

WORLD IN BRIEF

Associated Press

Lead Trump lawyer in Russia probe leaves in legal shake-up

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's lead lawyer in the special counsel's Russia investigation has resigned amid a shake-up of the president's legal team.

Attorney John Dowd confirmed his decision in an email to The Associated Press, saying, "I love the President and wish him well."

Dowd's departure comes three days after the Trump legal team added a new lawyer, former U.S. attorney Joseph diGenova, who has alleged on television that FBI officials were involved in a "brazen plot" to exonerate Hillary Clinton in the email investigation and "frame" Trump for nonexistent crimes.

It already was a delicate time in special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation as Trump's attorneys have been negotiating with Mueller over the scope and terms of an interview of the president. Trump has told reporters that he was eager to speak with Mueller, but Dowd has been far more apprehensive, and the lawyers have not publicly committed to making the president available for questioning.

Over the weekend, Dowd issued a statement calling for an end to special counsel's investigation. The White House and later Dowd had to clarify the statement, saying the president's legal team wasn't calling for Mueller to be fired.

Mueller examining campaign ties to Cambridge Analytica

WASHINGTON — Special counsel Robert Mueller is scrutinizing the connections between President Donald Trump's campaign and the data mining firm Cambridge Analytica.

Cambridge Analytica has come under fierce criticism from U.S. and British lawmakers over reports it swiped the data of more than 50 million Facebook users to sway elections.

Mueller's investigators have asked former campaign officials about the Trump campaign's data operations, particularly how it collected and utilized voter data in battleground states.

That's according to a person with direct knowledge of the line of inquiry who isn't authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The Trump campaign has distanced itself from the firm. It was financed by major Republican donors and, for a time, employed Steve Bannon, who later became Trump's campaign chief executive.

UK's May urges EU unity against Russia as Kremlin slams UK

BRUSSELS — British Prime Minister Theresa May urged European Union leaders to unite and condemn Russia for not respecting international rules or borders, while Moscow slammed the U.K. as untrustworthy in its investigation of the poisoning of a former spy.

Amid heated words and frosty relations between London and Moscow, May accused Russia of staging "a brazen and reckless attack against the United Kingdom" by poisoning Sergei Skripal and his daughter Yulia with a nerve agent March 4 in the English city of Salisbury.

She said "it is clear that the Russian threat doesn't respect borders, and indeed the incident in Salisbury was part of a pattern of Russian aggression against Europe and its near neighbors, from the western Balkans to the Middle East."

Britain blames Moscow for the attack that used a military-grade nerve agent and has called Russia a growing threat to Western democracies. Russia has fiercely denied the accusations.

Both nations have expelled 23 of each other's diplomats in a feud that shows no signs of cooling.

Russia's ambassador to the U.K., Alexander Yakovenko, hit back today, saying his country "can't take British words for granted," and accusing the U.K. of having a "bad record of violating international law and misleading the international community."

Can Zuckerberg's media blitz take the pressure off Facebook?

NEW YORK — In the wake of a privacy scandal involving a Trump-connected data-mining firm, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg embarked on a rare media mini-blitz in an attempt to take some of the public and political pressure off the social network.

But it's far from clear whether he's won over U.S. and European authorities, much less the broader public whose status updates provide Facebook with an endless stream of data it uses to sell targeted ads.



Authorities work the scene of a bomb explosion in Austin, Texas. Caroline Smith

Police: Bomber's video amounts to confession, but no motive

PFLUGERVILLE, Texas — A 25-minute cellphone video left behind by the bomber whose deadly explosives terrorized Austin for weeks details the differences among the weapons he built and amounts to a confession, police said. But his motive remains a mystery.

Mark Anthony Condit, an unemployed college dropout who bought bomb-making materials at Home Depot, recorded the video hours before he died after detonating one of his own devices as SWAT teams closed in. It seemed to indicate the 23-year-old knew he was about to be caught, said Austin Police Chief Brian Manley.

