



Pekka Kallioniemi @P_Kallioniemi

Jun 17 · 26 tweets · [P_Kallioniemi/status/1670033786883506176](https://twitter.com/P_Kallioniemi/status/1670033786883506176)

In today's [#vatniksoup](#), I'll introduce an American politician, media personality and businessman, Donald Trump. He's best-known for serving as the 45th president of the US, and for promoting pro-Kremlin viewpoints regarding Putin and the Russo-Ukrainian war.

1/23



After becoming the president of his father's real estate ventures in early 70s, he started expanding its operations aggressively by building hotels, casinos and whatnot. Trump's businesses have been involved in over 4000 legal actions, and he's filed for bankruptcy six times.

2/23



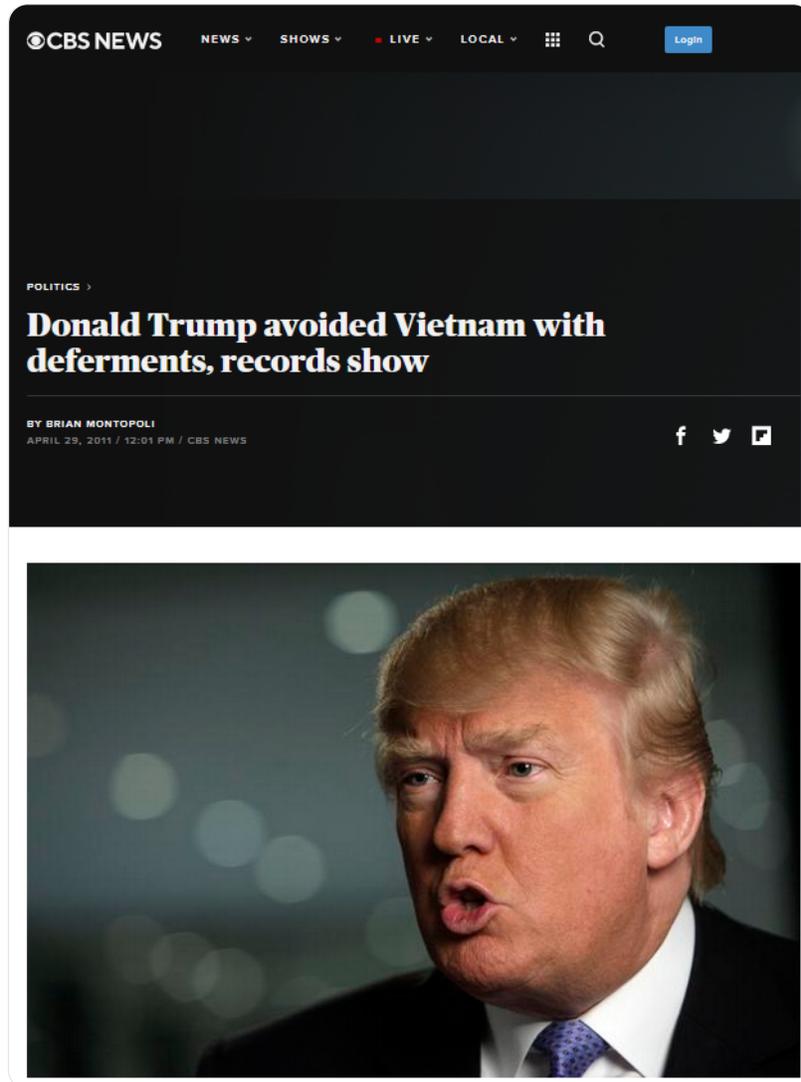
TRUMP HAS FILED FOR SIX BUSINESS BANKRUPTCIES

Trump, however, filed for bankruptcy regarding these companies:

