Ambassador Michael McKinley

1. **Ambassador Michael McKinley served a long and distinguished career at the State Department for over four decades. However, Ambassador McKinley is not a key fact witness with no firsthand knowledge at the core of the Democrats' partisan impeachment inquiry.**

2. **Ambassador McKinley testified that although he served as the Senior Advisor to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo from May 2018 until his resignation on October 10, 2019, he had no firsthand knowledge related to the core issues at the focus of this inquiry. For example:**

   o McKinley was not aware of the July 25th telephone call between President Trump and President Zelensky, until it was publicly reported. [p. 19]

   o McKinley had no first-hand knowledge of Ukraine policy and had no visibility into Ukraine matters.

   o McKinley said he did not know enough of what Ambassadors Volker and Sondland were doing to say their activity was political. Anything he "knew" about their activity was from the press.

   o McKinley did not speak with anyone at the State Department about Giuliani ("Giuliani's name never crossed my lips."). [p. 35]

   o McKinley admitted he did not have all the information the 7th floor had (i.e., State Dept. leadership).

   o McKinley did not even know about the existence of HPSCI's September 9th letter to the State Department requesting documents related to Rudy Giuliani's involvement in Ukraine until he was asked about it in this interview.

3. **Ambassador McKinley testified that he was concerned about Yovanovitch's removal once news stories were published and did not confer or meet with Yovanovitch during the time of her removal in April or May 2019. Ambassador McKinley decided to raise his concerns to top State Department officials to support a statement of support with respect to the circumstances surrounding Yovanovitch's departure. However, Ambassador McKinley testified that the President of the United States has "every right" to remove an Ambassador. [p. 37]**

   Q. *And you said that the call record raised alarm bells for you. What did you mean by that?*
   A. *Simply the reference to the Ambassador in a disparaging form in the call transcript. It's as simple as that. When you're working overseas, every President has the right to remove an Ambassador they don't have confidence in. And this is standard, and it's part of Department practice ever since I've come in. So, whatever the rationale, Presidents have the right to remove ambassadors and select other envoys for the post in question.*

4. **Ambassador McKinley had no firsthand knowledge concerning the delay in U.S. security assistance to Ukraine that was ultimately provided on September 11, 2019. In fact, Ambassador McKinley testified that delays in aid are not uncommon.**

Q. And that period of time, the middle of July to the beginning of September, is a number of weeks, but ultimately the aid was released, and that is representative of what happens sometimes. Isn't that fair to say?
A. I'd say that release of assistance is irregular pattern around the world. [p. 149]

5. **Ambassador McKinley praised Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's work at the State Department.**
   A. And he [Secretary Pompeo] does deserve credit for rebuilding the institution, processes, creating opportunities, and frankly, ambitions for the Foreign Service. [p. 70-71]

6. **Ambassador McKinley testified that he was planning to resign from the State Department later in 2019 but decided to expedite his departure because of concerns of State Department's alleged treatment of some Foreign Service employees and potential use of U.S. Ambassadors for domestic politics abroad. However, Ambassador McKinley raised his concerns minimally and briefly.**

7. **Ambassador McKinley would not draw a conclusion about what was being discussed in the July telephone conversation between Presidents Trump and Zelensky (i.e., whether President Trump was asking for political assistance from Zelensky). He declined to concur with the Democrats that President Trump was trying to get Zelensky to dig up political dirt on an opponent.**