



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

January 22, 2021

Case No. FL-2020-00017

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

Dear Ms. Sloan:

As noted in our letter dated December 11, 2020, we are processing your request for material under the Freedom of Information Act (the "FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552. The Department has identified three additional responsive record subject to the FOIA. We have determined that all three records can be released in part.

An enclosure explains the FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material. Where we have made excisions, the applicable FOIA exemptions are marked on each document. All non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released, and is enclosed

This concludes the processing of your request. If you have any questions, you may contact Trial Attorney, Joshua C. Abbuhl at Joshua.Abbuhl@usdoj.gov; (202) 616-2531. Please refer to the case number, F-2019-06331/FL-2020-00017, and the civil action number, 19-cv-02934, in all correspondence about this case.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Miller
Chief, Programs and Policies Division
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated.

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

From:	(b)(6)	
To:	(b)(6)	
Subject:	RE: DRAFT: READOUT: Weekly EUR All-Hands Notes (05/13/19) (S//NF)	
Date:	Mon, 13 May 2019 16:55:16 -0400	

Great, thanks.

DECONTROLLED

DECLASSIFIED BY
DAVID NOBLE,
SENIOR REVIEWER,
DECEMBER 29, 2020

Official - Sensitive

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Classified By: (b)(6) Watch Officer, Office:S/ES-O, Agency:Department of State

Declassify On: 5/13/2044

Reasons: (Derived) Classification derived from previous message(s)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 4:55 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: DRAFT: READOUT: Weekly EUR All-Hands Notes (05/13/19) (S//NF)

Looks perfect – no changes send it out....

Official - Sensitive

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Classified By: (b)(6) Watch Officer, Office:S/ES-O, Agency:Department of State

Declassify On: 5/13/2044

Reasons: (Derived) Classification derived from previous message(s)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2019 4:50 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: DRAFT: READOUT: Weekly EUR All-Hands Notes (05/13/19) (S//NF)

Below are notes from the weekly EUR All-Hands Meeting. These notes are for internal Operations Center use only and are not for publication. Please do not redistribute this e-mail.

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Notes from May 13 EUR All-Hands Meeting

The meeting was chaired by DAS M. Palmer.

Key Points

- The Secretary is in Brussels until May 14. He will then travel to Sochi for a day trip before returning to the United States.
- The Secretary has meetings with FM Hunt and FM Le Drian in Brussels.
- (b)(5)

EXEC

- Ambassador Sondland is travelling in the United States with a European delegation and will head to Louisiana May 14.
- Woodward Price is now the EUR/ERA Director.
- TIP reports are in the process of being finalized. (b)(5)
- Special Envoy T. Yazdgerdi was noted for exemplary work.

Albania

- Protests during the previous weekend escalated quickly.

Georgia

- (b)(5)
- The Georgian Prime Minister is expected to visit the United States June 11-12.

Montenegro

- DAS Palmer requested a call with the Montenegro Ambassador to the United States on May 13.

Norway

- A Norwegian ship was hit by a projectile over the previous weekend and the responsible party is still unknown.

Russia

- The Secretary's scheduled visit to Moscow was cancelled to due scheduling limitations.

Turkey

- (b)(7)(E)
- Under Secretary Hale has requested a meeting with the Turkish Ambassador.

Ukraine

- Poroshenko has made several appointments to senior positions in advance of his end of tenure as president.
- Ukraine will announce the date of its presidential inauguration on May 14, with the expected date of June 1.
- Rudy Giuliani will no longer travel to Kyiv.

Official - Sensitive

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~

Classified By: (b)(6) Watch Officer, Office:S/ES-O, Agency:Department of State

Declassify On: 5/13/2044

Reasons: Derived Per DSCG.

Sender:	(b)(6)	
Recipient:	(b)(6)	

From:	(b)(6)
To:	Hale, David (b)(6)
CC:	(b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6)
Subject:	Fwd: Ukraine tweet update - Embassy/Masha preelection vid
Date:	2019/03/24 16:45:17
Type:	Note

Ambassador, (b)(5)
(b)(6) is looped in on both and ready to help.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b)(6)
Date: March 24, 2019 at 8:43:35 AM PDT
To: (b)(6)
 (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Ukraine tweet update - Embassy/Masha preelection vid

(b)(5)

Get Outlook for iOS

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 11:29 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Ukraine tweet update - Embassy/Masha preelection vid

Got it.