"It is the outcry of a very challenged young man talking about challenges in his own life," Manley said of the recording, which authorities declined to release amid the ongoing investigation.

Condit was tracked down using store surveillance video, cellphone signals and witness accounts of a customer shipping packages in a disguise that included a blond wig and gloves. Police finally found him early Wednesday at a hotel in a suburb north of Austin.

Officers prepared to move in for an arrest. When the suspect's sport utility vehicle began to drive away, they followed. Condit ran into a ditch on the side of the road, and SWAT officers approached, banging on his window.

On Wednesday, the generally reclusive Zuckerberg sat for an interview on CNN and gave another to the publication Wired, addressing reports that Cambridge Analytica purloined the data of more than 50 million Facebook users in order to sway elections. The Trump campaign paid the firm \$6 million during the 2016 election, although it has since distanced itself from Cambridge.

Zuckerberg apologized for a "major breach of trust," admitted mistakes and outlined steps to protect users following Cambridge's data grab.

"I am really sorry that happened," Zuckerberg said on CNN. Facebook has a "responsibility" to protect its users' data, he added, noting that if it fails, "we don't deserve to have the opportunity to serve people."

Leaders finalize US budget bill

WASHINGTON — Congressional leaders have finalized a sweeping \$1.3 trillion budget bill that substantially boosts military and domestic spending but leaves behind young immigrant "Dreamers," deprives President Donald Trump some of his border wall money and takes only incremental steps to address gun violence.

As negotiators stumbled toward an end-of-the-week dead-

line to fund the government or face a federal shutdown, House Speaker Paul Ryan dashed to the White House amid concerns Trump's support was wavering. Although some conservative Republicans balked at the size of the spending increases and the rush to pass the bill, the White House said the president backed the legislation.

Trump himself sounded less than enthused, tweeting late Wednesday: "Had to waste money on Dem giveaways in order to take care of military pay increase and new equipment."

Talks had stretched into Wednesday evening before the 2,232-page text was finally released.

"No bill of this size is perfect," Ryan said. "But this legislation addresses important priorities and makes us stronger at home and abroad."

Toy company CEO leads effort to salvage Toys R Us

NEW YORK — Toy company executive Isaac Larian says he and other investors have pledged a total of \$200 million in financing and hope to raise four times that amount in crowdfunding in order to bid for up to 400 of the Toys R Us stores being liquidated in bankruptcy.

The unsolicited bid still faces many hurdles, including finding other deep-pocketed investors and getting a bankruptcy judge to agree to it. But this is the first public plan to keep the cherished toy brand in existence in the United States.

Such a long-shot move would also greatly benefit Larian's primary business. He's CEO of Bratz doll-maker MGA Entertainment, which relies on Toys R Us for nearly 1 in every 5 sales.

Larian says he and the other investors, which he declined to name, believe salvaging part of the Toys R Us business will be good for the toy industry, customers and workers. They're interested in more than half the 735 U.S. stores Toys R Us plans to liquidate, and want to be able to use the valuable brand name.

And they're hoping the outpouring of affectionate nostalgia when Toys R Us announced its plans — #SaveToysRUs has been a trend on social media — translates into pledges toward their \$1 billion goal.

With fate of economy in his hands, Powell plays it low-key

In his first news conference as head of the world's leading central bank, Jerome Powell avoided any professorial lectures.

His replies were briefer than his predecessors'. He said nothing of himself personally. He projected the air of an experienced technocrat, more steeped in finance than the complexities of economic theory.

If anyone was wondering how the new chairman of the Federal Reserve would differ from his two immediate predecessors, Janet Yellen and Ben Bernanke, Wednesday's exchange with reporters offered some clues. Powell, unlike the longtime scholars Yellen and Bernanke, is not an economist. He hasn't spent years delving into why economic growth leaves behind some segments of society.

