



James B. Comey, the F.B.I. director, and Adm. Michael S. Rogers testified on Monday before the House Intelligence Committee.

COMEY CONFIRMS INQUIRY ON RUSSIA AND TRUMP ALLIES

In Day of Testimony, F.B.I. Director Also Dismisses a Wiretapping Claim

This article is by **Matt Apuzzo, Matthew Rosenberg and Emmarie Huetteman.**

WASHINGTON — The F.B.I. director, James B. Comey, took the extraordinary step on Monday of announcing that the agency is investigating whether members of President Trump's campaign colluded with Russia to influence the 2016 election.

Mr. Comey's testimony before the House Intelligence Committee created a treacherous political moment for Mr. Trump, who has insisted that "Russia is fake news" that was cooked up by his political opponents to undermine his presidency. Mr. Comey placed a criminal investigation at the doorstep of the White House and said officers would pursue it "no matter how long that takes."

Joined by Adm. Michael S. Rogers, the director of the National Security Agency, Mr. Comey also dismissed Mr. Trump's claim that he was wiretapped by his predecessor during the campaign, a sensational accusation that has served as a distraction in the public debate over Russian election interference. Taken together, the two provided the most definitive statement yet that Mr. Trump's accusation was false.

The New York Times and other news organizations have reported the existence of the investigation into the Trump campaign and its relationship with Russia, but the White House dismissed those reports as politically motivated and rallied political allies to rebut them. Mr. Comey's testimony on Monday was the first public acknowledgment of the case. The F.B.I. discloses its investigations only in rare circumstances, when officials believe it is in the public interest.

"This is one of those circumstances," Mr. Comey said.

Mr. Comey said the F.B.I. was "investigating the nature of any links between individuals associated with the Trump campaign and the Russian government, and whether there was any coordination between the campaign and Russia's efforts."

Counterintelligence investigations are among the F.B.I.'s most difficult and time-consuming cases, meaning an investigation could hang over the Trump administration for years even though such inquiries rarely lead to criminal charges.

American intelligence agencies concluded in January that President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia personally ordered a covert effort

to hurt Hillary Clinton's chances and aid Mr. Trump. That included hacking political targets, including the Democratic National Committee, and releasing embarrassing emails through the website WikiLeaks.

The White House dismissed most of Mr. Comey's testimony, saying there was no coordination between the Trump campaign and Russia and so there was nothing to investigate. Sean Spicer, the White House press secretary, said the more pressing issue was who disclosed classified information about Mr. Trump's advisers to journalists, suggesting that they might have been former members of the Obama administration.

American officials have said that they have so far found no proof of collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia, but current and former officials say they have uncovered evidence

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Going Upstate To Lure Votes For Health Bill

By **THOMAS KAPLAN**
and **ROBERT PEAR**

WASHINGTON — House Republican leaders, trying to lock down the votes of wavering upstate New York Republicans, inserted a last-minute special provision in their health care bill that would shift Medicaid costs from New York's counties to its state government.

The move — one of a number of late changes designed to gain more votes — would affect New York State only. It could save county governments outside of New York City \$2.3 billion a year. But it could shift costs to state taxpayers or deny New York that same total in matching federal aid if the state continues to require those counties to contribute to the cost of Medicaid. Upstate New York Republicans, backed by local government officials, pressed for the measure over the angry opposition of New York's Democratic governor, Andrew M. Cuomo.

"The more we learn about the repeal and replacement for the Affordable Care Act, the sicker New

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Military Sticks With Obama Tactics on Terror

By **ERIC SCHMITT**

MARA, Chad — From Yemen to Syria to here in Central Africa, the Trump administration is relying on Special Operations forces to intensify its promised fight against the Islamic State and other terrorist groups as senior officials embrace an Obama-era strategy to minimize the American military's footprint overseas.

In Africa, President Trump is expected to soon approve a Pentagon proposal to remove constraints on Special Operations airstrikes and raids in parts of Somalia to target suspected militants with the Shabab, an extremist group linked to Al Qaeda. Critics say that the change — in one of the few rejections of President Barack Obama's guidelines for the elite forces — would bypass rules that seek to prevent civilian deaths from drone attacks and commando operations.

But in their two months in office, Trump officials have shown few other signs that they want to back away from Mr. Obama's strategy to train, equip and otherwise support indigenous armies and security forces to fight their own wars instead of having to deploy large American forces to far-flung hot spots.

"Africans are at war; we're not,"



Chadian soldiers with a Special Forces trainer, right, last week in N'Djamena. Trump officials want to support local armies.

said Col. Kelly Smith, 47, a Green Beret commander who fought in Iraq and Afghanistan and was a director of a counterterrorism exercise in Chad this month involving about 2,000 African and Western troops and trainers. "But we have a strategic interest in the success of partners."

