

1 President Trump. Mr. Morrison said that he had a sinking feeling after learning about  
2 this conversation from Ambassador Sondland.

3 According to Mr. Morrison, President Trump told Ambassador Sondland he was  
4 not asking for a quid pro quo, but President Trump did insist that President Zelensky go to  
5 a microphone and say he is opening investigations of Biden and 2016 election  
6 interference and that President Zelensky should want to do this himself.

7 Mr. Morrison said that he told Ambassador Bolton and the NSC lawyers of this  
8 phone call between President Trump and Ambassador Sondland.

9 The following day, on September 8th, Ambassador Sondland and I spoke on the  
10 phone. He confirmed that he had talked to President Trump, as I had suggested a week  
11 earlier, but that President Trump was adamant that President Zelensky himself had to  
12 clear things up and do it in public. President Trump said it was not a quid pro quo. I  
13 believe this was the same conversation between Ambassador Sondland and President  
14 Trump that Mr. Morrison had described to me on September 7th.

15 Ambassador Sondland also said that he had talked to President Zelensky and Mr.  
16 Yermak and had told them that, although this was not a quid pro quo, if President  
17 Zelensky did not clear things up in public, we would be at a stalemate. I understood a  
18 "stalemate" to mean that Ukraine would not receive the much-needed military  
19 assistance.

20 Ambassador Sondland said that this conversation concluded with President  
21 Zelensky agreeing to make a public statement in an interview on CNN.

22 Shortly after that call with Ambassador Sondland, I expressed my strong  
23 reservations in a text message to Ambassador Sondland, stating that my nightmare is that  
24 they, the Ukrainians, give the interview and don't get the security assistance. "The  
25 Russians love it. (And I quit.)" And I was serious.