The chairman instead came across as a consensus builder and only one member of a large committee of policymakers. And at times Wednesday, he appeared a bit nervous as he twisted open a water bottle or reached for his reading glasses.

His stated mission, he said, was to convey that Fed officials had made one policy change this week — and nothing more. The officials voted unanimously to raise the federal funds rate — what banks charge to lend to each other — by a modest quarter percentage point to a still-low range of 1.5 percent to 1.75 percent.

Trump to punish China on trade as US companies fear backlash

WASHINGTON — Farmers, electronics retailers and other U.S. businesses are bracing for a backlash as President Donald Trump targets China for stealing American technology or pressuring U.S. companies to hand it over.

The administration is expected to slap trade sanctions on China, perhaps including restrictions on Chinese investment and tariffs on as much as \$60 billion worth of Chinese products.

Dozens of industry groups sent a letter last weekend to Trump warning that "the imposition of sweeping tariffs would trigger a chain reaction of negative consequences for the U.S. economy, provoking retaliation; stifling U.S. agriculture, goods, and services exports; and raising costs for businesses and consumers."

The announcement will mark the end of a seven-month U.S. investigation into the hardball tactics China has used to challenge U.S. supremacy in technology, including dispatching hackers to steal commercial secrets and demanding that U.S. companies hand over trade secrets in exchange for access to the Chinese market. The administration argues that years of negotiations with China have failed to produce results.

