



We have been paying attention to the appointments made by the new administration in Washington. In February, **Trump has appointed the President's Intelligence Advisory Board (PIAB)**.

**The PIAB provides advice to the President concerning the quality and adequacy of intelligence collection, of analysis and estimates, of counterintelligence, and of other intelligence activities.** The PIAB hosts, so to speak, a smaller subset of individuals who form the Intelligence Oversight Board (IOB). This body gives advice to the President on the legality of foreign intelligence activities and oversees the Intelligence Community's compliance with the Constitution and all applicable laws, **Executive Orders, and Presidential Directives.**

You'll find at the end of this document the newly appointed members of the PIAB.

The most relevant issue to us is that there is just **one member who has field experience as a member of an intelligence agency**. She happens to be Amaryllis Fox Kennedy, daughter-in-law of the current Secretary of Health and Human Services, Robert Francis Kennedy. She worked as an undercover agent for eight years at the CIA. Since then she has worked as a journalist and writer.

There are **seven members who have had some political experience in intelligence**. All of them were appointed to some position at the Department of Home Security, the House Intelligence Committee or the National Security Council during Trump's first term. It means that **their expertise in this field is mainly political and limited**. And this is relevant because the PIAB is due 'to assist the President with an **independent source of advice** on the effectiveness with which the Intelligence Community is meeting the nation's intelligence needs, and the vigour and insight with which the community plans for the future'.

Therefore, we can conclude that the bunch of people appointed are **not professionally proficient in this field**. We wanted to emphasize that all of them have relevant paths of life, but not in the intelligence arena.

What is consistent in all of them is their **closeness and service to the Republican party** and to Trump specifically. Previous PIAB members served under different administrations, indicating that presidents sought to keep this body as bipartisan and independent as possible.

Only two of the appointees have a military background. Most of them have a successful life in the private sector. The main jobs are related to investment funds and consulting activities.

According to the activities they have carried out in their lifespan we get the following data:

Intelligence	Military	Business	Politics	Academia
0,8%	16,6%	75%	91,6%	25%

## CONCLUSIONS:

**The appointees lack independent judgment** in the field they are supposed to give advice. They are completely aligned with Trump's doctrine. **The US intelligence community will be managed from a political standpoint** and that's always hard to cope with if you are a professional in the field.



One of the main fields where members of the US intelligence community will be unsettled and will have to adjust is in **Russian counterintelligence**. FBI and CIA officials working in this field are likely to be overwhelmed by changes.

There are currently conversations in Turkey to improve bilateral relations between Russia and the United States. It is a spin-off of the encounter that took place in the United Arab Emirates, although at the time the target was Ukraine.

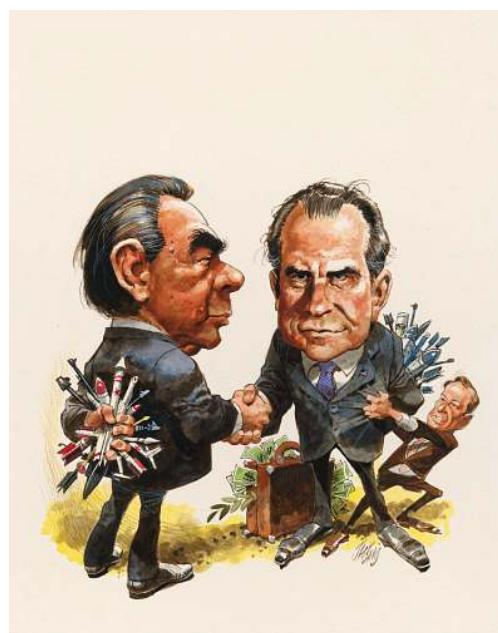
The approach of both administrations may also **create insecurity among Russian sources who have been cooperating with the US** to topple Putin's regime. It is also **a problem for the five eyes community**.

The PIAB will keep an eye on the performance of the US intelligence community, as well as the alignment of this community with Trump's political goals.

Trump is likely to allow an **increase in the presence of Russian diplomats on US soil**. Before the war in Ukraine and afterwards, the US has reduced the presence of Russian diplomats and members of Russian intelligence services. The FBI did an outstanding job detecting their activities, and now it is **uncertain whether all those efforts will have been in vain**.

The change of tide that Trump has brought has still many unknown and unforeseeable consequences in the field of intelligence and **relationships among traditionally allied services**. However, it should not be underestimated the resilience and long-term views that host the members of the US intelligence community. **They have weathered on several occasions, as they did during Trump's first mandate, situations where politicians tried to temper with their service to the citizens**. It is also likely that another Watergate might happen if Trump crosses certain red lines.

Trump is aware of this, and for that reason, he is actively working to remove directors and middle management officials whom he suspects of not adhering to the rules and directives he wants to impose. **This is a political purge, a cleansing operation that may eventually backfire against its own instigators**.



National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution; gift of Time magazine



Name	Intelligence	Military	Business	Politics	Academia	Notes
<b>Devin Gerald Nunes</b>	He chaired the House Intelligence Committee with Trump		He worked for a Trump company	R		He issued a memo in 2018 accusing the FBI of conspiring against Trump regarding the Russian connection
<b>Scott Glabe</b>	Current position		Lawyer	R		DHS's first Assistant Secretary for Trade and Economic Security
<b>Amaryllis Fox Kennedy</b>	Former CIA clandestine service				Developed an algorithm to predict terrorist activity (Georgetown University)	Daughter-in-law of RFK
<b>Brad Robert Wenstrup</b>		US Army Reserve		R		Iraqi Freedom
<b>Wayne Berman</b>			Blackstone group			Served at the White House
<b>Reince Priebus</b>			Michael Best & Friedrich LLP	WH chief of Staff/Trump		Served at the White House
<b>Robert O'Brien</b>	National Security Advisor/Trump	Major in the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the U.S. Army Reserve	American Global Strategies LLC		B.A. degree in political science, cum laude	He brokered the Abraham accords



<b>Joshua Lobel</b>	He also sits on the Board of Directors of the CIA Officers Memorial Foundation and the Advisory Board for the Center for Global Risk and Security at RAND		Co-Founder and Board Member at Red Cell Partners, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer at Milken Family Foundation, and Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer of M-Cor Holdings. He is also the Founder and former Co-Managing Partner of Archer Capital Management			
<b>Sander R. Gerber</b>	he served as a member of the Senior Advisory Group to the Director of National Intelligence from 2017-2019		Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer of Hudson Bay Capital		Gerber and Markowitz, in a landmark research paper published in The Journal of Portfolio Management, gave further validation to replacing historical correlation in the calculation of covariance with the Gerber Statistic.	He is a distinguished fellow at The Jewish Institute for National Security of America
<b>Katie Miller</b>	Deputy Press Secretary DHS			Communications Director and Press Secretary for former Vice President Mike Pence		
<b>Jeremy Katz</b>	He formerly served as a member of the President's Intelligence Advisory Board		President and Chief Operating Officer of D1 Capital Partners	Deputy Assistant to the President for Economic Policy and Deputy Director of the National Economic Council in 2018		



<b>Thomas Ollis Hicks, Jr.</b>			Founder, and Partner of Hicks Holdings LLC	In January 2018, Mr. Hicks was appointed by President Donald J. Trump to serve as a Commissioner on the American Battle Monuments Commission		Equity and oil industry related
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