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From: Anna Palmer Jake Sherman Daniel Lippman
Sent: Fri 9/15/2017 5:09:53 PM
Subject: Playbook Power Briefing, presented by CTIA: MAY on Trump's Scotland Yard tweet -- OUR MAN IN ENGLAND: PLAYBOOK LONDON's Jack Blanchard sets the scene -- PENCE'S press secretary leaving -- DYLAN BYERS' NEW BEAT

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Today's Playbook Power Briefing presented by CTIA

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HAPPY FRIDAY! CREW sought visitor logs from Mar-a-Lago. They got 22 names.
<http://bit.ly/2ycx12f>

-- **CREW PRESIDENT NOAH BOOKBINDER** : "After waiting months for a response to our request for comprehensive visitor logs from the President's multiple visits to Mar-a-Lago and having the government ask for a last minute extension, today we received 22 names from the Japanese Prime Minister's visit to Mar-a-Lago and nothing else. The government does not believe that they need to release any further Mar-a-Lago visitor records. We vehemently disagree. The government seriously misrepresented their intentions to both us and the court. This was spitting in the eye of transparency. We will be fighting this in court."

ON THE PRESIDENT'S MIND -- @realDonaldTrump at 6:37 a.m.: "With the ridiculous Filibuster Rule in the Senate, Republicans need 60 votes to pass legislation, rather than 51. Can't get votes, END NOW!" ... **at 6:42 a.m.:** "Another attack in London by a loser terrorist. These are sick and demented people who were in the sights of Scotland Yard. Must be proactive!" ... **at 6:48 a.m.:** "Loser terrorists must be dealt with in a much tougher manner. The internet is their main recruitment tool which we must cut off & use better!" ...

... **at 6:54 a.m.:** "The travel ban into the United States should be far larger, tougher and more specific-but stupidly, that would not be politically correct!" ... **7:00 a.m.:** "We have made more progress in the last nine months against ISIS than the Obama Administration has made in 8 years. Must be proactive & nasty!" ... **at 7:20 a.m.:** "ESPN is paying a really big price for its politics (and bad programming). People are dumping it in RECORD numbers. Apologize for untruth!" ... **at 9:00 a.m.:** "CHAIN MIGRATION cannot be allowed to be part of any legislation on Immigration!"

-- **THERESA MAY** on **TRUMP'S** "Scotland Yard" tweet: "I never think it's helpful for anybody to speculate on what is an ongoing investigation." <http://bbc.in/2xE2wFn>

THE LATEST FROM LONDON -- THE TELEGRAPH: "A huge counter-terrorism investigation is under way after a bucket bomb was detonated on a packed London Underground train at Parsons Green.

"Witnesses described scenes of terror and panic after the blast sent a 'fireball' and a 'wall of flame' through a District line service in west London. At least 22 people were injured, including a boy believed to be aged about 10. A major manhunt for the bomber has been launched, with police working with MI5 as they forensically examine the device. No arrests have so far been made and the attacker remains at large, with an unconfirmed report that the security services have identified a suspect from CCTV."
<http://bit.ly/2xCSaFJ>

-- **TRUMP** called P.M. Theresa May: Readout from the White House: "President Donald J. Trump spoke with Prime Minister Theresa May of the United Kingdom to convey his sympathies and prayers for those injured in the terrorist attack today in London. The President pledged to continue close collaboration with the United Kingdom to stop attacks worldwide targeting innocent civilians and to combat extremism."

-- **ABC'S GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS** was in London and interviewed May.

OUR MAN IN LONDON -- LONDON PLAYBOOK AUTHOR JACK BLANCHARD -- PATIENCE IS WEARING THIN WITH TRUMP: "Here in London, Downing Street officials and the Met Police are privately seething at Donald Trump's intervention following this morning's terror attack.

"Theresa May is always incredibly careful with her words - so for her to criticise the President in public as she did this afternoon is really quite significant. 'I never think it is helpful for anybody to speculate on what is an ongoing investigation,' May told broadcasters, when asked about his comments.

"Coming from May, this classes as a genuine slap-down . I would expect the two leaders to kiss and make up later today and proceed with an expected bilateral meeting at the U.N General Assembly in New York next week. The trans-Atlantic alliance is simply too important for Britain to bear a grudge.

"But there is also something of a back story here . Trump's Twitter attacks on the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, in the immediate aftermath of the London Bridge atrocity, were met with real anger by most people here in the city, including those in government. And when the Manchester Arena was bombed, there was immense frustration inside Number 10 that details of the ongoing police investigation - including crime scene photos - were repeatedly leaked to the press by the U.S administration.

"The view is that our closest and most trusted ally keeps unwittingly compromising these important investigations -- and patience is wearing thin."

