

TAB 12



[REDACTED]
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Electronic Communication

Title: [REDACTED] US Department of State employees aware of FBI relationship with CROWN.

Date: 11/16/2016

From: WASHINGTON FIELD
WF-C11

Contact: Joe Pientka III, [REDACTED]

Approved By: Joe Pientka III

Drafted By: Joe Pientka III

Case ID #: 97F-HQ-2063661-NY

[REDACTED] CROSSFIRE HURRICANE;
FOREIGN AGENTS REGISTRATION ACT -
RUSSIA;

97F-NY-2067747

SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE MATTER
[REDACTED] CROSSFIRE DRAGON
FOREIGN AGENTS REGISTRATION ACT -
RUSSIA;
SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE MATTER

Synopsis: [REDACTED] This communication documents to the file two email strings regarding US Department of State employees aware of FBI relationship with CROWN.



Enclosure (s): Enclosed are the following items:

1. [REDACTED] US Department of State employees aware of FBI relationship with CROWN
2. [REDACTED] Victoria Nuland inquires about Rome meeting

Details:

This communication documents to the file two email strings regarding US Department of State (USDOS) employees aware of FBI relationship with



[REDACTED]

Title: [REDACTED] US Department of State employees aware of FBI relationship with CROWN.

Re: 97F-HQ-2063661-NY, 11/16/2016

CROWN. The first string of emails documents that USDOS employees were not only aware of the FBI's relationship with CROWN, the name of the Special Agent handler in Rome, the CHS' company name, but also knew of the CROSSFIRE HURRICANE team's planned travel to Rome on October 3 to meet with CROWN. In addition, it also appears an unnamed USDOS employee may have been in Rome and met with CROWN, who is a friend or an acquaintance and took notes during the CROWN meeting. The notes were not provided to the FBI as the USDOS employee believes CROWN already passed the FBI this information.

The second string documents that following the FBI's meeting with CROWN on October 3, 2016, Kathy Kavalec, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of European Affairs, acting on behalf of Victoria "Toria" Nuland, the Assistant Secretary of State for the Bureau of European Affairs, requested an update from CD-1 Section Chief Steve Laycock regarding the FBI's meeting with CROWN.

◆◆

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 15, 2019 10:55 AM
To: PIENKA, JOE (WF) (FBI); [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

=====
Hi [REDACTED]
Below is what I was able to find in my emails.

Additionally, I remember that Pete or Joe had an idea of who the DOS employee was that met with the Orbis employee so I ran that person's name by Kathy and she all but confirmed that it was the same person who had provided his handwritten notes to Nuland. I don't remember ever getting these notes from Nuland or Kathy.
Thanks
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 11:24 AM
To: MARASCO, JOSEPH D. (CD) (FBI) <JDMARASCO [REDACTED]>; LAYCOCK, STEPHEN C. (CD) (FBI) <SCLAYCOCK [REDACTED]>; MOFFA, JONATHAN C. (CD) (FBI) <JCMOFFA [REDACTED]>; PIENKA, JOE (WF) (FBI) <JPIENKA [REDACTED]>; STRZOK, PETER P. (CD) (FBI) <PPSTRZOK [REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Follow-up --- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hi,
Just spoke with Kathy Kavalec (Russia DAS, reports directly to Toria) and reiterated the urgency of getting this report. She is going to ask Toria again and relay the urgency.

Kathy provided some background on the report, which are actually notes taken by a DOS employee. It sounds like the employee may have been in Rome and met with the Orbis Security source who is a friend or an acquaintance. The DOS employee wrote notes during their meeting and came back to State and gave a copy to Toria. The DOS employee did not feel comfortable sharing these notes with the FBI (potentially just because they didn't feel they should be used for

anything official) and said that it sounded like the Orbis source had already provided the info to the FBI. The DOS employee also knew that the FBI was flying to Rome to meet with the Orbis source next week.

