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‘Not one decent cell in his body’



Newly released correspondence with the late Jeffrey Epstein show the degradation of his relationship with President Donald Trump, in which he called Trump “borderline insane.” STEPHANIE KEITH/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Epstein trashed former friend Trump in emails

Josh Meyer
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – “Dirty.” “(Expletive) crazy.” “Borderline insane.” A Mafia don but with the “great dangerous power” of being America’s president and commander-in-chief.

That’s how the late Jeffrey Epstein described his former longtime friend and confidant Donald Trump, according to a trove of the convicted sex offender’s texts and emails released Nov. 12 by the House Oversight Committee.

But perhaps the most intriguing thing Epstein said about Trump in the

20,000-plus pages of emails provided by his estate was this:

“I am the one able to take him down.”

The White House and Trump himself tried to spin the document release – and a later one by Republicans – as being a giant nothingburger.

On Nov. 14, Trump said on social media he was asking the Department of Justice to investigate Democrats he says “spent large portions of their life” with the disgraced financier: “Bill Clinton, Larry Summers, Reid Hoffman, J.P. Morgan, Chase, and many other people and institutions.”

At the same time, Trump railed

against Republicans working with Democrats to force the full release of Epstein’s federal case files, and urged them to stop digging into his relationship with the disgraced financier.

“Some Weak Republicans have fallen into their clutches because they are soft and foolish. Epstein was a Democrat, and he is the Democrat’s problem, not the Republican’s problem!” Trump wrote. “Ask Bill Clinton, Reid Hoffman, and Larry Summers about Epstein, they know all about him, don’t waste your time with Trump. I have a Country to run!”

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Proposed rule to restrict students, media visas

University, industry groups oppose restrictions

BrieAnna J. Frank
USA TODAY

President Donald Trump this week ignited a wave of criticism from conservatives when he suggested the United States needed a path for highly skilled foreign workers to enter the country.

Trump’s comments on the H-1B visa program echo the perspective of business leaders but have been controversial among members of his base who want a more hard-line approach to immigration.

At the same time, the Trump administration has been quietly pushing a series of new restrictions on other visas targeting students and foreign journalists, raising a different set of concerns for some over the future of academic and press freedom.

A proposed Department of Homeland Security rule would change existing policy by granting visa holders with F, J or I classifications – academic students, exchange visitors and members of foreign media – admission to the United States for a fixed time period. Such individuals are currently permitted to stay indefinitely as long as they abide by the terms of their visa.

If the new rule, first outlined in August, is implemented, foreign students and exchange visitors would be allowed to stay in the United States for the duration of their programs, up to four years. Foreign journalists would be authorized to stay in the United States for up to 240 days with the exception of those from China, who would be permitted up to 90 days in the country.

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Poll: Limited support for military action on drugs

51% of Americans oppose killings of suspects

Jason Lange and Matt Spetalnick
REUTERS

WASHINGTON – Only 29% of Americans support using the U.S. military to kill suspected drug traffickers without a judge or court being involved, a rebuke of President Donald Trump’s strikes in the Caribbean and eastern Pacific Ocean, a Reuters/Ipsos poll found.

The six-day poll, which closed on Nov. 12 as Washington continued a military buildup around Latin America that has focused especially on Venezuela, showed 51% were opposed to the killings of drug suspects and the rest were unsure where they stood.

In a sign of division within Trump’s party, 27% of Republicans in the poll opposed the practice, while 58% supported it, with the rest unsure. Three quarters of Democrats opposed the practice compared to one in 10 who supported it.

The Trump administration has ordered at least 20 military strikes in recent months against suspected drug vessels in the Caribbean and off the Pacific coasts of Latin America, killing at least 79 people.

Human rights groups including Amnesty International have condemned the strikes as illegal extrajudicial killings of civilians, and some U.S. allies have expressed growing concerns that Washington may be violating international law.

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As the United States military has killed numerous people allegedly running drugs in the Caribbean, local fishermen say they are nervous, and some have altered their fishing routes due to not wanting to be mistaken for a drug boat.

JOE RAEDLE/GETTY IMAGES FILE

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