

From: Craig Quigley <cquigley@hrmffa.org>
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To: Craig Quigley
Subject: EXECUTIVE INSIGHT BRIEF | OCTOBER 18, 2019

Ladies & Gentlemen, below please find this week's edition of *Executive Insight Brief* from The Roosevelt Group.

Craig R. Quigley
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
Executive Director
Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance
757-644-6324 (Office)
757-419-1164 (Mobile)



THE
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EXECUTIVE INSIGHT BRIEF | OCTOBER 18, 2019

TOP STORIES

Mulvaney's Admission Could Impact Impeachment Defense

Acting Chief of Staff [Mick Mulvaney admitted that aid for Ukraine was linked to President Trump's desire for the country to pursue a political probe related to](#)

[the 2016 election](#) on Thursday. This admission is the first time a White House official has publicly undermined President Trump's repeated denials of any quid pro quo. Mulvaney indicated he felt the behavior was nothing out of the ordinary. His comments may bolster the Democrat's impeachment probe, bringing Mulvaney to walk back his remarks hours after the briefing. House lawmakers have already heard testimony from several top officials for the impeachment probe, with five more scheduled for next week. Mulvaney also faces a deadline Friday to comply with a subpoena from House Democrats for documents related to their investigation.

U.S. Agrees to Lift Sanctions on Turkey in Syria 'Ceasefire' Deal

Mike Pence announced the [U.S. will remove the sanctions on Turkish officials in exchange for a ceasefire that leaves Turkey's forces in northeastern Syria.](#)

The Turkish president agreed to pause the offensive against the Kurdish YPG fighters while the U.S. facilitates their withdrawal from the border zone. After the Kurds leave, Turkey will impose a permanent ceasefire and the U.S. will lift sanctions imposed Monday on Turkey's energy, defense and interior ministers.

Following Vice President Pence's announcement, the Commander of the Kurdish fighters said the group has accepted the ceasefire deal. Yet, it is unclear whether the military is prepared to carry out the withdrawal. The U.S. is in the middle of its own withdrawal from the area, and the status of the operation is unknown in light of the U.S.-Turkey deal. Vice President Pence insists that the Kurds welcome the opportunity to make a safe withdrawal. The U.S. and Turkey also agreed to coordinate on the detention of thousands of ISIS fighters currently held by the SDF across Syria. The deal was met with criticism saying that Turkey's actions are validated.

Barbara Barrett Confirmed as Next Air Force Secretary

On Wednesday, the [Senate confirmed Barbara Barrett as the next secretary of the Air Force](#) with an 85-7 vote. Secretary Barrett is the fourth woman to hold the position. She is a former chairwoman of the nonprofit Aerospace Corporation, which conducts space research and development activities and certifies rockets for launch, and has previously served on the boards of Raytheon, Piper Aircraft and Space Foundation. Her experience in the space sector may be a benefit if Congress establishes the Space Force as a sixth branch of the military, which would be housed under the Department of the Air Force.

Elijah Cummings Passes Away at 68

[U.S. Representative Elijah Cummings](#), a civil rights activist and key figure in the impeachment inquiry into President Trump, passed away on Thursday at 68 years old. Representative Cummings has clashed with President Trump on many subjects including congressional oversight and immigration policy. He was first elected to Congress in 1996, rising to lead the powerful House Oversight and Reform Committee. Maryland Governor Larry Hogan has 10 days to lay out a schedule for holding a special primary and general elections to replace Representative Cummings, a process that could take until early next year to complete.

Rick Perry Announces Resignation

The Secretary of Energy, [Rick Perry, announced his resignation from the Trump administration.](#) Secretary Perry currently faces an impending deadline to comply with a House subpoena for information about outreach to Ukraine in the impeachment probe. The House is also moving towards issuing a subpoena for

Secretary Perry to testify, which would be easier once he is no longer in the administration. Secretary Perry plans to depart by the end of the year and has said that he would follow the recommendation of the Energy Department and the White House counsel in deciding whether to comply with any subpoenas.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

1648

The "shoemakers of Boston"--the first labor organization in what would become the United States--was authorized by the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

1685

Edict of Nantes lifted by Louis XIV. The edict, signed at Nantes, France, by King Henry IV in 1598, gave the Huguenots religious liberty, civil rights and security. By revoking the Edict of Nantes, Louis XIV abrogated their religious liberties.

