviser Michael Flynn as recently as December, a high-level US intelligence official has told BuzzFeed News.

The bureau was prepared to close the investigation into Flynn until “the Logan Act stuff,” the official said, referring to phone calls in late December where Flynn reportedly discussed US sanctions with Russian ambassador Sergey Kislyak.

The source brought up the Flynn investigation after BuzzFeed News asked if clear evidence existed tying Trump to Moscow. The official then mentioned the FBI investigation into Flynn. It was not clear if the FBI’s probe was a counterintelligence investigation.

Flynn’s phone calls with Kislyak, first reported by the Washington Post, were a potential violation of the Logan Act, which forbids private citizens from negotiating with foreign governments. At the time of the calls with Kislyak, the Trump team had not yet taken over the US government, and Flynn had yet to take up his new public official role. The Logan Act has never been used to prosecute anyone.

That an investigation was already up and running in December indicates there was concern among the intelligence community about Flynn’s loyalties before his phone calls with Kislyak. After the nature of those calls was revealed by the Post in January, Flynn quickly left the White House for micro-management

FBI (18-cv-154)-10731

those calls was revealed by the Post in January, Flynn quickly left the White House for misrepresenting the nature of the calls to Vice President Mike Pence.

It remains unknown when the FBI first started investigating Flynn and whether the probe has since been closed. In addition to fostering ties with Moscow — a longtime commentator on the Kremlin's state-run news channel Russia Today, Flynn dined with Russian President Vladimir Putin during a trip to Moscow in 2015 — Flynn was also retained by a Turkish lobbying firm, a position he maintained while serving as Trump's confidant.

Flynn, whose security clearance was only recently revoked, maintained access to classified information throughout the course of the campaign. The FBI investigation remained open at least until December, according to the intelligence official, at which point Flynn — who was named as Trump's pick for national security adviser in November — was attending high-level national security briefings and accessing classified information.

Rumors have shot through Washington for months about whether the FBI was openly investigating Trump or any of his associates as a counterintelligence threat.

FBI Director James Comey was expected to address those rumors Wednesday, after reportedly promising lawmakers that after months of speculation he would publicly address whether the Trump campaign was under investigation by the bureau. But lawmakers backtracked Wednesday, and said Comey had never promised to publicly clarify questions about Trump and the FBI.

The FBI declined to comment. Neither the White House nor Flynn immediately responded to a request for comment.

UPDATE

Lawmakers clarified midday Wednesday that Comey did not promise to publicly address the Trump-FBI issue that day. Comey will appear at an open congressional hearing on Russia on Monday, Mar. 15, 2017, at 12:12 p.m.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:31 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Redaction Project

Him and his f*cking drama, man...

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 3/16/17 9:29 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: Fwd: Redaction Project

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Btw, this is totally a set up by [REDACTED] I can just about guarantee that she asked him to send this email. Will explain why tomorrow.

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 03/16/2017 6:59 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Boone, Jennifer C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)"

[REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Cc: "Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: Redaction Project

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Jen- just got your VM. I'll call you asap. In the meantime, I'm including Pete and Lisa to let them know that you have concerns, in the event you have not yet reached out to them successfully.

[REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 10:40 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Need to meet with you both

b6 -1
b7C -1

Free all day except 2-3.

-----Original Message-----

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 9:58 AM
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: Need to meet with you both

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

About a declassification issue related next week. When are you both free? Thanks.

Lisa

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 1:38 PM
To: Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI); Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI); Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI); Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI); Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (WF) (FBI); [REDACTED] (WF) (FBI); McCabe, Andrew G. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Requested Documents

b6 -1
b7C -1

Jim
Pete

b5 -1

From: Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 1:21 PM
To: Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (WF) (FBI); [REDACTED] (WF) (FBI); [REDACTED] McCabe, Andrew G. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Requested Documents

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Folks,

FYSA regarding Larry Klayman's contact with the Hill as it may pertain to Monday.

b5 -1

We can discuss if you want.

Jim

----- Original message -----

From: Larry Klayman <leklayman@gmail.com>
Date: 3/17/17 12:22 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)
[REDACTED]

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

FBI (18-cv-154)-10745

(WF) (FBI)"

(WF) (FBI)"

(USADC)"

Royce Lamberth

Subject: Re: Requested Documents

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

PS I am free to meet today with you and/or GC Jim Baker, Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] of the FBI and AUSA [redacted] in this regard.

Please let me know.

Larry

On Fri, Mar 17, 2017 at 9:18 AM, Larry Klayman <leklayman@gmail.com> wrote:

Guys,

Please advise on what you learned from the FBI about why it seemingly has suppressed its Montgomery investigation.

Please let me know today in light of all that is going on with regard to intel and the president and his staff.

Best,

Larry

On Fri, Feb 24, 2017 at 1:43 PM, Larry Klayman <leklayman@gmail.com> wrote:

As discussed. LETS TALK ON MONDAY.

Best,

LARRY

----- Forwarded message -----

From [redacted]

Date: Thu, Feb 23, 2017 at 1:29 PM

Subject: Requested Documents

To: Larry Klayman <leklayman@gmail.com>

b6 -3

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 3:46 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Urgent guidance needed

fysa

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 3:46 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)
[REDACTED] (CTD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Quinn, Richard P. (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Urgent guidance needed

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hi [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 3:32 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)
[REDACTED] (CTD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Quinn, Richard P. (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Urgent guidance needed

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

This reporter is keeping us busy these days. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -6

Thank you,
[REDACTED]

From: John Solomon [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 3:13 PM
To: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Cc: John Solomon [REDACTED] Quinn, Richard P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Urgent guidance needed

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Mike, Rich, [REDACTED]

Appreciate any guidance/comment on this.... On tight 4:30pm deadline.

Will send much longer summary of second story in an hour.

FBI (18-cv-154)-10747

John

DOJ has yet to give FBI permission to investigate national security leaks

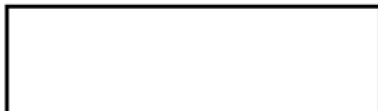
The FBI has not yet been given permission from Justice Department prosecutors to investigate the source of recent national security leaks that President Trump himself has declared were criminal, creating growing frustration on Capitol Hill that the lone evidence of criminality to emerge to date in the Russia counterintelligence probe has yet to be pursued.

FBI officials have assembled a specific list of government employees who had access to classified information that was leaked, such as a transcript of intercepted communications in December between former National Security adviser Mike Flynn and Russia's ambassador.

But the bureau has not yet received the required permission to conduct a full-scale criminal probe, which could require resources like a grand jury, subpoenas and polygraphs to determine if security clearance holders are lying.

FBI and Justice officials say the approvals have been delayed by a variety of reasons, including that there is a shortage of approved political appointees from the Trump administration and several holdovers in acting leadership roles have been overwhelmed.

John Solomon
Chief Operating Officer
Circa News
1100 Wilson Blvd., 6th Floor
Arlington, VA 22209



b6 -3

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 9:38 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Statement

----- Original message -----

From: "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/17/17 9:26 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Statement

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Tash said it was just the 2 docs with a transmittal letter (that didn't include any substantive information).

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/17/17 9:17 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Statement

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Thanks Jim, these look good.

Do you have any idea as to the content of the letter delivered by DoJ to hpsci today? Mike K said Ellen/WP had details of "the documents" given to the Hill which contain investigative details and that she has at least one name.

Of course concerned about the two we did light reactions on last night, although those do not sound like the ones he heard about.

Thanks.

----- Original message -----

From: "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/17/17 7:33 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "McCabe, Andrew G. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Bowdich, David L. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] "Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] "Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P.
(DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] "Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Statement

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 11:43 AM
To: Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Sending the tweets in question along with posting times. Doing some research, time stamping in Twitter can be glitchy. For example, a tweet right now showing "2hr ago" shows a specific posting time on Twitter of 6:23 am. If that same time adjustment holds, the tweet times below were all -3 hours from east coast time, which I adjusted (ie, the first listed on Twitter as 3:35am). I think I recall reporting at the time described the tweets as occurring around 630, not 330.

Terrible! Just found out that Obama had my "wires tapped" in Trump Tower just before the victory. Nothing found. This is McCarthyism!

— Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) March 4, 2017 6:35 AM

Is it legal for a sitting President to be "wire tapping" a race for president prior to an election? Turned down by court earlier. A NEW LOW!

— Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) March 4, 2017 6:49 AM

I'd bet a good lawyer could make a great case out of the fact that President Obama was tapping my phones in October, just prior to Election!

— Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) March 4, 2017 6:52 AM

How low has President Obama gone to tapp my phones during the very sacred election process. This is Nixon/Watergate. Bad (or sick) guy!

— Donald J. Trump (@realDonaldTrump) March 4, 2017 7:02 AM

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 3:51 PM
To: Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC)
(FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: How to Listen to Jim Comey's Testimony on Monday - Lawfare

b6 -1
b7C -1

----- Original message -----

From: Peter [REDACTED]
Date: 3/18/17 3:49 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: How to Listen to Jim Comey's Testimony on Monday - Lawfare

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/how-listen-jim-comeys-testimony-monday>

How to Listen to Jim Comey's Testimony on Monday

Let me start by saying that I have absolutely no inside information about the testimony FBI Director Jim Comey is going to give Monday morning before the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. I have not discussed what Comey might say with Comey himself or with anyone else who is in the know, and I'll thus be watching the hearing with the same level of uncertainty as everyone else will. If this were not the case, I almost certainly would not be writing this piece.

But free as I am from the shackles of any actual knowledge, let me offer readers the following user's guide to Comey's testimony, which can be summed up in one simple sentence: Comey's communicativeness with the committee—and through it with the public—will almost certainly be inversely proportional to the seriousness of the Russia investigation.

That is, if Comey says a lot, makes a lot of news on Russia matters, and cheers a lot of anti-Trump hearts by maximally embarrassing the President for his outrageous comments on Obama's alleged wiretapping of Trump Tower, that will very likely be a

FBI (18-cv-154)-10752

Comments on Obama's alleged wiretapping of Trump Tower, that will very likely be a sign that Comey has relatively little to protect in terms of investigative equities in the Russia matter and is thus free to vent. Conversely, a quiet, reserved Comey—one whose contrast with the relatively loquacious FBI director who talked at length about the Clinton email matters will infuriate a lot of liberals and frustrate those who want to know what's going on with Russia—may well spell trouble for the President.

To understand this perhaps paradoxical-sounding read, consider three possible scenarios.

In the first, the Russia investigation is either mostly complete, does not implicate the President in any significant way, or is a bust altogether. In this scenario, maybe General Flynn and Paul Manafort and Carter Page have problems, and maybe there's some ongoing counter-intelligence activity, but there's nothing big that Comey believes he has to protect save the sources and methods behind all such investigations. Comey is reportedly irate about Trump's wiretapping allegations, which don't merely defame the prior president but implicate the FBI in illegal activity. In this scenario, there's no particular reason for Comey not to tell his whole story and give vent to his anger. If this scenario is the reality, the template for Comey's testimony will be his famous interaction with Sen. Schumer in 2007 before the Senate Judiciary Committee, where he spilled the beans on the 2004 hospital room confrontation over the Terrorist Surveillance Program.

When Comey has nothing to lose and he has a story to tell, here's what he sounds like:

SCHUMER: There have been media reports describing a dramatic visit by Alberto Gonzales and Chief of Staff Andrew Card to the hospital bed of John Ashcroft in March 2004, after you, as acting attorney general, decided not to authorize a classified program. First, can you confirm that a night-time hospital visit took place?

COMEY: Yes, I can.

SCHUMER: OK. Can you remember the date and the day?

COMEY: Yes, sir, very well. It was Wednesday, March the 10th, 2004.

SCHUMER: And how do you remember that date so well?

COMEY: This was a very memorable period in my life; probably the most difficult time in my entire professional life. And that night was probably the most difficult night of my professional life. So it's not something I'd forget.

SCHUMER: Were you present when Alberto Gonzales visited Attorney General Ashcroft's bedside?

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Sunday, March 19, 2017 3:31 PM
To: Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI); Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI); Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Intelligence chairman: Justice report shows no evidence for Trump's claims of wiretapping during campaign - The Washington Post
Attachments: image1.JPG; image1-2.JPG

b6 -1
b7C -1

Jim R/all (note the subset of recipients on this),

See below, relates to a 3/15 letter from HPSCI to us, CIA, NSA. Best version i could find online is attached. The second file has the actual questions.

b5 -1

Nunes said Trump could be referring to new information about whether intelligence officials "unmasked," or identified, U.S. citizens who were captured speaking with foreign officials who are under routine surveillance — a process governed by FISA. "That is very possible, and we don't have the answers to those questions yet," he said. "We had a deadline of Friday for the NSA, FBI and CIA to get us those names that were unmasked through the FISA system. We didn't get those names on Friday, and until we get those names, we can't rule this out."

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2017/03/19/no-new-evidence-to-support-trumps-wiretap-claims-house-intelligence-chairman-says/?hpid=hp_hp-top-table-main_pwr-nunes-1158am%3Ahomepage%2Fstory&utm_term=.e45a37b52efe

UNCLASSIFIED

1. All specific policies and/or procedures each agency employs to make a determination to unmask and disseminate the identity of a USP; specifically, the Committee requests the approval process required to authorize such a dissemination within and outside the agency, including the number of individuals who can approve an unmasking in each agency;
2. The total number of disseminations of any unmasked USP identities between June 2016 and January 2017, if they exist;
3. If they exist, the names of any unmasked USPs whose identities were disseminated in response to requests from IC agencies, law enforcement, or senior Executive Branch officials between June 2016 and January 2017, and that relate to Presidential candidates Donald J. Trump and Hillary Rodham Clinton and their associates in 2016;⁵
4. If they exist, the names of any IC agencies, law enforcement agencies, and/or senior Executive Branch officials that requested and/or authorized the unmasking and dissemination of USP information relating to the specific individuals and entities specified in request #3 above, as well as the titles of all specific recipients of that unmasked USP information; and
5. If it exists, the stated reason, pursuant to the relevant minimization procedures, for unmasking each USP identity relating to request #3 above.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this request. If you have any questions regarding the foregoing, please contact the Committee at (202) 225-4121.

Sincerely,



Devin Nunes
Chairman



Adam B. Schiff
Ranking Member

Copy to:

The Honorable Michael Dempsey, Acting Director of National Intelligence

March 15, 2017

The Honorable Admiral Michael Rogers
Director, National Security Agency
Fort Meade, MD 20755

The Honorable James Comey
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

The Honorable Mike Pompeo
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Directors Rogers, Comey, and Pompeo:

As you know, the Committee has been very concerned regarding the purported unauthorized disclosures of classified information, particularly when they pertain to intelligence collection on, or related to, U.S. persons (USP). To take a prominent example, a January 12, 2017 article in a major newspaper was the first to claim that "Retired Lt. Gen. Michael T. Flynn, [then President-Elect] Trump's choice for national security adviser . . . phoned Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak several times on Dec. 29."

Such stories would appear to contain the unauthorized disclosure of USP identities. This potential misuse is a key reason why the Intelligence Community (IC) has developed robust "minimization procedures" for the protection of USP information, including requiring the "masking" of USP identities in most circumstances.

However, as recent news stories seem to illustrate, individuals talking to the media would appear to have wantonly disregarded these procedures. The Committee is concerned that USP identifiable information may have been mishandled in violation of approved minimization and dissemination procedures pursuant to statute and/or Executive Order 12333, as amended. Therefore, no later than **Friday, March 17, 2017**, each of your agencies should provide the Committee with the following:

FBI (18-cv-154)-10757

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Sunday, March 19, 2017 5:34 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Why does WikiLeaks keep publishing U.S. state secrets? Private contractors. - The Washington Post

A fine question....

----- Original message -----

From: "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/19/17 5:29 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Why does WikiLeaks keep publishing U.S. state secrets? Private contractors. - The Washington Post

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Who is Evanina's boss at the bureau? It really seems like a weird dynamic where there is no requirement for him to coordinate with the AD of CD.

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 03/19/2017 5:26 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Why does WikiLeaks keep publishing U.S. state secrets? Private contractors. - The Washington Post

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Rgr thanks

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/19/17 5:23 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Why does WikiLeaks keep publishing U.S. state secrets? Private contractors. - The Washington Post

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hi Pete.

No idea. I queried the other UCs and they didn't know either.

[REDACTED]
Unit Chief, CD-4D

FBIHQ

O [REDACTED]

C [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 03/19/2017 2:48 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)"

[REDACTED] "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: Fwd: Why does WikiLeaks keep publishing U.S. state secrets? Private contractors. - The Washington Post

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Any idea what he's talking about?

Also last month, William Evanina, the nation's top counterintelligence officer, disclosed that U.S. officials had recently discovered two more private-sector breaches. In one incident, a contractor stole more than 200 gigabytes of classified information from an unspecified agency and sold it to a foreign country, Evanina said in a public talk at the National Press Club. And in December, he added, government investigators learned that a contractor working for a company making engines for stealth fighter planes had stolen unclassified data that could allow "adversaries" of the United States to "reverse-engineer" the engines to understand U.S. capabilities.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/posteverything/wp/2017/03/16/the-reason-wikileaks-receives-so-many-u-s-state-secrets-private-contractors/?utm_term=.eb6202174c89

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 6:28 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI); McCabe, Andrew G. (DO) (FBI); Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI); Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI); Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI); Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: FBI Director Comey Must Be Questioned by Nunes at House Intel Hearing Monday on Apparent Cover-Up of Trump "Wiretaps" and Intelligence Agency Illegal Surveillance!

b6 -1
b7C -1

That's accurate [REDACTED]

b5 -1

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/20/17 6:20 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "McCabe, Andrew G. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] "Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FBI Director Comey Must Be Questioned by Nunes at House Intel Hearing Monday on Apparent Cover-Up of Trump "Wiretaps" and Intelligence Agency Illegal Surveillance!

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

b5 -1, 3

----- Original message -----

From: "Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 03/19/2017 10:56 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "McCabe, Andrew G. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] "Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Vale, Andrew W. (WF) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] "WF) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: FBI Director Comey Must Be Questioned by Nunes at House Intel Hearing Monday on Apparent Cover-Up of Trump "Wiretaps" and Intelligence Agency Illegal Surveillance!

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Sorry. I have been in the car all day and just saw this.

b5 -1, 3

Thanks.

Jim

----- Original message -----

From: Larry Klayman [REDACTED]

Date: 3/19/17 3:17 PM (GMT-06:00)

To: "Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "USADC)" [REDACTED]

b6 -1, 2, 3

"WF) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Royce Lamberth

b7C -1, 2

"Corney, James B. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

b7E -6

Subject: Fwd: FBI Director Comey Must Be Questioned by Nunes at House Intel Hearing Monday on Apparent Cover-Up of Trump "Wiretaps" and Intelligence Agency Illegal Surveillance!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Freedom Watch" <info@list2.freedomwatchusa.org>

Date: Mar 19, 2017 1:01 PM

Subject: FBI Director Comey Must Be Questioned by Nunes at House Intel Hearing Monday on Apparent Cover-Up of Trump "Wiretaps" and Intelligence Agency Illegal Surveillance!

To: [REDACTED]

b6 -3

Cc:



FREEDOM WATCH

» www.FreedomWatchUSA.org

» World Headquarters 2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 548, Washington, DC 20005-1811 » (202) 695-0800 » info@freedomwatchusa.org

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 9:04 AM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI); Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (OGA)
Subject: RE:

b6 -1
b7C -1

Thanks

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Date: 3/20/17 9:03 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] (DO) (OGA); [REDACTED]
Subject:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

We will broadcast the HPSCI hearing from the Director's conference room beginning at 10am. Please join if you are available.

Thanks, [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1

[REDACTED]
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Director
[REDACTED]

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 11:29 AM
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Attachments: download-1490023427609.pdf

b6 -1
b7C -1

Not the SMPs, but contains the changes to who/how indexing is done.

~~SECRET~~U.S. FOREIGN
INTELLIGENCE
SURVEILLANCE COURT

UNITED STATES 1014 SEP 29 PM 1:10

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE COURT
KAREN SUTTON
CLERK

WASHINGTON, D. C.

IN RE AMENDMENT TO THE FEDERAL :
 BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION'S STANDARD :
 MINIMIZATION PROCEDURES FOR :
 ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE AND :
 PHYSICAL SEARCH. (U) :

Docket Number: [REDACTED]

SUBMISSION OF AMENDMENT

TO STANDARD MINIMIZATION PROCEDURES

The United States of America, through the undersigned Department of Justice attorneys, hereby files with this Court, pursuant to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978, as amended, Title 50, United States Code (U.S.C.), Sections 1801-1811 and 1821-1829 (FISA or the Act), the attached amendment to the standard minimization procedures for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). (U)

~~SECRET~~Classified by: James A. Baker, Counsel for Intelligence Policy, OIPR, DOJReason: 1.4(c)Declassify on: X1

~~SECRET~~

In its June 15, 2006, response to this Court's order of December 9, 2005, the United States stated that the Attorney General would expeditiously modify the FBI's standard minimization procedures to broaden the category of FBI personnel who can enter U.S. person information into "general FBI indices" from the current limitation that only "the supervising case agent" may authorize such indexing and that the Attorney General would also authorize the indexing of U.S. person information that is necessary to understand foreign intelligence information or assess its importance. The attached amendment to the FBI's standard minimization procedures, which has been approved by the Attorney General and will be incorporated into future applications to this Court, implements these actions for all versions of the FBI's standard minimization procedures, specifically:

Standard Minimization Procedures for Electronic Surveillance of a U.S. Person Agent of a Foreign Power, approved September 17, 1997;
Standard Minimization Procedures for Electronic Surveillance of a non-U.S. Person Agent of a Foreign Power, approved September 17, 1997;
Standard Minimization Procedures for Electronic Surveillance of a Foreign Power (both SECRET and TOP SECRET versions), approved September 17, 1997;
Standard Minimization Procedures for Physical search of a U.S. Person Agent of a Foreign Power, approved January 20, 1995;
Standard Minimization Procedures for Physical search of a non-U.S. Person Agent of a Foreign Power, approved January 20, 1995; and
Standard Minimization Procedures for Physical search of a Foreign Power, approved January 20, 1995. (S)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

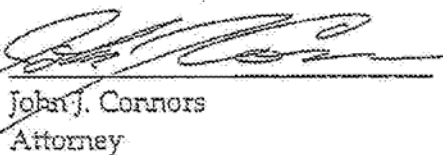
In addition to the changes to the minimization procedures described in the Government's response of June 16, 2006, this amendment makes one additional change, described as follows: In the section of the FBI's standard minimization procedures referenced above that set forth the standard for indexing, the procedures referred to "logged identities" of U.S. persons. As described in the Government's response of June 16, 2006, identities of U.S. persons that have not been logged are often maintained in FBI databases that contain unminimized information. The procedures now simply refer to "the identities" of U.S. persons, acknowledging that the FBI may not have previously logged such identities. (S)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

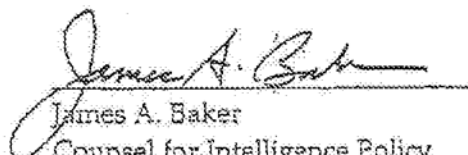
WHEREFORE, the United States of America, by counsel, files with this Court the attached amendment to the FBI's standard minimization procedures. (U)

Respectfully submitted,



John J. Cornors
Attorney

U.S. Department of Justice



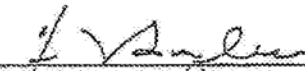
James A. Baker
Counsel for Intelligence Policy

U.S. Department of Justice

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

I hereby approve the filing of the attached amendment to the FBI's standard minimization procedures with the United States Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court. (U)



Alberto R. Gonzales
Attorney General of the United States

SEP 29 2006

Date~~SECRET~~

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~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE COURT

WASHINGTON, D. C.

IN RE AMENDMENT TO THE FEDERAL

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION'S STANDARD :MINIMIZATION PROCEDURES FOR : Docket Number 

ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE AND :

PHYSICAL SEARCH. (U) :

AMENDMENT TO FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION'S
STANDARD MINIMIZATION PROCEDURES

Pursuant to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978, as amended, Title 50, United States Code (U.S.C.), Sections 1801-1811 and 1821-1829 (FISA or the Act), the following amended procedures have been adopted by the Attorney General, and shall be followed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), in conducting electronic surveillance and/or physical search as ordered by the Court:

~~SECRET~~Classified by: James A. Baker, Counsel for Intelligence Policy, OIPR, DOJReason: 1.4(c)Declassify on: X1

~~SECRET~~

The FBI currently has the following standard electronic surveillance minimization procedures:

(a) Standard Minimization Procedures for Electronic Surveillance of a U.S. Person Agent of a Foreign Power, approved September 17, 1997;

(b) Standard Minimization Procedures for Electronic Surveillance of a non-U.S. Person Agent of a Foreign Power, approved September 17, 1997;

(c) Standard Minimization Procedures for Electronic Surveillance of a Foreign Power (SECRET), approved September 17, 1997; and

(d) Standard Minimization Procedures for Electronic Surveillance of a Foreign Power (TOP SECRET), approved September 17, 1997. (U)

Section 4(a) of each of these procedures currently provides as follows:

Logged identities of United States persons and communications of or concerning United States persons may be indexed into the general FBI indices only after the supervising case agent has determined that both the identity and the communication reasonably appear to be foreign intelligence information or are evidence of a crime which has been, is being, or is about to be committed. The identity of the United States person as recorded in the log may be minimized by striking the name or substituting a characterization for that person. Logged identities of any persons, including United States persons, will be recorded in the Electronic Surveillance Index pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, § 3504, if the supervising case agent has determined that the identities reasonably appear to be foreign intelligence information and if they meet other indexing criteria established by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. (U)

The FBI currently has the following standard physical search minimization procedures:

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(a) Standard Minimization Procedures for Physical Search of a U.S. Person Agent of a Foreign Power, approved January 20, 1995;

(b) Standard Minimization Procedures for Physical Search of a non-U.S. Person Agent of a Foreign Power, approved January 20, 1995; and

(c) Standard Minimization Procedures for Physical Search of a Foreign Power, approved January 20, 1995. (U)

Section IV(c) of each of these procedures currently provides as follows:

Logged identities of United States persons acquired through physical search of information, material, or property of the United States person [non-United States person or foreign power] target may be indexed into the general FBI indices only after the supervising case agent has determined that both the identity and the information, material, or property from which it was acquired reasonably appear to be foreign intelligence information or are evidence of a crime which has been, is being, or is about to be committed. The identity of the United States person as recorded in the log may be minimized by striking the name or substituting a characterization for that person. (U)

For the reasons set forth in the Government's Submission Regarding Application of Existing Minimization Procedures to Certain Datasystems of the Federal Bureau of Investigation filed June 16, 2006, and as the Counsel for Intelligence Policy orally explained to all of the members of the Court on May 10, 2006, the Attorney General is amending these provisions as indicated below. (U)

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Section 4(a) - Indexing of the FBI's Standard Minimization Procedures for
Electronic Surveillance of a U.S. Person Agent of a Foreign Power, non-U.S. Person
Agent of a Foreign Power, and a Foreign Power, is amended to read as follows:

The identities of United States persons and communications of or concerning United States persons acquired through electronic surveillance may be indexed into the general FBI indices only after a supervisory special agent, special agent, or intelligence analyst has determined that both the identity and the communication:

- (1) reasonably appear to be foreign intelligence information;
- (2) are necessary to understand foreign intelligence information or assess its importance; or
- (3) are evidence of a crime which has been, is being, or is about to be committed.

