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From: Anna Palmer and Jake Sherman
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Subject: Playbook Power Briefing, presented by Morgan Stanley: Job growth decelerates in May -- TILLERSON downplays Paris accord exit -- LEWANDOWSKI and KUSHNER hug it out -- MUELLER'S next move -- CIA's new head of Iran operations

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Today's Playbook Power Briefing presented by Morgan Stanley
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Good Friday afternoon.

OUR FRIENDS AT THE INFORMATION -- the super-sharp publication covering Silicon Valley -- have launched a great feature that curates tweets about politics from tech-industry leaders in a sortable fashion (sort by topic, or tech leader). *The feature* <http://bit.ly/2qO9lqA>

JESSICA LESSIN, the founder and editor in chief of The Information, emails Playbook: "Much like the president, tech leaders are turning to Twitter every day to spout off about hot-button political issues. From the Paris Climate withdrawal to net neutrality, their tweets -- and even their retweets -- offer an important glimpse into their views. Since no one wants to follow individuals one by one, our graphics editor Mike Sullivan and senior editor Wendy Pollack created this graphic that filters the politically-related tweets of several hundred tech leaders by topic. It's an interesting look at everything from Steve Ballmer on net neutrality to Tony Fadell on fake news."

UPDATES TO THE SUNDAY SHOWS ... AL GORE is on with **JAKE TAPPER** on **CNN'S "STATE OF THE UNION"** and **CHRIS WALLACE** on **"FOX NEWS SUNDAY"**

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CHOOSE YOUR NEWS -- "Job growth decelerated in May," by Tim Noah and Marianne LeVine: "The economy added 138,000 jobs in May, the Labor Department reported Friday, signaling a possible slowdown in job growth. May's jobs numbers were a decrease from April, when the economy added 174,000 jobs. Job growth for both months was below the average monthly gain of 181,000 jobs over the previous year.

"The totals since January leave job growth under President Donald Trump well under the million he claimed credit for yesterday when announcing U.S. withdrawal from the Paris climate accord. But unemployment fell to 4.3 percent, down slightly from April's 4.4 percent, indicating that the job market remains tight and virtually guaranteeing that the Federal Reserve's Open Market Committee will hike interest rates when it meets June 13-14." <http://politi.co/2swZ8Wq>

-- **NOTE:** Like last month's jobs report and dozens of job reports before that, there are pieces that both sides will cling on to. The underlying fact is that job growth has slowed

down, the labor force participation rate is still low, and that the actual numbers underperform economists' expectations. Trump long called these numbers phony before taking office. Kellyanne Conway, on Twitter: "Guessing this headline on @CNN is more relevant than 'Russia' to real people: 'U.S. Unemployment hits lowest level since 2001'."

MUELLER'S NEXT MOVE -- "Exclusive: Special counsel Mueller to probe ex-Trump aide Flynn's Turkey ties," by Reuters' Nathan Layne, Mark Hosenball and Julia Edwards Ainsley: "Robert Mueller, the special counsel investigating possible ties between the Trump election campaign and Russia, is expanding his probe to include a grand jury investigation into former national security adviser Michael Flynn, three sources told Reuters.

"The move means Mueller's politically charged inquiry will now look into Flynn's paid work as a lobbyist for a Turkish businessman in 2016, in addition to contacts between Russian officials and Flynn and other Trump associates during and after the Nov. 8 presidential election. Federal prosecutors in Virginia are investigating a deal between Flynn and Turkish businessman Ekim Alptekin as part of a grand jury criminal probe, according to a subpoena seen by Reuters." <http://reut.rs/2sxBTv7>

MIXED SIGNALS -- "Tillerson downplays significance of Paris exit," by Andrew Restuccia: "Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, in his first public comments since Donald Trump announced his intention to withdraw from the Paris climate agreement, declined to specifically endorse the move but said the U.S. would continue working to reduce its emissions regardless.

"Well, it was a policy decision and I think it's important that everyone recognize the United States has a terrific record on reducing our own greenhouse gas emissions. It's something I think we can be proud of and that was done in the absence of a Paris agreement,' Tillerson told reporters Friday when asked for his reaction to Trump's announcement. 'I don't think we're going to change our ongoing efforts to reduce those emissions in the future either, so hopefully people can keep it in perspective.'" <http://politi.co/2rzsaHs>

SEAN SPICER and EPA Administrator **SCOTT PRUITT** will brief the press on-camera at the White House at 1:30 p.m.