1867

The rules for American football are formulated at a meeting in New York among delegates from Columbia, Rutgers, Princeton and Yale universities.

1883

The weather station at the top of Ben Nevis, Scotland, the highest mountain in Britain, is declared open. Weather stations were set up on the tops of mountains all over Europe and the Eastern United States in order to gather information for the new weather forecasts.

1919

Madrid opens a subway system.

1921

Russian Soviets grant Crimean independence.

1939

President Franklin D. Roosevelt bans war submarines from U.S. ports and waters.

1944

Lt. General Joseph Stilwell is recalled from China by President Franklin Roosevelt.

LOOK AHEAD

Monday, October 21

10:00 AM EDT

Discussion: The Brookings Institute

Topic: Defense

Location: Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Falk
Auditorium

1:00 PM EDT

Meeting: National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Topic: NASA Space Council Updates

Location: Courtyard by Marriott, Washington Downtown/Convention Center,
901 L St. NW, Shaw Ballroom

5:30 PM EDT

Discussion: New York University, Washington DC

Topic: Defense

Location: 2045 Rayburn House Office Building

Tuesday, October 22

7:45 AM EDT

Symposium: The Precision Strike Association

Topic: Defense

Location: Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, 11100 Johns
Hopkins Road, Kossiakoff Center, Laurel, Md.

8:30 AM EDT

Meeting: The National Defense Industrial Association Robotics Division

Topic: Defense

Location: NDIA, 2101 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700, Arlington, Va.

10:00 AM EDT

Hearing: Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee

Topic: Pending Nominations

Location: 342 Dirksen Senate Office Building

10:00 AM EDT

Conference: DHS' Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and
Science and Technology Directorate, Day 1

Topic: Cybersecurity

Location: 1201 South Figueroa St. Los Angeles, CA 90015

1:30 PM EDT

Meeting: Defense Department; Army Department

Topic: Military Academy Updates

Location: Library of Congress, Thomas Jefferson Building, 10 First St. SE,
Room LJ-119

2:00 PM EDT

Hearing: House Homeland Security Committee

Topic: Emerging Cyber Threats

Location: 310 Cannon House Office Building

2:30 PM EDT

Hearing: Senate Foreign Relations Committee

Topic: Turkey's Offensive in Northeast Syria

Location: 419 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Wednesday, October 23

8:00 AM EDT

Symposium: The Precision Strike Association

Topic: Defense

Location: Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, 11100 Johns Hopkins Road, Kossiakoff Center, Laurel, Md.

9:30 AM EDT

Discussion: The Brookings Institute

Topic: Defense

Location: Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Saul/Zilkha Room

10:00 AM EDT

Hearing: House Foreign Affairs Committee

Topic: U.S. Policy after Syria

Location: 2172 Rayburn House Office Building

10:00 AM EDT

Briefing: Senate Armed Services Committee

Topic: Navy's Spectrum of Conflict Strategic Framework

Location: SVC-217 U.S. Capitol

10:00 AM EDT

Conference: DHS' Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and Science and Technology Directorate, Day 2

Topic: Cybersecurity

Location: 1201 South Figueroa St. Los Angeles, CA 90015

11:15 AM EDT

Forum: The Washington DC Chapter of the National Defense Industrial
Association

Topic: Defense

Location: Army Navy Country Club, 1700 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, Va.

Thursday, October 24

8:00 AM EDT

Symposium: The Precision Strike Association

Topic: Defense

Location: Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, 11100 Johns
Hopkins Road, Kossiakoff Center, Laurel, Md.

8:45 AM EDT

Meeting: Health and Human Services Department; National Institutes of Health;
National Cancer Institute

Topic: Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research

Location: National Cancer Institute, Advanced Technology Research Facility,
8560 Progress Drive, Conference Room E-1600, Frederick, Md.

9:30 AM EDT

Hearing: Senate Armed Services Committee

Topic: Richard Nomination

Location: G-50 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Have a great weekend!

The Executive Insight Brief is a compilation of articles of interest prepared by the The Roosevelt Group research team. This information is provided for situational awareness. Items are chosen to highlight trends and issues in the news and do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of The Roosevelt Group.

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