Toria has the notes, I haven't seen them and wasn't told about the content. Toria, as of yesterday, didn't feel comfortable passing them to us based on the request from the DOS employee that they not be shared. I'm guessing Toria will readdress with the DOS employee after my meeting with Kathy so I'll let you know what I hear back.

Thanks

From: MARASCO, JOSEPH D. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 10:49 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Follow-up --- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

=====
Copy. You know how much of a priority this is, so any information real-time is greatly appreciated by the CD FO. We have folks deploying to Rome to interview this guy. They are looking for all they can get....specifically, the original document. Thanks, Joe

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 10:43 AM
To: MARASCO, JOSEPH D. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Follow-up --- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

=====
I don't really have the details on the report or where it came from because I wasn't in the discussions between Steve/Toria/Kathy, but when I went up to Kathy's office last night to get the report she said she did not know if they could get it cleared but that they would try to give us the POC who could get us the report or information.

The email she sent below is that follow up. I can certainly follow up with Kathy to see about the report, if needed.

Thanks

From: MARASCO, JOSEPH D. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 10:30 AM

To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Follow-up --- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

=====

[REDACTED]

From: STRZOK, PETER P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 10:26 AM
To: LAYCOCK, STEPHEN C. (CD) (FBI); PIENKA, JOE (WF) (FBI)
Cc: MOFFA, JONATHAN C. (CD) (FBI); MARASCO, JOSEPH D. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Follow-up --- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

=====

Didn't Toria say she had gotten something tangible (a written report) via the Ambo from the source?

From: LAYCOCK, STEPHEN C. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 10:07 AM
To: STRZOK, PETER P. (CD) (FBI); PIENKA, JOE (WF) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Follow-up --- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

=====

TRANSITORY RECORD

Here is the info I mentioned yesterday. Summary below. Let me know if you need anything more. But I think that is all they had.

Steve

From: Kavalec, Kathleen A [REDACTED] OGA
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2016 6:36 PM
To: LAYCOCK, STEPHEN C. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: Follow-up

Hi Steve,

Thanks for coming over today. Regarding the issue we discussed at the end of our meeting, Toria inquired and was told the source of the information, from Orbis Security, is planning to meet on Monday, October 3, with Mike Gaeta, who she was told is your Legal Attache in Rome. This source also said some folks from FBI are flying out to Rome to meet him. Apparently the source and Gaeta know each other from New York.

I hope that is helpful in putting the pieces together!

Best, Kathy

Kathy Kavalec
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Bureau of European Affairs
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

OGA [REDACTED]

=====
Classification: [REDACTED]

=====
Classification: [REDACTED]

=====
Classification: [REDACTED]

=====
Classification: [REDACTED]

=====
Classification: [REDACTED]

=====
Classification: [REDACTED]

=====
Classification: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 7:10 AM
To: STRZOK, PETER P. (CD) (FBI); PIENKA, JOE (WF) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Update? --- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

=====
All good, I hit her back with it 'went well' and you the team had everything they needed.

From: STRZOK, PETER P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 5:00 PM
To: PIENKA, JOE (WF) (FBI); LAYCOCK, STEPHEN C. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Update? --- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

=====
I agree with Joe. "We had a collegial meeting. Given our investigative responsibilities, we don't feel appropriate to get into the substance of the conversation." If she still pushes, he can just say he needs to take it back to HQ, let me know, and we'll figure out how to address.
Thanks

From: PIENKA, JOE (WF) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 8:29 AM
To: LAYCOCK, STEPHEN C. (CD) (FBI); STRZOK, PETER P. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Update? --- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

=====
Steve,

I'd be interested in [REDACTED] response to you. From Friday's meeting with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] we came to the conclusion that first and foremost the source's security is most important and we should never disclose our relationship regardless of if the CHS disclosed the relationship. As you know, the CH Team and ALAT Gaeta fully admonished the CHS that we have a confidential relationship so we shouldn't have any more loose lips. The idea from Friday's meeting was to have [REDACTED]

remain engaged with Kathleen and Toria as a sounding board in a non-committal way as he would hear if the CHS wasn't keeping up his end of the confidential relationship bargain.

