

The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552)

FOIA Exemptions

- (b)(1) Information specifically authorized by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. Executive Order 13526 includes the following classification categories:
- 1.4(a) Military plans, systems, or operations
 - 1.4(b) Foreign government information
 - 1.4(c) Intelligence activities, sources or methods, or cryptology
 - 1.4(d) Foreign relations or foreign activities of the US, including confidential sources
 - 1.4(e) Scientific, technological, or economic matters relating to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(f) U.S. Government programs for safeguarding nuclear materials or facilities
 - 1.4(g) Vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to US national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(h) Weapons of mass destruction
- (b)(2) Related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency
- (b)(3) Specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 USC 552), for example:
- | | |
|----------------|---|
| ARMSEXP | Arms Export Control Act, 50a USC 2411(c) |
| CIA PERS/ORG | Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 USC 403(g) |
| EXPORT CONTROL | Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 USC App. Sec. 2411(c) |
| FS ACT | Foreign Service Act of 1980, 22 USC 4004 |
| INA | Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC 1202(f), Sec. 222(i) |
| IRAN | Iran Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 99-99, Sec. 505 |
- (b)(4) Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information
- (b)(5) Interagency or intra-agency communications forming part of the deliberative process, attorney-client privilege, or attorney work product
- (b)(6) Personal privacy information
- (b)(7) Law enforcement information whose disclosure would:
- (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings
 - (B) deprive a person of a fair trial
 - (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
 - (D) disclose confidential sources
 - (E) disclose investigation techniques
 - (F) endanger life or physical safety of an individual
- (b)(8) Prepared by or for a government agency regulating or supervising financial institutions
- (b)(9) Geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells
- Other Grounds for Withholding**
- NR Material not responsive to a FOIA request excised with the agreement of the requester

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

From: John Herbst [redacted] **B6**
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2019 12:39 PM
To: Hale, David
Cc: rpopadiuk [redacted]; spifer [redacted]; pascualce [redacted]; wtaylor [redacted]
John and Mariella Tefft [redacted]
Subject: For Your Consideration
Attachments: Letter to Under Secretary Hale.pdf

RELEASE IN
PART B6

[redacted]

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

John Herbst | Director, Eurasia Center

B6

RELEASE IN PART
B6

Ambassador (Ret.)

1030 15th Street, NW, 12th Floor | Washington, DC 20005

T: | Cell: | Email:

www.facebook.com/AtlanticCouncil | [@JohnEdHerbst](https://twitter.com/JohnEdHerbst) | www.AtlanticCouncil.org

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

B6

[Redacted]

From: Hale, David RELEASE IN PART
B6
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2019 12:44 PM
To: Brechbuhl, Thomas U
Cc: Reeker, Philip T; [Redacted]
Subject: Fwd: For Your Consideration
Attachments: image003.jpg; ATT00001.htm; Letter to Under Secretary Hale.pdf; ATT00002.htm

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: John Herbst [Redacted]
Date: April 8, 2019 at 12:38:39 PM EDT
To: "haldm" [Redacted]
Cc: "rpopadiuk" [Redacted], "spifer" [Redacted],
 "pascualce" [Redacted], "wtaylor" [Redacted], John and
 Mariella Teff [Redacted]
Subject: For Your Consideration

Dear David,

Attached is a letter signed by five of our colleagues and myself regarding the ungrounded attack by the Ukrainian Prosecutor General on our Embassy in Kyiv and Ambassador Yovanovitch. This attack was in fact prompted by the Ambassador and Embassy's strong advocacy of Washington policy on reform issues. Thank you for our attention to this this.

If you have any questions and would like further information, we are at your disposal.

Best,
John

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

1

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

From: Reeker, Philip T
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2019 7:37 PM
To: Brechbuhl, Thomas U
Subject: Fw: Six former Ambassadors to Ukraine sign letter of support to P and C
Attachments: Letter to Under Secretary Hale.pdf

RELEASE IN PART
B5, B6

Ulrich,
Thanks for meeting this afternoon.

[Redacted]

B5

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

I'm reachable over this period in Stuttgart, Brussels, Ramstein, and Berlin.

[Redacted]

B6

Best, Phil

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

Attached is a letter signed by five of our colleagues and myself regarding the ungrounded attack by the Ukrainian Prosecutor General on our Embassy in Kyiv and Ambassador Yovanovitch. This attack was in fact prompted by the Ambassador and Embassy's strong advocacy of Washington policy on reform issues. Thank you for our attention to this this.

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Best,

John Herbst

Official

UNCLASSIFIED

[Redacted]

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

1

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NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

RELEASE IN
PART B6

B6

[Redacted]

From: John Herbst [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, April 09, 2019 3:16 AM
To: Brechbuhl, Thomas U
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: Fwd: For Your Consideration
Attachments: image003.jpg; ATT00001.htm; Letter to Under Secretary Hale.pdf; ATT00002.htm

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

1

RELEASE IN PART
B6



Atlantic Council

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2019-06332 Doc No. C06845998 Date: 11/22/2019

John Herbst | Director, Eurasia Center

Ambassador (Ret.)

B6

1030 15th Street, NW, 12th Floor | Washington, DC 20005

T: [REDACTED] | Cell: [REDACTED] | Email:

[REDACTED]

www.facebook.com/AtlanticCouncil | [@JohnEdHerbst](https://twitter.com/JohnEdHerbst) |
www.AtlanticCouncil.org

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

From: Hale, David
Sent: Monday, April 15, 2019 10:54 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: FW: For Your Consideration
Attachments: Letter to Under Secretary Hale.pdf

RELEASE IN PART
B6

B6

Not sure what to do with this

From: John Herbst
Sent: Monday, April 8, 2019 12:39 PM
To: Hale, David
Cc: rpopadiuk [redacted]; spifer [redacted]; pascualce [redacted]; wtaylor [redacted]; John and Mariella Tefft;
Subject: For Your Consideration

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1030 15th Street, NW, 12th Floor | Washington, DC 20005
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From: Brechbuhl, Thomas U
Sent: Tuesday, April 09, 2019 11:59 PM
To: John Herbst
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Re: For Your Consideration

RELEASE IN PART B6

B6

Thank you for your concern and offer. It's much appreciated.

Ulrich

T. Ulrich Brechbühl
Counselor, U.S. Department of State

On Apr 9, 2019, at 2:19 AM, John Herbst [redacted] wrote:

Dear Mr. Brechbuhl,

We provide this for your information. As we offered David, we would be happy to provide further information to you if you would like.

Thanks for your attention to this.

Best,
John

From: John Herbst [redacted]
Date: April 8, 2019 at 12:38:39 PM EDT
To: "haledm [redacted]"
Cc: "rpopadiuk [redacted]"
"spifer [redacted]"
"pascualce [redacted]"
"wtaylor [redacted]" John and
Mariella Tefft [redacted]
[redacted]
Subject: For Your Consideration

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John

John Herbst | Director, Eurasia Center
Ambassador (Ret.)
1030 15th Street, NW, 12th Floor | Washington, DC
20005

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T: [REDACTED] | Cell: [REDACTED] Email:
[REDACTED]

www.facebook.com/AtlanticCouncil | [@JohnEdHerbst](https://twitter.com/JohnEdHerbst) |
www.AtlanticCouncil.org

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

2

The Hon. David Hale
Under Secretary for Political Affairs
2201 C St NW
Washington, DC 20520

RELEASE IN FULL

April 5, 2019

Dear Under Secretary Hale:

We are former US Ambassadors to Ukraine who have served under both Republican and Democratic presidents, and who follow events in Ukraine carefully. We are deeply concerned by recent uncorroborated allegations questioning the work of the US Embassy in Kyiv and Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch. These charges are simply wrong.

Two articles by John Solomon -- in The Hill over the past several weeks and echoed in other media -- claim without credible evidence, that the US Embassy in Kyiv under Yovanovitch interfered in the Prosecutor General of Ukraine's ability to investigate anti-corruption cases. Based on hearsay, the articles also claim that the ambassador criticized President Donald Trump in talks with Ukrainian interlocutors. There are several problems with these claims.

First, Ambassador Yovanovitch is an esteemed career diplomat who has served both Republican and Democratic presidents. She was appointed ambassador to Ukraine by President Barack Obama. President George W. Bush appointed her as ambassador to both Kyrgyzstan and Armenia. She has a flawless record as a diplomat. We know her well. She is a professional of the highest integrity.

The second problem is that the articles evidence no familiarity with Ukrainian politics. Solomon takes the word of Ukraine's Prosecutor General at face value and describes him as a reformer. But many Ukrainian and foreign observers regard his reform record as prosecutor general as, at best, mixed.

Finally, the charges that Ambassador Yovanovitch badmouthed President Trump come from a letter that then-Congressman Pete Sessions sent to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo last May. As you know, the Secretary took no action, presumably because there was no evidence.

The alleged behavior attributed to Ambassador Yovanovitch are simply foreign to her ethics and professional demeanor. But we know that there are vested interests in Ukraine clearly unhappy with her championing the US government's strong reform advocacy, and these vested interests are not above smear tactics.

If the attack on Ambassador Yovanovitch were to gain traction, it would be an injustice against her and against reformers in Ukraine. Millions of Ukrainians took to the streets in the 2014 Maidan Revolution to bring transparency and accountability to Ukrainian politics. An alliance to sustain this momentum ensued -- of civil society (NGOs like the Anti-Corruption Action Center and Transparency International Ukraine); reformers at the ministerial level (like former Finance Minister Natalie Jaresko, former Finance Minister Oleksandr Danylyuk, Naftohaz Chief Andriy Kobolyev, and Health Minister Ulana Suprun); and the international community (including the IMF, the EBRD, the United States, and the European Union). This alliance has made it easier for the top leadership -- President Poroshenko and first Prime Ministers Yatsenyuk and then Groisman -- to make difficult reform decisions. Progress has not always been even, but the direction toward a democratically controlled Ukraine is profound.

The stories against the US Embassy and Ambassador Yovanovitch were partly designed to weaken that alliance; if the alliance is weaker, it will be harder to take effective action against corruption. Simple justice demands that that not happen.

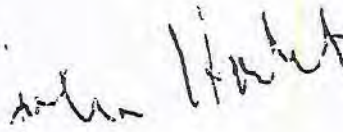
Further, allowing these attacks on a US ambassador in the field to stand without strong rebuttal from senior officials in the US government weakens the structure of our diplomatic engagement. We look forward to hearing that support.

We trust that we are preaching to the choir. But we wanted to be sure that you have our views.