The identity of the United States person may be minimized by striking the name or substituting a characterization for that person. The identities of any persons, including United States persons, will be recorded in the Electronic Surveillance Index pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, § 3504, if a supervisory special agent, special agent, or intelligence analyst has determined that the identities reasonably appear to be foreign intelligence information and if they meet other indexing criteria established by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. (U)

Section IV(c) - Indexing of the FBI's Standard Minimization Procedures for
Physical search of a U.S. Person Agent of a Foreign Power, non-U.S. Person Agent of a
Foreign Power, and a Foreign Power, is amended as follows:

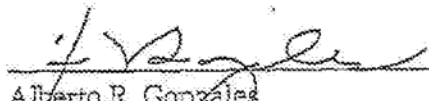
~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

The identities of United States persons acquired through physical search of information, material, or property may be indexed into the general FBI indices only after a supervisory special agent, special agent, or intelligence analyst has determined that both the identity and the information, material, or property from which it was acquired:

- (1) reasonably appear to be foreign intelligence information;
- (2) are necessary to understand foreign intelligence information or assess its importance; or
- (3) are evidence of a crime which has been, is being, or is about to be committed.

The identity of the United States person may be minimized by striking the name or substituting a characterization for that person. (U)


Alberto R. Gonzales
Attorney General of the United States

SEP 29 2006

Date

~~SECRET~~

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: Accepted: Updated: MYE follow-up
Location: OGC conference room (non-sunshine room)

Start: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 2:45 PM
End: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 3:45 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Required Attendees: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

When: Mar 21, 2017 2:45:00 PM

Where: OGC conference room (non-sunshine room)

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: Accepted: MYE follow-up
Location: Sunshine room - note room change

Start: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 2:45 PM
End: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 3:45 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Required Attendees: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

When: Mar 21, 2017 2:45:00 PM

Where: Sunshine room - note room change

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 6:22 PM
To: Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI); Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI);
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Lawfare/Wittes commentary

b6 -1
b7C -1

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/how-read-what-comey-said-today>

How to Read What Comey Said Today

By Benjamin Wittes
Monday, March 20, 2017, 4:53 PM

Today was a bad day for President Trump. Really bad.

Over the weekend, I wrote a short piece about how to understand the testimony FBI Director James Comey was to give today. The bottom line was that: "Comey's communicativeness with the committee—and through it with the public—will almost certainly be inversely proportional to the seriousness of the Russia investigation." That is,

"if Comey says a lot, makes a lot of news on Russia matters, and cheers a lot of anti-Trump hearts by maximally embarrassing the President for his outrageous comments on Obama's alleged wiretapping of Trump Tower, that will very likely be a sign that Comey has relatively little to protect in terms of investigative equities in the Russia matter and is thus free to vent. Conversely, a quiet, reserved Comey—one whose contrast with the relatively loquacious FBI director who talked at length about the Clinton email matters will infuriate a lot of liberals and frustrate those who want to know what's going on with Russia—may well spell trouble for the President."

The article spelled out three possible scenarios: In the first, Comey does not have much in the way of investigative equities to protect and he thus feels very free to give vent to his anger about the President's tweets, which imputed illegal conduct to the FBI. This scenario means "that [Comey] has decided that he doesn't mind being fired and that it's more important to tell the truth than to keep his job, and second and relatedly, that he has decided that his continued presence at FBI isn't necessary to preserve a crucially important investigation that is ongoing."

In the second scenario, "there are still threads of the Russia investigation to protect but Comey does not necessarily expect them to lead anywhere. If this is the case, expect him to be tight-lipped about Russia but relatively communicative about the wiretapping allegations."

In the third scenario,

FBI (18-cv-154)-10777

"Russia is a very big deal. Comey, in other words, has significant investigative equities to protect and he believes that he needs to be there in order to protect them—in other words, that he has a responsibility to not get himself fired because of his anger about the Trump tweets (or anything else) because he has to make sure the investigation can proceed unimpeded. In this situation, I would expect him to be minimally verbal. He may have to answer yes or no questions in certain instances, including about the truth of the wiretapping allegations, but he will refuse to answer a lot of questions. He will make as little news as humanly possible. He will be exceptionally spare with his opinions. He will make a point of not antagonizing the President. Lots of people will leave disappointed."

So which Comey showed up today?

Let's start with the obvious point: It certainly wasn't the Jim Comey of scenario number one. Yes, Comey contradicted the President on the accuracy of the tweets, but he did not do so in his opening statement. He only did it only in response to specific questioning from Adam Schiff, and he did it relatively minimally, gently even. Here's what he said:

SCHIFF: Director Comey, I want to attempt to put to rest several claims made by the president about the predecessor, namely that President Obama wiretapped his phone. so that we can be precise, I want to refer you to exactly what the president said, and ask you if there is any truth to it. First, the president claimed, quote, Terrible. Just found out that Obama had my wires tapped in Trump Tower just before the victory. Nothing found. This is McCarthyism, unquote. Director Comey, was the president's statement that Obama had his wires tapped in Trump Tower true?

COMET: With respect to the president's tweets about alleged wiretapping directed at him from the prior administration, I have no information that supports those tweets and we have looked carefully inside of the FBI. The Department of Justice has said that the answer is the same for the Department of Justice and all its components. The Department has no information that supports those tweets.

SCHIFF: The president accused Mr. Obama, and presumably the FBI, of engaging in McCarthyism. As you understand the term McCarthyism, do you think that President Obama or the FBI was engaged in such conduct?

COMET: I am not going to try to characterize the tweets themselves. All I can tell you is that we have no information that supports them.

SCHIFF: Were you engaged in McCarthyism, Director Comey?

COMET: I try very hard not to engage in any isms of any kind, including McCarthyism.

SCHIFF: The president second stated, quote, is it legal for a sitting president to be wiretapping a race for president prior to an election. Turned down by court earlier. A new low, end quote. Can you answer the President's question, would it have been legal for President Obama to have ordered a wiretap of Donald Trump?

COMET: I won't characterize or respond to the tweets themselves, but I can tell you that in general, as Admiral Rogers and I were saying, there is a statutory framework in the united states under which courts grant permission for electronic surveillance either in a criminal case or the national security case based on the showing of probable cause carefully overseen. It is a rigorous, rigorous process involving all three branches of government and it's one that we have lived with since the late 1970s.

That is how it works. No individual in the United States can direct electronic surveillance of anyone, and it has to go through the application process, and ask a judge. The judge can then make an order.

SCHIFF: So President Obama could not unilaterally order a wiretap of anyone?

COMNEY: No president could.

SCHIFF: Mr. Trump also asserted in the tweet that the application was turned down by a court. Was there any request made by the FBI or the Justice Department to wiretap Donald Trump turned down by a court?

COMNEY: That is one of the subjects that I can't comment on one way or another, and please don't interpret that, but I cannot respond to anything that relates to the FISA process in an open setting.

SCHIFF: Third, the president said, I bet that a good lawyer could make a case out of the fact that President Obama was tapping my phones in October just prior to the election. Director Comey, you are a good lawyer. Can you make a great case that President Obama wiretapped President Trump's phones just prior to the election, in light of the fact that you've said you have no evidence of that?

COMNEY: All I can say is what I've said before, that we don't have any information that supports those tweets.

If Comey is, indeed, irate about the tweets, you don't see that here. And he certainly wasn't acting like someone who feels free to give voice to his anger because he's decided he's got nothing to protect in terms of his ongoing investigation. Indeed, his words here actually seem careful to spare the President embarrassment. He could, after all, quite truthfully have said something far more indignant and accusatory—something like, say, "there is no truth to that whatsoever" or even "that was a lie and an insult to the men and women of the FBI who conduct electronic surveillance only under the rule of law." He didn't do anything like that. He even put a little distance between himself and the factual correction of his boss by describing the tweets merely as reflecting a conclusion his investigation does not support. This is, I think, close to the most generous way Comey could possibly have responded to Trump. And it suggests to me that the investigative equities at stake here are non-trivial.

We don't need to speculate on that point because Comey announced it very clearly. Here's what he said about the Russia investigation:

As you know our practice is not to confirm the existence of ongoing investigations, especially those investigations that involve classified matters. But, in unusual circumstances, where it is in the public interest, it may be appropriate to do so, as Justice Department policies recognize. This is one of those circumstances. I have been authorized by the Department of Justice to confirm that the FBI, as part of our counterintelligence mission, is investigating the Russian government's efforts to interfere in the 2016 presidential election. And that includes investigating the nature of any links between individuals associated with the Trump campaign and the Russian government, and whether there was any coordination between the campaign and Russia's efforts. As with any counterintelligence investigation, this will also include an assessment of whether any crimes were committed.

Because it is an open, ongoing investigation, and is classified, I cannot say more about what we are doing, and who's conduct we are examining. At the request of congressional leaders, we have taken the extraordinary step, in coordination with the Department of Justice, of briefing this Congress's leaders, including the leaders of this committee, in a classified setting in detail about the

requesters, including the requesters of this Committee, in a classified setting in detail about the investigation. But I can't go into those details here. I know that is extremely frustrating to some folks. I hope you and the American people can understand, the FBI is very careful in how we handle information about our cases, and about the people we are investigating. We are also very careful about how we handle information that may be of interest to our foreign adversaries. Both of those interests are at issue in a counterintelligence investigation.

Please don't draw any conclusions from the fact that I may not be able to comment on certain topics. I know speculating is part of human nature. But it really isn't fair to draw conclusions simply because I say "I can't comment." Some folks may want to make comparisons to past instances where the Department of Justice and the FBI have spoken about the details of some investigations. But please keep in mind that those involved the details of completed investigations. Our ability to share details with the Congress and with the American people is limited when those investigations are still open. Which I hope makes sense. We need to protect people's privacy. We need to make sure we don't give other people clues as to where we're going. We need to make sure we don't give information to our foreign adversaries about what we know or don't know. We just cannot do our work well or fairly if we start talking about it while we're doing it. So we will try very, very hard to avoid that, as we always do. This work is very complex, and there is no way for me to give you a timetable as to when it will be done.

We approach this work in an open-minded and independent way, and our expert investigators will conclude that work as quickly as they can, but they will always do it well no matter how long that takes (emphasis added).

Comey very politely requested that people not to draw any conclusions from his refusal to comment on certain topics. I cannot oblige him. I think there are important inferences to draw here both from what he said and also from what he didn't say.

First off, the scope of the investigation explicitly includes not merely the Russian government's hacking and attempts to interfere in the U.S. election. It also includes both "the nature of any links between individuals associated with the Trump campaign and the Russian government" and "whether there was any coordination between the campaign and Russia's efforts." These are framed as active investigative questions, not—as White House and Republican officials have repeatedly suggested in recent weeks—matters of investigative conclusion. Comey offered the White House no solace of any time of time frame for resolution. Indeed, he announced that there was no time frame.

Second, Comey specifically included the fact that the investigation "will also include an assessment of whether any crimes were committed." This is an interesting point for him to include, and it may (or may not) be a signal.

One of the only good pieces of news for Trump in this testimony is Comey's formulation of the investigation he announced as a counterintelligence investigation, not a criminal investigation. This little-understood distinction is actually important. A criminal investigation is designed to suss out whether a crime was committed and needs to be prosecuted, who is guilty of it, and whether the evidence would support a conviction. A counterintelligence investigation, by contrast, is designed to respond to foreign espionage against the United States. The goal is not necessarily to prosecute but to figure out what kind of steps may need to be taken to prevent whatever harm is threatened. Most counterintelligence investigations don't result in criminal charges; they might result instead in long-term monitoring of foreign actors, cyberdefense activities, or even diplomatic moves. So when Comey says this is a counterintelligence investigation, not a criminal investigation, he is flagging that prosecuting anyone, let alone the President, may not be his top priority.

All of which makes his apparently gratuitous inclusion of a criminal element in describing the investigation curious. As Comey notes, the criminal component of this investigation is actually always there: "As with any counterintelligence investigation," he said, "this will also include an assessment of whether any crimes were committed." The criminal element is always there there because criminal process is an inherent feature of any investigation that involves activities—like hacking and spying—that implicate federal criminal laws.

But if a criminal element is always a feature of a counterintelligence probe, why mention it specifically? The answer, I suspect, is that Comey is flagging for the committee, and the public, the possibility that this matter could become criminal at any time. That is, it's not a criminal investigation, Comey is saying . . . yet.

Third, Comey then declared that he wasn't going to discuss specific aspects of the investigation, and he spent much of the rest of the hearing declining just about everyone's invitations to explore the contours of the probe. He resisted all questions about specific individuals, from refusing to discuss the Flynn leaks with Republicans to refusing any efforts by Democrats to ask whether his investigation included specific Russia-Trump matters they thought important.

In this sense, except for the announcement at the outset that the investigation existed at all, his behavior most resembles the third scenario I outlined. With this one big exception, this was a very reticent Jim Comey. And while he asked us not to read anything into that, I read one big thing into it anyway: there's a significant investigation going on, and Comey doesn't want either Congress or presidential tweets to impede his conduct of it.

If there's anything mitigating the bad news for the White House here, it is that Comey may have also sent subtle signals that the matters under investigation are not principally about the personal conduct of Trump himself. While this is speculation, I do not believe that if Comey had, say, validated large swaths of the Steele dossier or found significant Trump-Russia financial entanglements of a compromising variety, he would have said even as much as he said today. I also don't think he would have announced the scope of the investigation as about the relationship "between individuals associated with the Trump campaign and the Russian government" or "coordination between the campaign and Russia's efforts"; these words suggest one step of removal from investigating the President himself. If the latter were the case, I suspect Comey wouldn't have used words suggestive of the Flynn-Manafort-Page cabal.

But that's reading a lot into a relatively small number of tea leaves. What is clear is that this was a very bad day for the President. In it, we learned that there is an open-ended Russia investigation with no timetable for completion, one that's going hang over Trump's head for a long time, and one to which the FBI director is entirely committed.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 6:30 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: WP

b6 -1
b7C -1

This does a good job of parsing through the various tweets:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/fact-checker/wp/2017/03/20/president-trumps-terrible-horrible-no-good-very-bad-twitter-day>

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 8:12 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW:

-----Original Message-----

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 8:12 PM
To: Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] OGC) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

So in response to a Q from Wolf about what you do if you're in the FBI, Phil Mudd says, first thing I tell my counterintelligence guys is, slow down, make sure you do everything right. When this eventually becomes public, it will be more picked over than even the Clinton investigation was.

He's right.

And that worries me.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 3:04 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (CTD) (FBI)
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Hillary Clinton grand jury?

b6 -1
b7C -1

It might be, [REDACTED]

b5 -1

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/24/17 2:55 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (CTD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Hillary Clinton grand jury?

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

AD Kortan asked if this could just be about legal process to get access.

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 12:19 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] (CTD) (FBI)
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Hillary Clinton grand jury?

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED]

b5 -1

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 12:15 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] (CTD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Hillary Clinton grand jury?

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Adding Pete, just to double check my work.

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 12:12 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] (CTD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Hillary Clinton grand jury?

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Got it. Thanks very much.

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 12:12 PM

To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)

[REDACTED] (CTD) (FBI)

Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Hillary Clinton grand jury?

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

b5 -1, 3

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)

Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 11:11 AM

To: [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (CTD) (FBI)

[REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Hillary Clinton grand jury?

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hi all,

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -6

Adding Lisa on this one as well.

Thanks.

From: Zapotosky, Matt [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 10:17 AM

To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)

Subject: Hillary Clinton grand jury?

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hey [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Question for you on this recently released batch of Hillary Clinton documents. On page 165 of the 6th set of documents, a box is checked to indicate the material is "Grand Jury Material." Is that right? I don't think anyone had ever been aware of a sitting grand jury in the Clinton case. Is there another reason that box would be checked, or was it perhaps it checked in error? The same type of page appears several times throughout the documents, but the "Grand Jury Material" box is never checked.

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1

I'm on my cell today if we can talk it out [REDACTED]

Best,

Matt Zapotosky

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 3:05 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] OGC (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)
Cc: [REDACTED] OGC (FBI)
Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1

I'll make whatever work. Thanks

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/24/17 3:03 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

For me, Monday 10-12 or Tuesday 2-5 work well. Thanks [REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] OGC (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 2:35 PM
To: Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hi Everyone,

[REDACTED]

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1

Please let me know a couple one-hour time slots that would work with your schedules so I can arrange it.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Assistant General Counsel
National Security Law Branch
[REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

-----Original Message-----

From: Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 2:04 PM
To: [REDACTED] OGC (FBI); [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] OGC (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

[REDACTED]

It sounds like you have pretty routine interaction up there, but if I can help at all in reaching out to them, just say the word and I'll do it...

J

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)

Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 1:31 PM

To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

Not a problem. I'll begin to lay the groundwork.

[REDACTED]
Assistant General Counsel
National Security Law Branch
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 1:29 PM

To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]

Subject: Meeting with the DI

[REDACTED] Jon: :

Hi friends, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Thanks guys.

Lisa

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

b5 -1, 3
b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 3:08 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)
Cc: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1

Actually Tuesday pm is better

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/24/17 3:03 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

For me, Monday 10-12 or Tuesday 2-5 work well. Thanks [REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 2:35 PM
To: Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hi Everyone,

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1

Please let me know a couple one-hour time slots that would work with your schedules so I can arrange it.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Assistant General Counsel
National Security Law Branch
[REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

-----Original Message-----

From: Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 2:04 PM
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

[REDACTED]

It sounds like you have pretty routine interaction up there, but if I can help at all in reaching out to them, just say the word and I'll do it...

J

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] OGC) (FBI)

Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 1:31 PM

To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED] OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Not a problem. I'll begin to lay the groundwork.

[REDACTED]
Assistant General Counsel
National Security Law Branch
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 1:29 PM

To: [REDACTED] OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED] OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]

Subject: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED] Jon: :

Hi friends, [REDACTED]

b5 -1, 3
b6 -1
b7C -1

[REDACTED]
Thanks guys.

Lisa

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 3:54 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: RE:

Thanks.

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/24/17 3:53 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: FW:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Just wanted you both to have this.

From: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 1:49 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: FW:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

From: Schmidt, Michael [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 2:24 PM
To: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject:

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

Mike: Wanted to flag you on something. Three of my colleagues are working on a story about the Russia investigation. They're told that Jared Kushner is among the individuals who the F.B.I. is scrutinizing for their meetings with Russians. My colleagues were told that Ambassador Kislyak, after meeting Kushner and General Flynn in early December at Trump Tower, set up a meeting with Kushner and a Russian banker. Kushner ultimately met with the Russian banker. The banker worked for Alpha Bank. Thanks, Mike

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 4:56 PM
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)
Cc: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1

3:30 is better for me too. Not that it makes me happy to bail out Lisa ;)

From: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 4:20 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]; Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)
Cc: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

THANKS, LISA.

When I find out about the room, I'll ask for 330-430 to see if they can accommodate.

[REDACTED]
Assistant General Counsel
National Security Law Branch
[REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 4:18 PM
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]; Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

Aaaaand I just realized I have a 4:30. I'm sorry, I just didn't see it. Could we do this at 3:30? If not, no worries, I can just leave early.

From: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 4:14 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]; Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)
Cc: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Scheduled for 4pm on Tuesday, 3/28. Any chance we can get 4017 for the meeting?

[REDACTED]
Assistant General Counsel

FBI (18-cv-154)-10798

National Security Law Branch

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 3:05 PM

To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)

[redacted] Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [redacted]

Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]

Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I'll make whatever work. Thanks

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [redacted]

Date: 3/24/17 3:03 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)"

[redacted]

Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"

[redacted]

Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

For me, Monday 10-12 or Tuesday 2-5 work well. Thanks [redacted]

----- Original Message -----

From: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)

Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 2:35 PM

To: Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [redacted] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]

Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [redacted]

Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hi Everyone,

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -6

Please let me know a couple one-hour time slots that would work with your schedules so I can arrange it.

[redacted]
Assistant General Counsel
National Security Law Branch
[redacted]

----- Original Message -----

From: Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)

Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 2:04 PM

To: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]

Cc: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); [redacted] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [redacted]

Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[redacted]
It sounds like you have pretty routine interaction up there, but if I can help at all in reaching out to them, just say the word and I'll do it...

1

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 1:31 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI);
Cc: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Not a problem. I'll begin to lay the groundwork.

[REDACTED]
Assistant General Counsel
National Security Law Branch
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 1:29 PM
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI);
Cc: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: Meeting with the DI

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED] Jon:

Hi friends [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Thanks guys.

b5 -1, 3
b6 -1
b7C -1

Lisa

Microsoft Outlook

Subject: Meeting Forward Notification: MYE follow-up
Location: OGC conference room (non-sunshine room)
Start: Monday, March 27, 2017 1:30 PM
End: Monday, March 27, 2017 2:30 PM
Recurrence: (none)
Organizer: Microsoft Outlook
Required Attendees: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Your meeting was forwarded

[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) has forwarded your meeting request to additional recipients.

Meeting

MYE follow-up

Meeting Time

Monday, March 27, 2017 1:30 PM-2:30 PM.

Recipients

[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)

All times listed are in the following time zone: (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Sent by Microsoft Exchange Server 2013

b6 -1
b7C -1

Microsoft Outlook

Subject: Meeting Forward Notification: MYE follow-up
Location: OGC conference room (non-sunshine room)
Start: Monday, January 30, 2017 1:30 PM
End: Monday, January 30, 2017 2:30 PM
Recurrence: (none)
Organizer: Microsoft Outlook
Required Attendees: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Your meeting was forwarded

Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI) has forwarded your meeting request to additional recipients.

Meeting

MYE follow-up

Meeting Time

Occurs every Monday from 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM effective 1/30/2017 until 4/3/2017. There is one more occurrence.

Recipients

Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)

All times listed are in the following time zone: (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Sent by Microsoft Exchange Server 2013

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 3:08 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Today's Grassley letter -- PR copy + full text

b6 -1
b7C -1

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 2:55 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: Today's Grassley letter -- PR copy + full text

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Grassley Probes Opposition Research Firm behind Unsubstantiated Trump Dossier

Mar 27, 2017

Fusion GPS worked for multiple Trump Opponents before FBI sought partnership

WASHINGTON - Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley is requesting information from the political opposition research firm Fusion GPS on the history of the controversial and unsubstantiated dossier compiled for its clients against then-presidential candidate Donald Trump. The firm was reportedly paid by backers of Trump's Republican and Democrat opponents during the campaign, and contracted with former British spy Christopher Steele to create it.

The dossier was the product of blatant political and financial motives, and former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper has stated that "the [intelligence community] has not made any judgment that the information in this document is reliable, and we did not rely upon it in any way for our conclusions." Yet, Fusion GPS and Steele reportedly shared the dossier with the FBI, which then offered to pay Steele to continue his political opposition research on Trump. Grassley has already written to the FBI seeking details about its reported arrangement with Steele, and to determine the extent to which the FBI has relied on the political dossier in its investigation.

In a letter to Fusion GPS, Grassley is seeking details on the history of arrangements that funded the opposition research behind the dossier, including the FBI's involvement.

"When political opposition research becomes the basis for law enforcement or intelligence efforts, it raises substantial questions about the independence of law enforcement and intelligence from politics," Grassley said in the letter.

Grassley is calling on Fusion GPS to provide details on the history of the dossier, including the clients who sought the research and the terms of their engagement. He also wants to know when Steele was hired to work on the project, how the FBI came to be involved and whether Fusion GPS was aware of any arrangements by the FBI to pay Steele. He is further seeking documents related to the dossier's

FBI (18-cv-154)-10803

any arrangements by the FBI to pay Steele. He is further seeking documents related to the dossier's history and arrangements between Fusion GPS and its clients.

Full text of the letter follows:

March 24, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

Mr. Glenn R. Simpson
Fusion GPS
Washington, DC 20535

Dear Mr. Simpson:

I am writing to inquire about Fusion GPS's opposition research efforts regarding President Trump, particularly the dossier compiled for your company by Mr. Christopher Steele. According to press accounts: a Republican opposed to Mr. Trump hired your company to compile opposition research on him; your company then hired Mr. Steele to investigate Mr. Trump's ties to Russia after evidence emerged last June regarding Russian hacking of Democratic targets; and once it became clear that Mr. Trump would be the Republican nominee, Democrats supporting Secretary Clinton's campaign began to pay for the research.[1] The New York Times also reported that "Fusion GPS and Mr. Steele shared the memos first with their clients, and later with the FBI and multiple journalists at the New York Times and elsewhere." [2] Last month, the Washington Post reported that a few weeks before the election, the FBI had reached an agreement with Mr. Steele to pay him to continue his work, noting that "[t]he revelation that the FBI agreed to pay Steele at the same time he was being paid by Clinton supporters to dig into Trump's background could further strain relations between the law enforcement agency and the White House." [3]

When political opposition research becomes the basis for law enforcement or intelligence efforts, it raises substantial questions about the independence of law enforcement and intelligence from politics. The Committee requires additional information to evaluate this situation. Please answer the following questions and provide the requested documents by April 7, 2017:

1. Who first hired your company to conduct opposition research relating to Mr. Trump and his associates? When did this engagement begin and end? What were the terms of the engagement? Please provide copies of all related contracts. In total, how much did this first client pay Fusion GPS for this work?
2. In addition to the first client, who else hired Fusion GPS to conduct or continue opposition research relating to Mr. Trump and his associates? When did those engagements begin and end? What were the terms of the engagements? Please provide copies of all related contracts. In total, how much did each additional client pay Fusion GPS for this work?
3. When did Fusion GPS arrange for Mr. Steele and/or Orbis Business Intelligence to investigate Mr. Trump and his associates? When, if ever, did this arrangement conclude? What were the terms of the arrangement? Please provide copies of all related contracts. In total, how much did Fusion GPS or your clients pay Mr. Steele and/or Orbis Business Intelligence for this work?
4. Please provide copies of all memoranda or other types of reports that Mr. Steele and/or Orbis Business Intelligence provided Fusion GPS in the course of this engagement.

