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From: Anna Palmer Jake Sherman Daniel Lippman
Sent: Mon 8/21/2017 5:07:39 PM
Subject: Playbook Power Briefing, presented by Chevron: REPUBLICAN committees paid over \$1 million to TRUMP companies -- PUTIN names new Russian ambassador to U.S. -- Former Sputnik reporter dishes on his time at a 'Russian propaganda network'

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Today's Playbook Power Briefing presented by Chevron

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BREAKING -- "NEW YORK (AP) - POLL ALERT: Alabama is No. 1 in preseason Top 25 for 2nd straight season, followed by Ohio St, Florida St, USC, Clemson."

Good Monday afternoon and happy eclipse day. The eclipse will peak and cover 81 percent of the sun at 2:42 p.m. in Washington, according to Capital Weather Gang (<http://wapo.st/2fZm4fT>). Seriously, do NOT stare directly into the sun. **THE PRESIDENT** will watch the eclipse from the Truman Balcony with the first lady, per pooler Ben Jacobs of The Guardian.

AP//BARCELONA -- "Police shoot and kill Barcelona van attacker": "Regional police in Spain have confirmed that fugitive Barcelona van suspect Younes Abouyaaqoub has been shot dead in a small town outside the city. Police say he wore what appeared to be an explosives belt when he was shot in Subirats, 45 kilometers (28 miles) west of Barcelona.

"Abouyaaqoub had been the focus of an intense manhunt after authorities say he used a van to mow down pedestrians in Barcelona's famous Las Ramblas promenade on Thursday, killing 13 people and injuring over 120. Police also say he stabbed a driver to death and hijacked his car Thursday night in his getaway." <http://bit.ly/2fZPzht>

SPEAKER PAUL RYAN takes it a step further in a new Facebook post entitled **"Let There Be No Confusion":** "[W]e all need to make clear there is no moral relativism when it comes to neo-Nazis. We cannot allow the slightest ambiguity on such a fundamental question." <http://bit.ly/2wgLrjW>

-- BREAKING IN THE PAST HOUR: House Republicans held a conference call to discuss the fall agenda. The leadership and top appropriators discussed the eight remaining spending bills that need to be cleared before the end of September. **HOUSE MAJORITY WHIP STEVE SCALISE** was on today's members-only conference call. He thanked his No. 2 whip, Patrick McHenry of North Carolina, for his help after the shooting. Scalise is still in rehab and his return will depend on doctors' advice.

ALMOST A TREND -- @Sarah_Boxer: ".@HallieJackson just asked @SenatorCollins if Trump will be GOP nominee in 2020. Collins: 'It's too difficult to say'" ...

-- ROLL CALL's JONATHAN ALLEN: "On Friday morning, I sent a note to Corker's office asking whether he would support Trump for renomination in 2020. 'One thing your boss didn't address to my knowledge is whether he supports President Trump for renomination in 2020,' I wrote. 'Since the president's re-election campaign is up and running, and in light of Sen Corker's concerns about the president's stability, will he weigh in on Trump for re-nomination?' And here's what I got back from Corker's communications director, Micah Johnson: 'I don't have anything to add to the senator's comments yesterday.'" <http://bit.ly/2iiYTxB>

A WARNING TO THE PRESIDENT -- ARIZONA REPUBLIC EDITORIAL: Convicted former Sheriff Joe Arpaio "is a lightning rod. Always has been. He was finally defeated in the last election and recently convicted of criminal contempt of court for ignoring a court order to stop racially profiling Latinos. ... Arpaio remains popular with Trump's core supporters, and the president may want to placate them after Bannon's departure. But pardoning Arpaio would permanently stain this presidency.

"It would define Trump as a president who has little regard for the judicial system and less respect for the need to hold law enforcement accountable for violations of minorities' rights. It would be a clear insult to those who patiently used the legal system to hold an unjust sheriff accountable. It would also represent a missed opportunity for Trump to begin realigning his presidency to reflect a mature view of what this country needs." <http://bit.ly/2v7scWf>

PUTIN'S NEW MAN IN AMERICA -- "Putin appoints new Russian ambassador to US," from the AP: "The Kremlin said on Monday Putin has replaced Sergei Kislyak, whose tenure ended in July, with Anatoly Antonov, a deputy foreign minister and former deputy defense minister seen as a hardliner regarding the U.S. The outgoing ambassador played a prominent role the controversy over Russia's possible involvement in the 2016 U.S. presidential election." <http://bit.ly/2uYxBD2>