***** **A message from Morgan Stanley:** Morgan Stanley helped All Aboard Florida raise capital to bring Brightline, an express railway, to the Sunshine State-potentially cutting travel time across Southern Florida by up to 25-30%¹ versus existing options. Investing in infrastructure isn't just good for people-it can be good for cities. Learn more at morganstanley.com/brightline. *****

VIDEO DU JOUR -- Vice President MIKE PENCE on Fox News: "For some reason or another, this issue of climate change has emerged as a paramount issue for the left -- in this country and around the world." <http://bit.ly/2sxqKL5>

GARY COHN on Fox Business: "We will be delivering a tax plan to Congress by the end of the summer and we're going to expect the Congress to act on our tax plan this year." <http://bit.ly/2rzv0wo> **WAIT A SECOND...** Didn't the president say his tax plan was moving through Congress and was far ahead of schedule?

A DETENTE? -- "Rose Garden Hug Ends Lewandowski's Year-Long Rift With Kushner," by Bloomberg's Kevin Cirilli, Shannon Pettypiece and Jennifer Jacobs: "After Corey Lewandowski met with Donald Trump in the Oval Office on Monday, someone was waiting outside with a bit of unfinished business.

"Jared Kushner, the president's son-in-law and trusted adviser -- who had pressed for Lewandowski's ouster as campaign manager almost a year ago -- joined him for a stroll through the White House Rose Garden. Their conversation ended with a hug, according to people familiar with their exchange. It also resulted in a restored relationship and an understanding that Kushner is no longer a barrier between Lewandowski and the White House." <https://bloom.bg/2sxz0KZ>

VLADIMIR PUTIN told Megyn Kelly that the evidence gathered by U.S. intelligence services that pointed to Russia being behind hacks surrounding the 2016 election was not definitive proof. "IP addresses can be invented -- a child can do that! Your underage daughter could do that. That is not proof," he said. Putin also compared the allegations about Russia to "anti-Semitism and blaming the Jews." ***Kelly's full interview will air Sunday at 7 p.m. on her debut show*** <http://nbcnews.to/2sxvD6C>

WHAT JARED SOUNDS LIKE -- "Jared Kushner, seen but not heard," by CNN's Hunter Schwarz: "He has a verified Twitter account with no tweets. He declined to comment for recent stories about him ... And to most Americans, the very sound of his voice is a mystery. ... But you can hear it in a few videos on YouTube. There's one of him speaking to a group about Brooklyn real estate, to a Jehovah's Witness program about buying one of their buildings, and to SundanceTV about buying the New York Observer. His voice sounds young, and he sometimes stretches out the sound of his vowels." *With an embedded video of one of his talks* <http://cnn.it/2rrKSil>

SCOOP -- "C.I.A. Names New Iran Chief in a Sign of Trump's Hard Line," by NYT's Matt Rosenberg and Adam Goldman: "He is known as the Dark Prince or Ayatollah Mike, nicknames he earned as the [CIA] officer who oversaw the hunt for Osama bin Laden and the American drone strike campaign that killed thousands of Islamist militants and hundreds of civilians. Now the official, Michael D'Andrea, has a new job. He is running the C.I.A.'s Iran operations, according to current and former intelligence officials, an appointment that is the first major sign that the Trump administration is invoking the hard line the president took against Iran during his campaign. ...

"Ezra Cohen-Watnick, the [NSC's] senior director for intelligence - the main White House liaison to intelligence agencies - has told other administration officials that he wants to use American spies to help oust the Iranian government, according to multiple defense and intelligence officials. ... In Mr. D'Andrea, the director has found a

workaholic to be his Iran sentinel. Mr. D'Andrea grew up in Northern Virginia in a family whose ties to the C.I.A. span two generations. He met his wife, who is Muslim, on a C.I.A. posting overseas, and converted to Islam to marry her, though he is not known to be particularly observant." <http://nyti.ms/2qKptDL>

