United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

November 22, 2019

Case No. F-2019-06331

Melanie Sloan
American Oversight
1030 15th Street NW, B255
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Sloan:

In the course of searching for records responsive to the priority, narrowed portions of your above-referenced Freedom of Information Act requests, the Department located the enclosed document. While its provenance could not be confirmed by today's deadline, the Department has nevertheless processed the document for production to you today out of an abundance of caution. Upon review, the Department determined that the document may be released in full.

If you have any questions, your attorney may contact Trial Attorney Joshua Abbuhl at (202) 616-8366 or Joshua.Abbuhl@usdoj.gov. Please refer to the case numbers, F-2019-06331 and F-2019-06332, and the civil action number, 19-cv-2934, in all correspondence about this case.

Sincerely,

Susan C. Weetman

Susan C. Weetman
Deputy Director
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated.

RELEASE IN FULL

Secretary Pompeo

ATTN: Ruth

THE WHITE HOUSE

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. Shoken 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 Ukaraine 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:

On January 25, 2019 Mr. Yuriy Lutsenko the current Prosecutor General of Ukraine was present at 445 Park Ave, New York, NY. He was present to speak about corruption in Ukraine. He was accompanied by Glib Zagoriy, Gyunduz Mamedov, Lev Parnas, Igor Fruman. Also present were Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and George Boyle.

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. Lusenko 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. Alexsander Kwasnewski $ 1,150,000

2. Alan Apter $ 302,885
3. Devon Archer Amount not revealed by Latvia
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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 Geofrey 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.

End of interview:

Yuriy Lutsenko Continued:

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Mr. Yuriy Lutsenko stated that in 2010 there was a system set up that was comprised of five hundred (500) companies. This system was set up in order to remove money from the Ukraine have it laundered and then collect the laundered money. These companies were all headed by one Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Lutsenko stated that about twenty (20) to forty (40) of these companies were shell companies. He further stated that there were twenty-three (23) companies located off shore, and that two of them had approximately seven billion dollars that were placed in the Templeton Fund. The "system" ran similar to a pyramid scheme and all of the beneficiaries were pro-Russian. Mr. Lutsenk stated that there was about one point five billion dollars in International Bonds inside the Ukraine which allowed for the recovery of that money.

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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End of interview:

3 days later

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End of interview:

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HOTELS

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2019-06331 Doc. No. C06852069 Date: 11/22/2019

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 yo[illegible] 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 Sakvarelidze 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 funding is done by the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv, through the International Narcotics and Law Enforcement section.

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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 Procuracy 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. Sakvarelidze, 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 Tombinski, we are gravely 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 most 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 building its capacity to [illegible] stolen assets and combat corruption within the government.

Sincerely,

[illegible]

Timelines

TRUMP
HOTELS

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2019-06331 Doc. No. C06852069 Date: 11/22/2019

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 Washinggon 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.

Key Events in Burisma Investigation

February 2014.
VP Joe Biden named by President Obama to be U.S. point man on Ukrainian crisis. Meets with President Viktor Yanukovych. Yanukovych 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/kVYKE5CEpSjptxE_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 Yanukovych. https://www.cnbc.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, since 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 ra
the pro-Russian Ukrainian Gover
Yanukovych was, and had been,
company many valuable gas expl
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 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 Yanukovych 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 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

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 Volodymr 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.

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2019-06331 Doc. No. C06852069 Date: 11/22/2019

THE HILL

As Russia collusion fades, Ukr[a]… 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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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 Yurii 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 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 Yanukovych. 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.

