

INVESTIGATION

TIMELINE of FISA ABUSE

In pursuing one of the most intrusive spy methods, the FBI consistently ignored exculpatory evidence

BY JEFF CARLSON



MARCH 2



Carter Page, who would be publicly named by presidential candidate Donald Trump as a campaign adviser on March 21, is interviewed by the FBI's New York field office in preparation for the trial of an indicted Russian intelligence officer in the Evgeny Buryakov case.

MARCH 2

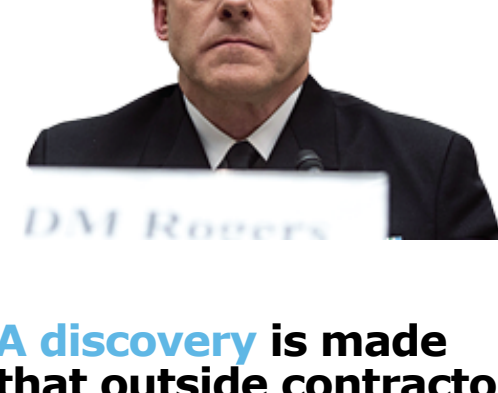
The FBI's New York field office counterintelligence squad supervisor calls the Counterespionage Section of the FBI's Counterintelligence Division at headquarters to request permission to open an investigation into Carter Page.

EARLY MARCH 2016

FUSIONGPS

Fusion GPS approaches Perkins Coie—the law firm used by the Clinton campaign and the DNC—expressing interest in an “engagement,” according to an Oct. 24, 2017, **response letter** by Perkins Coie.

MARCH 9



A discovery is made that outside contractors for the FBI had been accessing raw FISA data since at least 2015. NSA Director Mike Rogers would direct the NSA's Office of Compliance to conduct a “fundamental baseline review of compliance associated with 702” at some point in early April 2016.

MARCH 14



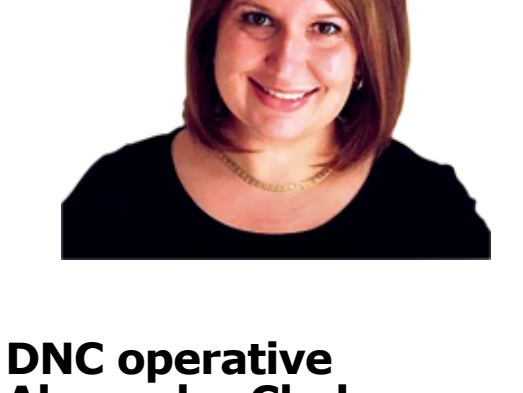
CIA Director John Brennan travels to Moscow and meets with Russia's federal intelligence agency, the Federal Security Service.

MARCH 21



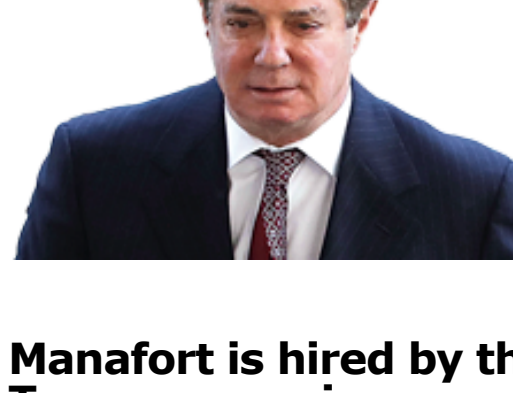
Carter Page and George Papadopoulos are named as part of Trump's foreign policy team in a meeting with The Washington Post's editorial board. Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn is also serving as a foreign policy adviser by this time.

MARCH 24



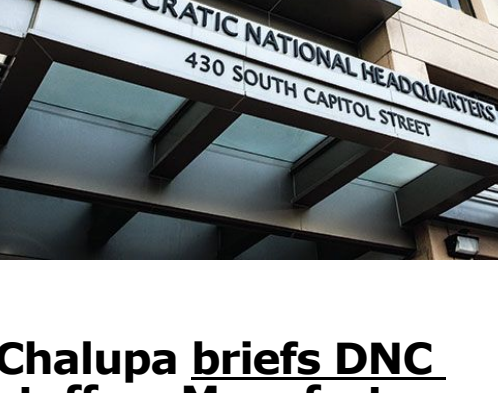
DNC operative Alexandra Chulapa shared concerns regarding Trump, Republican strategist Paul Manafort, and their alleged ties to Russia with Valeriy Chaly, the Ukrainian ambassador to the United States. Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) would later raise concerns over this meeting in a letter to Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein.

MARCH 28



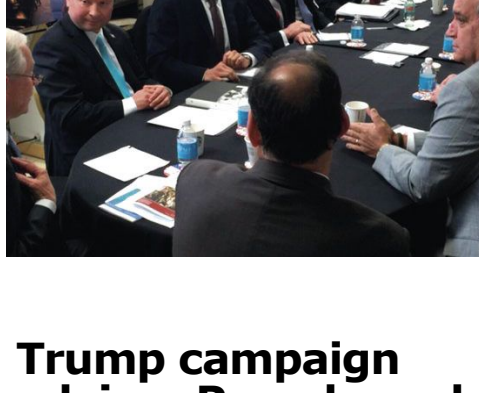
Manafort is hired by the Trump campaign.

MARCH 29



Chalupa briefs DNC staff on Manafort, Trump, and their alleged ties to Russia.

MARCH 31



Trump campaign adviser Papadopoulos attends a “national security” meeting in Washington, with Trump and other foreign policy advisers. According to a DOJ release, Papadopoulos stated he “had connections that could help arrange a meeting between then-candidate Trump and President Putin.”

APRIL

Brennan is reportedly shown information from an intelligence agency in one of the Baltic states.

APRIL TO JUNE



Information flow from British intelligence agencies to the United States continues, according to reporting by The Guardian.

APRIL



Perkins Coie hires Fusion GPS to “perform a variety of research services during the 2016 election cycle,” according to an Oct. 24, 2017, letter from Perkins Coie.

APRIL 1

The FBI's New York field office receives permission to open a (“redacted - likely espionage”) investigation of Carter Page.

EARLY APRIL



NSA Director Rogers directs the agency's Office of Compliance to conduct a “fundamental baseline review of compliance associated with 702,” according to a declassified FISA court ruling.

EARLY APRIL



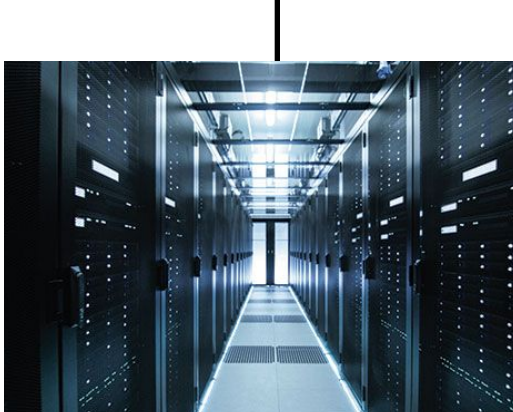
The FBI's New York field office prepares summaries of information on Carter Page in advance of opening their investigation on him. These summaries also are provided to Counterintelligence Division officials at FBI headquarters to be used for a “director's note” and a separate “director's brief” that is held on April 27.

APRIL 6



(Note: The IG report also mentions April 4.) **The FBI's New York field office opens a counterintelligence (“redacted - likely espionage”) investigation of Carter Page.** Despite Page's role within the Trump campaign, the investigation is not designated as a sensitive investigative matter (SIM).