Sincerely,



Roman Popadiuk
First U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine



John Herbst
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Third U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine

William Taylor
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Mark Pasena
Fourth U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine

J. Tefft
Seventh U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine

cc: Counselor T. Ulrich B...buhl

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Under Secretary for Political Affairs
2201 C St NW
Washington, DC 20520

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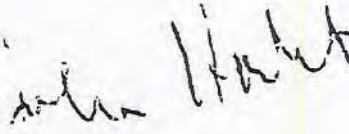
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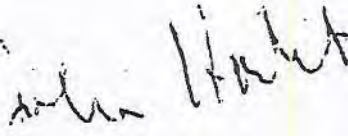
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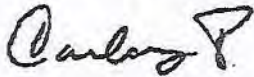
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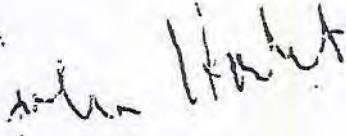
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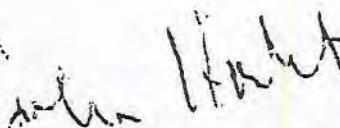
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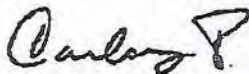
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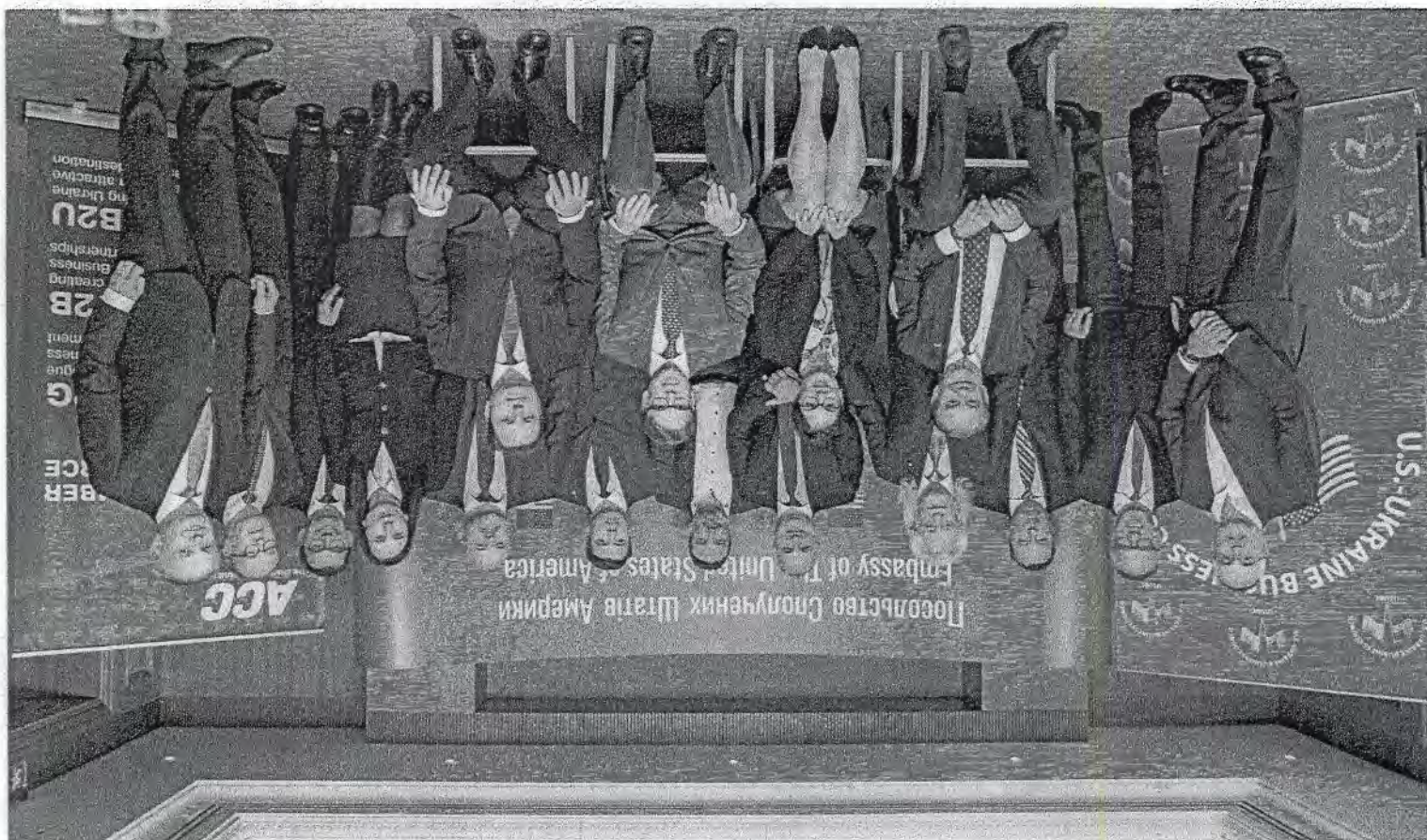
Carol P. Pascoal
Fourth U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine

J. Jeffrey
Seventh U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine

cc: Counselor T. Ulrich Brantbuhl







RELEASE IN
FULL



Atlantic Council

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2019-06332 Doc No. C06846012 Date: 11/22/2019

From: Faulkner, Charles S
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 5:20 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D
Cc: Taylor, Mary Elizabeth; [REDACTED] Moore, Jessica L; Hale, David; Reeker, Philip T; [REDACTED] Brechbuhl, Thomas U; Buangan, Richard L
Subject: Letter for Secretary Pompeo from Reps. Hoyer and Engel

B6

Please see the attached letter to Secretary Pompeo from Majority Leader Hoyer and Chairman Engel concerning Amb. Yovanovitch.

We are informed the Congressmen do not intend to make this letter public.

Charles

RELEASE IN PART B6

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 12, 2019

The Honorable Michael R. Pompeo
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

RELEASE IN FULL


Dear Mr. Secretary:

We write to express our deep concern regarding a series of attacks on career foreign service officers currently stationed as or nominated to become U.S. ambassadors. In what is an increasingly disturbing trend, we have seen foreign officials attack our own U.S. ambassadors and foreign service officers for performing their jobs and advancing U.S. interests.

We are particularly concerned about the outrageous efforts by Ukrainian officials to impugn the efforts of our representative in that country, Ambassador Masha Yovanovitch, whom we know to be a dedicated public servant and diplomat of the highest caliber. Prior to her appointment in Ukraine, Ambassador Yovanovitch twice served honorably and effectively as U.S. Ambassador, first nominated by President George W. Bush. During her time in Ukraine, she has been a tireless advocate for governance and economic reforms and the fight against corruption, critical for the long-term success of democracy in Ukraine and the country's ability to counter Russian aggression. It is disappointing that certain political actors within Ukraine have criticized Ambassador Yovanovitch, given her focus on anti-corruption efforts that touch on their interests.

It is critical that State Department leadership support our ambassadors and foreign service officers in the field and make clear that they will not be subjected to any politically motivated attacks. We urge you to make public statements personally defending your team and those who represent our country from these spurious disparagements. These public servants represent our finest values, and they should know they have the full backing of the U.S. government in performing their critical mission.

Sincerely,



STENY H. HOYER
House Majority Leader



ELIOT L. ENGEL
Chairman, House Foreign Affairs
Committee

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2019-06332 Doc No. C06845983 Date: 11/22/2019

From: Moore, Jessica L
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 7:48 PM
To: [redacted] Taylor, Mary Elizabeth; Faulkner, Charles S
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Letter for Secretary Pompeo from Reps. Hoyer and Engel
Attachments: Letter to Pompeo from ELE Hoyer on Amb Yovanovitch.pdf

B6

Attached!

RELEASE IN PART B6

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 6:24 PM
To: Taylor, Mary Elizabeth <[redacted]> Faulkner, Charles S <[redacted]>
Cc: Moore, Jessica L <[redacted]>
Subject: Re: Letter for Secretary Pompeo from Reps. Hoyer and Engel

Can someone send me the letter? I was not on the below email.

Get [Outlook](#) for iOS

From: Taylor, Mary Elizabeth <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 6:15 PM
To: Faulkner, Charles S.
Cc: Moore, Jessica L <[redacted]>
Subject: RE: Letter for Secretary Pompeo from Reps. Hoyer and Engel

Can we pls ensure this is tasked and turned around quickly?

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Faulkner, Charles S <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 5:20 PM
To: Kenna, Lisa D <[redacted]>
Cc: Taylor, Mary Elizabeth <[redacted]> Moore, Jessica L <[redacted]>
<[redacted]>; Hale, David <[redacted]>; Reeker, Philip T <[redacted]> <[redacted]>



[redacted]; Brechbuhl, Thomas U [redacted]; Buangan,

Richard L [redacted]

Subject: Letter for Secretary Pompeo from Reps. Hoyer and Engel

Please see the attached letter to Secretary Pompeo from Majority Leader Hoyer and Chairman Engel concerning Amb. Yovanovitch.

We are informed the Congressmen do not intend to make this letter public.

Charles

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 12, 2019

RELEASE IN FULL

The Honorable Michael R. Pompeo
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

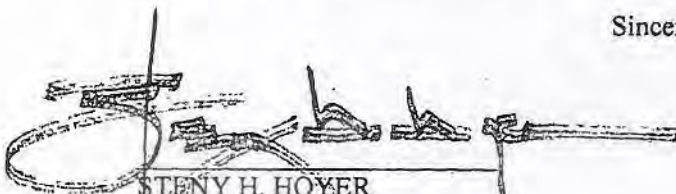
Dear Mr. Secretary:

We write to express our deep concern regarding a series of attacks on career foreign service officers currently stationed as or nominated to become U.S. ambassadors. In what is an increasingly disturbing trend, we have seen foreign officials attack our own U.S. ambassadors and foreign service officers for performing their jobs and advancing U.S. interests.

We are particularly concerned about the outrageous efforts by Ukrainian officials to impugn the efforts of our representative in that country, Ambassador Masha Yovanovitch, whom we know to be a dedicated public servant and diplomat of the highest caliber. Prior to her appointment in Ukraine, Ambassador Yovanovitch twice served honorably and effectively as U.S. Ambassador, first nominated by President George W. Bush. During her time in Ukraine, she has been a tireless advocate for governance and economic reforms and the fight against corruption, critical for the long-term success of democracy in Ukraine and the country's ability to counter Russian aggression. It is disappointing that certain political actors within Ukraine have criticized Ambassador Yovanovitch, given her focus on anti-corruption efforts that touch on their interests.

It is critical that State Department leadership support our ambassadors and foreign service officers in the field and make clear that they will not be subjected to any politically motivated attacks. We urge you to make public statements personally defending your team and those who represent our country from these spurious disparagements. These public servants represent our finest values, and they should know they have the full backing of the U.S. government in performing their critical mission.

Sincerely,



STENY H. HOYER
House Majority Leader



ELIOT L. ENGEL
Chairman, House Foreign Affairs
Committee

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2019-06332 Doc No. C06845986 Date: 11/22/2019

From: Edward Verona [redacted]
Sent: Friday, November 16, 2018 12:39 PM
To: McKinley, P Michael
Subject: RV: Verona Photos
Attachments: Verona.jpg; Sec Perry Group Photo.JPG; IMG_9533.JPG

B6

RELEASE IN PART
B6

Mike,

I thought you might be interested in the photos of my meeting in Kyiv on Monday with Secretary Perry. We had a good meeting with the business community and with Ambassador Yovanovitch, who was a colleague back when I was at Embassy Moscow. Trident Acquisitions is moving forward with our investment goals in the U.S. and Ukraine.

Regards, Ed

De: [redacted]
Enviado el: jueves, 15 de noviembre de 2018 04:34 a. m.
Para: Edward Verona
Asunto: Fwd: Verona Photos

Looking good cheers.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, November 15, 2018 13:29
To: [redacted]
Subject: Verona Photos

Feel free to send these to Ed if you like.

[redacted]
Senior Commercial Officer
U.S. Commercial Service
U.S. Embassy
Kyiv, Ukraine
[redacted]

From: McKinley, P Michael
Sent: Friday, November 16, 2018 1:25 PM
To: Edward Verona
Subject: RE: Verona Photos

RELEASE IN PART
B6

Thanks for sharing. All looking good!

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Edward Verona
Sent: Friday, November 16, 2018 12:39 PM
To: McKinley, P Michael
Subject: RV: Verona Photos

Mike,

I thought you might be interested in the photos of my meeting in Kyiv on Monday with Secretary Perry. We had a good meeting with the business community and with Ambassador Yovanovitch, who was a colleague back when I was at Embassy Moscow. Trident Acquisitions is moving forward with our investment goals in the U.S. and Ukraine.

Regards, Ed

De: [REDACTED]
Enviado el: jueves, 15 de noviembre de 2018 04:34 a. m.
Para: Edward Verona [REDACTED]
Asunto: Fwd: Verona Photos

B6

Looking good cheers.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 15, 2018 13:29
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Verona Photos

Feel free to send these to Ed if you like.

[REDACTED]
Senior Commercial Officer
U.S. Commercial Service
U.S. Embassy
Kyiv, Ukraine
[REDACTED]

United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520



The Honorable
Steny H. Hoyer
Majority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

JUN 11 2019

RELEASE IN PART
B5, B6

Dear Mr. Hoyer:

Thank you for your April 12 letter regarding the attacks on Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch in the Ukrainian press.