THE DAILY ASTORIAN



SCHEDULE

Evening listings THURSDAY

THURSDAY EVENING										MARCH 22																	
A	L	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30														
2	KATU	(2)	KATU News at 6 (N)		Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel Fortune (N)	Grey's "Caught Somewhere in Time" (N)	Station 19 "Stuck" (P) (N)	Station 19 "Invisible to Me" (N)	KATU News (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel																
3	KOMO	(4)	KOMO 4 News (N)		Wheel Fortune (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	Grey's "Caught Somewhere in Time" (N)	Station 19 "Stuck" (P) (N)	Station 19 "Invisible to Me" (N)	KOMO 4 News (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel																
4	KING	(5)	NBC News (N)	KING 5 News	KING 5 News	Evening Superstore (N)	A.P. Bio (N)	Chicago Fire "Looking for a Lifeline" (N)	Chi.Fire "The Chance to Forgive" (N)	KING 5 News (N)	(:35) Tonight Show																
5	KOIN	(6)	(4:00) NCAA Basket. NCAA Basketball Division I Tournament Site: Staples Center -- Los Angeles, Calif. (L)					KOIN News. Game On!	Paid Program	Ent. Tonight	KOIN 6 News (N)	(:35) Colbert															
6	KIRO	(7)	(4:00) NCAA Basket. NCAA Basketball Division I Tournament Site: Staples Center -- Los Angeles, Calif. (L)					KIRO 7 Game Day KIRO 7 News (N)	Be a Millionaire?	Be a Millionaire?	KIRO News (N)	(:35) Colbert															
7	KGW	(8)	KGW News at 6:00 p.m. (N)	Live at 7 (N)	Inside Edition	Superstore (N)	A.P. Bio (N)	Chicago Fire "Looking for a Lifeline" (N)	Chi.Fire "The Chance to Forgive" (N)	KGW News (N)	(:35) Tonight Show																
8	KRCW	(3)	Modern Family	Modern Family	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	Supernatural "Devil's Bargain"	Arrow "The Devil's Greatest Trick"	News at 10 (N)	Friends	Two and a Half	Two and a Half															
9	KOPB	(10)	Curious Traveler	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour (N)		Oregon Art Beat	Oregon Guide	Midsomer M.	(:50) Midsomer Murders "The Creeper"	(:35) Miss Marple Mysteries "4:50 From Paddington"																
10	KPTV	(12)	6 O'Clock News (N)		Family Feud	Family Feud	Gotham (N)	Showtime at the Apollo "Week 4" (N)	10 O'Clock News (N)	News (N)	Page Six TV																
11	KPDV	(13)	Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	FOX 12's News (N)	Family Guy	American Dad!	The Game	The Game																
12	KCPQ	(13)	Modern Family	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Gotham (N)	Showtime at the Apollo "Week 4" (N)	Q13 News at 10 (N)	Q13 News (N)	The Simpsons																
13	TBS	(20)	(4:15) NCAA Basket. (4:45) NCAA Basketball Division I Tournament (L)					NCAA March Mad.	The Joker's Wild	American Dad!	Conan																
14	KZJO	(22)	Friends	Friends	Mom	Modern Family		Mom	Modern Family	Q13 News at 9 (N)	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Two and a Half	Two and a Half													
15	ESPN	(29)	Boxing Golden Boy (L)					SportsCenter	The day's news in the world of sports. (N)	SportsCenter (N)	College Gameday (L)	SportsCenter (N)															
16	ESPN2	(30)	(5:00) Cornhole	E:60				NFL Live	Nación ESPN	College Gameday (L)	First Take																
17	NICK	(31)	Henry Danger 1/2	Henry Danger 2/2	Henry Danger 1/2	Henry Danger 2/2	★★ Spy Kids 4: All the News in the World (11) Jeremy Piven, Jessica Alba.	Full House	Full House	Friends	Friends Pt. 1 of 2																
18	DISN	(32)	Jessie	Jessie	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Bizaardvark	Bizaardvark	Gravity Falls	Gravity Falls	Stuck in Middle	Bizaardvark														
19	FAM	(34)	★★★ Mr. Popper's Penguins (11) Carla Gugino, Angela Lansbury, Jim Carrey.				Beyond (N)	★★★ National Lampoon's Vacation (83) Beverly D'Angelo, Chevy Chase.			The 700 Club																
20	FMC	(35)	(5:00) The Other Woman Cameron Diaz. (1:15) ★★ The Other Woman (2014, Comedy) Nikolaj Coster-Waldau, Leslie Mann, Cameron Diaz.				★★★ We Bought a Zoo (11) Scarlett Johansson, Matt Damon.				(:50) FXM Presents																
21	LIFE	(36)	Grey's Anatomy		Project Runway	(:55) ProjectR (N)	PR Stars Social "Rock Your Face Off" (N)	Project Runway "Nina's Crushing It" (N)	Love at First Flight	(:05) Runway "Nina's Crushing It"																	
22	ROOT	(38)	In Depth	MLB Baseball Spring Training Texas Rangers vs. Seattle Mariners Site: Peoria Stadium -- Peoria, Ariz. (L)				Poker Heartland Tour	In the Spotlight	MLB Baseball Spring Training Tex./Sea.																	
