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From: Anna Palmer Jake Sherman Daniel Lippman
Sent: Wed 7/5/2017 5:04:48 PM
Subject: Playbook Power Briefing, presented by Postmates: TRUMP calls SISI from Air Force One -- Rep. CLAY HIGGINS criticized for Auschwitz selfie video -- CHRIS CHRISTIE sand sculpture spotted on Jersey beach

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Today's Playbook Power Briefing presented by Postmates

Happy Wednesday afternoon. THE PRESIDENT called Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi from Air Force One "to address the ongoing dispute between Qatar and its Arab neighbors," the White House said. "The two presidents also discussed the threat from North Korea. President Trump stressed the need for all countries to fully implement U.N. Security Council resolutions on North Korea, stop hosting North Korean guest workers, and stop providing economic or military benefits to North Korea."

BULLETIN at 11:47 a.m.: "CAIRO (AP) - Four Arab nations seeking to isolate Qatar say Doha's response to their demands to end crisis was 'not serious'"

AN INTERESTING NUGGET from an AP story by Vivian Salama and Ken Thomas: "According to Polish media reports, Poland's government promised the White House a reception of cheering crowds as part of its invitation. To make good on that pledge, ruling party lawmakers and pro-government activists plan to bus in groups from the provinces to hear Trump's speech. The White House didn't respond to a request for comment on those reports." <http://bit.ly/2uJBaZ3>

MICHAEL MCFAUL, the former U.S. ambassador to Russia, (@mcfaul): "With other experts, I spent 2 hrs with President Bush before his 1st meeting with Putin & obviously briefed Obama before his 1st Putin mtg".

WHITE HOUSE STATEMENTS -- @realDonaldTrump at 6:51 a.m.: "Getting ready to leave for Poland, after which I will travel to Germany for the G-20. Will be back on Saturday." ... **at 7:14 a.m.:** "The United States made some of the worst Trade Deals in world history. Why should we continue these deals with countries that do not help us?" ... **at 7:21 a.m.:** "Trade between China and North Korea grew almost 40% in the first quarter. So much for China working with us - but we had to give it a try!"

WRONG PLACE ALERT -- "Louisiana congressman criticized for selfie video inside Auschwitz gas chamber," by Louis Nelson: "A U.S. congressman's video taken inside a gas chamber at the Nazi concentration camp Auschwitz has drawn criticism from the museum and memorial that oversees the site where hundreds of thousands of people were murdered during the Holocaust. During a trip to the concentration camp, Rep. Clay Higgins (R-La.) shot a roughly five-minute video of his visit, filming and narrating as he viewed the train tracks that carried prisoners to the camp and piles of

shoes left by prisoners.

"Midway through the video, Higgins films himself inside an Auschwitz gas chamber, explaining how Nazi guards would murder their victims by dropping poisonous gas through a hatch in the ceiling as he turned his camera towards the hatch. He then moved in front of the nearby ovens, explaining how the camp's guards would force other prisoners to load the dead bodies for cremation. That portion of the video prompted a response from the Auschwitz Memorial and Museum, which wrote on Twitter that 'everyone has the right to personal reflections. However, inside a former gas chamber, there should be mournful silence. It's not a stage.'" <http://politi.co/2sLQLpG>

THE LATEST ON NORTH KOREA -- "U.S.: North Korea launched new kind of missile," by CNN's Barbara Starr and Jeremy Herb: "The two-stage missile launched Tuesday by North Korea will be classified by U.S. intelligence as a brand-new missile that has not been seen before, US officials told CNN. The first stage of the missile is believed to be a KN-17 liquid fueled missile, which is well-known to U.S. intelligence and has been previously launched by North Korea.

"Ahead of Tuesday's missile test, U.S. satellites had seen evidence the KN-17 missile was being prepared for launch. But at some point prior to launch, the North Koreans attached a second stage atop that missile. The focus now is on the capability of that second stage, and how it technically contributed to making Pyongyang's latest test its first ever intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) launch. CNN has reported that the second stage had a separate 30-second burn cycle, which allowed the missile to travel the extra distance to classify it as an ICBM." <http://cnn.it/2tLWAHI>

MOTOKO RICH: "In North Korea, 'Surgical Strike' Could Spin Into 'Worst Kind of Fighting'": <http://nyti.ms/2tILSIR>

***** **A message from Postmates:** Operating in over 200 cities across the United States - Postmates is an innovative, on-demand logistics platform, transforming the way goods move around towns by enabling anyone to have anything delivered to their door step within minutes, and driving over \$1B in goods and merchandise across its platform in 2017. <https://postmates.com> *****

WHAT JESSE RODRIGUEZ IS READING -- AP: "MSNBC's 'Morning Joe' sets viewership mark after tweets": "Joe Scarborough and Mika Brzezinski reached their biggest audience ever when they talked Friday about President Donald Trump's tweets about their show. The Nielsen company said Wednesday that 1.66 million people watched the MSNBC morning show the day after the tweets. That narrowly beat the show's previous record, which came the day after Trump was elected last year." <http://bit.ly/2tR92Xy>

STICKING AROUND -- " Rep. Markwayne Mullin flips stance, announces run for 4th term in Congress," by KTUL's Clayton Youngman: "Rep. Markwayne Mullin has announced that he will seek re-election for his seat in Oklahoma's second congressional

district, flipping on a campaign promise he made to only serve six years in Congress. Mullin announced the decision in a video posted to his Facebook page Tuesday. He said he and his family originally decided to stick to their decision to only serve three terms, but they just didn't feel it was the right decision.

