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4 SELECT COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE THE
5 JANUARY 6TH ATTACK ON THE U.S. CAPITOL,
6 U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
7 WASHINGTON, D.C.

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12 INTERVIEW OF: RICHARD PETER DONOGHUE

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Friday, October 1, 2021

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Washington, D.C.

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The interview in the above matter was held via Webex, commencing at 10:02 a.m.

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Present: Representatives Schiff, Lofgren, Murphy, Raskin, and Cheney.

1 But we weren't reporting back to the White House simply because the President
2 mentioned some allegations.

3 Q I see. It wouldn't be consistent with protocol for you to go back to the
4 President every time something that comes up in a discussion is investigated or resolved?

5 A He didn't instruct us to do that, and we weren't going to do it. So.

6 Q Yeah. All right. I want to turn your attention, if you can now to
7 exhibit 10, which we get back into Mr. Clark. The next day, December 28th, you and Mr.
8 Rosen get an email from Mr. Clark, and he is asking for two urgent action items. Tell us
9 about this email, the two actions that he requested, and what your response was.

10 A Right. So DAG Rosen and I spoke, I think, probably several times on the
11 27th and certainly the 28th because that was a Monday. DAG Rosen and Jeff Clark had
12 a long personal and professional relationship. They had known each other for decades.
13 They had worked at the same law firm together. He knew Jeff Clark much better than I
14 did. And, you know, we discussed why Jeff Clark's name was coming up, why it was
15 coming from the President, why it was coming from this Congressman. And Jeff Rosen
16 said: Well, look, I am going to talk to Jeff Clark to find out what's going on here. We
17 got to get to the bottom of this.

18 So I think he had conversations with Jeff Clark earlier on the 28th. They
19 preceded this email, which came fairly late in the day. I did not talk to Jeff Clark before
20 this.

21 So, at 4:40, I received this email from Jeff Clark. I read it. I read the
22 attachment. I had to read it more than once to make sure I really understood what he
23 was proposing. And then I drafted a response. I don't know where Jeff Rosen was at
24 this point, but I went to his office, and he wasn't there. So I didn't get to discuss my
25 response with him before I sent it. But I sent it out. And then I saw him shortly

1 afterward, and he was very upset by Jeff Clark's request. And he said that he had
2 instructed one of his administrative support personnel to get Jeff Clark in his conference
3 room. He was -- he was a little angry. And he said: I want him down here. We
4 need to talk to this guy and find out what's going on.

5 So I think there's some emails that show up.

6 Q Yeah. And I don't want to jump ahead too much, Mr. Donoghue, because I
7 want to get to that conversation. But let's go back to Mr. Clark's email. The first thing
8 he asks of you is: I would like to have your authorization -- "you" meaning you and Mr.
9 Rosen -- to get a classified briefing tomorrow from ODNI led by DNI Ratcliffe on foreign
10 election interference issues. And he mentions activating the IEEPA and 2018 EO powers
11 about the Dominion machine access to the internet through a smart thermostat with a
12 net connection trail leading back to China. He is essentially asking if you can get a
13 briefing about this allegation of Chinese control of Dominion machines through a
14 thermostat. Did that strike you as odd, and what was your reaction to that specific
15 request?

16 A Yes, it struck me as odd. I won't go into details, but we received briefing
17 about what the IC, the intelligence community, knew about the election in advance.
18 This was inconsistent with what we had been told. And I had not heard anything about
19 smart thermostats and internet connections leading back to China and things like that.
20 So the whole thing struck me as very odd.

21 Q Yeah, and that Mr. Clark, the head -- acting head of the Civil Division is asking
22 for a classified briefing with the Director of National Intelligence about this allegation.
23 That also procedurally was odd?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Okay. He also then -- the second ask is this draft letter, which I believe is

1 attached to the email that he sends you and Mr. Rosen. And that letter is a draft letter
2 that you and Mr. Rosen and he, Mr. Clark, would sign to the Governor, the Speaker of the
3 House, and the president pro tempore of the Georgia legislature, essentially asking them
4 to stand down and not certify the results of their election. How did that request strike
5 you, and what did you do about it?