Get Outlook for iOS

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 11:26 AM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: Fwd: Ukraine tweet update - Embassy/Masha preelection vid

I'll be on a plane in a few hours, though with wifi. See below.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hale, David" [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Date: March 24, 2019 at 8:21:33 AM PDT
To: [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Ukraine tweet update - Embassy/Masha preelection vid

I think an email from me in a few hours then a document)can be out of system) by 5

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 24, 2019, at 11:11 AM,
 wrote:

[REDACTED] (b)(6)

[REDACTED] (b)(6) has reached out to Phil to help.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED] (b)(6)
 [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Date: March 24, 2019 at 7:25:20 AM PDT
To: "Hale, David" [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Ukraine tweet update - Embassy/Masha preelection vid

I am sure [REDACTED] (b)(6) and/or [REDACTED] (b)(6) would be happy to help gather secure or non-secure input. [REDACTED] (b)(5)
 [REDACTED] (b)(6)
 [REDACTED] (b)(5) Within a few hours or later this afternoon?
 Shall I ask [REDACTED] (b)(6) or [REDACTED] (b)(6) to call you? Or I can call you shortly.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 24, 2019, at 7:16 AM, Hale, David

(b)(6) wrote:

Can you help corral this? Or (b)(6)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hale, David"

(b)(6)

Date: March 24, 2019
at 10:16:10 AM EDT

To: "Reeker, Philip
T"

(b)(6)

Cc: (b)(6)

(b)(6)

"Kenna, Lisa D"

(b)(6)

Subject: Re:
Ukraine tweet
update -
Embassy/Masha
preelection vid

Hi, then your team
should send me their
thoughts while you
are out. I want to send
him an email before
you are available
again. We can send a
more detailed product
later after you can
review. I promised
him responses today.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 24, 2019, at
8:52 AM, Reeker,
Philip T

(b)(6)

(b)(6) wrote:

Good
morning.
Focus on
VZ /RUS
this
morning,
but also
the
ongoing
UKR-
related
stuff.

(b)(6)

. But will
monitor
email/ph
ones.
Sent
from my
BlackBerr
y 10
smartpho
ne.

From: Kent, George P (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, March 24, 2019 8:35 AM
To: Reeker, Philip T; Murphy, Michael J; (b)(6)
 (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Ukraine tweet update -
 Embassy/Masha preelection vid

Embassy
 taped two
 videos.
 This one
 is a 90
 second
 public
 service
 announce
 ment,
 urging
 Ukrainian
 s to vote,
 then unite
 to carry
 the
 country
 forward.
<https://youtu.be/6IJxkAPFOjw>
 At the 45
 second
 mark: "...a
 nd i
 promote
 and carry
 out the
 policies
 of the
 Trump
 administr
 ation."

From: Kent, George P
 (b)(6)
Sent: Sunday, March
 24, 2019 8:07 AM
To: Reeker, Philip T;
 Murphy, Michael J;

(b)(6)

Subject: Ukraine tweet
update - Sunday
morning

Morning. Rudy
Giuliani and one of
the other main
tweeters tryin to keep
the Ukraine
connection alive thru
retweets and
reiterating "it was
ukraine" (vice russia).
Separately, embassy
kyiv released a pre
(ukrainian) election
video calling on all
Ukrainians to vote,
and then unite to
carey the country
forward after the vote
regardless of who
wins. Masha slipped
in references to he
being nominated by
various presidents,
serving under others,
as a government
servant loyal to all,
promoting national
interests.

Not quite sure how to
paste a link from FB
with the firewall, but
will try to forward
from my private
account.

From: (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Date: March 24, 2019
at 8:41:03 AM

GMT+2

To:

Cc: EUR-Press

<EUR-Press-

DL@state.gov>

Subject: Reactions to
Hill article - Sunday
morning

A few Ukraine
updates this morning:
Rudy Giuliani also
retweeted the Ryan
Saavedra post
featuring DiGenova
criticizing Amb. Y.
Jack Posobiec of
OANN has some new
Ukraine tweets in the
past hour:

It was Ukraine

It was always

Ukraine

They didn't

even hide it

And a separate tweet
from the same
individual with just
the hashtags:

#UkraineCash

#UkrainiumOne

#UkraineJoe

Not directly related to
this issue, but just for
awareness of other
Ukraine-related topics
the Western media are
covering this
weekend, the AP
published the
following article
Saturday, which has
been picked up by
various media outlets
such as the New York
Times and Fox News.

5,000 nationalists

protest corruption in

Ukraine

KIEV, Ukraine –

About 5,000

nationalist

demonstrators have

held a protest in the

Ukrainian capital of

Kiev calling for

arrests in a defense

industry corruption

case. The Saturday

protest was the latest

in several weeks of

demonstrations by

supporters of the far-

right focusing on

corruption.

