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Subject: POLITICO Playbook, presented by JPMorgan Chase & Co.: BULLETIN: Sweden dropping charges against Julian Assange -- The White House's blind spot -- Remember MIKE PENCE -- PLAYBOOK INTERVIEW: Geoff Morrell -- B'DAY: Cindy McCain
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DRIVING THE DAY

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BREAKING THIS MORNING -- AP at 5:06 a.m.: "STOCKHOLM (AP) - Sweden's top prosecutor drops 7-year rape investigation against WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange."
... **at 5:42 a.m.:** "LONDON (AP) - UK police: Assange still wanted for jumping bail, will face arrest if he leaves Ecuadorean embassy in London." ... **at 6:22 a.m.:** "STOCKHOLM (AP) - Prosecutor: Probe could be reopened if Assange returns to Sweden before statute of limitations ends in 2020."

Good Friday morning. We are beginning to sense a trend with **THE WHITE HOUSE:** they oftentimes act as if politicians are completely consistent in their views. For example, the president seemed convinced dismissing James Comey would be popular with both parties, just because Democrats criticized him during the campaign. And now, they seem to think, just because Joe Lieberman was a Senate Democrat (at one point), the entire caucus would vote to confirm him as FBI director. (Don't feel bad,