6 A It struck me as very strange and somewhat alarming. And, as I said, I had
7 to read it more than once to make sure I understood what he was proposing here. It
8 was completely inconsistent with the Department's role, generally. And it was
9 inconsistent with what our investigations, to date, had revealed. And so I think I made
10 my views known in the email response I sent to him.

11 Q Yeah, which we'll get to. To be clear, he asks that -- a version of this letter
12 be sent to each relevant State. So was his request to send this letter, drafted for
13 Georgia, not just to Georgia officials but to officials in other States where there had been
14 allegations of election fraud?

15 A Yes. That was my understanding of his proposal.

16 Q All right. He writes that he put it together quickly -- "it" being the
17 letter -- but other messages suggest that it may have been drafted by Ken Klukowski.
18 Do you know Ken Klukowski and what his role may have been within the Department's
19 Civil Division at that time?

20 A No. I don't.

21 Q Okay. Did you know whether or not Mr. Clark was talking to anyone else in
22 the Department about this letter or other election issues?

23 A No. I had no reason to think that.

24 Q All right. So you respond, Mr. Donoghue. We get to your response, which
25 is tab 11. You drafted a pretty comprehensive, specific response reflecting your

1 frustration on the 28th, just about a little over an hour later, at 5:50. I won't ask you to
2 read it to us, but just summarize for us your overall reaction and what's reflected in the
3 email.

4 A I tried to make it clear to him that this is not the Department's role. Again,
5 we don't do quality control for State elections. The States run the elections. We
6 investigate crimes, and we look at civil rights matters. So I tried to make it clear to him
7 that this is simply not our role, to recommend to the States what they do and, secondly,
8 that we have conducted investigations and that the factual claim he was making here was
9 simply not accurate. And so I reminded him that AG Barr had made public statements
10 on this point, less than a week prior, or, I guess, exactly a week prior was the last time he
11 had made some public statements, and that this was just completely unacceptable and
12 not anything that I would ever sign. And I know Jeff Clark -- or Jeff Rosen, rather, had
13 the same response.

14 Q You say in the first paragraph: There's no chance that I would sign this
15 letter or anything remotely like this. You sort of lead with the conclusion. You then, in
16 the first paragraph, challenge his factual assumptions. You said: The investigations
17 that I am aware of relate to suspicions of misconduct that are of such a small scale that it
18 would simply not impact the outcome of the election. AG Barr made that clear to the
19 public only last week, and I am not aware of intervening developments that would change
20 that conclusion.

21 So, setting aside whether it would be appropriate for the Department to tell a
22 State what to do, you're challenging -- is it fair to say you're challenging the factual basis
23 included in his letter to the State official?

24 A That's right. And he himself, Jeff Clark, would have no way of knowing
25 what investigations we had conducted or not because he was not involved in election

1 matters.

2 Q Right. You then, in the second paragraph, Mr. Donoghue, you say: I
3 cannot imagine a scenario in which the Department would recommend that a State
4 would assemble its legislature to determine whether already certified election results
5 should somehow be overridden by legislative action. This would be a grave step for the
6 Department to take and could have tremendous constitutional, political, and social
7 ramifications for the country.

8 Is that your sort of procedural response here that this is just not the Department's
9 role to be quality control for State elections and tell a State legislature what to do?

10 A Yes. That's the point I was making. Yes.

11 Q All right. So, when you and Mr. Rosen get this letter, you compose the
12 response. You indicated previously that Mr. Rosen essentially summons Mr. Clark up to
13 the 5th floor for a face-to-face meeting. Does that meeting then occur?

