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**From:** Anna Palmer and Jake Sherman  
**Sent:** Tue 5/23/2017 5:07:56 PM  
**Subject:** Playbook Power Briefing, presented by the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD): BRENNAN says Russia may have recruited Trump campaign aides -- TOM MACARTHUR resigns as Tuesday Group co-chair -- TRUMP talks Middle East peace; lands in Rome

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Today's Playbook Power Briefing presented by the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs  
(CAPD)  
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**Happy Tuesday afternoon.**

**BULLETIN** at 10:36 a.m. -- "WASHINGTON (AP) - Former CIA director says he warned Russia against meddling in the 2016 election in Aug. 4 call to Russia intel chief."

-- "**Brennan: Russia may have successfully recruited Trump campaign aides,**" by Austin Wright: "'I encountered and am aware of information and intelligence that revealed contacts and interactions between Russian officials and U.S. persons involved in the Trump campaign that I was concerned about because of known Russian efforts to suborn such individuals,' he told lawmakers. 'And it raised questions in my mind again whether or not the Russians were able to gain the cooperation of those individuals.'

"**By the time he stepped down** as CIA director on Jan. 20, he added, 'I had unresolved questions in my mind about whether or not the Russians had been successful in getting U.S. persons, involved in the campaign or not, to work on their behalf, again, either in a witting or unwitting fashion.'" <http://politi.co/2rdujJI>

**BREAKING -- "MacArthur resigns as co-chairman of 'clearly divided' Tuesday Group,"** by POLITICO New Jersey's Katie Jennings: "Rep. Tom MacArthur resigned Tuesday as co-chairman of the caucus of GOP moderates known as the Tuesday Group in the wake of deep divisions among its members over the House Obamacare replacement bill he helped craft."

"**You can't lead people where they don't want to go,'** MacArthur said in an interview with POLITICO New Jersey Tuesday morning. 'I think some people in the group just have a different view of what governing is.' MacArthur announced his resignation as co-chairman moments ago during the group's regular Tuesday meeting in Washington. He said he alerted House Speaker Paul Ryan on Monday." <http://politi.co/2rdPLYk>

**PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP** touched down at around 6:25 p.m. local time at Rome's

Fiumicino Airport, per pooler Mike Memoli of the Los Angeles Times. From Mike: "There was a more toned-down arrival in Rome than in the previous two stops. At 6:38 pm POTUS and FLOTUS emerged from the plane and waved from the top of the stairs before descending and working the line of greeters. FLOTUS has changed clothes since the last stop, ditching her white dress for a black dress with cinched by another wide gold belt, and black heels with red soles. Two ceremonially dressed carabinieri stood a few feet in front of the stairs holding silver swords in front of them. They saluted as POTUS walked by." The motorcade is en route to Rome.

**THE LATEST ON MANCHESTER -- "Manchester attacker is Salman Abedi,"** by POLITICO Europe's Giulia Paravicini: "Salman Abedi, a British man of Libyan origin, carried out Monday's suicide-bomb attack in Manchester, Western European security officials told POLITICO on condition of anonymity. Abedi, who was born in 1994, died at the scene after killing 22 others and injuring more than 50 in the attack on concert-goers at the Manchester Arena, one of the officials said." <http://politi.co/2qLtLJp> ... **POLITICO Europe's liveblog** <http://politi.co/2rdTR9C>

-- **"Isis claims responsibility for suicide bombing that killed at least 22 people,"** by The Independent's Lizzie Dearden: "The terrorist group released statements in several languages through its central media body praising the atrocity, claiming more than 100 'crusaders' were killed or wounded at the 'shameless' concert. 'With Allah's grace and support, a soldier of the Khilafah [caliphate] managed to place explosive devices in the midst of the gatherings of the crusaders in the British city of Manchester,' said the English version. It suggested the atrocity was not a suicide attack, despite police statements saying the perpetrator died at the scene, and did not name him as a 'martyr.'" <http://ind.pn/2rdu2Gu>

-- **THE AP** says U.S. intelligence officials have not confirmed ISIS's involvement in the attack.

-- **PRIME MINISTER THERESA MAY'S statement:** "All acts of terrorism are cowardly attacks on innocent people, but this attack stands out for its appalling, sickening cowardice -deliberately targeting innocent, defenceless children and young people who should have been enjoying one of the most memorable nights of their lives. ... We struggle to comprehend the warped and twisted mind that sees a room packed with young children not as a scene to cherish, but as an opportunity for carnage. ...