Ambassador Yovanovitch was due to complete her three-year diplomatic assignment in Kyiv this summer. She departed post on May 20, which aligns with the presidential transition in Ukraine. The team at U.S. Embassy Kyiv, and in Washington, continues to work closely with the Ukrainian government and civil society to strengthen the U.S.-Ukraine partnership.

The United States remains committed to engaging with partners in Ukraine to address the persistent corruption that threatens to undermine Ukraine's national security, prosperity, and democratic development.

We hope this information is helpful to you. Please let us know if we may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Elizabeth Taylor".

Mary Elizabeth Taylor
Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Legislative Affairs



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

JUN 11 2019

The Honorable
Eliot L. Engel, Chairman
Committee on Foreign Affairs
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your April 12 letter regarding the attacks on Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch in the Ukrainian press.

Ambassador Yovanovitch was due to complete her three-year diplomatic assignment in Kyiv this summer. She departed post on May 20, which aligns with the presidential transition in Ukraine. The team at U.S. Embassy Kyiv, and in Washington, continues to work closely with the Ukrainian government and civil society to strengthen the U.S.-Ukraine partnership.

The United States remains committed to engaging with partners in Ukraine to address the persistent corruption that threatens to undermine Ukraine's national security, prosperity, and democratic development.

We hope this information is helpful to you. Please let us know if we may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Elizabeth Taylor".

Mary Elizabeth Taylor
Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Legislative Affairs

Approved:

Drafted:

Cleared:



B5, B6

H FRONT OFFICE ROUTING SLIP

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Subject: Letter regarding the attacks on
Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch in the Ukrainian
press

6/3/2019 2:47 PM

H20190415=002 Hoyer/Engel

Logged by:

B6

- Format Clearances
- Headers/Footers Attachments
- Transmittal Letters
- On H Package: High Side or Low Side

INITIALS DATE

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B5, B6

The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552)

FOIA Exemptions

- (b)(1) Information specifically authorized by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. Executive Order 13526 includes the following classification categories:
- 1.4(a) Military plans, systems, or operations
 - 1.4(b) Foreign government information
 - 1.4(c) Intelligence activities, sources or methods, or cryptology
 - 1.4(d) Foreign relations or foreign activities of the US, including confidential sources
 - 1.4(e) Scientific, technological, or economic matters relating to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(f) U.S. Government programs for safeguarding nuclear materials or facilities
 - 1.4(g) Vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to US national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(h) Weapons of mass destruction
- (b)(2) Related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency
- (b)(3) Specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 USC 552), for example:
- | | |
|----------------|---|
| ARMSEXP | Arms Export Control Act, 50a USC 2411(c) |
| CIA PERS/ORG | Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 USC 403(g) |
| EXPORT CONTROL | Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 USC App. Sec. 2411(c) |
| FS ACT | Foreign Service Act of 1980, 22 USC 4004 |
| INA | Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC 1202(f), Sec. 222(f) |
| IRAN | Iran Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 99-99, Sec. 505 |
- (b)(4) Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information
- (b)(5) Interagency or intra-agency communications forming part of the deliberative process, attorney-client privilege, or attorney work product
- (b)(6) Personal privacy information
- (b)(7) Law enforcement information whose disclosure would:
- (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings
 - (B) deprive a person of a fair trial
 - (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
 - (D) disclose confidential sources
 - (E) disclose investigation techniques
 - (F) endanger life or physical safety of an individual
- (b)(8) Prepared by or for a government agency regulating or supervising financial institutions
- (b)(9) Geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells
- Other Grounds for Withholding**
- NR Material not responsive to a FOIA request excised with the agreement of the requester

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

RELEASE IN PART
B6

B6

[Redacted]
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 9:54 AM
To: S_All
Subject: 9:53am -- S finished speaking with Rudy Giuliani

[Redacted]
Office Manager to the Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW | Washington, D. C. | 20520
Office: [Redacted] | **Email:** [Redacted]

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 9:49 AM
To: S_All
Subject: 9:49am -- S is speaking with Rudy Giuliani

[Redacted]
Office Manager to the Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW | Washington, D. C. | 20520
Office: [Redacted] | **Email:** [Redacted]

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

[Redacted]
NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

1

RELEASE IN PART B5, B6

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

B6

[Redacted]

From: Operations Center
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 7:42 AM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: SES-O_S-Calls
Subject: RE: S Calls Update 03/29

Dear Sally,

Understood, will do.

[Redacted]

Watch Officer | Operations Center
U.S. Department of State
202-647-1512

Official - SBU
UNCLASSIFIED

DECONTROLLED

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 7:40 AM
To: Operations Center ; SES-O_S-Calls
Subject: RE: S Calls Update 03/29

Good morning Ops Colleagues,

[Redacted]

We can remove this from the tracker.

B5

Thanks!

[Redacted]

Office Manager to the Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW | Washington, D. C. | 20520
Office: [Redacted] **Email:** [Redacted]

Official - SBU
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Operations Center <OperationsCenter@state.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 4:31 AM
To: SES-O_S-Calls <SES-O_S-Calls@state.gov>
Subject: S Calls Update 03/29

Confirmed Friday 03/29

[Redacted]

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

1



NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

- S 4 Mr. R. Giuliani 0815 ET
- S 4 Mr. W. McKelvey 1230 ET
- S 4 Mr. RJ Harris 1250 ET
- S 4 Mr. G. Allison 1400 ET
- S 4 Mr. W. Gates 1435 ET

Confirmed Monday 04/01

- S 4 Representative Nunes (R-CA) 1330 ET (SECURE)
- S 4 Reverend O'Callaghan 1445 ET/1345 Wichita

Confirmed Wednesday 04/03

- S 4 Secretary of the Treasury Mnuchin 0730 ET (SECURE)

Ops is tracking the following calls

- pending S staff

B5

Regards,

State Department Operations Center
(202) 647-1512

Official - SBU
UNCLASSIFIED

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

2 B6



NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

RELEASE IN PART
B6

B6

[Redacted]

From: Operations Center
Sent: Wednesday, April 03, 2019 12:37 PM
To: S_SpecialAssistants; [Redacted]
Cc: SES-O
Subject: March 2019 S Call Metrics
Attachments: 2019 March S Call Metrics.xlsx

Dear Colleagues,

Please find attached the "S Call Metrics" as tracked by Ops for the period 03/01/19 - 03/31/19.

Regards,

Watch Officer
State Department Operations Center
202-647-1512

[Redacted]
NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

1

RELEASE IN
FULL



3/29/2019	8:15	Mr. R. Giuliani			N	Office	G	S	D		N													
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NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

RELEASE IN PART
B6

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 9:27 AM
To: JoAnn.Zafonte [Redacted]
Cc: S_Scheduling
Subject: Mr. Giuliani call with Secretary Pompeo

B6

Hello!

Mr. Giuliani just called our office and confirmed via phone a call with Secretary Pompeo for tomorrow, Friday March 29 at 8:15am ET.

We will plan for the State Operations Center to connect the call to Mr. Giuliani's cell.

Please let us know if there's any changes to Mr. Giuliani's schedule.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of State

[Redacted]

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

[Redacted]

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

1

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

RELEASE IN PART
B6

[Redacted]

B6

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 9:37 AM
To: Hale, David
Subject: FW: S requested to speak with Mr. R. Giuliani

DECONTROLLED

Official - SBU
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Operations Center
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 9:34 AM
To: SES-O_S-Calls
Subject: S requested to speak with Mr. R. Giuliani

[Redacted]

Ops will build the call Friday, March 29, at 0815 ET.

Please advise if there will be any monitors.

Regards,

Watch Officer
State Department Operations Center
(202) 647-1512

Official - SBU
UNCLASSIFIED

[Redacted]

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

1 B6

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

RELEASE IN PART
B6

B6

[Redacted]
From: [Redacted]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 8:19 AM
To: S_All
Subject: 8:18am -- S finished speaking with Mr. R. Giuliani

[Redacted]
Office Manager to the Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW | Washington, D. C. | 20520
Office: [Redacted] *Email:* [Redacted]

Official - SBU
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Operations Center
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 8:15 AM
To: SES-O_S-Calls
Subject: S is speaking with Mr. R. Giuliani

Call up: 0814 ET

State Department Operations Center
(202) 647-1512

Official - SBU
UNCLASSIFIED

[Redacted]
NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 6:42 PM
To: S_All
Subject: 3/29 Calendars
Attachments: 3.29 Two Weeks.pdf; 3.29 Long Range.pdf

RELEASE IN PART
B5, B6

B6

Team,

Two weeks and long range attached. Updates below.

Best,

[Redacted]
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of State
[Redacted]

ADDED
3/29 0815-0835 CALL: Rudy Giuliani
4/1 1330-1350 CALL: Chairman Nunes (R-CA-22) (SECURE)

[Redacted]
4/2 (H) 1745-1815 MTG: Jen, Lisa, and C
4/3 (H) 0706-0717 INTERVIEW: Phone Interview with Hugh Hewitt (TAPED)
4/3 0730-0800 CALL: DCIA Haspel (SECURE)
4/3 (H) 1700-1730 BILAT: Canadian FM Freeland
4/4 (H) 0745-0815 BILAT: French FM Le Drian

B5

REMOVED
CANCELLED: MTG: Cabinet Quad

UPDATED
4/1 1600-1630 MTG: A/SecDef Shanahan
4/9 (H) 0730-0830 MTG: Cabinet Quad
4/10 (H) 1500-1515 CALL: Secretary Mnuchin (SECURE)
4/10 (H) 0930-1230 HEARING: Senate Foreign Relations Committee Hearing

B5

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

[Redacted]

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

1

March 29, 2019

Friday

**RELEASE
IN PART B6**

March 2019							April 2019						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
31													

FRIDAY	
29	
← From Mar 19 NCAA Division Men's Basketball Tournament (March 19 - April 8) To Apr 8 →	
National Vietnam War Veterans Day	
RESCHEDULE: MTG: Libya External Office CDA Peter Bodde (S Outer Office)	
6 AM	
7	0645-0700 ENR HST
	0720-0730 MTG: D, M, ExecSec, S/A McKinley, S/A Kissr
	0710-0720 MTG: Heather Nauert; S Inner Office
	0735-0750 MTG: Comms Meeting; S Outer Office
8	0800-0815 MTG: S/A Kissel; S Inner Office
	0835-0900 Executive Time; S Inner Office
	0815-0835 CALL: Rudy Giuliani; Nonsecure, State Ops to connect
9	0900-1000 MEET WITH MIKE Treaty Room
10	1015-1100 MTG: Biweekly with SRS Jeffrey S Inner Office
11	1100-1130 MTG: A/S Breier, S/A Abrams, CDA Story; S Outer Office
	1130-1230 Executive Time S Inner Office
12 PM	1230-1245 INTERVIEW: Phone Interview with Wallace McKelvey, The Patriot News; N
1	1300-1345 MTG: M Family Deep Dive S Outer Office
	1250-1259 INTERVIEW: Phone Interview with RJ Harris, WHP 580 (TAPED); Nonsecure
2	1400-1420 CALL: Graham Allison; Nonsecure, State Ops to connect
	1435-1455 CALL: Bill Gates, Gates Foundation; Nonsecure, State Ops to connect
3	1500-1530 BILAT: Meeting with UAE Amb. Yousef Otaiba; S Outer Office
4	1600-1630 BILAT: Republic of Korea FM Kang; S Outer Office
	1630-1700 Executive Time; S Inner Office
5	1700-1715 ENR Residence
6	
7	
8	
9	

S



[Redacted]

RELEASE IN PART
B6

Subject: 0949-0953 CALL: Rudy Giuliani
Location: Non-Secure; S OMS direct dial
Start: Tue 3/26/2019 9:49 AM
End: Tue 3/26/2019 9:53 AM
Recurrence: (none)
Organizer: S [Redacted]
Categories: S - Calls

B6

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 6:49 PM
To: S_All
Subject: COB Notes - 28 March 2019

B6

RELEASE IN PART B6

Hi team –

No pending calls or stray items for tomorrow (at this time). The Secretary took his book with Schedule Card home.

