

TRUMP IMPEACHED

BECOMES THIRD PRESIDENT TO FACE TRIAL IN SENATE



PETE MAROVICH FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

President Trump denounced his Democratic accusers during a rally on Wednesday in Battle Creek, Mich. "There's no crime," he said.

After Bitter Fight, House Adopts Charges of Abuse of Power and Obstruction

By NICHOLAS FANDOS and MICHAEL D. SHEAR

WASHINGTON — The House of Representatives on Wednesday impeached President Trump for abuse of power and obstruction of Congress, making him the third president in history to be charged with committing high crimes and misdemeanors and face removal by the Senate.

On a day of constitutional consequence and raging partisan tension, the votes on the two articles of impeachment fell largely along party lines, after a bitter debate that stretched into the evening and reflected the deep polarization gripping American politics in the Trump era.

Only two Democrats opposed the article on abuse of power, which accused Mr. Trump of corruptly using the levers of government to solicit election assistance from Ukraine in the form of investigations to discredit his Democratic political rivals. Republicans were united in opposition. It passed 230 to 197, with Speaker Nancy Pelosi gaveling the vote to a close from the House rostrum.

On the second charge, obstruction of Congress, a third Democrat joined Republicans in opposition. The vote was 229 to 198.

The impeachment votes set the stage for a historic trial beginning early next year in the Senate, which will have final say — 10 months before Mr. Trump faces re-election — on whether to acquit the 45th president or convict and remove him from office. The timing was uncertain, after Ms. Pelosi suggested late Wednesday that she might wait to send the articles to the Senate, holding them out as leverage in a negotiation on the terms of a trial.

Acquittal in the Republican-controlled chamber may be likely, but the proceeding is certain to further aggravate the political and cultural fault lines in the country that Mr. Trump's presidency has brought into dramatic relief. Regardless of the outcome, the impeachment votes in the House put an indelible stain on Mr. Trump's presidency that cannot be wiped from the public consciousness with a barrage of tweets or an angry tirade in front of thousands of his cheering supporters at a campaign rally.

On Wednesday, Democrats characterized his impeachment as an urgent action to stop a corrupt president whose misdeeds had unfolded in plain view from damaging the United States any further.

"Over the course of the last three months, we have found incontrovertible evidence that President Trump abused his power by pressuring the newly elected president of Ukraine to announce an investigation into President

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McADAMS	Y	MURPHY	Y
McBATH	Y	MURPHY	Y
McCARTHY	N	MURPHY	Y
McCAUL	N	MURPHY	Y
McCINTOCK	Y	MURPHY	Y
McCOLLUM	Y	MURPHY	Y
McEACHIN	Y	MURPHY	Y
McGOVERN	Y	MURPHY	Y
McHENRY	Y	MURPHY	Y
McKINLEY	N	MURPHY	Y
McNERNEY	Y	MURPHY	Y
MEADOWS	N	MURPHY	Y
MEeks	N	MURPHY	Y

ERIN SCHAFF/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Voting on the second article.

'Lev and Igor': Putting Ukraine On the Agenda

This article is by Michael Rothfeld, Ben Protess, William K. Rashbaum, Kenneth P. Vogel and Andrew E. Kramer.

On a warm summer evening last year, Lev Parnas stepped aboard a private cruise around New York Harbor for a gathering of some of Rudolph W. Giuliani's closest friends.

The passengers sipped wine and cocktails while they sailed past the Statue of Liberty, singing along as another guest, the entertainer Joe Piscopo, belted out "Theme from New York, New York." Mr. Giuliani, a personal lawyer to President Trump, relaxed on the open deck in a bright blue polo shirt as the sun set over Lower Manhattan, a video of the event shows.

The August 2018 cruise, won in a charity auction, came at a pivotal moment in Mr. Giuliani's relationship with Mr. Parnas and his associate Igor Fruman, both Soviet-born businessmen from Florida who were among the newest entrants to his circle.

Mr. Parnas had recently struck up a friendship with Mr. Giuliani while recruiting him for a business deal, but now they were on the verge of something bigger: teaming to unearth damaging information on Mr. Trump's political rivals.

In the coming months, Mr. Parnas and Mr. Fruman helped Mr. Giuliani carry out a shadow diplomacy campaign, sweeping them

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NEWS ANALYSIS

A Crossroads for a Nation in Tumult

By PETER BAKER

WASHINGTON — For the most unpredictable of presidents, it was the most predictable of outcomes. Is anyone really surprised that President Trump was impeached? His defiant disregard for red lines arguably made him an impeachment waiting to happen.

From the day he took office, Mr. Trump made clear that he would not abide by the conventions of the system he inherited. So perhaps it was inevitable that at some point he would go too far for the opposition party, leading to a historic day of debate on the House floor where he was alternately depicted as a constitutional villain or victim.