I also don't know how its State's business or how they think it appropriate to ask about a potential FBI source meet on such a politically charged subject. That is sending flags up.

I think [REDACTED] will have the best approach and idea on how to give a non-committal answer. Obviously she knows we had a team travel through eCC and the source's admission, but I don't think we owe her any type of read-out and a political appointee should know better than to ask about a potential investigation of a political rival. I think we leave it at – a meeting occurred, the FBI collected information. I defer to [REDACTED] for his sense on how to handle the situation.

Regards,

Joe

From: LAYCOCK, STEPHEN C. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 8:10 AM
To: STRZOK, PETER P. (CD) (FBI); PIENKA, JOE (WF) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Update? --- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

=====

TRANSITORY RECORD

Any feedback we can provide, even if generic in nature?

From: Kavalec, Kathleen A [REDACTED] OGA
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 8:07 AM
To: LAYCOCK, STEPHEN C. (CD) (FBI)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Update?

Steve,

Toria is back from Moscow and just asked me how the meeting in Rome went earlier this week. Is there anything you can share? Happy to talk secure if that would be convenient. Best, Kathy

Kathy Kavalec
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Bureau of European Affairs
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Sensitive
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

=====
Classification: [REDACTED]

=====
Classification: [REDACTED]

=====
Classification: [REDACTED]

=====
Classification: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 6:44 PM
To: MARASCO, JOSEPH D. (CD) (FBI); [REDACTED] (FBI); LAYCOCK, STEPHEN C. (CD) (FBI); MOFFA, JONATHAN C. (CD) (FBI); PIENKA, JOE (WF) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Letter Follow-up --- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

=====
I think that's enough info. If we need more, we can always go and informally talk to the State employee. This was as much for source vetting purposes as anything else

From: MARASCO, JOSEPH D. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 1:45 PM
To: [REDACTED] LAYCOCK, STEPHEN C. (CD) (FBI); MOFFA, JONATHAN C. (CD) (FBI); PIENKA, JOE (WF) (FBI); STRZOK, PETER P. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Letter Follow-up --- [REDACTED]
Importance: High

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

=====
Copy. Thanks, [REDACTED]

I'll let DAD Strzok and SSA Pientka comment further if needed, as this may have just answered our questions.

Thanks, Joe

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 11:24 AM
To: MARASCO, JOSEPH D. (CD) (FBI); LAYCOCK, STEPHEN C. (CD) (FBI); MOFFA, JONATHAN C. (CD) (FBI); PIENKA, JOE (WF) (FBI); STRZOK, PETER P. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Follow-up --- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

=====
Hi,

Just spoke with Kathy Kavalec (Russia DAS, reports directly to Toria) and reiterated the urgency of getting this report. She is going to ask Toria again and relay the urgency.

Kathy provided some background on the report, which are actually notes taken by a DOS employee. It sounds like the employee may have been in Rome and met with the Orbis Security source who is a friend or an acquaintance. The DOS employee wrote notes during their meeting and came back to State and gave a copy to Toria. The DOS employee did not feel comfortable sharing these notes with the FBI (potentially just because they didn't feel they should be used for anything official) and said that it sounded like the Orbis source had already provided the info to the FBI. The DOS employee also knew that the FBI was flying to Rome to meet with the Orbis source next week.

Toria has the notes, I haven't seen them and wasn't told about the content. Toria, as of yesterday, didn't feel comfortable passing them to us based on the request from the DOS employee that they not be shared. I'm guessing Toria will readdress with the DOS employee after my meeting with Kathy so I'll let you know what I hear back.

Thanks

█

From: MARASCO, JOSEPH D. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 10:49 AM
To: █
Subject: RE: Follow-up --- █

█

█

=====
Copy. You know how much of a priority this is, so any information real-time is greatly appreciated by the CD FO. We have folks deploying to Rome to interview this guy. They are looking for all they can get....specifically, the original document. Thanks, Joe

From: █
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 10:43 AM
To: MARASCO, JOSEPH D. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Follow-up --- █

█

█

=====
I don't really have the details on the report or where it came from because I wasn't in the discussions between Steve/Toria/Kathy, but when I went up to Kathy's office last night to get the report she said she did not know if they could get it cleared but that they would try to give us the POC who could get us the report or information.