- **The Trump Taj Mahal in 1991** — Trump financed the completion of the Taj Mahal casino construction with \$675 million in junk bonds at 14 percent interest. In 1992, the casino was in debt by \$3 billion. Trump ended up owing approximately \$900 million in personal liabilities. To keep the casino open, Trump made a deal with lenders by giving up his half of ownership and equity in the entity. He sold his airplane and his 220-foot yacht and agreed to a bank-set limit on his spending if he would lower the interest rate and have more time to make his loan payments.
- **Trump Castle Hotel & Casino in 1992 and Trump Plaza Casino 1992** — In less than a year, Trump filed for Chapter 11 protection for two more Atlantic City hotel-casinos. Trump was unable to make the principle and interest payments on bonds. At this point, the Taj Mahal was competing with the hotel-casinos Trump Plaza (\$650 million in debt) and Trump's Castle (\$338 million in debt). Trump forfeited a 50 percent share in exchange for better terms on the money he owed.
- **Trump Plaza Hotel 1992** — This was the year that Trump filed for bankruptcy protection over the Trump Plaza Hotel. Trump gave up his 49 percent stake in the property to secure better terms from lenders on the hotel's debt of over \$550 million.
- **Trump Hotels and Casinos Resorts in 2004** — At this time, Trump had already consolidated his three casinos, and some other properties, under one company. In 2004, he sought Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection for the entity and filed in the area of \$1.8 billion of debt. Once more, Trump's ownership was lessened from 47 percent to 27 percent so that he could get more favorable terms from lenders.
- **Trump Entertainment Resorts in 2009** — Trump Hotels and Casino Resorts were renamed Trump Entertainment Resorts (TER) after the 2004 bankruptcy. In 2009, TER filed for Chapter 11 with a debt of \$1.2 billion. Trump reduced his ownership to 10 percent and resigned as chairman of the board.

Critics cite that the Trump corporate bankruptcies are examples of his inability to manage, his recklessness, and poor business acumen. Trump answers that criticism by stating he has used federal laws to protect his business interests. This idea is an example, he says, of his business insight and outstanding intelligence. Trump stated in August 2015:

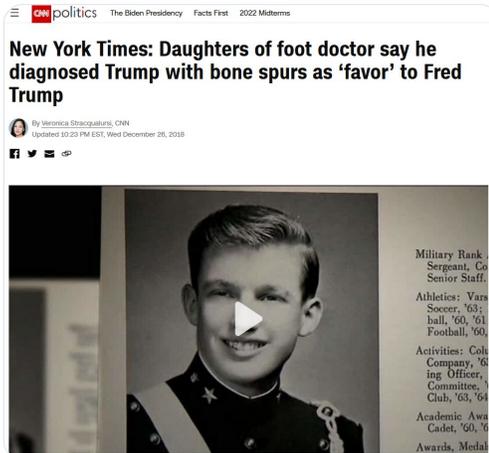
While studying in college during the Vietnam War era, Trump deferred draft four times. After his graduation, he was diagnosed with bone spurs, thus avoiding going to the war. This diagnosis allegedly made by a podiatrist, Dr. Larry Braunstein, who rented his office from...
3/23



...Donald's father, Fred Trump. Dr. Braunstein's daughters later said that they "know it [the diagnosis] was a favor" to Donald's father.

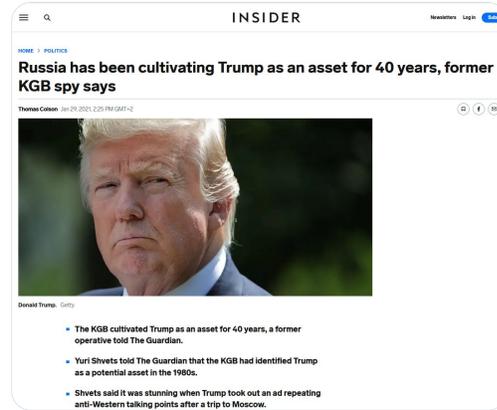
Yuri Shvets, a former Soviet intelligence officer who worked as a Major in the KGB from 1980 to 1990, and as a resident spy in DC...

4/23



..between 1985 and 1987, has stated that Trump "was cultivated as a Russian asset over 40 years & proved so willing to parrot anti-western propaganda that there were celebrations in Moscow." According to Shvets, KGB considered Trump as "extremely vulnerable intellectually,.."