The proximate charge as Democrats impeached him for high crimes and misdemeanors on party-line votes Wednesday night was the president's campaign to pressure Ukraine to help him against his domestic political rivals while withholding security aid. But long before Ukraine consumed the capital, Mr. Trump had sought to bend the instruments of government to his own purposes even if it meant pushing boundaries that had been sacrosanct for a generation.

Over nearly three years in office, he has become the most polarizing figure in a country stewing in toxic politics. He has punished enemies and, many

argue, undermined democratic institutions. Disregarding advice that restrained other presidents, Mr. Trump kept his real estate business despite the Constitution's emoluments clause, paid hush money to an alleged paramour and sought to impede investigations that threatened him.

His constant stream of falsehoods, including about his dealings with Ukraine, undermined his credibility both at home and abroad, even as his supporters saw him as a challenger to a corrupt status quo subjected to partisan persecution.

Impeachments come at times of tumult, when pent-up pres-

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Rally Becomes 'A Good Time' To Vent Anger

This article is by Michael Crowley, Annie Karni and Maggie Haberman.

BATTLE CREEK, Mich. — President Trump angrily responded to the impeachment he had long been dreading on Wednesday, lashing out at his Democratic accusers in a rambling two-hour speech and calling for their defeat in November.

Moments after the House passed two articles of impeachment against him, he told a campaign rally in a state he won in 2016 that is crucial to his re-election that the vote was an attempt to "nullify the ballots of tens of millions of patriotic Americans."

But in his mostly unscripted remarks, Mr. Trump claimed he was enjoying himself.

"They said there's no crime," he said. "There's no crime. I'm the first person to ever get impeached and there's no crime. I feel guilty. It's impeachment lite."

He paused before adding, "I don't know about you, but I'm having a good time."

His rejoinder presented the remarkable image of a combative president standing unbowed before his core supporters even as he became the third in American history to be impeached.

But more often he seemed embittered, mocking the physical appearance of his rivals, attacking the news media, calling a female protester a "slob" and a "disgusting person," and suggesting that

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In Washington, The Abnormal Feels Routine

By MARK LEIBOVICH and KATIE ROGERS

WASHINGTON — It's not as if anyone was expecting a normal Wednesday to materialize on Capitol Hill. Presidents don't get impeached every day, just like they generally don't write six-page harangues charging Democrats with "declaring open war on American Democracy" (that was Tuesday) or tweet that Speaker Nancy Pelosi's "teeth were falling out of her mouth" (that was Sunday).

This is what Washington is dealing with now: the daily acceptance that whatever notions of normal and not normal that used to exist have been scrambled beyond recognition. It has been like this for nearly three years.

Still, Wednesday — a clear and cold December morning — hit with a special punch. It was one of those "step back" days when history stands out from the pile of routine chaos. The 45th president of the United States would be impeached on Wednesday. Even in a nonstop news cycle, that's a full-stop sentence. "Impeachment" can't be brushed off like a subpoena.

It's happened only twice before. President Trump seemed especially haunted by the "very ugly word, impeachment," as he put it in his letter to the Democrats. He likened his coming impeachment to an "attempted coup," an "election-nullification scheme" and a "lynching," among other things.

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Speaker Nancy Pelosi during the voting. She called it "tragic" that impeachment was necessary.

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Breeding Hollywood's Future

Rideback Ranch, a communal workspace for creative talent, aims to develop new film and TV ideas. PAGE B1

Fallout for Boeing Suppliers

Boeing's move to halt production of the Max jet could force cutbacks or layoffs for some of its 600 suppliers. PAGE B1



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Abandoned by U.N. Troops

Fathered by peacekeepers in Haiti, hundreds of children were left behind with their mothers to face poverty and social stigma, a study says. PAGE A6

Seoul Returns 2 Men to North

The North Koreans face likely execution. Before trying to defect, they killed 16 people on their fishing boat. PAGE A9

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Michael Kimmelman asks if new architecture can help heal what ails the city's troubled prison system. PAGE C1

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Health Mandate Struck Down

A federal appeals court sent the case back to a federal district judge in Texas to determine if other parts of the Affordable Care Act can stand. PAGE A21

Gloves Off, Now Taking Heat

Pete Buttigieg's stock in the presidential race didn't rise until he attacked his top rivals. He may face payback. PAGE A22

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Silent Night, Sustainable Night

You want festive décor, but also want to save the planet. Here's how to make the holiday season eco-friendly. PAGE D1

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LeBron James and James Harden are flirting with statistical achievements of the Wilt Chamberlain variety. PAGE B9

Bird of Prey, With Health Care

A top-flight hospital in Doha, Qatar, has a special clientele: falcons only. And the lines can get long. PAGE B9



SPECIAL SECTION

Curtain Falls on Iron Triangle

Willetts Point, a Queens neighborhood of squalid streets lined with auto repair shops near Citi Field, La Guardia Airport and the National Tennis Center, finally seems about to be tamed.

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