

## **Russian Federation Is Now A Criminal Matter, Senators Say After 'Sobering' Brief**

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But they both agree former FBI Director Robert Mueller was the right choice serve as special counsel into possible meddling by Russian Federation in the recent president election.

Yet they still weren't satisfied. In addition, Comey wrote a memo detailing Trump's comments to him in February saying "I hope you can let this go", referring to the Flynn probe, a source who saw the memo said on Tuesday.

"The Intelligence Committee in the Senate has to continue its work, and it should continue full throttle ahead", Minority Leader Chuck Schumer said after the briefing.

But **Rosenstein** contradicted the White House's original explanation, according to some Democratic senators. Nonsense, said Roger Pilon, founding director of the Center for Constitutional Studies at the Libertarian-leaning Cato Institute.

**Rosenstein's** decision to appoint former FBI Director **Robert Mueller** as special counsel has been well-received by senators, though Graham said "there are a lot of people in that room who were shocked that when a special counsel has been appointed that Congress has limitations on what we can do". Sessions did announce in March that he would recuse himself from the Russian Federation investigation.

"We still have questions and we'll be outlining those in the days ahead", Casey said.

"With all of the illegal acts that took place in the Clinton campaign & Obama administration, there was never a special counsel appointed" he said, having misspelled counsel in a previous tweet which was quickly deleted.

Rep. Adam Schiff of California, the top Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, concurred.

Who knows where this saga will lead today, but **Rosenstein** made the right move in turning this over to an independent prosecutor. But Mueller's appointment apparently took some of the edge off.

The appointment won **Rosenstein** wide praise from Republicans and Democrats. "That is politics", said Sen. "But I trust Mueller".

For now at least, the Russian Federation probes are the purview of Mueller and the congressional Intelligence committees.

"Sometimes you have to be careful what you ask for, because when you get it, all of a sudden you can't get answers to things because now it's an active investigation", he said.

His argument: Congressional interviews and hearings could inadvertently harm or complicate the criminal investigation. The firm says there are no potential conflicts regarding Mueller's role as special counsel, Berman said. Lindsay Graham, R-S.C., a senior Senate Judiciary Committee member.

"Congress has been pretty much sidelined".

"He's been a prosecutor", said Neronha. Risch has expressed more anger with the leaks than what they reveal. That affair involved the Reagan administration selling arms at high prices to Iran in exchange for Iran exerting its influence to help gain the release of American hostages held in Lebanon.

The White House released a statement from Trump after the appointment was made, which said the probe would find there was no collusion between his campaign and a foreign entity. North was granted congressional immunity to testify, a move that ultimately hurt the court case against him.

He did not offer any evidence of such acts in his reference to former Democratic President Barack Obama and former presidential candidate Hillary Clinton.

"There needs to be a relationship with that investigation where they can say with confidence, 'This really is a problem for us, ' or 'Hey, we'd rather you didn't do it, but it's not a problem, ' " Blunt said.