

NEWS & POLITICS

Timeline: Trump Was Still Speaking When the Capitol Riot Began, But the Left Blamed Him Anyway

BY VICTORIA TAFT JAN 15, 2021 9:12 PM ET



AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin

This week's impeachment of President Trump was done under the pretext that he urged people attending the Save America rally to riot at the Capitol Building. There's no evidence that [the president's words](#) urged riot or unrest, as I pointed [out at PJ Media](#). In fact, [there are things he said](#) that [mitigated against the claim](#) that he urged people to crash the Capitol Building, scare people, and break things. But could President Trump have stopped it? Our timeline shows the president was still on stage and speaking when the clash at the Capitol started.

PJ TRENDING

The Morning Briefing: Andrew Cuomo Should Be in Prison for His COVID-19 Lies

Ted Cruz Eviscerates Legacy Media's 'Gotcha!' Attack

Janice Dean on Cuomo, Whitmer, Newsom: 'I Believe All of Them Should Go to Jail'

PJ EDITOR'S CHOICE

FLASHBACK: Biden Compared Trump to Goebbels, Used Hitler in a Campaign Ad

The World Goes on While America Sleeps

If Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene Is the Standard, What About Democrat 'Kingmaker' Rev. Al Sharpton?



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orders bad for America?

VOTE NOW

Indeed, it's possible the siege could have been averted had the Capitol Police taken the advice of the FBI and NYPD monitoring the chatter of the [QAnon conspiracy](#) theorists [planning the assault](#) and responded with increased security. The lax security was observed by a shocked senior analyst at the [Center for Security Policy](#).

Oddly, the Washington [field office of the FBI](#) did not consider the rally a security threat.

But the president is blamed for the outburst of violence. Is that blame justifiable?

Some suggest that questioning the election results and then holding the rally itself were bad ideas, but President Trump did not urge the crowd to violently overthrow the Capitol Building in his speech. He talked of a peaceful march. Considering there had been little or no violence caused by his supporters at rallies before (antifa has started plenty of scraps), and that he had not been briefed about QAnon online chatter, according to media reports, should the president have reasonably known there would be violence?

We might find some answers in the timeline. This timeline is based on reports and the Twitter timelines of people chronicling the events. All times are Eastern.

The Date for the Event Is Set

12/22: The date for the Save America rally [is moved to 1/6](#) from the day after the inauguration. January 6th is the date the Electoral College votes are to be counted

Two Days Before 1/4/2021

WUSA reports the rally is permitted but a march by the Women for America [group is not](#). It's possible another group has a permit to conduct a march.

One Day Before 1/5/2021

Proud Boys [organizer Enrique Tarrio](#) is banished from D.C. for stealing a Black Lives Matter banner. Tarrio's black.

Antifa (ShutDownDC) challenges Proud Boys to a fight.



ELIJAH SCHAFFER ✓
@ElijahSchaffer



Heads up: popular riot instigating group "ShutDownDC" deleted their post challenging Proud Boys to fight them while also appearing to dox individuals in public

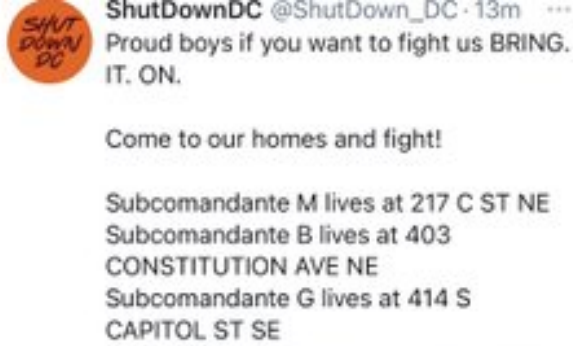
ask individuals in public

When the media says Proud Boys attacked innocent left wing protesters unprovoked, please send them this picture

 **ELIJAH SCHAFFER**  @ElijahSchaffer

Replying to @ElijahSchaffer

Just in case they delete their post

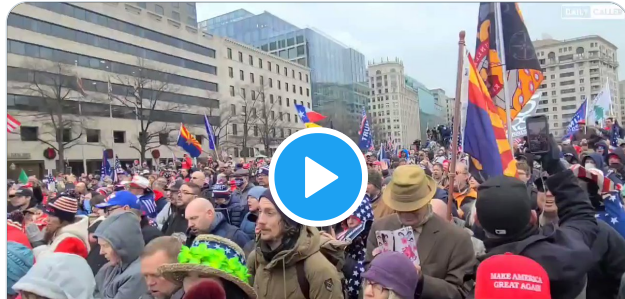


A peaceful pro-Trump rally is held:

 **Jorge Ventura Media**
@VenturaReport



Trump supporters gathering at Freedom Plaza in DC. President Trump is set to speak tomorrow at 9 am at Ellipse Park. Congress will meet Wednesday, Jan. 6 at 1 p.m. EST, to formally count the votes cast by the Electoral College




The rally goes into the [night in 39-degree weather](#).

It's so loud the West Wing of the White House can hear:

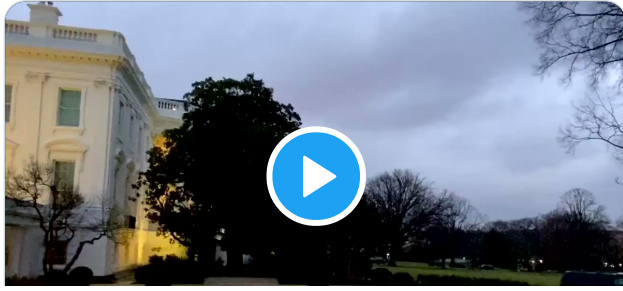
 **Dan Scavino**  @DanScavino



 **WOW!** We hear you from the West Wing—

THANK YOU 🇺🇸 🇺🇸 🇺🇸

I THANK YOU ❤️ 🇺🇸 🏔️



The Day of the Rally 1/6/2021

7:05 AM: Organizers remind people *not* to bring backpacks, banners, flag poles. The group reminds rally-goers that [doors open at 7 a.m. for a 9 a.m. start](#)

 **Women for America First** 🇺🇸
@america1stwomen

⚠️ **REMINDER DO NOT BRING BACKPACKS, FLAG POLES, BANNERS, LIQUIDS ETC. INTO THE RALLY.**

JUST BRING YOURSELF + CELL PHONE & DRESS WARM !!
🇺🇸

@AmyKremer @KylieJaneKremer @JenLawrence21
@DustinStockton
@leadpastor @pastorlocke

DETAILS: TRUMPMARCH.com

7:05 AM · Jan 6, 2021

138 72 people are Tweeting about this

8:32 AM: Women for America First speaker welcomes the gathering audience

8:34 AM: Opening prayer

8:39 AM: Pledge of Allegiance

9:06 am: Speaker schedule commences with Congressman Mo Brooks, who encourages the gathering crowd to stop at the Capitol on the way home. There are few people in the audience to hear him.

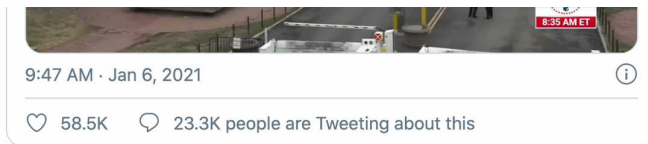
9:47 AM: Right Side Broadcasting Network is livestreaming from The Ellipse, displaying the time

 **RSBN** 🇺🇸
@RSBNetwork

AMAZING! Aerial view shows the massive size and scope of the crowd here in DC for [@realDonaldTrump](#). This isn't even the full crowd! 🇺🇸



RIGHT SIDE



10:09 AM: [Georgia State Rep Vernon Jones](#) announces during his speech that he's switching parties to the GOP. The crowd cheers and chants "USA! USA!"



10:24 AM: Joint session of Congress underway as [Electoral College votes](#) are counted

10:48 AM: Rudy Giuliani and Professor John Eastman address the crowd at the peaceful rally



11:12 AM: White House digital hand Dan Scavino announces President Trump will be leaving soon to go to the rally





11:12 AM · Jan 6, 2021 from The White House



45.8K



15.4K people are Tweeting about this

11:30 AM: J. Michael Waller is a senior analyst for the Center for Security Policy, who specializes in “propaganda, political warfare, psychological warfare, and subversion,” is at the rally and notices nearby riot cops.