APRIL 18



Rogers shuts down all FBI outside-contractor access. At this point, both the FBI and the DOJ's National Security Division likely became aware of Rogers's compliance review.

On the same day, the DNC is allegedly hacked by Russia, according to the committee.

APRIL 26



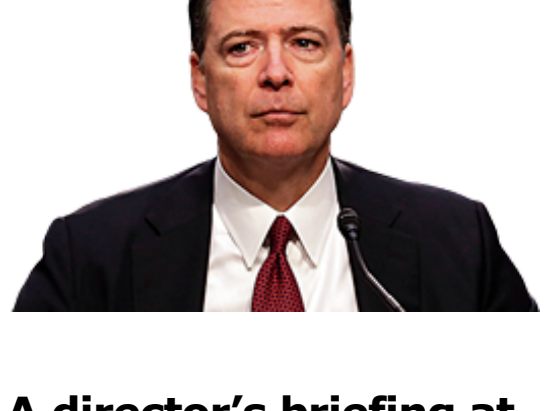
Investigative reporter Michael Isikoff writes a story for Yahoo! News about Paul Manafort's business dealings with Russian oligarch Oleg Deripaska. A May 3 email would reveal that Isikoff had been working with DNC operative Chalupa during this time.

APRIL 26



Maltese professor Joseph Mifsud tells Papadopoulos that “the Russians had ‘dirt’ on Clinton in the form of ‘thousands of emails.’”

APRIL 27



A director's briefing at FBI headquarters is held regarding Carter Page and the New York field office's investigation of him.

APRIL 28



Chalupa appears on a panel to discuss her research on Manafort with a group of 68 Ukrainian investigative journalists gathered at the Library of Congress, for a program sponsored by a U.S. congressional agency called the Open World Leadership Center. Appearing with her was Isikoff, with whom she was apparently working and she had invited, according to a May 3, 2016, email that Chalupa sent to Luis Miranda, communications director of the DNC, posted by WikiLeaks.

LATE APRIL



DNC IT staff allegedly detect access to the DNC network by unauthorized users.

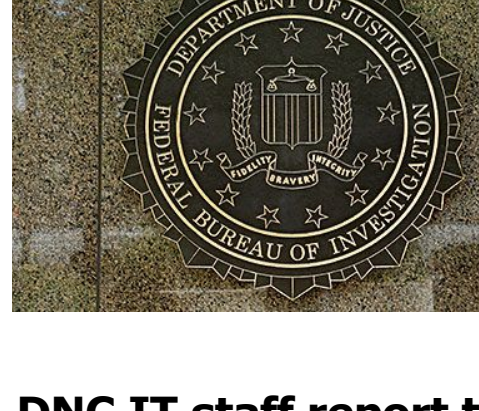
DNC CEO Amy Dacy speaks with Michael Sussmann, a DNC lawyer and partner in Perkins Coie. Sussmann contacts Shawn Henry, CEO and president of CrowdStrike Services.

LATE APRIL



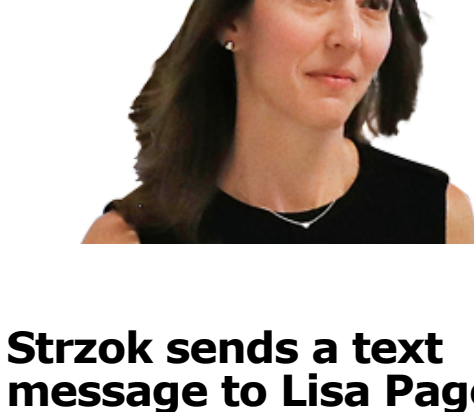
CrowdStrike is brought in to investigate the alleged hack of the DNC server and is the only entity allowed access to the physical server.

LATE APRIL



DNC IT staff report the suspected hack to the FBI but refuse to grant agents access. FBI Director James Comey would later testify that the FBI requested access to the DNC server but was denied by the DNC.

APRIL 30



Strzok sends a text message to Lisa Page saying, “And now we’ve switched from the Patriot Act to a wire carrying current.” It remains unclear whether this comment is related to the Trump campaign.

SPRING

FBI Director Comey and Deputy Director Andrew McCabe discuss the investigation of Carter Page with Attorney General Loretta Lynch and provide her with “information indicating that Russian intelligence reportedly planned to use her for information to develop other contacts in the United States,” according to the IG report. Lynch would later recount this meeting to Inspector General Michael Horowitz.

MAY



Papadopoulos meets with Australian High Commissioner to the UK Alexander Downer. During the meeting, Papadopoulos allegedly tells Downer that the Russians had information that could be damaging to Clinton. Downer later relays the information to Elizabeth Dibble, the deputy chief of mission at the U.S. Embassy in London.

MAY



FBI pays the consulting firm of former British M16 agent Christopher Steele \$15,000 for a “background check” from July 2015 to Feb. 2016.

MAY

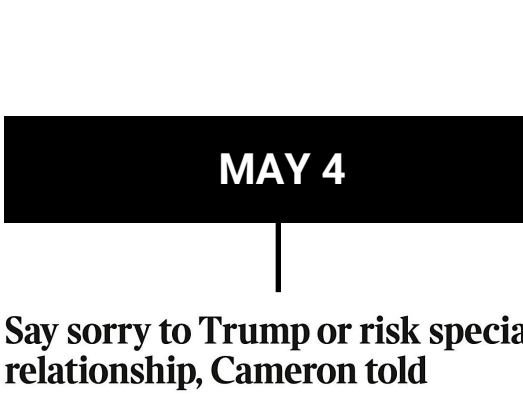


Fusion GPS co-founder Glenn Simpson meets Steele at a European airport and inquires “whether Steele could assist in determining Russia's actions related to the 2016 U.S. elections,” as well as whether “candidate Donald Trump had any personal and business ties in Russia,” according to the IG report

MAY 3

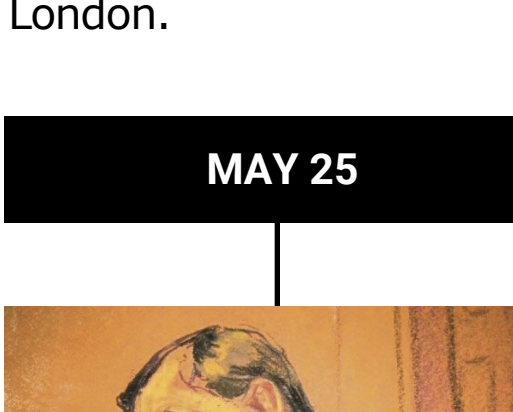
An email is sent that reveals Chalupa had been working with Yahoo! News reporter Isikoff for the past several weeks.

MAY 4



Papadopoulos gives an interview to The Times of London titled “The Trump Tower.” This report was one of the “reports the FBI relied upon to support the probable cause in the Carter Page FISA applications [Reports 80, 95, and 102 were others].” Steele's primary Sub-source would later state that he had told Steele that he had heard of a rumor of this meeting. Steele's memo does not indicate it was a rumor, but rather states it as fact.

MAY 25



Evgeny Buryakov, a Russian intelligence officer who posed as a Russian banker, is sentenced to 30 months in prison for being an unregistered Russian intelligence agent. Carter Page had assisted in this case.

MAY 30



Nellie Ohr sends an email to her husband, DOJ official, along with three other DOJ employees: Lisa Holtyn, Ivana Nizich, and Joe Wheatley. Nellie's email alerts officials within the DOJ to the existence of state in the alleged Ukrainian black ledger on Manafort, months before the news reached a national level.