5.To whom did Fusion GPS provide the dossier or any other memoranda created by Mr. Steele and/or Orbis Business Intelligence? Please list all recipients, the materials they received, and the dates the materials were provided.

6.Did any of Fusion GPS's clients instruct, request, suggest, or imply that the dossier should be provided to the FBI or that Mr. Steele should otherwise contact the FBI regarding the investigation? If so, please describe the client's actions and provide all related documents.

7.Did anyone from Fusion GPS instruct, request, suggest, or imply that Mr. Steele should provide the dossier to the FBI or otherwise contact the FBI regarding the investigation?

8.Did any of Fusion GPS's clients instruct, request, suggest, or imply that efforts should be made to get the FBI to pay for Mr. Steele and/or Orbis Business Intelligence to continue the investigation of Mr. Trump and his associates? If so, please describe the actions and provide all related documents.

9.Was Fusion GPS aware of efforts to have the FBI pay Mr. Steele for his investigation? Was Fusion GPS involved in any way in this reported arrangement? Did Fusion GPS inform its clients or former clients about the FBI's arrangement with Mr. Steele? Please provide all relevant communications.

10.To the best of Fusion GPS's knowledge, was Mr. Steele ever simultaneously paid by Fusion GPS (or its clients) and the FBI for his investigation of Mr. Trump and his associates, including any payments for his travel expenses? If so, when did the simultaneous payments occur and how much was paid?

11.Has anyone from Fusion GPS met with anyone from the FBI or Department of Justice regarding matters related to Mr. Trump or his associates? If so, when were the meetings, who attended, and what was discussed?

12.When did Mr. Steele first communicate with the FBI regarding his investigation of Mr. Trump and his associates? How many meetings did Mr. Steele have with the FBI in total? What was discussed at each meeting and who participated from any government agency? Please include the date and location of each meeting, as well as who paid for Mr. Steele's travel expenses, if any.

13.Please provide all records relating to communications between Fusion GPS and the Department of Justice, including the FBI, or any intelligence agency regarding Donald Trump, the Trump campaign, or his associates.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter. If you have any questions, please contact Patrick Davis of my Committee staff at (202) 224-5225.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary

cc: The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on the Judiciary

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 5:58 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Briefing

b6 -1
b7C -1

Thanks. I'd like to hear that as well if it's possible.

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/28/17 5:47 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Briefing

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Just FYI.

----- Original message -----

From: "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 03/27/2017 11:17 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Cc: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Brower, Gregory
(OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Briefing

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Thanks,
Jim

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 2:14 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE:

Need to talk to you about 7th floor discussion of delegation coverage

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/28/17 2:12 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

On with Trisha.

-----Original Message-----

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 2:11 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

You around? Q for you

Peter P. Strzok II
Deputy Assistant Director, Branch I
Counterintelligence Division

[REDACTED]
(O)
(C)

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 8:01 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Grassley Examines Potential Conflicts in Top FBI Official's Role in Russia Collusion Probe

Sorry I totally missed this email yesterday. Makes me angry....

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 5:43 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Grassley Examines Potential Conflicts in Top FBI Official's Role in Russia Collusion Probe

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Fysa

----- Original message -----

From: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 03/28/2017 4:56 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Grassley Examines Potential Conflicts in Top FBI Official's Role in Russia Collusion Probe

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

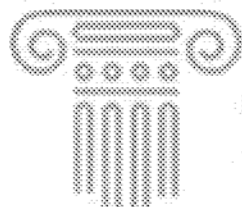
From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 4:47 PM
To: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Cc: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Quinn, Richard P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Grassley Examines Potential Conflicts in Top FBI Official's Role in Russia Collusion Probe

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Grassley apparently has sent us a letter regarding the DD.

From: "Chairman Grassley (Judiciary-Rep)" [REDACTED]
Date: March 28, 2017 at 4:15:15 PM EDT
To: "Foy, Taylor (Judiciary-Rep)" [REDACTED]
(Judiciary-Rep)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Grassley Examines Potential Conflicts in Top FBI Official's Role in Russia Collusion Probe

b6 -3



COMMITTEE on the **JUDICIARY**
CHAIRMAN CHUCK GRASSLEY
WWW.JUDICIARY.SENATE.GOV

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

Grassley Examines Potential Conflicts in Top FBI Official's Role in Russia Collusion Probe

Deputy Director under review for political conflict in Clinton email case also in position to oversee inquiry into Trump campaign associates

WASHINGTON – Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley today called on the FBI to detail the involvement in the probe of alleged collusion between Trump campaign associates and Russia of one senior official who is under investigation for political conflicts in the Clinton email matter. Deputy Director Andrew McCabe helped oversee the FBI's investigation in the Clinton case even though his wife received nearly \$700,000 from close Clinton associates during her campaign for Virginia state senate. As the FBI's second-in-command, McCabe could have significant influence over the ongoing investigation into allegations of collusion between Trump campaign associates and Russia as well.

In January, the Justice Department Inspector General announced it is reviewing whether McCabe should have recused himself from overseeing the Clinton matter following reports that his wife received campaign contributions from longtime Clinton associate, Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe, and his political organizations. The contributions occurred while the investigation was underway. In a letter today to FBI Director James Comey, Grassley is seeking details on McCabe's involvement in the alleged collusion matter, whether it, too, constitutes an appearance of conflict, and whether he should be recused from any involvement in the collusion investigation as well.

"These circumstances undermine public confidence in the FBI's impartiality ... FBI's senior leadership should never have allowed that appearance of a conflict to undermine the Bureau's important work. ... If Mr. McCabe failed to avoid the appearance of a partisan conflict of interest in favor of Mrs. Clinton during the presidential election, then any participation in this inquiry creates the exact same appearance of a partisan conflict of interest against Mr. Trump," Grassley said in the letter.

Grassley raised questions about potential use of federal authorities for political gain following reports that the FBI sought to pay the author of the unsubstantiated and politically funded opposition research dossier on then-candidate Donald Trump. Grassley is now seeking details on McCabe's involvement in the Trump campaign associates probe, including whether he was

on issues surrounding the Trump campaign, including whether he was a part of any decision to continue funding the opposition research or whether he based investigative actions, such as surveillance, on information in the unsubstantiated dossier.

Text of Grassley's letter to Comey follows:

March 28, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The Honorable James B. Comey, Jr.

Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation

935 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Washington, DC 20535

Dear Director Comey:

At your speech last Thursday at the University of Texas, you referenced former FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover's short letter to Attorney General Robert Kennedy, which sought authorization for FBI surveillance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. without any proper basis for doing so. You mentioned that you keep this letter on your desk, and place FISA applications awaiting your review on top of it, as a reminder. You cited this to emphasize the importance of oversight over the FBI, even over well-meaning FBI officials, to ensure the propriety of the FBI's actions. You are right to call attention to the importance of such oversight. As Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, it is my constitutional duty to conduct that oversight over the FBI and the Department of Justice.

Pursuant to its authority under the Constitution and the Rules of the Senate, the Committee requires information to determine: (1) the extent to which FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe has been involved in the FBI's investigation of President Trump's associates and Russia; (2) whether that involvement raises the appearance a conflict of interest in light of his wife's ties with Clinton associates; and (3) whether Mr. McCabe has been or should be recused from the investigation.

As you know, Mr. McCabe is under investigation by the Department of Justice Office of the

FBI (18-cv-154)-10816

Inspector General. That investigation is examining whether the political and financial connections between his wife's Democratic political campaign and Clinton associates warranted his recusal in the FBI's Clinton email investigation. On March 7, 2015, just five days after the *New York Times* broke the story about Secretary Clinton's use of private email for official business, Mr. McCabe met with Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe, a longtime, close associate of the Clintons—along with his wife, Dr. McCabe. Mr. McAuliffe recruited Dr. McCabe, who had not previously run for any political office, to be the Democratic candidate for a Virginia state senate seat. Dr. McCabe agreed, and Governor McAuliffe's political action committee subsequently gave nearly \$500,000 to her campaign while the FBI's investigation of Secretary Clinton was ongoing. The Virginia Democratic Party, over which Mr. McAuliffe exerts considerable control, also donated over \$200,000 to Dr. McCabe's campaign. While Mr. McCabe recused himself from public corruption cases in Virginia—presumably including the reportedly ongoing investigation of Mr. McAuliffe regarding illegal campaign contributions—he failed to recuse himself from the Clinton email investigation, despite the appearance of a conflict created by his wife's campaign accepting \$700,000 from a close Clinton associate during the investigation.

You have publicly stated that the people at the FBI “don’t give a rip about politics.”^[1] However, the fact is that the Deputy Director met with Mr. McAuliffe about his wife's run for elected office and she subsequently accepted campaign funding from him. The fact is that the Deputy Director participated in the controversial, high-profile Clinton email investigation even though his wife took money from Mr. McAuliffe. These circumstances undermine public confidence in the FBI's impartiality, and this is one of the reasons that many believe the FBI pulled its punches in the Clinton matter. FBI's senior leadership should never have allowed that appearance of a conflict to undermine the Bureau's important work. The Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General is now investigating that matter, as part of the work it announced on January 12, 2017.

Last week, you publicly testified that in late July of 2016, the FBI began investigating the Russian government's attempts to interfere in the 2016 presidential election, including investigating whether there was any collusion between individuals associated with the Trump campaign and the Russian government. Given the timing of the investigation and his position, it is likely that Mr. McCabe has been involved in that high-profile, politically charged inquiry as well. If Mr. McCabe failed to avoid the appearance of a partisan conflict of interest in favor of Mrs. Clinton during the presidential election, then any participation in this inquiry creates the exact same appearance of a partisan conflict of interest against Mr. Trump. As you testified last week, you believe that if someone had a bias for or against one of them, he would have the opposite bias toward the other: “they’re inseparable, right; it’s a two person event.”

According to public reports, the FBI agreed to pay the author of the unsubstantiated dossier alleging a conspiracy between Trump associates and the Russians. It reportedly agreed to pay the author, Christopher Steele, to continue investigating Mr. Trump. Clinton associates reportedly paid Mr. Steele to create this political opposition research dossier against Mr. Trump. The FBI has failed to publicly reply to my March 6 letter asking about those reports.

That leaves serious questions about the FBI's independence from politics unanswered.

Mr. McCabe's appearance of a partisan conflict of interest relating to Clinton associates only magnifies the importance of those questions. That is particularly true if Mr. McCabe was involved in approving or establishing the FBI's reported arrangement with Mr. Steele, or if Mr. McCabe vouched for or otherwise relied on the politically-funded dossier in the course of the investigation. Simply put, the American people should know if the FBI's second-in-command relied on Democrat-funded opposition research to justify an investigation of the Republican presidential campaign. Full disclosure is especially important since he is already under investigation for failing to recuse himself from the Clinton matter due to his partisan Democrat ties.

The Committee requires additional information to fully understand this situation. Please provide the following information and respond to these questions by April 11, 2017:

1. Has Mr. McCabe been involved in any capacity in the investigation of alleged collusion between Mr. Trump's associates and Russia? If so, in what capacity has he been involved? When did this involvement begin?
2. Has Mr. McCabe been involved in any requests or approvals for physical surveillance, consensual monitoring, searches, or national security letters relating to the investigation? If so, please provide all related documents.
3. In the course of the investigation, has Mr. McCabe been involved in any requests or approvals relating to the acquisition of the contents of stored communications from electronic communication service providers pursuant to the Electronic Communications Privacy Act? If so, please provide all related documents.
4. Has Mr. McCabe been involved in any FISA warrant applications relating to the investigation? If so, in what capacity? Please provide all related documents.
5. In the course of the investigation, has Mr. McCabe, or anyone under his supervision, made any representations to prosecutors or judges regarding the reliability of information in the FBI's possession as part of seeking judicial authorization for investigative tools? Has he or anyone under his supervision made any such representations about the political opposition research dossier compiled by Mr. Steele and Fusion GPS? If so, please explain and provide copies of all relevant documents.

6. Was Mr. McCabe involved in any FBI interactions with Mr. Steele? If so, please explain.
7. Did Mr. McCabe brief or otherwise communicate with anyone in the Obama administration regarding the investigation? If so, who did he brief, and when? Please provide all related documents.
8. Has Mr. McCabe been authorized by the FBI to speak to the media, whether as an anonymous source or otherwise, regarding the investigation? If so, please provide copies of such authorizations. If he was so authorized, to whom did he speak, and when? If he was not authorized to do so, does the FBI have any indication that he nonetheless spoke to the media?
9. To the best of your knowledge, has anyone within the FBI raised concerns within the Bureau that Mr. McCabe appears to have a conflict of interest in the investigation of Trump associates? If so, who raised such concerns, when did they do so, and how did FBI respond?
10. To the best of your knowledge, has anyone within the FBI filed a complaint with the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General regarding Mr. McCabe's involvement in the investigation?
11. Have personnel from the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General spoken with you yet as part of that Office's investigation into Mr. McCabe's alleged conflict of interest in the Clinton investigation? If so, did they also raise concerns as to whether Mr. McCabe's alleged partisan conflict would also apply to the investigation of Mr. Trump's associates?
12. Has anyone at FBI, the Department of Justice, or the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General recommended or requested that Mr. McCabe recuse himself from the investigation of Mr. Trump's associates or from any ongoing investigations of the Clinton Foundation? If so, what action was taken in response?

I anticipate that your responses to these questions may contain both classified and unclassified information. Please send all unclassified material directly to the Committee. In keeping with the requirements of Executive Order 13526, if any of the responsive documents

do contain classified information, please segregate all unclassified material within the classified documents, provide all unclassified information directly to the Committee, and provide a classified addendum to the Office of Senate Security. Although the Committee complies with all laws and regulations governing the handling of classified information, it is not bound, absent its prior agreement, by any handling restrictions or instructions on unclassified information unilaterally asserted by the Executive Branch.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter. If you have any questions, please contact Patrick Davis of my Committee staff at (202) 224-5225.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Grassley

Chairman

Committee on the Judiciary

cc:

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein

Ranking Member

Senate Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Dana Boente

Acting Deputy Attorney General

United States Department of Justice

The Honorable Michael E. Horowitz

Inspector General

United States Department of Justice

-30-



[1] Evan Perez, *FBI Chief on Clinton Investigation: My People 'Don't Give a Rip About Politics'* CNN (Oct. 1, 2015).

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 8:06 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Coffee or beer?

?

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/29/17 8:06 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Cc: "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Coffee or beer?

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Fyi

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/29/17 8:05 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Levine, Mike" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Coffee or beer?

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hi Mike,

[REDACTED] and I did some great work together before he retired to greener pastures. I appreciate the offer to talk; I'd ask you coordinate through Mike Kortan or Rich Quinn in OPA to see if it makes sense to sit down and chat.

Thanks,
Pete

----- Original message -----

From: "Levine, Mike" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/29/17 6:24 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Coffee or beer?

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hi Peter,

Hope all's well, and hope it's ok I'm reaching out. I was just having drinks with [REDACTED] telling him about a story I'm working on related to Russia, and he's like, "You should talk to Pete Strzok." Since we haven't met before, figured it's worth a shot. My name's Mike Levine, and I cover law enforcement and homeland security for ABC News. One of your FBI colleagues was complaining to me the other day that while media keep covering the day-to-day political drama related to Russia (and Trump), they keep failing to really cover the actual threat posed by Russia (having nothing to do with Trump). So that's what this story I'm working on is about. Any chance you'd be up for grabbing beers or coffee or something? Would love to tell you more about my story and get your take. Of course, nothing would be attributed to you or the FBI in any way. I think your FBI colleagues who know me would say I'm one of

FBI (18-cv-154)-10822

attributed to you or the FBI in any way. I think your FBI colleagues who know me would say I'm one of the good ones. And I just think this is a story that can do some public good, so hoping you'll consider connecting. Not to mention, who doesn't like beer or coffee?

Many thanks, all best,

Mike

[REDACTED]

P.S. [REDACTED] made me promise that I would say hello to you for him, he sends his regards.

b6 -3

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 9:39 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Sensitive Matter Briefing

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/29/17 9:07 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "McCabe, Andrew G. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Sensitive Matter Briefing

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Jim R said OAG told him the AG wanted a brief in advance of signing and would want a little bit of time to think about it.

----- Original message -----

From: "McCabe, Andrew G. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/29/17 8:49 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Sensitive Matter Briefing

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Pete:

Any idea what's driving this?

----- Original message -----

From: "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/29/17 7:05 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "McCabe, Andrew G. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] "Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Sensitive Matter Briefing

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

The Director would like a briefing tomorrow (Thursday) on the sensitive application. I just spoke to Pete and gave him the scope. Will probably be at 5pm after the unmasking briefing.

Thanks,

Tom

FBI (18-cv-154)-10826

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 6:39 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Gizmodo

From: [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 5:30 PM
To: Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Gizmodo

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Someone on Twitter already said it, but, if true, my respect for the D only solidifies when I see that he named himself after America's preeminent 20th century political theologian.

----- Original message -----

From: "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 03/30/2017 5:25 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Gizmodo

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I did not already know but I just read the whole thing. I have to say I didn't expect that...

J

From: [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 5:09 PM
To: Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: Gizmodo

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

You may already know, but go to Gizmodo and read this afternoon's story on what the author argues is the D's private Twitter acct.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 7:31 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); Quinn, Richard P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Expected story

b6 -1
b7C -1

Thanks,

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 6:54 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Quinn, Richard P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Expected story

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Here it is. I am providing the text as well as the link since sometimes people have problems opening WSJ stories.

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/mike-flynn-offers-to-testify-in-exchange-for-immunity-1490912959?mod=e2tw>

Mike Flynn Offers to Testify in Exchange for Immunity

Former national security adviser tells FBI, the House and Senate intelligence committees he's willing to be interviewed in exchange for deal, officials say

By
Shane Harris, Carol E. Lee and Julian E. Barnes
The Wall Street Journal

Updated March 30, 2017 6:41 p.m. ET

WASHINGTON—Mike Flynn, President Donald Trump's former national security adviser, has told the Federal Bureau of Investigation and congressional officials investigating the Trump campaign's potential ties to Russia that he is willing to be interviewed in exchange for a grant of immunity from prosecution, according to officials with knowledge of the matter.

As an adviser to Mr. Trump's presidential campaign, and later one of Mr. Trump's top aides in the White House, Mr. Flynn was privy to some of the most sensitive foreign-policy deliberations of the new administration and was directly involved in discussions about the possible lifting of sanctions on Russia imposed by the Obama administration. He has made the offer to the FBI and the House and Senate intelligence committees through his lawyer but has so far found no takers, the officials said.

Mr. Flynn's attorney, Robert Kelner, declined to comment.

It wasn't clear if Mr. Flynn had offered to talk about specific aspects of his time working for Mr. Trump, but the fact that he was seeking immunity suggested Mr. Flynn feels he may be in legal jeopardy following his brief stint as the national security adviser, one official said.

FBI (18-cv-154)-10828

Mr. Flynn was forced to resign after acknowledging that he misled White House officials about the nature of his phone conversations with the Russian ambassador to the U.S. during the presidential transition.

Mr. Flynn's communications with the Russian ambassador, Sergei Kislyak, have been scrutinized by the FBI, which is examining whether Trump campaign personnel colluded with Russian officials who are alleged to have interfered with the presidential election, according to current and former U.S. officials. Russia has denied the allegations.

Mr. Flynn also was paid tens of thousands of dollars by three Russian companies, including the state-sponsored media network RT, for speeches he made shortly before he became a formal adviser to Mr. Trump's campaign, according to documents obtained by a congressional oversight committee.

Democratic lawmakers have requested a copy of the security-clearance form that Mr. Flynn was required to file before joining Mr. Trump in the White House, to see if he disclosed sources of foreign income.

And they have asked the Defense Department to investigate whether Mr. Flynn, a retired Army general, violated the Constitution's emoluments clause by accepting money from RT, which U.S. intelligence officials say is part of a state-funded media apparatus.

—Aruna Viswanatha contributed to this article.

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 5:55 PM

To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)

Quinn, Richard P. (DO) (FBI)

[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)

Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)

Subject: Expected story

FYSA

Passing along this item from [REDACTED]

The WSJ may run a story soon saying Flynn is seeking immunity from Congress to testify. The story also will say Flynn sought immunity from the FBI in order to be interviewed.

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 10:33 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Immunity

Hmm....

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/30/17 10:32 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Tosca, George (NSD) (JMD)" [REDACTED] "Laufman, David (NSD) (JMD)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Immunity

b5 -2, 3
b7C -1, 2
b7C -1, 2
b7E -4, 6

George, David,
See below. I told Charlie [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Thanks.

Pete

----- Original message -----

From: "Mcgonigal, Charles F. (NY) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/30/17 8:41 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Boone, Jennifer C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: "Sweeney, William F. (NY) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Immunity

b5 -2, 3
b6 -1
b7C -4, 6
b7E -4, 6

Let me know.

Thanks

11/11/15

SAC Charles F. McGonigal
FBI-New York Office
Counterintelligence Division

[redacted] office
[redacted] cell

b6 -1
b7C -1

----- Original message -----

From: [redacted]

Date: 03/30/2017 8:11 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "McGonigal, Charles E. (NY) (FBI)" [redacted]

Cc: [redacted]

Subject: Immunity

b6 -1, 2
b7C -1, 2
b7E -6

Here's the article:

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/mike-flynn-offers-to-testify-in-exchange-for-immunity-1490912959>

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 12:17 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/james-comey-secret-twitter-account-anchorman-meme-track-down-journalist-fbi-chief-response-ron-a7660586.html>

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 12:19 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2017/3/30/1648948/-if-this-really-is-FBI-Director-James-Comey-s-Twitter-account-he-gave-an-A-response-to-being-outed>

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 12:39 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: RM Request

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/31/17 12:38 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: "Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: RM Request

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I think [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

----- Original message -----

From: "Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 3/31/17 11:55 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Cc: "Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: RM Request

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

NSA is going to demur - but has offered to pull their copies of any docs the RM wants to authenticate.

Beth Beers
FBI Office of Congressional Affairs
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 11:52 AM
To: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: RM Request

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED] but do we know what time this might be happening? I guess I could always try to come back if I'm needed, although I'm assuming we may want to send a higher level rep...

J

-----Original Message-----

From: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 11:18 AM
To: Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

FBI (18-cv-154)-10834

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: RM Request

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

See below request from HPSCI Democratic Staff Director. Thoughts?

Beth Beers
FBI Office of Congressional Affairs
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 9:11 AM
To: [REDACTED] Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: Deirdre M Walsh [REDACTED]
Subject: RM Request

b6 -1, 2, 3
b7C -1, 2
b7E -6

Hi,

RM Schiff will be viewing the documents at the White House this afternoon and he requests your agencies in-person assistance in verifying the authenticity of the documents and your technical assistance in reviewing them.

Please advise whether you can support.

[REDACTED]

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Sunday, April 02, 2017 9:39 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd:

----- Original message -----

From: Peter [REDACTED]
Date: 4/2/17 9:34 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Federal Bureau of Investigation FBI plans to create special unit to co-ordinate Russia probe

Move would allow the agency's director to have greater insight into the case

10 hours ago by: David J Lynch in Washington

The FBI is planning to create a special section based at its Washington headquarters to co-ordinate its investigation of Russian activities designed to influence the 2016 presidential election, according to a person familiar with the plan.

The move, a sign of how seriously the bureau is taking allegations of Russian meddling in American politics, is also aimed at giving FBI director James Comey greater visibility into the investigation's granular details. "It's meant to surge resources," said one FBI agent.

Creation of the temporary unit mirrors the bureau's approach to other sensitive investigations, including the WikiLeaks disclosure of classified US government documents and Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server while secretary of state.

The FBI generally prefers to run investigations from one of its 56 field offices, but the high-profile nature of the sprawling Russia inquiry is seen as requiring a central manager, according to current and former officials.

"It's getting unwieldy," said one person briefed on the plan. "It's too big and it's on the front page of the newspaper every day."

An FBI spokeswoman declined to comment.

The bureau is expected to recall from the field an FBI counter-intelligence specialist to oversee the squad, which is to begin work next month. If the new team — with about 20 dedicated agents drawn from across the country — operates as similar units have in the past, its chief would brief Mr Comey on a weekly basis while providing daily updates for deputy director Andrew McCabe.

"We did it quite regularly," said Robert Anderson of Navigant, a business consulting group, who was a former executive assistant director of the FBI. "Any time there's a big case, a giant case, it becomes a huge resource drain across the organisation."

FBI (18-cv-154)-10836

Russian activities under investigation include alleged hacking into Democratic computer networks and reported contacts between Russians and representatives of the Trump campaign. Michael Flynn, the president's national security adviser, was fired in February after allegedly lying to vice-president Mike Pence about conversations he had last year with Sergei Kislyak, Russian ambassador to the US.

"The FBI, as part of our counter-intelligence mission, is investigating the Russian government's efforts to interfere in the 2016 presidential election and that includes investigating the nature of any links between individuals associated with the Trump campaign and the Russian government and whether there was any coordination between the campaign and Russia's efforts," Mr Comey told the House Intelligence Committee earlier this month.

FBI investigators also will evaluate the potential for criminal charges in the Russia matter. But some investigators are pessimistic about the likelihood of making a case, given the difficulty of obtaining evidence from Russia.

"Unlike the CIA, we have to bring things that go, potentially, in front of a jury," said one agent. "We have to certify evidence. A place like Russia is such a black hole. It's so hard to prove you're bringing evidence that hasn't been tampered with."