AFTERNOON READ -- "A Most American Terrorist: The Making of Dylann Roof," by Rachel Kaadzi Ghansah in GQ: "I had come to Charleston intending to write about them, the nine people who were gone. But from gavel to gavel, as I listened to the testimony of the survivors and family members, often the only thing I could focus on, and what would keep me up most nights while I was there, was the magnitude of Dylann Roof's silence, his refusal to even look up, to ever explain why he did what he had done. Over and over again, without even bothering to open his mouth, Roof reminded us that he did not have to answer to anyone. He did not have to dignify our questions with a response or explain anything at all to the people whose relatives he had maimed and murdered. Roof was safeguarded by his knowledge that white American terrorism is never waterboarded for answers, it is never twisted out for meaning, we never identify its 'handlers,' and we could not force him to do a thing. He remained inscrutable. He

remained in control, just the way he wanted to be.

"And so, after weeks in the courtroom, and shortly before Dylann Roof was asked to stand and listen to his sentence, I decided that if he would not tell us his story, then I would. Which is why I left Charleston, the site of his crime, and headed inland to Richland County, to Columbia, South Carolina-to find the people who knew him, to see where Roof was born and raised. To try to understand the place where he wasted 21 years of a life until he committed an act so heinous that he became the first person sentenced to die for a federal hate crime in the entire history of the United States of America." <http://bit.ly/2uYPIOA>

***** **A message from Chevron:** We're piloting a program that uses drones to keep an eye on Chevron wells, tanks, and pipelines-all to keep DOERS and what they're doin' safer. Watch the video: <http://politi.co/2vLsVyX> *****

FROM THE WHITE HOUSE -- @realDonaldTrump at 9:27 a.m.: "Jerry Falwell of Liberty University was fantastic on @foxandfriends. The Fake News should listen to what he had to say. Thanks Jerry!" ... **at 9:32 a.m.,** quote tweeting a supporter bashing the media: "Thank you, the very dishonest Fake News Media is out of control!"

-- **EVANGELICAL** leaders like Falwell have been some of the few conservatives who have publicly supported Trump post-Charlottesville.

BAD NEWS FOR ANTI-VAXXERS -- "As White House appoints pro-vaccine officials, plan for safety commission appears stalled," by Stat News' Helen Branswell: "Robert Kennedy Jr., the environmental activist and leading vaccine skeptic, says that it has been months since he has talked with White House officials about chairing a vaccine safety commission -- and that the idea of such a panel may no longer be under consideration. 'I've had no discussions specifically about the vaccine safety commission, probably since February,' Kennedy told STAT. 'You'd have to ask the White House. It may be that it's evolved.' Kennedy said, however, he has met with a series of top administration officials about vaccine safety since Trump took office, including officials at the upper ranks of the Food and Drug Administration and National Institutes of Health. He said those meetings took place at the request of the White House.

"A White House spokesman, asked about the vaccine safety commission, said there were no announcements to make at this time. He declined to comment on whether the White House had arranged meetings for Kennedy. Other officials confirmed that Kennedy had met with agency leaders, but emphasized that U.S. health officials strongly believe in the safety and efficacy of vaccines." <http://bit.ly/2uYjhKN>

TRUMP INC. -- "Republican committees have paid nearly \$1.3 million to Trump-owned entities this year," by WaPo's Matea Gold and Anu Narayanswamy: "The [RNC] paid the Trump International Hotel in Washington \$122,000 last month after the party held a lavish fundraiser at the venue in June, the latest example of how GOP

political committees are generating a steady income stream for President Trump's private business, new [FEC] records show.

"At least 25 congressional campaigns, state parties and the Republican Governors Association have together spent more than \$473,000 at Trump hotels or golf resorts this year, according to a Washington Post analysis of campaign finance filings. Trump's companies collected an additional \$793,000 from the RNC and the president's campaign committee, some of which included payments for rent and legal consulting." <http://wapo.st/2uZ3PxJ>

-- **"Which charities have canceled galas at Mar-a-Lago Club? How much money is at stake? Catch up on the story with our Q&A,"** by WaPo's David Fahrenthold and Drew Harwell: "In all, 15. That includes 11 charities that had planned galas or other large dinner events. These are the most important events of Palm Beach's traditional winter 'season,' when wealthy people from colder climes gather for five months of gala balls, golf, croquet lessons, sequins and pastel fabrics. Some of the biggest charity galas can attract 600 people or more, and raise more than \$1.5 million in an evening." <http://wapo.st/2xl2f6b>