SUMMER



Robert Hannigan, the head of the UK's GCHQ, travels to Washington to meet with Brennan regarding alleged communications between the Trump campaign and Moscow.

Around the same time, Brennan forms an interagency task force comprising an estimated six agencies and/or government departments. The FBI, Treasury, and DOJ handle the domestic inquiry into Trump's possible Russia connections. The CIA, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and the NSA handle foreign and intelligence aspects.

JUNE

Simpson's firm, Fusion GPS, officially hires Steele to investigate Russia's involvement in the 2016 election as well as presidential candidate Trump. Steele would produce a number of memos for the firm.

JUNE 9



Simpson meets with Natalia Veselnitskaya before and after her meeting with Trump Jr. at Trump Tower. Among those present are Manafort, Jared Kushner, and Rinat Akhmetshin.

JUNE 14



CrowdStrike produces a report on malware found on the DNC's server during an investigation in May 2016, stating that evidence suggests the malware was injected by Russians.

JUNE 15



Guccifer 2.0 claims he, not Russia, hacked the DNC. As proof, Guccifer 2.0 releases the full opposition report on then-candidate Trump.

CrowdStrike publishes a statement in response to criticism of its report, saying it stands by its analysis.

JUNE 15



FBI agent Strzok changes wording in Comey's exoneration statement for Hillary Clinton from “grossly negligent” to “extremely careless.”

JUNE 20

Steele produces his first memo, which notes: “A dossier of compromising information on Hillary Clinton has been collected by the Russian Intelligence Services.” Steele sends it to Fusion GPS via encrypted mail.

JUNE 27



Attorney General Loretta Lynch has a secret meeting with Bill Clinton on a tarmac in Phoenix.

JUNE 30



Ukraine's anti-corruption agency NABU and the FBI formally enter into a memorandum of understanding that allows for an FBI office to operate on-site at NABU headquarters. Notably, NABU would repeatedly refuse to make the memorandum with the FBI public and would go to court in 2018 to prevent its release.

EARLY JULY



According to a footnote in the IG report, “sensitive source reporting from June 2017” indicates that Russian oligarch Oleg Deripaska was aware of Steele's election-related work “as of early July 2016.”

JULY 2



Strzok interviews Hillary Clinton as part of the Mid-Year Exam investigation.

JULY 5



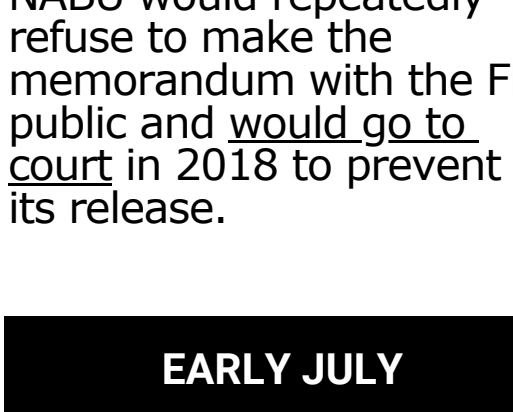
The FBI officially closes its investigation of Hillary Clinton over her use of a private email server while serving as secretary of state.

JULY 5



FBI agent Michael Gaeta (described as “Handling Agent 1” in the IG report) meets with Steele's first memo. Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs Victoria Nuland grants permission for this trip and also gains access to the first Steele memo.

EARLY JULY



The State Department obtains a copy of the first Steele report. “Nuland publicly stated during an interview in 2018 that Steele's election reporting was first provided to the State Department in July 2016,” according to the IG report.

JULY 7 TO 8



Carter Page gives Moscow and visits a speech titled “Future of the World Economy.” The following day, Page gives a commencement speech at the New Economic School in Moscow.

JULY 11



Page attends a symposium in London with Stefan Halper just three days after his July 2016 Moscow trip. Also attending the symposium are Madeleine Albright, Vin Weber, and former M16 head Sir Richard Dearlove. Halper stays in contact with Page until the final FISA expired.

JULY 13

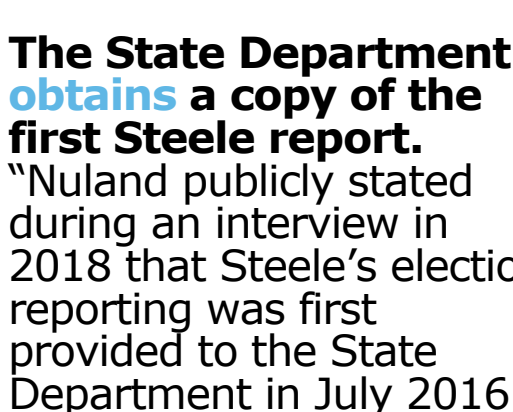
FBI agent Gaeta contacts an assistant special agent in charge (ASAC 1) at the New York field office regarding the Steele report. ASAC 1 reports the matter to the special agent in charge (SAC 1) the same day. ASAC 1's notes “closely track the contents of Report 80, identify Simpson as a client of a law firm, and include the following: ‘law firm works for the Republican party or Hillary and will use [the information described in Report 80] at some point.’”

JULY 13



Another FBI agent, from a different field office, sends an email to his supervisor noting he had been contacted by a former confidential human source (CHS), who was in turn contacted by Steele. This CHS may have been referenced twice in the IG report, on July 13 and late July.

MID-JULY



Page meets with Stefan Halper, an FBI source, described as “Source 2” in the IG report, and asks him to be part of the Trump foreign policy team. Page does not know that Halper is a source for the FBI.

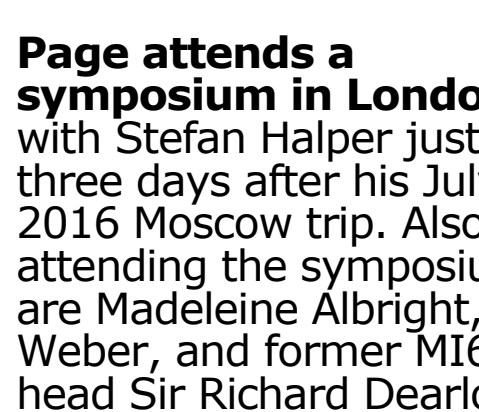
SUMMER



Steele receives a call from Strobe Talbot, then-head of the Brookings Institution. Talbot served as deputy secretary of state in the Clinton administration. According to UK court testimony from Steele, Talbot indicated he had learned of Steele's work through either State Department official Victoria Nuland or national security adviser Susan Rice. Rice has publicly denied this.

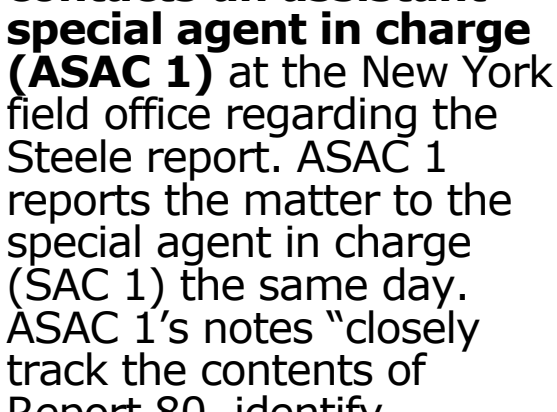
Cody Shearer, Talbot's brother-in-law, would later create two Steele-like memos that State Department employee Jonathan Winer provided to Steele, who in turn provided them to the FBI.

JULY 18



Flynn's trip to Russia is first brought to broader attention during a live interview at the Republican National Convention with Yahoo! News reporter Isikoff.