Have a great evening!

29 March 2019 SecState Pompeo

- 0645-0700 ENR HST
- 0710-0720 MTG: Heather Nauert
- 0720-0730 MTG: D, M, ExecSec, S/A McKinley, S/A Kissel, S/A Bulatao
- 0735-0750 MTG: Comms Meeting
- 0800-0815 MTG: S/A Kissel
- 0815-0835 CALL: Rudy Giuliani
- 0835-0900 Executive Time
- 0900-1000 MEET WITH MIKE [Treaty Room]
- 1015-1100 MTG: Biweekly with SRS Jeffrey
- 1100-1130 MTG: A/S Breier, S/A Abrams, CDA Story
- 1130-1230 Executive Time
- 1230-1245 INTERVIEW: Phone Interview with Wallace McKelvey, The Patriot News
- 1250-1259 INTERVIEW: Phone Interview with RJ Harris, WHP 580 (Taped)
- 1300-1345 MTG: M Family Deep Dive
- 1400-1420 CALL: Graham Allison
- 1435-1455 CALL: Bill Gates, Gates Foundation
- 1500-1530 BILAT: Meeting with UAE Amb. Yousef Otaiba
- 1600-1630 BILAT: Republic of Korea FM Kang
- 1630-1700 Executive Time
- 1700-1715 ENR Residence

[Redacted]

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

1

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

[Redacted]

Office Manager to the Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State | 2201 C Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20520

[Redacted] S_Scheduling@state.gov

B6

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

[Redacted]

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

2

[Redacted]

Subject: 0814-0818 CALL: Rudy Giuliani
Location: Nonsecure, State Ops to connect

RELEASE IN PART
B6

Start: Fri 3/29/2019 8:14 AM
End: Fri 3/29/2019 8:18 AM

Recurrence: (none)

Organizer: S [Redacted]

B6

Categories: S - Calls

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

RELEASE IN PART B6



From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2019 11:26 AM
To: S_Scheduling
Cc: S_SpecialAssistants
Subject: Schedule Card: 29 March 2019

B6

Hello Team –

The Schedule Card for tomorrow is saved in our share drive. Thx: Hill

28 March 2019 SecState Pompeo

- 0645-0700 ENR HST
- 0710-0720 MTG: Heather Nauert
- 0720-0730 MTG: D, M, ExecSec, S/A McKinley, S/A Kissel, S/A Bulatao
- 0735-0750 MTG: Comms Meeting
- 0800-0815 MTG: S/A Kissel
- 0815-0835 CALL: Rudy Giuliani
- 0835-0900 Executive Time
- 0900-1000 MEET WITH MIKE [Treaty Room]
- 1015-1100 MTG: Biweekly with SRS Jeffrey
- 1100-1130 MTG: A/S Breier, S/A Abrams, CDA Story
- 1130-1230 Executive Time
- 1230-1245 INTERVIEW: Phone Interview with print outlet "The Patriot News"
- 1250-1259 INTERVIEW: Phone Interview with radio outlet RJ Harris, WHP 580
- 1300-1345 MTG: M Family Deep Dive
- 1400-1420 CALL: Graham Allison
- 1435-1455 CALL: Bill Gates, Gates Foundation
- 1500-1530 BILAT: Meeting with UAE Amb. Yousef Otaiba
- 1600-1630 BILAT: Republic of Korea FM Kang
- 1630-1700 Executive Time
- 1700-1715 ENR Residence



NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

1

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

[Redacted]

Office Manager to the Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State | 2201 C Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20520

[Redacted]

S.Scheduling@state.gov

B6

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

[Redacted]

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

2

From: Madeleine Westerhout
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 12:12 PM B6
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: S_Scheduling
Subject: RE: Secretary Pompeo

Thanks!!

RELEASE IN PART
B6

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 12:03 PM
To: Westerhout, Madeleine E. EOP/WHO
Cc: S_Scheduling
Subject: RE: Secretary Pompeo

Hi Madeleine –

Jo Ann is welcome coordinate with us for S via our Scheduler, [REDACTED]

Outside of business hours, State Ops is best – 202-647-1512

And, of course, our best email is: S_Scheduling@state.gov

All best!! [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
U.S. Department of State | 2201 C Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20520
[REDACTED] | S_Scheduling@state.gov

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Westerhout, Madeleine E. EOP/WHO
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 11:52 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Secretary Pompeo

Hey [REDACTED] – this is Rudy Giuliani’s assistant. What number can I give her for S?

From: Zafonte, Jo Ann [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 11:28 AM
To: Westerhout, Madeleine E. EOP/WHO [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Secretary Pompeo

Hi Madeleine, hope all is well. It’s been a while.

Hate to bother you but might you be able to send me a good number for above, I’ve been trying and getting nowhere through regular channels.

Jo Ann Zafonte
Senior Manager
Giuliani Partners
445 Park Avenue, 18th Fl.
New York, NY 10022



[Redacted]

B6

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 8:04 AM
To: Erickson, Christopher B
Subject: RE: Senior Watch Officer Morning Brief to the ExecSec - 03/29 (SBU)

No problem, Chris. It was a quiet morning.

RELEASE IN PART
B5, B6

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
Chief, State-Defense Integration
State-Defense Integration Office
Bureau of Political-Military Affairs
United States Department of State

DECONTROLLED

Official - SBU
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Erickson, Christopher B
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 10:55 AM
To: [Redacted]
Subject: FW: Senior Watch Officer Morning Brief to the ExecSec - 03/29 (SBU)

Thanks, [Redacted], for stepping in this a.m.!
Chris

Official - SBU
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Operations Center
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2019 8:06 AM
To: SES-O_ExecSecBrief
Subject: Senior Watch Officer Morning Brief to the ExecSec - 03/29 (SBU)

Below are the Senior Watch Officer's notes for the Executive Secretariat. Ops shares these notes only with the recipients of this email to facilitate deliberative discussion; they are not intended for publication. Please do not redistribute this email.

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

STATE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS CENTER
The Watch | Crisis Management and Strategy
03/29 0815 Morning Notes

Calls: (SBU) The Secretary spoke with DHS Secretary Nielsen. The Secretary has confirmed calls with Mr. R. Giuliani, Mr. W. McKelvey, Mr. R. Harris, Dr. G. Allison, Mr. W. Gates, Rep. Nunes (R-CA), Reverend O'Callaghan, and Treasury Secretary Mnuchin. [REDACTED]

B5

Algeria

(SBU) Embassy Algiers reports thousands of protesters are gathered in central Algiers. Post comments while all parties see the end of the line for President Bouteflika, it will likely take weeks for him to step down.

Thailand

(SBU) Embassy Bangkok reports the Election Commission published and subsequently rescinded general election results showing the pro-junta Palang Pracharat Party won the popular vote. Activists and multiple political parties questioned the tally. Final results are expected May 9.

Arab League

(U) At the opening of an Arab League summit in Tunis, FM Jhinaoui announced Tunisia would seek to "contain the fallout" from the U.S. recognition of Israeli sovereignty over the Golan Heights by coordinating the response of Arab countries, media report.

Briefs & Alerts

(SBU) ARMENIA: Fulbright Scholar Found After Kidnapping Concerns

Senior Watch Officer
State Department Operations Center
202-647-1512

Official - SBU
UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASE IN FULL

Secretary Pompeo
ATTN: *Smith*

THE WHITE HOUSE

SECRET

Shokin/Lutsenko Notes

January 23, 2019
445 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Shokin:

On January 23, 2019 a telephone interview with Mr. Viktor Shokin the former General Prosecutor of Ukraine was conducted. Present in the New York location were: Rudolph Giuliani, Mr. Igor Fruman, Mr. Lev Parnas and Mr. George Boyle. The conversation was conducted through the use of two (2) interpreters one (1) in Ukraine and one (1) Lev Parnas in New York. The sum and substance of the conversation are as follows:

Mr. Shokin stated that he was appointed to the position of General Prosecutor of Ukraine from 2015 until April of 2016 when he was removed at the request of Mr. Joseph Biden the Vice President of the United States. Mr. Shokin was a Deputy Prosecutor prior to becoming the General Prosecutor. He became involved in a case against Mr. Mykola Zlochevsky the former Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine. The case was opened as a result of Mr. Zlochevsky giving himself/company permits to drill for gas and oil in Ukraine. Mr. Zlochevsky is also the owner of Burisma Holdings, which a corporation registered in Cyprus. Mr. Shokin stated that there are documents that list five (5) criminal cases in which Mr. Zlochevsky is listed, with the main case being for issuing illegal gas exploration permits. The following complaints are in the criminal case.

1. Mr. Zlochevsky was laundering money
2. Obtained assets by corrupt acts bribery
3. Mr. Zlochevsky removed approximately twenty three million U.S. dollars out of Ukraine without permission
4. While seated as the Minister he approved two addition entities to receive permits for gas exploration
5. Mr. Zlochevsky was the owner of two secret companies that were part of Burisma Holdings and gave those companies permits which made it possible for him to profit while he was the sitting Minister.

The above cases were closed after Mr. Zlochevsky was dismissed from the Ministry.

Mr. Shokin further stated that there were several Burisma board appointments were made in 2014 as follows:

1. Hunter Biden son of Vice President Joseph Biden
2. Joseph Blade former CIA employee assigned to Anti-Terrorist Unit
3. Alesksander Kwasnieski former President of Poland
4. Devon Archer roommate to the Christopher Heinz the step-son of Mr. John Kerry United States Secretary of State

Mr. Shokin stated that these appointments were made by Mr. Zlochevsky in order to protect himself.

Mr. Zlochevsky left Ukraine while the above mentioned cases were open.

Mr. Shokin stated that the investigations stopped out of fear of the United States. Mr. Shokin attempted to continue the investigations but on or around June or July of 2015 the U.S. Ambassador Geoffrey R. Pyatt told him that the investigation has to be handled with white gloves, which according to Mr. Shokin, that implied do nothing. On or about September 2015 Mr. Pyatt gave a speech in Odessa where he stated that the cases were not investigated correctly and that Mr. Shokin may be corrupt.

Mr. Shokin stated that in 2014 Mr. Zlochevsky was in the UK and that the twenty three million dollars were frozen in the UK in the BNP Bank. Mr. Shokin stated that false documents were prepared and the money was released to Mr. Slochevsky before Mr. Shokin took office. That release of the money made Mr. Shokin look into the above cases again. Mr. Shokin stated that there were several articles written about bribes being taken during the investigation of the cases. The bribes were an effort to have the cases closed. On April of 2016 Mr. Shokin was dismissed as the General Prosecutor of Ukraine. In November of 2016 the cases were closed by the current Prosecutor General Yuriy Lutsenko.

Mr. Shokin further stated that on February of 2016 warrants were placed on the accounts of multiple people in Ukraine. There were requests for information on Hunter Biden to which nothing was received. It is believed that Hunter Biden receives a salary, commission plus one million dollars. There were no documents or information on Hunter Biden and Mr. Shokin stated he was warned to stop by Ambassador Geoffrey R. Pyatt. President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko told Mr. Shokin not to investigate Burisma as it was not in the interest of Joe and/or Hunter Biden. Mr. Shokin was called into Mr. Poroshenko's office and told that the investigation into Burisma and the Managing Director where Hunter Biden is on the board, has caused Joe Biden to hold up one billion dollars in U.S. aid to Ukraine.

Mr. Shokin stated that on or around April of 2016 Mr. Petro Poroshenko called him and told him he had to be fired as the aid to the Ukraine was being withheld by Joe Biden. Mr. Biden told Mr. Poroshenko that he had evidence that Mr. Shokin was corrupt and needed to be fired. Mr. Shokin was dismissed in April of 2016 and the U.S. aid was delivered within one and one half months.

