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## Cohen public testimony highlights

Michael Cohen, the former long-time fixer and personal lawyer for President Donald Trump, asked nearly eight hours of questions Wednesday from all 42 members of the House Oversight Committee.But in some cases Cohen's testimony raised more questions than answers - particularly regarding President Trump's legal exposition. Here are five moments from Wednesday's blockbuster hearing that could have potential consequences going forward. Cohen claims that Trump was involved in an undisclosed illegal act and that SDNY legal experts have long been investigating that one of the biggest potential threats to President Trump's political career and business empire is not the investigation of special attorney Robert Mueller into Russian interference in the 2016 election, but with federal prosecutors in the southern district of New York.Michael Cohen , president Donald Trump's former personal lawyer. , is sworn to testify before a House Oversight and Reform Commission hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C, February 27, 2019.In his testimony Wednesday, Cohen teased an unknown illegal or illegal act he claimed President Trump had committed, but said he could not give details because of the ongoing investigation led by the Manhattan prosecutor's office. Asked by Rep Raja Krishnamoorthi, D-III.if there is any other unlawful or illegal act you know about Donald Trump that we haven't discussed yet today, Cohen replied that he was aware. yes, he said, and again, they're part of the investigation that's currently being analyzed by the Southern District of New York. Cohen added that he is in constant contact with the Southern District of New York regarding the ongoing investigations. The Attorney General's Office for the Southern District of New York had no comment on Cohen's testimony. Trump was aware of the publication of WikiLeaks before he dropped emails, Cohen claims. An anecdote about President Trump's alleged communication during the campaign with Roger Stone, a former campaign adviser, could shed new light on the candidate's knowledge of an imminent recall that changed the course of the election. Pedestrians walk past a news banner in Times Square, New York, as they refer to Michael Cohen, President Donald Trump's former personal lawyer, after testifying before Congress, February 27, 2019. I was in Mr. Trump's office when his secretary announced that Roger Stone was on the phone, Cohen said. Mr. Stone told Mr. Trump that he had just called with Julian Assange and that Mr. Assange had told Mr. Stone that in a few days there would be a series of emails that would affect Hillary Clinton's campaign. Mr. Trump responded, Cohen, saying it wouldn't be great. The revelation, if true, could fundamental public understanding of what Trump knew about WikiLeaks plans and when. Trump has previously said he was not aware of the WikiLeaks plans and that both Trump and Stone had said they had never discussed the WikiLeaks plans. Stone denied Cohen's memory of the event on Wednesday. Cohen accused Trump of fraud? Cohen spent more than a decade as one of President Trump's closest business advisers, and on Wednesday offered a look at how the real estate magnate would have manipulated the value of his assets for his own benefit. In a line of questions posed by Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., Cohen described how he claimed that Trump tried to obtain tax deductions by reducing the value of his golf properties. Deflate the value of the asset and you have filed an application with the tax department for a deduction, Cohen.Rep. said. Ocasio-Cortez also pressed Cohen if Trump provided inflated assets to an insurance company.. yes, Cohen said. Cohen appointed Allen Weisselberg, the U.S. CFO, and other company executives as potential corroborators of his claims. Last year, U.S. prosecutors granted Immunity, the Trump Organization's chief financial officer in Cohen's investigation, sources previously told ABC News.Weisselberg was subpoenaed in August to appear before a jury hearing before a grand jury that presented federal prosecutors in the Southern District of New York. ABC News reported. Cohen detailed Trump's involvement in silence money paymentsThe delay took another turn Wednesday when Cohen revealed new information about an adult cash payment by stormy actress Daniels, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford.Rep. Mark Meadows asks Michael Cohen, President Donald Trump's former lawyer, while testifying before the House's Supervisory and Reform Committee on February 27, 2019.In his opening statement, Cohen said Trump promised to repay Daniels' \$130,000 payment during a visit to the White House. . shortly after Trump's inauguration. Imagine this scene - in February 2017, a month after his presidency, I visit President Trump in the Oval Office for the first time. It's really awe-inspiring, Cohen said, and he told me something to the effect of... Don't worry, Michael, January and February refund checks are coming. Cohen later revealed that Trump tried to coordinate public messages about payments in February 2018.Trump instructed Cohen during a phone call to say he didn't know my repayments and didn't know my actions, Cohen said, referring to with money. Trump publicly denied that he was aware of payments before his lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, later confirmed - in May 2018 - that Trump had repaid Cohen for the \$130,000 payment. Doru, I'm going to have Trump denies that the affair with Daniels ever took place. Cohen reveals two lawyers who reviewed their 2017 letter to CongressIn his opening statement Wednesday, Cohen said one of Mr. Trump's personal lawyers had revised and edited my statement to Congress on the timing of the Moscow Tower negotiations before I gave it. The contents of this letter eventually became the basis for Mueller's indictment against Cohen for lying to Congress.During the interrogation, Cohen revealed that the two lawyers who reviewed the letter were Jay Sekulow, President Trump's current lawyer, and Abbe Lowell, a high-powered lawyer in Washington who represents both Ivanka Trump , as well as Jared Kushner.In a statement late Wednesday, Sekulow rejected Cohen's suggestion that he had edited or changed the letter. Michael Cohen's testimony today that the president's lawyers edited or changed their statement in Congress to change the duration of the negotiations at Trump Tower Moscow is completely false, Sekulow said. Lowell was not immediately available to comment. Cohen pleaded guilty in November to lying to Congress to determine whether Trump and his company pursued the Moscow housing project while Trump secured the GOP nomination in 2016. Michael Cohen, who has worked as president of President Trump and personal lawyer for 10 years, testified Wednesday before the House of Representatives Watchcommittee: Cohen told the committee that Trump is becoming an autocrat, adding that the Trump Organization has been immersed in a culture of threatening people - sometimes physically - that could pose a threat to Trump. Every day, most of us knew we were coming and that we were going to lie for him on something. And that became the norm. .... That's exactly what's going on here in government, sir. Cohen's hearing began with Rep. Mark Meadows (R-N.C.) unsuccessfully moving to postpone the hearing because Cohen did not present his testimony 24 hours in advance. Following his opening statement, Cohen described in detail how he, President Trump and The Trump Organization's Chief Financial Officer, Allen Weisselberg, have repeatedly discussed how Trump will repay payments to Stormy Daniels.Cohen confirmed that Trump had advanced that Wikileaks was going to take down the Democratic National Committee's emails before the 2016 election. He said Trump welcomed the release, but could not say whether Trump knew the specific content of the emails. Cohen testified that Mr. Trump's desire to win would make him work with anyone. Asked if Trump would have the potential to cooperate or work with a foreign power to The presidency, Cohen replied: Yes. Cohen fought back against a characterization of Rep. Jim Jordan (R-Ohio) that he was unhappy because he was not offered a job in the White House: I was extremely proud to be the president's personal lawyer. .... I didn't mean Go to the White House. ... Shame on you, Mr. Jordan. Asked about his claims that Trump made racist comments, Cohen said he had no evidence to support his accusations. Cohen said, however, that he had recorded about 100 conversations in 10 years. Cohen said he was in constant contact with the Southern District of New York regarding the ongoing investigations and had asked him not to speak about his most recent conversation with Trump because he is currently under investigation. He also said he had spoken to Special Counsel Robert Mueller's office seven times. Asked if Trump tried to influence his testimony during a meeting prior to his appearance before the House Intelligence Committee, Cohen said: It's difficult to answer because he doesn't tell you what he wants. What he does is, Michael - there is no Russia, there is no collusion, there is no involvement, there is no interference. I know what he means because I've been around him for so long. Cohen testified that during a statement, Trump either misled or lied under the circumstances that he didn't know Felix Sater, who worked with Cohen on the Trump Tower Moscow project and had an office on the same floor as Trump in Manhattan.Cohen repeated that either on July 18 or July 19, 2016, Roger Stone Trump called Trump and told him on his speaker phone that he had just finished a call with Julian Assange. which he said would be a massive dump of emails that would seriously affect the Clinton campaign. The leaked DNC emails were published on July 22. Addressing a critical component of the infamous Steele File, which claims that Cohen traveled to Prague to meet with Kremlin officials in 2016, Cohen testified that he had never been to Prague or the Czech Republic.Cohen testified that Trump had probably asked him about 500 times over the course of 10 years to threaten an individual on his behalf. , either through litigation or by other means. Cohen confirmed that he hired someone to rig online presidential polls for Trump in 2014 and that Trump directed him to do so. Cohen told Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez that Trump inflated the value of his assets for insurance purposes and deflated them to obtain tax deductions. He said Trump's Chief Financial Officer, Allen Weisselberg, is aware of the practice. Go deeper: deeper:

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