******* A message from CTIA and America's wireless industry:** The global race to

deploy 5G wireless is on-and America needs to win. Government action on spectrum and infrastructure policy will allow U.S. wireless companies to invest \$275 billion, create more than 3 million jobs, and add \$500 billion to the economy, according to Accenture. Learn more at CTIA.org. *****

AXIOS'S JONATHAN SWAN -- "Mike Pence's press secretary is leaving": "Mike Pence's press secretary Marc Lotter is leaving the administration, according to two sources with knowledge of the decision. He plans to become a prominent surrogate for Trump and Pence's political activity on the outside. I haven't confirmed which outside group he'll be working with. He'll stay on for the next few weeks to help Chief of Staff Nick Ayers and Deputy Chief of Staff Jarrod Agen transition his role, as the Pence team has narrowed its replacement search to a couple of finalists." <http://bit.ly/2x2QuVw>

TRUMP INC. -- WAPO: "Taxpayers billed \$1,092 for an official's two-night stay at Trump's Mar-a-Lago club," by Drew Harwell and Amy Brittain: "The bedroom suites at President Trump's Mar-a-Lago club, available only to members and their guests, feature hand-painted Moorish ceilings, antique Spanish-tiled mosaics and sweeping views of the Atlantic Ocean.

"On a weekend in early March, during one of seven trips by Trump and his White House entourage to the posh Palm Beach property since the inauguration, the government paid the Trump-owned club to reserve at least one bedroom for two nights. The charge, according to a newly disclosed receipt reviewed by The Washington Post, was \$1,092.

"The amount was based on a per-night price of \$546, which, according to the bill, was Mar-a-Lago's 'rack rate,' the hotel industry term for a standard, non-discounted price.

The receipt, which was obtained in recent days by the transparency advocacy group Property of the People and verified by The Post, offers one of the first concrete signs that Trump's use of Mar-a-Lago as the 'Winter White House' has resulted in taxpayer funds flowing directly into the coffers of his private business." <http://wapo.st/2y3llr9>

NOT INSIGNIFICANT -- -- "SLF raised \$1.9M, spent \$4M amidst Alabama primary," by Maggie Severns: "The Mitch McConnell-aligned Senate Leadership Fund spent \$3.5 million supporting Republican Sen. Luther Strange in the Alabama Senate race during August and early September and raised \$1.9 million during that time, according to new disclosures filed ahead of the run-off election. The super PAC spent \$4 million overall." **More for Pros** <http://politico.pro/2xERHTA>

BUZZ -- CNN'S DYLAN BYERS, a long-time media reporter (and POLITICO alum), is leaving the media beat to cover tech and new power players like Mark Zuckerberg and Elon Musk. Byers -- who is based in Los Angeles -- didn't respond to a request for comment.

N.Y. MAG'S OLIVIA NUZZI -- "Here's Why Steve Bannon Wears So Many Shirts"

<http://bit.ly/2x3Y0Nb>

THE LATEST ON RUSSIA -- "Manafort's spokesman spends 2 and 1/2 hours

testifying before grand jury," by Josh Gerstein: "When he emerged just before noon, the Manafort spokesman spoke briefly with assembled reporters and photographers, but declined to go into detail about what he was asked. 'I was ordered to appear before the grand jury,' said [Jason] Maloni, with the communications firm Jade Rock. 'I answered questions and I've been dismissed.'" <http://politi.co/2h6WBOp>

AFTERNOON READ -- MICHAEL KRUSE in POLITICO Mag -- "The Loneliest

President : He's increasingly isolated in the White House, but for Donald Trump, being alone is not a liability. It's where he's most comfortable": "He's been a loner most of his life. At New York Military Academy, everybody knew him but few of his fellow cadets knew him well. In college, he made no friends he kept. After he moved to Manhattan, he lived in a sealed-off triplex penthouse, relied on a small, family-first cadre of loyalists and mainly made more enemies than allies (the mayor was a 'moron,' elite 'so-called social scene' types were 'extremely unattractive people,' and on and on). At his casinos in Atlantic City, he was adamant about not mingling with the gambling masses. Now, in Washington, he's a two-scoops cable-watcher inside the White House when he's not weekending at his clutch of protective, name-branded bubbles. Trump, forever, has collected an array of acquaintances, fellow celebrities and photo-op props, while friendships mostly have been interchangeable, temporary and transactional."

