

Clinton Campaign Manager Testifies Hillary Personally Authorized Russia Hoax Against Trump

Hillary Clinton personally agreed to release information to a reporter in the 2016 presidential campaign about a supposed connection between Donald Trump's campaign and a Russian bank, even though the Clinton team wasn't completely confident the story was true.

That was the testimony Friday from Robby Mook, who was Clinton's former presidential campaign manager in 2016.

Mook made that statement during the criminal trial of Clinton campaign lawyer Michael Sussmann. The Sussmann case is part of Special Counsel John Durham's inquiry into what actually happened during the Russiagate investigation of the Trump campaign that year.

Sussmann, 57, is charged with lying to the FBI during a meeting at which he presented the bureau's top lawyer with data that purported to show mysterious contact between computer servers of a Russia-based bank and Trump's company, the Trump Organization, although the Clinton campaign says it never authorized Sussmann to meet with the bureau.

If proven, that information would have been significant, given that the FBI at the time was investigating whether the Trump campaign and Russia were coordinating to sway the outcome of the election.

But when the FBI examined the data, it found no secret back channel and nothing suspicious.

Mook also testified that he talked with Clinton campaign aides John Podesta, Jennifer Palmieri and Jake Sullivan, who now is President Biden's White House national security adviser, about giving the information to a reporter, before discussing the matter with Clinton, who agreed to the decision.

One of the campaign's staffers sent the information to a reporter at Slate magazine, recognized as a Left-leaning online news website.

Slate published a story containing the allegations on Oct. 31, 2016, about the supposed Trump-Russian bank links. Clinton tweeted her campaign's press statement from Sullivan the same day, writing, "Computer scientists have apparently uncovered a covert server linking the Trump Organization to a Russian-based bank."

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– Hillary Clinton (@HillaryClinton) October 31, 2016

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