JULY 19



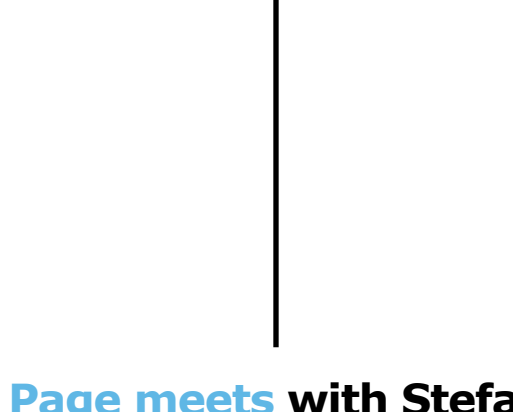
Donald Trump officially becomes the Republican presidential nominee. On the same day, Steele produces a memo stating Carter Page met with Rosneft chief Igor Sechin and senior Kremlin official Igor Diveykin during his Moscow trip.

JULY 19



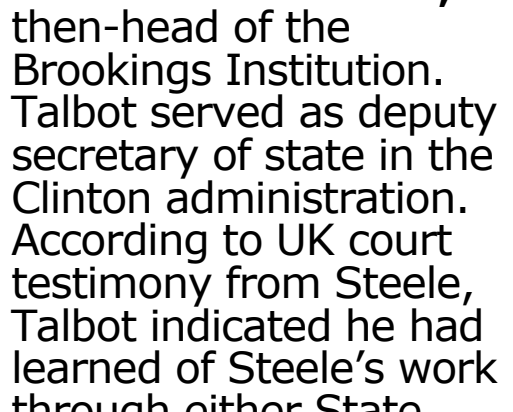
Steele's FBI handling agent, Gaeta, obtains a second report (#94) from him, which states that Carter Page met with Sechin and Diveykin during his Moscow trip. This report was one of the “reports the FBI relied upon to support the probable cause in the Carter Page FISA applications [Reports 80, 95, and 102 were others].” Steele's primary Sub-source would later state that he had told Steele that he had heard of a rumor of this meeting. Steele's memo does not indicate it was a rumor, but rather states it as fact.

JULY 22



WikiLeaks releases hacked emails from the DNC.

JULY 23 TO 25



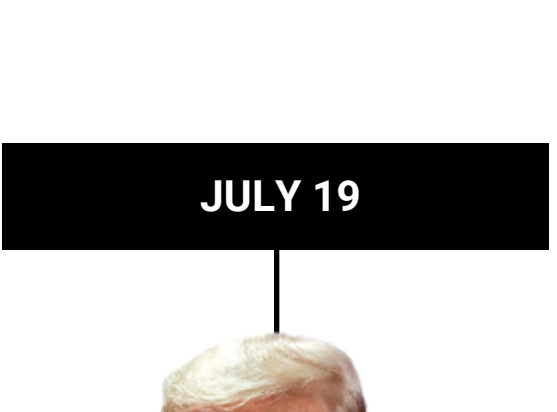
Papadopoulos meets with businessman Sergei Millian. This meeting wouldn't be mentioned anywhere in legal documents related to the Papadopoulos case.

JULY 24



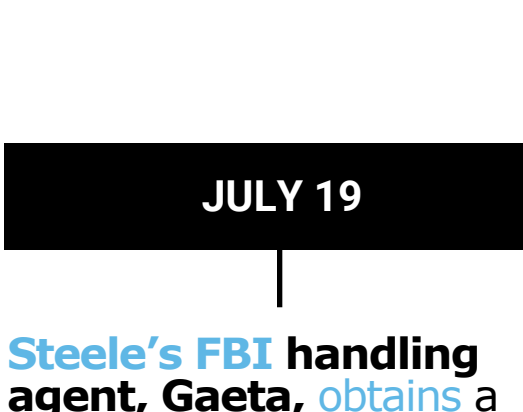
Clinton campaign manager Robby Mook suggests the Russian government is behind the release of the DNC emails.

JULY 26



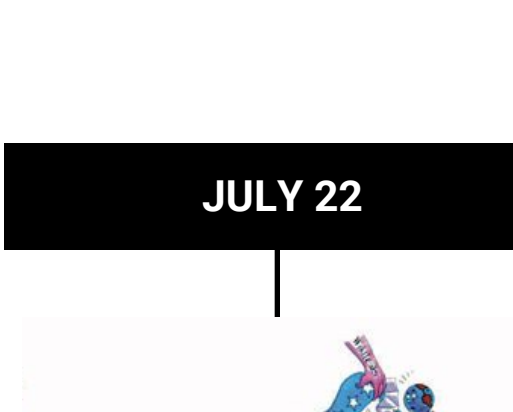
Carter Page is contacted by a Wall Street Journal reporter about allegations contained in the Steele report about him.

JULY 26



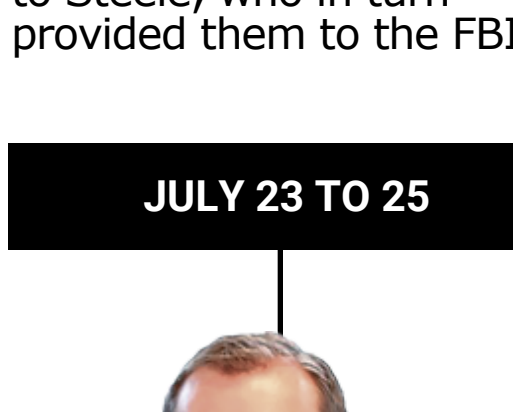
Australian diplomat Downer informs Elizabeth Dibble, the DCM of the U.S. Embassy in London, of the May 2016 conversation with Papadopoulos.

JULY 26



Steele produces a memo alleging an extensive Russian government hacking operation.

JULY 27

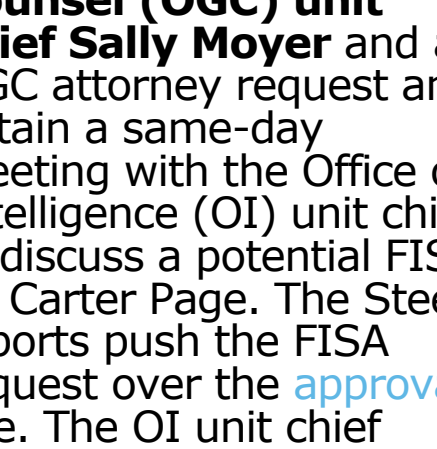
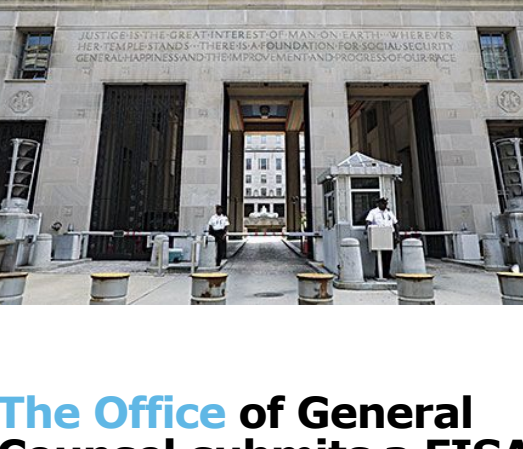