<http://politi.co/2h7zfs7>

VID DU JOUR: @MikeSacksEsq: "Frank was all business. Didn't even stop to say hi when POTUS came out." <http://bit.ly/2h6pgmF> ... **@CNN:** "This 11-year-old boy who wrote a letter to President Trump is mowing the White House lawn today -- for free"

<http://bit.ly/2h6aix0>

--**@dougmillsnyt:** ".@realDonaldTrump speaks to reporters to aboard Air Force One as @FoxNews reports on the dinner w/@POTUS & @SenSchumer & @NancyPelosi #DACA" <http://bit.ly/2x1CtHu>

WAR REPORT -- "'Like Berlin 1945': Russia, U.S. Race for Last Corner of Syria,"

by Bloomberg's Henry Meyer, Donna Abu-Nasr, Nick Wadhams and Ilya Arkhipov: "A few miles apart in the Euphrates River valley, Russia and the U.S. are fighting separate military campaigns against Islamic State -- and an underlying strategic battle with each other, whose outcome could reshape the Middle East. The Syrian civil war reached another tipping point last week when Bashar al-Assad's Russian-backed army arrived at the city of Deir Ezzor on the Euphrates, breaking an Islamic State siege that lasted almost three years. Further east across the river, and still held by the jihadists, lie some of Syria's main oilfields.

"And beyond that is the border with Iraq -- making the territory crucial for Assad's other main sponsors. The Iranians provide many of his shock troops. In return, they

want a land corridor in friendly hands along which they can exert influence, and deliver weapons, all the way from Tehran to the Mediterranean. That's an outcome U.S. allies in the region, chiefly Israel and Saudi Arabia, are desperate to prevent. A few days later came the American counter-move. U.S.-armed militias peeled off from their own fight against ISIS in the jihadist capital of Raqqa, to embark on a high-speed drive toward Deir Ezzor. They advanced 150 miles in 24 hours, the American-led coalition said on Sept. 10." <https://bloom.bg/2xEMds8>

COMING ATTRACTIONS -- N.J. GOV. CHRIS CHRISTIE has been added as a speaker at the UANI Iran Summit next Tuesday at the Roosevelt Hotel in New York. <http://bit.ly/2vP6dVb>

SWEET TOOTH -- "Joe Manchin -- Centrist Democrat, Budding French Pastry Chef," by WSJ's Kristina Peterson: "'It's been brought to my attention that people have been making fun of me because I could not tell the difference between an egg and ice cream,' Mr. Manchin said in a video posted on Twitter Thursday afternoon. 'When's the last time you saw an egg in Farmington, West Virginia, that was ice cream?' Mr. Manchin said, referring to the town where he was raised. 'An egg's an egg!'

"In this instance, however, the egg at the White House was actually an elegant dollop of ice cream, formed into what's known as a quenelle using a French cooking technique -- as Mr. Manchin learned when he did a little digging. 'I was a little bit befuddled but then I've done some research and the research tells me this is a French quenelle,' Mr. Manchin said. ... After doing his own Internet research, Mr. Manchin took spoon to ice cream to prove that with a delicate flick of the wrist, he too could transform the cold, white mass into a sleek quenelle." <http://on.wsj.com/2xDRRdV> ... **The video** <http://bit.ly/2xDpSv3>

MEDIAWATCH -- VARIETY'S BRIAN STEINBERG: "Meghan McCain to Leave Fox News Channel (EXCLUSIVE)": "McCain is the oldest daughter of U.S. Senator John McCain, the Arizona Republican and 2008 presidential candidate, who in July was diagnosed with brain cancer following a procedure to remove a blood clot above his left eye. She was seen on Fox News as one of the co-hosts on 'Outnumbered,' an afternoon program that added a different male guest each day to a rotating group of female contributors. 'Meghan has been a valuable part of 'Outnumbered' and the Fox News team,' the 21st Century Fox-owned outlet said in a statement. 'We're sad to see her go, but we wish her all the best.'" <http://bit.ly/2wqs9Mn>

-- **"NBC News Will Launch Coverage of Media Industry,"** by Variety's Brian Steinberg: "The NBCUniversal unit said Friday that it would rely on a handful of staffers, new hires and contributors to report on everything from the frenetic innovations in how content is distributed to the effects the current political scene has on how consumers get their information. Much of the coverage will be offered via a digital 'vertical' devoted to the subject, the name of which will be released at a later date. NBC News named Claire Atkinson, a former media-industry reporter for the New York Post, as a senior editor and reporter to lead its efforts. ...

"**The NBCUniversal unit said it** would also tap current NBC News and MSNBC contributors like Gabriel Sherman, a writer for Vanity Fair, and Steve Brill, a media entrepreneur. John Huey, the former editor in chief of Time Inc., will join to contribute to digital and broadcast. And the NBC News venture will rely on contributors from media outlets in which its parent company has invested. Kara Swisher and Peter Kafka, two senior editorial operatives at Recode, part of Vox Media, will serve as contributors, as will Ben Smith, editor in chief of BuzzFeed, another outlet in which NBCU holds a significant stake." <http://bit.ly/2h6sHtD>

J.D. VANCE UPDATE -- "Hillbilly Elegy Writer Won't Seek Office," by The Atlantic's Molly Ball <http://theatlantic.com/story/jd-vance-hillbilly-elegy-writer-wont-look-for-office/2016/09/27/>

