United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

March 28, 2022

Case No: FL-2020-00006

American Oversight
Daniel McGrath
1030 15th Street NW, B255
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. McGrath:

We refer to our letter dated February 28, 2022, regarding the release of certain Department of State ("Department") material under the Freedom of Information Act (the "FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552. The Department identified an additional nine records responsive to your request. After reviewing these records, we have determined that three records may be released in part, and six records must be withheld in their entirety.

An enclosure explains the FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material. Where we have made redactions, the applicable FOIA exemptions are marked on each record. The records withheld in full are exempt from release pursuant to FOIA Exemptions 1, 5, 6, 5 U.S.C. §§ 552 (b)(1), (b)(5), (b)(6). All non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released. All released material is enclosed.

The processing of your request remains ongoing. If you have any questions, your attorney may contact Trial Attorney, Josh Abbuhl at (202) 616-8366 or at Joshua.Abbuhl@usdoj.gov. Please refer to civil action number 19-cv-3058, and FOIA case number FL-2020-00006 in all correspondence regarding this case.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Miller

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

Enclosures: As stated.

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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

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Released in Part

From:	"Taylor, William B" (b)(6)
To:	(b)(6)
CC:	Kvien, Kristina A (b)(6)
Subject:	(b)(1)
Date:	Mon, 5 Aug 2019 11:19:37 -0400

Thanks, (b)(6)

Official
UNCLASSIFIED

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, August 05, 2019 5:29 PM
To: Kyiv, EXEC AMs
Cc: Kyiv, POL Core
Subject: (b)(1)

Dear Exec,

Flagging this Moscow cable for CDA and DCM.

(b)(6)
Political Officer
U.S. Embassy Kyiv

Official
~~SECRET~~
Classified By: William B. Taylor - Chargé d'Affaires, a. i., Office:Kyiv, Agency:U.S. Department of State
Declassify On: 8/5/2029
Reasons: Derived Per DSCG.

From: SMART Core
Sent: Thursday, August 01, 2019 9:29 AM
To: (b)(6) (Moscow)
Subject: (b)(1)

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~
Sensitive

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Page 02 to Page 04

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1)

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comment.

Signature: HUNTSMAN

Classified By: Name: Jon M. Huntsman, Title: Ambassador
Office: Embassy Moscow
Agency: U.S. Department of State

Derived From: DSCG 17-1
Declassify On: 2044/07/31
Drafted By: MOSCOW: (b)(6)
Cleared By: (b)(6)
Approved By: A/DCM: (b)(6)
Released By: MOSCOW: (b)(6)
Info: WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC *ROUTINE*; CIA WASHINGTON DC *ROUTINE*; DIA WASHINGTON DC *ROUTINE*; MOSCOW POLITICAL COLLECTIVE *ROUTINE*; ZEN/VLADIVOSTOK, AMCONSUL; ZEN/YEKATERINBURG, AMCONSUL
XMT: ZEN/ST PETERSBURG, AMCONSUL

Action Post: NONE
Dissemination Rule: CONS_ACTION, POL, IPC, FCS, FCS_INFO, RSO, FAA_INFO, RSO_INFO, ECON, SCIENCE, DAO_INFO

~~SECRET//NOFORN~~
Sensitive

Sender:	"Taylor, William B" (b)(6)
Recipient:	(b)(6) Kvien, Kristina A (b)(6)

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Page 06 to Page 10

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1); (b)(5); (b)(6)

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Page 11 to Page 12

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(5); (b)(6)

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Released in Part

From:	"Kvien, Kristina A" (b)(6)
To:	Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6)
Subject:	Lunch with Japan DCM
Date:	Tue, 30 Jul 2019 11:39:07 +0000

CLASSIFIED BY DAS A/GIS ON FEBRUARY 17, 2022; CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL FOR REASONS 1.4(b)(d); DECLASSIFY ON FEBRUARY 18, 2047

Just as an FYI, (b)(1)

(b)(1)

Volodymyr Zelenskyy had a phone conversation with President of the United States

25 July 2019 - 19:48

President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy had a phone conversation with President of the United States Donald Trump. President of the United States congratulated Ukraine on successful holding free and democratic parliamentary elections as well as Volodymyr Zelenskyy with victory the Servant of the People Party.