On a different point Mr. Shokin believes the current Ambassador Marie L. Yovanovitch denied his visa to travel to the U.S. Mr. Shokin stated that she is close to Mr. Biden. Mr. Shokin also stated that there were leaks by a person named Reshenko of the Ukrainian State Secret Service about the Manafort Black Book. Mr. Shokin stated that there is possible deceit in the Manafort Black Book.

End of interview:

January 25, 2019
445 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Yuriy Lutsenko:

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Mr. Lutsenko stated that he is currently the Prosecutor General for Ukraine. He was the Minister of Interior from 2007 to 2010. He further stated that he was placed in jail for two and one half years as a political prisoner.

Mr. Lutsenko stated that his office has the following units under his purview:

1. Police Department
2. Fiscals
3. Secret Service
4. Investigative Department

Mr. Lutsenko stated that his office has recovered several billion dollars and has had two thousand six hundred thirty-seven verdicts for corruption. Mr. Lutsenko went on to explain that there is a unit called Specialized Anticorruption Prosecutors Office (SAP) which has under its purview National Anticorruption Bureau Ukraine (NABU) which investigates corruption cases that involved public figures from Mayors upward. He stated that the current U.S. Ambassador protects SAP and NABU. He feels they are good organizations but have terrible leadership. His office has absolutely no control over SAP or NABU and can't even ask what they are working on however they fall under his "control". He further state that he believes Mr. Viktor Shokin the former Prosecutor General is honest.

Mr. Lutsenko went on to say that he began looking at the same case Mr. Shokin was looking at (mentioned above) and he believes Hunter Biden receives millions of dollars in compensation from Burisma. He produced a document from Latvia that showed several million dollars that were distributed out of Burisma's account. The record showed two (2) companies and four (4) individuals receiving approximately sixteen million dollars in disbursements as follows:

Companies:

1. Wirelogic Technology \$ 14,665,982
2. Digitex \$ 1,900,000

Individuals:

1. Aleksander Kwasnewski \$ 1,150,000

2. Alan Apter \$ 302,885
3. Devon Archer Amount not revealed by Latvia
4. Hunter Biden Amount not revealed by Latvia

Mr. Lutsenko feels that the total disbursements can as high as \$100,000,000.

Mr. Lutsenko stated that there was also a payment of \$ 900,000.00 to Rosemont Seneca Partners LLC for consulting fees. Hunter Biden is a partner in Rosemont Seneca Partners LLC along with Devon Archer and the dates of this transaction are approximately anywhere from January to December of 2015. According to Mr. Lutsenko the \$ 900,000.00 invoice was for services rendered for lobbying by Joe Biden.

The formation of SAP and was on or about October 2014. The formation of SAP and NABU was publicly announced, stating Mr. Shokin was not getting any results, showed no arrests, no proceedings against government officials. The U.S. Ambassador Geoffrey Pyatt recommended a special body to investigate high level corruption. Ambassador Pyatt gave a speech on September 25, 2015 in Odessa against the Prosecutor Generals' Office. On or around October of 2014 a law was passed creating NABU which was set up by Mr. George Kent who was the Deputy Chief to the Mission in Ukraine. Mr. Kent is currently the Deputy Assistant Secretary Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs for the U.S. State Department.

Mr. Yuriy Lutsenko requested that we break for the day, and that he would meet again with everyone tomorrow.

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Yuriy Lutsenko Continued:

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Mr. Letsenko stated that there was a "Black Book" found near the home of a former Deputy of the Ukrainian Secret Service. This book contained a list of people who were receiving kickbacks. He stated examples such as: 3 million dollars for a vote on the state budget by a member of Parliament.

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Mr. Letsenko who oversees SAP and NABU cannot inquire about their cases/investigations. The Head of SAP is Nazar Kholodnitskiy and the head of NABU is Artem Sytnyk and do not like each other and are currently at odds with one another. At an anti-corruption training seminar in Panam Mr. Kholodnitskiy asked Mr. Sytnyk why would you say there is no signature (Manafort's) and MR. Sytnyk stated he wanted Hillary to win.

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3 days late

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End of interview:

TRUMP
HOTELS

Leshchenko, MP

Nayem, MP

Shabunin, ngo

Solomon
articles

Embassy of the United States of America
Kyiv, Ukraine

April 4, 2016

Mr. Yuriy Stolyarchuk
Deputy Prosecutor General
Prosecutor General's Office of Ukraine
Kyiv

Dear Mr. Stolyarchuk

Thank you for your letter dated March 29, 2016, and the clarification of your remarks. I am answering on behalf of Ambassador Pyatt. I would like to make clear, as has Ambassador Pyatt in his public statements, that the United States has no concerns about the use of our assistance funds for our joint project with the Prosecutor General's Office. Furthermore, as we have also said publicly, none of these assistance funds were provided directly to any entity within the Prosecutor General's Office, including Deputy Prosecutor David Saksvalidze and his staff. We have accounted for every single foreign assistance dollar provided within the framework of this project, as is our practice for every project we support in Ukraine. All of this assistance was administered according to U.S. laws and regulations and in strict compliance with our bilateral agreement dated March 18, 2015, and our joint action plan, signed on August 10, 2015.

This U.S. assistance package, which the Prosecutor General's Office has publicly stated it is "investigating" is implemented through the International Development and Law Organization, an intergovernmental organization, and through the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training. Management and oversight of this effort is done by the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv, through the International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Search.

We also provided \$200,000 to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, a Paris-based intergovernmental organization to assist in reforming the Prosecutor General's Office. Again, none of these funds were provided directly to the Government of Ukraine.

To date, all of this assistance has supported expert advisers embedded within the Prosecutor General's Office who helped create the Reforms Department, developing re-attestation for prosecutors in line with the Government of Ukraine Procuree Reform Law; training of prosecutors of the criminal procedure code; and capacity building for the Inspector General's Unit.

We are completely satisfied that the assistance in question has only been used for those purposes and, as stated above, do not see any grounds from our perspective as the donor who provided the assistance for an investigation into their use. Given the above, we reject allegations that Mr. Sakvarechidze, or anyone within the Prosecutor General's Office with whom we worked, could have misused these funds since they were never under their control. The investigation into the actions of the Anti-Corruption Action Center based on the assistance they have received from us, is similarly misplaced.

As voiced by European Union Ambassador Jan Romantschuk, we are greatly concerned about this investigation for which we see no basis and which appears to us to be an attempt to intimidate those in the Prosecutor General's Office who are committed to combating corruption, as well as non-governmental partners and outspoken anti-corruption activists.

The United States is committed to supporting reforms within the Prosecutor General's Office and to funding its capacity to meet citizens demands for justice, rule of law and counter corruption within the government.

~~SECRET~~
Timelines

TRUMP
HOTELS

Ukraine Prosecutor General Shokin's office opens criminal investigation of Burisma Holdings and Mykola Zlochevsky for alleged corrupt award of gas exploration permits and eventual looting of company, according to Ukrainian prosecutor general file. Hunter Biden identified as an American person of interest in the file.

December 16, 2014

Former deputy national security adviser Tony Blinken confirmed by Senate as Deputy Secretary of State under John Kerry.

Jan. 16, 2015

General Prosecutors office in Ukraine declares Burisma Holdings founder Zlochevsky a fugitive "wanted in Ukraine."

March 18, 2015

VP Biden call with President Poroshenko. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/readout-vice-presidents-call-ukrainian-president-petro-poroshenko-6/>

April 15, 2015

VP Joe Biden speaks in Ukraine, praising the decision to appoint a new head of the NABU, the investigative arm of the Prosecutor General's office

May 26, 2015

Hunter Biden meets for breakfast with deputy secretary of state Tony Blinken regarding concerns in Ukraine about Burisma prosecution.

June 12, 2015

VP Biden calls President Poroshenko. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/readout-vice-presidents-call-ukrainian-president-petro-poroshenko-8/>

July 15, 2015

VP Biden and Commerce Secretary Pritzker attend first ever US-Ukraine Chamber of Business meeting. <https://www.uschamber.com/first-annual-us-ukraine-business-forum>

July 24, 2015

VP Biden calls President Poroshenko, raises concerns about anti-corruption efforts in Ukraine. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/readout-vice-presidents-call-ukrainian-president-petro-poroshenko-10/>

Aug. 16, 2015

Devon Archer throws a \$10,000 a plate fund-raiser in New York for the Seed Global Health charity founded by Secretary of State Kerry's daughter, Dr. Vanessa Kerry.

Aug. 28, 2015

VP Biden calls President Poroshenko <https://ua.usembassy.gov/readout-vice-presidents-call-ukrainian-president-petro-poroshenko-082815/>

Sept. 29, 2015

VP Biden meets with President Poroshenko in Ukraine. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/readout-vice-president-bidens-meeting-ukrainian-president-petro-poroshenko/>

Nov. 5, 2015

Biden calls President Poroshenko. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/readout-vice-president-bidens-call-ukrainian-president-petro-poroshenko-110515/>

Dec. 7, 2015

VP Biden meets with President Poroshenko and demands the termination of Ukraine's General Prosecutor Shokin. Biden states the president must make "hard decisions" to eliminate "the cancer of corruption" in his country. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/remarks-vice-president-joe-biden-ukrainian-president-petro-poroshenko-bilateral-meeting/>

Dec. 9, 2015

Hunter Biden and business partner Devon Archer meet at State Department regarding Burisma Holdings prosecution.

Feb. 11, 18, 19, 2016

VP Biden holds series of phone calls with President Poroshenko to check on status of pending items from their December 2015 meeting. Removal of general prosecutor raised again. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/readout-vice-president-bidens-calls-prime-minister-arseniy-yatsenyuk-president-petro-poroshenko-ukraine-021916/>

March 15, 2016

1. Assistant Secretary of State Victoria Nuland demands Ukraine "appoint and confirm a new, clean Prosecutor General, who is committed to rebuilding the integrity of the PGO, and investigate, indict and successfully prosecute corruption and asset recovery cases – including locking up dirty personnel in the PGO itself." She offers no proof that special prosecutor's office is corrupt. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/ukrainian-reforms-two-years-maidan-revolution-russian-invasion/>

March 22, 2016

VP Joe Biden engages in phone call from Washington DC with Ukrainian president Poroshenko about U.S. loan guarantees. It is believed in this call that Biden renews his demands that the president fire Prosecutor General Shokin, who is overseeing the Burisma prosecution, but this time Biden warns Ukraine risk losing the next \$1 billion in U.S. loan guarantees. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/readout-vice-president-bidens-call-president-petro-poroshenko-ukraine-032216/>

March 29, 2016

Ukraine parliament fires Prosecutor General Shokin at urging of President Poroshenko. <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/30/world/europe/political-stability-in-the-balance-as-ukraine-ousts-top-prosecutor.html>

March 31, 2016

VP Joe Biden arrives in Ukraine and announces \$1 billion in loan guarantees, ending threat to withhold aid and force Ukraine into debt default, and also delivers \$239 million more in promised aid. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/readout-vice-president-bidens-meeting-president-petro-poroshenko-ukraine-033116/>

April 14, 2016

VP Biden calls President Poroshenko and "stressed the urgency of putting in place a new Prosecutor General who would bolster the agency's anti-corruption efforts. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/readout-vice-president-bidens-call-president-petro-poroshenko-ukraine-041416/>

May 12, 2016

Yurii Lutsenko named the new Prosecutor General of Ukraine, taking over investigations that include Burisma Holdings.

May 27, 2016

VP Biden holds phone call with President Poroshenko. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/readout-vice-president-bidens-call-president-petro-poroshenko-ukraine-052716/>

June 15, 2016

The Ukrainian investigative bureau NABU announces it has uncovered a massive fraud scheme involving Barisma Holdings. <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/news/2016/06/15/7111882/>

June 15, 2016

New Ukrainian prime minister Volodymyr Groysman meets in Washington DC with VP Joe Biden, Assistant Secretary of State Victoria Nuland and a representative of George Soros team.

