

Freedman, Andrew

From: Freedman, Andrew
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2019 12:21 PM
To: Scott Smullen - NOAA Federal
Subject: RE: Going for a record number of emails to you lately...

Ok, so we're getting close to confirming the NYT story from yday but need a bit more.

Do you know anyone who Neil may have talked to about the Sec. Ross call? DOC folks are either travelling with him and hard to reach or flat out denying in ways that are borderline lying (folks in DC).

Curious who Neil is close with at the agency in general. And if it's you... deep background is fine.

I mean, I guess at least John Bolton is having a worse day than I am. Kinda think he wouldn't have been fired if he had shaved the 'stache.

Best,
-A

From: Scott Smullen - NOAA Federal <scott.smullen@noaa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2019 11:20 AM
To: Freedman, Andrew <Andrew.Freedman@washpost.com>
Subject: Re: Going for a record number of emails to you lately...

CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER

I can't answer that question, but I am told this is the person who can. -s

Robert	Johnston	Federal	OIG	rjohnston@oig.doc.gov	(202) 482-1886
--------	----------	---------	-----	--	----------------

On Tue, Sep 10, 2019 at 8:10 AM Freedman, Andrew <Andrew.Freedman@washpost.com> wrote:

Hi Scott,

Good morning. Trying to confirm the existence of a DOC IG investigation. Have you been asked to preserve your email records concerning the Birmingham tweet and follow-up, including anything pertaining to the Friday stmt? This is on background.

DOC is denying the NYT's reporting, but I know those reporters and haven't found them to mess up much if at all. Trying to figure out who among NOAA politicals or DOC folks to get to to confirm Sec. Ross' directive.

In the meantime, will be reporting on Neil's speech this morning. He's in a really tough spot, kinda empathize with him, I have to say.

Ok, any info you can provide via email/phone/Signal/carrier pigeon would be appreciated. Am under a lot of pressure here to keep moving this reporting forward.

And when we do get a drink, let's keep it mostly a non-work convo.

All the best,
-Andrew

Andrew Freedman
Deputy Weather Editor
The Washington Post
Desk: 202-334-6812 | Cell & Signal: 617-257-1745
Follow me on Twitter: [@afreedma \[twitter.com\]](https://twitter.com/afreedma)
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/capital-weather-gang>

--

Scott Smullen
Deputy Director
NOAA Communications
202-482-1097 o / (b)(6) c