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April 3, 2017 *Democracy Dies in Darkness* Edition: U.S. & World | Regional

In the News: Trump 'incitement' Rachel Dolezal Scott Pruitt Neil deGrasse Tyson Death penalty April the giraffe Tina Fey Sina LaBoeuf ACM Awards

EXCLUSIVE

Blackwater founder held secret meeting to establish Trump-Putin back channel

Secret meeting: 2:25

The United Arab Emirates arranged the meeting — nine days before Donald Trump's inauguration — between Blackwater Erik Prince and a Russian close to President Vladimir Putin as part of an apparent effort to establish a backchannel line of communication between Moscow and the president-elect, according to U.S., European and Arab officials. The White House said it was not aware of any meetings and Prince had no role in Trump's transition.

By Karen Dekoop, Greg Miller, Kevin Sieff and Karen DeYoung

- **The Etc. The White House is a smoke machine when it comes to Russia**
- **Graphic: Here's what we know so far about Team Trump's ties to Russian interests**

Sessions orders review of all reform agreements with troubled police forces

- In a memo, Attorney General Jeff Sessions said the review is necessary to ensure the reform agreements do not work against the Trump administration's goals of promoting officer safety and reversie white lighting violent crime.
- All pacts reached previously between the justice department and state and local law enforcement departments — a key legacy of the Obama administration — will be subject to review, throwing into question whether some of the agreements will stay in place.

By Sari Horwitz, Mark Berman and Wesley Lowery • 1 hour ago

- **Read the Sessions memo**

Trump can quietly draw money from trust whenever he wants, new documents show

The filing reveals more evidence that the trust agreement — which the president used to put his adult sons in charge of his business — offers little barrier against President Trump making money from the hotels, golf courses, branding deals and other business interests that he has widely promoted during the presidency.

By Drew Harwell

Trump's court heads a foul

By Catherine Rampell

Trump's court needs a foul