Aug. 12, 2016

Phone call between VP Biden and President Poroshenko

Sept. 20, 2016

VP Biden meets President Poroshenko on sidelines of UN meeting. Confirms \$1 billion in loan guarantees has been made. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/readout-vice-president-bidens-meeting-president-petro-poroshenko-ukraine/>

Sept. 20, 2016

General Prosecutor's office eliminates "wanted" status of Burisma Holdings founder Zlochevsky in criminal case, ending his status as a fugitive.

Nov. 2, 2016

Prosecutor General's office in Ukraine closes down Burisma Holdings investigation without any formal charges.

Nov. 8, 2016

Donald Trump wins election to become 45th president of United States, ending eight years of Democratic control of the White House.

Dec. 15, 2016

VP Biden holds phone call with Ukraine president and prime minister, praises work of NABU, which prosecutor general's office says refused to investigate Burisma aggressively. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/readout-vice-president-bidens-calls-president-ukraine-petro-poroshenko-prime-minister-ukraine-volodymyr-groysman/>

Jan. 17-18, 2017

Biden makes final appearance in Ukraine with President Poroshenko. <https://ua.usembassy.gov/remarks-vice-president-joe-biden-joint-press-availability-ukrainian-president-petro-poroshenko/>

Jan. 25, 2018

Former VP Biden boasts at Council of Foreign Relations events in Washington DC that he strong armed Ukrainian president to fire the General Prosecutor, using loan guarantees as leverage. Does not mention his son's company was under investigation.

February 2014.

VP Joe Biden named by President Obama to be U.S. point man on Ukrainian crisis. Meets with President Viktor Yanukovich. Yanukovich ousted as president during Maiden uprising.

March 2014

New Ukrainian elections set for May and Petro Poroshenko emerges as top Western-friendly candidate for president.

April 2014:

Devon Archer, business partner of Hunter Biden, son of the VP, and John Heinz, stepson of Secretary Kerry, is named an independent director of Burisma Holdings. <https://www.resumonk.com/kVYKE5CEpSiptxE aGwqYQ>

April 18, 2014:

Britain's Serious Fraud Office freezes \$23 million in assets kept in London by Burisma Holdings and its founder, Mykola Zlochevsky, on grounds it was fraudulently transferred from Ukraine.

April 24, 2014:

Joe Biden meets with candidate Poroshenko for the first time. <https://slate.com/news-and-politics/2014/04/petro-poroshenko-interview-ukrainian-presidential-candidate-discusses-putin-the-west-and-ukraine.html>

May 13, 2014

Hunter Biden appointed chief lawyer, and board member for Ukraine's largest natural gas company Burisma Holdings, which is run by Mykola Zlochevsky, a former Cabinet official for ousted president Yanukovich. <https://www.cnn.com/2014/05/13/bidens-son-joins-ukraine-gas-companys-board-of-directors.html>

May 20, 2014

David Leiter, former chief of staff to John Kerry, hired as DC lobbyist for Burisma Holdings, Senate lobbying records show. The firm is paid \$90,000 in 2014 to lobby Congress and the State Department, *John Kerry is Secretary*. https://www.opensecrets.org/lobby/client_reports.php?id=F212407&year=2014

May 25, 2014

Poroshenko wins the Ukraine presidential election

Aug. 20, 2014

OUTLINE
(3/28/19)

Source of
this document?

2010-2014.

Mykola Zlochevsky was a high ranked official in
the pro-Russian Ukrainian Government. Yanukovich
Yanukovych was, and had been, a partner in a
company many valuable gas export contracts.
The core company is called BURLIN HOLDINGS
LTD.

Feb. 2014.

President Obama names VP Joe Biden the point
man for Ukrainian crisis.

Feb. 2014.

Revolution of Dignity takes place and President
Yanukovych and his government are ousted.
Yanukovych and Zlochevsky flee ultimately to
Russia. They also had been taking billions of dollars
out of Ukraine and using banks all over the world for
laundering including at least one prominent US
financial institution. The amount involving US is said
to be \$7 billion.

April, May 2014

OUTLINE (3/28/19)

2010-2014.

Mykola Zlochevsky was a high ranking Minister in the pro-Russian Ukrainian Government of Viktor Yanukovich was, and had been, granting his company many valuable gas exploration permits. The core company is called BURISMA HOLDINGS LTD.

Feb. 2014.

President Obama names VP Joe Biden the point man for Ukrainian crisis.

Feb. 2014.

Revolution of Dignity takes place and President Yanukovich and his government are ousted. Yanukovich and Zlochevsky flee ultimately to Russia. They also had been taking billions of dollars out of Ukraine and using banks all over the world for laundering including at least one prominent US financial institution. The amount involving US is said to be \$7 billion.

April, May 2014

Zlochevsky places Hunter Biden, son of then VP Joe Biden and Hunter Archer, his partner and former aide to then Secretary of State John Kerry on the Board of BURISMA. Their third partner in Rosemont Seneca Capital is John Heinz, stepson of Kerry. Neither has any experience with natural gas exploration. Witnesses and documents indicate Zlochevsky hired them to influence the Obama government and in particular VP Biden.

May 25, 2014.

Petro Poroshenko elected President of Ukraine.

Aug. 20, 2014.

Prosecutor General Viktor Shokin opens criminal investigation of BURISMA and Hunter Biden identified as a person of interest in the investigation.

Jan. 2015.

Zlochevsky named a fugitive by Ukraine government. H. Biden and Archer remain on Board of this company despite obvious evidence of substantial corruption.

May 26, 2015.

H. Biden meets for breakfast with Deputy Secretary of State Tony Blinken regarding concerns about BURISMA.

Dec 7, 2015.

VP Biden tells Poroshenko that he must dismiss Prosecutor General Viktor Shokin allegedly for unspecified corruption. Unclear whether they discuss that VP Biden's son is now a major figure in BURISMA and deeply involved in the investigation.

Dec. 9, 2015.

H.Biden and Archer meet at State regarding BURISMA.

Feb. 11, 18, 19, 2016.

VP Biden and Poroshenko talk on phone including on subject of removing Prosecutor General who is investigating VP Biden's son.

Mar. 22, 2016.

VP Biden threatens Poroshenko with not receiving the much needed next \$1 billion loan guarantee unless he removes the Prosecutor General. If the loan guarantee were not executed Ukraine would go into loan default.

Mar. 29, 2016.

Ukraine Parliament fires Prosecutor General Shokin.

Mar. 31, 2016.

VP Biden arrives in Ukraine announces \$1billion loan guarantee.

April 14, 2016.

VP Biden calls Poroshenko and discusses appointment of a new Prosecutor General.

Mar. 12, 2016.

Yuriy Lutsenko named as new Prosecutor General. Lutsenko was a hero of Ukraine for having spent 1/2 years in prison during the pro-Russian Yanukovych government.

Mar. 2016.

VP Biden praises the appointment of Lutsenko.

Mar. April 2016.

Prosecutor General Lutsenko meets with US Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch. Yovanovitch tells Lutsenko that he must drop investigation of individuals and institutions. The list includes an organization run by George Soros. Lutsenko is aware that Yovanovitch is very close to Biden and Soros.

June 15, 2016.

Ukrainian law enforcement agency announces it has uncovered a massive fraud scheme involving Biden's company BURISMA.

June 15, 2016.

Ukrainian PM Volodymyr Groysman meets with VP Biden, Assistant Secretary of State Victoria Nuland and a representative of George Soros.

Nov. 2, 2016.

Prosecutor General's Office announces closing of BURISMA case.

Jan. 17-19, 2016.

VP Biden makes his last of 9 to 13 visits to Ukraine.

Jan. 25, 2016.

Joe Biden addresses the Council on Foreign Relations in DC and brags about strong arming President Poroshenko to remove Prosecutor General. BIDEN FAILS TO MENTION THAT HIS SON WAS A MAJOR FIGURE IN BURISMA'S FRAUD, which was at that time under investigation by Prosecutor General Shokin.

REVISED



As Russia collusion fades, Ukraine plot to help Clinton emerges

BY JOHN SOLOMON, OPINION CONTRIBUTOR — 03/20/19 07:30 PM EDT.
THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY CONTRIBUTORS ARE THEIR OWN AND NOT THE VIEW OF THE HILL

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Krystal Ball: Trump-Russia controversy won't end until the full Mueller report is released

NEWS — 13M 51S AGO



After nearly three years and millions of tax dollars, the Trump-Russia collusion probe is about to be resolved. Emerging in its place is newly unearthed evidence suggesting another foreign effort to influence the 2016 election — this time, in favor of the Democrats.

Ukraine's top prosecutor divulged in an interview aired Wednesday on [Hill.TV](#) that he has opened an investigation into whether his country's law enforcement apparatus intentionally leaked financial records during the 2016 U.S. presidential campaign about then-Trump campaign chairman [Paul Manafort](#) in an effort to sway the election in favor of [Hillary Clinton](#).

The leak of the so-called black ledger files to U.S. media prompted Manafort's resignation from the Trump campaign and gave rise to one of the key allegations in the Russia collusion probe that has dogged Trump for the last two and a half years.

Ukraine Prosecutor General Yuri Lutsenko's probe was prompted by a Ukrainian parliamentarian's release of a tape recording purporting to quote a top law enforcement official as saying his agency leaked the Manafort financial records to help Clinton's campaign.

The parliamentarian also secured a [court ruling](#) that the leak amounted to "an illegal intrusion into the American election campaign," Lutsenko told me. Lutsenko said the tape recording is a serious enough allegation to warrant opening a probe, and one of his concerns is that the Ukrainian



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law enforcement agency involved had frequent contact with the Obama administration's U.S. Embassy in Kiev at the time.

"Today we will launch a criminal investigation about this and we will give legal assessment of this information," Lutsenko told me.

Lutsenko, before becoming prosecutor general, was a major activist against Russia's influence in his country during the tenure of Moscow-allied former President Viktor Yanukovich. He became chief prosecutor in 2016 as part of anti-corruption reforms instituted by current President Petro Poroshenko, an ally of the U.S. and Western countries.

Unlike the breathless start to the Russia collusion allegations — in which politicians and news media alike declared a Watergate-sized crisis before the evidence was fully investigated — the Ukraine revelations deserve to be investigated before being accepted.

After all, Ukraine is dogged by rampant corruption. It is a frequent target of Russian President Vladimir Putin's dirty tricks. And it is a country that, just last year, faked a journalist's death for one day, reportedly to thwart an assassination plot.

But the chief prosecutor, a member of parliament and a court seemingly have enough weight to warrant serious scrutiny of their allegations and an analysis of the audio tape.

Furthermore, the mystery of how the Manafort black ledger files got leaked to American media has never been solved. They surfaced two years after the FBI investigated Manafort over his Ukraine business activities but declined to move forward in 2014 for lack of evidence.

We now have strong evidence that retired British spy Christopher Steele began his quest in what ultimately became the infamous Russia collusion dossier with a series of conversations with top Justice Department official Bruce Ohr between December 2015 and February 2016 about securing evidence against Manafort.

We know the FBI set up shop in the U.S. embassy in Kiev to assist its Ukraine-Manafort inquiry — a common practice on foreign-based probes — while using Steele as an informant at the start of its Russia probe. And we know Clinton's campaign was using a law firm to pay an opposition research firm for Steele's work in an effort to stop Trump from winning the presidency, at the same time Steele was aiding the FBI.

Those intersections, coupled with the new allegations by Ukraine's top prosecutor, are reason enough to warrant a serious, thorough investigation.

If Ukraine law enforcement figures who worked frequently with the U.S. Embassy did leak the Manafort documents in an effort to influence the American election for Clinton, the public deserves to know who knew what, and when.

