EXCLUSIVE

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

Secret meeting 2:23

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 reversle white lighting violent crime.
- All pacts reached previously between the justice department and local and state 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 children 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.

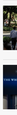
By Drew Harwell

NCAA Tournament

North Carolina, after heartbreak a year ago, beats Gonzaga, 75-65, for school's sixth NCAA title

In an instant classic, the Tar Heels battled back from a rough start to claim victory over the Bulldogs, as Coach Roy Williams and his team that fell short of the championship a year ago were on the right side of a narrow win Monday.

By Washington Post Staff • 10 minutes ago



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A (probably futile) plea for sanity in the Senate

By Ruth Marcus

Trump's court needs a foil

By Catherine Rampell

The one thing these senators can agree on: They're about to do something very bad

By Dana Milbank

Fox serves up a feisty reminder that when you're a star, you can still do anything

By Michael Gerson

Bringing peace to the Mideast is Kushner's second-toughest job

By Eugene Robinson

The Senate is on the brink of an historic mistake

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Democrats secure enough votes to block Gorsuch, setting stage for 'nuclear option'

Five more Senate Democrats confirmed they will support a filibuster, giving the party the requisite 41 votes to block a procedural vote on Judge Neil Gorsuch's nomination to the Supreme Court. The move makes it all but certain that Republicans will change chamber rules to eliminate a filibuster requirement and confirm the nominee.

By Ed O'Keefe and Elise Viebeck

Foreign tech workers on edge as lottery opens for 'high skilled' H-1B visas

The 85,000 visa slots are expected to fill in a matter of days, with nearly three-quarters of them expected to go to Indian workers, as they have in years past. But the Trump administration's decision has heightened the uncertainty in the process. Monday with a warning to employers.

By Tracy Jan

White House denies media's 'lack of interest' in reports of Obama officials spying

But Sean Spicer said he would not comment on a new report that President Barack Obama's national security adviser had requested that the intelligence community provide names of Trump associates whose conversations with foreigners were incidentally intercepted.

By Karen DeYoung • 1 hour ago

The Fix Analysis

The left and right agree: Fox News destroyed EPA chief Scott Pruitt over climate change

"Fox News Sunday" host Chris Wallace grilled the controversial new head of the Environmental Protection Agency, whose responses earned the rare distinction of being panned by both climate change advocates and skeptics alike.

By Amy B Wang

- **These stunning timelapse photos show the effects of climate change**

Perspective Perspective

There is both love and risk in Georgetown's hiring of Patrick Ewing

Georgetown needed its greatest player to return. And Ewing needed Georgetown to fulfill another dream.

By Jerry Brewer

- **Georgetown University hires star alumnus to replace John Thompson III as men's basketball coach**

University mourns sorority member who died after pancake-eating contest

Thousands attended a Mass at Sacred Heart University in Connecticut in honor of the student, whose father died while trying to save people after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York City.

By Susan Svrluga

Storm chasers berated by their peers after driving into a tornado on purpose

The chasers set a dangerous example, critics said, after filming themselves speeding directly into a small twister in northern Louisiana.

By Jason Samenow • 1 hour ago

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These photos show what it's like being a child bride in the country of Georgia

Graphic

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Graphic

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She voted illegally. But was the punishment too harsh?

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It's hard to be Chinese in Paris. Sometimes, it can be deadly.

Sessions orders Justice Department to review all police reform agreements

Warner Stitler, East German spy and defector, dies at 89

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A quarter-million people want to know: When, exactly, in April the giraffe going to give birth?

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Kim Nell & Gilbert

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Nell Gorsuch got where he is because of a form of affirmative action

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President Trump says he wants a bipartisan deal on health care. Here's one.

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Readers remember the strangeness, beauty and controversy of St. Elizabeths

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White House decries media 'lack of interest' in reports of Obama officials spying

Former D.C. Council member Sharon Ambrose dies

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Redskins agree to terms with inside linebacker Zach Brown

North Carolina, after heartbreak a year ago, claims school's sixth NCAA title

North Carolina, after heartbreak a year ago, beats Gonzaga, 75-65, for school's sixth NCAA title

Ex-Baylor coach Dave Bliss resigns after airing of documentary about murdered player

LifestyleLifestyle

Prince Charles is sad and sexy and maybe too nice to be king

Fox News faces yet another sexual harassment claim against network leadership

Trump Models might be running out of models

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Carolyn Hax: Attend weird neighbor's party, for children's sake

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There will be blood in Signature's 'Midwestern Gothic'

Review

Piano-wielder duo brings mature eloquence to Phillips Collection

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Ninja Sam channels a village in her solo show 'Plan B'

'American War' follows today's vitriol to a dystopian future

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Verizon has a name for its AOL/Yahoo combination — and the internet is having a bit of fun with it

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There is a jobs crisis brewing that the Trump administration should not ignore

A man fell asleep with his iPhone charging in bed. It nearly electrocuted him.

Verizon is reportedly planning a new streaming TV service

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Trump is talking like a big-spending Democrat

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This tech entrepreneur is living and raising his three kids out of a school bus

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In a first for the government, dogs will be welcome at the Interior Department

Real Estate

Two-bedroom, three-bathroom condo in Northwest Washington lists for $375,000

Where demand for homes is growing in the Washington suburbs

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Making preparations for that first day and night in your new home