Donald Trump is convinced that the new Ukrainian government will be able to quickly improve image of Ukraine, complete investigation of corruption cases, which inhibited the interaction between Ukraine and the USA.

He also confirmed continued support of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine by the United States and the readiness of the American side to fully contribute to the implementation of a Large-Scale Reform Program in our country.

Volodymyr Zelenskyy thanked Donald Trump for US leadership in preserving and strengthening the sanctions pressure on Russia.

The Presidents agreed to discuss practical issues of Ukrainian-American cooperation during the visit of Volodymyr Zelenskyy to the United States.

Kristina Kvien
Deputy Chief of Mission
U.S. Embassy, Kyiv, Ukraine

Sender:	"Kvien, Kristina A" (b)(6)
Recipient:	Taylor, William B (Kyiv) (b)(6)

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Released in Part

From:	"Taylor, William B" (b)(6)
To:	Vindman, Alexander S. (b)(6) Erath, John F. (b)(6)
Subject:	FW: UKRAINE: Scene setter for DPNSA John Bolton
Date:	Wed, 21 Aug 2019 11:05:22 -0400

Looking forward to seeing you.

Official
This message is **UNCLASSIFIED** when separated from ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ attachment(s)
Classified By: William Taylor - CDA, Office:Kyiv, Agency:U.S. Department of State
Declassify On: 8/21/2029
Reasons: Derived Per DSCG.

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2019 5:11 PM
To: Kyiv, POL Cables DL
Subject: FW: UKRAINE: Scene setter for DPNSA John Bolton

Colleagues – Flagging this NSA Bolton scene setter. Best, David

(b)(6)
Political Counselor
U.S. Embassy Kyiv

Official
This message is ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ when separated from **UNCLASSIFIED** attachment(s)
Classified By: William B. Taylor - Chargé d'Affaires, a. i., Office:Embassy Kyiv, Agency:U.S. Department of State
Declassify On: 8/21/2044
Reasons: Derived Per DSCG.

From: SMART Core
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2019 5:09 PM
To: (b)(6)
Subject: UKRAINE: Scene setter for DPNSA John Bolton

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Sensitive
DECONTROLLED

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Action Office:	POL, ODC, POL_MIL
Info Office:	AID, DAO_INFO, POL_INFO

MRN:	19 KYIV 473
Date/DTG:	Aug 21, 2019 / 211406Z AUG 19
From:	AMEMBASSY KYIV
Action:	WASHDC, SECSTATE *IMMEDIATE*
E.O.:	13526
TAGS:	PREL, PGOV, UA, RU, MASS
Captions:	SENSITIVE
Pass Line:	AMCONSUL FRANKFURT PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF AMCONSUL FRANKFURT PASS TO AMCONSUL HAMBURG AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL LEIPZIG AMEMBASSY VILNIUS PASS TO AMEMBASSY MINSK AMEMBASSY PARIS PASS TO AMCONSUL STRASBOURG AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG
Subject:	UKRAINE: Scene setter for DPNSA John Bolton

1. (SBU) Ambassador Bolton, welcome back to Ukraine, where you will find the political landscape transformed since your last visit exactly one year ago, personified by a new president committed and empowered to advance an agenda largely consistent with our reform priorities and strategic interests. "Historic" is the right word to describe President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's landslide victory in successive presidential and parliamentary elections – spanning every region and demographic – that ousted the former president, sacked the government, and replaced 80 percent of the Rada (parliament). This reboot of Ukraine's political class reflects its failure to live up to the Ukrainian people's ambitious but consistent post-EuroMaidan demands for an end to the conflict with Russia that restores national unity, European standards of economic growth and opportunity, and effective rule of law that delivers justice, including in cases of high-level official corruption. The overwhelming victory of a political outsider shows Ukrainians are willing to take a risk to deliver the full promise of their Revolution of Dignity. This revolution at the ballot box underscores that despite Ukraine's imperfections, it is a genuine and vibrant democracy and an example to other post-Soviet countries.