Lutsenko's interview with HillTV raises another troubling dynamic: The U.S. Embassy and the chief Ukrainian prosecutor, who America entrusts with fighting corruption inside an allied country, currently have a dysfunctional relationship.

In our interview, Lutsenko accused the Obama-era U.S. Embassy in 2016 of interfering in his ability to prosecute corruption cases, saying the U.S. ambassador gave him a list of defendants that he would not be allowed to

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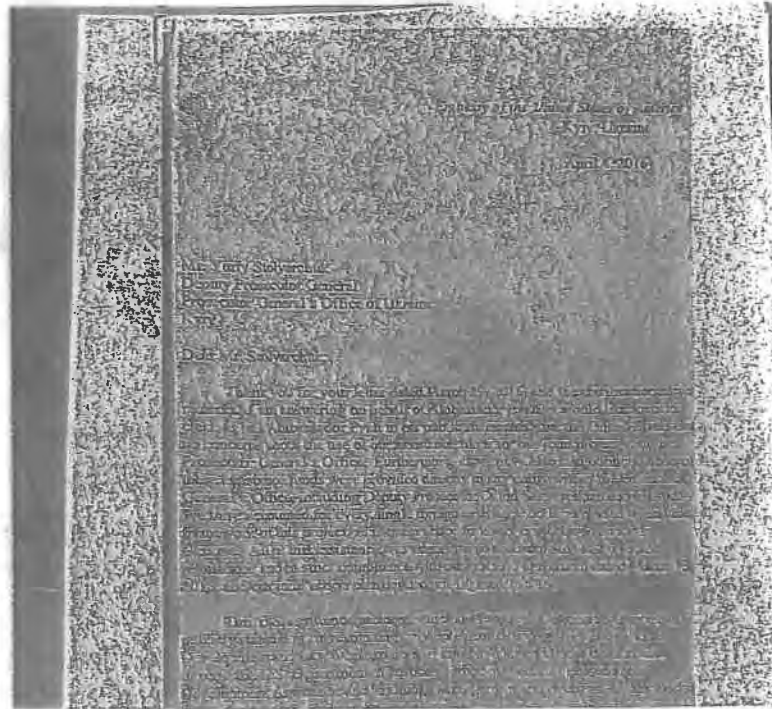
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pursue and then refused to cooperate in an early investigation into the alleged misappropriation of U.S. aid in Ukraine.

Lutsenko provided me with a letter from the embassy, supporting part of his story by showing that a U.S. official did in fact ask him to stand down on the misappropriation-of-funds case. "We are gravely concerned about this investigation for which we see no basis," an embassy official named George Kent wrote to the prosecutor's office.



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. 1 of 2



The State Department on Wednesday issued a statement declaring that it no longer financially supports Lutsenko's office in its anti-corruption mission and considers his allegation about the do-not-prosecute list "an outright fabrication."

My reporting, however, indicates Lutsenko isn't the only person complaining about the U.S. Embassy in Kiev.

Last year, when he served as House Rules Committee chairman, Rep. Pete Sessions (R-Texas) wrote a private letter asking Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to recall the current U.S. ambassador, alleging that she made disparaging statements about President Trump.

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

May 9, 2018

PRIVATE

The Honorable Michael Pompeo
Secretary
United States Department of State
2201 C St. NW
Washington, DC 20520-0099

Dear Secretary Pompeo:

I wanted to bring to your attention an interaction that I recently had with individuals regarding the current U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine.

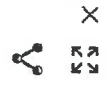
As you likely know, Marie Yovanovitch is the U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine. She previously served as Ambassador to the Republic of Armenia (2003-2011) and the Kyrgyz Republic (2005-2008). I have received notice of concrete evidence from close companions that Ambassador Yovanovitch has spoken privately and repeatedly about her disdain for the current Administration in a way that might call for the expulsion of Ms. Yovanovitch as U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine immediately.

I kindly ask you to consider terminating her ambassadorship and find a replacement as soon as possible. If you would like to discuss this matter further, I can be reached directly at [REDACTED]

Thank you for reviewing this matter.

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1 of 1



The ambassador "has spoken privately and repeatedly about her disdain for the current administration in a way that might call for the expulsion" of America's top diplomat in Ukraine, Sessions wrote.

Such dysfunction does not benefit either country, especially when Russia is lurking around the corner, hoping to regain its influence in the former Soviet republic.

Investigating what's going on in the U.S. Embassy in Kiev, and whether elements in Ukraine tried to influence the 2016 U.S. election to help Clinton, are essential steps to rebooting a key relationship.

John Solomon is an award-winning investigative journalist whose work over the years has exposed U.S. and FBI intelligence failures before the Sept. 11 attacks, federal scientists' misuse of foster children and veterans in drug experiments, and numerous cases of political corruption. He serves as an investigative columnist and executive vice president for video at The Hill.

TAGS HILLARY CLINTON PAUL MANAFORT PETE SESSIONS DONALD TRUMP MIKE POMPEO
UKRAINE RUSSIA 2016 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION





Top Ukrainian justice official says US ambassador gave him a do not prosecute list



3/20/2019

Ukrainian Prosecutor General Yuriy Lutsenko told Hill.TV's John Solomon in an interview that aired Wednesday that U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch gave him a do not prosecute list during their first meeting.

"Unfortunately, from the first meeting with the U.S. ambassador in Kiev, [Yovanovitch] gave me a list of people whom we should not prosecute," Lutsenko, who took his post in 2016, told Hill.TV last week.

"My response of that is it is inadmissible. Nobody in this country, neither our president nor our parliament nor our ambassador, will stop me from prosecuting whether there is a crime," he continued.

The State Department called Lutsenko's claim of receiving a do not prosecute list, "an outright fabrication."

"We have seen reports of the allegations," a department spokesperson told Hill.TV. "The United States is not currently providing any assistance to the Prosecutor General's Office (PGO), but did previously attempt to support fundamental justice sector reform, including in the PGO, in the aftermath of the 2014 Revolution of Dignity. When the political will for genuine reform by successive Prosecutors General proved lacking, we exercised our fiduciary responsibility to the American taxpayer and redirected assistance to more productive projects."

Lutsenko also said that he has not received funds amounting to nearly \$4 million that the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine was supposed to allocate to his office, saying that "the situation was actually rather strange" and pointing to the fact that the funds were designated, but "never received."

"At that time we had a case for the embezzlement of the U.S. government technical assistance worth 4 million U.S. dollars, and in that regard, we had this dialogue," he said. "At that time, [Yovanovitch] thought that our interviews of Ukrainian citizens, of Ukrainian civil servants, who were frequent visitors of the U.S. Embassy put a shadow on that anti-corruption policy."

"Actually, we got the letter from the U.S. Embassy, from the ambassador, that the money that we are speaking about [was] under full control of the U.S. Embassy, and that the U.S. Embassy did not require our legal assessment of these facts," he said. "The situation was actually rather strange because the funds we are talking about were designated for the prosecutor general's office also and we told [them] we have never seen those, and the U.S. Embassy replied there was no problem."

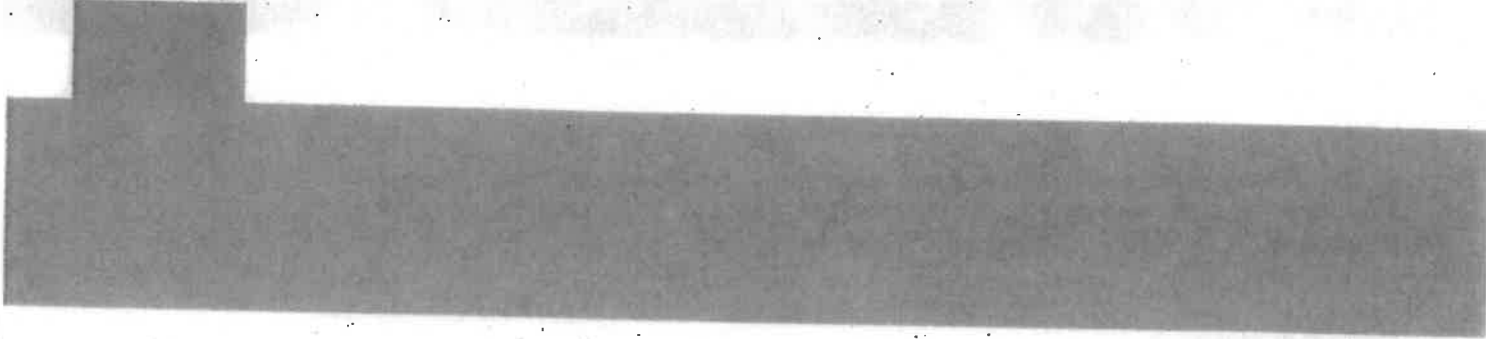
"The portion of the funds namely 4.4 million U.S. dollars were designated and were foreseen for the recipient Prosecutor General's office. But we have never received it," he said.

Yovanovitch previously served as the U.S. ambassador to Armenia under former presidents Obama and George W. Bush, as well as ambassador to Kyrgyzstan under Bush. She also served as ambassador to Ukraine under Obama.

Former Rep. Pete Sessions (R-Texas), who was at the time House Rules Committee chairman, voiced concerns about Yovanovitch in a letter to the State Department last year in which he said he had proof the ambassador had spoken of her "disdain" for the Trump administration.

— Hill.TV Staff

Updated at 11:01 a.m.

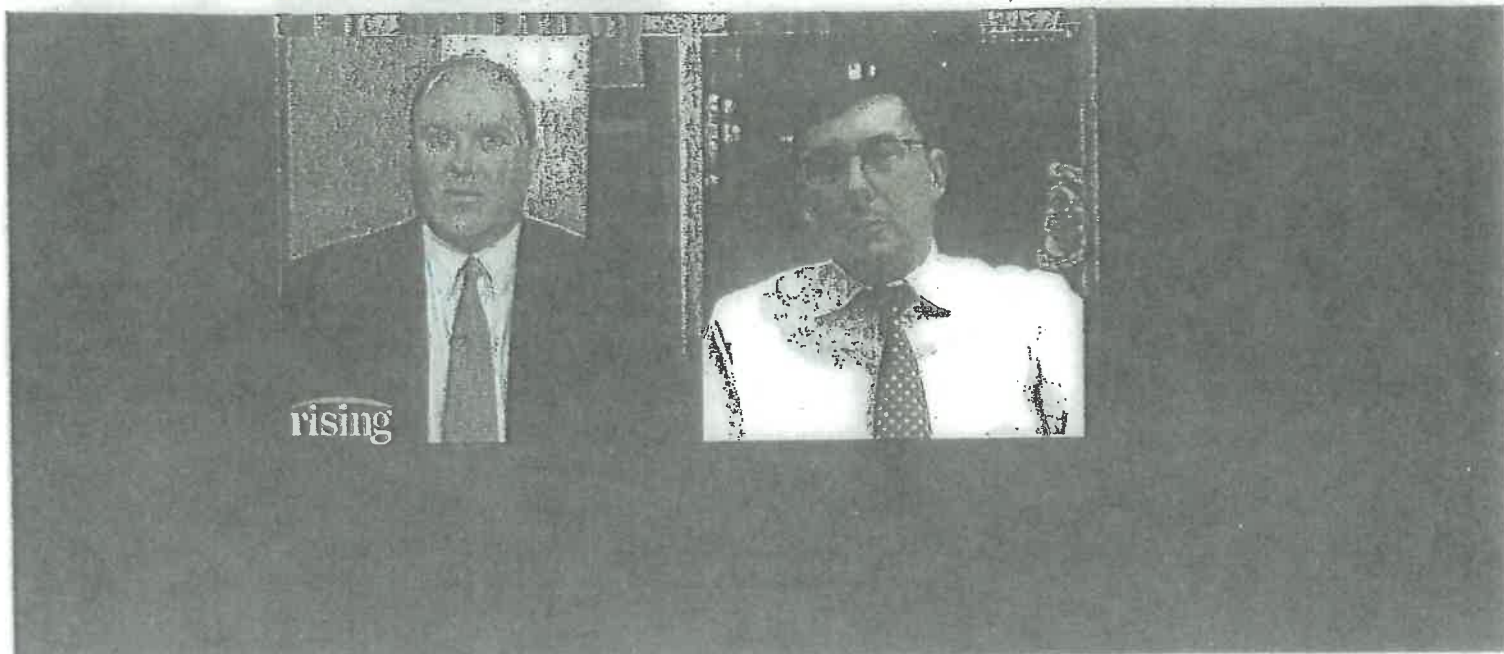




Senior Ukrainian official says he's opened probe into US election interference

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3/20/2019

Ukrainian Prosecutor General Yuriy Lutsenko told Hill.TV's John Solomon in an interview aired on Wednesday that he has opened a probe into alleged attempts by Ukrainians to interfere in the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

"Today we will launch a criminal investigation about this and we will give legal assessment of this information," Lutsenko said last week.