As the FBI probe proceeds, both the Senate and House intelligence committees are pursuing their own Russia-related investigations. Republican Senator Richard Burr, who chairs the Senate panel, said on Wednesday that the committee was "looking anywhere intelligence suggests that there might have been any type of relationship of effort to influence US elections".

In an appearance on Wednesday night before an industry group, Mr Comey declined to discuss the investigation. But he said the FBI would follow the facts without regard for potential political consequences. "We're not on anybody's side, ever," he said. "We're not considering whose ox will be gored. We just don't care." Follow David J Lynch on Twitter: @davidjlynch Copyright The Financial Times Limited 2017. All rights reserved

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 03, 2017 2:10 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Need to give you a heads up on a story coming soon in the Post

b6 -1
b7C -1

Im.in a meeting with Lisa at ogc will stop by when done

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Date: 4/3/17 2:08 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: Need to give you a heads up on a story coming soon in the Post

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I think you both may be out or are at a meeting. Rich asked me to give you a heads up on something possibly sensitive that the Post plans to post around 3 or 4pm.
Please give me a call if you are able.

b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 03, 2017 5:15 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Guardian from this weekend

Not great

-----Original Message-----

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 03, 2017 5:14 PM
To: [REDACTED] (WF) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Guardian from this weekend

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I wasn't. WTF is this.....

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] (WF) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 03, 2017 2:55 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Guardian from this weekend

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Pete

Im sure you are tracking, but this has gotten too deep -

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2017/mar/31/michael-flynn-new-evidence-spy-chiefs-had-concerns-about-russian-ties>

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Washington Field Office
Federal Bureau of Investigation

[REDACTED] Desk
[REDACTED] Cell

b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 03, 2017 5:48 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/new-details-emerge-about-2014-russian-hack-of-the-state-department-it-was-hand-to-hand-combat/2017/04/03/d89168e0-124c-11e7-833c-503e1f6394c9_story.html?utm_term=.5cb8d60be516

Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Subject: Accepted: Weekly tag-up
Location: rm. 7426 (the non-sunshine room)
Start: Monday, April 10, 2017 1:30 PM
End: Monday, April 10, 2017 2:30 PM
Recurrence: (none)
Meeting Status: No response required
Organizer: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: Accepted: Weekly tag-up
Location: rm. 7426 (the non-sunshine room)
Start: Monday, April 10, 2017 1:30 PM
End: Monday, April 10, 2017 2:30 PM
Recurrence: (none)
Meeting Status: Accepted
Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Required Attendees: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

When: Apr 10, 2017 1:30:00 PM

Where: rm. 7426 (the non-sunshine room)

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 04, 2017 3:29 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Briefing for the A/DAG

Fyi

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/4/17 3:28 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Briefing for the A/DAG

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Thanks Bill,

I don't remember if you were here for the discussion I had with Rybicki but both D and DD wanted to get themselves above the weekly/bi-weekly briefing schedule, noting that if the FBI was participating in a briefing to the DAG, then they would want the information in advance of any such brief. Hence the solution to brief NSD so they could brief the DAG.

Hope that makes sense.

----- Original message -----

From: "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/4/17 3:15 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Cc: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Briefing for the A/DAG

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Gents: George is scheduled to call me later today, so I'll ask him what has changed: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I'll let you know what I learn. Thanks, Bill

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 04, 2017 2:56 PM
To: Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Cc: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Briefing for the A/DAG

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

We had. Last conversation I had with George was that NSD was going to do them. I don't know when FBI was added back in, but he wrote to Bill and I as if that had been discussed and decided.

Bill, I will call you to discuss re-engaging with George.

----- Original message -----

From: "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/4/17 2:45 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Cc: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Briefing for the A/DAG

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I think we had taken the position that if NSD is getting briefings from the FBI that they can do the briefings for the A/DAG. I suppose it's subjective though based on GZT's view.

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 04, 2017 2:29 PM
To: Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Cc: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Briefing for the A/DAG

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hi Jim, George asked as though it was a fait accompli. If we have not changed our organizational position, please let us know and we'll relay to George.

----- Original message -----

From: "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/4/17 2:18 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Cc: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Briefing for the A/DAG

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Bill and Pete:

Tash noted that, per George, both NSD and FBI will participate in a briefing tomorrow morning for the A/DAG. Is this accurate?

Thanks,
Jim

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 04, 2017 4:16 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: NYT

Fyi

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/4/17 4:15 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: John Giacalone [REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: NYT

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

John,
Thanks. Great to hear from you. Hope all is well.
Pete

----- Original message -----

From: John Giacalone [REDACTED]
Date: 4/4/17 4:00 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: NYT

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

Mike/Pete - Goldman and Appuzzo doing Hillary article. Gave following: received referral obligated to open a case; knew at some point both political parties would have issues during and at conclusion of investigation; and case agents did outstanding investigative work leaving no stone un-turned.

Hope you are both well- John

Sent from my iPhone

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Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 04, 2017 5:17 PM
To: Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI); Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: A Few Theories About Why James Comey Might Call Himself "Reinhold Niebuhr" on Twitter - The New Yorker


This was interesting.

"To see Niebuhr's story with Comey in mind is to gain a deeper appreciation of the hard choices Comey has faced—and the perils of going it alone, as he has seemed to do at several points."

[http://www.newyorker.com/culture/cultural-comment/a-few-theories-about-why-james-comey-might-call-himself-reinhold-niebuhr-on-twitter?](http://www.newyorker.com/culture/cultural-comment/a-few-theories-about-why-james-comey-might-call-himself-reinhold-niebuhr-on-twitter?mbid=nl_170404_Daily&CNDID=49385778&spMailingID=10756204&spUserID=MTg3MDE3ODgzMzU0S0&spJobID=1140294514&spReportId=MTE0MDI5NDUxNA52)
[mbid=nl_170404_Daily&CNDID=49385778&spMailingID=10756204&spUserID=MTg3MDE3ODgzMzU0S0&spJobID=1140294514&spReportId=MTE0MDI5NDUxNA52](http://www.newyorker.com/culture/cultural-comment/a-few-theories-about-why-james-comey-might-call-himself-reinhold-niebuhr-on-twitter?mbid=nl_170404_Daily&CNDID=49385778&spMailingID=10756204&spUserID=MTg3MDE3ODgzMzU0S0&spJobID=1140294514&spReportId=MTE0MDI5NDUxNA52)

A Few Theories About Why James Comey Might Call Himself "Reinhold Niebuhr" on Twitter

Paul Elie April 3, 2017

 The F.B.I. chief, James Comey, considers an F.B.I. target, Reinhold Niebuhr, a hero; he also can't keep his Twitter account secret.

The F.B.I. chief, James Comey, considers an F.B.I. target, Reinhold Niebuhr, a hero; he also can't keep his Twitter account secret. PHOTOGRAPH BY MARK PETERSON / REDUX FOR THE NEW YORKER

James B. Comey, the F.B.I. director, keeps a document from the bureau's archives on his desk, like a memento mori. It's the application that his predecessor, J. Edgar Hoover, made to the Justice Department to wiretap the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., together with the approval granted by the Attorney General, Robert F.

Kennedy. It is a single page. "The entire application is five sentences long, it is without fact or substance, and it is predicated on the naked assertion that 'there is Communist influence in the racial situation,' " Comey told an audience at Georgetown University in February of 2015. He explained that these days, as the bureau's director, he requires F.B.I. agents and analysts in training to "study the F.B.I.'s interaction" with King and pay a visit to the Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial in Washington, D.C. "The reason I do those things is to insure that we remember our mistakes and that we learn from them," he said.

Comey might do well to keep a different document from the archive on his desk: a page from the six-hundred-page file that the bureau kept on Reinhold Niebuhr, the theologian and public intellectual, who died in 1971. Like the King document, it would serve as a reminder of the conflicts—the contradictions—that come with public service.

Last week, [a strong piece of Internet sleuthing](#) by Ashley Feinberg, at Gizmodo, asserted that "Reinhold Niebuhr" is the Twitter identity for an account Comey set up recently. Niebuhr was a topic of the senior thesis that Comey wrote as a student at the College of William and Mary, in 1982: "The Christian in Politics," a study of the role of religious beliefs in public service. To judge from Comey's Georgetown address—a sensitive statement about the "hard truths" of race and law enforcement and the role of human weakness, or bias—Niebuhr is a model for Comey (a Methodist who has taught Sunday school) in his role as F.B.I. director. And Niebuhr's characteristic outlook, known as "Christian realism"—which sets the need for courageous moral action against the fact of human weakness—is an apt frame of reference for the political hot spot that Comey finds himself in.

"The 'irony,' to use a Niebuhrism, of the situation is exquisite," the filmmaker Martin Doblmeier told me, referring to Niebuhr's 1952 book, ["The Irony of American History."](#) The F.B.I. chief has an F.B.I. target as his hero; the head of U.S. domestic intelligence can't keep his Twitter account secret.

Doblmeier is the director of ["An American Conscience: The Reinhold Niebuhr Story,"](#) a documentary released in March. The film's opening sequence sets out the now familiar premise that Niebuhr has become a thinker with fresh significance to people who are concerned with the place of ideas and conscience in public life. There's a photomontage

of Barack Obama, who called Niebuhr “one of my favorite philosophers” while a senator and cited his “compelling idea that there’s serious evil in the world.” David Brooks, who has addressed Niebuhr’s thought in many *Times* columns and in his book *“The Road to Character,”* praises Niebuhr’s “audacity” and his influence on both sides of the congressional aisle. Jimmy Carter testifies to the image of Niebuhr as a “constant presence” during his Presidency.

Niebuhr’s thought is complex and resists summary; nevertheless, his central ideas are naturally attractive to figures in public life because he persuasively depicted the conflicts of public figures over “right” action as episodes in a grand, Biblically inflected drama of human nature and destiny.

For Niebuhr, simple schemes of good and evil—such as those of the Cold War—are to be resisted, but certain conflicts really do involve questions of good and evil. In some situations, taking moral action involves committing acts that would be distasteful in other situations: if you are going to defend a free society against a warlike aggressor, you are likely going to have to kill some people. Most human actions have unforeseen consequences, and these often turn out to be more significant than the consequences the people who took those actions had in mind. Americans, raised in a young country, lack a sense of history and are estranged from the Biblical roots of American ideals. As a result, our leaders overestimate their personal virtue, the merits of the American project, and the ability of our institutions (such as the military) to carry out their objectives, and this leads them to pride and shortsightedness. All political acts take place under the judgment of history, which reveals “the limits of all human striving” and the futility, even the folly, of most human undertakings, especially of politics.

Niebuhr is also appealing to public figures because he put his ideas to the test in public life, although doing so prompted accusations of inconsistency, and the suspicion—familiar to James Comey—that he was lending his support to the wrong side. In the documentary, the ethicist Ronald H. Stone (who was Niebuhr’s last teaching assistant at Union Theological Seminary, in New York City) explains that the basis for the F.B.I.’s investigation was J. Edgar Hoover’s view that “anybody who belonged to so many left-wing organizations had to be a Communist.” And yet Niebuhr had long since renounced his early pacifism, and, with Hitler’s rise to power, he had urged the U.S. to join the

Allies in military action against Nazi Germany, even though taking those positions meant breaking ranks with dozens of close friends on the left.

After the war, Niebuhr joined his friend Arthur Schlesinger, the historian, on a committee convened to advise the State Department on the moral dimension of America's role in the emerging world order. During John F. Kennedy's campaign for President, in 1960, Niebuhr introduced Kennedy at a Liberal Party dinner. And yet Niebuhr faulted Kennedy, a Roman Catholic known for his womanizing, for the lack of "moral fiber" and for the "thinness" of his religion. Niebuhr also pointedly opposed the Ku Klux Klan as a young pastor in Detroit, and his book "Moral Man and Immoral Society," from 1932, was a profound influence on Martin Luther King, Jr., (who eventually, in his "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," attributed to Niebuhr the insight that "groups tend to be more immoral than individuals"). And yet when Niebuhr, after *Brown v. Board of Education*, was asked to sign a petition appealing to President Eisenhower to intervene on behalf of black students against a white Southern society still clinging to segregation, he declined to do so out of a conviction that social change could not be imposed abruptly from without. Niebuhr was a vociferous critic of the Vietnam War when, under Lyndon Johnson, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom. As Doblmeier ruefully notes, Niebuhr was still on the F.B.I.'s watch list.

To see Niebuhr's story with Comey in mind is to gain a deeper appreciation of the hard choices Comey has faced—and the perils of going it alone, as he has seemed to do at several points. In the final months of the 2016 Presidential campaign, Comey faced two moral dilemmas of profound import. In the first, as Newsweek has reported, by last July the agency held evidence that Russia sought to interfere in the election—and presumably to swing the result in favor of Donald Trump rather than Hillary Clinton. Comey, seeing clear wrongdoing, was eager to take action. During a meeting in the White House Situation Room with top Administration officials, Comey proposed to set out the intelligence in an opinion piece for, say, the *Times*. "He had a draft of it or an outline. He held up a piece of paper . . ." a source told *Newsweek*, "and said, 'I want to go forward. What do people think of this?'" The Administration rejected the idea, on the grounds that there should be a "coordinated message," not a piece of journalism by a single official, and also possibly out of a disinclination to be seen as interfering in the campaign.

The second time, Comey took matters into his own hands. In late October, the disgraced congressman Anthony Weiner's computer—containing a large number of e-mail exchanges between Hillary Clinton and his wife, the Clinton aide Huma Abedin—was seized in an investigation into Weiner's sexting involvement with a teen-age girl. Comey announced in a letter to Congress that an F.B.I. investigation into Clinton's e-mails (one he had declared closed in July) was open again. For this, Comey himself was seen as interfering in the campaign. The two incidents together form an object lesson in the unanticipated consequences of human action. One set of intelligence was held back out of high-minded principle; the other set was put forward by questionable means—and Donald Trump, not Hillary Clinton, was elected President.

It may be of no great significance that a Twitter account likely associated with James Comey has Reinhold Niebuhr's name affixed to it. And yet the Niebuhr connection serves as a reminder of the roots of public service—the compote of ideas, personality, influence, and moral virtue that prompts Comey and people like him to go into government work in the first place. Washington is a swamp: so say its critics, including the one in the White House. And yet thousands of talented people decide to pursue careers in government service, year after year, generation after generation. Sure, they do so for power and influence, the access and the spoils, and yet they do so, too, following the inspiration of people like Niebuhr, who made the hard truths of public life and the hard choices faced by people entrusted with positions of responsibility seem like life itself.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 5:49 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: OCA

Ok

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/5/17 5:17 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: OCA

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Need you to do me a favor re OCA this morning. Please remind me.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, April 07, 2017 12:02 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Kushner Omitted Meeting With Russians on Security Clearance Forms - NYTimes.com

b6 -1
b7C -1

I'd like to discuss on Monday

Mr. Kushner's aides said he was compiling that material and would share it when the F.B.I. interviewed him. For now, they said, he has an interim security clearance.

In a statement, Ms. Gorelick said that after learning of the error, Mr. Kushner told the F.B.I.: "During the presidential campaign and transition period, I served as a point-of-contact for foreign officials trying to reach the president-elect. I had numerous contacts with foreign officials in this capacity. ... I would be happy to provide additional information about these contacts." No names were disclosed in that correspondence.

<https://mobile.nytimes.com/2017/04/06/us/politics/jared-kushner-russians-security-clearance.html>

Kushner Omitted Meeting With Russians on Security Clearance Forms

By JO BECKER and MATTHEW ROSENBERG

April 6, 2017

Jared Kushner, President Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser, failed to mention having met with the Russian ambassador and the head of a Russian bank when applying for national security clearance.

Al Dragon / The New York Times

FBI (18-cv-154)-10865

When Jared Kushner, President Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser, sought the top-secret security clearance that would give him access to some of the nation's most closely guarded secrets, he was required to disclose all encounters with foreign government officials over the last seven years.

But Mr. Kushner did not mention dozens of contacts with foreign leaders or officials in recent months. They include a December meeting with the Russian ambassador, Sergey I. Kislyak, and one with the head of a Russian state-owned bank, Vnesheconombank, arranged at Mr. Kislyak's behest.

The national security questionnaire asks applicants for dates and details of all contacts with representatives of foreign governments.

The omissions, which Mr. Kushner's lawyer called an error, are particularly sensitive given the congressional and F.B.I. investigations into contacts between Russian officials and Trump associates. The Senate Intelligence Committee informed the White House weeks ago that, as part of its inquiry, it planned to question Mr. Kushner about the meetings he arranged with Mr. Kislyak, including the one with Sergey N. Gorkov, a graduate of Russia's spy school who now heads Vnesheconombank.

Mr. Kushner's omissions were described by people with direct knowledge of them who asked for anonymity because the questionnaire is not a public document.

While officials can lose access to intelligence, or worse, for failing to disclose foreign contacts, the forms are often amended to address lapses. Jamie Gorelick, Mr. Kushner's lawyer, said that the questionnaire was submitted prematurely on Jan. 18, and that the next day, Mr. Kushner's office told the F.B.I. that he would provide supplemental information.

The Russian ambassador, Sergey I. Kislyak, met with Jared Kushner in December.

Brendan Smialowski / Agence France-Presse — Getty Images

Mr. Kushner's aides said he was compiling that material and would share it when the F.B.I. interviewed him. For now, they said, he has an interim security clearance.

In a statement, Ms. Gorelick said that after learning of the error, Mr. Kushner told the F.B.I.: "During the presidential campaign and transition period, I served as a point-of-contact for foreign officials trying to reach the president-elect. I had numerous contacts with foreign officials in this capacity. ... I would be happy to provide additional information about these contacts." No names were disclosed in that correspondence.

Applicants for major national security positions must submit a lengthy F.B.I. questionnaire as part of a background check. They are asked to list the dates and details of all contacts with representatives of foreign governments.

President Vladimir B. Putin of Russia, right, with Sergey N. Gorkov, a graduate of Russia's spy school who heads the state-owned Vnesheconombank.

Michael Klimentyev / Sputnik, via Associated Press

This is not just bureaucratic paperwork. The form warns that "withholding, misrepresenting, or falsifying information" could result in loss of access to classified information, denial of eligibility for a sensitive job and even prosecution; knowingly falsifying or concealing material facts is a federal felony that may result in fines or up to

falsifying or concealing material facts is a federal felony that may result in fines or up to five years imprisonment.

Clearance holders are often allowed to amend disclosure forms and avoid punishment if omissions are deemed oversights rather than deliberate falsifications, and prosecutions are rare.

Mr. Kushner is the second top White House official to have problems concerning his dealings with foreign officials. Michael T. Flynn, Mr. Trump's first national security adviser, had his security clearance suspended and was fired for misleading Vice President Mike Pence about the content of phone calls with the Russian ambassador during the transition.

Last month, the F.B.I. director, James B. Comey, confirmed to Congress that his agency was investigating Russia's interference in the election and the possibility of collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia.

Vnesheconombank is a target of American sanctions imposed in response to Moscow's annexation of Crimea and aggression in Ukraine. It is controlled by members of President Vladimir V. Putin's government, including Prime Minister Dmitri A. Medvedev, and has been used to bail out oligarchs favored by Mr. Putin and to fund pet projects like the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi.

Mr. Kushner has said he did not discuss sanctions with Mr. Gorkov, the Russian banker. Mr. Gorkov declined to comment on the subject of whether sanctions were discussed.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 10:40 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: REVISED DRAFT -- PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL DELIBERATIVE PROCESS MATERIAL

b6 -1
b7C -1

Will do. Mediation fell apart. I'll be there...

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/10/17 10:02 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: FW: REVISED DRAFT -- PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL DELIBERATIVE PROCESS MATERIAL

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Please take a look before the 1:30 if you could.

-----Original Message-----

From: Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Sunday, April 09, 2017 9:32 AM
To: Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Cc: Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: REVISED DRAFT -- PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL DELIBERATIVE PROCESS MATERIAL

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

b5 -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 1:43 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: NYT Last Shot

b6 -1
b7C -1

Yep

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Date: 4/10/17 1:41 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: NYT Last Shot

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Could everyone come to Mike's office at 315p and we'll get one of the reporters on the phone?
Thanks.

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 1:31 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: NYT Last Shot

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Today after 3 is good.

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Date: 04/10/2017 1:18 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: NYT Last Shot

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Pete/Lisa,

The editing is nearing completion and we have one last shot to hear what the end result is. Do you have time later today or tomorrow that is convenient for a listening session? Likely by phone in Mike's office. Let me know. Thanks!

[REDACTED]
Federal Bureau of Investigation
National Press Office
Desk [REDACTED]
Cell [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 9:02 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: March 6 letter

Rock on. Thanks.

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/10/17 8:51 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
(DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: March 6 letter

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Thanks all.

b5 -1

Lisa

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 6:22 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: New version

Sorry, one more. Extraneous "the" in, "including the whether he communicated with anyone..."

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 4/11/17 6:08 AM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: New version

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Yeah it's something funky on Samsung. Looked on iPhone and they're not there. Only thing I saw was a capital W following, "In this case." Sorry for the false alarm.

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 4/10/17 10:46 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: New version

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

You probably aren't seeing the version with tracked changes if you're looking on your phone. Or at least I HOPE that's why you're seeing so many grammar issues.

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 04/10/2017 10:24 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: New version

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

b5 -1

Go home, please, and please drive safely.

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 4/10/17 9:45 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] "Beers, Elizabeth
R. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)"

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Subject: RE: New version

Subject: New Version

Obtained via FOIA by Judicial Watch, Inc.

[REDACTED] Let's discuss in the morning. Thanks all.

b5 -3
b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 7:19 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: New version

Oh. That would make much more sense.

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/11/17 6:46 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: New version

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED] but either way it was nice.

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 04/11/2017 6:38 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: New version

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Wow. I'm sure you are.

I will, or more likely just call later in the week.

It was nice for [REDACTED] to leave that sun. :)

I'm glad to have company in the being proud of you for being brave department

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/11/17 6:35 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: New version

b5 -1, 3
b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 04/11/2017 6:01 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: New version

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hopefully, I'll look as soon as I get it. Never got the time to call [REDACTED] so I'm going today.

b6 -1
b7C -1

What time did you end up getting out of there?

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 4/10/17 10:46 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: New version

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

You probably aren't seeing the version with tracked changes if you're looking on your phone. Or at least I HOPE that's why you're seeing so many grammar issues.

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 04/10/2017 10:24 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: New version

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

b5 -1

Go home, please, and please drive safely.

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 4/10/17 9:45 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

"Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)"

[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] "Beers, Elizabeth

R. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)"

[REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: New version

b5 -3
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED] Let's discuss in the morning. Thanks all.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 9:28 AM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1

I'm good except for 1-2

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 9:27 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Please let us know when you'd like to touch base. We have a morning meeting so sometime after 11 would be best for us.

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 8:14 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I also have a correction to make, but let's do it in person tomorrow.

----- Original message -----
From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Date: 04/10/2017 7:56 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]; "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Cc: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Thank you.

----- Original message -----
From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

FBI (18-cv-154)-10898

Date: 04/10/2017 6:12 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [redacted] (DO) (FBI)"

[redacted] (DO) (FBI)" [redacted]

Cc: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [redacted]

Subject: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[redacted] to your question at the end of the call today, July 5th is the correct date.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 10:00 AM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 9:48 AM
To: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI);
[REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Should we do a quick meet at 11:30? Aside from the question answered by PS there is one more on our check list concerning communications with folks across the street.

From: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 9:42 AM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I'm just flexible.

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 9:41 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

☐ has the stopwatch!

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 9:39 AM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI);
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Mine should take about 30.5 seconds so I can swing by whenever.

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 9:27 AM

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Subject: RE: Closing the loop

Please let us know when you'd like to touch base. We have a morning meeting so sometime after 11 would be best for us.

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 8:14 PM

To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Subject: RE: Closing the loop

I also have a correction to make, but let's do it in person tomorrow.

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Date: 04/10/2017 7:56 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Thank you.

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 04/10/2017 6:12 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED] to your question at the end of the call today, July 5th is the correct date.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 10:03 AM
To: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Rsp to Chairman Grassley memorializing briefing

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -6

I'm good, with one question. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 9:59 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Rybicki, James E.
(DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Rsp to Chairman Grassley memorializing briefing

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

See attached draft response. Please advise ASAP if you've got edits / issues - we intend to get this signed out today. Thanks,

Beth Beers
FBI Office of Congressional Affairs
[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 8:51 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
(DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: March 6 letter

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Thanks all.

Lisa

b5 -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: Referral

Location: 4012

Start: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 2:30 PM

End: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 3:00 PM

Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Required Attendees: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

b6 -1
b7C -1

[REDACTED] this is following up to our conversation this morning. Lisa, relates to discussion we had at 1:30 meeting yesterday.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: Referral

Location: 4012

Start: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 2:30 PM

End: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 3:00 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Required Attendees: [REDACTED] OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)

b6 -1
b7C -1

[REDACTED] this is following up to our conversation this morning. Lisa, relates to discussion we had at 1:30 meeting yesterday.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 11:32 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI); Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI); Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Grassley Response Letter 20170411

b6 -1
b7C -1

CD is good

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/11/17 11:20 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Grassley Response Letter 20170411

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Trying to get this one to final too. I've accepted all changes, please let me know if you have additional edits. Thanks.

Lisa

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 4:03 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1

Thank you that's tremendously helpful.

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Date: 4/11/17 4:00 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

The issue PS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 10:00 AM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

OK:

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 9:48 AM
To: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Should we do a quick meet at 11:30? Aside from the question answered by PS there is one more on our check list concerning communications with folks across the street.

From: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 9:42 AM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I'm just flexible...

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 9:41 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED] has the stopwatch!

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 9:39 AM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Mine should take about 30.5 seconds so I can swing by whenever.

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 9:27 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Please let us know when you'd like to touch base. We have a morning meeting so sometime after 11 would be best for us.

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 8:14 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I also have a correction to make, but let's do it in person tomorrow.

----- Original message -----
From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Date: 04/10/2017 7:56 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Cc: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Thank you.