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...and psychologically," and also vulnerable to flattery. Based on Journalist Craig Unger's book "American Kompromat", Trump first appeared on the KGB's radar in 1977 when he married Ivana Zelnickova.

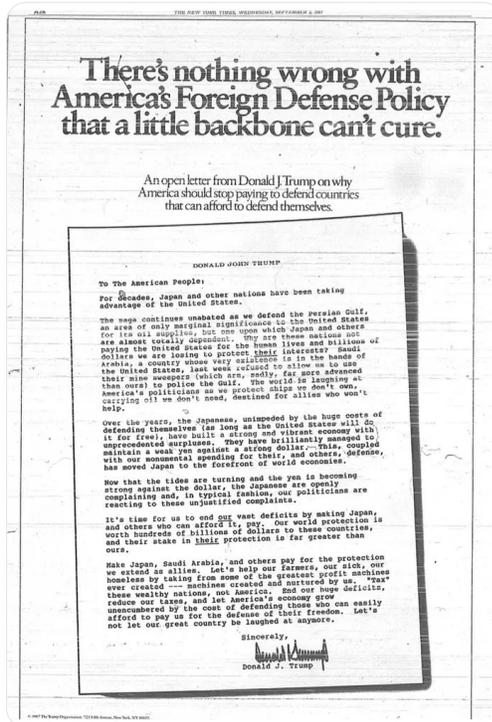
When Trump visited Moscow and St. Petersburg, he was flattered by...

6/23



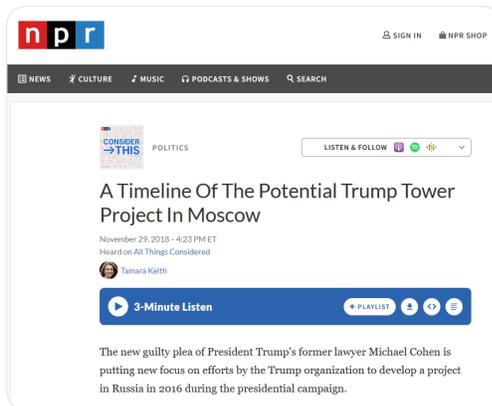
...the KGB operatives, also floating the idea that Trump should get into politics. Soon after returning from this trip, Trump started looking into possible presidential run in the Republican party and ran a full-page ad on NYT criticizing US foreign policy.

7/23



Trump has had a lot of business interests in Russia. He had undertaken a project to build a Trump skyscraper in Moscow. This idea came to be during his visit to Moscow in 1987, and was later pushed by Felix Sater, a Russian-born businessman with mob connections.

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In 2008 he sold a Palm Beach mansion to Russian oligarch, Dmitry Rybolovlev for 95 million USD, while four years prior he only paid 41 million USD for the estate.

Even though the Mueller report didn't conclude conspiracy between the Trump campaign and the Russians, an...

9/23



...initiative called Moscow Project found 272 known contacts and 38 known meetings between the Trump team and Russia-linked operatives.

And there's no doubt about Russian influence in the US 2016 presidential election. Days before Trump became president in 2017, the Obama..

10/23

Trump's election win in 2016 was again welcomed by Moscow. Special counsel Robert Mueller did not establish a conspiracy between members of the Trump campaign and the Russians. But the Moscow Project, an initiative of the Center for American Progress Action Fund, found the Trump campaign and transition team had **at least 272 known contacts** and at least 38 known meetings with Russia-linked operatives.

...administration released an Intelligence Community Assessment (ICA) which assessed that "Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered an influence campaign in 2016 aimed at the U.S. presidential election. Russia's goals were to undermine public faith in the U.S. democratic...

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Influence Effort Was Boldest Yet in the US

Russia's effort to influence the 2016 US presidential election represented a significant escalation in directness, level of activity, and scope of effort compared to previous operations aimed at US elections. We assess the 2016 influence campaign reflected the Kremlin's recognition of the worldwide effects that mass disclosures of US Government and other private data—such as those conducted by WikiLeaks and others—have achieved in recent years, and their understanding of the value of orchestrating such disclosures to maximize the impact of compromising information.

