

Trump Therapy 11.2 -- Unprincipalled

Submitted by Paul_Lukasiak on Mon, 01/30/2017 - 2:14pm

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Sean Spicer just claimed that there was no "downgrading" when Trump decided that the Director of National Intelligence and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff were excluded as permanent members of the National Security Council Principals Committee.

Spicer pointed to the [2001 memo](#) [3] organizing the Principals Committee, which did not, in fact, include the DNI* or CJCS.

The Director of Central Intelligence and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall attend where issues pertaining to their responsibilities and expertise are to be discussed.

But Spicer completely ignored the fact that, [the 2009 memo](#) [4] included both the DNI and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs in the Principals Committee

The NSC Principals Committee (NSC/PC) will continue to be the senior interagency forum for consideration of policy issues affecting national security, as it has been since 1989. The National Security Advisor shall serve as Chair, and **its regular members will be** the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Defense, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, the Chief of Staff to the President, **the Director of National Intelligence, and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff** .

What is amazing is how transparent Spicer's lie was. By pointing only to the 2001 memo (while earlier citing the 2009 memo on a different issue), Spicer made it obvious that he was leaving out key information.

*DNI did not exist in 2001. The CIA director was and "invited member" to the Principals Committee.





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