

EXCLUSIVE

Trump donor met Putin ally in secret to establish U.S.-Russia back channel



(Video: Sarah Parnass/Post; wire photos)

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

‘It went off the rails almost immediately’: How Trump’s messy transition led to a chaotic presidency

No transition goes exactly as planned, but Trump’s proved messier than most, and that has carried over into the first months of his presidency.

By Dan Balz

With help from Pence, House Republicans jump-start talks on stalled health-care plan

Vice President Pence attended a meeting of the hard-right House Freedom Caucus, days after President Trump launched a remarkable intraparty attack on the staunch conservatives who helped block the bill last month. The negotiations raised hopes that the closely watched legislation could pass the House as soon as this week.

By Mike DeBonis and John Wagner

Sessions orders review of police reform agreements — a key legacy of the Obama administration

Attorney General Jeff Sessions said the review was necessary to ensure the reform agreements did not work against the Trump administration’s goals of promoting officer safety and morale while fighting violent crime.



By Sari Horwitz, Mark Berman and Wesley Lowery

Kushner trip to Iraq underscores his singular role in Trump’s White House

The portfolio of Jared Kushner has grown to include everything from foreign policy to serving as a mediator within the West Wing. But his outsized role has led to larger-than-life sniping and resentments.



By Ashley Parker and John Wagner



(Mark J. Rebilas/USA Today Sports)

NCAA Tournament

North Carolina finds redemption, beats Gonzaga to win NCAA championship

The Tar Heels battled back from a rough first half to claim a 71-65 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.

By Chuck Culpepper

- Analysis: Referees spoiled the NCAA championship, but they were only doing their job
- After Coach Roy Williams’ disparaging remark about Trump, will the Tar Heels visit the White House?

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By Ruth Marcus

Trump’s court needs a fool

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 fetid reminder that when you’re a star, you can still do anything

By Michael Gerson

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By Eugene Robinson

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The state security service of Kyrgyzstan identified the suspect in the incident that killed 14 people and wounded dozens as Akbarzhon Dzhailov, a Russian citizen born in the Central Asian nation.

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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. But the Trump administration injected new uncertainty in the process with a warning to employers.

By Tracy Jan

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

The filing reveals more evidence that the trust agreement offers little barrier against President Trump making money from the hotels, golf courses and other business interests that he has widely promoted during his presidency.

By Drew Harwell

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

After a grilling on “Fox News Sunday,” the controversial head of the Environmental Protection Agency earned the rare distinction of being panned by both climate change advocates and skeptics alike.

By Amy B Wang

White House decries media’s ‘lack of interest’ in reports of Obama officials spying

Sean Spicer said he would not comment on a 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 intercepted.

By Karen DeYoung

- Fact Checker: The Trumpian spin on ‘surveillance of Trump’

When radio reporter April Ryan tangles with the White House, people listen

The press room veteran has found herself in multiple scrapes in recent weeks.

By Paul Farhi

20 percent of patients with serious conditions are first misdiagnosed, study says

The results are generally similar to other research on diagnostic error but provide additional evidence for advocates who say such findings show that the health-care system still has room for improvement.

By Lenny Bernstein

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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

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A teen asked his grandmother to her first prom. Too old, said the school.

By Travis M. Andrews

Paper says columnist tried to remove his articles criticizing Trump to get a State Department job. It backfired.

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A foster teen ran away after being forced to live in an office. Hours later, she was dead.

Easter Egg Hunt drops the word “Easter.” Church of England, British prime minister are outraged.

‘Oath’ is the name of Verizon’s new ‘disruptive’ company. Get it?

Vaccinations significantly reduce risk of death from the flu, CDC study finds

A Mississippi woman was on the phone with 911 when floodwaters swept her away

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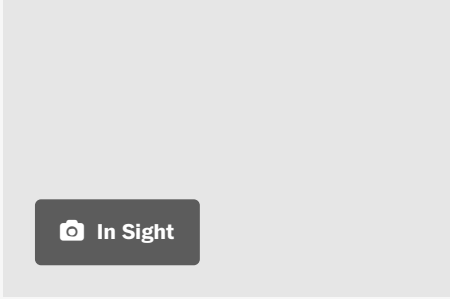
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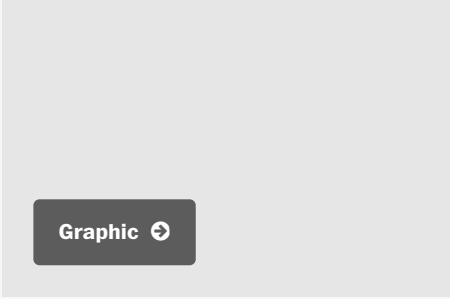
The new American workplace



In Sight

(Myriam Meloni)

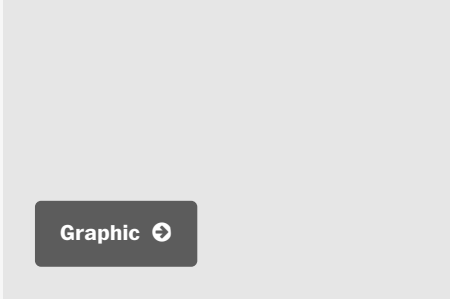
These photos show what it's like being a child bride in the country of Georgia



Graphic

(Peter and Maria Hoey for The Washington Post)

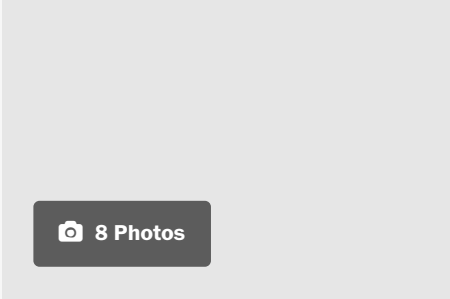
The government's struggle to hold opioid manufacturers accountable



Graphic

(Bonnie Berkowitz and Denise Lu/Post)

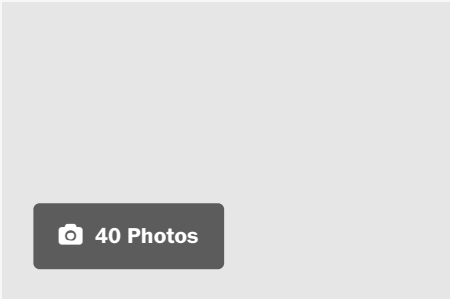
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(Mark McFadden/McFadden Group)

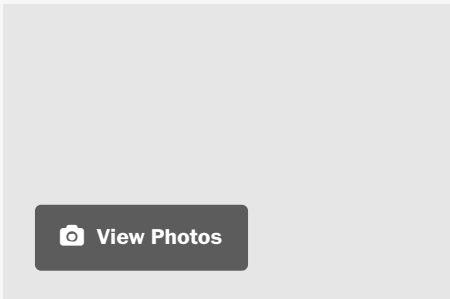
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(Nina Prommer / EPA)

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(Ryan Remiorz/AP)

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After UNC coach said Trump tweets 'bulls—,' will Tar Heels visit the White House?

Tony Romo will retire from NFL to pursue broadcasting career

'If your toe falls off, tape it': Joel Berry II's path to NCAA legend status

Seven injured in Chapel Hill celebrations after North Carolina wins NCAA tournament

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Calling citizen scientists: Researchers want you to track nesting birds in your garden

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Nilaja Sun channels a village in her solo show 'Pike St.'

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

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Why one tech giant is investing another \$3 million to close its pay gap

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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.

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