Late that morning, at about 11:30, [I walked from near Union Station](#) to the Senate side of Capitol Hill on 2nd and D Streets NW and noticed a small number of Capitol Police dressed in full riot gear, with shin guards and shoulder guards. One carried a black baton with side handle. “That’s old school,” I called to the officer, giving him a thumbs-up. The police appeared to be readying to board a van or bus, though the Capitol was only 2-1/2 blocks away.

He wonders where they went.

President Trump is scheduled to be at the event at 11:00, but the time stamp on the video shows he actually got there at 11:57.



Victoria Taft – Parler, Minds, Facebook, 5VTSh...

@VictoriaTaft



Trump's official schedule says he was to speak at 11am but according to the time stamps on video, set to Eastern time, he got to the stage at 11:57

New Cases	379,810		The White House
Total Cases	21,853,916	9:00 AM	In-House Pool Call Time
New Deaths	4,370	Next Call Today	The White House
Total Deaths	389,960		
2-19's Total Cases	+22.2%	10:10 AM	The President departs the White House for the Ellipse
2-19's Total Deaths	+28.8%	Continued Coverage	The White House
Day → Week → 2-Week → Month			



11:57 AM: President Trump is introduced at the rally to the tune “God Bless the USA.”

12:00 PM: President Trump begins speaking



12:20 PM: President Trump says they’ll walk to the Capitol for a rally outside.



12:51 PM: The Blaze videographer Elijah Schaffer tweets a video of the crowd and estimates the number of people at more than 100,000 in the overflow area alone.





12:51 PM · Jan 6, 2021



6.2K 2.3K people are Tweeting about this

1:00 PM: [Rioters burst](#) into the Capitol Building

1:03 PM: The breach at the U.S. Capitol Building is first reported by Schaffer.

 **ELIJAH SCHAFFER** ✓
@ElijahSchaffer

BREAKING: patriots have stormed the Capitol building ground and are breaching federal barriers and police in the masses. No cell service but video coming. Non lethal force in effect. Full unlawful assembly in display. Never seen anything like this. Insane. Thousands occupying

1:03 PM · Jan 6, 2021

10.4K 4.5K people are Tweeting about this

1:10 PM: Elijah Schaffer is at the Capitol and observes, “This is the craziest thing I’ve ever seen in my life. Thousands, police can’t stop them”

 **ELIJAH SCHAFFER** ✓
@ElijahSchaffer

BREAKING: Trump supporters have breached the Capitol building, tearing down 4 layers of security fencing and are attempting to occupy the building — fighting federal police who are overrun

This is the craziest thing I’ve ever seen in my life. Thousands, police can’t stop them



1:10 PM · Jan 6, 2021

89.3K 67K people are Tweeting about this

1:11 PM: Dan Scavino of the White House shows this image of The Ellipse from his vantage point.

 **Dan Scavino** 🇺🇸



1:12 PM: President Trump leaves the stage after dancing to “YMCA” with the crowd



1:17 PM: The Center for Security Policy’s J. Michael Waller is walking with the crowd, but, like the crowd, hasn’t heard of the riot. Cell phone coverage is nearly nonexistent, according to reporters. Waller’s observations, written 1/6 and 1/7, show he believes there were *agents provocateurs* in the crowd.

1:50 PM: Townhall colleague Julio Rosas shows “Trump supporters” getting into fights with the Capitol Police after they tried to enter the Capitol Building.





Julio Rosas 
@Julio_Rosas11

Trump supporters got into fights with the Capitol Police after they tried to enter the Capitol Building.



1:50 PM · Jan 6, 2021

 2.5K  1.8K people are Tweeting about this

1:51 PM: The Capitol goes on lockdown

1:57 PM: Inside, Capitol Police push back the rioters with pepper spray.

Julio Rosas 
@Julio_Rosas11 · Jan 6, 2021

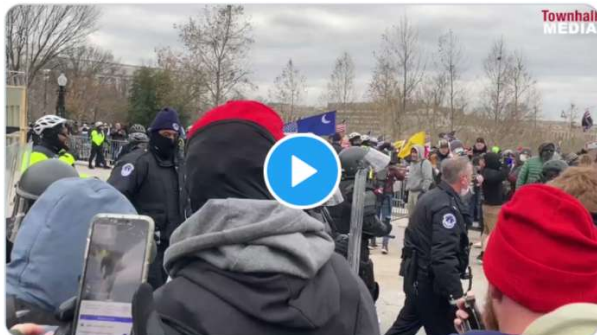
Replying to @Julio_Rosas11

Trump supporters got into fights with the Capitol Police after they tried to enter the Capitol Building.