- During the Cold War, the Soviet Union used intelligence officers, influence agents, forgeries, and press placements to disparage candidates perceived as hostile to the Kremlin, according to a former KGB archivist.

Since the Cold War, Russian intelligence efforts related to US elections have primarily focused on foreign intelligence collection. For decades, Russian and Soviet intelligence services have sought to collect insider information from US political parties that could help Russian leaders understand a new US administration's plans and priorities.

- The Russian Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR) Directorate 5 (legals) officers arrested in the United States in 2010 reported to Moscow about the 2008 election.
- In the 1970s, the KGB recruited a Democratic Party activist who reported information about then-presidential hopeful Jimmy Carter's campaign and foreign policy plans, according to a former KGB archivist.

Election Operation Signals "New Normal" in Russian Influence Efforts

We assess Moscow will apply lessons learned from its campaign aimed at the US presidential election to future influence efforts in the United States and worldwide, including against US allies and their election processes. We assess the Russian intelligence services would have seen their election influence campaign as at least a qualified success because of their perceived ability to impact public discussion.

- Putin's public views of the disclosures suggest the Kremlin and the intelligence services will continue to consider using cyber-enabled disclosure operations because of their belief that these can accomplish Russian goals relatively easily without significant damage to Russian interests.
- Russia has sought to influence elections across Europe.

We assess Russian intelligence services will continue to develop capabilities to provide Putin with options to use against the United States, judging from past practice and current efforts. Immediately after Election Day, we assess Russian intelligence began a spearphishing campaign targeting US Government employees and individuals associated with US think tanks and NGOs in national security, defense, and foreign policy fields. This campaign could provide material for future influence efforts as well as foreign intelligence collection on the incoming administration's goals and plans.

WANTED BY THE FBI

CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT AN OFFENSE AGAINST THE UNITED STATES; FALSE REGISTRATION OF A DOMAIN NAME; AGGRAVATED IDENTITY THEFT; CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT MONEY LAUNDERING

RUSSIAN INTERFERENCE IN 2016 U.S. ELECTIONS

Boris Aleksandrovich Antonov

Dmitriy Sergeevich Badin

Anatoliy Sergeevich Kovalev

Nikolay Yuryevich Kozachek

Aleksay Viktorovich Lukashev

Artem Andreyevich Malyshev

Sergey Aleksandrovich Morgachev

Aleksandr Vladimirovich Osadchuk

Aleksay Aleksandrovich Potemkin

Ivan Sergeevich Yermakov

Pavel Vyacheslavovich Yershov

DETAILS

On July 13, 2018, a federal grand jury sitting in the District of Columbia returned an indictment against 12 Russian military intelligence officers for their alleged roles in interfering with the 2016 United States (U.S.) elections. The indictment charges 11 defendants, Boris Aleksandrovich Antonov, Dmitriy Sergeevich Badin, Nikolay Yuryevich Kozachek, Aleksay Viktorovich Lukashev, Artem Andreyevich Malyshev, Sergey Aleksandrovich Morgachev, Aleksandr Vladimirovich Osadchuk, Aleksay Aleksandrovich Potemkin, Ivan Sergeevich Yermakov, Pavel Vyacheslavovich Yershov, and Viktor Borisovich Netyksho, with a computer hacking conspiracy involving gaining unauthorized access into the computers of U.S. persons and entities involved in the 2016 U.S. presidential election, stealing documents from those computers, and posting releases of the stolen documents to interfere with the 2016 U.S. presidential election. The indictment also charges these defendants with aggravated identity theft, false registration of a domain name, and conspiracy to commit money laundering. Two defendants, Aleksandr Vladimirovich Osadchuk and Anatoliy Sergeevich Kovalev, are charged with a separate conspiracy to commit computer crimes, relating to hacking into the computers of U.S. persons and entities responsible for the administration of 2016 U.S. elections, such as state boards of elections, secretaries of state, and U.S. companies that supplied software and other technology related to the administration of U.S. elections. The United States District Court for the District of Columbia in Washington, D.C. issued a federal arrest warrant for each of these defendants upon the grand jury's return of the indictment.