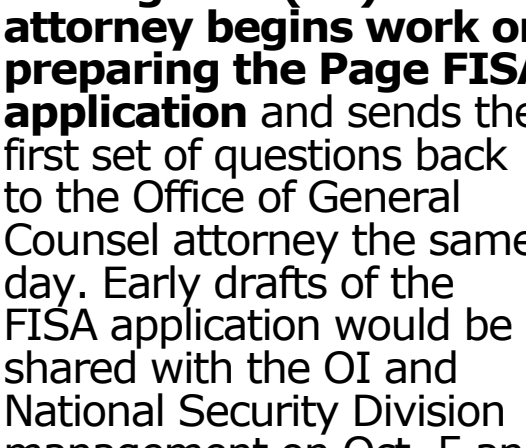
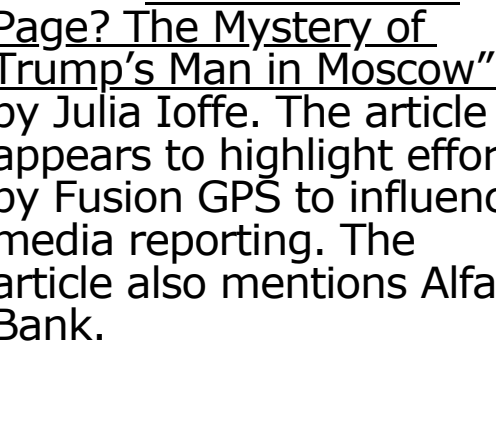

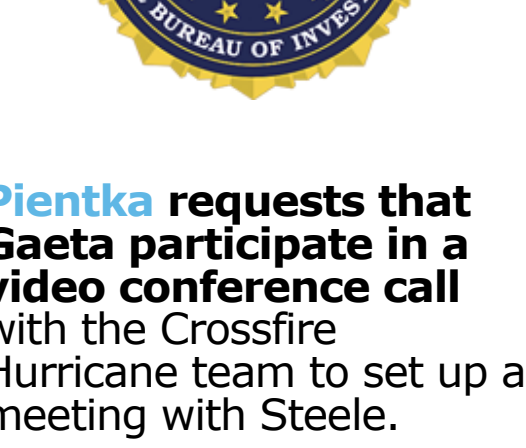
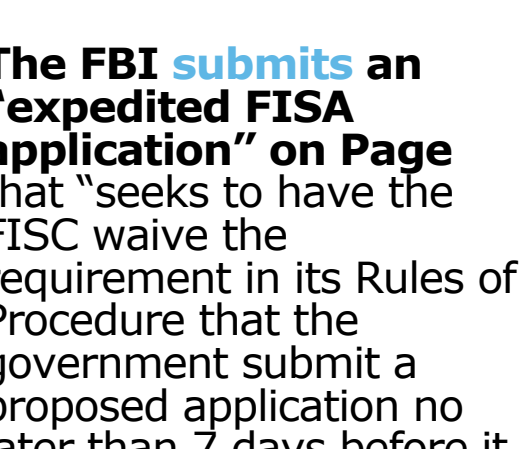

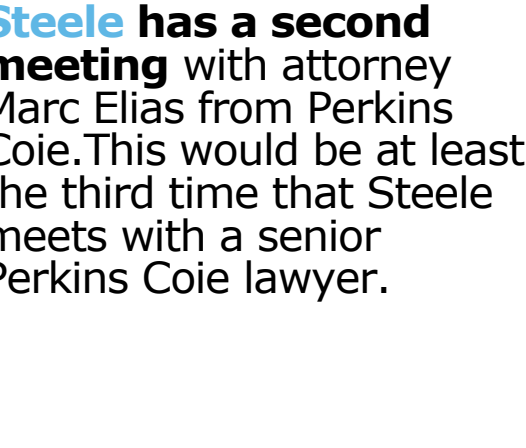
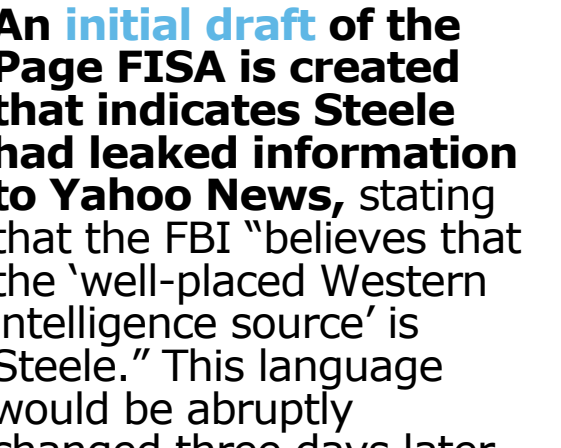
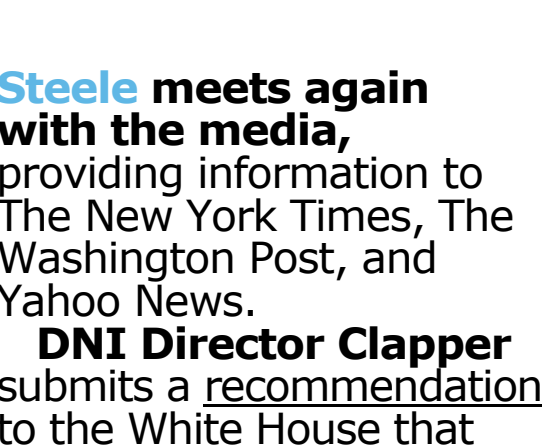
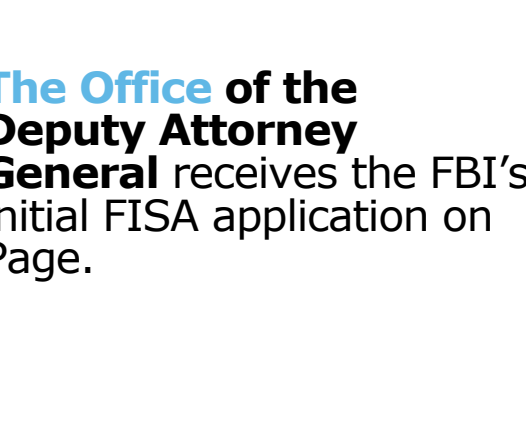
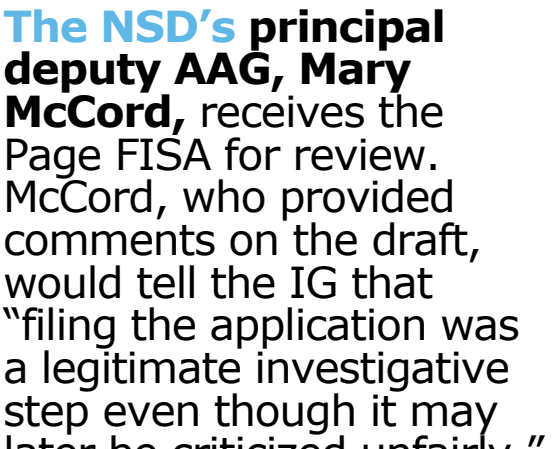
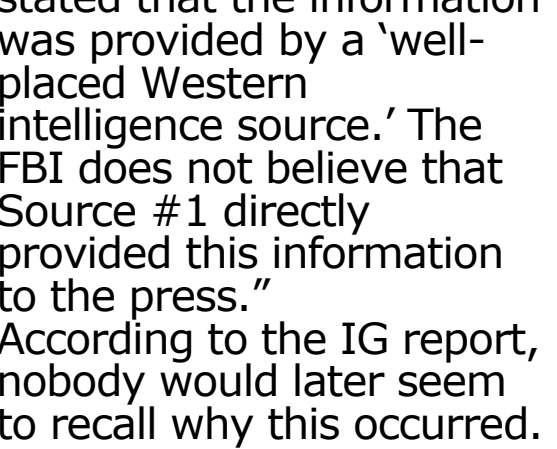
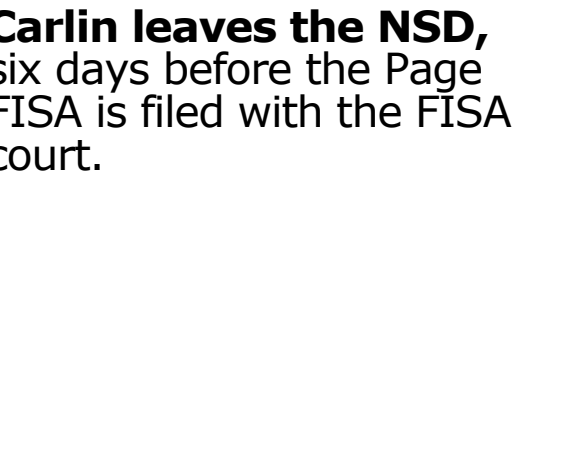
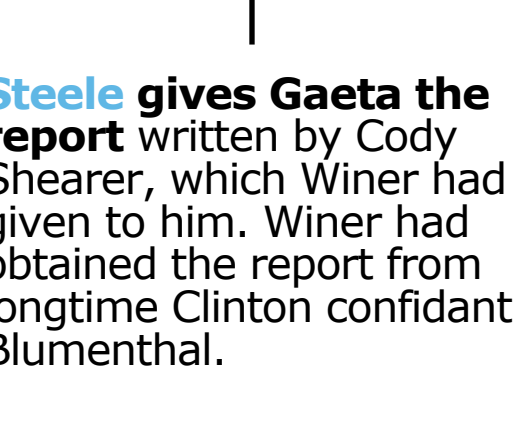