Julio Rosas 
@Julio_Rosas11

Capitol Police pushed the Trump supporters back and used a lot of pepper spray.



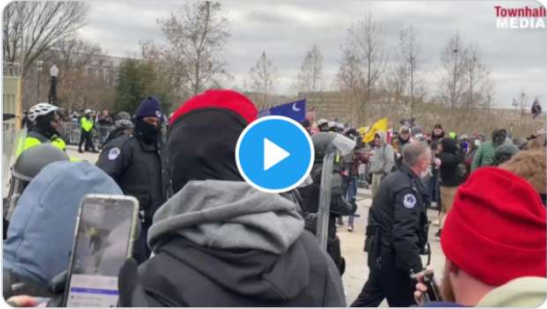
1:57 PM · Jan 6, 2021

 1.2K  777 people are Tweeting about this


1:59 PM: Capitol Police use flashbangs to try to get the

Trump crowd to disperse at Capitol

Julio Rosas @Julio_Rosas11 · Jan 6, 2021
Replying to @Julio_Rosas11
Capitol Police pushed the Trump supporters back and used a lot of pepper spray.



Julio Rosas @Julio_Rosas11
Capitol Police are using flashbangs to try to get the Trump crowd to disperse.



1:59 PM · Jan 6, 2021

1.3K 815 people are Tweeting about this

2:17 PM: Schaffer, inside the Capitol Building, reports the mob is “actively destroying and occupying the Capitol building. I repeat. The Feds have lost control of the Capitol building. Revolution in process. Not a drill.”

ELIJAH SCHAFFER @ElijahSchaffer
BREAKING: Trump supporters have breached all security barriers and are now actively destroying and occupying the Capitol building

I repeat. The Feds have lost control of the Capitol building

Revolution in process

Not a drill

Videos to follow tonight live on BlazeTV

2:17 PM · Jan 6, 2021

8.4K 4.4K people are Tweeting about this

2:21 PM: Congress is recessed. The building is “in chaos.”

Jake Sherman @JakeSherman
House has recessed. As has senate. This building is in chaos.

2:21 PM · Jan 6, 2021



1.8K 640 people are Tweeting about this

2:22 PM: Police with lights and sirens are seen at the Capitol.

2:28 PM: Schaffer posts more video of “revolution in process.”



ELIJAH SCHAFFER ✓
@ElijahSchaffer



BREAKING: revolution in process as Trump supporters break into the Capitol building, attacking police, breaking windows, and knocking down doors

Full anarchy at this “mostly peaceful” demonstration DC

The people have pushed through & are storming to main chambers



2:28 PM · Jan 6, 2021



18.1K 13.8K people are Tweeting about this

2:40 PM: Capitol Police deploy flashbangs against the crowd teeming to get inside the Capitol Building. The crowd throws objects at police.



Julio Rosas ✓ @Julio_Rosas11 · Jan 6, 2021
Replying to @Julio_Rosas11



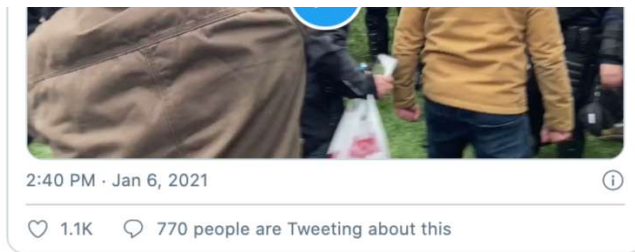
Capitol Police are using flashbangs to try to get the Trump crowd to disperse.



Julio Rosas ✓
@Julio_Rosas11

Trump supporters chase away the outnumbered Capitol Police and throw objects at them.





2:49 PM: Police get "[aggressive and violent with occupiers](#)" of the Capitol

~3:00 PM: The Center for Security Policy's J. Michael Waller [reports](#) he sees military-style "agents provocateur" ordering him and others "don't retreat!" even though his friend had a bum ankle and they want to get out.

Other things shouted at the crowd were, "We're going to the Capitol!" "Forward!" He says the police tear gas "caused pandemonium."