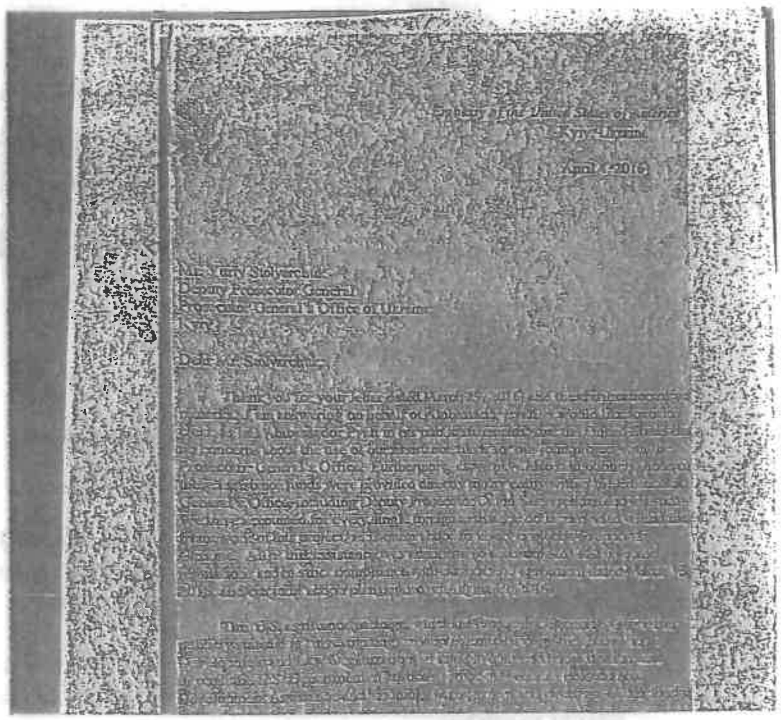
Those intersections, coupled with the new allegations by Ukraine's top prosecutor, are reason enough to warrant a serious, thorough investigation.

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 Hill.TV 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 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.

[redacted]

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

[redacted]

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 (2008-2011) 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,

[redacted]

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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

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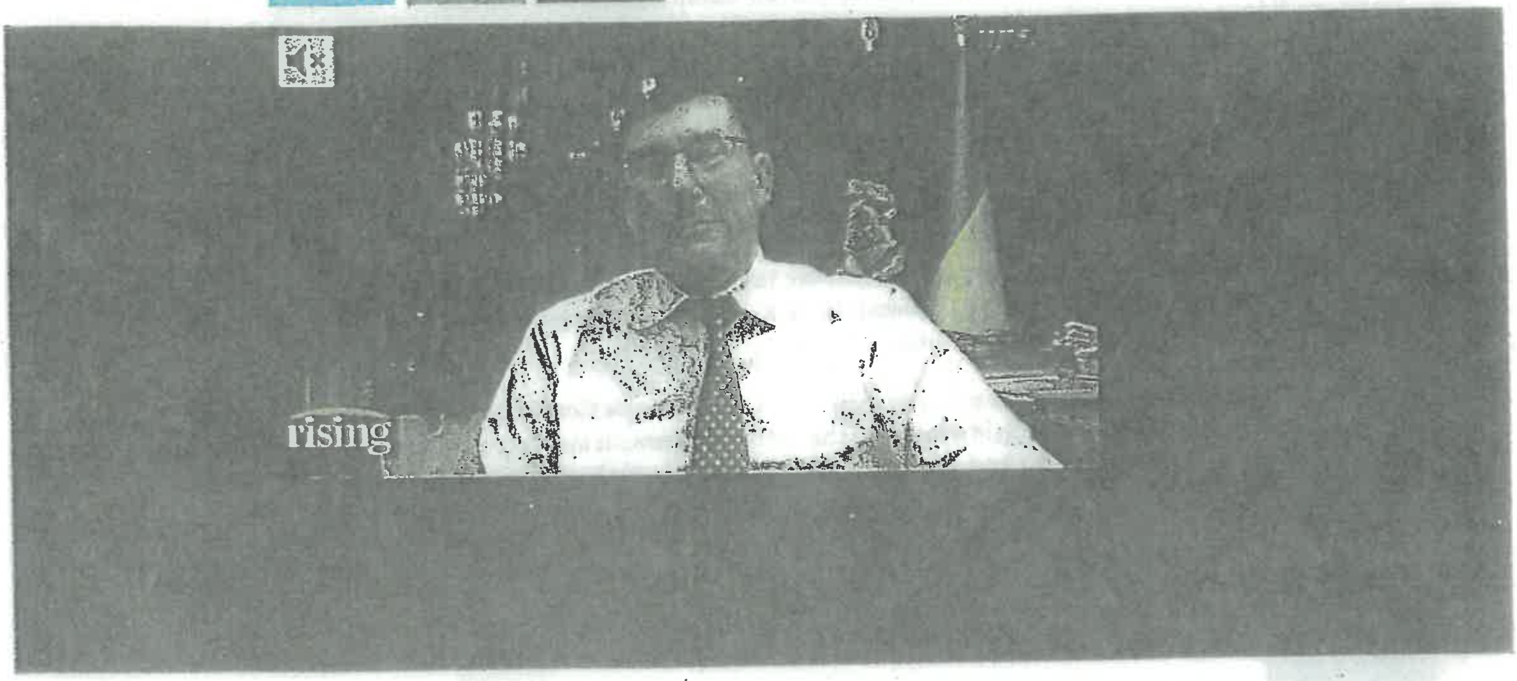
[redacted]