**"For as so often,** while we experienced the worst of humanity in Manchester last night, we also saw the best. The cowardice of the attacker met the bravery of the emergency services and the people of Manchester. The attempt to divide us met countless acts of kindness that brought people closer together. And in the days ahead, those must be the things we remember." **Full text** <http://bit.ly/2rd5bTs> ... **Video** <http://bit.ly/2rcWmcm>

\*\*\*\*\* **A message from the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD):** As list prices for brand drugs continue to rise, employers are partnering with PBMs to keep drug costs under control. In fact, every dollar an employer invests in a PBM service

returns six dollars in savings. Learn more at [www.affordableprescriptiondrugs.org](http://www.affordableprescriptiondrugs.org). \*\*\*\*\*

**THE BUDGET IS HERE ... AND THERE ARE NO SURPRISES** -- It is worth rereading Andrew Restuccia, Matt Nussbaum and Sarah Ferris' budget story that we highlighted in this morning's Playbook for the broad strokes of the Trump budget.

<http://politi.co/2rMUjZA> Meanwhile, remember that a budget is a blueprint of spending priorities. This won't become law, and is unlikely to ever get a vote in either chamber.

***The White House's budget rollout site*** <http://bit.ly/2rMAhOC>

**-- WAPO'S ANALYSIS: "How Trump's budget helps the rich at the expense of the poor,"** by Max Ehrenfreund: "Trump announced a tax overhaul that would reduce or eliminate trillions of dollars in taxes that are paid primarily by the wealthy, including the estate tax and the marginal rate on ordinary income paid by the richest taxpayers. He would lessen spending on Medicaid, the federal program that provides health insurance to the poor, by \$1.4 trillion over a decade, and he would allow states to impose strict limits on other major anti-poverty benefits such as food stamps.

**"The budget also called for repealing** President Obama's health-care reform, which helped cover poor and middle-class households with funds raised in part through greater taxes on the rich. Republicans argue that Obama's emphasis on the differences between rich and poor was misguided, and that policymakers should instead try to improve the fortunes of Americans across the board." <http://wapo.st/2rMzU6O>

**TRUMP TALKS MIDDLE EAST PEACE -- "Trump: Israelis and Palestinians are 'ready to reach for peace',"** by Annie Karni in Jerusalem: "In a brief speech at the Israel Museum, President Donald Trump on Tuesday said he feels confident, after two days of meetings, that the Israelis and the Palestinians are eager for a peace deal. 'Palestinians are ready to reach for peace,' Trump proclaimed, after a morning meeting in Bethlehem with Mahmoud Abbas, president of the Palestinian Authority. 'I know you heard it before. I'm telling you, that's what I do, they are ready to reach for peace.' He added that 'my very good friend Benjamin.... Benjamin Netanyahu wants peace.'

**"But it is unclear if either side** actually shares Trump's confidence. During a meeting in the Oval Office with Trump earlier this month, Abbas -- an 82-year-old leader who is in succession mode and lacks an electoral mandate -- threw his hands up in the air and shrugged when Trump expressed confidence about a renewed peace process. And while introducing Trump on Tuesday, Netanyahu took a dig at Abbas, who would have to be his partner in any peace deal.

**"The Israeli prime minister** expressed skepticism that Abbas would have condemned the Manchester terrorist attack that killed 22 if it had been perpetrated, instead, by a Palestinian suicide bomber on Israeli victims. More likely, Netanyahu said, that bomber 'would have received a stipend from the Palestinian Authority.' Israeli journalists covering Trump's visit also noted that Netanyahu, an embattled politician who is dependent on his far-right coalition government here, has tried to avoid talking about peace since the 2015 election." <http://politi.co/2rOJ5mk>

-- **THE PRESIDENT'S NOTE** in the book of remembrance at Yad Va'shem, Israel's Holocaust memorial, per the Times of Israel's Raoul Wootliff: "It is a great honor to be here with all of my friends -- so amazing & will never forget!" **See Trump's note** <http://bit.ly/2rdkhs8> ... **President Obama's note during his 2013 visit** <http://bit.ly/2qcEOJc>

-- **TRUMP'S NEW COVER PHOTO** on Twitter is a picture of him visiting the Western Wall. <http://bit.ly/2rdGwhk>

**FOR YOUR RADAR -- "Burr says new steps coming to get Flynn to comply with subpoena,"** by Burgess Everett: "The Senate Intelligence Committee will likely take new actions Tuesday to force President Donald Trump's former national security adviser Michael Flynn to comply with a subpoena, Chairman Richard Burr said in an interview.

**"The committee served Flynn with a subpoena** to compel him to turn over documents regarding his contacts with Russian officials, but Flynn has asserted his right not to incriminate himself. The committee is mulling compelling him to appear before the panel and perhaps subsequently holding Flynn in contempt of Congress, among other options designed to make him produce the documents. Burr, a North Carolina Republican, said he's made a decision on how he'll try to force Flynn to turn over the documents and will likely make it public Tuesday afternoon after discussing it with top committee Democrat Mark Warner of Virginia. The committee will hold a regular meeting on Tuesday afternoon." <http://politi.co/2rdFoKI>

**PROTECTING THE FIRST FAMILY -- "NYPD expects to shell out \$42.5M protecting Trump family by end of June,"** by the N.Y. Daily News' Erin Durkin: "The NYPD expects to shell out \$42.5 million by the end of June protecting President Trump, his namesake tower and his family, officials said Monday. Trump's one-day trip back to the city earlier this month, his first since taking office, cost the city \$1.2 million, deputy commissioner Vincent Grippio told the City Council at a budget hearing.