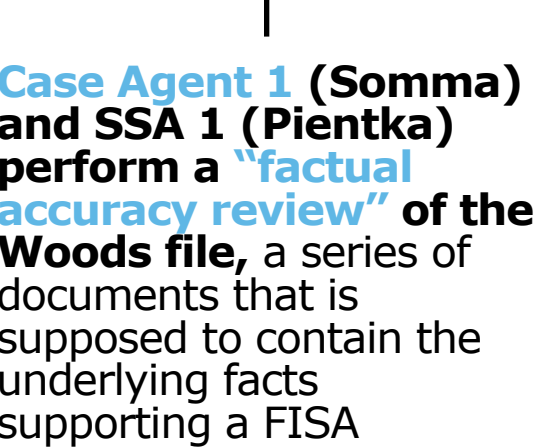

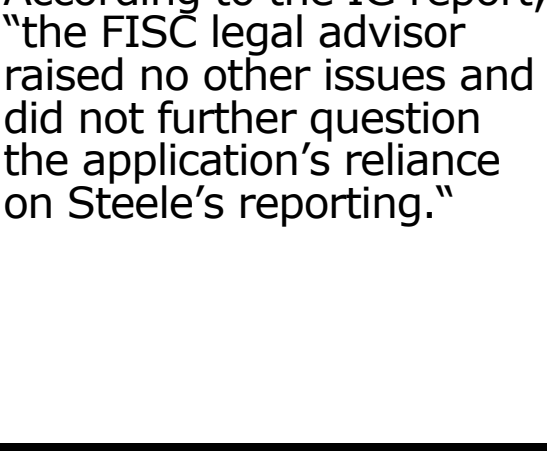
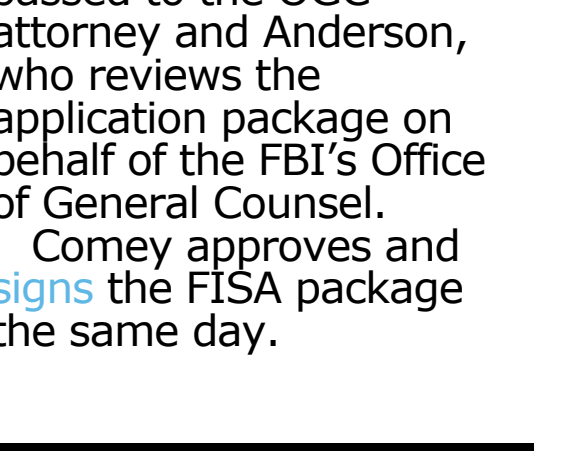
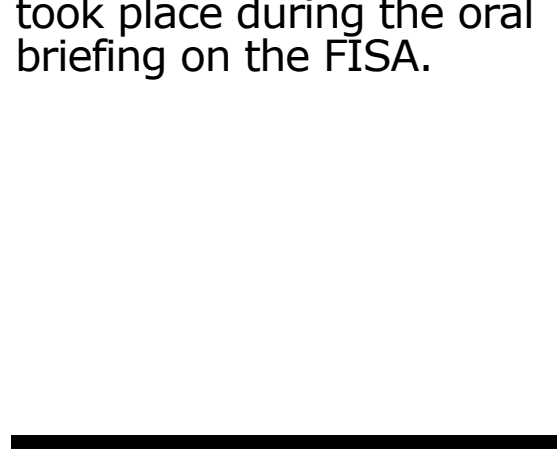


Trump invokes Russia at a press conference, jokingly saying, “Russia, if you're listening, I hope you're able to find the 30,000 emails that are missing.”

JULY 27



Dibble calls the FBI's Legal Attaché office to relay the information provided by Downer.

