OPEN THREAD: EVERYTHING ELSE NOT ABOUT ROBERT MUELLER

[Please check the byline, thanks. /~Rayne]

Though today will probably be nutzo with Mueller hearing content, we need a place to capture everything else going on.

Let me repeat: this is everything else NOT about Special Counsel Robert Mueller, the Special Counsel's Office (SCO) investigation and resulting report which will be addressed in a House Judiciary Committee hearing today.

I'll kick this off with a few things I've had on my desktop. Caution: may contain speculation.

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This is tangential to the Special Counsel's investigation, but not a direct part of it.

Former Trump campaign adviser George Nader, who testified before the SCO, may also be prosecuted in New York as well as by the feds in Virginia:

ICYM this development on George Nader, who once provided foreign policy advice to the Trump campaign: prosecutors indicated charges may also be filed in New York. The evidence found on his phone during his arrest at JFK Airport in June would be the basis for those charges.

- Brandi Buchman (@BBuchman_CNS) July
23, 2019

I don't recommend reading the government's motion opposing Nader's release on bond linked in her thread unless you have a strong constitution. I couldn't stomach it. Judge Leonie Brinkema denied his release, thank

goodness.

Nader was indicted last Friday when charges filed in April 2018 related to transporting a minor in 2000 for the purposes of sex and for possession of child pornography were unsealed. The charges had remained sealed while Nader cooperated with the SCO investigation.

He had been arrested in early June at JFK
International airport in New York when he
returned after complications from heart surgery.

I assume whatever was found at JFK voided any immunity agreement, as well it should.

At some point we need a society-wide discussion about the confluence of men whose proclivities deny consent to those with less power. It's this issue I want us to address — it's entwined with the anti-democratic movement.

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I really hate to think about Alan Dershowitz at all let alone about his sex life. But didn't anybody notice the weird caveat last week when he spoke about his love life last week Thursday?

"I have had sex with one woman since the day I met Jeffrey Epstein. I challenge David Boies to say under oath that he's only had sex with one woman during that same period of time. He has an abnormal amount of chutzpah to attack me and challenge my perfect, perfect sex life during the relevant period of time ..."

This guy can play all kinds of word games, right? He parses like crazy. So why didn't he say I've only had sex with my wife/life partner [insert her name because she's a human being]?

And yet we know he's admitted to receiving therapeutic massage at pedophile Jeffrey Epstein's place. Was he prevaricating about the meaning of the word 'sex' as Bill Clinton once did?

Not kink shaming sex between consenting adults, but that's my point — were any these 'massages' or not-sex-sex with some other person actually with a non-consenting human? Like a minor?

Really wonder if it would be beneficial to go through the body of Dershowitz' work with an eye to his opinions with regard to consent by individuals with less power in a given situation.

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Deutsche Bank (DB) is in a world of hurt. It's trying to downsize and reorganize in a big fat hurry, expecting to shed as many as 18,000 jobs over the next 2-3 years.

It's also clients and deposits, hemorrhaging nearly a billion dollars a day after the bank announced it was exiting prime brokerage.

Now DB is trying to shed a problematic client, Jeffrey Epstein, whose accounts are like a mythic hydra. Lop off the known accounts and a bunch more unknown pop up.

DB has submitted Suspicious Activity Reports a number of times on Epstein's accounts' transactions; while not all activity triggering a SAR may be illicit, this is Epstein we're talking about.

Timing is also rather interesting — check this excerpt from the NYT:

In 2015 and 2016, anti-money laundering compliance officers in Deutsche Bank's offices in New York and Jacksonville, Fla., raised a variety of concerns about the work the bank was doing with Mr. Epstein. The employees were concerned that the bank's reputation could be harmed if it became public that Mr. Epstein was a client, according to the three people familiar with the relationship.

Huh. What an interesting overlap with the U.S.

2016 campaign season. This, too, was interesting:

In addition, the compliance officers on at least one occasion noticed potentially illegal activity in one of Mr. Epstein's accounts, including transactions in which money was moving outside the United States, two of the people said. The compliance officers produced a so-called suspicious activity report, but it is unclear whether the report was ever filed with the Treasury Department's financial-crimes division.

Despite the compliance officers' misgivings, the bank continued to do extensive business with Mr. Epstein.

What's the bottleneck? Did corruption inside DB prevent Epstein from being discovered earlier than last fall's investigative reporting by the Miami Herald's Julie K. Brown? Did any of these banking transactions mirror human trafficking transactions?

Will we ever know or will this all quietly go away?

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There will be a separate post for the Mueller hearing today. Please take all Mueller hearing related content to that thread, thanks. This is an open thread.