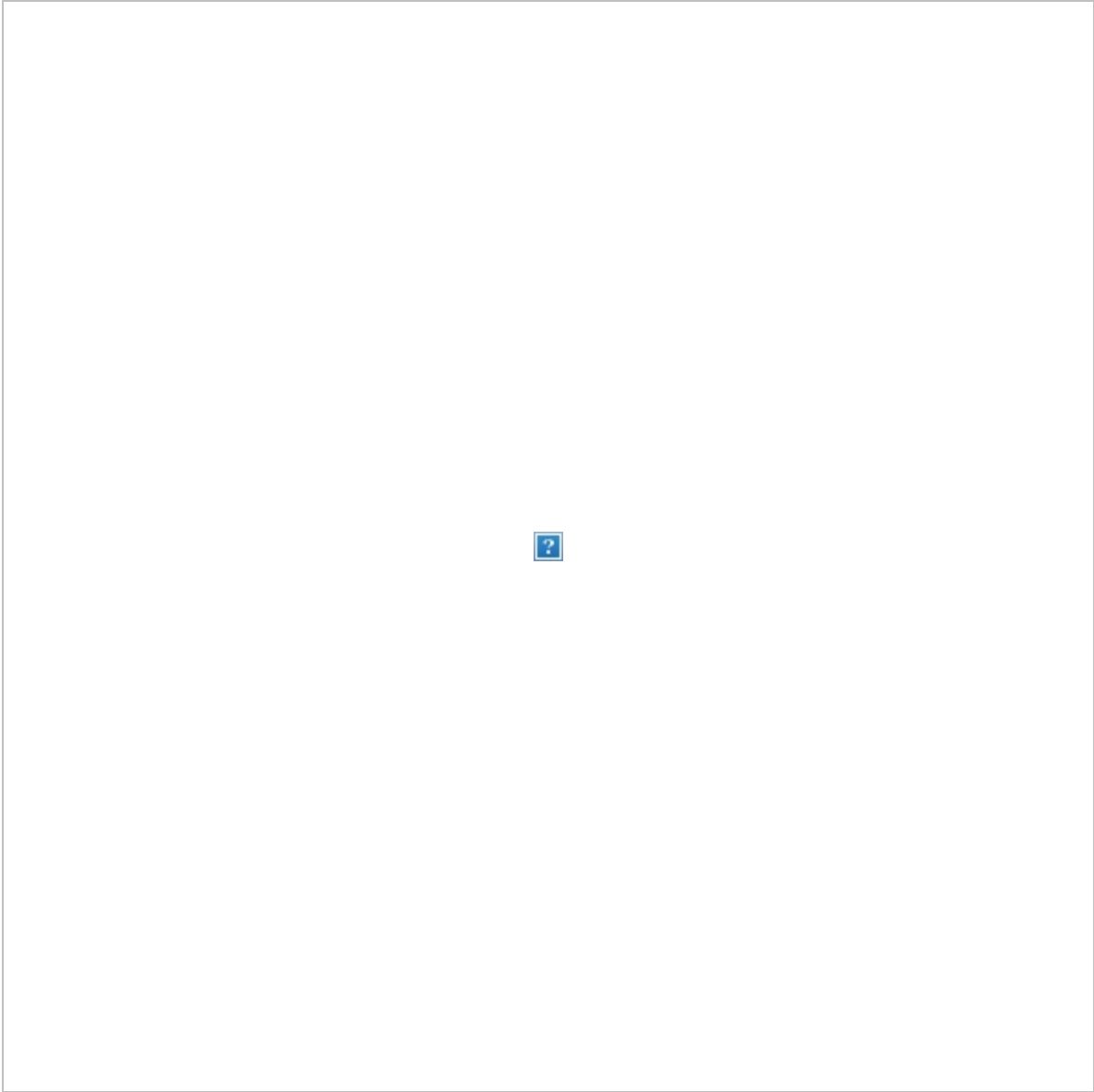


The New York Times

From: The New York Times
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2019 1:51 AM
To: scott.smullen@noaa.gov
Subject: Your Tuesday Briefing





The New  York Times

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Good morning.

We're covering **the extraction of a prized C.I.A. informant** from Russia, more fallout from **Hurricane Dorian forecasts** related to Alabama and **a high-end cake theft**.