TODAY'S BEYOND THE BELTWAY -- Poll finds half of NJ voters think Menendez shouldn't be reelected -- Harris would back Feinstein '100 percent' for reelection <http://politi.co/2xE8ciO>

HISTORY LESSON -- JON MEACHAM in Time, "**My Father's Vietnam**": "Thirty years after everything happened--and 31 years since he had first set foot in Southeast Asia--my father, a soldier of the Fourth Infantry Division, wrote me a letter. It was 1999, and the note came with a set of recently rediscovered photographs he and his friends had taken with an old 35-mm Minolta in the Central Highlands of Vietnam. There were images of impossibly young men, their helmets heavy on their heads, carrying M-16s, smoking cigarettes and trying to look happy--itself a form of bravery. There were pictures of the lush landscape and of villagers going about their business, drawing water and sitting, watching, some blankly, all warily.

"**My father's words, though,** were the most poignant part of the package. 'I thought you might like to have these,' he wrote me. 'You are the historian, and I know you will preserve them. I remember the brutal heat, the more brutal humidity, the chop-chop-chop of the helicopter blades and elephant grass that could cut men up like a knife. And I remember many things that I have never told you, or anyone. Those are the demons that I will always bear. South Vietnam, for me, is a place I've never really left.'" <http://ti.me/2xEDdTO>

#CONCORDIA17: POLITICO is the official media partner of the 2017 Concordia Annual Summit taking place in conjunction with the UN General Assembly in NYC on Sept 18 and 19. Join us in the Big Apple as we host conversations with world leaders, industry experts, current and former heads of states, C-suite executives, and senior Congressional and Administration officials. Don't miss POLITICO reporters: **Bryan Bender**, Defense Editor, **Jack Blanchard**, Editor, Playbook London, **Helena Bottemiller Evich**, Senior Food and Agriculture Reporter, **Michael Crowley**, National Security Editor, **Susan Glasser**, Chief Foreign Affairs Correspondent & Global POLITICO Host, **Nick Juliano**, Deputy Energy Editor, **Matt Kaminski**, Executive Editor, POLITICO Europe, **Anna Palmer**, Senior Washington Correspondent and co-author of Playbook and **Ben White**, Chief Economic Correspondent. Register here:

<http://bit.ly/2wETVIt>

PLAYBOOK METRO SECTION -- Washingtonian's Benjamin Freed: "The National Zoo announced Thursday that its adult female giant panda, Mei Xiang, failed to conceive after being artificially inseminated earlier this year, despite signaling over the past few weeks that she might have been pregnant. The zoo had closed its Panda House on September first after the 19-year-old bear exhibited a heightened sensitivity to noise, elevated hormone levels, and other signs indicative of either a pregnancy or pseudopregnancy." <http://bit.ly/2h7bpws>

OUT AND ABOUT -- EU Ambassador David O'Sullivan and the Business Council for International Understanding hosted a reception in honor of the 60th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome at the Anderson House last night. **SPOTTED:** Secretary Wilbur Ross and Hilary Geary Ross, German Amb. Peter Wittig, Italian Amb. Armando Varricchio, Spanish Amb. Pedro Morenés, Greek Amb. Haris Lalacos, Albert Bourla, Roland Verstaeppe, Julie Monaco, Selina Jackson, Mark Anderson, Sheryl Wilkerson, David Crane, Eric Pelofsky and Will Center.

SPOTTED at Nelson Cunningham's Georgetown house for a party to celebrate Bill Drozdiak's new book "Fractured Continent: Europe's Crises and the Fate of the West" (<http://amzn.to/2vYynwe>): EU Amb. David O'Sullivan, Mack McLarty, John Negroponete, Jim Hoagland, Margaret Warner, Robin Wright, Polish Ambassador Piotr Wilczek, Evelyn Farkas, Steve Clemons, Margaret Carlson, Sidney Blumenthal, Amb. Lee Feinstein and Jessica Elledge.

BONUS BIRTHDAYS -- Jake Kastan, Team Ryan's deputy executive director (hat tip: Zack Roday) ... **Jill Moschak**

***** **A message from CTIA and America's wireless industry:** Tomorrow's 5G networks will create 3 million jobs, add \$500 billion to the economy, and fuel innovation and entrepreneurialism across every sector. If policymakers move quickly to release more spectrum and modernize infrastructure rules, the wireless industry stands ready to invest \$275 billion to build these next-gen networks, according to Accenture. This will drive breakthrough advancements in remote health care, connected vehicles, energy, education and beyond-making our lives better and safer. But the race to deploy 5G wireless networks is underway-and we're at a critical moment. The EU, China, Japan, South Korea and others are doing everything they can to win. If policymakers act now, the U.S. can continue our global leadership in wireless. Learn how at CTIA.org. *****

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