<div>SEPTEMBER 21</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>The FBI's Office of General Counsel advises the DOJ's Office of Intelligence that the FBI is ready to submit a FISA request on Carter Page.</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 21</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Office of General Counsel (OGC) unit chief Sally Moyer and an OGC attorney request and obtain a same-day meeting with the Office of Intelligence (OI) unit chief to discuss a potential FISA on Carter Page. The Steele reports push the FISA request over the approval line. The OI unit chief would later tell the IG that "without the Steele reporting concerning Page, [the unit chief] would not have thought they could establish probable cause based on the other information the FBI presented at that time (Page's historical contacts with Russia)."</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 22</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>The Office of General Counsel submits a FISA request form to the Office of Intelligence after the OI unit chief assigns a line attorney to work on the Page FISA. The FISA request, which claims that Carter Page is believed to be an "agent of a foreign power," was "not robust" and "drew almost entirely from Steele's reporting."</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 22</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>FBI's Office of General Counsel unit chief told Somma that we "need a little bit more on the source [Steele]" as the Page FISA was "essentially a single source FISA." Notably, the final language used in the Page FISA to describe Steele's reliability wouldn't be approved by Steele's handling agent, Gaeta, as is required. Somma would tell the IG that he was not aware of this requirement. Gaeta would tell the IG that "only some" of Steele's past reporting had been corroborated and most of it had not." Gaeta also states that Steele's reporting had never been used in a criminal proceeding.</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 22</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Steele meets with Perkins Coie attorney Mark Elias. The House Intelligence Committee's March 2018 "Report on Russia Active Measures" would note on page 143 that Perkins Coie was aware of Steele's contacts with the media.</p> </div>
<div>SEPTEMBER 23</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Gaeta provides Somma with a statement on Steele. Notably, this statement differs from the one that would be used in the Page FISA application, and the final language used in the FISA application wouldn't be approved by Gaeta as required.</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 23</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>DOJ Office of Intelligence (OI) attorney begins work on preparing the Page FISA application and sends the first set of questions back to the Office of General Counsel attorney the same day. Early drafts of the FISA application would be shared with the OI and National Security Division management on Oct. 5 and 6, 2016.</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 23</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>U.S. intel officials probe ties between Tr and Kromm</p> </div> <div> <p>Yahoo News publishes an article by reporter Michael Isikoff about Carter Page, headlined "U.S. Intel Officials Probe Ties Between Trump, Advisor and Kremlin." Steele is the source for Isikoff, although the FBI would state the opposite in its FISA application on Page.</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 23</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Politico publishes the article "Who Is Carter Page? The Mystery of Trump's Man in Moscow" by Julia Ioffe. The article appears to highlight efforts by Fusion GPS to influence media reporting. The article also mentions Alfa Bank.</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 23</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Bruce Ohr again meets with Steele, who provides Ohr with additional information on Manafort, Russian oligarch Deripaska, and Alfa Bank. Steele would later tell the IG that he expressed concerns that if Trump won the election, his "source network may be in jeopardy." He would tell the IG that he was concerned over the possible appointment of a new FBI director and new agency heads who would "have a higher degree of loyalty to the new President," and that he asked why "the U.S. government was not addressing his election reporting."</p> </div>
<div>ON OR ABOUT SEPT. 23</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Steele briefs "reporters from The New York Times, The Washington Post, Yahoo News, The New Yorker, and CNN" at Fusion GPS's instruction while in New York.</p> </div>	<div>ON OR ABOUT SEPT. 23</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Steele meets with State Department employee Jonathan Winer, with whom he shares his reporting. Like Simpson, Winer would decline to be interviewed by the IG.</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 24</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Nellie Ohr leaves Fusion GPS after conducting research on Trump and his family.</p> </div>	<div>END OF SEPTEMBER</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Nellie Ohr provides Bruce Ohr with her Fusion GPS research, who in turn provides it to the FBI.</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 25</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Carter Page sends a letter to FBI Director Comey and denies the allegations contained in the Yahoo News article. He also volunteers to discuss any questions the FBI might have.</p> </div>
<div>SEPTEMBER 26</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Carter Page leaves the Trump campaign.</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 26</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Carter Page gives a media interview and again denies the allegations contained in the Yahoo News article.</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 26</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>National Security Division (NSD) head John Carlin files the government's proposed 2016 Section 702 certifications, which are submitted to the FISA court. Carlin knows the general status of the compliance review by Rogers. The NSD is part of the review. In the NSD's 2016 certification, Carlin fails to disclose a critical Jan. 7, 2016, report by the NSA Inspector general and associated FISA abuse. Carlin also fails to disclose Rogers's ongoing Section 702-compliance review.</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 27</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Carlin announces his resignation as head of the NSD. His resignation will become effective on Oct. 15, 2016.</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 27</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Pientka requests that Gaeta participate in a video conference call with the Crossfire Hurricane team to set up a meeting with Steele.</p> </div>
<div>SEPTEMBER 28</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Comey refuses to answer whether the FBI is investigating possible connections between members of the Trump campaign and Russia, during an oversight hearing of the FBI's operations.</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 28</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>The Office of Intelligence attorney emails Somma asking about Carter Page's claim that he had provided information to the CIA. Somma tells the OI that it was "years ago" and "outside scope." Based largely on this, the application wouldn't be included in the Page FISA.</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 30</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>In an email, the Office of Intelligence attorney asks Somma why Steele's information was reliable if it relied on second and third-hand sources. The OI attorney would later be briefed by the Crossfire Hurricane team on the sub-sources and would be ultimately satisfied. However, in early 2017, the primary sub-source would dispute some of Steele's claims.</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 30</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Pientka's notes from a meeting on this date indicate the FBI was aware of Steele's contact with reporters. On the same day, Pientka is forwarded an email that indicates senior State Department staff, including Assistant Secretary Victoria Nuland, are aware that the FBI will have a meeting with Steele in Rome in October.</p> </div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 30</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>The FBI submits an "expedited FISA application" on Page that "seeks to have the FISC waive the requirement in its Rules of Procedure that the government submit a proposed application no later than 7 days before it seeks to have the matter considered by the FISC."</p> </div>
<div>EARLY FALL</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Steele and Christopher Burrows, a partner at Steele's firm Orbis, meet with former MI6 Director Sir Richard Dearlove at the Garrick Club. Dearlove advises Steele and Burrows to "work discreetly with a top British government official to pass along information to the FBI." This would be a Feb. 6, 2018, article in The Washington Post.</p> </div>	<div>EARLY OCTOBER</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Three days prior to meeting with members of the Crossfire Hurricane team in Rome, Steele tells Gaeta that Jonathan Winer at the State Department is aware of this pending meeting.</p> </div>	<div>EARLY OCTOBER</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Members of the Crossfire Hurricane team meet with Steele and Gaeta in Rome. Steele informs the FBI that he also has provided information to the State Department. The FBI offers to pay Steele \$15,000 for this trip, but would later decline to pay this amount after learning that Steele had disclosed information to Mother Jones reporter Corn. Case Agent 2 provides Steele with an overview of the FBI's investigation robustly. Steele would inform Simpson of the content of this information.</p> </div>	<div>EARLY OCTOBER</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>A footnote, unredacted on April 15, 2020, notes that a document detailing the early October meeting with Steele noted that "Person 1 had historical contact with persons and entities suspected of being linked to RIS [Russian intelligence services]" and that Person 1 was "rumored to be a former KGB/SVR officer." The document was circulated among Crossfire Hurricane members and supervisors.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Steele has a second meeting with attorney Marc Elias from Perkins Coie. This would be least the third time that Steele meets with a senior Perkins Coie lawyer.</p> </div>
<div>OCTOBER</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Steele's Primary Sub-source is informed that a secret meeting between Page and Rosneft chief Secchin had actually taken place. This was well after Steele had made the assertion in his July 2016 report 94, which was based solely on the Primary Sub-source's awareness of a rumor that a meeting was going to take place.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 4</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>A follow-up FISA hearing on the 2016 Section 702 Certification is held. Carlin fails again to disclose to the FISA court a critical Jan. 7, 2016, report by the NSA IG and associated FISA abuse. Carlin also fails to disclose Rogers's ongoing Section 702-compliance review. This would later be noted by the FISA court.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 5</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>The first draft of the Page FISA application is shared with the Office of Intelligence.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 6</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>The first draft of the Page FISA application is shared with Evans of the NSD and Baker and Anderson of the FBI for review. According to the IG report, Anderson received the draft at this time but may not have read it until two weeks later.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 7</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Homeland Security and the Office of the Deputy Attorney General receives the FBI's initial FISA application on Page.</p> </div>