"People are [going to] be upset, and we get that. We understand it," Mullin said in the 11-minute video. 'I'm not hiding from that because we did say we're going to serve six years, and it was out of true concerns.' The businessman said he originally made the promise because his family had concerns about the effects working in Congress would have on them and on their business. Now, he says he says he has a better understanding of politics in Washington and believes he can continue to make a difference under President Donald Trump's administration.

"I don't think there's one person that's never changed their mind six years apart from each other or how they would approach things,' Mullin said." <http://bit.ly/2th1lsi>

-- **SO MANY PEOPLE** who make these pledges back off. It's one of those sounds-better-in-theory type things.

WHOA -- "Amelia Earhart May Have Survived Crash-Landing, Newly Discovered Photo Suggests," by NBC News' Tom Costello and Daniel Arkin: "A newly discovered photograph suggests legendary aviator Amelia Earhart, who vanished 80 years ago on a round-the-world flight, survived a crash-landing in the Marshall Islands. The photo, found in a long-forgotten file in the National Archives, shows a woman who resembles Earhart and a man who appears to be her navigator, Fred Noonan, on a dock. The discovery is featured in a new History channel special, 'Amelia Earhart: The Lost Evidence,' that airs Sunday. Independent analysts told History the photo appears legitimate and undoctored. Shawn Henry, former executive assistant director for the FBI and an NBC News analyst, has studied the photo and feels confident it shows the famed pilot and her navigator." <http://nbcnews.to/2tMeg69> ... **More on the special, which airs on Sunday at 9 p.m.** <http://bit.ly/2tLvmRt>

STILL AT WAR -- "Soldier dead after attack in Afghanistan: Pentagon," by Reuters' Doina Chiacu: "A 19-year-old American soldier has died in Afghanistan's Helmand Province from wounds received in an attack, the Pentagon said on Wednesday. Private First Class Hansen Kirkpatrick of Wasilla, Alaska, died on Monday in the incident, which was under investigation, a Pentagon statement said. Further details were not available." <http://reut.rs/2tLJpXi>

CLICKER -- "Photos: As showers fizzled, fireworks dazzled on July 4 in Washington," by Kevin Ambrose in WaPo <http://wapo.st/2tM89Pj>

TODAY'S BEYOND THE BELTWAY -- Illinois battles over budget bill -- California's gubernatorial candidates hit the trail <http://politi.co/2tMkLpE>

-- **"While Most Small Towns Languish, Some Flourish,"** by Tim Henderson in

Stateline: "In several Western and Southern states, small towns are growing quickly as fast-growing metro areas swallow up more outlying towns, according to a Stateline analysis of census estimates. Between 2015 and 2016, the growth was particularly strong in small towns in Utah, Colorado, Washington, Oregon, Florida, Idaho, Delaware, Texas, Arizona, North Carolina and South Carolina, where small towns grew around 1 percent or more. During the same period, 54 percent of small towns across the U.S. lost population, and most others saw only limited growth. (For purposes of the analysis, Stateline defined "small towns" as those having fewer than 10,000 residents, a common standard.)" <http://bit.ly/2tMj8bn>

PIC DU JOUR -- "Christie sand sculpture the perfect coda for Fourth of July weekend," by NJ Advance Media's Marisa Iati <http://bit.ly/2uJURjc>

HISTORY LESSON -- BUSH ALUMNI -- TEVI TROY in Washingtonian: **"A Brief History of Presidents Firing People"** <http://bit.ly/2tMobZv>

TRANSITIONS -- Jacqueline Cooney has joined Paul Hastings as a senior privacy adviser in their privacy and cybersecurity practice. She was previously with Booz Allen Hamilton. ... **Brittany Balmer** is now at the State Department as a senior protocol officer. She was previously a senior event producer at the Heritage Foundation.

ENGAGED -- Zach Cohen, a reporter for National Journal's Hotline, proposed to **Rachel Karas**, an associate editor at Inside the Air Force, on a dock at a lakehouse in Massachusetts. They met in 2010 working on American University's college paper The Eagle and started dating in 2014. **Pics** <http://bit.ly/2tMmGKF> ... <http://bit.ly/2tMoBia> (h/t the Hotline team)

SPOTTED -- Kellyanne Conway and her family celebrating the Fourth of July at Old Glory in Georgetown (**pic** <http://bit.ly/2uJZqtU>) ... Fox News' Ed Henry in Cooperstown yesterday to discuss his book "42 Faith" (**\$14.72 on Amazon** <http://amzn.to/2uJB4ka>) ...

WHAT RACHEL SCHINDLER IS WATCHING -- CHANCE THE RAPPER'S "Tiny Desk" concert at NPR on North Capitol Street. <http://n.pr/2tpJLAP>

***** **A message from Postmates:** With its fleet of Postmates earning taxable incomes, the capital generated through the mobile application is being reinvested in the economy to do everything from pay down debt, to start a small business, or even enroll in college classes. As On Demand platforms shape the future of work, Postmates applauds legislation aimed at experimenting with portable benefits models, and calls for new federal and local skill-based investments to account for the impact of automation on the workforce. <https://postmates.com> *****

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