14 A Yes. He is on the 4th floor. But, yes, in the DAG conference on the 4th
15 floor.

16 Q Okay. So you are personally present, Mr. Donoghue, for that meeting
17 between Clark and Rosen?

18 A Yes. It was the three of us.

19 Q Tell us about the conversation there with Mr. Clark.

20 A Mr. Clark explained that he had been looking at some of these allegations on
21 his own, that he had information, that he had concerns about the reliability of the
22 outcome of the election. He mentioned this smart thermostat thing. It was clear that
23 he had been reading some affidavits that were attached to some of the civil filings in
24 some of the cases that were pending or already dismissed around the country. He had
25 various theories that seemed to be derived from the internet about why the outcome of

1 so when you joined at the President's invitation?

2 A That's right.

3 Q All right. And who was inside the meeting when you got there?

4 A When I entered the Oval Office, the President was behind the desk, and it
5 was Pat Cipollone, Pat Philbin, a White House lawyer named Eric Herschmann, Jeff Clark,
6 Jeff Rosen, Steve Engel, and then me.

7 Q Are you sure Mr. Herschmann was a White House lawyer?

8 A He was a lawyer who worked at the White House. I'm not -- initially I
9 thought he worked in the White House Counsel's Office, but I think later someone told
10 me that wasn't the case. I don't remember. His role was never clear to me. I know
11 he was a lawyer from New York. I know he had been a prosecutor at some point. But I
12 don't know what his title exactly was. I'd seen him in some meetings previously, but I
13 didn't know exactly what his role was.

14 Q Okay.

15 All right. And, again, no notes of this meeting. Is that right? You don't take
16 notes -- you were inside the Oval Office and, you indicated before, didn't take notes when
17 you were in discussions inside that office.

18 A No.

19 Q All right. Well, tell us what you remember, then, about the conversation.

20 What was the topic when you arrived, and how did it evolve from there?

21 A The meeting took about another 2-1/2 hours from the time I entered. It
22 was entirely focused on whether there should be a DOJ leadership change. So the
23 election allegations played into this, but they were more background than anything else.

24 And the President was basically trying to make a decision and letting everyone
25 speak their minds. And it was a very blunt, intense conversation that took several

1 hours. And Jeff Clark certainly was advocating for change in leadership that would put
2 him at the top of the Department, and everyone else in the room was advocating against
3 that and talking about what a disaster this would be.

4 Q What were Clark's purported bases for why it was in the President's interest
5 for him to step in? What would he do, how would things change, according to Mr. Clark
6 in the meeting?

7 A He repeatedly said to the President that, if he was put in the seat, he would
8 conduct real investigations that would, in his view, uncover widespread fraud; he would
9 send out the letter that he had drafted; and that this was a last opportunity to sort of set
10 things straight with this defective election, and that he could do it, and he had the
11 intelligence and the will and the desire to pursue these matters in the way that the
12 President thought most appropriate.

13 Q You said everyone else in the room was against this. That's Mr. Cipollone,
14 Mr. Philbin, Mr. Herschmann, you, and Mr. Rosen. What were the arguments that you
15 put forth as to why it would be a bad idea for him to replace Rosen with Clark?

16 A So, at one point early on, the President said something to the effect of,
17 "What do I have to lose? If I do this, what do I have to lose?" And I said,
18 "Mr. President, you have a great deal to lose. Is this really how you want your
19 administration to end? You're going hurt the country, you're going to hurt the
20 Department, you're going to hurt yourself, with people grasping at straws on these
21 desperate theories about election fraud, and is this really in anyone's best interest?"

22 And then other people began chiming in, and that's kind of the way the
23 conversation went. People would talk about the downsides of doing this.

24 And then -- and I said something to the effect of, "You're going to have a huge
25 personnel blowout within hours, because you're going to have all kinds of problems with

1 resignations and other issues, and that's not going to be in anyone's interest."