3:05 PM: Rosas posts photos of the mob inside the Capitol Rotunda



3:16 PM: One America News reports that [shots are fired](#) inside the Capitol Building

3:32 Outside the Capitol, Waller says he got out of the scrum, and "a small group of us exited toward Constitution Avenue, north of the Senate Wing. Someone said they had seen a person inside a second-floor window holding a 'Stop

the Steal' sign. 'They got into the House and Senate,' someone told us. 'It's crazy.'"

3:34 PM: [Rosas reports](#) that Trump supporters fought back after Capitol Police moved in to retake the Rotunda.

3:36 PM: The [White House announces](#) National Guard is being mustered

4:12 PM: Right Side Broadcasting Network shows video of people walking toward Capitol Building



4:18 PM: The assault continues.



4:18 PM · Jan 6, 2021 i

673 614 people are Tweeting about this

4:25 PM: Twitter censors President Trump's video to supporters urging people to "go home," but includes that he understand their anger about the stolen election.

 **Kyle Morris** ✓
@RealKyleMorris ⋮

BREAKING: Twitter has labeled and prevented President Trump's message to the American people from being liked or retweeted.

 **Donald J. Trump** ✓
@realDonaldTrump ⋮



1.5M views

⚠ **This claim of election fraud is disputed, and this Tweet can't be replied to, Retweeted, or liked due to a risk of violence** >

4:25 PM · Jan 6, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone


2.5K Retweets **162** Quote Tweets **4.1K** Likes

4:33 PM: Rioter uses a metal barricade to try to break open a Capitol building door.

 **Julio Rosas** ✓
@Julio_Rosas11 ⋮

Replying to @Julio_Rosas11

Rioter uses a metal barricade to try to break open a Capitol building door.





0:02 **561.8K** views

4:33 PM · Jan 6, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

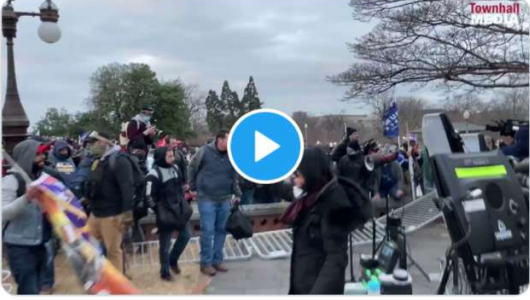
1.4K Retweets **362** Quote Tweets **3.3K** Likes


5:46 PM: Police begin clearing the Capitol grounds and the crowds have diminished.

Julio Rosas  @Julio_Rosas11 · Jan 6, 2021 

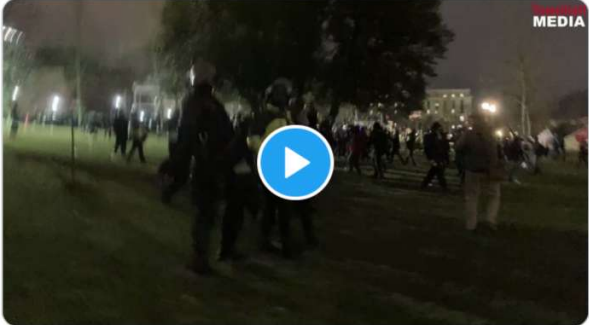
Replying to @Julio_Rosas11


Rioters just mobbed camera crews and destroyed their equipment.





Julio Rosas  @Julio_Rosas11



Police are clearing the Capitol grounds as the crowd has gotten much smaller here.



5:46 PM · Jan 6, 2021 

 474  171 people are Tweeting about this


5:46 PM: There's blood seen on the ground outside the Capitol


ELIJAH SCHAFFER  @ElijahSchaffer 



DC: lots of blood was spilled today by both the Capitol police & occupiers

Very serious injuries occurred, including a shooting

Many officers injured, some appeared to be hurt very badly as Trump supporters were throwing projectiles & in some cases violently assaulting them



5:46 PM · Jan 6, 2021 

 1.8K  1.1K people are Tweeting about this

6:00 PM: [Curfew goes into effect](#) for Washington, D.C. till 6 a.m.

