### REFUSING TO TAKE YES FOR AN ANSWER: REMEMBER THE PARDONS IN THE DESK DRAWER

James Pearce argued that DC Circuit should rule on the merits of Trump's absolute immunity claim so Jack Smith's team can be sure they get the law right. But everyone seemed to understand that pertained, as well, to pardons.

# THE FIRST TIME TRUMP "COLLUDED" WITH RUSSIA WAS TO HELP BIBI NETANYAHU

The first time Trump reached out to Russia to undercut Barack Obama's foreign policy in 2016 was an attempt to protect Bibi Netanyahu from repercussions for illegal settlements.

# **BALL OF THREAD: INTRODUCTION**

An explanation for my Ball of Thread series.

# FORMER WIKILEAKS TASK FORCE MEMBER CHARLES MCGONIGAL DIDN'T TAKE CREDIT FOR THE JOSH SCHULTE INVESTIGATION

It makes sense that Charles McGonigal didn't brag that he oversaw investigations of Oleg Deripaska before he went on to work for Deripaska. But it's far more curious that McGonigal didn't mention that he led not one but two WikiLeaks investigations.

# THE MAY 2017 REPORT TYING OLEG DERIPASKA TO RUSSIAN INTELLIGENCE

Bill Barr's flunkie, Seth DuCharme, thinks his client Charles McGonigal should get a probation sentence even though he reviewed reports of Oleg Deripaska's Russian intelligence ties before choosing to work for Deripaska.

# NYT COVERS UP THE STILL-ONGOING TRUMP-

#### RUSSIAN EFFORT TO FRAME JOE BIDEN

The NYT is right: A second Trump term would be worse than the first one. But repeating that, over and over, even while misinforming readers about Trump's ongoing five year effort to frame Joe Biden is not the best way to prevent a second term.

### THE SUSPECTED 2019 EXPOSURE OF JOHNATHAN BUMA'S SOURCE

The reasons I'm cautious about Jonathan Buma's whistleblower complaint go beyond the fact that he thought Chuck Johnson would make a good informant.

# IN HIS HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE TESTIMONY, JOHN DURHAM CONFESSED THAT MICHAEL HOROWITZ WAS RIGHT

In his June testimony about his report, John Durham admitted that the reason he said Michael Horowitz was wrong to say Crossfire Hurricane was properly predicated was that he thought Horowitz should consider his own conspiracy theory based on Russian intelligence that defied physics.

# GARY SHAPLEY'S HANDLERS REVISIT PAST LEAK INVESTIGATIONS INTO CHUCK GRASSLEY'S STAFF

Gary Shapley's handlers just submitted a FOIA seeking to learn, among other things, whether the FBI was investigating leaks by Chuck Grassley staffers during the period when Shapley proved more worried about Congressional inquiries than protecting the Hunter Biden investigation.

### DONALD TRUMP RAISES CONFLICT CONCERNS ABOUT HIS MIKE FLYNN PARDON

Just days after DOJ submitted a filing arguing that a pardon used as a quid pro quo would be unlawful, Trump claims that Sidney Powell couldn't have been his lawyer on November 25, 2020 when she filed a lawsuit he demanded, because she was conflicted.