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From: Hadas Gold - POLITICO Media
Sent: Fri 8/4/2017 9:30:17 AM
Subject: Morning Media: Maria Elena Salinas to leave Univision -- Right wing media goes after McMaster -- Scaramucci cancels his big announcement

By Hadas Gold | 08/04/2017 05:28 AM EDT

With Alex Weprin

MARIA ELENA SALINAS IS LEAVING UNIVISION AFTER MORE THAN THREE DECADES as an anchor at the Spanish-language network. The longtime "Noticiero Univision" anchor announced on Thursday that she will leave at the end of the year. It's a big change for the network and will also mean that Jorge Ramos will get a new co-anchor as the network fends off competitor Telemundo. Salinas, an Emmy, Peabody, and Edward R. Murrow award-winning journalist, said in a statement she is beginning "a new stage in my career, and look forward to new projects to reach new and diverse audiences on multiple platforms." Some sources have suggested that the U.S.-born Salinas plans to break through on English-language platforms -- she recently wrapped up her first season as host of "The Real Story with Maria Elena Salinas" on Investigation Discovery.

"I haven't been pushed out, I haven't quit, I'm not retiring. And I'm not leaving to another place to do the same as I do here," she said on air last night.

RIGHT WING MEDIA HAS DECLARED WAR ON GEN. H.R. MCMASTER, the president's National Security Adviser, who replaced Gen. Michael Flynn. the siege against McMaster comes in response to his shakeup of the National Security Council, which has included removing three officials who were reportedly members of the more nationalist-minded faction of Trump's administration. A report on Thursday also said that McMaster allowed former National Security Advisor Susan Rice to keep her security clearance, angering many who say Rice was inappropriately "unmasking" members of Trump's team and other Americans during the campaign. Personalities like Sean Hannity, Mike Cernovich and outlets like Breitbart have suggested McMaster needs to go. On Twitter today, many right-wing personalities were encouraging their followers to call the White House switchboard and to call for McMaster's firing. Mediaite has a round up here.

-- For now, McMaster is safe, my colleagues reported yesterday. White House Chief of Staff John "Kelly told McMaster this week that he wanted him to remain as national security adviser, said two senior White House aides, and has encouraged him to make any staffing changes he deems necessary." But then again, this is Trump's White House where roles can come and go, as Anthony Scaramucci can attest.

Good morning, happy Friday, and welcome to Morning Media! I always want to hear from you -- hgold@politico.com / @Hadas Gold. **Morning Media** is edited by **Alex Weprin** (@alexweprin / alexweprin@gmail.com) and produced with writing/reporting help from **Cristiano Lima**. (clima@politico.com / @ludacristiano). Archives. Subscribe.

"CBS THIS MORNING" PULLED A KELLYANNE CONWAY INTERVIEW after the senior counselor to the president showed up late on Wednesday, two sources tell me. The interview was teased on CBS in the early morning on Wednesday but it never aired after Conway showed up late to the stand-up spot on the north lawn of the White House. Morning shows run on tight timelines, but entirely ditching an interview with a senior counselor to the president struck me as pretty unusual. CBS News declined to comment and Conway did not respond to a request for comment.

SCARAMUCCI CANCELED HIS BIG ONLINE ANNOUNCEMENT TODAY, where he was supposed to address the American people. Former Fox News co-president Bill Shine was reportedly helping Scaramucci with the event, which was to be broadcast live on various platforms, but Scaramucci tweeted yesterday "No Press Event Tomorrow: Focusing on Family, My Work in The Private Sector. #MovingForward Stay Tuned!"

-- Meanwhile on Thursday, The New Yorker released audio excerpts of Scaramucci's infamous conversation with Ryan Lizza. After initially saying last week that they would not release the audio The New Yorker included clips of the conversation as part of its weekly podcast "The New Yorker Radio Hour" hosted by editor-in-chief David Remnick. Listen to it here.

