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Rod Rosenstein Federal Bar lunch. A slow rolling thread.
RR eating lunch. Up in a few minutes. There will be
opportunity for questions.

Lunch is well attended. Barr Pres first message ... Don't attack the process.



We are now giving awards for service to the legal community , ethics and collegiality.
We spend a lot of time on that kind of thing, because it matters.

RR bio. First job for Mueller. Second for Ginsberg. Then back under Mueller.

RR is up.



Dean of U Balt Law School is asking questions. Jokes that offered him job as professor of 25th amend.

?1, how is state of rule of law? RR it's good, but a "very skewed" view in press and public.

?2 But POTUS putting pressure on rule of law, disturbing? Respect judges, respect process, "it's not my function to criticize politicians". DOJ officials shouldn't do that.

?3 Fair elections and foreign interference - have we done enough? Yes, prosecutions only one part. Combat done behind scenes, that part IS going on. Robust operation to protect deter.

Voting: elections are state and local, we are working with makers of machines, this is key to confidence in vote.

RU indict is about election INFLUENCE op, as opposed to changing votes. DOD working on that.

?4 Did you consider stepping down? Wife asked him at one point if he was fired. Threats against him not a factor. Mueller was independent and shielded from political pressure.

?5 Share AG Barrs statements? No comment on internal deliberations. He agreed

with ultimate conclusions. HE AGREES WITH MUELLER'S letter stating that Barr letter was inaccurate.

?6 Deadpan face at Barr presser? "Can you imagine if I'd done anything else?"

?7 Resignation letter. Trump was courteous. Won't comment on Trump tweets. "I hope so" that a message was sent about rule of law, and about former AG Jackson.

On Robert Jackson, former AG - this has happened before, and we have principles that we must follow even when fires rage outside the DOJ.

Will you testify? Sure, but why? Congress should do its job. Stop harassing everyone. "Everyone knows the investigation was interfered with in an inappropriate way"

DAG's job much more than the RU investigation. Appoint competent people like Mueller ... Let them do their job. Can't focus on one case no matter how important.

My job is to defend US electoral process. Not his problem if US did something somewhere. That's "whataboutism"

I asked my questions, will discuss answer in a bit. Hard to tweet while talking

Just had a question about Jonathan Livingston seagull: RR's point. Live your life without concern about what others are saying. Surround yourself with good people. Go from there.

Ok, my ? was whether cut outs like WikiLeaks were intended to be part of "Russian government" in SC Mueller appointment letter. His answer will take a couple of tweets.

1. Assange investigation was in and remained in EDVA throughout. [@LouiseMensch](#)
Not clear if WikiLeaks is same as Assange for that purpose

2. Under special counsel regs, appt letter not that important in defining scope. Once appointed, SC has flexibility to pursue as needed. Fluid discussion between RR and Mueller re: scope.

3. Public confused that letter used "links and coordination" and did not specify crime. Crime not needed, they already knew about multiple crimes at time of letter

4 Not DOJ policy to announce we are investigating person x for crime y - we knew what we were doing

End for now

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