By Chris Stanford

A C.I.A. spy tale in Russia

For decades, the agency had an informant in the Russian government who eventually gained access to the highest level of the Kremlin.

The source, who became one of the C.I.A.'s most important and highly protected assets, was instrumental to the agency's conclusion that President Vladimir Putin orchestrated Russia's interference in the U.S. presidential election in 2016.

But when intelligence officials revealed details about the election interference, [the C.I.A. decided to extract the source from Russia](#). The informant initially refused that offer, but was extracted in 2017, hampering intelligence officials as they investigated Moscow's interference in the next two election cycles.

How we know: Our article is based on interviews with current and former officials who agreed to discuss classified information if their names were not used. Officials did not disclose the identity or location of the informant, whose life remains in danger.

Cabinet official is said to coerce scientists

Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross [threatened to fire employees at the agency responsible for weather forecasts](#) after its Birmingham office contradicted President Trump's claim that Hurricane Dorian might hit Alabama, according to people familiar with the discussion.

The agency, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, later issued an unsigned statement disavowing the National Weather Service's position that Alabama was not at risk. NOAA is a division of the Commerce Department and oversees the weather service.

Response: The Commerce Department said, "Secretary Ross did not threaten to fire any NOAA staff over forecasting and public statements about Hurricane Dorian." A spokesman declined to comment on whether Mr. Ross had spoken with the NOAA administrator or ordered the agency to rebut the statement contradicting Mr. Trump.



John Bercow, the speaker of the House of Commons, on Monday. Announcing his resignation, he said, "We degrade this Parliament at our peril." UK Parliament TV, via EPA

Britain's Parliament shuts down, but not quietly

In an extraordinary breakdown of protocol, opposition lawmakers shouted, "Shame on you!" early this morning as [the House of Commons was suspended until mid-October](#), shortly before the Brexit deadline.

The suspension was the result of earlier political maneuvering by Prime Minister Boris Johnson, who has suffered what one of our correspondents in London called “one of the most abysmal starts any British leader has ever endured.”

Mr. Johnson, who has yet to win a vote as prime minister, was stymied on Monday as lawmakers [rejected his bid to hold a national election](#) and blocked him from withdrawing the country from the European Union without a deal.

What’s next: Mr. Johnson had hoped that an electoral victory before Oct. 31, the current Brexit deadline, would empower his government to push through a withdrawal. His aides have suggested that the government is now looking for loopholes to avoid asking Brussels for an extension.

Related: John Bercow, the speaker of the House of Commons, became a celebrity of the Brexit era with his shouts of “Order!” He announced on Monday that [he would resign next month](#).



Syrian refugees waited last month to return to their country at a border crossing in Turkey. Mauricio Lima for The New York Times

A haven for refugees is sending them home

Turkey has for years welcomed millions of migrants fleeing the war in Syria, but President Recep Tayyip Erdogan [is now trying to resettle them in Syrian territory](#) controlled by the U.S. and its Kurdish allies, whom Mr. Erdogan considers a security threat.

The other powers involved in the war have not wholly supported the idea, but Mr. Erdogan has said that, without access to the territory, he would “open the gates” for refugees to head into Europe.

Background: The policy change comes after Mr. Erdogan’s party lost the Istanbul mayoral election in June. A deepening recession, soaring

unemployment and inflation have also stoked anti-Syrian feeling among Turks.

If you have 13 minutes, this is worth it

The life of Tina Turner



Charlie Gates for The New York Times

The 79-year-old became a star with Ike Turner in her 20s, escaped his abuse in her 30s, fought her way up the pop charts in her 40s and toured the world through her 60s. Now she would like to sleep in.

“I don’t sing. I don’t dance. I don’t dress up,” [she told The Times in an interview](#) to discuss “Tina: The Tina Turner Musical,” which opens on Broadway next month.

Here’s what else is happening

Taliban talks: President Trump [said negotiations with the militant group](#) to try to ease violence in Afghanistan “are dead.”

Warning for Juul: The e-cigarette company [illegally marketed its products](#) as less harmful than traditional cigarettes, the Food and Drug Administration said. The agency sent a warning letter to Juul amid [an increase of vaping-related illnesses](#).