BACK IN IT -- "Ed Perlmutter changes course and will run for re-election to Congress," by The Denver Post's Mark Matthews <http://dpo.st/2fZ0hov>

MEDIAWATCH -- "My Life at a Russian Propaganda Network," by former Sputnik reporter Andrew Feinberg in POLITICO Magazine: "In practice, Sputnik's mission statement -- 'Telling the Untold' -- means that Sputnik's content should reflect the Russian side of any news story, whether it lines up with reality or not. When it came to the issue of Crimea (which has been occupied by Russian-backed troops since 2014), we were never to write anything on the subject that didn't include language noting that 90 percent of Crimea residents voted in a referendum to rejoin Russia. Of course, when I'd include details of the tanks and armed men that lined the streets while the people of Crimea voted in that referendum, it would be removed from the story before it went live. When asking about Ukraine, I'd based the premise of my question on the reality of the situation, and the pushback, as I interpreted it, was swift.

"On Monday -- our next day back in the office -- I received an email from [editor Peter] Martinichev ordering me to clear any future questions I intended to ask at the White House with my editors, 'so that everyone is on the same page' That is, he instructed me, if my editors didn't have a specific question they wanted me to ask. My question 'should never be a surprise,' he wrote. 'We also need emergency questions in case [somebody] asks the same before us.'" <http://politi.co/2uYDbVO>

TODAY'S BEYOND THE BELTWAY -- Christie out of the running for sports radio job -- California Republicans face fire over climate change <http://politi.co/2fYOxm7>

JPMORGAN CHASE has pledged \$1 million to be split between the Southern Poverty Law Center and Anti-Defamation League. The company will also "launch a special

campaign to match two-for-one our employees' donations to a wide range of human and civil rights organizations, up to an additional \$1 million." **Read the letter from Peter Scher** <http://politi.co/2uYsQcz>

FIRST PERSON - "This Is How Sexism Works in Silicon Valley: My lawsuit failed. Others won't," by Ellen Pao in N.Y. Mag, in an excerpted from her new book "Reset": "I had been working for six years at the Silicon Valley firm Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers as a junior partner and chief of staff for managing partner John Doerr. ... One day, I was part of a small group flying from San Francisco to New York on the private jet of another managing partner, Ted Schlein. ... Once we were airborne, the [tech] CEO, who'd brought along a few bottles of wine, started bragging about meeting Jenna Jameson, talking about her career as the world's greatest porn star and how he had taken a photo with her at the Playboy Mansion. ...

"Then the CEO switched topics. To sex workers. He asked Ted what kind of 'girls' he liked. Ted said that he preferred white girls - Eastern European, to be specific. Eventually we all moved to the couch for a working session to help the tech CEO; he was trying to recruit a woman to his all-male board. I suggested Marissa Mayer, but the CEO looked at me and dismissively said, 'Nah, too controversial.' Then he grinned at Ted and added, 'Though I would let her join the board because she's hot.' ...

"Seven months later, I would sue Kleiner Perkins for sexual harassment and discrimination in a widely publicized case in which I was often cast as the villain - incompetent, greedy, aggressive, and cold. My husband and I were both dragged through the mud, our privacy destroyed. For a long time I didn't challenge those stories, because I wasn't ready to talk about my experience in detail. Now I am. ... People in the venture world spoke fondly about the early shenanigans at big companies. A friend told me how he sublet office space to Facebook, only to find people having sex there on the floor of the main public area. They wanted to see if the Reactrix -- an interactive floor display hooked up to light sensors -- would enhance their experience."

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

SPOTTED -- American University President Sylvia Burwell walking on 49th Street ... Tom Daschle running by the Four Seasons this morning ... Lawfare's Ben Wittes and Susan Hennessy sitting at a table at Java House this morning.

TRANSITIONS -- The House Republican Conference announced a series of promotions and hires on their digital team. **Katelyn Brantley** was promoted to digital director, **Elizabeth Butz** was hired as digital communication strategist and **Annie Richardson** joined as a digital assistant earlier this year.

***** **A message from Chevron:** This is a story about energy, safety, and some truly high-flyin' doin'. We're piloting a program that uses drones, HD imaging, and thermal mapping to help keep a close eye on Chevron wells, tanks, and pipelines-all to keep DOERS and what they're doin' safer. Watch the video: <http://politi.co/2vLsVyX> *****

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