AFTERNOON READ -- "How the World's Most Interesting Man Befriended the World's Most Powerful Man," by Jonathan Goldsmith (the actor who played the Most Interesting Man in the World) with POLITICO Magazine's Friday cover: "It was August 2011 and 'The Most Interesting Man in the World,' the absurdly debonair character I played on the Dos Equis beer commercials, had become an international cultural phenomenon. Finally, after decades of trying to break through in Hollywood, I was a recognizable star with my meme-ready line, 'Stay thirsty, my friends.' The character's nearly mythical traits, recounted by a narrator in a nearly endless string of deliciously funny one-liners-'His personality is so magnetic, he is unable to carry credit cards,' and 'He once had an awkward moment, just to see how it feels'-had generated a cult following. I had millions of fans all around the world. One of them happened to live in the White House." <http://politi.co/2sx9vte>

TODAY'S BEYOND THE BELTWAY -- Blue states rally against Trump's Paris dropout -- New Jersey Democratic gubernatorial primary heats up
<http://politi.co/2rzHQzh>

PLAYBOOK METRO SECTION -- "Here's Everyone We Know Will Be Included On Ben's Chili Bowl's New Mural," by Washingtonian's Richard Morgan
<http://bit.ly/2sxwmF3>

COMING ATTRACTIONS -- MADELINE ALBRIGHT will speak at the Marshall Center's 70th Anniversary symposium this coming Monday at the George C. Marshall Home and International Center in Leesburg, Virginia. **NEIL GORSUCH** and **STEPHEN BREYER** will talk with **JEFFREY ROSEN** tonight at Harvard at an event from the Association of Marshall Scholars. The full weekend program on the Marshall Plan's legacy and the future of transatlantic relations includes: Madeleine Albright, Bill Burns, Kathleen Sullivan, Karen Donfried, Graham Allison, Jane Harman, Dan Baer, Sewell Chan, Kim Darroch, Malcolm Rifkind, Daniel Benjamin, Steve Pomper, Matthew Barzun, Peter Orszag, Valerie Amos and Malcolm Rifkind. LinkedIn founder and Marshall alum Reid Hoffman is giving a major gift and participants will also enjoy a performance by Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Ensemble. **Saturday's livestream** <http://bit.ly/2rzvW3A>

OUT AND ABOUT -- Commerce Secretary **Wilbur Ross** and Treasury Secretary **Steven Mnuchin** spoke yesterday with CEOs and board members of the Business Council for International Understanding (BCIU) about tax reform, trade priorities and global finance issues. **SPOTTED:** CEO of Estée Lauder William Lauder, CEO of Harris Bill Brown, North America CEO of Citi Bill Mills, Americas CEO of ABB Greg Scheu and other Trump administration and private sector attendees.

-- **The Herald Group's Outreach and Coalitions team** held a happy hour for advocacy

and academic organizations and industry experts at Ghibellina on 14th Street last night. **SPOTTED:** Meghan Milloy, Josh Althouse, Mattie Duppler, Johnny Craig, Emily Sternfeld, Kaitlan Collins, Megan Van Etten, Kelsey Greissing, JP Freire, Todd Thurman, Melissa Quinn, Rob Shrum, Casey Given, Matt Coglianese and Alex Pfeiffer.

SPOTTED: Milwaukee County Sheriff David Clarke wearing a Cowboys hat boarding a Southwest plane to Milwaukee at DCA and immediately being questioned by passengers about his support for the Packers. He took the hat off eventually. ... James Carville in LSU attire boarding an American flight this morning to New Orleans from DCA.

BONUS BIRTHDAYS: Eric Thayer, D.C.-based freelance photographer for the New York Times ... Ali Meyer of the Washington Free Beacon and the pride of New Orleans, who also loves to DJ (h/t Morgan Chalfant) ... Ian Byrne of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy (h/t Alison Percich)

***** **A message from Morgan Stanley:** Morgan Stanley helped raise the capital needed by innovative company All Aboard Florida to enhance Florida's infrastructure by developing the nation's first express, intercity rail, Brightline. The train, connecting cities across Southern Florida, is expected to cut down on travel time for residents and tourists, and could potentially add up to hundreds of millions in federal, state and local government tax revenue over the next several years.¹ Capital creates better connections for people, communities and cities. Learn more at morganstanley.com/brightline. Capital creates change.

Disclaimer:

¹ Based on data provided by All Aboard Florida. For more information visit:

<http://allaboardflorida.com/projectdetails/aaf-fact-sheet>

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