North Korean launch: The country [fired two projectiles today](#), hours after proposing to reopen denuclearization talks with the U.S. It was North Korea’s eighth test launch since July.

Money for college sports stars: A bill in California that would [allow](#)

[amateur athletes to make endorsement deals](#) is expected to reach the desk of Gov. Gavin Newsom.

N.R.A. files suit: [The National Rifle Association sued San Francisco](#), days after the city declared the group a terrorist organization.



Library of Congress (left, center); Bettmann Archive/Getty Images (right)

Snapshot: Above, from left: the Flatiron Building circa 1902, the Woolworth Building circa 1912 and the Empire State Building circa 1930. Using photographs, The Times retraced [the golden age of New York skyscrapers](#).

Cake theft: A lawsuit filed by the high-end bakery that produces the Instagram-friendly Mille Crêpes cake accuses a former delivery driver of [stealing and reselling more than \\$90,000 of cakes](#).

Late-night comedy: [The hosts all responded](#) after President Trump announced that he had canceled talks with the Taliban. Seth Meyers said, “My first thought was, ‘I don’t know, I’ll believe it when I hear it from the Taliban.’”

What we’re watching: [This video from the Missouri Farm Bureau](#). Ana Swanson, our Washington-based trade reporter, calls it “a triumph of low-budget production and farmers’ tans” aimed at passing a revised trade deal.

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Now, a break from the news



Julia Gartland for The New York Times

Cook: [Turkey chili](#) comes together in about half an hour. (Our [Five Weeknight Dishes newsletter](#) has more recommendations.)

Listen: “[Welcome to the Party](#)” was one of hip-hop’s songs of the summer, and its creator, the 20-year-old New York rapper Pop Smoke, is just getting started, [our critic writes](#).

Read: Some of this year’s most anticipated books, including those by Margaret Atwood, Malcolm Gladwell and Stephen King, are being released today. [Here are our critics’ reviews](#).

Go: The Brooklyn Historical Society archives had included very little about Muslims. Now [dozens of oral histories form the basis of a new show](#).

Smarter Living: Sometimes [we all need an honorary auntie](#). Children who don’t have involved extended family still deserve to have special, supportive people in their lives.

And skin care masks aren’t just for faces. ([They’re also for your derrière](#).)

And now for the Back Story on ...

The N.B.A. logo

Jerry West, the former Los Angeles Lakers star, was [awarded the Medal of Freedom](#) last week, the second retired basketball star President Trump has honored.

Mr. Trump simply called him Jerry, but around the N.B.A. he’s known as “the Logo.”

In 1969, J. Walter Kennedy, the N.B.A. commissioner, asked a brand consultant, Alan Siegel, to come up with a new logo modeled after Major

League Baseball’s minimalist red-and-blue one. Mr. Siegel [combed through the Sport magazine photo archive](#) and seized on a photograph of Mr. West dribbling. He traced it.



See the resemblance? Stephen Lam/Reuters

Fifty years later, the result endures — though the N.B.A. has never acknowledged it.

Mr. West, who has one N.B.A. championship as a player and eight as an executive, would really prefer not to have the attention, or the logo.

“It’s flattering,” [he said on ESPN](#) a couple of years ago. “But if I were the N.B.A., I would be embarrassed about it. I really would.”

A correction: [Monday’s briefing](#) misstated the discovery date of the spread made of yeast extract that was later produced as Marmite. It was in the 1800s, not 1902.

That’s it for this briefing. See you next time.

— Chris

Thank you

Mark Josephson and Eleanor Stanford provided the break from the news. Kevin Draper, our sports business reporter, wrote today’s Back Story. You can reach the team at briefing@nytimes.com.

P.S.

• We’re listening to “[The Daily](#).” Today’s episode is about the collapse of talks between the U.S. and the Taliban.

- Here's today's [Mini Crossword](#), and a clue: Music genre characterized by guitar on the offbeat (three letters). [You can find all our puzzles here.](#)
- The Times reporters Jodi Kantor and Megan Twohey [appeared on the CBS show "Sunday Morning"](#) to discuss their new book about Harvey Weinstein, "She Said: Breaking the Sexual Harassment Story That Helped Ignite a Movement."

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