THESE INDIVIDUALS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS, AN INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT RISK, AND AN ESCAPE RISK

If you have any information concerning this case, please contact your local FBI office, or the nearest American Embassy or Consulate.

www.fbi.gov

...process, denigrate Secretary [Hillary] Clinton, and harm her electability and potential presidency." Trump ignored these reports, and in 2017, he said that he had spoken with Putin about forming a cyber unit with Russia to fight "election hacking".

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Trump sides with Russia against FBI at Helsinki summit

© 16 July 2018

The ways Trump and Putin see eye to eye

US President Donald Trump has defended Russia over claims of interference in the 2016 presidential election.

CNN politics The Biden Presidency Facts First 2022 Midterms

The life and death of Trump's 'cyber security unit' plan with Putin

By Dan Merica, CNN
Updated 3:34 PM EDT, Mon July 30, 2017

f t y g

So how did Donald help Russia and Putin? First of all, he "watered down" the toughest penalties the U.S. had imposed on Russian entities after Putin annexed Crimea in 2014. He even questioned the sanctions altogether, stating that "why would anybody have sanctions if...

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POLITICS

Trump Open to Shift on Russia Sanctions, 'One China' Policy

President-elect signals he would use any available leverage to realign U.S. relationship with its two biggest rivals

By [Peter Nicholas](#) [Follow](#), [Paul Beckett](#) [Follow](#) and [Gerald F. Seib](#) [Follow](#)

Updated Jan. 13, 2017 9:41 pm ET

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A photograph of Donald Trump speaking at night. He is wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and a red tie. He is gesturing with his right hand. The background is dark with some blurred lights.

...somebody's doing some really great things?" He also supported Russia's return to the G7 and eased sanctions on Russian oligarch, Oleg Deripaska.

In 2017, Trump revealed highly classified information to foreign minister Sergei Lavrov and to the Russian ambassador...

14/23

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Treasury Department lifts sanctions on three Russian firms with ties to Oleg Deripaska

By Robert Bonn
Updated 8:14 PM EST, Sun January 27, 2019



Treasury lifts sanctions on 3 Russian firms

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Trump Open to Shift on Russia Sanctions, 'One China' Policy

President-elect signals he would use any available leverage to realign U.S. relationship with its two biggest rivals

By Peter Nicholas, Paul Reckett, and Gerald F. Seib

Updated Jan. 12, 2017 9:41 pm ET



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Trump privately clashed with G7 leaders over reinventing Putin

By Pamela Brown and Nicole L. Lipkin, CNN
Updated 4:46 PM EDT, Tue August 27, 2019



The Washington Post
This article was published more than 9 years ago

National Security Foreign Policy Intelligence Justice Immigration Military

Trump revealed highly classified information to Russian foreign minister and ambassador

By Greg Miller and Greg Jaffe
May 15, 2017 at 7:45 pm EDT



2017: Trump revealed highly classified intel in Oval Office meeting with Russia...

In a May 15, 2017 meeting, President Trump spoke to Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and Ambassador to the U.S. Sergey Kislyak about a terror threat. (CNN: The Washington Post, Photo: Russian Foreign Ministry/The Washington Post)

President Trump revealed highly classified information to the Russian foreign minister and ambassador in a 14-minute Oval Office meeting, first reports.

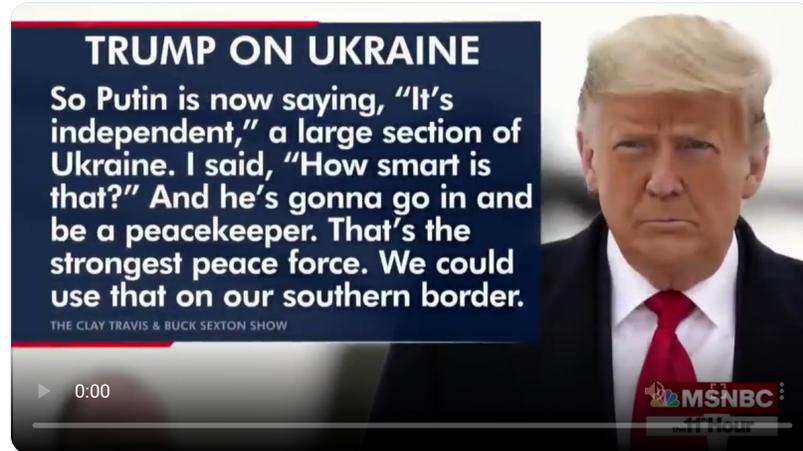
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...Sergey Kislyak. US media was not allowed in this meeting, but there was a Russian photographer present.