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 04/10/2017 6:12 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)"

[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)"

Cc: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: Closing the loop

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED] to your question at the end of the call today, July 5th is the correct date.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 7:19 PM
To: Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: FBI obtained FISA warrant to monitor former Trump adviser Carter Page - The Washington Post

b6 -1
b7C -1

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/fbi-obtained-fisa-warrant-to-monitor-former-trump-adviser-carter-page/2017/04/11/620192ea-1e0e-11e7-ad74-3a742a6e93a7_story.html?utm_term=.b588b28407a3

FBI obtained FISA warrant to monitor former Trump adviser Carter Page

The FBI obtained a secret court order last summer to monitor the communications of an adviser to presidential candidate Donald Trump, part of an investigation into possible links between Russia and the campaign, law enforcement and other U.S. officials said.

The FBI and the Justice Department obtained the warrant targeting Carter Page's communications after convincing a Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court judge that there was probable cause to believe Page was acting as an agent of a foreign power, in this case Russia, according to the officials.

This is the clearest evidence so far that the FBI had reason to believe during the 2016 presidential campaign that a Trump campaign adviser was in touch with Russian agents. Such contacts are now at the center of an investigation into whether the campaign coordinated with the Russian government to swing the election in Trump's favor.

Page has not been accused of any crimes, and it is unclear whether the Justice

FBI (18-cv-154)-10909

Page has not been accused of any crimes, and it is unclear whether the Justice Department might later seek charges against him or others in connection with Russia's meddling in the 2016 presidential election. The counterintelligence investigation into Russian efforts to influence U.S. elections began in July, officials have said. Most such investigations don't result in criminal charges.

The officials spoke about the court order on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss details of a counterintelligence probe.



[View Graphic](#)

Team Trump's ties to Russian interests

During an interview with the Washington Post editorial page staff in March 2016, [Trump identified Page](#), who had previously been an investment banker in Moscow, as a foreign policy adviser to his campaign. Campaign spokeswoman [Hope Hicks later described](#) Page's role as "informal."

Page has repeatedly denied any wrongdoing in his dealings with the Trump campaign or Russia.

"This confirms all of my suspicions about unjustified, politically motivated government surveillance," Page said in an interview Tuesday. "I have nothing to hide." He compared surveillance of him to the eavesdropping that the FBI and Justice Department conducted against civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

[*\[Despite early denials, growing list of Trump camp contacts with Russians haunts White House\]*](#)

The White House, FBI and Justice Department declined to comment.

FBI Director James B. Comey disclosed in public testimony to the House Intelligence Committee last month that the bureau is investigating efforts by the Russian government to interfere in the 2016 presidential election.

Comey said this includes investigating the "nature of any links between individuals

associated with the Trump campaign and the Russian government and whether there was any coordination between the campaign and Russia's efforts."

Comey declined to comment during the hearing about any individuals, including Page, who worked in Moscow for Merrill Lynch a decade ago and who has said he invested in Russian energy giant Gazprom. In a letter to Comey in September, Page had said he had sold his Gazprom investment.

During the hearing last month, Democratic lawmakers repeatedly singled out Page's contacts in Russia as a cause for concern.

The judges who rule on Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) requests oversee the nation's most sensitive national security cases, and their warrants are some of the most closely guarded secrets in the world of U.S. law enforcement and intelligence gathering. Any FISA application has to be approved at the highest levels of the Justice Department and the FBI.

Applications for FISA warrants, Comey said, are often thicker than his wrists, and that thickness represents all the work Justice Department attorneys and FBI agents have to do to convince a judge that such surveillance is appropriate in an investigation.

The government's application for the surveillance order targeting Page included a lengthy declaration that laid out investigators' basis for believing that Page was an agent of the Russian government and knowingly engaged in clandestine intelligence activities on behalf of Moscow, officials said.

Among other things, the application cited contacts that he had with a Russian intelligence operative in New York City in 2013, officials said. Those contacts had earlier surfaced in a federal espionage case brought by the Justice Department against another Russian agent. In addition, the application said Page had other contacts with Russian operatives that have not been publicly disclosed, officials said.

[Former Trump adviser admits to 2013 communication with Russian spy]

An application for electronic surveillance under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act need not show evidence of a crime. But the information obtained through the

intercepts can be used to open a criminal investigation and may be used in a prosecution.

The application also showed that the FBI and the Justice Department's national security division have been seeking since July to determine how broad a network of accomplices Russia enlisted in attempting to influence the 2016 presidential election, the officials said.

Since the 90-day warrant was first issued, it has been renewed more than once by the FISA court, the officials said.

In February, Page told "PBS NewsHour" that he was a "junior member of the [Trump] campaign's foreign policy advisory group."

A former Trump campaign adviser said Page submitted policy memos to the campaign and several times asked to be given a meeting with Trump, though his request was never granted. "He was one of the more active ones, in terms of being in touch," the adviser said.

The campaign adviser said Page participated in three dinners held for the campaign's volunteer foreign policy advisers in the spring and summer of 2016, coming from New York to Washington to meet with the group. Although Trump did not attend, Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-Ala.), a top Trump confidant who became his attorney general, attended one meeting of the group with Page in late summer, the campaign adviser said.

Page's role as an adviser to the Trump campaign drew alarm last year from more-established foreign policy experts in part because of Page's effusive praise for Russian President Vladimir Putin and his criticism of U.S. sanctions over Moscow's military intervention in Ukraine.

In July, Page traveled to Moscow, where he delivered a speech harshly critical of the United States' policy toward Russia.

While there, Page allegedly met with Igor Sechin, a Putin confidant and chief executive of the energy company Rosneft, according to a dossier compiled by a former British intelligence officer and cited at a congressional hearing by Rep. Adam B. Schiff (Calif.),

the ranking Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee. Officials said some of the information in the dossier has been verified by U.S. intelligence agencies, and some of it hasn't, while other parts are unlikely to ever be proved or disproved.

On Tuesday, Page dismissed what he called "the dodgy dossier" of false allegations.

Page has denied such a meeting occurred, saying he has never met Sechin in his life and that he wants to testify before Congress to clear his name. A spokesman for Rosneft told Politico in September that the notion that Page met with Sechin was "absurd." Page said in September that he briefly met Russian Deputy Prime Minister Arkady Dvorkovich during that trip.

Comey has declined to discuss the details of the Russia probe, but in an appearance last month, he cited the process for getting FISA warrants as proof that the government's surveillance powers are very carefully used, with significant oversight.

"It is a pain in the neck to get permission to conduct electronic surveillance in the United States. And that's good," he told an audience at the University of Texas in Austin.

Officials have said the FBI and the Justice Department were particularly reluctant to seek FISA warrants of campaign figures during the 2016 presidential race because of concerns that agents would inadvertently eavesdrop on political talk. To obtain a FISA warrant, prosecutors must show that a significant purpose of the warrant is to obtain foreign intelligence information.

[How hard is it to get an intelligence wiretap? Pretty hard.]

Page is the only American to have had his communications directly targeted with a FISA warrant in 2016 as part of the Russia probe, officials said.

The FBI routinely obtains FISA warrants to monitor the communications of foreign diplomats in the United States, including the Russian ambassador, Sergey Kislyak. The conversations between Kislyak and Michael Flynn, who became Trump's first national security adviser, were recorded in December. In February, The Washington Post reported that Flynn misled Vice President-elect Mike Pence and others about his

discussions with Kislyak, prompting Trump's decision to fire him.

In March, Trump made unsubstantiated claims about U.S. surveillance of Trump Tower in New York. Later that month, Rep. Devin Nunes (R-Calif.), chairman of the House Intelligence Committee and a Trump transition official, charged that details about people "associated with the incoming administration, details with little apparent foreign intelligence value" were "widely disseminated" in intelligence community reporting. He said none of the surveillance was related to Russia. The FISA order on Page is unrelated to either charge.

Last month, the former director of national intelligence, James R. Clapper Jr., told NBC's "Meet the Press" that U.S. law enforcement agencies did not have any FISA orders to monitor the communications of Trump, either as a candidate or as a president-elect, or his campaign. But Clapper did not address whether there were any FISA warrants targeting Trump associates.

Three years before Page became an adviser to the Trump campaign, he came to the attention of FBI counterintelligence agents, who learned that Russian spy suspects had sought to use Page as a source for information.

In that case, one of the Russian suspects, Victor Pobodnyy — who was posing as a diplomat and was later charged by federal prosecutors with acting as an unregistered agent of a foreign government — was captured on tape in 2013 discussing an effort to get information and documents from Page. That discussion was detailed in a federal complaint filed against another Kremlin agent. The court documents in that spy case only identify Page as "Male 1." Officials familiar with the case said that "Male 1" is Page.

In one secretly recorded conversation, detailed in the complaint, Pobodnyy said Page "wrote that he is sorry, he went to Moscow and forgot to check his inbox, but he wants to meet when he gets back. I think he is an idiot and forgot who I am. Plus he writes to me in Russian [to] practice the language. He flies to Moscow more often than I do. He got hooked on Gazprom thinking that if they have a project, he could rise up. Maybe he can. I don't know, but it's obvious that he wants to earn lots of money."

Checkpoint newsletter

Military, defense and security at home and abroad.

The same court document says that in June 2013, Page told FBI agents that he met Pobodnyy at an energy symposium in New York, where they exchanged contact information. In subsequent meetings, Page shared with the Russian his outlook on the state of the energy industry, as well as documents about the energy business, according to the court papers.

In the secret tape, Pobodnyy said he liked the man's "enthusiasm" but planned to use him to get information and give him little in return. "You promise a favor for a favor. You get the documents from him and tell him to go f--- himself," Pobodnyy said on the tape, according to court papers.

Page has said the information he provided to the Russians in 2013 was innocuous, describing it as "basic immaterial information and publicly available research documents." He said he had assisted the prosecutors in their case against Evgeny Buryakov, who was convicted of espionage.

Rosalind S. Helderman contributed to this report.

Read more:

[Trump adviser's public comments, ties to Moscow stir unease in both parties](#)

[Blackwater founder held secret Seychelles meeting to establish Trump-Putin back channel](#)

[Trump administration sought to enlist intelligence officials, key lawmakers to counter Russia stories](#)

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
 Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 7:53 AM
 To: Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)
 Subject: Fwd: Can FBI Director James Comey Untangle the Trump-Russia Allegations?

b6 -1
 b7C -1

First of two parts, published this morning

<http://www.newsweek.com/2017/04/21/fbi-director-james-comey-russia-investigation-583154.html>

Can FBI Director James Comey Untangle the Trump-Russia Allegations?

By [Max Kuznetsov](#) and [Josh Saul](#) On 4/13/17 at 6:50 AM

James Comey spends a lot of time away from Washington, D.C., and despite what you might have read, it's not because he has no friends left there. Comey travels, a lot, all over the country. After the U.S. Senate confirmed him in 2013 as the director of the FBI, he resolved to visit each of the agency's 56 field offices. "He did not want to just be sitting behind glass doors at FBI headquarters," says Michael Steinbach, who retired in February as the FBI's executive assistant director overseeing national security. "He wanted to get out." And he isn't just racking up frequent-flier miles—he talks to his agents and solicits their thoughts and concerns.

At those field offices, Comey tells agents the ~~off-cited~~ anecdote about how during a visit to a NASA facility, President John F. Kennedy asked a custodian, "What's your job here?" and the custodian replied, "I'm helping to put a man on the moon." David Johnson, who retired in December as the FBI's associate executive assistant director for the Criminal, Cyber, Response and Services Branch (CCRSB), says Comey uses that perhaps apocryphal tale to underscore his fervent belief that everyone working for the bureau has a single mission—protecting Americans from the bad guys. "He's trying to get buy-in from the entire organization about what the organization should be doing and how people can contribute," Johnson says.

Those who have worked with Comey say his leadership is of the kinder, gentler mode, something most veteran FBI agents weren't accustomed to. "It's not about the bull in the china shop," says Frank Montoya Jr., the bureau's former national counterintelligence executive. The director, for example, routinely writes emails to his workforce explaining his decision-making, and he solicits feedback, even dissenting viewpoints, from bureau executives. "He's very cerebral," according to Larry Barton, a longtime FBI Academy instructor. "He's very intellectual, very respectful and knowledgeable of the law.... He is a student of history." And he wants his workforce to have that perspective, that grounding. Comey requires all new agents to visit the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial in D.C., and he keeps under the glass on his desk a copy of the request by legendary FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover to wiretap King. "They were off, bugging and wiretapping King without limitation, without constraint, without oversight," Comey ~~has said~~. "I keep it there...as a reminder of the dangers of becoming unconstrained."

And it is right about then that Hillary Clinton does a spit-take.

Last July, Comey took the unusual step of holding a press conference to announce that the FBI would *not* be recommending charges to the U.S. Department of Justice over her use of a personal email server while she was secretary of state. But

FBI (18-cv-154)-10916

instead of fully exonerating the Democrats' presidential candidate, he scolded her and said his agents had found "top-secret" and "classified" email chains on her servers. Then, on October 28, 11 days before the election, Comey wrote to Congress saying the FBI had found new emails related to the case. Clinton has said the letter had a "determinative effect" on the election, and critics excoriated him as a self-righteous egomaniac with political motives.

[This article is part one in a two-part series. [Click here to read part two.](#)]

 04_21_FBI_Comey_Russia_02

James Comey laughs during a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing in Washington on July 9, 2013. Andrew Harner/Bloomberg/Getty

But those close to Comey say that is an egregious misreading of the man. In interviews with *Newsweek*, nearly a dozen of Comey's friends and former colleagues—including some who have known him for decades and people who held top positions at the bureau—characterize him as a man of faith and integrity. They also believe he's the best person get to the truth about President Donald Trump's ties to Russian President Vladimir Putin.

On March 20, Comey told the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence that since July, the FBI has been "investigating the Russian government's efforts to interfere in the 2016 presidential election, and that includes investigating the nature of any links between individuals associated with the Trump campaign and the Russian government, and whether there was any coordination between the campaign and Russia's efforts." The Department of Homeland Security and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence had released a statement in October about Russian tampering, and the ODNI published a declassified report on the subject in January, but this was the first confirmation that the FBI is on the case. "If the Trump campaign or anyone associated with it aided or abetted the Russians," House Intelligence Committee ranking member Adam Schiff said at the hearing, "it would not only be a serious crime. It would also represent one of the most shocking betrayals of democracy in history."

The man who many believe ended Clinton's shot at the White House could now topple Trump. His friends see this as a cruel twist for someone they say doesn't want to play in that arena. "He is not interested in politics," says Johnson, the former CCRSB official. "It's not him as a person. It's not the position that he is in. He's absolutely trying to be as apolitical as possible." Montoya, the former national counterintelligence executive, says, "He is not tone-deaf or tin-eared when it comes to politics, but he doesn't let politics drive his determination to uphold the rule of law." Comey's longtime friend David Kelley, who was his deputy U.S. attorney at the Southern District of New York, agrees: "I think the stories out there about him being at all political are, frankly, silly."

But there's no escaping how extraordinarily political his job is these days. After all, Comey might once again determine the fate of the American presidency. With the threat so profound (a foreign power working to undermine American democracy, possibly with the help of a U.S. presidential candidate's team) and the conflicts of interest so troubling (U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions and House Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes—both Republicans—have been forced to recuse themselves from the Russia investigations), Comey's supporters believe he can be the country's savior. "Somebody who is focused on the good of the country, and somebody who has got a sense of values, like him, I think is extremely important," says Steinbach, the former executive assistant director, who oversaw the Clinton emails investigation and the Russia probe.

"He is one of those sane voices against the tide of nonsense that's out there, and we can ill afford to lose him," Montoya says. "I don't think there's a better man in government right now than Jim Comey."

A Rarity in Washington

Comey grew up in an Irish-Catholic family in the New Jersey suburbs. His father was a real estate executive, and his mother did volunteer work. His grandfather had been a police officer and led a department, and Comey keeps a photo hanging in his office of "Pop Comey" escorting a suspect. He met his future wife while at the College of William and Mary in Virginia, where he double-majored in chemistry and religion. He later graduated from the University of Chicago Law School and went to work first in New York City and then, in the early 1990s, in Richmond, Virginia. In 2002, he became U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York. Less than two years later, President George W. Bush made him deputy U.S. attorney general, under John Ashcroft.

Soon after, Comey had what until recently was his highest-profile incident. He was serving as acting U.S. attorney general while Ashcroft was in the hospital for gallbladder surgery. Comey had opposed reauthorizing the Bush administration's domestic eavesdropping program, and he learned that Bush's aides planned to visit Ashcroft at the hospital to get him to sign off on the order. Comey rushed to head off the efforts of the Bush aides. The next day, he and other federal officials threatened to resign. They ended up convincing Bush to do the program in a more legal way.

06_21_FBI_Comey_Russia_04

Investigation into Russia's involvement in the U.S. election. Grigoriy Sissoev/Sputnik/AP

Perhaps the hospital ordeal left Comey wanting a break from federal government. Starting in 2005, he held positions at Lockheed Martin, the security and aerospace giant, and Bridgewater Associates, the hedge fund. Then, in 2013, President Barack Obama nominated him as the seventh director of the FBI—perhaps a surprising move, since Comey had been a Bush administration official and had donated to Obama's Republican presidential opponents. Obama had a simple reason for overlooking their political differences: "He's that rarity in Washington," the president said at the nomination ceremony. "He doesn't care about politics; he only cares about getting the job done."

That's also how many of the people close to Comey describe him, whether referring to his time as a lawyer in private practice, as an adjunct professor at the University of Richmond School of Law or as a federal prosecutor. "You could just tell that he was always trying to do what was right," says Gilbert "Bud" Schill Jr., who in the 1990s worked with Comey at the law firm McGuireWoods. Comey's friend John Douglass recalls saying in 2008, when he presented an award to Comey at the University of Richmond School of Law, that he has "a willingness not just to speak the truth, but to seek the truth, even when the chips may not fall where you'd like them to." Even those who have criticized Comey publicly speak highly of him. Larry Thompson, who preceded Comey as deputy U.S. attorney general and raked him in *The Washington Post* over his Clinton investigation disclosures and letter to Congress, now says, "I obviously disagreed with his decision, but I really think it's important to not let that one thing define my opinion and view of Jim."

A Storm's Going to Follow

Comey is a vocal advocate of transparency. (Witness those regular emails explaining decisions to his rank and file.) As part of his commitment to seeking feedback and keeping his agents and the American people informed, Comey last summer proposed writing an op-ed about Russia's tampering in the ongoing U.S. election. (This was at least weeks before the Obama administration first publicly said that Putin was putting his fingers—and his hackers—where they didn't belong.) "If we felt that there were attempts to influence the election, we felt that it would be important for the American public to know that," says Steinbach, who was involved in discussions about the op-ed. "That was a conversation that we had, and one course of action as a way for the director to get that message out was to do an op-ed." Comey pitched the idea at a meeting in the White House Situation Room with Secretary of State John Kerry, Attorney General Loretta Lynch, Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson and National Security Adviser Susan Rice, according to two sources with knowledge of the matter who requested anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak to the press on the subject. His proposal was shot down in favor of what the group believed should be a more coordinated approach, one of the sources says.

04_21_FBI_Comey_Russia_07

Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, is also under scrutiny for undisclosed meetings he had at Trump Tower with the Russian ambassador. Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Dominique A. Pineiro/DoD/Reuters

During his testimony in March before the House Intelligence Committee, Comey declined to speculate on how long the Russia probe could take. Steinbach and Montoya, who have overseen counterintelligence cases, estimate it could take several years, and national security experts have pointed out that a counterintelligence case doesn't always lead to criminal charges. But if the FBI finds that Trump associates conspired with Russia, the discovery would be the most significant blow to a sitting president since Watergate.

Comey's supporters say he remains confident that the decisions he's made have been the correct ones, even those so controversial they have earned him enemies and a review by the Justice Department's Office of the Inspector General. Kelley, the longtime friend who is in regular contact with Comey, says, "He's somebody who does what he thinks is the right thing to do and isn't one who is going to yield on that based on what criticism he might get." Comey said something similar onstage at an intelligence industry event recently: "I know that when I make a hard decision, a storm's going to follow, but honestly, I don't care."

If the inspector general finds that Comey mishandled the Clinton email investigation, Trump could have an excuse to remove Comey, possibly before the FBI's Russia investigation is finished. On April 12, Trump told Fox Business Network that "it's not too late" to ask Comey to step down, adding, "But, you know, I have confidence in him. We'll see what happens. It's going to be interesting." Steinbach says Comey isn't concerned about job security: "He's very comfortable. He's grounded in his family. He's got a strong sense of beliefs. He's going to do what he believes is the right thing to do for the country, for the FBI."

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 8:04 AM
To: Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Can FBI Director James Comey Escape the Clinton Email Debacle?

b6 -1
b7C -1

Part 2. Much more of a hatchet job.

----- Original message -----

From: Peter [REDACTED]
Date: 4/13/17 8:03 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Can FBI Director James Comey Escape the Clinton Email Debacle?

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

<http://www.newsweek.com/2017/04/21/fbi-director-james-comey-clinton-emails-583247.html>

Can FBI Director James Comey Escape the Clinton Email Debacle?

By [Josh Saul](#) and [Max Kutner](#) On 4/13/17 at 7:04 AM

Last fall, James Comey stood accused of throwing a presidential election. And he allegedly did it with just a letter.

On October 28, less than two weeks before American voters went to the polls, the FBI director wrote to Congress, saying the bureau had discovered new emails related to its long-running investigation into Hillary Clinton's use of a personal email server when she was secretary of state. In July, he had declared there was no evidence of any illegal activity by the Democratic presidential candidate, so this announcement ripped open a wound that had nearly healed over. Both the right and the left screamed in outrage, calling for either Clinton or Comey to be strung up. *In The Washington Post*, two former U.S. deputy attorney generals, Jamie Gorelick and Larry Thompson, wrote, "We now have real-time, raw-take transparency taken to its illogical limit, a kind of reality-TV of federal criminal investigation." They called Comey's actions "antithetical to the interests of justice, putting a thumb on the scale of this election and damaging our democracy."

Democrats were already sputtering with rage that Comey had gone all schoolmarm on Clinton back in July, questioning her judgment and trustworthiness. "He tried to portray himself as above the fray, someone who is not attuned to politics, someone who does not even reside in the same political universe as everyone else, that he's holier than thou," says a former Obama administration official. (Several people who spoke to *Newsweek* about Comey asked to remain anonymous so they could freely discuss controversial and sometimes confidential matters.)

"That may be true, but he was also too attuned to his own self-image," the official says, claiming that the director threw dirt on Clinton to retain the trust of his Fox News-watching agents. "In the end, it was a punch to the gut, and she didn't come off vindicated."

[This article is part two in a two-part series. [Click here to read part one.](#)]

04_21_Comey_01

Comey listens during a House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence hearing on the Russian election meddling on March 20 in Washington. Drew Angerer/Getty

After Comey's October surprise, Clinton's popular-vote lead over Donald Trump in the polls dropped from 6 points to 3, according to FiveThirtyEight.

Republicans grabbed some spiked bats and joined the Comey beatdown. "Without additional context, your disclosure is not fair to Congress, the American people, or Secretary Clinton," U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley of Iowa wrote in a letter to Comey on October 31. "Look, I think Comey should have said prosecute her back in July. But what he just did 11 days b4 the election is wrong & unfair to Hillary," tweeted Joe Walsh, a conservative talk show radio host and former Illinois congressman. Republican former U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales told CNN that Comey had made an "error in

judgment," adding: "You don't comment on investigations because commenting on the investigation may jeopardize the investigation."

Comey seemed to have pulled off the rarest of feats in politics: He pissed off everybody. Former FBI Assistant Director James Kallstrom said on Fox News that Comey's decision was "nonsensical," adding: "it's not Comey's right to sully that reputation [of the FBI]."

"The way the letter was written was incredibly vague and careless," a Democratic operative tells *Newsweek*. "That was a massive hand grenade thrown into the middle of an election that was 11 days away." In addition to energizing Trump supporters, Comey's decision to publicize a tiny advance in a "completed" investigation angered Democrats because it came while Comey was keeping silent about reports of Russian interference in the election and possible collusion by members of the Trump campaign. In fact, CNBC reported that Comey had declined to sign an October 7 joint statement from the Department of Homeland Security and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence that accused the Russian government of tampering with the U.S. election, because he thought it was too close to when people would cast their votes.

Two days before the election, Comey told lawmakers the bureau had reviewed the new emails and found no reason to change its decision that Clinton should not face charges—but that was like waving a white paper napkin to stop a tornado. *Newsweek's* Kurt Eichenwald wrote, "America has just witnessed one of the most—if not the most—egregious abuses of power in the service of one man's ego in its history." When Clinton lost to Donald Trump, the fury swelled. She blamed the FBI director for contributing to her defeat and *The Wall Street Journal* called for his resignation.

Comey's defenders insist that he did nothing wrong and that he had a responsibility to update Congress after telling it the Clinton probe was completed, but the Justice Department's Office of the Inspector General is reviewing how Comey handled the investigation. Michael Bromwich, who as inspector general under President Bill Clinton investigated then-FBI Director Louis Freeh, tells *Newsweek*, "I think there were lots of legitimate questions about his conduct, why he did it, whether in fact, as it appeared, his conduct violated longstanding Justice Department policies." Such inquiries typically involve interviewing people and reviewing electronic communications and could last a year or longer, according to Bromwich. If the office finds evidence of misconduct, the attorney general could impose sanctions on Comey, including suspension or termination.

Joshua Roberts/Reuters; Win McNamee/Getty; Photo illustration by Jon-Paul Pezzolo for Newsweek

God (Awful) Complex

The criticism that Comey's self-righteousness clouds his judgment didn't start with the 2016 election. In 2013, even before Barack Obama nominated Comey as FBI director, a former George W. Bush White House official described him to *Newsweek* as having "a flair for the dramatic and a desire to be the moral savior of mankind." And that reputation has persisted; last September, *Politico* said Comey's critics believe that he "has displayed a worrying disregard for the rules and norms," and that "his 'streak of self-righteousness,' now essentially unchecked, has made him the most isolated, outspoken and openly defiant FBI director since Hoover." In March, a source close to Comey said in *Vanity Fair* that his decision to speak so fully about Clinton in July was due to his "megalomania." And a recent Harvard-Harris poll (conducted before the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence hearing on March 20, during which Comey confirmed the FBI investigation into possible collusion between Russia and Trump associates) found that only 17 percent of Americans surveyed viewed him favorably.

