Twitter Thread by emptywheel

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Tuning into the McCabe hearing.

Lindsey Graham is still boasting that CIA unmasked Hillary long before they unmasked Mike Flynn. He's legit complaining that Hillary ran a campaign and the CIA didn't

Whitehouse now explaining to Lindsey Graham that tying an opponent to a foreign country is not a criminal act. "If you look at CI investigation, obvious difference is that there were contacts bt RU intel operatives and campaign operatives."

"I don't think the FBI has any business interfering into that kind of campaign debate, you would be besides yourself with anger if FBI investigated Trump for trying to tie Biden to China."

Now Graham is talking about how Coffee Boy said working with Russia would be treason which 1) means that he thinks Roger Stone committed treason and 2) he demonstrably lied in that interview.

Now Lindsey claiming that the dossier created the impression that Trump was in bed with Russia, and not his open requests for Russian help.

Mike Lee now misrepresenting what Bill Priestap's notes say.

McCabe: It is common to discuss b4 an interview to discuss how interview might turn out. One possibility is that subject might be deliberately deception. You talk though how to deal with that.

Now Lee complaining that Flynn didn't get a 1001 warning.

McCabe should note that Flynn admitted to knowing it's a crime to lie to the FBI, under oath.

Mike Lee on the "lured into" theory.

Lee: You threatened to elevate Flynn's call with Kislyak to General Counsel if he got counsel.

McCabe: Premise of question absolutely false. Did not threaten Flynn.

Mike Lee asking who knew of problems in Page application before first application.

Um. The problems were in the 2nd and 3rd renewals, dummy.

It's really be nice if a single one of the GOP Senators on the Senate Judiciary Committee, especially @SenMikeLee who actually knows this stuff, actually knew what the FBI Director certification does.

@SenMikeLee I mean, I'm really happy Lee wants to reform the process.

It'd be helpful if he understood it first.

Chuck Grassley now betraying that he doesn't understand how the Carter Page application stacks up against others (it was better as far as Woods File).

McCabe's blowing the answers to Grassley about whether anyone ORDERED anyone else to keep the Flynn case open.

Lindsey Graham is discovering that sometimes FBI doesn't know how reliable its informants are.

Lindsey can't seem to decide whether Danchenko is a Russian agent (as he claimed improperly last time) or totally reliable.

Cruz: Are you referring to the LOgan Act theory?

McCabe: No sir, we found the kind of direct contact that we were looking for.

Cruz: Logan Act.

McCabe: We didn't use the Logan Act.

Cruz doubles down claiming that the Logan Act was basis for Flynn investigation.

McCabe tries to correct him.

McCabe said there was no discussion of the Logan Act.

Cruz cut him off. He continues to cut him off.

McCabe: When we initiated case against Flynn.

Cruz interrupts again.

McCabe fucked up again: accepting Cruz' premise that his contact with the press was leak.

Lindsey trying to interrupt McCabe as he explains that Flynn lied about his contacts with Kislyak.

Lindsey: The Biden Administration, believing they have won.

Lindsey now claims that FBI surveilled Flynn. That's false, of course.

Lindsey now complaining that Trump didn't get a defensive briefing.

THE WEEK that they gave the generalized one, Mike Flynn was secretly inking a contract with Turkey, while getting a classified briefing.

Also, the reason FBI didn't give a defensive briefing to Trump abt the Coffee Boy and Carter Page is BECAUSE THE CAMPAIGN FIRED BOTH OF THEM BC OF THEIR TIES TO RUSSIA.

Josh Hawley grilling McCabe abt a text he sent that was PROBABLY about Russian interference but DOJ hasn't let him review his texts, and Hawley is furious that he doesn't remember a 4 year old text.

Blackburn basically just asked McCabe when he stopped beating his wife, except his wife is the FBI.

Blackburn: How long have you known Christopher Steele?

McCabe: I've never met him.

Blackburn: I think you've known him for two decades.

We're 2.75 hours into this hearing and the alterations of Andrew McCabe's notes have not come up once.

We're also into our 4th hearing on this and not a single GOPer on SJC appears to know what the FBI Director certificate is about.

Lindsey seems unaware that there were two PUBLIC investigations of Hillary that were reported during the campaign.

Curious.

LOLOL.

Kennedy is now demanding that the Deputy Director of FBI do informant vetting personally.

Now Kennedy is furious bc McCabe won't talk about Danchenko, whose identity hasn't been declassified by FBI yet.

Nope. The fact that Billy Barr's DOJ altered McCabe's notes didn't come up at all in this hearing.

Lindsey again pretending the investigation was all about the dossier, which of course it wasn't.

Again, not a single solitary GOP Senator knows what the FBI Director's declaration does in a FISA application.