

Remarks in an Exchange With Reporters Prior to Departure for Atlanta, Georgia

April 24, 2019

Q. Mr. President, what do you plan to do—[inaudible]?

Q. [Inaudible]—Mr. President?

The President. So the stock market and our country, from an economic standpoint, is doing the best probably it's ever done. We're hitting new highs again. We've hit new highs, I guess close to, or over, a hundred times since I'm President—from the time of the election.

Unemployment numbers are the best they've ever been by far. We have almost 160 million people working today in the United States. That's more than we've ever had working in our country before.

We're doing well on trade. We're doing well with China. Things are going good.

I'm bringing the First Lady right now. She's worked very hard on the opioid crisis. We're down about 17 percent from last year, which is pretty amazing. We're down 17 percent with the opioid problem. It's a big problem. It's a big addiction, and we're handling it. The doctors are working with us. The labs are working. The clinics are working. The pharmaceutical companies are working with us. And we've made a tremendous amount of progress.

Q. The stock market——

The President. John [John Roberts, Fox News], go ahead.

Investigation Into Russia's Interference in 2016 Presidential Election

Q. Mr. President, what do you plan to do about the subpoena for Don McGahn and other subpoenas that are expected from the Hill?

The President. Well, the subpoena is ridiculous. We have been—I have been the most transparent President and administration in the history of our country by far. We just went through the Mueller witch hunt, where you had, really, 18 angry Democrats that hate President Trump. They hate him with a passion. They were contributors, in many cases, to Hillary Clinton. Hate him with a passion. How they picked this panel, I don't know.

And they came up with no collusion and they actually also came up with no obstruction. But our Attorney General ruled, based on the information, there was no obstruction. So you have no collusion, no obstruction.

Now we're finished with it. And I thought, after 2 years, we'd be finished with it. No. Now the House goes and starts subpoenaing. They want to know every deal I've ever done. Now, Mueller, I assume, for \$35 million, checked my taxes, checked my financials—which are great, by the way. You know they're great. All you have to do is go look at the records; they're all over the place. But they checked my financials, and they checked my taxes, I assume.

It was the most thorough investigation probably in the history of our country—I think I read—where they interviewed 500 people.

I say it's enough. Get back to infrastructure. Get back to cutting taxes. Get back to lowering drug prices. That's what—really, that's what we should be doing.

Congressional Oversight of Executive Branch/2020 Presidential Election

Q. Mr. President, will you fight the McGahn subpoena? Will you claim executive privilege?

The President. Well, we're fighting all the subpoenas.

Look, these aren't, like, impartial people. The Democrats are trying to win 2020. They're not going to win with the people that I see. And they're not going to win against me. The only way they can maybe luck out—and I don't think that's going to happen. It might make it even the opposite. That's what a lot of people are saying. The only way they can luck out is by constantly going after me on nonsense.

But they should be really focused on legislation, not the things that have been—this has been litigated—just so you understand, this has been litigated for the last 2 years, almost since I got into office.

Now, if you want to litigate, go after the DNC, Crooked Hillary, the dirty cops—all of these things. That's what should be litigated, because that was a rigged system. And I'm breaking down the swamp. If you look at what's happening, they're getting caught. They're getting fired. Who knows what's going to happen from now on, but I hope it's very strong.

But if you look at "drain the swamp," I am draining the swamp.

Thank you very much. Thank you.

Q. Mr. President, do you still believe Robert Mueller acted honorably? Mr. President, do you regret letting White House aides cooperate?

NOTE: The President spoke at 11 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House prior to boarding Marine One. In his remarks, he referred to Department of Justice Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller III; and 2016 Democratic Presidential nominee Hillary Rodham Clinton. A reporter referred to former White House Counsel Donald F. McGahn II.

Categories: Interviews With the News Media : Exchanges with reporters :: White House.

Locations: Washington, DC.

Names: Barr, William P.; Clinton, Hillary Rodham; Mueller, Robert S., III; Trump, Melania.

Subjects: China : Trade with U.S.; Commerce, international : Free and fair trade; Communications : News media :: Presidential interviews; Democratic Party : Democratic National Committee; Drug abuse and trafficking : Addiction treatment and reduction efforts; Drug abuse and trafficking : Opioid epidemic, efforts to combat; Economy, national : Improvement; Elections : 2020 Presidential and congressional elections; Employment and unemployment : Job creation and growth; Employment and unemployment : Unemployment rate; Health and medical care : Prescription drugs, affordability and costs; Infrastructure : National, improvement efforts; Justice, Department of : Attorney General; Justice, Department of : Special Counsel; Russia : 2016 U.S. elections, interference; Taxation : Tax relief.

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