"Comey's about Comey. Comey's got this God complex where *he* has the most integrity in the world," a Democratic operative says. The operative adds that he believes Comey thought Clinton was going to win the election and feared he would look bad when it came out that he knew about these new emails, or that rogue FBI agents in the New York office would leak their existence to reporters. "He was looking out for Jim Comey first, Jim Comey second and Jim Comey third, and instead of doing the right thing, he did the convenient thing."

It's worth noting that the FBI employs about 35,000 people, and most of them are working on investigations unrelated to whether Trump staffers played footsie with Moscow. It's also worth noting that Comey has been excoriated for his pronouncements before. While speaking at the University of Chicago Law School in October 2015, he suggested that criticism of police had shackled cops and was driving up violent crime in some cities. Referring to the so-called Ferguson effect—though Comey didn't call it that—could be seen as another sop to his right-leaning agents. "In today's YouTube world, are officers reluctant to get out of their cars and do the work that controls violent crime?" he asked. "I don't know whether this explains it entirely, but I do have a strong sense that some part of the explanation is a chill wind blowing through American law enforcement over the last year."

Civil rights groups and even some police departments protested, saying there was no data to back up his claims, and White House press secretary Josh Earnest, Attorney General Loretta Lynch and President Obama all quickly pushed back. "The available evidence at this point does not support the notion that law enforcement officers around the country are shying

away from fulfilling their responsibilities," Earnest said. The president also subtly placed a shiv in Comey's chest. "We do have to stick with the facts," Obama told a police association in Chicago. "What we can't do is cherry-pick data or use anecdotal evidence to drive policy or to feed political agendas."

The White House was also unhappy with Comey's decision to push for a back door on encrypted electronic devices so his agents could see into phones belonging to terrorists or criminals, the Obama administration official tells *Newsweek*. "Encryption threatens to lead us all to a very, very dark place," Comey has said, and in August 2016 he called for the country to have an "adult conversation" about the dangers of encryption. An avalanche of experts say Comey is wrong on this issue. "I disagree with Jim Comey," General Michael Hayden, a former head of both the CIA and National Security Agency, said in January 2016. "I actually think end-to-end encryption is good for America."

J. Edgar Comey

When Comey finally disclosed in March that the FBI is investigating possible coordination between Trump associates and Russia during the presidential election—and has been since July—he got some pats on the back, as well as another pummeling. "Obviously, we're happy to hear that the FBI has been investigating the ties between the Trump campaign and the Kremlin," Jarad Geldner, a senior adviser for the Democratic Coalition Against Trump, says. "We're a little confused, though, [about] why he felt it necessary to comment so publicly on a witch hunt into one candidate's emails while the other campaign was colluding with a foreign power in an attempt to subvert our democracy. Comey still owes the American public an explanation."

The Wall Street Journal tore into Comey in early April with an opinion column titled "The Conflicts of J. Edgar Comey." The piece called the director "incredibly political" and blasted him for refusing to tell Congress whether he was doing anything to investigate the leak that toppled Trump's first national security adviser, Michael Flynn, who was caught lying about his contacts with the Russian ambassador. The column suggested Comey is reluctant to investigate because it's possible his staff members are among those who told newspaper reporters about Flynn's communications with the ambassador. "Leaking the names of private citizens under surveillance (with the express intent to cause harm) is among the grossest violations of civil liberties. It is what police states do," the column said.

54_21_FBI_Comey_Russia_05

Trump's national security adviser, Mike Flynn, had to step down after he was caught lying about his contacts with Russians; he is now shopping his testimony in exchange for immunity. Carlos Barria/Reuters

Some with ties to the federal government believe Comey's actions during both the Clinton and Trump investigations have forever tarnished him. "Comey was regarded as an accomplished and dedicated public servant," but the Clinton letter "really marred his reputation," a source with ties to the National Security Council under Obama tells *Newsweek*.

"His obituary, if it had been written a year ago, would have been one of incredible public service," says a source close to the FBI. "But now it will be marked—not stained, but marked—by being the centerpiece of an enormous political debacle."

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 10:21 AM
To: Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: British spies were first to spot Trump team's links with Russia | UK news | The Guardian

b6 -1
b7C -1

----- Original message -----

From: Peter [REDACTED]
Date: 4/13/17 10:17 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: British spies were first to spot Trump team's links with Russia | UK news | The Guardian

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/apr/13/british-spies-first-to-spot-trump-team-links-russia>

British spies were first to spot Trump team's links with Russia

Exclusive: GCHQ is said to have alerted US agencies after becoming aware of contacts in 2015

Stephanie Kirchgaessner

Thursday 13 April 2017 09:39 EDT

Britain's spy agencies played a crucial role in alerting their counterparts in Washington to contacts between members of Donald Trump's campaign team and Russian intelligence operatives, the Guardian has been told.

GCHQ first became aware in late 2015 of suspicious "interactions" between figures connected to Trump and known or suspected Russian agents, a source close to UK intelligence said. This intelligence was passed to the US as part of a routine exchange of information, they added.

Over the next six months, until summer 2016, a number of western agencies shared further information on contacts between Trump's inner circle and Russians, sources said.

The European countries that passed on electronic intelligence – known as sigint – included Germany, Estonia and Poland. Australia, a member of the "Five Eyes" spying alliance, which also includes the US, UK, Canada and New Zealand, also relayed material, one source said.

Another source suggested the Dutch and the French spy agency, the General Directorate for External Security or DGSE, were contributors.

It is understood that GCHQ was at no point carrying out a targeted operation against Trump or his team or proactively seeking information. The alleged conversations were picked up by chance as part of routine surveillance of Russian intelligence assets. Over several months, different agencies targeting the same people began to see a pattern of connections that were flagged to intelligence officials in the US.

The issue of GCHQ's role in the FBI's ongoing investigation into possible cooperation between the Trump campaign and Moscow is highly sensitive. In March Trump tweeted that Barack Obama had illegally "wiretapped" him in Trump Tower.

The White House press secretary, Sean Spicer, falsely claimed the "British spying agency" GCHQ had carried out the bugging. Spicer cited an unsubstantiated report on Fox News. Fox later distanced itself from the report.

The erroneous claims prompted an extremely unusual rebuke from GCHQ, which generally refrains from commenting on all intelligence matters. The agency described the allegations first made by a former judge turned media commentator, Andrew Napolitano, as "nonsense".

"They are utterly ridiculous and should be ignored," a spokesperson for GCHQ said.

Instead both US and UK intelligence sources acknowledge that GCHQ played an early, prominent role in kickstarting the FBI's Trump-Russia investigation, which began in late July 2016.

One source called the British eavesdropping agency the “principal whistleblower”.

The Guardian has been told the FBI and the CIA were slow to appreciate the extensive nature of contacts between Trump’s team and Moscow ahead of the US election. This was in part due to US law that prohibits US agencies from examining the private communications of American citizens without warrants. “They are trained not to do this,” the source stressed.

“It looks like the [US] agencies were asleep,” the source added. “They [the European agencies] were saying: ‘There are contacts going on between people close to Mr Trump and people we believe are Russian intelligence agents. You should be wary of this.’”

“The message was: ‘Watch out. There’s something not right here.’”

According to one account, GCHQ’s then head, Robert Hannigan, passed material in summer 2016 to the CIA chief, John Brennan. The matter was deemed so sensitive it was handled at “director level”. After an initially slow start Brennan used GCHQ information and intelligence from other partners to launch a major inter-agency investigation.

In late August and September Brennan gave a series of classified briefings to the Gang of Eight, the top-ranking Democratic and Republican leaders in the House and Senate. He told them the agency had evidence the Kremlin might be trying to help Trump to win the presidency, the New York Times reported.

One person familiar with the matter said Brennan did not reveal sources but made reference to the fact that America’s intelligence allies had provided information. Trump subsequently learned of GCHQ’s role, the person said.

The person described US intelligence as being “very late to the game”. The FBI’s director, James Comey, altered his position after the election and Trump’s victory, becoming “more affirmative” and with a “higher level of concern”.

Comey’s apparent shift may have followed a mid-October decision by the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (Fisa) court to approve a secret surveillance order. The

order gave permission for the justice department to investigate two banks suspected of being part of the Kremlin's undercover influence operation.

According to the BBC, the justice department's request came after a tipoff from an intelligence agency in one of the Baltic states. This is believed to be Estonia.

The Washington Post reported on Wednesday that the same order covered Carter Page, one of Trump's associates. It allowed the FBI and the justice department to monitor Page's communications. Page, a former foreign policy aide, was suspected of being an agent of influence working for Russia, the paper said, citing US officials.

The application covered contacts Page allegedly had in 2013 with a Russian foreign intelligence agent, and other undisclosed meetings with Russian operatives, the Post said. Page denies wrongdoing and complained of "unjustified, politically motivated government surveillance".

Late last year Comey threw more FBI resources into what became a far-reaching counter-intelligence investigation. In March he confirmed before the House intelligence committee that the agency was examining possible cooperation between Moscow and members of the Trump campaign to sway the US election.

Comey and the NSA director, Admiral Michael Rogers, said there was no basis for the president's claim that he was a victim of Obama "wiretapping". Trump had likened the unproven allegation to "McCarthyism".

Britain's MI6 spy agency played a part in intelligence sharing with the US, one source said. MI6 declined to comment. Its former chief Sir Richard Dearlove described Trump's wiretapping claim on Thursday as "simply deeply embarrassing for Trump and the administration".

"The only possible explanation is that Trump started tweeting without understanding how the NSA-GCHQ relationship actually works," Dearlove told Prospect magazine.

A GCHQ spokesperson said: "It is longstanding policy that we do not comment on intelligence matters".

It is unclear which individuals were picked up by British surveillance.

In a report last month the New York Times, citing three US intelligence officials, said warning signs had been building throughout last summer but were far from clear. As WikiLeaks published emails stolen from the Democratic National Committee, US agencies began picking up conversations in which Russians were discussing contacts with Trump associates, the paper said.

European allies were supplying information about people close to Trump meeting with Russians in Britain, the Netherlands, and in other countries, the Times said.

There are now multiple investigations going on in Washington into Trump campaign officials and Russia. They include the FBI-led counter-espionage investigation and probes by both the House and Senate intelligence committees.

Adam Schiff, the senior Democrat on the House committee, has expressed an interest in hearing from Christopher Steele, the former MI6 officer whose dossier accuses the president of long-term cooperation with Vladimir Putin's Moscow. Trump and Putin have both dismissed the dossier as fake.

One source suggested the official investigation was making progress. "They now have specific concrete and corroborative evidence of collusion," the source said. "This is between people in the Trump campaign and agents of [Russian] influence relating to the use of hacked material."

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 10:35 AM
To: Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: British spies were first to spot Trump team's links with Russia | UK news | The Guardian

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -4

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/13/17 10:20 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: British spies were first to spot Trump team's links with Russia |

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/apr/13/british-spies-first-to-spot-trump-team-links-russia>

British spies were first to spot Trump team's links with Russia

Exclusive: GCHQ is said to have alerted US agencies after becoming aware of contacts in 2015

Stephanie Kirchgaessner

Thursday 13 April 2017 09.39 EDT

Britain's spy agencies played a crucial role in alerting their counterparts in Washington to contacts between members of Donald Trump's campaign team and Russian intelligence operatives, the Guardian has been told.

GCHQ first became aware in late 2015 of suspicious "interactions" between figures connected to Trump and known or suspected Russian agents, a source close to UK

FBI (18-cv-154)-10933

intelligence said. This intelligence was passed to the US as part of a routine exchange of information, they added.

Over the next six months, until summer 2016, a number of western agencies shared further information on contacts between Trump's inner circle and Russians, sources said.

The European countries that passed on electronic intelligence – known as sigint – included Germany, Estonia and Poland. Australia, a member of the “Five Eyes” spying alliance, which also includes the US, UK, Canada and New Zealand, also relayed material, one source said.

Another source suggested the Dutch and the French spy agency, the General Directorate for External Security or DGSE, were contributors.

It is understood that GCHQ was at no point carrying out a targeted operation against Trump or his team or proactively seeking information. The alleged conversations were picked up by chance as part of routine surveillance of Russian intelligence assets. Over several months, different agencies targeting the same people began to see a pattern of connections that were flagged to intelligence officials in the US.

The issue of GCHQ's role in the FBI's ongoing investigation into possible cooperation between the Trump campaign and Moscow is highly sensitive. In March Trump tweeted that Barack Obama had

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 11:22 AM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Newsweek

b6 -1
b7C -1

Thanks.

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/13/17 11:09 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: Newsweek

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

For your awareness....

We did not participate in any interviews for this. The writers talked to some formers.

<http://www.newsweek.com/2017/04/21/fbi-director-james-comey-russia-investigation-583154.html>

<http://www.newsweek.com/2017/04/21/fbi-counterintelligence-investigation-russia-explainer-583308.html>

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 1:40 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Let Me Clear My Throat - Wikipedia

b6 -1
b7C -1

It's what I aim for in all my presentations.

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Date: 4/18/17 1:29 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Let Me Clear My Throat - Wikipedia

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Generally speaking, our meeting yesterday consisted largely of audience-pleasing antics and energetic shouts.

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 1:12 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Let Me Clear My Throat - Wikipedia

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED] re weekly tag up discussion yesterday.

Lisa, things are different when [REDACTED] runs the meeting...

"Aside from a 16-line verse in the first half of the song, the lyrical content consists largely of audience-pleasing antics, energetic shouts, call-and-response, and shout-outs."

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Let_Me_Clear_My_Throat

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 1:44 PM
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Let Me Clear My Throat - Wikipedia

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1

Good [REDACTED]

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/18/17 1:42 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Let Me Clear My Throat - Wikipedia

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Damn, I really missed a good one!

Of course, now I'm going to have that song in my head the rest of the afternoon...

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 04/18/2017 10:29 AM (GMT-08:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Let Me Clear My Throat - Wikipedia

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Generally speaking, our meeting yesterday consisted largely of audience-pleasing antics and energetic shouts.

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 1:12 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Let Me Clear My Throat - Wikipedia

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED] re weekly tag up discussion yesterday.

Lisa, things are different when [REDACTED] runs the meeting...

"Aside from a 16-line verse in the first half of the song, the lyrical content consists largely of audience-pleasing antics,

FBI (18-cv-154)-10941

energetic shouts, call-and-response, and shout-outs."

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Let_Me_Clear_My_Throat

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 9:46 PM
To: Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (CD) (FBI); Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Trump Adviser's Visit to Moscow Got the F.B.I.'s Attention - NYTimes.com

b6 -1
b7C -1

<https://mobile.nytimes.com/2017/04/19/us/politics/carter-page-russia-trump.html>

Trump Adviser's Visit to Moscow Got the F.B.I.'s Attention

By SCOTT SHANE, MARK MAZZETTI and ADAM GOLDMAN

April 19, 2017

Carter Page criticized American policies toward Russia at the New Economic School in Moscow in July, echoing the positions of President Vladimir V. Putin.

Anton Denisov / Sputnik, via Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Ever since F.B.I. investigators discovered in 2013 that a Russian spy was trying to recruit an American businessman named Carter Page, the bureau maintained an occasional interest in Mr. Page. So when he became a foreign policy adviser to the Trump campaign last year and gave a Russia-friendly speech at a prestigious Moscow institute, it soon caught the bureau's attention.

That trip last July was a catalyst for the F.B.I. investigation into connections between Russia and President Trump's campaign, according to current and former law enforcement officials.

FBI (18-cv-154)-10945

It is unclear exactly what about Mr. Page's visit caught the F.B.I.'s attention: meetings he had during his three days in Moscow, intercepted communications of Russian officials speaking about him, or something else.

After Mr. Page, 45 — a Navy veteran and businessman who had lived in Moscow for three years — stepped down from the Trump campaign in September, the F.B.I. obtained a warrant from the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court allowing the authorities to monitor his communications on the suspicion that he was a Russian agent.

From the Russia trip of the once-obscure Mr. Page grew a wide-ranging investigation, now accompanied by two congressional inquiries, that has cast a shadow over the early months of the Trump administration. At a House Intelligence Committee hearing last month, the F.B.I. director, James B. Comey, took the unusual step of publicly acknowledging the investigation of Russian interference in the election, which he said included possible links between Russia and Trump associates.

Developments beyond Mr. Page's trip may have heightened the F.B.I.'s concern about Russian meddling in the campaign. Paul Manafort, then Mr. Trump's campaign manager, was already under criminal investigation in connection with payments from a pro-Russian political party in Ukraine. WikiLeaks and two websites later identified as Russian intelligence fronts had begun releasing emails obtained when Democratic Party servers were hacked.

Trump to Russia-Linked Ex-Advisers: Keep Your Distance

Video The Trump administration is going to great lengths to distance itself from former associates in the face of an F.B.I. investigation into whether there were connections between the Trump campaign and Russia.

Stephen Crowley/The New York Times

When the F.B.I. opened its investigation in late July, agents were just beginning to explore whether Mr. Trump's advisers had contacts with Russian government officials or intelligence operatives. according to the current and former law enforcement

officials, who spoke about the continuing inquiry on the condition of anonymity. In the months that followed, they said, more evidence came to light, including intercepts of Russian officials discussing Mr. Page and other Trump associates.

In his talk at the New Economic School in Moscow, Mr. Page criticized American policy toward Russia in terms that echoed the position of President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia, declaring, "Washington and other Western capitals have impeded potential progress through their often hypocritical focus on ideas such as democratization, inequality, corruption and regime change." His remarks accorded with Mr. Trump's positive view of the Russian president, which had prompted speculation about what Mr. Trump saw in Mr. Putin — more commonly denounced in the United States as a ruthless, anti-Western autocrat.

Mr. Page's relationship with Mr. Trump appears to have been fleeting. According to former Trump campaign officials, the two men have never met, though Mr. Page has said he attended some meetings where Mr. Trump was present.

But last spring, when Republican foreign policy experts were distancing themselves from Mr. Trump, Mr. Page served a purpose for the flailing Trump campaign. Dismissing the notion that his campaign was bereft of foreign policy expertise, the candidate read aloud a list of five people who had offered to advise him on world affairs — including "Carter Page, Ph.D."

Mr. Page was unknown in Washington foreign policy circles. But his doctorate and his Russian experience were real. He had worked as a junior investment banker for Merrill Lynch for a time, living in Moscow from 2004 to 2007.

He subsequently started his own investment firm, Global Energy Capital L.L.C., and partnered on some deals with a Russian businessman, Sergey Yatsenko. Mr. Yatsenko had been deputy chief financial officer for the Russian energy giant Gazprom, which is majority-owned by the government and has close ties to Mr. Putin.

Mr. Page's role in the Trump campaign appears to have been minimal. Papers he wrote on energy policy languished unread. Former campaign officials play down his significance almost to the vanishing point, saying Mr. Page had no ID badge, desk or

email address from the campaign.

"If the Russians were attempting to collude with him, they were attempting to collude with someone who had no influence on the Trump campaign," said Roger Stone, a longtime adviser to Mr. Trump. "I think he's a self-promoter — not that there's anything wrong with that."

But for Mr. Page, temporarily wearing the title of adviser to the man who would become president appears to have been gratifying. "The half year I spent on the Trump campaign meant more to me than the five years I spent in the Navy," he said in an interview last month.

He denies that there was ever any possibility of his being recruited to spy for Russia, including his 2013 encounter with the Russian intelligence officer. "Zero risk then or ever in my life," Mr. Page said.

After The Washington Post broke the news last week of the court warrant the F.B.I. had obtained, Mr. Page went on a Trump-like media blitz, defending his bona fides and asserting that he was the victim of a smear campaign by Obama administration officials and Hillary Clinton aides.

"You talk about fake narratives," Mr. Page said on Fox News. "When you introduce false evidence in a court of law, including the FISA court," he said, referring to the court that issued the warrant targeting him, "that is illegal. So, let's see what happens."

He added, "I'm very encouraged that all of the lies that have been a drag on this administration are finally coming out into the open."

Few who have met Mr. Page during his career appear to have pegged him as a likely prospect for either suspected spy or statesman. Born in 1971 in Minnesota and raised in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., he graduated in 1993 from the Naval Academy, where he was in the selective Trident Scholar Program, but left the Navy before the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. He earned an M.B.A. at New York University and completed a doctorate a decade later at SOAS University of London.

Sam Clovis, a Tea Party activist in Iowa, with Donald J. Trump in August 2015. He suggested Mr. Page as a foreign policy adviser to Mr. Trump.

Daniel Acker / Bloomberg, via Getty Images

Richard Guerin, who was in his academy class and remains in regular touch, said Mr. Page had "a complicated mind." "He's genuinely one of the smartest people I've ever met," Mr. Guerin said. "I get a bit offended when I read reports of people calling him an 'idiot.'"

Mr. Guerin also said that, ever since Mr. Page's Navy days, when he drove a black Mercedes, his friend had reveled in lavish spending that sometimes seemed to exceed his means.

Oksana Antonenko, a senior political counselor at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, who was friendly with Mr. Page in London while he earned his Ph.D., said, "I think he is a nice, decent and perhaps a bit naïve guy."

While the biographical sketch Mr. Page has used highlights his work at Merrill Lynch with Gazprom and a Russian electric power conglomerate called RAO UES, he appears not to have played a leading role in major deals. He later ran an international affairs program at Bard College in New York before founding Global Energy Capital. The private equity firm operates out of a co-working space in a Manhattan high-rise that Mr. Page has described, accurately though perhaps misleadingly, as "around the corner from Trump Tower."

American businessmen in the tight-knit expatriate community in Moscow say they did not know Mr. Page and were not familiar with his business activities in Russia. "People I deal with on my board of directors just shrug their shoulders," Alexis Rodzianko, president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Russia, said in an interview. "They've never heard of him."

In April 2013, Mr. Page was caught on an F.B.I. wiretap in an investigation of suspected Russian intelligence officers in New York. Victor Podobnyy, one of three men later charged with being unregistered agents of a foreign power, had met Mr. Page at an energy symposium and was recorded describing him as "an idiot" with dreams of lucrative deals. There is no evidence that Mr. Page knew the man was an intelligence officer.

In 2014 and 2015, in articles for an online journal, Mr. Page mixed quirky observations with praise for Russia and criticism of American policy. The war in Ukraine, he wrote, was "precipitated by U.S. meddling." And Igor Sechin, a close Putin ally and chief executive of the oil company Rosneft, Mr. Page wrote, "has done more to advance U.S.-Russian relations than any individual in or out of government from either side of the Atlantic over the past decade."

Michael McFaul, President Barack Obama's ambassador to Russia. Mr. Page's talk in Moscow prompted derision from Mr. McFaul, who wrote on Twitter, "Echo of Kremlin line on U.S."

Misha Japaridze / Associated Press

In March of last year, Sam Clovis, an economics professor and Tea Party activist in Iowa, was asked by the Trump campaign to line up some foreign policy advisers. He produced the list that included Mr. Page.

After several tries, Mr. Page got the campaign's permission to speak at the New Economic School, where Mr. Obama spoke in 2009. Denis Klimentov, a spokesman for the school, said some alumni knew of Mr. Page's work at Merrill Lynch in Moscow. But his role as a Trump adviser also played into the decision to invite him, Mr. Klimentov said in an email.

"We did not arrange any meetings for Mr. Page outside of the school, and we were not aware then if he had any further meetings or contacts," Mr. Klimentov added. "Our strong recollection is that there was simply not enough time for Mr. Page to have any meetings outside of the school."

In recent months, Mr. Page has often seemed to revel in the attention he has drawn. In December, he gave another speech at the New Economic School, complaining that "fake news" had hurt United States-Russia relations.

His conduct has disturbed some who know him. Mr. Guerin said it was "disheartening" to hear that Mr. Page rated his time at the margins of the Trump campaign more highly than his Navy service. "I thought we were both patriotic," Mr. Guerin said. "I would like to assume that as well right now. But events are unfolding that make you question that."

Last Thursday, Mr. Page appeared on "Good Morning America" for questioning by George Stephanopoulos. He seemed feisty but upbeat, denying any impropriety and complaining about "a ton of false evidence."

"These same lies keep swirling around," Mr. Page said, "having a really negative impact on U.S.-Russian relations."

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 7:40 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: update
Attachments: comey-weiner search warrant.pdf; ATT00001.htm

I'm getting exceedingly tired by his increasingly single-minded focus that somehow we could and should have done this faster. ??

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/21/17 7:21 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Cc: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: update

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

The latest from the writer.

----- Original message -----

From: Peter Elkind [REDACTED]
Date: 4/20/17 11:05 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Cc: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: update

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you'll have some news for me tomorrow on how we're moving forward. My editors are eager to wrap this up and publish.

On the substance of my query about the October period: I just re-read the Oct. 30 search warrant and affidavit for Weiner's computer, released in redacted form pursuant to a civil suit. On p. 8 of the document, which I've attached, it describes the process of discovering Clinton stuff this way:

In executing the search of the laptop computer (the Subject Laptop) REDACTED, FBI agents sorted the emails on the Subject Laptop to segregate emails REDACTED. As a result, the FBI reviewed non-content header information for emails on the Subject Laptop to facilitate its search. In so doing, the FBI observed non-content header information indicating that thousands of emails of REDACTED resided on the Subject Laptop. Because REDACTED emails were outside the scope REDACTED, the FBI did not

review the content of these emails.

It goes on to explain that because the header info agents reviewed shows emails sent and received between (presumably) Weiner and Clinton (as well as other state department accounts) during the time she served as secretary of state—and the FBI's previous investigation showed some such emails on these accounts are classified--there's probable cause for a warrant.

In short, this clearly states that the initial process of sorting emails revealed header information that was the sufficient basis for probable cause: "thousands" of emails, as well as details on sender, recipient and dates. This (even more definitively than the press reports) seems inconsistent with the notion of initially discovering just a few emails, then slowly moving forward, over 2-3 weeks, with the sex-crimes search to stumble across enough Clinton info to have enough for probable cause. And there's no mention of anything like that happening in the affidavit.

Presumably the sorting would be done right after indexing the computer, which (I'm told) shouldn't take more than a couple of days.

I hope we can clarify all this soon.