A journalistic

investigation in

February reported that

figures close to

President Petro

Poroshenko and a factory controlled by him were involved in an embezzlement scheme. It has become a top issue in the heated campaign ahead of Ukraine's March 31 presidential election.

Poroshenko is trying to get re-elected, but a deep recession, endemic corruption and a war with Russia-backed separatists that has killed some 13,000 people since 2014 are weighing heavily on his ambitions.

Sender:	(b)(6)
	Hale, David (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6)
Sent Date:	2019/03/24 16:45:16
Delivered Date:	2019/03/24 16:45:17

From:	Brechbuhl, Thomas U [REDACTED] (b)(6)
To:	Reeker, Philip T [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Subject:	Re: Update
Date:	2019/03/23 22:03:49
Type:	Note

Got it.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 23, 2019, at 5:50 PM, Reeker, Philip T [REDACTED] (b)(6) wrote:

TUB,

Left you a voice message. P needs to speak on a different matter, secure. So I've abandoned errands and am in an Uber enroute Dept/OPS. I'll reach back out to you after I've dealt with that.

Thanks.

PTR

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Reeker, Philip T
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2019 3:41 PM
To: Brechbuhl, Thomas U
Subject: Re: Update

Perfect. I'll dial you directly. Thanks. P
 Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Brechbuhl, Thomas U
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2019 3:40 PM
To: Reeker, Philip T
Subject: Re: Update

[REDACTED] (b)(6) I will be running errands later this afternoon but will certainly be able to visit with you.

TUB

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 23, 2019, at 3:38 PM, Reeker, Philip T [REDACTED] (b)(6) wrote:

I'm running some errands; should be home close to 17:00; certainly by 17:30. How 'bout I Cal ops and reach out to you as soon as I'm home (with pen and paper)?

Phil

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Brechbuhl, Thomas U
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2019 3:35 PM
To: Reeker, Philip T
Cc: Hale, David
Subject: Re: Update

Phil,

Thanks for the updates. Are you available around 5:00 PM for a quick call?

TUB

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 23, 2019, at 3:22 PM, Reeker, Philip T wrote: (b)(6)

C and P,

(b)(5)

I will forward separately some additional substantive info from George Kent. As noted, will also forward whatever draft statement I receive," and stand by for guidance regarding release.

Phil

+++++

Begin DAS Kent message:

(b)(5)

I reiterated your point, Phil - (b)(5)

(b)(5)

From: Kent, George P (b)(6)

Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2019 12:47 PM

To: Reeker, Philip T; (b)(6)

Cc: Murphy, Michael J

Subject: Re: Ukraine update: Masha statement?

+ Michael

I just got off of WhatsApp with Masha - (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Hale, David
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2019 11:39 AM
To: Reeker, Philip T
Cc: Brechbuhl, Thomas U
Subject: Re: Ukraine update: Laura Ingraham's Friday show, tweets claiming MY recall, and noose image

(b)(5)

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 23, 2019, at 5:34 PM, Reeker, Philip T

(b)(6) wrote:

Good morning Uhrich,
 Looping you in on the latest I've received this morning, re: what DiGenova/Ingraham are stating/claiming.
 (there's also ref below to twitter-based threat against Masha; DS and RSO have that info).
 Phil
 DiGenova said, quote: "In fact, Laura, you mentioned that Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch, contrary to what a lot of people thought, was still in her job. I learned this evening that the President has ordered her dismissal from her post as the United States Ambassador to Ukraine as a result of her activities there, which were complained of by Congressman Sessions. She is known and reported by people there to have badmouthed the President of the United States Donald Trump, to have told Ukrainians not to listen to him or obey his policy because he was going to

be impeached. And finally her activities have caught up with her.”

Ingraham made a side comment that Amb Y should have been removed a year ago, "that's a separate story of what's going on in the State Department," but transitions to ask about Biden's visits to Ukraine.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Kent, George P (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2019 8:33 AM
To: Reeker, Philip T; Murphy, Michael J; (b)(6)
Subject: Ukraine update: Laura Ingraham's Friday show, tweets claiming MY recall, and noose image

Round up of Friday night US media developments - three media monitoring emails (all US based reaction) from Kyiv's IO. The one immediately following below highlighting the nastiest of the tweets was not sent to the wider distro b/c of the nature of implied violence/lynching against MY. (b)(6)

(b)(6)
From: (b)(6)
Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2019 10:05 AM
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
 (b)(6) Yovanovitch, Marie L
 (Kyiv); (b)(6) Tremont,
 Pamela M (Kyiv)
Subject: Some violent imagery on Twitter relating to Amb
 Hi (b)(6)

Not sure if this falls under your jurisdiction exactly, since it does not necessarily appear to be coming from Ukrainian sources, but just flagging that there is some violent imagery seemingly aimed at Amb Y in response to the tweet last night from @JackPosobiec that claimed Amb Y told Embassy staff and Ukrainians that they don't need to pay attention to President Trump because he is going to be impeached. An account @dj4k4000 responded to that post with a photo of a noose labeled "it's for you."