Lutsenko is probing a claim from a member of the Ukrainian parliament that the director of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine (NABU), Artem Sytnyk, attempted to influence the 2016 vote to the benefit of Democratic presidential nominee [Hillary Clinton](#).

A State Department spokesman told Hill.TV that officials are aware of news reports regarding Sytnyk.

"We have always emphasized the need for deep, comprehensive, and timely reforms that respond to the demands the Ukrainian people made during the Revolution of Dignity: an end to systemic corruption, faster economic growth, and a European future for all Ukrainians," a State spokesperson told Hill.TV.

"We have consistently said that Ukraine's long-term success and resilience depends on its commitment to reform, in particular the fight to address corruption. To succeed, Ukraine needs committed government officials and strong anti-corruption institutions. The United States is committed to engaging with our partners in Ukraine, including on efforts to roll back the persistent corruption that continues to threaten Ukraine's national security, prosperity, and democratic development."

NABU issued a statement on Friday, calling Lutsenko's comments "not true and is an absurd effort to discredit an independent anti-corruption agency."

Hill.TV has also reached out to the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine and Clinton's spokesperson for comment.

"According to the member of parliament of Ukraine, he got the court decision that the NABU official conducted an illegal intrusion into the American election campaign," Lutsenko said.

"It means that we think Mr. Sytnyk, the NABU director, officially talked about criminal investigation with Mr. [Paul] Manafort, and at the same time, Mr. Sytnyk stressed that in such a way, he wanted to assist the campaign of Ms. Clinton," he continued.

Solomon asked Lutsenko about reports that a member of Ukraine's parliament obtained a tape of the current head of the NABU saying that he was attempting to help Clinton win the 2016 presidential election, as well as connections that helped release the black-ledger files that exposed Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort's wrongdoing in Ukraine.

"This member of parliament even attached the audio tape where several men, one of which had a voice similar to the voice of Mr. Sytnyk, discussed the matter."

— Hill.TV Staff



Sent from ProtonMail Mobile

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

From: John Solomon <john@solomonmediallc.com>

Date: On Tue, Mar 26, 2019 at 12:52 PM

Subject: Fwd: Outline of Soros reporting, including embedded documents

To: Lev Parnas <lparnas@globalenergyproducers.com>, Victoria Toensing <vt@digenovatoensing.com>, Joe diGenova <jd@digenovatoensing.com>

Cc:

US embassy pressed Ukraine to drop probe of George Soros group during 2016 election

By John Solomon

While the 2016 presidential election was raging in America, Ukrainian prosecutors ran into some unexpectedly strong headwinds as they pursued an investigation into the activities of a nonprofit in their homeland known as the Anti-Corruption Action Centre (AntAC).

The focus on AntAC -- whose youthful street activists famously wore "Ukraine F*&k Corruption" t-shirts -- was part of a larger probe by Ukraine's Prosecutor General's office into whether \$4.4 million in U.S. funds to fight corruption inside the former Soviet republic had been improperly diverted.

The prosecutors would soon learn the resistance they were facing was blowing directly from the U.S. embassy in Kiev, where the Obama administration took the rare step of trying to press the Ukrainian government to back off its investigation of both the U.S. aid and the group.

"The investigation into the Anti-Corruption Action Center (sic), based on the assistance they have received from us, is similarly misplaced," then-U.S. embassy Charge d' Affaires George Kent wrote the prosecutor's office in April 2016 that also argued U.S. officials had no concerns about how the U.S. aide had been spent.

At the time, the nation's Prosecutor General had just been fired under pressure from the United States, and a permanent replacement had not yet been named.

A few months later, Yuriy Lutsenko, widely regarded as a hero in the West for spending two years in prison after fighting Russian aggression in his country, was named the new prosecutor general and invited to meet the new U.S. Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch.

Lutsenko told me he was stunned when the ambassador "gave me a list of people whom we should not prosecute." The list included a founder of the AntAC group as well as two members of Parliament who vocally supported the group's anti-corruption reform agenda, according to a source directly familiar with the meeting.

It turns out the group that Ukrainian law enforcement was probing was being co-funded both by the Obama administration and the liberal megadonor George Soros. And it was collaborating with the very FBI agents investigating then-Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort's business activities with pro-Russian figures in Ukraine.

The implied message to Ukraine's prosecutors was clear: Don't target AntAC in the middle of an America presidential election where Soros was backing Hillary Clinton to succeed another Soros-favorite, Barack Obama, Ukrainian officials said.

"We ran right into a buzzsaw, and we got bloodied," a senior Ukrainian official told me.

Lutsenko suggested the embassy applied pressure because it did not want Americans to see who was being funded with its tax dollars. "At the time Ms. Ambassador thought our interviews of the

Ukrainian citizens, of the Ukrainian civil servants who were frequent visitors in the U.S. embassy, could cast a shadow on that anti-corruption policy," he said.

State officials told me privately they wanted Ukraine prosecutors to back off AntAC because they feared the investigation was simply retribution for the group's high-profile efforts to force anticorruption reforms inside Ukraine, some of which took authorities and prestige from the Prosecutor General's office.

But at the same time, the officials acknowledged, it was an unusual intervention. "We're not normally in the business of telling a country's police force who they can and can't pursue, unless it involves an American citizen we think is wrongly accused," one official said.

In the end, no action was taken against AntAC and it remains thriving today. Nonetheless, the anecdote is taking on new significance.

First, it conflicts with the State Department's official statement last week after Lutsenko first mentioned the do-not-prosecute list. The embassy responded the claim was a fabrication and a sign that corruption was alive and well inside Ukraine.

But Kent's letter unequivocally shows the embassy did press Ukrainian prosecutors to back off what normally would be considered an internal law enforcement matter inside a sovereign country. And more than a half dozen U.S. and Ukrainian sources confirmed to me the AntAC case wasn't the only one where American officials exerted pressure on Ukrainian investigators in 2016.

I asked State to explain the letter and the inclusion of the Soros-connected names during the meeting, and it demurred. "As a general rule, we don't read out private diplomatic meetings," it responded. "Ambassador Yovanovitch represents the President of the United States in Ukraine, and America stands behind her and her statements."

The second significance is the AntAC anecdote highlights a little-known fact that the pursuit of foreign corruption has resulted in an unusual alliance between the U.S. government and a political megadonor.

After the Obama Justice Department launched its Kleptocracy Initiative a decade ago to prosecute corruption in other countries, the State Department, the Justice Department and the FBI outsourced some of its work in Ukraine to groups funded by Soros.

The Hungarian-American businessman is one of the largest donors to American liberal causes, including Hillary Clinton's 2016 campaign, a champion of the U.S. kleptocracy crackdown and a man with extensive business interests in Ukraine.

One key U.S. partner was AntAC, which received 59 percent (or \$1 million) of its nearly \$1.7 million budget since 2012 from U.S. budgets tied to State and nearly \$290,000 from Soros' International Renaissance Foundation, according to the group's donor disclosure records.

The U.S.-Soros collaboration was visible in Kiev. Several senior Justice Department officials and FBI agents appeared in pictures as participants or attendees at Soros-sponsored events and conferences.

One attendee was Karen Greenaway, then the-FBI supervisor in charge of international fraud cases and one of the lead agents in the Manafort investigation in Ukraine. She attended multiple such events and won glowing praise in a social post from AntAC's own executive director.

In one event during 2016, both Greenaway and Ambassador Yovanovitch participated alongside AntAC's executive director Daria Kaleniuk while Lutsenko was present. The message was clear: the embassy supported AntAC.

The FBI confirmed Greenaway's contacts with the Soros group, saying they were part of her investigative work.

"In furtherance of the FBI's mission and in the course of their duties, FBI employees routinely travel and participated in public forums in an official capacity. At a minimum, all such travel and speaking engagements are authorized by the employee's direct supervisor and can receive further authorization all the way up to the relevant division head, along with an ethics official determination," the bureau said.

Greenaway recently retired, and Soros' AntAC soon after announced she was joining its supervisory board.

Internal memos from Soros' umbrella charity organization, the Open Society Foundations, describe a concerted strategy of creating friendships inside key government agencies like State, DOJ and the FBI that can be leveraged inside the countries Soros was targeting for anti-corruption activism.

"We have broadly recognized the importance of developing supportive constituencies in order to make headway in tightening the global web of anticorruption accountability," a Feb. 21, 2014 memo states. "We first conceived of this in terms of fostering and helping to build a political environment favorable to high-level anti-corruption cases.

That same memo shows Soros' organization wanted to make Ukraine a top priority starting in 2014 and planned to use the Anti-Corruption Action Centre as its lead.

"Ukraine: Behind the scenes advice and support to Ukrainian partner Anti-Corruption Action Centre's efforts to generate corruption litigation in Europe and the U.S. respecting state assets stolen by senior Ukrainian leaders," the memo state.

The memo included a chart of Ukrainians the Soros team wanted pursued. Multiple figures on the chart had ties to Manafort.

Senior U.S. law enforcement officials confirmed to me that the early kleptocracy collaborations inside Ukraine led to highly visible U.S. actions against both the oligarch Dmitri Firtash, a major target of the Soros group, and Manafort. Firtash is now represented by former Hillary Clinton lawyer Lanny Davis and former U.S. Attorney Dan Webb.

Documents posted online by the Open Society Foundations show that after U.S. officials scored some early successes in kleptocracy actions in Ukraine, such as asset forfeitures, AntAC requested to receive some of the seized monies.

"Ukrainian NGO Anticorruption Action Centre (AntAC) petitioned the United States Justice Department on behalf of Ukrainian civil society to dedicate the nearly \$3 million in forfeited and seized assets allegedly laundered by former Ukrainian Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko, to creating an anticorruption training facility," a 2015 foundation document stated.

Spokespersons for AntAC and Open Society Foundations did not respond to repeated request for comment.

Michael Vashon, a spokesman for Soros, deferred any comment about AntAC to the group. But he did he confirm his boss supported the continued investigation of Russia collusion allegations against Trump well past 2016.

Vashon said Soros wrote a sizable check from his personal funds in fall 2017 to a new group called the Democracy Integrity Project started by a former FBI agent and Senate staffer named Daniel Jones to continue "investigation and research into foreign interference in American elections and European elections.

Vashon said the group asked Soros not to divulge the size of his contribution and Soros later learned the group hired Fusion GPS, the same firm that was paid by Hillary Clinton's campaign and the Democratic Party to create the now-infamous Steele dossier alleging Trump-Russia collusion.

The he-said-she-said battle playing out between Ukraine's chief prosecutor and the American ambassador doesn't benefit either side. Rather, an honest, complete and transparent account of what the embassy communicated to Ukraine's law enforcement does.

And the tale of AntAC raises some cogent questions.

- Why would the U.S. embassy intervene on a Ukrainian internal investigation and later deny it exerted such pressure?
- Did Soros' role as a major political funder have any impact?
- Do Americans want U.S. tax dollars commingled with activists' private funds when it comes to anti-corruption probes?

Someone in State and Congress should try to get the answers.