THE HILL

Top Ukrainian justice official says US ambassador gave him a do not prose 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."

Hill.TV has reached out to the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine for comment.

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

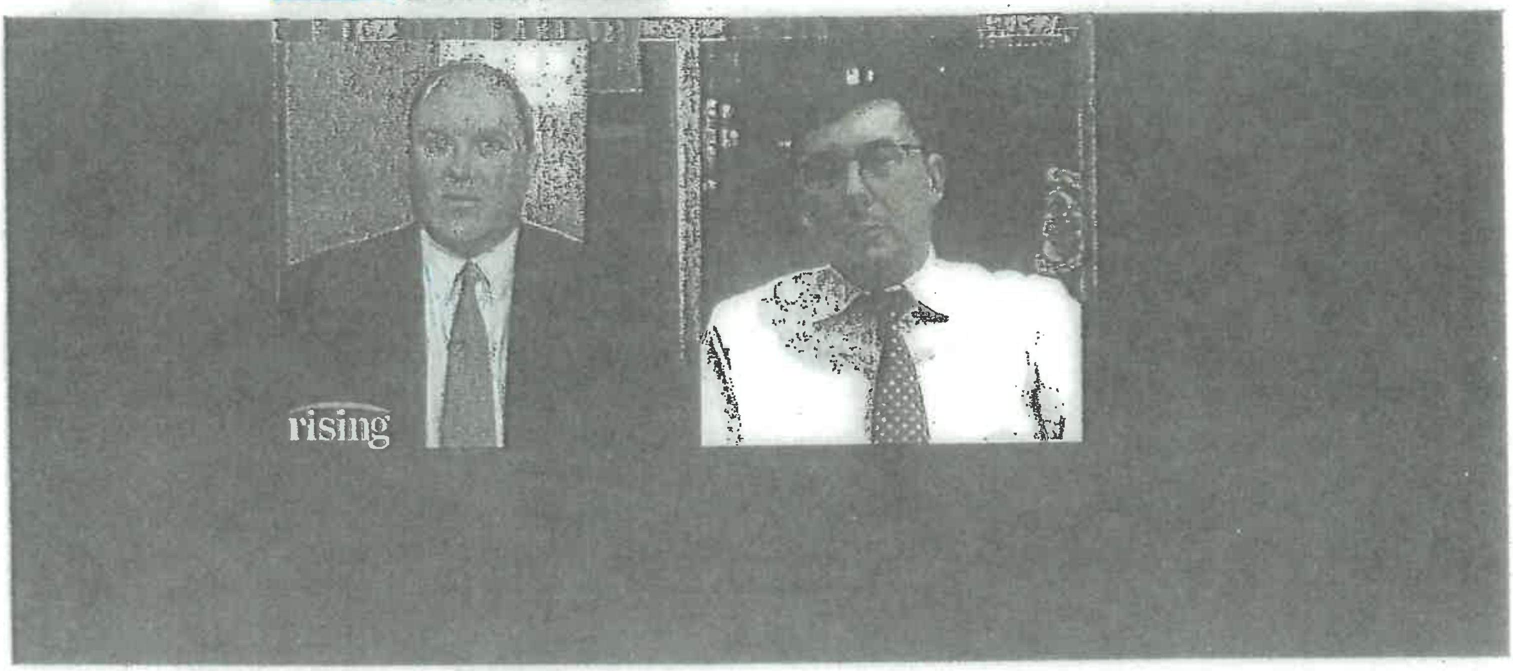
Updated at 11:01 a.m.

[redacted]

THE HILL

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

TWEET SHARE



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

THE HILL

Sent from ProtonMail Mobile

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: John Solomon<john@solomonmedialic.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, Yurii 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.