

<http://politi.co/2pGuwOc> \*\*\*\*\*

## THE FIRST FOREIGN TRIP ...

**THE CHARTER** with most reporters traveling with Trump left Andrews Air Force Base last night.

-- **PETER BAKER**, who is traveling with the president to Saudi Arabia and Israel:

**"Tips for Leaders Meeting Trump: Keep It Short and Give Him a Win":** "For foreign leaders trying to figure out the best way to approach an American president unlike any they have known, it is a time of experimentation. Embassies in Washington trade tips and ambassadors send cables to presidents and ministers back home suggesting how to handle a mercurial, strong-willed leader with no real experience on the world stage, a preference for personal diplomacy and a taste for glitz.

**"After four months of interactions between Mr. Trump and his counterparts** , foreign officials and their Washington consultants say certain rules have emerged: Keep it short -- no 30-minute monologue for a 30-second attention span. Do not assume he knows the history of the country or its major points of contention. Compliment him on his Electoral College victory. Contrast him favorably with President Barack Obama. Do not get hung up on whatever was said during the campaign. Stay in regular touch. Do not go in with a shopping list but bring some sort of deal he can call a victory." <http://nyti.ms/2pZWmrF>

-- **AP'S JULIE PACE: "Worldwide effort set to keep Trump happy on 1st trip abroad":** "When President Donald Trump sits down for dinner in Saudi Arabia, caterers have ensured that his favorite meal -- steak with a side of ketchup -- will be offered alongside the traditional local cuisine. At NATO and the Group of 7 summits, foreign delegations have gotten word that the new U.S. president prefers short presentations and lots of visual aids. And at all of Trump's five stops on his first overseas trip, his team has spent weeks trying to build daily downtime into his otherwise jam-packed schedule." <http://apne.ws/2q01FaG>

-- **"5 things to watch on Trump's foreign trip,"** by Michael Crowley: "1. Which he say 'radical Islamic terrorism'? ... 2. Will he play Middle East peacemaker? ... 3. Does he *really* support NATO? ... 4. Can he stick to a script? ... 5. Can he change the subject?" <http://politi.co/2qA9zuE>

-- **ANNIE KARNI: "Ivanka and Jared get a rabbinical pass to fly Air Force One":**

"Ivanka Trump and Jared Kushner will be flying aboard Air Force One to Saudi Arabia with President Donald Trump on Friday, after receiving a rabbinical dispensation to travel on the Jewish Sabbath, according to a White House official. The two practicing Orthodox Jews typically observe the weekly Shabbat holiday, unplugging from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday. But they have made exceptions, on a few occasions, for their jobs. On Inauguration Day, they received the same kind of rabbinical pass to travel by car, an activity that is typically prohibited for observant Jews on the Sabbath. The rules can be broken in life-threatening situations, or if there is a safety concern, according to Jewish law. It was not clear on what grounds the exception was made for Trump's first foreign trip." <http://politi.co/2ry7RYA>

-- **"Stephen Miller Is Writing Trump's NATO Speech, Too,"** by BuzzFeed's John Hudson: "President Donald Trump has tapped Stephen Miller, a senior adviser at the White House and an outspoken NATO critic, to draft his speech before the military alliance in Brussels next week, people familiar with the plans tell BuzzFeed News. The prospect of a speech penned by the 31-year-old anti-globalist adds a new layer of anxiety for NATO allies uncertain about which version of Donald Trump will show up in Belgium's capital: The one that believes NATO is 'no longer obsolete' or the one that thinks the 28-member military alliance is a relic of the past." <http://bzfd.it/2ryooe7>

-- **"European leaders fear Trump's political chaos is undermining U.S. power,"** by WaPo's Michael Birnbaum in Brussels: "After nearly four months of the Trump administration, many fear that mounting domestic scandals could sap Washington's ability to respond to challenges ranging from Russia to terrorism to North Korea.

"...[O]ne senior European intelligence officer said if his agency ever came into possession of information that was incriminating to Trump or his circle, it would hold back from sharing with the United States for fear the U.S. president would seek revenge." <http://wapo.st/2qZcOfZ>

**BEHIND THE SCENES -- "Behind closed doors, Al Franken, Kirsten Gillibrand blast Rosenstein for withholding information,"** by WaPo's Ed O'Keefe: "Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein's meeting with senators on Thursday grew especially heated when he faced questions from two frustrated liberal Democrats, according to multiple people familiar with the meeting. Rosenstein came to Capitol Hill to discuss the firing of FBI Director James B. Comey and his decision to hire Robert Mueller as a special counsel to probe Russian meddling in last year's elections. ... Rosenstein faced especially aggressive questions from Democrats about the scope of the investigation set