Thanks,
Peter

16 MC 464 (PKC)

AO 93 (SDNY Rev. 05/10) Search and Seizure Warrant

ORIGINAL

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the
Southern District of New YorkIn the Matter of the Search of
(Briefly describe the property to be searched
or identify the person by name and address)A Laptop Computer, Further Described Below and in
Attachment A

Case No.

16 MAG 7063

SEARCH AND SEIZURE WARRANT

To: Any authorized law enforcement officer

An application by a federal law enforcement officer or an attorney for the government requests the search
of the following person or property located in the Southern District of New York
(Identify the person or describe the property to be searched and give its location):A Laptop Computer, Further Described As a Silver Dell Inspiron 15 7000 Series (7548) Laptop Computer Bearing
Service Tag [REDACTED] Containing a Toshiba One Terabyte Hard Drive Bearing Serial Number [REDACTED] and That
Is Currently Housed at the Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York Field Office, as described in Attachment A.The person or property to be searched, described above, is believed to conceal (Identify the person or describe the
property to be seized):

See Attachment A

I find that the affidavit(s), or any recorded testimony, establish probable cause to search and seize the person or
property.

YOU ARE COMMANDED to execute this warrant on or before

11/13/16

(not to exceed 14 days)

☐ in the daytime 6:00 a.m. to 10 p.m.☒ at any time in the day or night as I find reasonable cause has been
established.Unless delayed notice is authorized below, you must give a copy of the warrant and a receipt for the property
taken to the person from whom, or from whose premises, the property was taken, or leave the copy and receipt at the
place where the property was taken.The officer executing this warrant, or an officer present during the execution of the warrant, must prepare an
inventory as required by law and promptly return this warrant and inventory to the Clerk of the Court.☒ Upon its return, this warrant and inventory should be filed under seal by the Clerk of the Court.KMF
USMJ Initials☐ I find that immediate notification may have an adverse result listed in 18 U.S.C. § 2705 (except for delay
of trial), and authorize the officer executing this warrant to delay notice to the person who, or whose property, will be
searched or seized (check the appropriate box) ☐ for _____ days (not to exceed 30)☐ Until, the facts justifying, the later specific date of _____

Date and time issued:

12:32 P.M.
10/30/16Kevin Nathaniel Fox
Judge's signature

City and state: New York, New York

Honorable Kevin Nathaniel Fox

Printed name and title

AO 93 (Rev. 01/09) Search and Seizure Warrant (Page 2)

Return		
Case No.:	Date and time warrant executed:	Copy of warrant and inventory left with:
Inventory made in the presence of :		
Inventory of the property taken and name of any person(s) seized:		
Certification		
<p>I declare under penalty of perjury that this inventory is correct and was returned along with the original warrant to the Court.</p>		
Date: _____	<div style="text-align: center;"> _____ <i>Executing officer's signature</i> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"> _____ <i>Printed name and title</i> </div>	

Attachment A

I. Device To Be Searched

The device to be searched is a silver Dell Inspiron 15 7000 Series (7548) laptop computer bearing service tag [REDACTED] containing a Toshiba one terabyte hard drive bearing serial number [REDACTED] (the Subject Laptop), and that is currently housed at the Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York Field Office, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, New York 10278.

II. Review of ESI on the Subject Devices

Law enforcement personnel (including, in addition to law enforcement officers and agents, and depending on the nature of the ESI and the status of the investigation and related proceedings, attorneys for the government, attorney support staff, agency personnel assisting the government in this investigation, and outside technical experts under government control) are authorized to review the ESI contained on the Subject Laptop for the following evidence, contraband, fruits, and/or other items illegally possessed in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 793(e) and (f) (the Subject Offenses):

1. Data and information associated with the operation, use, maintenance, backup, auditing, and security functions of the Subject Laptop including, but not limited to:
 - a. Emails and attachments, in any form;
 - b. User and system files stored on the laptops, including file fragments and items carved from unallocated space;
 - c. Logs, configuration files, and backups;
 - d. Executable code and scripts; and
 - e. Documents, database files, and spreadsheets;
2. Data and information electronically stored on the Subject Laptop related to communications with email accounts used by former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton during her tenure as Secretary of State;
3. Data and information on the Subject Laptop that might identify the person or persons who accessed classified information present on the Subject Laptop, including names, addresses, telephone numbers and other identifiers, email addresses, business information, the length of service (including start date), types of services utilized, means and source of payment for services (including any credit card or bank account number), and information about any domain name registration; and
4. Data and information stored on the Subject Laptop that might identify activity related to a computer intrusion, including, but not limited to evidence of malware or viruses, executable code or scripts, log files, audit files, system files, user and account information, IP addresses, computer hardware addresses, intrusion-detection logs, firewall and other network logs, anti-virus logs or anti-malware logs.

III. Seizure for Later Review of Electronically Stored Information

A. Seizure of Computer and Media

This warrant authorizes the seizure of a computer and electronic storage media as set forth below. In lieu of seizing any particular electronic storage media, this warrant also authorizes the copying of electronically stored information for later review. Electronic storage media which may be seized or copied include without limitation:

Computer devices, electronic media and electronic storage devices, including, but not limited to, a computer, disk drives, modems, thumb drives, personal digital assistants, smart phones, digital cameras, and scanners and the data within the aforesaid objects relating to said materials, which may contain information within the scope of this warrant.

Any physical keys, encryption devices, and similar physical items that are necessary to gain access to the computer equipment, storage devices or data mentioned above, or any passwords, password files, test keys, encryption codes or other information necessary to access the above-mentioned computer equipment, storage devices or data.

B. Review of Electronic Storage Media and Electronically Stored Information

Following creation of forensic image copies as may be necessary to preserve the integrity of seized electronically stored information, law enforcement personnel (who may include, in addition to law enforcement officers and agents, attorneys for the government, attorney support staff, and outside technical experts under government control) are authorized to review the seized information for information and data within the scope of this warrant.

In conducting this review, law enforcement personnel may use various techniques to determine which files or other ESI contain evidence, contraband, fruits and/or other items illegally possessed in violation of the Subject Offenses. Such techniques may include, but shall not be limited to, surveying various file directories or folders and the individual files they contain; conducting a file-by-file review by "opening" or reading the first few "pages" of such files in order to determine their precise contents; "scanning" storage areas to discover and possibly recover recently deleted data; scanning storage areas for deliberately hidden files; and performing electronic "key word" searches through all electronic storage areas to determine whether occurrences of language contained in such storage areas exist that are related to the subject matter of the investigation. Forensically trained law enforcement personnel may also search for and attempt to recover "deleted," "hidden," or encrypted data to determine whether the data falls within the list of items to be seized as set forth in this affidavit. ESI that is responsive to the warrant will be identified and/or copied for further use in the investigation and any resultant prosecution.

AO 106 (Rev. 06/09) Application for a Search Warrant

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the
Southern District of New York

In the Matter of the Search of
(Briefly describe the property to be searched
or identify the person by name and address)

A Laptop Computer, Further Described Below and in
Attachment A

16 MAG 7063
Case No.

APPLICATION FOR A SEARCH WARRANT

I, a federal law enforcement officer or an attorney for the government, request a search warrant and state under penalty of perjury that I have reason to believe that on the following person or property (identify the person or describe the property to be searched and give its location):

A Laptop Computer, Further Described As a Silver Dell Inspiron 15 7000 Series (7548) Laptop Computer Bearing Service Tag [REDACTED] Containing a Toshiba One Terabyte Hard Drive Bearing Serial Number [REDACTED]

located in the Southern District of New York, there is now concealed (identify the person or describe the property to be seized);

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED AFFIDAVIT AND ATTACHMENT A.

The basis for the search under Fed. R. Crim. P. 41(c) is (check one or more):

- ☒ evidence of a crime;
- ☒ contraband, fruits of crime, or other items illegally possessed;
- ☐ property designed for use, intended for use, or used in committing a crime;
- ☐ a person to be arrested or a person who is unlawfully restrained.

The search is related to a violation of:

Code Section	Offense Description
18 U.S.C. § 793(e) and (f)	Gathering, transmitting or losing defense information

The application is based on these facts:

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED AFFIDAVIT AND ATTACHMENT A.

- ☒ Continued on the attached sheet.
- ☐ Delayed notice of _____ days (give exact ending date if more than 30 days: _____) is requested under 18 U.S.C. § 3103a, the basis of which is set forth on the attached sheet.

Sworn to before me and signed in my presence.

Date: 10/30/2016

City and state: New York, New York

Applicant's signature

Supervisory Special Agent, FBI

Printed name and title

S/ Kevin Nathaniel Fox

Judge's signature

Honorable Kevin Nathaniel Fox

Printed name and title

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In the Matter of the Application of the United States Of America for a Search Warrant for a Laptop Computer, Further Described As a Silver Dell Inspiron 15 7000 Series (7548) Laptop Computer Bearing Service Tag [REDACTED] Containing a Toshiba One Terabyte Hard Drive Bearing Serial Number [REDACTED] and That is Currently Housed at the Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York Field Office, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, New York 10278.

TO BE FILED UNDER SEAL

Agent Affidavit in Support of
Application for Search Warrant

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK ss.:

[REDACTED], being duly sworn, deposes and says:

INTRODUCTION AND AGENT BACKGROUND

1. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

2. This affidavit relates to a criminal investigation concerning the improper transmission and storage of classified information on unclassified email systems and servers. The investigation began as a result of a review of emails undertaken by the U.S. Department of State (State Department) in connection with Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) litigation.

During this FOIA review, it was determined that certain emails containing classified information were sent and received on systems unauthorized for the transmission or storage of such information. On or about July 6, 2015, the Inspector General for the Intelligence Community notified the FBI of a potential compromise of classified information involving the emails discovered through the FOIA review. After an initial review of the matter, the FBI opened a criminal investigation to, among other things, identify any unauthorized systems which the emails in question have transited, identify any person(s) who may have introduced classified information onto unauthorized systems and all circumstances surrounding such introduction, identify any person(s) who may have transmitted such information over any such systems, and identify whether classified information has been compromised through computer intrusions or unauthorized access into these systems.

3. The FBI's investigation has established that emails containing classified information were transmitted and stored on multiple forms of electronic media. One of the items identified as having contained such emails is a server which was used by former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton (Clinton) during her tenure at the State Department to transmit, receive, and store email for a personal email account or accounts she maintained (the Clinton Server). One domain on the Clinton Server was @clintonemail.com.

4. In recent months, the FBI and the Department of Justice have made public statements concerning the conclusion of the investigation. However, as with any case, if new, pertinent information comes to light after an investigation is completed, the FBI will take appropriate investigative steps to determine the significance of that information.

5. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

6. In executing the search of the laptop computer (the Subject Laptop) [REDACTED], FBI agents sorted the emails on the Subject Laptop to segregate emails [REDACTED]. As a result, the FBI reviewed non-content header information for emails on the Subject Laptop to facilitate its search. In so doing, the FBI observed non-content header information indicating that thousands of emails of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] resided on the Subject Laptop. Because [REDACTED] emails were outside of the scope [REDACTED] the FBI did not review the content of those emails.

7. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The non-content header information that FBI agents reviewed on the Subject Laptop indicates that the emails on the Subject Laptop include emails sent and/or received by [REDACTED] and at a [REDACTED] email account appearing to belong to [REDACTED] as well as correspondence between one or both of these accounts and State Department email accounts during and around [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] The FBI's investigation of the improper transmission and storage of classified information on unclassified email systems and servers has established that emails containing classified information were transmitted through multiple email accounts used by [REDACTED] including [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] email accounts.

8. The Subject Laptop, which is a silver Dell Inspiron 15 7000 Series (7548) laptop computer bearing service tag [REDACTED] containing a Toshiba one terabyte hard drive bearing

serial number [REDACTED] is currently housed at the Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York Field Office, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, New York 10278, within the Southern District of New York, as described in Attachment A to this affidavit. There is probable cause to believe that the Subject Laptop contains evidence, contraband, fruits, and/or other items illegally possessed in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 793(e) and (f).

9. I make this affidavit in support of an application pursuant to Rule 41 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure for a warrant to search the Subject Laptop for the items and information described in Attachment A. The facts set forth in this affidavit are based on my personal knowledge, knowledge obtained during my participation in this investigation, and information from other FBI and U.S. Government personnel. Because this affidavit is submitted for the limited purpose of establishing probable cause in support of the application for a search warrant, it does not set forth each and every fact that I or others have learned during the course of this investigation. Where the contents of documents and the actions, statements, and conversations of others are reported herein, they are reported in substance and part, except where otherwise indicated.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY AND DEFINITIONS

10. For the reasons set forth below, I believe that there is probable cause to believe that the Subject Laptop contains evidence, contraband, fruits, and/or other items illegally possessed in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 793(e) and (f) (the Subject Offenses).

11. Under 18 U.S.C. § 793(e), "[w]hoever having unauthorized possession of, access to, or control over any document . . . or information relating to the national defense which information the possessor has reason to believe could be used to the injury of the United States

or to the advantage of any foreign nation, willfully communicates, delivers, transmits or causes to be communicated, delivered, or transmitted" or attempts to do or causes the same "to any person not entitled to receive it, or willfully retains the same and fails to deliver it to the officer or employee of the United States entitled to receive it" shall be fined or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both.

12. Under 18 U.S.C. § 793(f), "[w]hoever, being entrusted with or having lawful possession or control of any document . . . or information, relating to the national defense" either "(1) through gross negligence permits the same to be removed from its proper place of custody or delivered to anyone in violation of his trust, or to be lost, stolen, abstracted, or destroyed," or "(2) having knowledge that the same has been illegally removed from its proper place of custody or delivered to anyone in violation of its trust, or lost, or stolen, abstracted, or destroyed, and fails to make prompt report of such loss, theft, abstraction, or destruction to his superior officer" shall be fined or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both.

13. Under Executive Order 13526, information in any form may be classified if it: (1) is owned by, produced by or for, or is under the control of the United States Government; (2) falls within one or more of the categories set forth in the Executive Order [Top Secret, Secret, and Confidential]; and (3) is classified by an original classification authority who determines that its unauthorized disclosure reasonably could be expected to result in damage to the national security.

14. Where such unauthorized disclosure could reasonably result in damage to the national security, the information may be classified as "Confidential" and must be properly safeguarded. Where such unauthorized disclosure could reasonably result in "serious" damage to the national security, the information may be classified as "Secret" and must be properly

safeguarded. Where such unauthorized disclosure could reasonably result in "exceptionally grave" damage to the national security, the information may be classified as "Top Secret" and must be properly safeguarded.

15. Classified information, of any designation, may be shared only with persons determined by an appropriate United States Government official to be eligible for access, and who possess a "need to know." Among other requirements, in order for a person to obtain a security clearance allowing that person access to classified United States Government information, that person is required to and must agree to properly protect classified information by not disclosing such information to persons not entitled to receive it, by not unlawfully removing classified information from authorized storage facilities, and by not storing classified information in unauthorized locations. If a person is not eligible to receive classified information, classified information may not be disclosed to that person. In order for a foreign government to receive access to classified information, the originating United States agency must determine that such release is appropriate.

16. Pursuant to Executive Order 13526, classified information contained on automated information systems, including networks and telecommunications systems, that collect, create, communicate, compute, disseminate, process, or store classified information must be maintained in a manner that: (1) prevents access by unauthorized persons; and (2) ensures the integrity of the information.

17. 32 C.F.R. Parts 2001 and 2003 regulate the handling of classified information. Specifically, 32 C.F.R. § 2001.43, titled "Storage," regulates the physical protection of classified information. This section prescribes that Secret and Top Secret information "shall be stored in a GSA-approved security container, a vault built to Federal Standard (FED STD) 832, or an open

storage area constructed in accordance with § 2001.53.” It also requires periodic inspection of the container and the use of an Intrusion Detection System, among other things.

18. As used herein, the following terms have the following meaning:

a. “Computer” means an electronic, magnetic, optical, electrochemical, or other high speed data processing device performing logical, arithmetic, or storage functions, and includes any data storage facility or communications facility directly related to or operating in conjunction with such device. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 1030(e)(1).

b. “Directory” or “folder” means a simulated electronic file folder or container used to organize files and directories in a hierarchical or tree-like structure.

c. “Electronically Stored Information” or “ESI” includes, consistent with Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 41 and the Advisory Committee Comments to the 2009 amendments, writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, sound recordings, images, and other data or data compilations stored in any medium from which information can be obtained, including all types of computer-based information as may be developed over time. “Computer data” as used herein is synonymous with ESI.

d. “File” means a collection of related data or information stored as a unit under a specified name on storage medium. Not all ESI is stored in files.

PROBABLE CAUSE FOR SEARCH

19. At all times relevant to this affidavit, Clinton and [REDACTED] had security clearances, as described in paragraph 15 above.

20. As a result of a records request from the State Department, Clinton produced to the State Department approximately 30,490 email communications sent to or from Clinton at the @clintonemail.com domain that resided on Clinton’s Server. As a result of a FOIA request, the

State Department ultimately reviewed these 30,490 emails. The FOIA process implemented by the State Department required that these emails be reviewed by government agencies for classified information prior to public release. In February 2016, the State Department completed its review and determined that 2,115 of the 30,490 emails contain information that is presently classified. Out of these 2,115 emails, the State Department determined that 2,028 emails contain information classified at the Confidential level; 65 contain information classified at the Secret level; and 22 contain information classified at the Top Secret level. The State Department did not make a determination as to whether the information in these emails was classified at the time that the emails were sent.

21. The U.S. Government's determination that 2,028 emails contain information classified at the Confidential level is significant because it means that the unauthorized disclosure of those emails could result in damage to national security. The U.S. Government's determination that 65 emails contain information classified at the Secret level is significant because it means that the unauthorized disclosure of those emails could result in serious damage to national security. The U.S. Government's determination that 22 emails contain information classified at the Top Secret level is significant because it means that the unauthorized disclosure of those emails could result in exceptionally grave damage to national security.

22. In conjunction with this investigation, the FBI sought a determination by the relevant original classification authorities as to whether certain of the 30,490 emails contained classified information at the time they were sent. In response to the FBI's requests for classification determinations, the relevant original classification authorities determined that 81

email chains,¹ which the FBI investigation determined were transmitted and stored on the Clinton Server, contained classified information ranging from the Confidential to Top Secret/Special Access Program levels at the time they were sent between 2009 and 2013. The relevant original classification authorities determined that information in 68 of these email chains remains classified.

23.

24. The FBI's investigation determined that [REDACTED] using [REDACTED] various email accounts, typically communicated with Clinton's @clintonemail.com email account on a daily basis. Analysis of emails in the FBI's possession revealed more than 4,000 work-related emails

¹ For the purpose of the FBI investigation, an email chain is defined as a set of emails having the same initial email. The subject line may be edited in these chains to reflect the purpose of the forward or reply.

between [REDACTED] and Clinton from 2009 to 2013.

25. The FBI's investigation established that 27 email chains containing classified information, as determined by the relevant original classification authorities, have been transmitted through [REDACTED] and/or [REDACTED] accounts. Out of the 27 email chains, six email chains contained information that was classified at the Secret level at the time the emails were sent, and information in four of those email chains remains classified at that level now, while two email chains contain information that is currently classified at the Confidential level. Information in the remaining 21 email chains was classified at the Confidential level at the time the emails were sent, and of those 21 email chains, information in 16 of them remains classified as Confidential.

26. Given the information indicating that there are thousands of [REDACTED] emails located on the Subject Laptop – including emails, during and around [REDACTED] [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] account as well as a [REDACTED] account appearing to belong to [REDACTED] – and the regular email correspondence between [REDACTED] and Clinton, there is probable cause to believe that the Subject Laptop contains correspondence between [REDACTED] and Clinton [REDACTED]. Because it has been determined by relevant original classification authorities that many emails were exchanged between [REDACTED] using [REDACTED] and/or [REDACTED] accounts, and Clinton that contain classified information, there is also probable cause to believe that the correspondence between them located on the Subject Laptop contains classified information which was produced by and is owned by the U.S. Government. The Subject Laptop was never authorized for the storage or transmission of classified or national defense information.

27. A complete forensic analysis and review of the Subject Laptop will also allow the

FBI to determine if there is any evidence of computer intrusions into the Subject Laptop, and to determine if classified information was accessed by unauthorized users or transferred to any other unauthorized systems.

PROCEDURES FOR SEARCHING ESI

Review of ESI

28. Law enforcement personnel (including, in addition to law enforcement officers and agents, and depending on the nature of the ESI and the status of the investigation and related proceedings, attorneys for the government, attorney support staff, agency personnel assisting the government in this investigation, and outside technical experts under government control) will review the ESI contained on the Subject Laptop for information responsive to the warrant.

29. In conducting this review, law enforcement may use various techniques to determine which files or other ESI contain evidence, contraband, fruits, and/or other items illegally possessed in violation of the Subject Offenses. Such techniques may include, for example:

- surveying directories or folders and the individual files they contain (analogous to looking at the outside of a file cabinet for the markings it contains and opening a drawer believed to contain pertinent files);
- conducting a file-by-file review by "opening" or reading the first few "pages" of such files in order to determine their precise contents (analogous to performing a cursory examination of each document in a file cabinet to determine its relevance);
- "scanning" storage areas to discover and possibly recover recently deleted data; scanning storage areas for deliberately hidden files; and
- performing electronic keyword searches through all electronic storage areas to determine the existence and location of search terms related to the subject matter of the investigation. (Keyword searches alone are typically inadequate to detect all information subject to seizure. For one thing, keyword searches work only for text data, yet many types of files, such as images and videos, do not store data as searchable text. Moreover, even as to text data, there may be information properly

subject to seizure but that is not captured by a keyword search because the information does not contain the keywords being searched.)

30. Law enforcement personnel will make reasonable efforts to restrict their search to data falling within the categories of evidence specified in the warrant.

Return of the Subject Laptop

31. If the Government determines that the Subject Laptop is no longer necessary to retrieve and preserve the data on the device, and that the Subject Laptop is not subject to seizure pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 41(c), the Government will return the Subject Laptop. Computer data that is encrypted or unreadable will not be returned unless law enforcement personnel have determined that the data is not (i) an instrumentality of the offense, (ii) a fruit of the criminal activity, (iii) contraband, (iv) otherwise unlawfully possessed, or (v) evidence of the subject offenses.

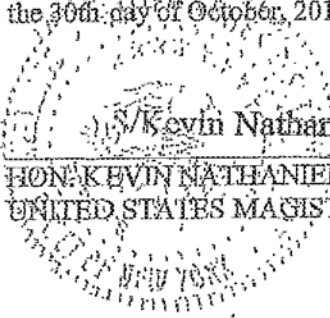
CONCLUSION

32. Based on the foregoing, I respectfully request the Court to issue a warrant to seize the items and information specified in Attachment A to this affidavit and to the Search and Seizure Warrant.

33. In light of the confidential nature of this investigation, the full scope of which is not known to [REDACTED] or the public, as well as the confidential nature of the underlying investigation in which the Subject Laptop was initially obtained by the Government, I respectfully request that this affidavit and all papers submitted herewith be maintained under seal until the Court orders otherwise.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Supervisory Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Sworn to before me on
the 30th day of October, 2016.

/s/ Kevin Nathaniel Fox
HON. KEVIN NATHANIEL FOX
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Attachment A:

I. Device To Be Searched

The device to be searched is a silver Dell Inspiron 15 7000 Series (7548) laptop computer bearing service tag [REDACTED] containing a Toshiba one terabyte hard drive bearing serial number [REDACTED] (the Subject Laptop), and that is currently housed at the Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York Field Office, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, New York 10278.

II. Review of ESI on the Subject Devices

Law enforcement personnel (including, in addition to law enforcement officers and agents, and depending on the nature of the BSI and the status of the investigation and related proceedings, attorneys for the government, attorney support staff, agency personnel assisting the government in this investigation, and outside technical experts under government control) are authorized to review the BSI contained on the Subject Laptop for the following evidence, contraband, fruits, and/or other items illegally possessed in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 793(e) and (f) (the Subject Offenses):

1. Data and information associated with the operation, use, maintenance, backup, auditing, and security functions of the Subject Laptop including, but not limited to:
 - a. Emails and attachments, in any form;
 - b. User and system files stored on the laptops, including file fragments and items carved from unallocated space;
 - c. Logs, configuration files, and backups;
 - d. Executable code and scripts; and
 - e. Documents, database files, and spreadsheets;
2. Data and information electronically stored on the Subject Laptop related to communications with email accounts used by former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton during her tenure as Secretary of State;
3. Data and information on the Subject Laptop that might identify the person or persons who accessed classified information present on the Subject Laptop, including names, addresses, telephone numbers and other identifiers, email addresses, business information, the length of service (including start date), types of services utilized, means and source of payment for services (including any credit card or bank account number), and information about any domain name registration; and
4. Data and information stored on the Subject Laptop that might identify activity related to a computer intrusion, including, but not limited to evidence of malware or viruses, executable code or scripts, log files, audit files, system files, user and account information, IP addresses, computer hardware addresses, intrusion-detection logs, firewall and other network logs, anti-virus logs or anti-malware logs.

III. Seizure for Later Review of Electronically Stored Information

A. Seizure of Computer and Media

This warrant authorizes the seizure of a computer and electronic storage media as set forth below. In lieu of seizing any particular electronic storage media, this warrant also authorizes the copying of electronically stored information for later review. Electronic storage media which may be seized or copied include without limitation:

Computer devices, electronic media and electronic storage devices, including, but not limited to, a computer, disk drives, modems, thumb drives, personal digital assistants, smart phones, digital cameras, and scanners and the data within the aforesaid objects relating to said materials, which may contain information within the scope of this warrant.

Any physical keys, encryption devices, and similar physical items that are necessary to gain access to the computer equipment, storage devices or data mentioned above, or any passwords, password files, test keys, encryption codes or other information necessary to access the above-mentioned computer equipment, storage devices or data.

B. Review of Electronic Storage Media and Electronically Stored Information

Following creation of forensic image copies as may be necessary to preserve the integrity of seized electronically stored information, law enforcement personnel (who may include, in addition to law enforcement officers and agents, attorneys for the government, attorney support staff, and outside technical experts under government control) are authorized to review the seized information for information and data within the scope of this warrant.