On many occasions, Trump has praised Putin, calling him a "genius" and "savvy" after Putin invaded Ukraine. He's said that Putin has done "a really great job..."

15/23



...outsmarting our country."

In 2019, he temporarily froze US aid worth 391 million USD for Ukraine. The Trump administration had previously stalled sales of Javelin anti-tank missiles to Ukraine in fear of angering Russia and Putin.

16/23



Trump also hired Paul Manafort, who had spent a good decade promoting pro-Russian politics in Ukraine, to run his 2016 presidential campaign. He was later sentenced to over 7 years in prison. One of his crimes was evading taxes on the 60 million USD he made in Ukraine.

17/23

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TOP LEGAL NEWS OF THE WEEK

Manafort sentenced to additional 43 months in prison

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Paul Manafort, President Donald Trump's former campaign chairman, was sentenced in a Washington, D.C., courtroom Wednesday, March 13, to an additional 43 months in prison for conspiracy against the United States and conspiracy to obstruct justice for attempting to tamper with witnesses.



RadioFreeEurope
RadioLiberty

August 03, 2018
By Mike Eckel

Day Four: Accountant Testifies How She Helped Hide Manafort's Ukraine Income



Donald Trump's former campaign manager Paul Manafort is shown in artist's sketch as he sits in federal court on the opening day of his trial on bank and tax fraud charges stemming from Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into alleged Russian meddling in the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

ALEXANDRIA, Virginia – A former accountant testified how she helped falsify income and tax statements for Paul Manafort, U.S. President Donald Trump's ex-campaign chairman, as prosecutors further buttressed their tax and bank fraud case against him.

The August 3 testimony by Cindy Laporta -- on the fourth day of Manafort's criminal trial --

Before leaving his presidency, Trump pardoned five people who were convicted as a result of investigations on the Russian interference in the 2016 US elections, including Michael Flynn, Roger Stone and Paul Manafort. He also pardoned GOP strategist Jesse Benton, who was...
18/23

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U.S. LEGAL NEWS DECEMBER 24, 2020 / 2:36 AM / UPDATED 2 YEARS AGO

Trump pardons former campaign chairman Manafort, associate Roger Stone

By Steve Holland 5 MIN READ [f](#) [t](#)

PALM BEACH, Fla. (Reuters) - U.S. President Donald Trump on Wednesday granted pardons to former campaign chairman Paul Manafort and former adviser Roger Stone, sweeping away the most important convictions under the long-running Russia election probe.



[Captions auto-generated & unedited.]
U.S. President Donald Trump has

Trump also issued a pardon for Charles Kushner, a real estate developer and the father of Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner.

...sentenced again in Feb 2023, for funneling Russian money into the Trump campaign.

Trump's style of politics is almost wholly based on lies. Actually, after becoming the President, Trump's lying became so common that the Washington Post started tracking the factuality..

19/23

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DONALD TRUMP

GOP strategist sentenced to 18 months over Russian contribution to Trump's 2016 campaign

It's the second time Jesse Benton has been sentenced for charges related to political campaign contributions. He was pardoned by Trump in 2020.