2 And so the President said, "Well, suppose I do this" -- I was sitting directly in front
3 of the President. Jeff Rosen was to my right; Jeff Clark was to my left. The President
4 said, "Suppose I do this, suppose I replace him," Jeff Rosen, "with him," Jeff Clark, "what
5 do you do?" And I said, "Sir, I would resign immediately. There is no way I'm serving
6 1 minute under this guy," Jeff Clark.

7 And then the President turned to Steve Engel, and he said, "Steve, you wouldn't
8 resign, would you?" And Steve said, "Absolutely I would, Mr. President. You'd leave
9 me no choice."

10 And I said, "And we're not the only ones. You should understand that your
11 entire Department leadership will resign. Every AAG will resign." I didn't tell him
12 about the call or anything, but I made it clear that I knew what they were going to do.

13 And I said, "Mr. President, these aren't bureaucratic leftovers from another
14 administration. You picked them. This is your leadership team. You sent every one
15 of them to the Senate; you got them confirmed. What is that going to say about you,
16 when we all walk out at the same time? And I don't even know what that's going to do
17 to the U.S. attorney community. You could have mass resignations amongst your
18 U.S. attorneys. And then it will trickle down from there; you could have resignations
19 across the Department. And what happens if, within 48 hours, we have hundreds of
20 resignations from your Justice Department because of your actions? What does that say
21 about your leadership?"

22 So we had that part of the conversation. Steve Engel, I remember, made the
23 point that Jeff Clark would be leading what he called a graveyard; there would be no one
24 left. How is he going to do anything if there's no leadership really left to carry out any of
25 these ideas?

1 I made the point that Jeff Clark is not even competent to serve as the Attorney
2 General. He's never been a criminal attorney. He's never conducted a criminal
3 investigation in his life. He's never been in front of a grand jury, much less a trial jury.

4 And he kind of retorted by saying, "Well, I've done a lot of very complicated
5 appeals and civil litigation, environmental litigation, and things like that." And I said,
6 "That's right. You're an environmental lawyer. How about you go back to your office,
7 and we'll call you when there's an oil spill."

8 And so it got very confrontational at points.

9 And Pat Cipollone weighed in at one point, I remember, saying, you know, "That
10 letter that this guy wants to send, that letter is a murder-suicide pact. It's going to
11 damage everyone who touches it. And we should have nothing to do with that letter.
12 I don't ever want to see that letter again." And so we went along those lines.

13 I remember Eric Herschmann chimed in several times, saying that, whatever Jeff
14 Clark wanted to do or thought he could do, there was no reason to think he could really
15 do it.

16 I remember saying at some point that, you know, Jeff wouldn't even know how to
17 find his way to Chris Wray's office, much less march in there and direct the FBI what to
18 do, and that, if you walked into Chris Wray's office, he wouldn't even know who you are.

19 So we had these conversations that went around and around and were very blunt
20 and direct. And that went on for 2-1/2 hours.

21 Q At one point, did the President disparage Mr. Rosen or talk about
22 Mr. Rosen's inaction or unwillingness to do anything about the election?

23 A He did say several times, "You two," pointing at Mr. Rosen and me, "You two
24 haven't done anything. You two don't care. You haven't taken appropriate actions.
25 Everyone tells me I should fire you," and things of that nature.

1 He came back to that at the very end when he decided against a leadership
2 change. And he announced that, and then he came back to that point and he said, "And
3 I know that these two here, they're not going to do anything. They're not going to fix
4 this. But that's the way it is, and I'm going to let it go anyway."

5 Q Did Mr. Cipollone say anything about what he would do with respect to a
6 potential resignation if the President made this change?

7 A He did at some point. I guess that was on the heels of us talking about how
8 there would be resignations in the Department. And I think Pat Cipollone said, "Well,
9 I'm not going to stand for this, I'm not going to be here if this happens either."