Assume this sort of commentary is somewhat common on Twitter in general, but wanted to flag for you since it seems like an escalation from the posts we've been seeing for the past couple days calling for firing/treason charges/etc.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

SBU

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Saturday, March 23, 2019 6:45 AM

To: (b)(6) Kent, George P; (b)(6)

Tremont, Pamela M (Kyiv); Yovanovitch, Marie L (Kyiv); (b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Cc: EUR-Press

Subject: RE: Reactions to Hill Article (Giuliani Tweet etc)

Following up on my previous email, here's more detail (summary, not full transcript, except where noted with quotation marks) on the discussion on Fox last night about Amb Y, Ukraine, former VP Biden, etc. :

Around minute 43, Ingraham opens this story by noting indictments around Paul Manafort and Ukraine were the most impactful findings of the Mueller investigation.

What's missing from this story? What names from the Obama administration might be wrapped up in this? Ingraham notes that Congressman Pete Sessions sent Sec. Pompeo an urgent letter informing him to remove Amb. Marie Yovanovitch in May 2018, an Obama holdover, who remains in her post today. She reportedly demonstrated clear anti-Trump bias. She's not the only part of Obama's orbit to have extensive exposure in Ukraine. There was then a bit of commentary about attorney Craig from the Obama admin and potential charges. Biden and other officials were actively involved in Ukraine through Trump's inauguration. Biden visited Ukraine 10 days before Trump's inauguration.

Guests Joe DiGenova and journalist Pete Schweitzer (who has a book Secret Empires coming out next week) were introduced.

DiGenova said, quote: "In fact, Laura, you mentioned that Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch, contrary to what a lot of people thought, was still in her job. I learned this evening that the President has ordered her dismissal from her post as the United States Ambassador to Ukraine as a result of her activities there, which were complained of by Congressman Sessions. She is known and reported by people there to have badmouthed the President of the United States Donald Trump, to have told Ukrainians not to listen to him or obey his policy because he was going to be impeached. And finally her activities have caught up with her."

Ingraham made a side comment that Amb Y should have been removed a year ago, "that's a separate story of what's going on in the State Department," but transitions to ask about Biden's visits to Ukraine.

Schweitzer said Biden was the point person for the Obama Administration to Ukraine. He went to meet with Ukr officials and his son was placed on a corrupt energy board for a company run by a previous energy minister tied to the previous pro-Russian Ukrainian government. As Joe Biden interacts with Ukraine, his son for 14 months is connected to a bank account that gets \$3.1 million from the Ukrainians. Hunter Biden has no background in Ukraine or in energy policy, and his job was reportedly regulatory compliance. Troublesome.

DiGenova: This has all the markings of bribery and extortion. Very disturbing details about to come out in reporting by John Solomon [side note: this is the author of the Hill's recent pieces]. Then there will need to be a full fledged criminal investigation. The Ambassador there who has been removed was involved in generating false information about Manafort, other information that went into the so-called black binders.

That was the end of the guest commentary; the recording I saw did not include final comments from Ingraham to wrap up the show.

From: [REDACTED] (b)(6)
 [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Date: March 23, 2019 at 7:54:25 AM GMT+2
To: [REDACTED] (b)(6), Kent, George
 P [REDACTED] (b)(6) [REDACTED] (b)(6)
 [REDACTED] (b)(6) Tremont, Pamela M (Kyiv)
 [REDACTED] (b)(6) Yovanovitch, Marie L (Kyiv)

(b)(6)	(b)(6)
(b)(6)	
(b)(6)	

Cc: EUR-Press <EUR-Press-DL@state.gov>

Subject: RE: Reactions to Hill Article (Giuliani Tweet etc)

Update on social media discussions: there are about 30 tweets from the past 2-3 hours stating that President Trump has removed Amb Y from her position. None of these are from prominent Twitter users (the largest following I saw was about 5K followers). Social media users appear to be reacting to something said (presumably 2-3 hours ago) by Joe DiGenova and/or on Ingraham's show. Haven't found specific video/text of any discussion on this theme at this point on media sites, but just letting everyone know this narrative is out there on social media.

Sender:	Brechbuhl, Thomas U	(b)(6)
	(b)(6)	
Recipient:	Reeker, Philip T	(b)(6)
	(b)(6)	
Sent Date:	2019/03/23 22:03:49	