<div>OCTOBER 11</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Steele meets with State Department employees Winer and Kathleen Kavalec. Kavalec's boss, Nuland, is aware of the meeting but ultimately does not attend. Steele would tell the IG that he was delayed at the airport and that Nuland left before he arrived.</p> </div>	<div>ON OR ABOUT OCT. 11</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Winer provides Steele with a separate dossier that he had received from longtime Clinton confidant Sidney Blumenthal. This "second dossier" had been compiled by another longtime Clinton operative, former journalist Cody Shearer, and echoed claims made in the Steele dossier. Steele would then share this second dossier with the FBI on Oct. 19.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 11</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>After several previous requests for information, Evans is informed for the first time that Steele had been "paid to develop political opposition research."</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 11</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>An initial draft of the Page FISA is created that indicates Steele had leaked information to Yahoo News, stating that the FBI "believes that the 'well-placed Western intelligence source' is Steele." This language would be abruptly changed three days later.</p> </div>	<div>ON OR ABOUT OCT. 12</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>The OI attorney receives a written summary from the supervisory intel analyst of the FBI's early October meeting with Steele "that attributed the information in Report 95 to Person 1 and stated that Steele had described Person 1 as a booster and embellisher." At this time, Person 1 "was at the time the subject of an open FBI counterintelligence investigation" and had historical contact with persons and entities suspected of being linked to RIS [Russian Intelligence Services]." This information would not be disclosed to the FISA court or to Evans.</p> </div>
<div>OCTOBER 12</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>McCabe and Comey are briefed regarding Evans's concerns about Steele. Both are supportive of moving forward despite Evans's concerns. According to a newly unredacted footnote from the IG report, "the desire to have FISA authority in place before Monday, October, 17, was due, at least in part, to the fact that Carter Page was expected to travel to the United Kingdom and South Africa shortly thereafter."</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 12 TO 14</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>During a three-day period, the FBI team advises Evans further on Steele, telling him "that Steele was hired by Glenn Simpson of Fusion GPS, they did not know Simpson's motivations, and they did not know the name of the law firm that retained Fusion GPS or its connections to Hillary Clinton or the Democratic Party because Steele did not believe that the FBI should be reviewing Simpson about his client was appropriate."</p> </div>	<div>MID-OCTOBER</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Steele meets again with the media, providing information to The New York Times, The Washington Post, and Yahoo News. DNI Director Clapper submits a recommendation to the White House that Rogers be removed from the NSA. The request, however, is denied.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 13</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Kavelec emails an FBI Counterintelligence Division section chief a document she received from Winer concerning allegations about a linkage between Alfa Bank and the Trump campaign. The section chief forwards the document to Pientka the same day.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 14</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>The Office of the Deputy Attorney General receives the FBI's initial FISA application on Page.</p> </div>
<div>OCTOBER 14</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Case Agent 2 sends an email stating that Gaeta believed Steele didn't know the identity of Fusion GPS's client (Perkins Coie), but this information appears outdated. Steele had met with a Perkins Coie attorney, which had retained Fusion GPS—which in turn hired Steele—on behalf of the Clinton campaign on Sept. 23, 2016.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 14</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>The NSD's principal deputy AAG, Mary McCord, provides the Page FISA for review. McCord, who received comments on the draft, would tell the IG that "a legitimate investigative step even though it may later be criticized unfairly." McCord would replace John Carlin as AAG of the NSD on Oct. 17, 2016.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 14</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Language in the Oct. 11 draft of the Page FISA, which indicates that Steele had leaked to Yahoo News, is suddenly changed. The new language reads: "The FBI also assesses that whoever gave the information to the press stated that the information was provided by a 'well-placed Western intelligence source.' The FBI does not believe that Source #1 directly provided this information to the press." According to the IG report, nobody would later seem to recall why this occurred.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 14</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Carlin leaves the NSD, six days before the Page FISA is filed with the FISA court.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 17</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Carter Page has a meeting with FBI Confidential Human Source 2 (Stefan Halper). Page tells the source that he never met with any sanctioned Russian officials and that he knew nothing of the Wikileaks DNC email leaks. This information, just like prior statements by Page, would be excluded from the FISA application.</p> </div>
<div>OCTOBER 17</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>McCord replaces Carlin as acting AAG of the NSD.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 17</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Instant messages show that Pientka is now aware of Carter Page's denials regarding Steele's claims that Page met with Secchin and Divyevkin and that Page denied even knowing Divyevkin. This information, however, would be excluded from the FISA application.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 18</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Bruce Ohr meets again with Steele, this time via video call. According to an email from Steele, the call includes a discussion regarding Deripaska. Following this meeting, Ohr meets with McCabe to share the information from Steele. Lisa Page is also present at this meeting. Ohr would tell the IG he met only this one time with McCabe during 2016, a statement that McCabe believes to be accurate. As the IG report notes, this is in contrast to Ohr's Aug. 28, 2018, testimony, during which Ohr would state that he met with McCabe shortly after his July 30, 2016, breakfast meeting with Steele.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 19</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>The Office of Intelligence finalizes the Page FISA application and sends it to the FBI for review. Strzok tells Evans that the FBI is comfortable with its accuracy. Separately, Evans is notified that DAG Yates has read the FISA application. The Office of Intelligence would file the application with the FISA court the following day.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 19</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Steele gives Gaeta the report written by Cody Shearer, which Winer had given to him. Winer had obtained the report from longtime Clinton confidant Blumenthal.</p> </div>
<div>OCTOBER 20</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>A Steele memo erroneously states that Michael Cohen met with Kremlin officials in the EU in August 2016. (A later memo to Steele would claim the meeting occurred in Prague.)</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 20</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>The Office of Intelligence submits the "read copy" of the Page FISA application to the FISA court and receives feedback from the FISC legal adviser, who has four relatively minor questions. According to the IG report, "the FISC legal adviser raised no other issues and did not further question the application's reliance on Steele's reporting."</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 20</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Case Agent 1 (Somma) and SSA 1 (Pientka) perform a "factual accuracy review" of the Woods file, a series of documents that is supposed to contain the underlying facts supporting a FISA application. Pientka would tell the IG that he relied on Somma to "highlight each relevant fact" in the Woods file. Upon completion, Somma and Pientka signed the Woods form "affirming the verification and documentation of each factual assertion in the application." The IG would note that a number of "facts asserted in the FISA" didn't have supporting documentation in the Woods file.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 20</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>The FISA application is passed to the headquarters program manager, a supervisory special agent in the Counterintelligence Division's Counterespionage Section. The application is then passed to the OGC attorney and Anderson, who reviews the application package on behalf of the FBI's Office of General Counsel. Comey approves and signs the FISA package the same day.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 20</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Rogers is briefed by the NSA compliance officer on findings from the NSA 702-compliance audit. The audit had uncovered a large number of issues, including numerous "about query" violations. "About query" searches occur when the target is neither the sender nor the recipient of the collected communication—but the target's tasked selector, such as an email address, is being passed between two other communicants.</p> </div>
<div>OCTOBER 21</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>DAG Yates signs the FISA application package. Yates would tell the IG that she didn't recall the discussion that took place during the oral briefing on the FISA.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 21</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>The NSD submits the finalized Page FISA application, asserting that there is probable cause to believe that Carter Page was an agent of the Russian government, to the FISA court, which issues a FISA warrant to spy on Page the same day. The order is signed by the then-chief judge of the FISA court, Rosemary Collyer. "According to NSD, the Chief Judge signed the final orders as proposed by the government in their entirety, without holding a hearing." Three FISA renewals would occur on Jan. 12, April 7, and June 29, 2017.</p> </div>	<div>ON OR ABOUT OCT. 21</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>NSA Director Rogers shuts down all "about query" activity, reports this activity to the DOJ, and prepares to go before the FISA court.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 24</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Rogers verbally informs the FISA court of Section 702 violations.</p> </div>	<div>OCTOBER 26</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Rogers formally informs the FISA court of Section 702 violations in writing.</p> </div>
<div>OCTOBER 26</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>The FISA court refuses to formalize the 2016 Section 702 certifications. A complete overhaul of Section 702 processes ensues.</p> </div>	<div>NOVEMBER 1</div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>Steele admits to Gaeta that he spoke with Corn, who used the information in his Oct. 31, 2016, article. Gaeta advises Steele that his relationship with the FBI will likely be terminated. The FBI, however, appears to have been aware on Sept. 30, 2016, that Steele was a source for Isikoff's Yahoo News article. Following Steele's November termination, the FBI would continue to use Ohr's meetings with Steele, which continued into November 2017, to obtain information.</p> </div>			