10 Q So he said he would resign or not stand for it, would not be here, if the
11 President made this change.

12 A Right.

13 Q Who, Mr. Donoghue, was, sort of, the primary advocate or voice against the
14 leadership change? Was it you personally, or was it sort of a consensus and everyone
15 was sort of equally chiming in? Or just give me a better sense as to, sort of, who was
16 doing most of the talking and was the most strenuous advocate.

17 A It was definitely a consensus. We were all on the same page except for Jeff
18 Clark. But we played different roles.

19 For one thing, Jeff Rosen was in a bad position because he was defending his own
20 job. So anything he said, obviously, was very self-interested. And so he wasn't in the
21 best position to make some of these arguments. And by demeanor, he just has a
22 different demeanor, as does Pat Cipollone, as does Steve Engel. So everyone played
23 their own role. My demeanor is more aggressive and more blunt, and so I played that
24 role.

25 And so everyone was on the same page, advocating for the same thing in very

1 different ways, and I think that had an impact on the President. I think he likes to see
2 that difference of view and different approach, and I think he lets people speak their
3 mind and fight it out in front of him before he makes a decision.

4 Q I mean, I've heard this meeting described sort of like an "Apprentice"-like
5 meeting, where there's a firing decision at the end. Is that a fair characterization?

6 A I can honestly say I've never seen 1 minute of "The Apprentice" in my life, so
7 I can't opine about that.

8 Q Fair enough.

9 Anyone else threaten to resign? Mr. Philbin or Mr. Herschmann or anyone else
10 who was present? Mr. Meadows?

11 A Meadows was not there.

12 Q I'm sorry, Mr. Meadows wasn't there. Excuse me. My mistake.

13 A Right. I don't remember if anyone else said anything specifically. I think
14 Pat Philbin and Pat Cipollone were always sort of viewed as a package deal, so --

15 Q Yeah.

16 A -- if I thought about it for a moment, I would've thought, if Cipollone is
17 leaving, Philbin's leaving too.

18 But it was more a matter of me saying, "You're going to lose your Department
19 leadership," and then Pat Cipollone stepping in and saying, "And, basically, you're going
20 to lose your White House counsel as well."

21 Q Yeah. Okay.

22 After, I believe, he makes the decision to stay the course and leave Mr. Rosen in,
23 does he then start talking about the U.S. attorney in Atlanta, Mr. Pak?

24 A I think that was actually before that.

25 Q Okay.

1 A I think the President really didn't announce his final decision until probably
2 about the last 15 minutes of the meeting.

3 Q Uh-huh.

4 A But somewhere in the middle of the meeting someone mentioned Atlanta,
5 and the President said, "Oh, yeah, Atlanta, Atlanta." And then he picked up a piece of
6 paper that was on his desk, and he started waving it. And he said, "No wonder nothing's
7 been found in Atlanta, because the U.S. attorney there is a Never Trumper."

8 And I had no idea what he was talking about. I said, you know, "Mr. President, I
9 don't know what you mean." And then he had this piece of paper, and he read a quote
10 from it that was purportedly from B.J. Pak, who was the U.S. attorney in Atlanta. It was
11 critical of the President.

12 And I didn't know where this quote came from. I had no idea what he was
13 talking about. But I just said, look, Mr. President, I don't even know what a Never
14 Trumper is, but I'll tell you, all your U.S. attorneys were vetted, and I doubt B.J. said
15 anything like that. But whatever it was, B.J. has been doing his job.

16 And he said, "No, no, no. He's a Never Trumper." He was very adamant about
17 that at that point. "This guy is a Never Trumper. He should never have been in my
18 administration to begin with. How did this guy end up in my administration?"

19 And then he said, "I want you to fire him," to me. I responded, "Mr. President,
20 I'm not going to fire him. There's no reason to fire him." And he said, "Well, then I'm
21 going to fire him." I said, "Well, you should just know, before you make that decision,
22 that he told me a couple days ago he was submitting his resignation on Monday," which
23 was the next day.