THE WASHINGTON POST GETS A HOLD OF TRUMP'S CONVERSATIONS WITH LEADERS OF MEXICO, AUSTRALIA: Leaked transcripts are making a lot of news this week! On Thursday The Washington Post published transcripts of Trump's phone calls with Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto and Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull. There was tons of news in them, including Trump admitting to Peña Nieto that the border wall that has been such a mainstay of Trump's campaign "is the least important thing that we are talking about, but politically this might be the most important talk about" and that his phone call with Turnbull really was as tense as was reported at the time.

-- Out of this transcript came the renewed focus, especially in right-wing media, on leaks. While outlets like Fox and Breitbart covered the transcripts they focused on the fact that it was a leak -- that someone from the "deep state" sent the transcript of the private phone calls to reporters.

-- Some, like David Frum in the Atlantic, argued that the leaks are "unprecedented, shocking, and dangerous" and that as the president's opponents "violate norms to undermine him, they do lasting damage to American security." The Sunlight Foundation argued that "whistleblowing is essential to democratic accountability," and that "the American public is better off knowing what @realdonaldtrump has said to these world leaders" and that it's Trump's conduct that has lead people to leak. "President Trump's conduct in office threatens democratic stability. Dissent is an essential check to power."

-- Sen. Mark Warner, a Democrat, wants the leaks to be investigated, telling The Daily Beast "A president of the United States, a governor would tell us they've got to be able to have confidential conversations ... And I think it was disgraceful that those [came out]."

IS SEAN SPICER VIOLATING ETHICS RULES BY TALKING FUTURE JOBS? Former White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer is still technically employed at the White House and will be through August. Last week Spicer made the rounds with the television networks, while agents are fighting over who gets to represent him. However, my colleague Tara Palmeri reports that under federal law, senior government officials must file notice when opening employment negotiations and pledge to recuse themselves from anything that would affect the financial interests of their prospective employers. The government's former ethics director Walter Shaub (who has criticized the Trump administration's ethics program since his departure last month) told Palmeri "If [the networks] broach the topic of him coming to work for them, then he's seeking employment and the recusal under the standards of conduct kicks in." More from Palmeri [here](#).

-- Here's one gig Spicer won't be doing: ABC's "Dancing With the Stars." According to [TMZ](#) Spicer "was flattered by the opportunity, but because he believes he'll have an 'overwhelming number of commitments in the Fall, he declined the offer.'" The [New York Post](#) also reports that Spicer has signed with Washington mega-lawyers Bob Barnett and Michael O'Connor to represent him for all post White House TV deals, business consultancies and speaking appearances.

FACEBOOK IS ROLLING OUT MORE TOOLS TO HELP FIGHT FAKE NEWS including a new effort to display related articles to limit the damage of false news without censoring posts, [the Wall Street Journal reports](#). "Starting Thursday, when Facebook's U.S. users come across popular links-including made-up news articles-in their feeds, they may also see a cluster of other articles on the same topic. The 'related articles' feature, which will roll out widely in the U.S. after months of testing, is part of the Facebook news feed team's effort to limit the damage of false news without taking down those posts." Related: Here are some key takeaways from Facebook's Journalism Project hackathons, via [Nieman Lab](#).

THE STATUE OF LIBERTY QUESTION, by Alex Weprin: CNN White House correspondent Jim Acosta's tough questioning of White House aid Stephen Miller on Wednesday made news, both for Acosta's line of questioning (he invoked Emma Lazarus' 1883 poem The New Colossus, which appears on a plaque by the Statue of Liberty), and for Miller's response. BuzzFeed's [Steven Perlberg notes](#), however, that just two years ago CNN suspended a reporter for citing the poem in response to House lawmakers attempting to limit the number of Syrian refugees permitted into the U.S. "Times are very different" from 2015, said a CNN TV executive. "Acosta posed a question (albeit a loaded one) rather than making an affirmative statement."

REVOLVING DOOR:

-- NBC has [announced](#) a new investigative unit focused on national security and politics. The team will comprise of **Carol Lee**, who recently joined from The Wall Street Journal, **Mike Memoli**, who recently joined from the L.A. Times, **Vivian Salama** who joins from the Associated Press, **Keri Geiger** who joins from Bloomberg News and **Julia Ainsley** joins from Reuters. Current NBCers joining the team include **Courtney Kube** and **Ken Dilanian**. The team will be led by **Rich Greenberg** and **Dafna Linzer**.