Mr. Trump came to office without a clearly articulated philosophy for using the military to fight terrorist groups. He had promised to be more aggressive in taking on the Islamic State — even suggest-

ing during the presidential campaign that he had a secret plan — but had also signaled a desire to rein in the notion of the United States as the world's peacekeeper and claimed at various points to have opposed the ground invasion of Iraq.

Now, surrounded by generals who have been at the center of a decade-long shift to rely on Special Operations forces to project power without the risks and costs of large ground wars, he is choos-

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DAVID ROCKEFELLER, 1915-2017

A Banker on a Global Mission To Make the Most of His Name

By **JONATHAN KANDELL**

David Rockefeller, the banker and philanthropist with the fabled family name who controlled Chase Manhattan bank for more than a decade and wielded vast influence around the world for even longer as he spread the gospel of American capitalism, died on Monday morning at his home in Pocantico Hills, N.Y. He was 101.

A family spokesman, Fraser P. Seitel, confirmed the death.

Chase Manhattan had long been known as the Rockefeller bank, although the family never owned more than 5 percent of its shares. But Mr. Rockefeller was more than a steward. As chairman and chief executive throughout the 1970s, he made it "David's bank," as many called it, expanding its operations internationally.

His stature was greater than any corporate title might convey, however. His influence was felt in Washington and foreign capitals, the corridors of New York City

government, art museums, great universities and public schools.

Mr. Rockefeller could well be the last of a less and less visible family to have cut so imposing a figure on the world stage. As a peripatetic advocate of the economic interests of the United States and of his own bank, he was a force in global financial affairs and in his country's foreign policy. He was received in foreign capitals with the honors accorded a chief of state.

He was the last surviving grandson of John D. Rockefeller, the tycoon who founded the Standard Oil Company in the 19th century and built a fortune that made him America's first billionaire and his family one of the richest and most powerful in the nation's history.

As an heir to that legacy, David Rockefeller lived all his life in baronial splendor and privilege,

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David Rockefeller, in 1972, had a vast art collection.

UKRAINE The ex-Trump campaign chief Paul Manafort faces new questions. PAGE A10

Faster Internet for the Far-Flung

By **NICK CORASANITI**

HALCOTT, N.Y. — It's about 15 miles from here to a dairy testing facility in Roxbury, or about one hour and 20 minutes round trip if you know these dusty mountain back roads like Chris DiBenedetto, a dairy farmer. He has been going back and forth for years, ferrying a sample of fresh milk for a federally mandated drug test before he can start processing each batch.

But what stressed him the most were the valuable daylight farming hours lost to the journey, while he was stuck in his car or waiting for the results.

Now, Mr. DiBenedetto gives a sample to a driver heading that

way to do the drop-off, letting the new fiber wiring hanging over his old route do the simple document delivery for him via email.

The dairy farmer in this speck of a town about 140 miles north of New York City was one of the first beneficiaries of an ambitious initiative to extend broadband to every household in the state by 2018 — no matter how rural or far-flung the address — which would make New York the first state to reach that high-speed internet milestone.

For years, this town was like many isolated spots in New York and across the country, left sitting

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SCIENCE TIMES D1-8

New Leg Gets a Swim Test

A prototype of a prosthetic leg aims to allow amputees to move naturally in the water. Called the Fin, it is expected to be available in about six months. PAGE D1



INTERNATIONAL A4-11

Behind Europe's Far-Right Rise

In a sleepy Berlin suburb, a far-right party won over 22 percent of the vote in local elections — more than any other party. The Interpreter. PAGE A4

NATIONAL A12-20

Court Pick Reaches for Comity

As his Senate confirmation hearing began, Neil M. Gorsuch tried to place himself above politics. PAGE A20

Grim Scene in Cattle Country

Wildfires have swept across Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas, killing livestock and burning ranches. PAGE A12

OBITUARIES A24-27

Humble Champion of Writers

As a founder of The New York Review of Books, the editor Robert B. Silvers helped create one of the United States' premier intellectual journals, and its literary mystique. He was 87. PAGE A24

A Pillar of Postmodern Dance

The American choreographer Trisha Brown combined the cerebral and sensuous sides of dance in a way few others did. She was 80. PAGE A26



NEW YORK A21-23

Crimes Bear Fruit, and Cake

Some home burglars, unable to resist pausing for a snack, may leave behind evidence like a half-eaten apple or used cookware. Crime Scene. PAGE A21

SPORTSTUESDAY B7-11

Super Bowl Jersey Recovered

The F.B.I. is said to have tracked a jersey belonging to New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady to a journalist in Mexico City. PAGE B7

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David Leonhardt PAGE A29

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Chuck Berry, Memoirist

The rock-'n'-roller and connoisseur of pleasure packed his thoughts about intimacy, music and race into his autobiography, largely written in prison and published in 1987. A review. PAGE C1

