Twitter Thread by Seth Abramson



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(EXCERPT) Here are the first excerpts to be published from my forthcoming 450-page, 1,650-endnote book PROOF OF COLLUSION. More excerpts will be released each Monday until the book's November 13 release. I hope you'll RETWEET and consider preordering here: https://t.co/ZJsnHcVwGi

Cohen fed to the *Huffington Post* in his August 30, 2017, interview was that, in the many months he'd been working on the Trump World Tower Moscow project for Trump, he'd spoken with Trump about it for a total of only "four minutes"—and that in the first and third of the three conversations the businessman had said a total of four words, all monosyllabic.[94] Investigators are unlikely to find either claim plausible, particularly in light of Cohen's widely professed loyalty to Trump during the period the statements were made and the confirmation, by 2018, that Cohen had provided inaccurate testimony to Congress on the same subject.

By November, Sater has lined up financing for the Trump-Rozov tower with VTB—a then sanctioned Kremlin-owned bank. The next month, however, new sanctions are leveled against VTB, meaning that unless Trump wins the presidency and removes Russian sanctions, he will not be able to get the money that Sater has secured for him.

Sater's use of VTB for the funding of Trump World Tower Moscow brings an entirely new perspective to NBC News's reporting, in June 2017, that "[t]he Trump administration was gearing up to lift sanctions on Russia when the president took office," and that, having been given no prior warning of Trump's intentions, the unilateral ending of sanctions on Russia was only avoided by "career diplomats [at the State Department] ginn[ing] up pressure in Congress to block the move."[95] Had Trump's long-secret plans on Russian sanctions been successful—and while voters knew Trump opposed such sanctions, they didn't know he was prepared to unilaterally lift them upon taking office—VTB would eventually have been freed to release its promised funding for Trump World Tower Moscow. While perhaps Donald Trump Jr. would have managed the project instead of his father, the fact remains that the tower would have been financially feasible and that any returns from the deal would have—in due time, following his presidency—gone to Trump himself.

2/ Each of the 14 chapters in the book is divided into three sections: Summary, Facts, and Annotated History. Summary and Facts sections are present tense; Annotated Histories are past tense. Endnote numerals follow sentences, with the endnotes themselves at the back of the book.

3/ There are zero tweets from this feed in the book. The book is written in the style of a government report, chronologically ordered. The timeframe covered by the book begins in 1987 (Chapter 1) and quickly moves to a month-by-month analysis of Trump's campaign from June '15 on.

4/ The book's 1,650 endnotes comprise about 2,000 total citations. The number of media outlets cited in the book is in the hundreds, and includes reliable media institutions from around the world. The number of people discussed is so large that we'll have to put the Index online.

5/ This book is the public record of the public investigation into Trump-Russia collusion. That means it's composed of the best investigative reporting done on this topic—including any leaks directly from Congressional and DOJ/FBI sources that were later published in major media.

6/ The average reader may be familiar with about 10% of the information in the book. 90% of it—though publicly reported across a two-year period in major media outlets the world over—will almost certainly be a total surprise to the average reader, who simply never encountered it.

7/ Excerpt 1 comes from an Annotated History section; Excerpts 2 and 3 come from a Facts section; Excerpt 4 comes from the book's endnotes. I released one excerpt from the endnotes to show how they're formatted and to underscore that many chapters include well over 100 endnotes.

8/ Next week, one excerpt will be from a Summary, while the others will be from Facts and Annotated History sections. From there on, all publicly released excerpts will be from Facts and Annotated History sections exclusively. I just wanted everyone to see how the book is set up.

9/ Nearly every speculation about this book was false. It does not include any of my tweets. It does not include my opinions. It does not include unsourced material. It is not composed of facts you've already seen; most readers will be encountering these facts for the first time.

10/ The book's massive Index will be published for free online to ensure that it's searchable and doesn't overwhelm the book, which I can tell you from having held the galley—which is softcover, rather than the hardcover coming November 13—is already *literally* heavy with proof.

11/ The book takes readers up to the very second of Mueller's DOJ-mandated (or -advised) 60-day pre-election pause. That said, news stories from October '18 onward are being compiled, curated, synthesized, and connected to the rest of the book in anticipation of updated editions.

12/ This book intends to be as full and complete a record of everything publicly known about the Trump-Russia investigation as is practicable; because of its endnotes and 100+ narrative threads, any reader also has—with this book—a starting point for additional "very deep dives."