**"Meanwhile, the city racked up \$7.3 million** in overtime bills from inauguration day through the end of March protecting Trump Tower, where Melania Trump and son Barron continue to live, even though President Trump has not been back since taking office. That's on top of the \$23.8 million spent guarding the tower between Election Day and the inauguration." <http://nydn.us/2rdcJ8E>

**HAPPENING TONIGHT --** The 5th annual Capital Soccer Classic is tonight at RFK Stadium. The embassy tournament starts at 5 p.m., the congressional game at 6:30 p.m. and the staffer tournament at 7:30 p.m. Members of Congress participating: Reps. Don Bacon (R-Neb.), Gus Bilirakis (R-Fla.), Suzanne Bonamici (D-Ore.), Kathy Castor (D-Fla.), Ruben Kihuen (D-Nev.), Steve Knight (R-Calif.), Darin LaHood (R-Ill.), Rick Larsen (D-Wash.), Erik Paulsen (R-Minn.) and David Valadao (R-Calif.). Others attending include Danish ambassador Lars Gert Lose, CNN's Chris Cillizza and Roger Bennett, part of the popular Men in Blazers soccer commentary duo. **Free tickets**

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

**REMEMBERING ROGER MOORE -- "Roger Moore - Saint, Persuader and the suavest James Bond - dies aged 89,"** by The Guardian's Benjamin Lee: "He was the epitome of the suave English gent, quipping sweatlessly in a bespoke three-piece suit, who enjoyed an acting career spanning eight decades. On Tuesday, Roger Moore's children announced his death at the age of 89 in Switzerland, saying: 'he passed away today ... after a short but brave battle with cancer.'" <http://bit.ly/2rdhqiH>

**MEDIAWATCH -- "CNN Taps Politico's Tara Palmeri As Political Analyst,"** by The Hollywood Reporter's Rebecca Sun: "She also has signed with WME in all areas." <http://bit.ly/2rd2Pnh> ***Tara's role at CNN is in addition to her work here.***

-- **Kate Sullivan** starts on June 5th as a news assistant at CNN. She was previously chief of staff at TEDxGeorgetown and communications director for Georgetown's OWN IT Summit. Sullivan graduated from Georgetown this past weekend after spending 14 years abroad with her parents in Tokyo, Mexico and London.

**AFTERNOON READ -- "This Secretive Billionaire Makes The Cheese For Pizza Hut, Domino's And Papa John's,"** by Forbes' Chloe Sorvino: "Two floors above this dairy deluge, in a dark-wood-paneled office with white marble floors, Corinthian columns and gold accents, sits James Leprino, the Willy Wonka of cheese. 'It's hard for me to believe I agreed to this,' the 79-year-old billionaire says. 'I really like to keep my privacy.' ... But after nearly 60 years running the business and more than a decade on Forbes' list of billionaires, Leprino, worth an estimated \$3 billion, is finally willing to be interviewed about how his family's grocery in Denver's Little Italy became the world's top producer of pizza cheese--the slightly derisive term competitors use to describe its mozzarella. In all, Leprino Foods sells more than a billion pounds of cheese a year, to the tune of \$3 billion in revenue." <http://bit.ly/2rMY5SA>

**PLAYBOOK METRO SECTION -- "Hirshhorn to host solo show by Chinese dissident artist Ai Weiwei,"** by WaPo's Peggy McGlone <http://wapo.st/2rdRweU>

**TRANSITIONS -- Nicole Cornish** is joining Subject Matter as its first president and chief operating officer. She most recently was U.S. chief operating officer of Burson-Marsteller. <http://politi.co/2rdbztU>

**SPOTTED:** John Kerry flying from DCA to Boston today on an American Airlines flight.

\*\*\*\*\* **A message from the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD):** One in two Americans rely on their employers to provide health care benefits. So, employers partner with PBMs to provide access to effective medications at the most affordable price. PBMs drive savings in part by using clinical expertise to identify generic alternatives that achieve the same health outcomes for a lower price. With generics accounting for 89 percent of prescriptions filled in 2015, but only 27 percent of drug costs, that represents a savings of \$227 billion across the U.S. health care system in

just one year. Learn more at [www.affordableprescriptiondrugs.org](http://www.affordableprescriptiondrugs.org). \*\*\*\*\*

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