-- NBC's "Meet the Press" has promoted **Sarah Blackwill** to senior producer, **Natalie Cucchiara** (a GWU classmate of mine!) to senior coordinating producer and **Sally Bronston** to producer.

-- The newest ABC News contributor: former Major League Baseball player **Alex Rodriguez**. Rodriguez is also set to host a new show on CNBC, and turned to CNN's Jessica Yellin for advice in breaking into TV. [More from The Hollywood Reporter](#).

-- **J. David Ake, Kathleen Hennessey and Elizabeth Kennedy** are moving into deputy bureau chief roles at the [Associated Press](#).

-- **Karen Miller Pensiero** has been appointed managing editor of the Wall Street Journal. She is currently editor for newsroom standards.

-- The Atlantic is making a few moves across the Atlantic: **Rachel Donadio**, recently the European culture correspondent for The New York Times, will be The Atlantic's culture and politics writer based in Paris; **Yasmeen Serhan** joins the newly established London bureau as a reporter; and in Washington **Krishnadev Calamur**, currently The Atlantic's news editor, will begin this fall as a global diplomacy correspondent covering U.S.-Europe relations, the State Department, and foreign policy. Already in place is The Atlantic's staff writer Sophie Gilbert, who returned to her native London this summer and continues her coverage of culture and entertainment. James Fallows, previously announced as The Atlantic's first European Editor, arrives to lead the London bureau later this month.

-- The Wall Street Journal's **Eli Stokols** is now an MSNBC contributor.

SOUNDBITE: "I was here when you got fired the last time and I'll be here when you get fired this time. ... I've been doing well. What were you doing last year? Nothing but selling cellphones." [\[April Ryan\]](#)

TIL: White House Chief of Staff John Kelly prefers Irish whiskey. [\[New York Times\]](#)

EXTRAS:

-- The Drum profiles POLITICO's upcoming U.K. expansion, which will include a London-based bureau and its very own Playbook. [\[The Drum\]](#)

-- NBC doesn't sound too concerned that Jimmy Fallon is stuck in second place behind Stephen Colbert, and the network isn't forcing him to do more political comedy to compensate. [\[USA Today\]](#)

-- Sorry news outlets: "The Campaign Against Facebook And Google's Ad "Duopoly" Is Going Nowhere" [\[BuzzFeed News\]](#)

-- The Baltimore Sun's iconic headquarters are set to be renovated into a mixed-use development site, with the paper weighing its future at the site. [\[Baltimore Business Journal\]](#)

-- Vanity Fair is responding to Angelina Jolie, after she claims she was misquoted in a cover story last month (spoiler: the magazine stands by its story, and has the audio recording to prove it). [[Vanity Fair](#)]

-- Chartbeat is expanding its analytics platform to include information on subscribers and nonsubscribers, the "single most requested feature" according to its team. [[Nieman Lab](#)]

-- This is a smart piece on how YouTube has become the new talk radio of the "new fair right." [[New York Times](#)]

-- Columbia University is offering a master of science degree in data journalism. Tuition price: \$100,000. [[Poynter](#)]

-- The former contributor suing Fox News made seemingly contradictory statements regarding his defamation suit. [[Law Newz](#)]

-- Snopes.com prevails in tentative court ruling over finances and ownership. [[San Diego Union-Tribune](#)]

-- For one day next week, ESPN will rebrand its ESPNU cable channel as "ESPN8: The Ocho." Yes, it's based on a throwaway joke from the 2004 film "Dodgeball." The channel will air disc golf, roller derby and trampoline dodgeball. [[ESPN](#)]

To view online:

<http://www.politico.com/media/tipsheets/morning-media/2017/08/04/maria-elena-salinas-to-leave-univision-right-wing-media-goes-after-mcmaster-scaramucci-cancels-his-big-announcement-001325>

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