Jesse Benton arrives for his sentencing hearing at the federal courthouse in Des Moines, Iowa, on Sept. 20, 2016. David Pitt / AP file

...of his statements with their fact-checking department: by Jan 2021, Trump had lied over 30 000 times during his term as the President. You can read my previous thread on this type of "post-truth politics" here:

 **Pekka Kallioniemi**
@P_Kallioniemi · Follow

In today's #vatniksoup, I'll talk about post-truth politics and how they have changed our society - in my opinion - for worse. This analysis relies heavily on the work done by academic John Hartley, and by journalist Adam Curtis.

1/22



9:10 AM · Apr 13, 2023

2.5K Reply Copy link

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20/23

Trump's false or misleading claims total 30,573 over 4 years

Analysis by Glenn Kessler, Salvador Rizzo and Meg Kelly
January 24, 2021 at 3:00 a.m. EST



Four years of Trump falsehoods | Fact Checker
5:04

The Fact Checker counted a total of 30,573 false or misleading claims made by President Trump during his White House tenure. Here's what we learned. (Video: Adriana Usero/The Washington Post)

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Recently Trump was hit with yet another set of charges, this time federal. An investigation found out that he held classified documents at his Mar-a-Lago resort. He even discussed over classified war plan documents with people who had no security clearance.

21/23



TRUMP: By the way. Isn't that incredible?

STAFFER: Yeah.

TRUMP: I was just thinking, because we were talking about it. And you know, he said, "he wanted to attack [Country A], and what . . ."

STAFFER: You did.

TRUMP: This was done by the military and given to me. Uh, I think we can probably, right?

STAFFER: I don't know, we'll, we'll have to see. Yeah, we'll have to try to—

TRUMP: Declassify it.

STAFFER: —figure out a—yeah.

TRUMP: See as president I could have declassified it.

STAFFER: Yeah. [Laughter]

TRUMP: Now I can't, you know, but this is still a secret.

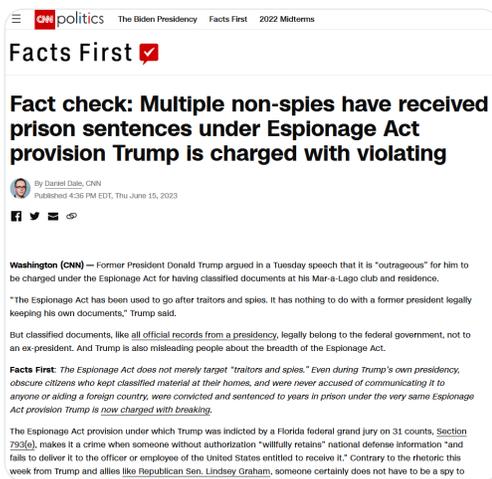
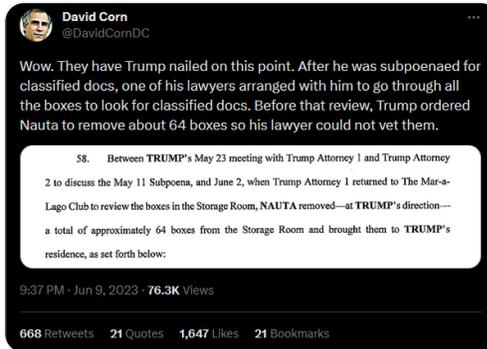
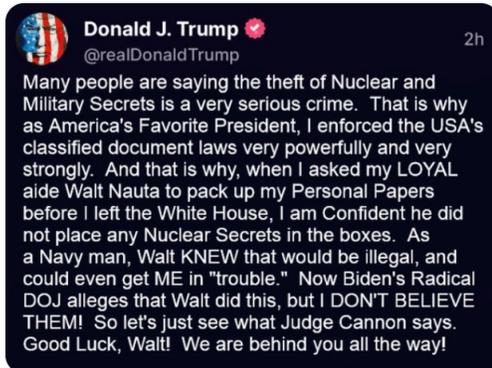
STAFFER: Yeah. [Laughter] Now we have a problem.

TRUMP: Isn't that interesting?