In conducting this review, law enforcement personnel may use various techniques to determine which files or other ESI contain evidence, contraband, fruits and/or other items illegally possessed in violation of the Subject Offenses. Such techniques may include, but shall not be limited to, surveying various file directories or folders and the individual files they contain; conducting a file-by-file review by "opening" or reading the first few "pages" of such files in order to determine their precise contents; "scanning" storage areas to discover and possibly recover recently deleted data; scanning storage areas for deliberately hidden files; and performing electronic "key word" searches through all electronic storage areas to determine whether occurrences of language contained in such storage areas exist that are related to the subject matter of the investigation. Forensically trained law enforcement personnel may also search for and attempt to recover "deleted," "hidden," or encrypted data to determine whether the data falls within the list of items to be seized as set forth in this affidavit. ESI that is responsive to the warrant will be identified and/or copied for further use in the investigation and any resultant prosecution.

AO 93 (Rev. 01/09) Search and Seizure Warrant (Page 2)

Return		
Case No.: 16 MAG 7063	Date and time warrant executed: 10/30/2016 1:57 pm	Copy of warrant and inventory left with: SSA [REDACTED]
Inventory made in the presence of: SA [REDACTED]		
Inventory of the property taken and name of any person(s) seized: Forensic image of a silver Dell Inspiron 15 7000 Series (7548) laptop computer bearing service tag [REDACTED] containing a Toshiba one terabyte hard drive bearing serial number [REDACTED]		
Certification		
I declare under penalty of perjury that this inventory is correct and was returned along with the original warrant to the Court.		
Date: 10/30/2016	<div style="text-align: center;">[REDACTED] _____ <i>Executing officer's signature</i> SSA [REDACTED] FBI _____ <i>Printed name and title</i></div>	

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 11:05 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: update

Could also be Laufman o [REDACTED] Don't think it's George. Looking forward to having you back... ;)

b6 -2
b7C -2

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 10:13 AM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: update

b5 -1, 3
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 04/21/2017 5:32 AM (GMT-08:00)
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Cc: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: update

b5 -1, 3
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

b5 -1, 3
b6 -1
b7C -1

Lisa, not sure if you have anything to add, especially w/r/t the timing of DOJHQ knowing.

[REDACTED] I'll read what you dropped off yesterday afternoon and get back to you.

Thanks,
Pete

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 7:22 AM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: update

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

The latest from the writer:

----- Original message -----

From: Peter Elkind [REDACTED]
Date: 4/20/17 11:05 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: update

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you'll have some news for me tomorrow on how we're moving forward. My editors are eager to wrap

FBI (18-cv-154)-10976

this up and publish.

On the substance of my query about the October period: I just re-read the Oct. 30 search warrant and affidavit for Weiner's computer, released in redacted form pursuant to a civil suit. On p. 8 of the document, which I've attached, it describes the process of discovering Clinton stuff this way:

In executing the search of the laptop computer (the Subject Laptop) REDACTED, FBI agents sorted the emails on the Subject Laptop to segregate emails REDACTED. As a result, the FBI reviewed non-content header information for emails on the Subject Laptop to facilitate its search. In so doing, the FBI observed non-content header information indicating that thousands of emails of REDACTED resided on the Subject Laptop. Because REDACTED emails were outside the scope REDACTED, the FBI did not review the content of these emails.

It goes on to explain that because the header info agents reviewed shows emails sent and received between (presumably) Weiner and Clinton (as well as other state department accounts) during the time she served as secretary of state—and the FBI's previous investigation showed some such emails on these accounts are classified--there's probable cause for a warrant.

In short, this clearly states that the initial process of sorting emails revealed header information that was the sufficient basis for probable cause: "thousands" of emails, as well as details on sender, recipient and dates. This (even more definitively than the press reports) seems inconsistent with the notion of initially discovering just a few emails, then slowly moving forward, over 2-3 weeks, with the sex-crimes search to stumble across enough Clinton info to have enough for probable cause. And there's no mention of anything like that happening in the affidavit.

Presumably the sorting would be done right after indexing the computer, which (I'm told) shouldn't take more than a couple of days.

I hope we can clarify all this soon.

Thanks,
Peter

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 6:16 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: NYT

Maybe you can show your parents before you go!!!!

-----Original Message-----

From: Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 6:09 PM
To: Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: McCabe, Andrew G. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Bowdich, David L. (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: NYT

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

All: The long-awaited NYT story will post-online sometime tomorrow, and run in Sunday's paper. M.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 12:15 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Report: Senate's Russia probe understaffed (TheHill)

fyi

From: [REDACTED] (SF) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 10:48 AM
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Report: Senate's Russia probe understaffed (TheHill)

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Hi [REDACTED] and Pete,

Just FYI on potential staffing enhancements to the SSCI panel.

Thanks,

SSA [REDACTED]
FBI Office of Congressional Affairs
W [REDACTED]
C: [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 7:19 AM
Subject: Report: Senate's Russia probe understaffed (TheHill)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Report: Senate's Russia probe understaffed

By Cyra Master - 04/23/17 09:26 PM EDT 398

© Greg Nash

The Senate Intelligence Committee's probe into Russian election interference has no full-time dedicated staff, a Daily Beast report revealed Sunday.

Three months into the committee's investigation, there are no staff members dedicated to it full-time, those working on it do not have backgrounds in investigative experience and no interviews have been conducted with key players, The Daily Beast added.

It appears to be progressing at a slower pace than other committee investigations, it added.

Two sources familiar with the matter told the site that neither Michael Flynn, Roger Stone, Carter Page, Paul Manafort nor Jared Kushner have been interviewed.

"It's either a real investigation or not," an individual with knowledge of the committee's activities said. "You have to have an approved investigative guide. You have to make it formal.

"Can you have a credible investigation with only seven part-time staffers, doing everything in secret?"

So far, the committee has been focused on reviewing an Intelligence Community Assessment that concluded that Russia, with a preference for Donald Trump, had tried to interfere with the U.S. presidential election.

The public version of that assessment did not draw conclusions about ties between Russia and the Trump team.

The committee announced earlier that seven staff members had been assigned to review documents relating to the investigation. But the Daily Beast reports that of none the seven have investigative experience or is a lawyer.

And most also lack a background in Russian affairs.

But two new staffers will be added soon, the Daily Beast added, one with extensive legal skills.

A spokesperson for the chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee declined to comment to the site on Sunday evening.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 5:35 PM
To: Sporre, Eric W. (CYD) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Archey, David W. (WMD) (FBI)
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: 702 Renewal

b6 -1
b7C -1

Likewise.

-----Original Message-----

From: Sporre, Eric W. (CYD) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 4:49 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
>: Archey, David W. (WMD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: 702 Renewal

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

No problem Lisa. I will check with [REDACTED] and circle back with you.

Eric

-----Original Message-----

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 3:15 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Sporre, Eric W. (CYD) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Archey, David W. (WMD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: 702 Renewal

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Gents,

Pardon the quick interruption, but I wanted to ask for each of your help in identifying an individual to participate in 702-related matters until we get through re-authorization in December. The email below went to the EADs and ADs, but it might not have been clear who had the action to respond. In light of that, if you could please check with your ADs about staffing this effort and respond to [REDACTED] and I that would be greatly appreciated. Happy to answer question if you have them. Thanks!

Lisa

-----Original Message-----

From: Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 10:12 AM
To: Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Mendenhall, Bradley G. (CTD) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI) [REDACTED]
(CYD) (FBI) [REDACTED] Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Skule,
[REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

FBI (18-cv-154)-10994

Joshua (DI) (FBI) [redacted] Adams, John S. (NF) (FBI) [redacted]
Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)
[redacted] Jones, Robert A. (WMD) (FBI) [redacted] Piehota,
Christopher M. (NS) (FBI) [redacted] (OTD) (FBI)

Cc: Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI) [redacted] (DO) (FBI)
[redacted] (DO) (OGA) [redacted] Page, Lisa C.
(OGC) (FBI) [redacted] Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
Miller, Karen D. (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
[redacted] (DO) (FBI) [redacted]
(OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted] (OGC) (FBI)
[redacted] (OTD) (FBI) [redacted]
[redacted] (OGC) (FBI) [redacted]

Subject: 702 Renewal

Folks,

I have cancelled the 702 strategy meeting for tomorrow afternoon since many folks will be away. In preparation for the briefing with the Director on Tuesday regarding this topic, I will try to pull together a short overview paper that I will circulate beforehand.

In the meantime, if CCRSB, STB, CTD, CD, CyD, WMDD, DI, OTD, OCA, and OPA could identify people who can help on the 702 working group from now until December, that would help us jump start this process. [redacted] will be the point person here in OGC (with support from many others). Carl has already identified [redacted] for NSB.

Thanks,

Jim

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 12:41 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE:

I really really glad about [redacted];) And I want to hear about it.

b6 -1
b7C -1

I'm really frustrated about the other, too. It's why I asked to talk (though now that I know about [redacted] want to hear that as well). I just wrote it all here then deleted it. Will save it for in person.

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [redacted]
Date: 4/25/17 12:22 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [redacted]
Subject:

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I just had an excellent, very honest, very productive conversation with [redacted] about a range of issues. We talked for nearly an hour and a half. I appreciate the suggestion that I do so.

But damn, I'm really frustrated about the other issue. Ttyl.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 5:03 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Sporre, Eric W. (CYD) (FBI); Archey, David W. (WMD) (FBI)
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: 702 Renewal

b6 -1
b7C -1

I'll serve as CD's initial rep, depending on the needs of the group will adjust and get the right people from CD there.

-----Original Message-----

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 3:15 PM
To: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Sporre, Eric W. (CYD) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Archey, David W. (WMD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: 702 Renewal

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Gents,

Pardon the quick interruption, but I wanted to ask for each of your help in identifying an individual to participate in 702-related matters until we get through re-authorization in December. The email below went to the EADs and ADs, but it might not have been clear who had the action to respond. In light of that, if you could please check with your ADs about staffing this effort and respond to [REDACTED] and I that would be greatly appreciated. Happy to answer question if you have them. Thanks!

Lisa

-----Original Message-----

From: Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 10:12 AM
To: Ghattas, Carl (CTD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Mendenhall, Bradley G. (CTD) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
(CYD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Abbate, Paul M. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] Skule,
Joshua (DI) (FBI); [REDACTED] Adams, John S. (NF) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED] Jones, Robert A. (WMD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Piehota,
Christopher M. (NS) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OTD) (FBI)
Cc: Rybicki, James E. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED] (DO) (OGA); [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C.
(OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Miller, Karen D. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED]
(OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)

[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED] (OTD) (FBI)

[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)

Subject: 702 Renewal

Folks,

I have cancelled the 702 strategy meeting for tomorrow afternoon since many folks will be away. In preparation for the briefing with the Director on Tuesday regarding this topic, I will try to pull together a short overview paper that I will circulate beforehand.

In the meantime, if CCRSB, STB, CTD, CD, CyD, WMDD, DI, OTD, OCA, and OPA could identify people who can help on the 702 working group from now until December, that would help us jump start this process. [REDACTED] will be the point person here in OGC (with support from many others). Carl has already identified [REDACTED] for NSB.

b6 -1
b7C -1

Thanks.

Jim

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 6:24 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Red side email

b6 -1
b7C -1

FYSA

-----Original Message-----

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 6:24 PM
To: Toscas, George (NSD) (JMD); [REDACTED] Gauhar, Tashina (ODAG) (JMD)
[REDACTED]
Cc: Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Red side email

b5 -1
b6 -1, 2
b7C -1, 2
b7E -6

George, Tash,
I'm wondering if you've had a chance to review my email on the red side [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Thanks,
Pete

-----Original Message-----

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 2:44 PM
To: Toscas, George (NSD) (JMD); [REDACTED] Gauhar, Tashina (ODAG) (JMD)
[REDACTED]
Cc: Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: Red side email

b6 -1, 2
b7C -1, 2
b7E -6

George, just sent you an email with request on the red side. Tash, you're cc'ed.
Thanks,
Pete

Peter P. Strzok II
Deputy Assistant Director, Branch I
Counterintelligence Division

[REDACTED] (O)
[REDACTED] (C)

b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 8:15 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Your thanks

b6 -1
b7C -1

Damn. Nice job. I don't think I can afford your services. Unless by "furs" you mean the pelts they tan out here in the country, down by the mill and general store. ?

[REDACTED] in ogc had a bunch of good ideas about [REDACTED]

b5 -1
b6 -1
b7C -6

[REDACTED] We should discuss tomorrow, I said id get back to her after I raised them with you.

Also my stupid Samsung didn't deliver either of your emails until 2 minutes ago.

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/25/17 6:49 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"

b5 -3
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED]
Subject: Your thanks.

Can come in the form of fine jewelry or furs: I successfully killed [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] If it gets raised by the interested parties, we'll brief it, but certainly not by my boss and likely will try to contain the brief to only that which is relevant to their inquiry, at least as a starting point. ?

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 8:17 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: Your thanks

[REDACTED]

b6 -1

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Date: 4/25/17 8:08 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Your thanks

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

What would we do without you?

Pete - Looks like you're up.

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 04/25/2017 6:49 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: Your thanks

b5 -3
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Can come in the form of fine jewelry or furs: I successfully killed [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] IF it gets raised by the interested parties, we'll brief it, but certainly not by my boss, and likely will try to contain the brief to only that which is relevant to their inquiry, at least as a starting point. ☺

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 8:30 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Your thanks

b6 -1
b7C -1

Thursday [REDACTED] what kind of food strikes your fancy?

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/25/17 8:21 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Your thanks

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

OH YEAH WE DO. This week or next work for me. Just can't do this Friday.

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 04/25/2017 8:16 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Your thanks

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I'm up to what? Interview?

b6 -1

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Date: 4/25/17 8:08 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Your thanks

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

What would we do without you?

Pete - Looks like you're up.

...

----- Original message -----

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 04/25/2017 6:49 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

"Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"

Subject: Your thanks

Can come in the form of fine jewelry or furs: I successfully killed [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] If it gets raised by the interested parties, we'll brief it, but certainly not by my boss and likely will try to contain the brief to only that which is relevant to their inquiry, at least as a starting point. ☺

b5 -3
b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 1:20 PM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: RE: CONGRESSIONAL FROM SENATOR GRASSLEY RE: RUSSIAN HACKING

Funny I never got the original at 1:15 - did she retract or is my UNET all f*cked up?

-----Original Message-----

From: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 1:18 PM
To: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: CONGRESSIONAL FROM SENATOR GRASSLEY RE: RUSSIAN HACKING
Importance: High

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I called Beth already and told her that she included the wrong [REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 1:15 PM
To: Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD)
(FBI); [REDACTED] Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
[REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: CONGRESSIONAL FROM SENATOR GRASSLEY RE: RUSSIAN HACKING
Importance: High

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Just making sure you've seen the attached, particularly in light of next week's hearing.

Beth Beers
FBI Office of Congressional Affairs
[REDACTED]

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 1:36 PM
To: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI); Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Cc: [REDACTED] (PT) (FBI)
Subject: RE: CONGRESSIONAL FROM SENATOR GRASSLEY RE: RUSSIAN HACKING

b6 -1
b7C -1

I read the Hill article footnoted in the letter. The entirety of its content is a recounting of certain elements of the NYT piece; I did not note any new information in it.

-----Original Message-----

From: Beers, Elizabeth R. (DO) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 1:19 PM
To: Brower, Gregory (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Cc: [REDACTED] (PT) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Subject: CONGRESSIONAL FROM SENATOR GRASSLEY RE: RUSSIAN HACKING
Importance: High

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Re-sending w. [REDACTED] v. [REDACTED] - apologies for the misfire...

b6 -1
b7C -1

Just making sure you've seen the attached, particularly in light of next week's hearing.

Beth Beers
FBI Office of Congressional Affairs
[REDACTED]

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: SSCI discussion/prep

Location: 4017

Start: Friday, April 28, 2017 2:30 PM

End: Friday, April 28, 2017 3:45 PM

Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Required Attendees: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]
(CD) (FBI) [redacted] (CD) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)

When: Apr 28, 2017 2:30:00 PM

Where: 4017

--

Please do not forward or invite others [redacted] plus forward to cyber ica drafter.

b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: SSCI discussion/prep

Location: 4017

Start: Friday, April 28, 2017 2:30 PM

End: Friday, April 28, 2017 3:45 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Required Attendees: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]
(CD) (FBI); [redacted] (CD) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)

When: Apr 28, 2017 2:30:00 PM

Where: 4017

Please do not forward or invite others. [redacted] plus forward to cyber ica drafter.

b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Subject: SSCI discussion/prep

Location: 4017

Start: Friday, April 28, 2017 2:30 PM

End: Friday, April 28, 2017 3:45 PM

Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

Required Attendees: [redacted] (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [redacted]
(CD) (FBI); [redacted] (CD) (FBI); Moffa, Jonathan C. (CD) (FBI)

When: Apr 28, 2017 2:30:00 PM

Where: 4017

--
Please do not forward or invite others [redacted] plus forward to cyber ica drafter.

b6 -1
b7C -1

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 4:04 PM
To: Baker, James A. (OGC) (FBI); Anderson, Trisha B. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (OGC) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Priestap, E. W. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: April Doss will join Senate Intelligence Committee Russia investigation

b6 -1
b7C -1

Any insight? Don't know that I'm keen for more of NSA's legal perspective informing the committee.

<http://www.businessinsider.com/april-doss-will-join-senate-intelligence-committee-russia-investigation-2017-4>

A former top NSA lawyer is joining the Senate's Trump-Russia probe

 april.doss

Screenshot/News One

The former head of intelligence law at the National Security Agency (NSA), April Doss, has been hired to work on the Senate Intelligence Committee's investigation into Russia's interference in the 2016 election, her law firm confirmed in a press release on Wednesday.

Doss, who spent over a decade at the NSA and now chairs the Cybersecurity and Privacy practice at Saul Ewing, LLP, will serve as the committee's special counsel as it examines "allegations that Russia participated in a disinformation campaign intended to benefit President Donald Trump, and claims of potential collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia," the firm said.

Doss will join the committee on May 1.

The former NSA attorney testified before the House Judiciary Committee on March 1, 2017 in a public hearing over the reauthorization of Section 702 of the FISA Amendments Act, according to her firm, which hired her one year ago.

"The SSCI investigation is critically important, and it'll be a privilege to return to public service in this role," Doss said.

A Senate source confirmed to Business Insider that Doss has been hired to work on the investigation but will not be "leading the probe." A source close to Doss said that she was brought on by the committee's Vice Chairman, Democratic Senator Mark Warner, and will be working full time on the committee's Russia investigation.

Doss' hire comes amid reports that the SSCI's Russia investigation has stalled amid partisan bickering and staffing problems, but the source close to Doss said that was not a factor in the decision to bring her on, which has been in the works for about a month.

Yahoo's Michael Isikoff reported earlier this week that, more than three months into the committee's investigation, it hasn't issued any subpoenas or requested any key documents such as emails, memos, and phone records from the Trump campaign, and has essentially descended into a "standoff."

The committee's Russia investigation is also severely understaffed, the Daily Beast and Reuters reported. The seven staffers who are working on it are doing so part-time, and none has relevant legal or investigative experience.

The partisan bickering and lack of resources - problems that have plagued both the House and Senate intelligence committees - have fueled calls from legal and intelligence experts to establish an independent select committee.

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 7:49 PM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1

This better be the most fawning piece since The FBI Story. Somehow I have doubts...

On the road, I will read later tonight and send comments

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Date: 4/26/17 7:46 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO)
(FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I am sure he will send many more q's.

----- Original message -----

From: Peter Elkind [REDACTED]
Date: 4/26/17 7:20 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: fact check #1

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED]

Thanks for quick callback. Here's a first small batch of straightforward details for fact-check purposes. Please let me know if anything here, in your view, is incorrect. There are also some clarification questions below.

Thanks,
Peter

COMET BACKGROUND

—As he described in July 2016 congressional testimony, he's been registered as a republican most of his adult life but "not registered any longer" as Republican. Our understanding is that this simply

FBI (18-cv-154)-11017

has been the only one registered any longer as Republican. Our understanding is that this simply resulted from his move from Connecticut to Virginia, where voters don't declare a party affiliation.

—Our check of records in states where he's lived shows Comey hasn't voted in any primary or general election for the past decade.

--After becoming director, he announced plans to visit all 56 field offices four times during his tenure; now on second round of visits

--FBI has 36,500 agents and staff

CLINTON INVESTIGATION

--Probe began with IC and State Dept IGs referral, officially opened 7/10/15

--Initially supervised by John Giacalone

—Peter Strzok is now deputy assistant director for counterintelligence. Please give me his full title at time the investigation began:

—about 30 analysts and agents worked on the Clinton case

—near end of the investigation, Comey ordered up files on about 30 previous cases where government had investigated mishandling of classified information. Read over the records personally, reviewed history on how these matters treated, satisfying himself with tentative conclusion that Clinton should not face charges

—investigation lasted a year and involved more than 90 interviews; identified 193 classified messages, per LHM and other investigative documents

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 8:30 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)
Subject: Fwd: fact check #1

Do we really need to meet/talk about this? There are going to be 10 more. And his attitude makes me angry

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/27/17 7:13 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED] shall I come to you and we can call Pete from somewhere down there? If not, my office is fine too.

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 04/27/2017 6:49 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Okay. Sounds good.

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/26/17 9:36 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Works for me

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

FBI (18-cv-154)-11024

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Date: 4/26/17 9:21 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"

[REDACTED] Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: fact check #1

Shall we say 11:30?

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 04/26/2017 7:59 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)"

[REDACTED] Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Whatever is the easiest for you and Lisa.

Anytime from 1130 on would work well for me. Lisa, please let us know what time would work for you.

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 4/26/17 7:53 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)"

[REDACTED] Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I can. 500 miles of beautiful Midwest highway. Just let me know a time.

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 4/26/17 7:50 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)"

[REDACTED] Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Might be easiest to chat tomorrow, if Pete can call in.

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 04/26/2017 7:46 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"

[REDACTED] Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO)

(FBI)" [REDACTED]

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Subject: Fwd: fact check #1

I am sure he will send many more q's.

----- Original message -----

From: Peter Elkind [REDACTED]

Date: 4/26/17 7:20 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED]

Thanks for quick callback. Here's a first small batch of straightforward details for fact-check purposes. Please let me know if anything here, in your view, is incorrect. There are also some clarification questions below.

Thanks,
Peter

COMEY BACKGROUND

—As he described in July 2016 congressional testimony, he's been registered as a republican most of his adult life but "not registered any longer" as Republican. Our understanding is that this simply resulted from his move from Connecticut to Virginia, where voters don't declare a party affiliation.

—Our check of records in states where he's lived shows Comey hasn't voted in any primary or general election for the past decade.

--After becoming director, he announced plans to visit all 56 field offices four times during his tenure; now on second round of visits

--FBI has 36,500 agents and staff

CLINTON INVESTIGATION

--Probe began with IC and State Dept IGs referral, officially opened 7/10/15

--Initially supervised by John Giacalone

—Peter Strzok is now deputy assistant director for counterintelligence. Please give me his full title at time the investigation began:

—about 30 analysts and agents worked on the Clinton case

—near end of the investigation, Comey ordered up files on about 30 previous cases where government had investigated mishandling of classified information. Read over the records personally, reviewed history on how these matters treated, satisfying himself with tentative conclusion that Clinton should not face charges

—investigation lasted a year and involved more than 90 interviews; identified 193 classified messages, per LHM and other investigative documents

Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 11:27 AM
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI); Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI); Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI); [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: fact check #1

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1

OK call my personal cell [REDACTED]

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Date: 4/27/17 11:17 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I think Lisa suggested we call you once we have our full quorum.

From: Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 11:15 AM
To: Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Am I calling you? What # should i use?

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/27/17 7:13 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED] shall I come to you and we can call Pete from somewhere down there? If not, my office is fine too.

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Date: 04/27/2017 6:49 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)
Subject: RE: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Okay. Sounds good.

FBI (18-cv-154)-11032

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/26/17 9:36 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Works for me

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/26/17 9:21 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Shall we say 11:30?

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 04/26/2017 7:59 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

Whatever is the easiest for you and Lisa.

Anytime from 1130 on would work well for me. Lisa, please let us know what time would work for you.

----- Original message -----

From: "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Date: 4/26/17 7:53 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)"
[REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I can. 500 miles of beautiful Midwest highway. Just let me know a time.

----- Original message -----

From: "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 4/26/17 7:50 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI) [REDACTED] "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)"

[REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

(DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: fact check #1

Might be easiest to chat tomorrow, if Pete can call in.

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

----- Original message -----

From: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Date: 04/26/2017 7:46 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Kortan, Michael P. (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED] "Strzok, Peter P. (CD) (FBI)"

[REDACTED] "Page, Lisa C. (OGC) (FBI)" [REDACTED] (DO)

(FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: Fwd: fact check #1

b6 -1
b7C -1
b7E -6

I am sure he will send many more q's.

----- Original message -----

From: Peter Elkind [REDACTED]

Date: 4/26/17 7:20 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: [REDACTED] (DO) (FBI)" [REDACTED]

Subject: fact check #1

b6 -1, 3
b7C -1
b7E -6

[REDACTED]

Thanks for quick callback. Here's a first small batch of straightforward details for fact-check purposes. Please let me know if anything here, in your view, is incorrect. There are also some clarification questions below.

Thanks,

Peter

COMET BACKGROUND

—As he described in July 2016 congressional testimony, he's been registered as a republican most of his adult life but "not registered any longer" as Republican. Our understanding is that this simply resulted from his move from Connecticut to Virginia, where voters don't declare a party affiliation.

—Our check of records in states where he's lived shows Comey hasn't voted in any primary or general election for the past decade.

--After becoming director, he announced plans to visit all 56 field offices four times during his tenure; now on second round of visits

--FBI has 36,500 agents and staff

CLINTON INVESTIGATION

- Probe began with IC and State Dept IGs referral, officially opened 7/10/15
- Initially supervised by John Giacalone
- Peter Strzok is now deputy assistant director for counterintelligence. Please give me his full title at time the investigation began:
- about 30 analysts and agents worked on the Clinton case
- near end of the investigation, Come ordered up files on about 30 previous cases where government had investigated mishandling of classified information. Read over the records personally, reviewed history on how these matters treated, satisfying himself with tentative conclusion that Clinton should not face charges
- investigation lasted a year and involved more than 90 interviews, identified 193 classified messages, per LHM and other investigative documents