23	F51	(39)	(5:00) UFC 25 Greatest Fights "5-7"					Speak for Yourself	TMZ Sports (N)	Skip and Shannon: Undisputed Opinions on the biggest sports topics of the day.	UFC Flashback																
24	SPIKE	(43)	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Lip Sync Battle (N)	Lip Sync Battle (N)	To Be Announced	The Notebook															
25	COM	(44)	The Office	The Office	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	The Daily Show	The Opposition															
26	HIST	(45)	Swamp People "Texas 911"		Swamp People "Texas Tag Out"		Swamp: Blood "Hotter Than Hell" (N)	Swamp People "Swamp Ninja" (N)	(:05) Truck Night "Grudge Match" (N)	(:05) Swamp People "Swamp Ninja"																	
27	A&E	(46)	The First 48 "The Invitation"		The First 48 "Deadly Premonition"		The First 48 "The Other Wife"	First 48 "Fatal Showdown/ Deadly Text"	60 Days In "Time to Come Clean" (SF) (N)	(:35) The First 48																	
28	TLC	(47)	Traded Space "Colorado: Berry Avenue"		My 600-lb Life "Randy's Story"		My 600-lb Life "Renee's Story" A former plus-size model swells to 600 lbs. (N)	600-lb: Skin Tight "Angel and Linda"	600-lb: Superized "Renee's Story"	Naked and Afraid "Primal Fear"																	
29	DISC	(48)	Naked and Afraid "Hearts of Darkness"		Naked "Category Five Survival"		Naked and Afraid "Washed out"	Naked and Afraid "Panama"	Naked and Afraid "Panama"	Naked and Afraid "Primal Fear"																	
30	NGEO	(49)	Filthy Riches "Turf Wars"		Filthy Riches "Winter Warriors"		Wicked Tuna "Snags at Sea"	Tuna "Hooked Up: Getting Schooled" (N)	Life Below Zero "Polar Extremes" (N)	Wicked Tuna "Snags at Sea"																	
31	TNT	(50)	NCIS: New O. "Le Carnivale de la Mort"		NCIS: New O. "My Brother's Keeper"		London Has Fallen (2016, Action) Morgan Freeman, Aaron Eckhart, Gerard Butler.	★★ Tron: Legacy (2010, Adventure) Garrett Hedlund, Olivia Wilde, Jeff Bridges.																			
32	AMC	(51)	(5:30) ★★ Mr. and Mrs. Smith (05, Action) Angelina Jolie, Vince Vaughn, Brad Pitt.				★★ Open Range (2003, Western) Kevin Costner, Annette Bening, Robert Duvall.																				
33	USA	(52)	Law & Order: S.V.U. "Tragedy"		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	A. Ninja "Qualifying Episode" (N)	Law & Order: S.V.U. "Institutional Fail"	Beat Bobby Flay	Beat Bobby Flay	Beat Bobby Flay	Beat Bobby Flay														
34	FOOD	(53)	Beat Bobby Flay	Beat Bobby Flay	Chopped "Souper Chefs"		Chopped "Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner!"	Chopped "Let's Do Lunch"	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters															
35	HGTV	(54)	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop Vegas Flip or Flop		Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	FlipFloVegas (N)	Flip or Flop Vegas																	
36	FX	(56)	(3:30) The Martian ★★ Pacific Rim (2013, Action) Charlie Hunnam, Rinko Kikuchi, Idris Elba.																								
37	CNN	(57)	Anderson Cooper 360		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	Anderson Cooper 360	Anderson Cooper 360	Anderson Cooper 360	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon																
38	FNC	(58)	Hannity		The Ingraham Angle		Fox News @ Night	Tucker Carlson Tonight	Hannity	The Ingraham Angle																	
39	CNBC	(61)	Shark Tank		Jay Leno's Garage "Living the Dream"		Leno Garage "Any Which Way But Gas"	Jay Leno's Garage "Hand Made"	Jay Leno's Garage "Getting Away"	Paid Program																	
40	BRVA	(63)	Southern Charm "Reunion"		Housewives Atlanta "Driving Miss Kim"		★★ Sex and the City 2 (2010, Comedy) Cynthia Nixon, David Eigenberg, Sarah Jessica Parker.			Watch What (N)	Sex and the City 2																
41	TCM	(64)	(5:00) Sunset Boulevard		★★★★ Gone With the Wind (1939, Epic) Clark Gable, Olivia De Havilland, Vivien Leigh.					Casablanca (42, Rom) Humphrey Bogart.																	
42	SYFY	(65)	★★ I, Frankenstein (2014, Fantasy) Aaron Eckhart, Bill Nighy, Yvonne Strahovski.				★★ The Lone Ranger (2013, Action) Armie Hammer, William Fichtner, Johnny Depp.			The Magicians "Twenty-Three"																	
43	RFD	(62)	SF Machinery	Small Town	Rural America 'Live' (N)		Steve Lantvit	Rural Eve. News	Market Journal	GA Farm Monitor	SF Machinery	Small Town	Time Life Library														