6:22 PM: Schaffer gets word that the [woman who was shot](#) by police has died

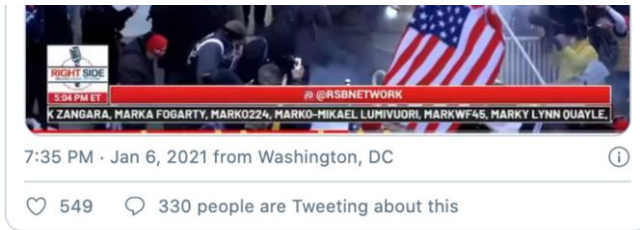


6:30 PM: People are “fighting their way out” of the Capitol



7:35 PM: Police tear gas people outside the Capitol Building.





7:58 PM: Elijah Schaffer believes antifa per se wasn't part of the crowds that he saw based on his experience of covering the antifa and BLM riots. "I also spoke to a DC Antifa organizer & he denied their presence." It is later determined that one of the [agents provocateur is a BLM/antifa supporter.](#)



8:11 PM: A visibly angry Mike Pence restarts the joint session of Congress by announcing, "let's get back to work." He's cheered.



9:29 PM: The Washington Post blames Trump for starting an "insurrection." The rest of the media adopt the word to characterize the riot.



The front page of Thursday's Washington Post:

Trump mob storms Capitol

President incites crowd to acts of insurrection, violence



9:29 PM · Jan 6, 2021 · TweetDeck

6.6K Retweets 582 Quote Tweets 16.5K Likes

10:05 PM: The Washington Post urges Congress to "impeach him again."



Opinion: Trump is guilty of sedition. Impeach him again.





Opinion | Trump is guilty of sedition. Impeach him again.
The assault on the Capitol isn't a "patriotic protest." It's a violent
insurrection.

[washingtonpost.com](https://www.washingtonpost.com)

10:05 PM · Jan 6, 2021 · SocialFlow

2K Retweets 135 Quote Tweets 9.7K Likes

1/7/2021

3:41 PM: [Mike Pence announces](#) final Electoral College vote tally for Joe Biden

Our timeline show President Trump was still on stage 12 minutes *after* the Capitol Building breach started. He was undoubtedly shaking hands with organizers, saying goodbyes, etc., before being driven back to the White House, which would have added to his time at the event.

Schaffer and Fox News host Tucker Carlson said the president spoke for 20 more minutes after the siege began.

As [Waller](#) reported, there were several groups of bad actors who looked organized and were separate from the rally-goers. He believes they were paramilitary types and called them *agent provocateurs*. Ironically, Waller specializes in "propaganda, political warfare, psychological warfare, and subversion," so we guess he'd know it when he saw it.

As my [PJ Media colleague Matt Margolis](#) reported, even CNN has come to the belief that there were people who appeared to have planned and executed the incursion, who were distinct from the rally crowd.

The president was immediately excoriated for allegedly encouraging this assault on the Capitol Building.

The Washington Post demanded President Trump be impeached before the stench of tear gas was cleared from the Capitol.

The Democrats took the *Post's* advice before the full set of facts was known. The president was impeached by Democrats eager to sully his reputation and stop him from running for office ever again—before they knew the facts and had done their due diligence.

It appears that, based on this timeline, the president was not just wrongly blamed for inciting the riots, his rhetoric that day apparently had nothing to do with fomenting them.

You can blame the president for many things. You can blame him for his graceless behavior after failing to win his electoral cases in court, as flawed as those decisions were. You can blame him for being a fighter. But it's a real stretch to blame him for starting the fight at the Capitol. If you do that, you must blame Democrats for their incendiary language in support of the antifa and BLM riots of the past few years.

History should vindicate President Trump. It just depends on who's writing it.

See his speech and the timestamps of the live broadcast yourself.



Victoria Taft is the host of [“The Adult in the Room Podcast With Victoria Taft”](#) where you can hear her series on [“Antifa Versus Mike Strickland.”](#) Find it [here](#). Follow her on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Parler](#), [MeWe](#), [Minds](#) @VictoriaTaft

[Did CNN Accidentally Prove That Trump Did NOT Call for Violence at the Capitol?](#)
[Did You Notice the Jan 6 Crowd Cheered](#)

[When Trump Touted Harsher Penalties for Monument-Trashers?](#)

[There Are a Lot of Phony Claims, But There Was at Least One Antifa Ally Inside the U.S. Capitol](#)

[Did the Capitol Police 'Let In' the Protesters?](#)

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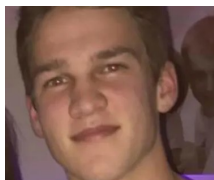
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