





The Internet Research Agency Indictment

Robert S. Mueller, III, Special Counsel to the U. S. Department

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No topic has dominated the news cycle since the 2016 election than the Russian meddling and its influence. The interference took place on several fronts: hacking the emails of the Democratic National Committee, probing election infrastructure, and sowing disinformation and discord through social media. On February 16, 2018 the Office of the Special Counsel filed an indictment outlining the activities of a Russian organization known as the Internet Research Agency that employed about 80 people in flooding social media platforms Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube with pro-Trump and anti-Clinton propaganda to the tune of \$1.25 million per month. Thirteen individuals and three organizations are named. They stole and fab-

ricated identities, supported rallies, and produced and placed ads in a coordinated and systematic manner. Some traveled to the U. S. and infiltrated political organizations. The 37-page indictment documents these activities in striking, granular detail and provides the most complete picture of the agency's workings. The indictment document is read in full in this audiobook, which also contains a PDF copy of the document. Many people may not have the time or inclination to read it, but may well be able to find a little over an hour to listen to the recording of the *Internet Research Agency Indictment* and find out just what the talking heads are talking about.

Robert S. Mueller, III was appointed on May 17, 2017 to serve as Special Counsel to the U. S. Department of Justice to investigate "any links or coordination between Russian government and individuals associated with the campaign of President Donald Trump and any matters that arose or may arise directly from the investigation". Ironically, he had interviewed with Trump the day before to again run the FBI. Mueller, a lifelong Republican, served as the sixth director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation from 2001 until 2013. Born in 1944and raised in Princeton, New Jersey, he attended St. Paul's School, Princeton University, and served as a Marine Corps officer during the Vietnam War, earning Bronze Star and Purple Heart medals. After graduating from law school at the University of Virginia he worked in private practice and then for the U. S. Justice Department as Assistant U. S. Attorney, U. S. Assistant Attorney General and Acting U. S. Deputy Attorney General before his tenure at the FBI. He is considered by most to be an outstanding public servant with impeccable credentials, unimpeachable character and a model of integrity.