24 So, if you want to fire someone who's resigning -- and then Pat Cipollone stepped
25 in and said, "Well, that's ridiculous. The guy's resigning. We're not going to fire him."

1 And the President said, "Fine. I'm not going to fire him then, but when his
2 resignation comes in tomorrow, it's accepted immediately. Tomorrow's his last day as
3 U.S. attorney." And Pat said, "Fine. We'll deal with that later" and, sort of, took it off
4 the table.

5 Q Uh-huh.

6 A And then the President said, "What do you know about Bobby Christine?"
7 Bobby Christine was the U.S. attorney in the Southern District of Georgia. I was
8 surprised at the question. I didn't know where it was going. I said, "Bobby Christine is
9 an excellent U.S. attorney." He said, "Yes, that's what I've heard. I want Bobby
10 Christine to run the Northern District of Georgia."

11 I said, "Mr. President, Bobby Christine is already running the Southern District of
12 Georgia. B.J. will have a first assistant. When he leaves, the first assistant will step up
13 and be the U.S. attorney." He said, "No. I want Bobby Christine to do it, because if he
14 is really good the way people say, maybe he'll do the job."

15 And then he yelled for one of the administrative assistants to get Bobby Christine
16 on the phone. They did in very short order. Bobby ended up on the phone. He was
17 clearly confused as to what was going on.

18 The President said, "Bobby, this is President Trump. I'm sitting here with Rich,
19 Jeff, and some other people. I want to know, are you able to run the Northern District
20 of Georgia? Because B.J. Pak's going to be leaving."

21 And Bobby was clearly confused and said, "Mr. President, I can do whatever is
22 asked in that regard." He said, "Great, Rich will call you later and explain everything"
23 and hung up. And that was that.

24 So that was left as: B.J. was resigning the next day, his resignation would be
25 accepted same day, and Bobby would take over the Northern District of Georgia for the

1 remaining few weeks of the administration.

2 Q Did he saying anything more about Bobby Christine and why he thought
3 highly of him or thought that he would do something different than B.J. Pak had done?

4 A No, just that he had heard great things about Bobby. I knew that Bobby
5 was a one-star general in the -- I believe it was the Georgia National Guard. And so he
6 had long military history. I know that's something that the President favors. I don't
7 know if that played into his understanding or not.

8 Q Uh-huh.

9 All right. Anything else you remember, Mr. Donoghue, before the last
10 15 minutes, when he says, "Okay, I'm not going to do it, I'm not going to make a change"?
11 Any other name come up, subject matter discussed, or anything else that's noteworthy
12 about the 2-1/2-hour meeting?

13 A There was a lot there. It was certainly a rollercoaster ride of a meeting, so
14 I'm sure there are things I'm not remembering. I think at some point he had asked
15 about names of other U.S. attorneys. You know, what do you think of this guy? What
16 do you think of that guy? And I just said: Good U.S. attorneys, they're solid, they're
17 doing their job.

18 Q Uh-huh.

19 When he announced his decision, did he give a reason why he was not going to
20 follow through with the change to put Clark in as the Acting Attorney General?

21 A So, in about the last 15 minutes, after he'd heard everyone out extensively,
22 he said, "All right, I've heard everyone, and we're not going to do this."

23 He looked at Jeff Clark. He said, "I appreciate your willingness to do it. I
24 appreciate you being willing to suffer the abuse. But the reality is, you're not going to
25 get anything done. These guys are going to quit. Everyone else is going to resign. It's

1 going to be a disaster. The bureaucracy will eat you alive. And no matter how much
2 you want to get things done in the next few weeks, you won't be able to get it done, and
3 it's not going to be worth the breakage."

4 I think someone else had used that term earlier, maybe Pat Cipollone, "Is it really
5 worth the breakage?" And the President said, "It's not going to be worth the breakage
6 to make this change at this point."

