## The Washington Post

Democracy Dies in Darkness

## **EXCLUSIVE**

### Blackwater founder held secret meeting to establish Trump-Putin back channel The United Arab Emirates arranged the meeting — nine days

before Donald Trump's inauguration — between Blackwater founder Erik Prince and a Russian close to President Vladimir Putin as part of an apparent effort to establish a back-channel 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 Adam Entous, Greg Miller, Kevin Sieff and Karen DeYoung • The Fix: 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

#### reform agreements do not work against the Trump administration's goals of promoting officer safety and morale while fighting violent crime. All pacts reached previously between the

In a memo, Attorney General Jeff Sessions

said the review is necessary to ensure the

- Justice Department's civil rights division and local police 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
- Trump can quietly draw money from trust whenever

adult sons in charge of his

Read the Sessions memo

### The filing reveals more evidence that the trust agreement - which the president used to put his

he wants, new documents

company - 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 his presidency. By Drew Harwell .

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The portfolio of Jared Kushner, President Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser, has grown to encompass slices of everything

singular role in Trump's White House

#### mediator for the various feuding camps within the West Wing. But Kushner's outsize role has led to larger-than-life sniping and resentments.

from foreign policy to domestic issues to serving as the in-house

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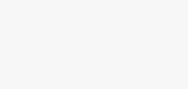
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spying

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