2. (SBU) While the typical "first 100 day" stock-taking milestone since Zelenskyy's inauguration roughly corresponds with your visit, the "Zelenskyy administration" really begins within hours of your departure August 29, when his Servant of the People (SoP) party convenes the new Rada for the first time and employs its outright majority to pass legislation (including a plan to introduce 100 bills the first day), appoint a Prime Minister, and endorse a government embodied in a Cabinet of Ministers that will implement his agenda. (This also means that the officials you will meet, apart from Zelenskyy, are in-coming designees rather than outgoing lame duck officials.) These past 100 days have revealed a great deal about Zelenskyy as a person and a president, the people around him, the policies he supports, and

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the political context in which his administration will advance its agenda – and, thus far, indications are positive.

(b)(1)

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Page 17 to Page 19

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1)

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(b)(1)

Signature: TAYLOR

Classified By: Name: William B. Taylor, Title: Charge d'Affaires, a. i.
Office: U.S. Embassy Kyiv
Agency: Department of State

Derived From: DSCG 17-1
Declassify On: 2044/08/21
W/O Attachment(s): This document is ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ when separated from UNCLASSIFIED attachment(s)
Drafted By: KYIV (b)(6)
Cleared By: EXEC\DCM:Kvien, Kristina A
KYIV\POL (b)(6)
POL: (b)(6)
POL: (b)(6)
INL (b)(6)
KYIV\USAID:Fritz, Susan K
ECON (b)(6)
wofford
Approved By: EXEC\AMB:Taylor, William B
Released By: KYIV:Holmes, David A
Info: BEIJING, AMEMBASSY *ROUTINE*; USNATO, USMISSION *ROUTINE*; USUN NEW YORK, USMISSION *ROUTINE*; NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC *ROUTINE*; OSD WASHINGTON DC *ROUTINE*; EUCOM POLAD VAIHINGEN GE *ROUTINE*; CIA WASHINGTON DC *ROUTINE*; WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC *ROUTINE*; DNI WASHINGTON DC *ROUTINE*; EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE *ROUTINE*; CIS COLLECTIVE *ROUTINE*; ZEN/DUSSELDORF, AMCONSUL; ZEN/HAMBURG, AMCONSUL; ZEN/LEIPZIG, AMCONSUL; ZEN/MINSK, AMEMBASSY; ZEN/STRASBOURG, AMCONSUL; ZEN/VLADIVOSTOK, AMCONSUL; ZEN/YEKATERINBURG, AMCONSUL
XMT: ZEN/ST PETERSBURG, AMCONSUL
Attachments: President Zelenskyys First 100 Days.docx

Action Post: NONE
Dissemination Rule: POL, DAO_INFO, ODC, POL_MIL, POL_INFO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Sensitive

Sender: "Taylor, William B" (b)(6)

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Recipient:	Vindman, Alexander S. (b)(6) Erath, John F. (b)(6)

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Page 22 to Page 24

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1); (b)(5)

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Page 25 to Page 42
Withheld pursuant to exemption
(b)(1); (b)(5); (b)(6)

B-00001938999

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Page 43 to Page 54

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1); (b)(5); (b)(6)

B-00001910684

CLASSIFIED BY DAS A/GIS ON FEBRUARY 17, 2022;
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL FOR REASONS 1.4(b)(d);
DECLASSIFY ON FEBRUARY 18, 2032

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Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1); (b)(5); (b)(6)

CLASSIFIED BY DAS A/GIS ON FEBRUARY 17, 2022; CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL FOR REASONS 1.4(b)(d); DECLASSIFY ON FEBRUARY 18, 2032

B-00001910682

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Page 56

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1); (b)(6)

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Page 57 to Page 59

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(1); (b)(5); (b)(6)

B-00001910681

CLASSIFIED BY DAS A/GIS ON FEBRUARY 17, 2022;
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL FOR REASONS 1.4(b)(d);
DECLASSIFY ON FEBRUARY 18, 2032

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