

ABC's *Good Morning America*

05/16/23

7:00:49 a.m. [TEASE]

9 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: FBI Under Fire; New Fallout From Scathing Report]

LINSEY DAVIS: FBI under fire. The few fallout from the scathing report on the agency's handling of the origins of the Russia investigation into former President Trump.

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7:08:47 a.m.

2 minutes and 44 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: New This Morning; FBI Under Fire Over Trump Russia Investigation; Special Counsel's Report Slams Agency's Conduct]

DAVIS: Turning now to the FBI. The final report made public by John Durham, the special counsel appointed by former President Trump's Attorney General, Bill Barr. Durham was investigating the origins of the FBI's Russia investigation. His 300 page report very critical of the FBI. Our chief Justice correspondent Pierre Thomas has been tracking this. Good morning, Pierre.

PIERRE THOMAS: Linsey, good morning. Despite four years of investigations, the special counsel did not find much new. His report affirms failures by the FBI and, today, the FBI is again acknowledging that serious mistakes were made and saying that reforms have been put into place to keep these kinds of failures from happening again. This morning, a blistering assessment from the special counsel investigating the origins of the Russia investigation into Donald Trump, slamming the FBI. Special Counsel John Durham, appointed by Donald Trump's attorney general, Bill Barr, concluding that at the time the investigate eight was launched, "neither U.S. law enforcement nor the Intelligence Community appears to have possessed any actual evidence of collusion." Durham also alleges that the FBI was cavalier about the accuracy and completeness of their work. Among what Durham calls his sobering findings, that the FBI relied on the so called Steele Dossier, a memo produced by a former British spy for a law firm representing the Hillary Clinton campaign, a dossier which Durham said was "full of rumor and speculation." The report's findings track closely with some of the damning conclusions about the FBI from the DOJ inspector general report from 2019.

CHRISTOPHER WRAY [in 2019]: There are actions described in this report that I consider unacceptable.

THOMAS: But that report ultimately concluded that the investigation into Trump was justified.

DONALD TRUMP [on 07/27/16]: Russia, if you're listening, I hope you're able to find the

30,000 e-mails that are missing.

THOMAS: Durham's investigation, which cost more than \$6.5 million, falls far short of proving that there was a deep state conspiracy against Trump. Durham only convicted one lower level FBI official of misconduct in pursuing an electronic surveillance warrant, and two major trials ended in acquittal. Despite all the investigation, not a single high level law enforcement or intelligence official was convicted of a crime. And those who believe the Russia investigation was justified point out that Special Counsel Bob Mueller did find numerous texts between Trump associates and the Russian government which did interfere in the 2016 election and there was that meeting in Trump Tower in 2016 attended by a Russian attorney claiming to have dirt on Hillary Clinton. In attendance, Trump's campaign manager, Paul Manafort, and members of Trump's family. Michael?

MICHAEL STRAHAN: All right. Thank you so much for that, Pierre.