

RIC GRENELL DECLASSIFIED GEORGE PAPADOPOULOS' BRAGS ABOUT FUCKING OLDER WOMEN, BUT NOT ABOUT BEFRIENDING SERGEY MILLIAN

In the name of exposing "FISA abuse," Lindsey Graham got Ric Grenell to declassify details of George Papadopoulos bragging about fucking a woman who was 42.

CT: I was banging a 42-year-old. That's the oldest I ever went. And she was the best sex I ever had in my life.

CHS: You know you can't, uh, knock down them...

CT: But 42, that's like borderline old, you know.

But Grenell left what DOJ IG treated as a reference to Sergey Millian living in Brooklyn classified (see page 66).

CT: I hate Manhattan. I love Queens.

CHS: Uh huh.

CT: And Brooklyn.

CHS: Brooklyn is gorgeous.

CT: My friend TPN [PH] lives in, ah, Brooklyn in, ah...

Grenell did so even though this reference to "Sergey" has already been formally declassified, for the DOJ IG Report (though I would argue that in places DOJ IG's transcriptions are not always fair descriptions of what the transcripts show).

Papadopoulos did not say much about

Russia during the first conversation with Source 3, other than to mention a “friend Sergey ... [who] lives in ... Brooklyn,” and invite Source 3 to travel with Papadopoulos to Russia in the summertime.

Perhaps this just stems from bureaucratic incompetence. But the Trump Administration made a fairly aggressive decision to declassify details about Sergey Millian for the DOJ IG Report because it served their narrative about Christopher Steele. But when it came time to claim—abundant evidence in the transcripts to the contrary—that George Papadopoulos wasn’t an obvious subject for a counterintelligence investigation, the Trump Administration treated one of the most damning details as classified.

This matters, because the frothy right has been ginning up a scandal over the delayed release of the House Intelligence transcripts, and the fact that, having been told everything is ready, Adam Schiff is taking a few days to review what Grenell has done to ensure the integrity of the redactions. They’re doing so even as *both* Mark Warner and Richard Burr spent the beginning of John Ratcliffe’s confirmation making sure the declassification of their report on the Russian operation would be quick and non-partisan.

But we’ve already got hints that Grenell is politicizing the declassification process. In a 90-page transcript, he redacted the detail that most undermined the frothy right narrative.