

THE REPUBLICAN PRE-BUTTAL SPINS

REPUBLICAN AND NON-PARTISAN FACTS AS A DEMOCRATIC PLOT

I'll have a bit more to say about the Republican pre-buttal to the HPSCI Impeachment Report put out last night. But a good summary of the report looks like this:

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The report uses the word "Democrat" 226 times, all part of a ploy to suggest that facts presented in the impeachment hearing were a partisan plot.

It fails to acknowledge, however, that zero of the witnesses who testified were Democrats. Two (Jennifer Williams and Tim Morrison) testified they were partisan Republicans. Gordon Sondland didn't testify to the point (indeed, in his statement he highlighted his past work with

Democrats), but he got his position by dumping \$1 million into Trump's inauguration. The rest testified to being non-partisan.

Three of the witnesses – Kurt Volker, Morrison, and Sondland – were Republican witnesses. The testimony of the three of them, plus that of Bill Taylor, fully substantiates that Trump demanded investigations before he'd release aid to Ukraine.

The facts presented in the impeachment inquiry are not Democratic claims. They are non-partisan or Republican facts.

But in the Republican party in 2019, every fact that is damning to Donald Trump – even those shared by Republicans – is treated as a partisan conspiracy.