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Nunes Ally Kash Patel Who Fought Russia Probe Gets

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Patel was one of the leading staffers pushing back against FBI investigations of Trump-Russia. He's now senior director of the National Security Council's terrorism directorate.

Betsy Swan Updated Jul. 31, 2019 5:11AM ET
Political Reporter Published Jul. 31, 2019 5:10AM ET



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A former congressional staffer who worked feverishly to discredit the Russia investigation has recently been promoted on the National Security Council staff.

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Trump associate has taken on the role of Senior Director of the Counterterrorism Directorate of the National Security Council (NSC), according to two sources familiar with the move.

Earlier this year, Patel left Capitol Hill for the NSC's Directorate of International

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counterterrorism—has not previously been reported. A spokesperson for the NSC declined to comment.

The vast majority of Hill staffers stay studiously out of the news. But Patel drew national attention in early 2018, when Nunes oversaw the production and release of a memo on surveillance of Trump campaign advisor Carter Page. The memo

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gathering practices. But it was a watershed moment for the right's critics of the Mueller probe and of senior DOJ leadership.

The memo was part of a broader effort from Nunes to investigate the origins of the FBI's counterintelligence probe into the Kremlin and

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the-investigators picked up steam as the public's understanding of Russia's 2016 interference skyrocketed. Many saw the effort as a way to run interference for the Trump administration, and Nunes' decision to make a late-night visit to the White House early in the process only raised suspicions.

But in other quarters, Nunes

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news broke months ago of his departure from the Hill.

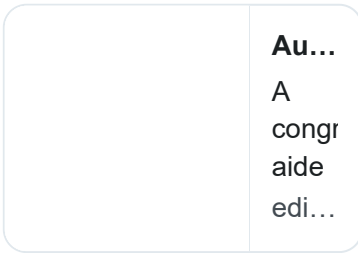


Carter Page, Ph
@carterwpage

When the history of the Democrats' corrupt interference in the last Presidential election is written, Kash Patel should be remembered

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Patel also sparred with Rod

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Sean Hannity's Fox News show, Fox contributor Sara Carter said Rosenstein issued "direct threats" to Patel, in an effort "to keep these people quiet, to keep the American people from hearing the truth." But Rosenstein denied under oath that he threatened committee staff.

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Rosenstein stepped down from the DOJ and returned to private life. Nunes lost his post as chairman when Democrats flipped the House. Mueller, after marathon Congressional testimony, returned to civilian life. And now Patel has moved from countering the Deep State to counterterrorism.



Betsy Swan
Political Reporter

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'Counterpunch' After Slaying of Soleimani

| 'REAL JEOPARDY' |

The consequences may not come quickly or directly. But they could be enormous.

Christopher Dickey, Adam Rawsley, Erin Banco

Updated Jan. 03. 2020 10:56AM ET

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revenge,” said an Iraqi official as word spread in Baghdad on Thursday night that the Iranian general Qassem Soleimani had been killed in an American airstrike. But there is little question, the official added, that U.S. relations with Baghdad are in “real jeopardy.”

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they could be enormous. At their most dire, this strike may be the beginning of a much wider war in the Middle East—perhaps even the all-out war with Iran that Trump has said he wants to avoid.

In a tweet early Friday, Trump sounded a bellicose note: “Iran never won a war, but never lost a negotiation!”

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