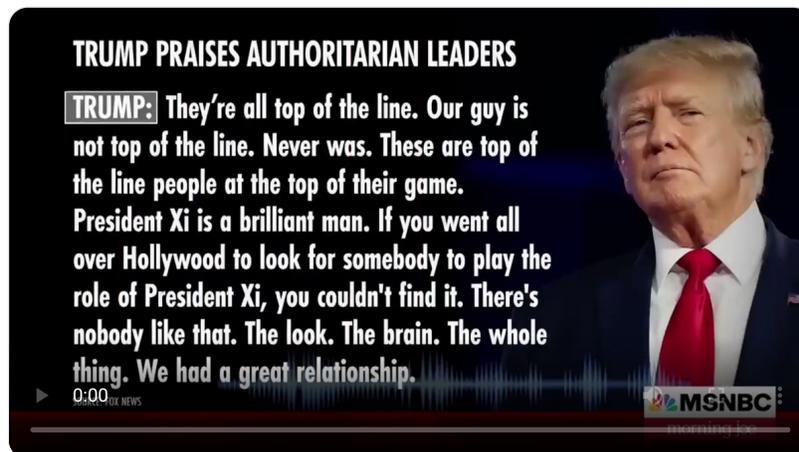
Lately he's been trying to pin the blame on his aide Walt Nauta. There are at least 7 cases between 2017-2023 where US citizens have been sentenced under the Espionage Act to prison time for storing classified documents at home.

22/23



What would Trump's presidency mean to Ukraine? Even though the support from US has been strongly bipartisan, he could have some veto power over military and humanitarian aid. Also, the sanctions against Russia could be eased or even lifted. Either way, Ukraine will prevail.

23/23



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A blue banner with white text and icons. The name 'Pekka Kallioniemi' is written in large white font. To the right is a circular illustration of a chef in a kitchen. Below the name is a small coffee cup icon and the URL 'buymeacoffee.com/PKallioniemi'. The background features faint icons of a bird, a play button, a musical note, and a gift.

Pekka Kallioniemi

Support me in creating daily vatnik soups! All donations will be spent on research and production of vatnik soup or in the creation of web portal (vatniksoup.com)...

<https://buymeacoffee.com/PKallioniemi>

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An illustration of a chef in a white uniform and hat, stirring a pot of soup with a wooden spoon. The scene is set within a circular frame with a textured background.

The Soup Central

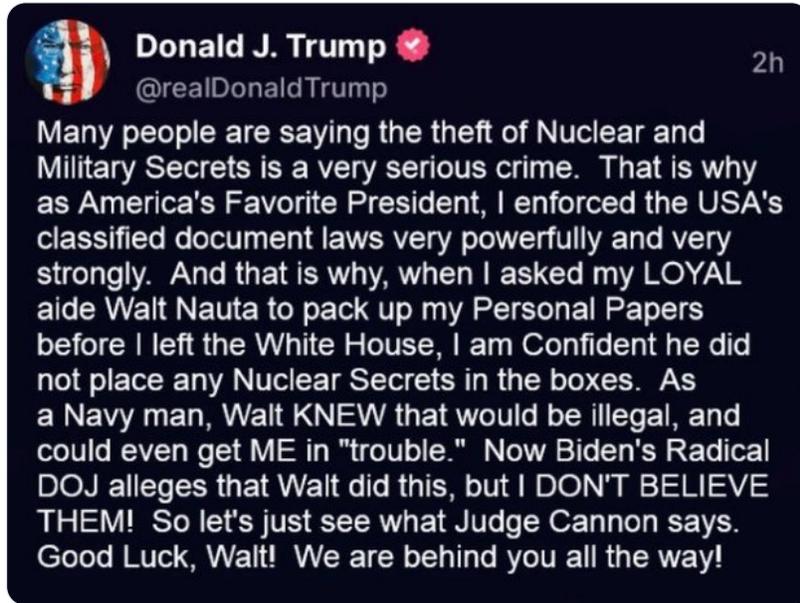
The Soup Central gives you in-depth knowledge on disinformation, bad actors and information operations.

<https://youtube.com/@TheSoupCentral>

Past soups: vatniksoup.com

CORRECTION TO TWEET 22/23:

This Trump's Truth Social post regarding Walt Nauta is allegedly a fake.



Confirmation here:



