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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

May 10, 2019

The Honorable Michael R. Pompeo
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Pompeo,

As you may be aware, several congressional committees have been investigating, among other things, a dossier of opposition research compiled by Christopher Steele that was used to obtain a Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) warrant to surveil Carter Page and possibly others associated with the presidential campaign of Donald J. Trump. As part of those investigations, it has been revealed that then-Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs Kathleen Kavalec was in communication with Steele.¹ It was unclear until recently, however, how significant her communications with Steele may have been.

Indeed, according to documents obtained in Freedom of Information Act litigation with the Department, Ms. Kavalec met with Steele ten days prior to the issuance of the initial Carter Page FISA warrant and was told by Steele that he was “keen to see this information [the dossier] come to light prior to November 8,”² the date of the 2016 presidential election. This is important information that further demonstrates the bias of the primary source of material that was the basis for the Carter Page FISA warrant. In addition, recent reporting by John Solomon suggests that Ms. Kavalec’s contacts with Steele may have been the most significant and memorialized communications with him by a U.S. government official prior to the issuance of the Carter Page FISA warrant.³

In light of this newly disclosed information, the Committee requests that the Department produce the following documents no later than May 23, 2019:

1. All documents and communications created on or after May 1, 2016, relating to any communications between Christopher Steele and employees or officials of the Department of State, including Kathleen Kavalec.

¹ *Transcribed Interview of Bruce Ohr: Before H. Comm. on the Judiciary and H. Comm. on Oversight and Government Reform* at 213-14 (August 28, 2018).

² Notes from Meeting with Chris Steele and Tatyana Duran of Orbis Security, October 11, 2016, U.S. Department of State Case No. F-2018-04736, Doc No. C06679743.

³ John Solomon, *Steele’s Stunning Pre-FISA Confession: Informant Needed To Air Trump Dirt Before Election*, THE HILL, May 7, 2019.


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2. All documents and communications created on or after May 1, 2016, between employees or officials of the Department of State, including Kathleen Kavalec, and employees or officials of the Department of Justice, including Bruce Ohr, relating to Christopher Steele, the presidential campaign of Donald J. Trump, or anyone associated with the Trump campaign.

In addition, I request that the Department make Ms. Kavalec available for a transcribed interview.

If you have any questions about these requests and to schedule the above requested transcribed interview, please have your staff contact Zachary Somers with the Judiciary Committee at (202) 224-5225. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Lindsey O. Graham
Chairman

cc: The Honorable Dianne Feinstein