7 Q Uh-huh.

8 A And he said again, "These two, I know, are not going to get it done. But
9 that is what it is at this point." He talked about how disappointed he was in us, but said
10 to Clark that, I'm just not going to do this.

11 At that point, Clark began trying to get the President to change his mind. He said
12 a number of things -- you know, history is calling, this is our opportunity, we can get this
13 done, and so on and so forth. And the President then just sort of doubled down and
14 said, "No, we're not going to do it."

15 Q Uh-huh.

16 A At that point, the President looked at me and said, "So now what happens
17 with him?", gesturing toward Jeff Clark. I didn't understand the question. I said, "Sir?"
18 And he said, "Are you going to fire him?"

19 I said, "No, I'm not going to fire him. I don't have the authority to fire him. He's
20 a Senate-confirmed Assistant Attorney General." And the President said, "Well, I'm not
21 going to fire him." I said, "Well, that's fine then, sir. We should all just go back to
22 work."

23 And we all got up and walked out of the Oval Office.

1 What you are doing there is more important. But if you can spare the time, get on these
2 calls so we can hear directly what's going on, on the ground.

3 That might have --

4 Q Is that what led to you --

5 A That might have been before the Chief of Staff called in the car. I can't
6 really remember.

7 Q And is that what led to you, essentially, leading the 18 -- the 1900 call?

8 A Yes. Both the 1800 call and the 1900 call, I was told in advance, at least in
9 one case by the DAG himself, that you're the senior official on the ground in terms of
10 civilian executive branch agencies. And, therefore, when we start this call, we're going
11 to turn it over to you to brief up what the situation is on the ground. And I did that both
12 in the 1800 and 1900 calls.

13 Q And I just want to turn to the page of your handwritten notes where you
14 state: Prepped for the 1800 call.

15 A Right.

16 Q Sorry, we've gone a little bit out of order, but it's completely fine.

17 So we talked about the 1900 call, and you told us what leadership was on that call.
18 I want to clarify in your notes for the 1900 call, it says POTUS and VP.

19 Was the President on that call?

20 A No, I never spoke to the President that day. He was not on any calls that I
21 was on.

22 Q Was there any attempt by the President to contact you that day?

23 A Not that I'm aware of.

24 Q Did you later learn that the President attempted to call you that day after --

25 A No. On January 6th? No, I never heard that the President tried to contact

1 me on January 6th.

2 Q And apart from Mr. Cipollone and Mr. Meadows, did any White House
3 official attempt to call you directly on January 6th?

4 A No. We had a call from the Situation Room, so that was operated out of
5 the White House, but there were no other officials reaching out to me that I'm aware of.

6 Q Who was in the Situation Room at the White House? Do you remember?

7 A I don't. This call, this 1800 call, this did not have the congressional
8 leadership on it. And I don't believe the Vice President was on that call either. It was
9 more of, I think, a law enforcement-level call.

10 Q If we could just go through what you briefed them on in that 1800 call, that
11 would be helpful.

12 A So these notes I have in exhibit 54 titled Prep for 1800 Situation Room Call, I
13 made these notes to myself a few minutes in advance of the 1800 call because I wanted
14 to make sure that I covered each of these points.

15 So I made this list with Dave Bowdich and Ashan Benedict and some of the Capitol
16 Police officers with me to make sure I wasn't missing any key information.

17 I ran through the list. I prepared it. When the 1800 call started out of the
18 Situation Room, they turned it to me first. That's why I have the first entry there as,
19 "See call prep notes." And I, essentially, read this list, and I briefed them on what the
20 situation was.

21 And then the call continued from there with other people chiming in about
22 perimeter fencing. General Hokansen, H-o-k-a-n-s-e-n, talked about the D.C. National
23 Guard role and things like that.

24 Q Before we move on from the 6 p.m. and the 7 p.m. call on January 6th -- and
25 just so I'm clear, you're still at the Capitol at that time. Is that right, Mr. Donoghue?