The email she sent below is that follow up. I can certainly follow up with Kathy to see about the report, if needed.

Thanks

█

From: MARASCO, JOSEPH D. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 10:30 AM
To: █
Subject: FW: Follow-up --- █

█

█

=====

█

From: STRZOK, PETER P. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 10:26 AM
To: LAYCOCK, STEPHEN C. (CD) (FBI); PIENKA, JOE (WF) (FBI)
Cc: MOFFA, JONATHAN C. (CD) (FBI); MARASCO, JOSEPH D. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: RE: Follow-up --- █

█

█

=====

Didn't Toria say she had gotten something tangible (a written report) via the Ambo from the source?

From: LAYCOCK, STEPHEN C. (CD) (FBI)
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 10:07 AM
To: STRZOK, PETER P. (CD) (FBI); PIENKA, JOE (WF) (FBI)
Subject: FW: Follow-up --- █

█

█

=====

TRANSITORY RECORD

Here is the info I mentioned yesterday. Summary below. Let me know if you need anything more. But I think that is all they had.

Steve

From: Kavalec, Kathleen A [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2016 6:36 PM
To: LAYCOCK, STEPHEN C. (CD) (FBI)
Subject: Follow-up

Hi Steve,

Thanks for coming over today. Regarding the issue we discussed at the end of our meeting, Toria inquired and was told the source of the information, from Orbis Security, is planning to meet on Monday, October 3, with Mike Gaeta, who she was told is your Legal Attache in Rome. This source also said some folks from FBI are flying out to Rome to meet him. Apparently the source and Gaeta know each other from New York.

I hope that is helpful in putting the pieces together!

Best, Kathy

Kathy Kavalec
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Bureau of European Affairs
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

[redacted]

=====
Classification: [redacted]

=====
Classification: [redacted]

=====
Classification: [redacted]

=====
Classification: [redacted]

=====
Classification: [redacted]

=====
Classification: [redacted]

=====
Classification: [redacted]

=====
Classification: [redacted]



[REDACTED]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Electronic Communication

Title: [REDACTED] Document U.S. State Department receiving CROWN information, however not provided by the FBI.

Date: 11/23/2016

From: WASHINGTON FIELD
WF-C11

Contact: Joe Pientka III, [REDACTED]

Approved By: Joe Pientka III

Drafted By: Joe Pientka III

Case ID #: 97F-HQ-2063661-NY

[REDACTED] CROSSFIRE HURRICANE;
FOREIGN AGENTS REGISTRATION ACT -
RUSSIA;

SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE MATTER

97F-NY-2067747

[REDACTED] CROSSFIRE DRAGON
FOREIGN AGENTS REGISTRATION ACT -
RUSSIA;

SENSITIVE INVESTIGATIVE MATTER

DRAFT DOCUMENT/DELIBERATIVE MATERIAL

Do not disseminate outside the FBI without the permission of the originator or program manager.

Synopsis: [REDACTED] This communication documents an email exchange showing the U.S. State Department is receiving CROWN information, however it is not being provided by the FBI.



Enclosure(s): Enclosed are the following items:

1. [REDACTED] Email exchange showing the U.S. State Department is receiving CROWN information, however it is not being provided by the FBI.



[REDACTED]

Title: [REDACTED] Document U.S. State Department receiving CROWN information, however not provided by the FBI.

Re: 97F-HQ-2063661-NY, 11/23/2016

Details:

This communication documents an email exchange showing the U.S. State Department is receiving CROWN information, however it is not being provided by the FBI nor has the FBI received it from CROWN to date. The email exchange also shows that Jon Winer was the unnamed (as of November 18, 2016) U.S. State Department employee who is in contact with CROWN and receiving his/her reporting.

◆◆