

# IMPEACHMENT: WEEK EIGHT

## RECAP, Part 2

Despite the president's best efforts, dozens of witnesses - professional staff from the State Department, National Security Council, and Pentagon, diplomats serving in Ukraine and Europe, and even the vice president's office - came forward to testify in the impeachment inquiry. In this review, we look at the road the president and his associates traveled.

### 2018-2019

On April 24, 2019, the US ambassador to Ukraine was removed from her post. Although it may have seemed sudden, it was really the culmination of efforts spearheaded by Rudy Giuliani and associates for more than a year.

**Watch our video on how the president's allies cleared the road for corruption.**



### APRIL 29, 2019

Amb. Bill Taylor is tapped to return to Ukraine after Yovanovitch is removed. He tells a colleague that the situation there has been described as "two snake pits: one in Kyiv and one in Washington."

### MAY 3, 2019

Trump and Vladimir Putin have a call. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State George Kent says Putin "extensively talked down Ukraine." Trump is developing a negative view of Ukraine thanks to what he hears from Putin, Giuliani and Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban.

### MAY 7, 2019

Zelensky meets with senior aides to discuss Trump's and Giuliani's demands for investigations of the Bidens. It's an indication that Ukraine is aware of the pressure campaign from its earliest stages.

### MAY 20, 2019

The Department of Defense certifies that Ukraine had "taken substantial actions to make defense institutional reforms for the purpose of decreasing corruption, increasing accountability, and sustaining improvements of combat capability." That clears the way for the security assistance to be released.

### MAY 23, 2019

In an Oval Office meeting, Trump discounted assurances about Ukraine from EU Amb. Gordon Sondland, Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney, and OMB deputy Robert Blair. "They are all corrupt, they are all terrible people," Trump said.

## PHONE CALLS ARE AT THE HEART OF IT

Phone calls in April and May play a major role in the crisis that has led us to impeachment. What was said - and wasn't - said speaks volumes to the intentions of the president. **Watch our video of what testimony revealed about the president's phone calls and why they matter.**



### SPRING 2019

Through May and June, State Department officials focus on convincing Trump to show significant support - an Oval Office meeting and the much needed security aid - for Ukraine while at the same time trying to push back against a shadow foreign policy being pursued in Ukraine by Rudy Giuliani and others.

On May 29, Ambassador Taylor texts Kurt Volker and asks: "Can anyone hope to succeed with the Giuliani-Biden issue swirling for the next 18 months?"

### JUNE 10, 2019

Taylor messages Sondland and Volker and says Rudy Giuliani has told the Ukrainians that the Oval Office meeting will not happen.

### JUNE 19, 2019

The Office of Management and Budget is notified that the Ukraine aid is on hold.

### JUNE 25, 2019

Although the hold has already been initiated, Mulvaney emails OMB deputy Blair asking "Did we ever find out about ... whether we can hold it back?" Blair responds, "Expect Congress to become unhinged."



## THE PRESSURE CAMPAIGN AND THE COVER UP

A massive effort undertaken by the White House and OMB to cover up the illegal hold on the aid puts Trump's administration at odds with the separation of powers, and checks and balances of the separate branches of government.

**Watch our video on how this evolved.**

**November:** Public hearings begin in the House Intelligence and Judiciary Committees.

**December:** Two articles of impeachment are approved by the Judiciary Committee on a party line vote, 23-17,

**On Dec. 12, 2019,** Trump becomes the third president in 243 years of American history to be impeached.