

Subject: Sir Kim Darroch, Deutsche lay-offs, Lucy Kellaway at 60  
From: FT Editor's Choice [REDACTED]  
Date: Sat, 13 Jul 2019 03:01:00 -0400  
To: [REDACTED]

To view this email as a webpage, click [here](#)

{FINANCIAL TIMES - FT Editor's Choice - Never miss a great story}

By Roula Khalaf  
July 13, 2019

The value of an ambassador's private memos is in the unvarnished assessments they contain. When the cables are leaked to the media, and the administration they report on is that of Donald Trump, the result is diplomatic mayhem.

Sir Kim Darroch, the UK ambassador to the US, discovered this the hard way. This week he was the victim of a damaging leak that aptly described the chaos at the White House. Mr Trump reacted with fury on Twitter, unleashing a torrent of insults at Sir Kim, and blocking him from White House meetings. When Boris Johnson, the frontrunner in the Conservative Party leadership contest and a Trump fan, failed to support the British envoy, Sir Kim was left with no choice but to offer his resignation.

The story that consumed the UK for much of the week leads to two unfortunate conclusions: the first is that in the age of leaks and hacks, the basic job of diplomats is at risk; the second is that, as prime minister, Boris Johnson cannot be counted on to support the civil service. You can read how the Darroch saga unfolded and what it tells us about the transatlantic relationship.

What I've been reading

1. A Royal Navy frigate intervened to block three Iranian gunboats headed for a British tanker in the Strait of Hormuz this week. One-third of seaborne crude passes through the strait, which has become a focal point for tensions between Iran and the west, threatening global trade, as FT correspondents report.

2. Jeffrey Epstein rubbed shoulders with the great and the good, from Bill

Clinton to Donald Trump. Those contacts are now scrambling to distance themselves from the New York financier after he was charged with sexually abusing under-aged girls. The FT's Joshua Chaffin and Kadhim Shubber profile Mr Epstein, who was previously charged in 2008, and ask how high society tolerated him for so long?

3. Depression and anxiety cost companies \$1tn every year worldwide, and some employers' indifference to their workers' mental health can have tragic consequences, as the FT's Lilah Raptopoulos and James Fontanella-Khan reveal in a striking feature for the FT Weekend Magazine.

4. Bankers: "highly paid and disposable". That's chief business commentator John Gapper's verdict on the massive lay-offs launched by Deutsche Bank this week. He argues bankers have been alienated from their jobs.

5. As Boris Johnson edges closer to power the FT Westminster team assess whether his bluster on Brexit will end in a catastrophic crashing out. Across the aisle, Labour's tortured stance on leaving the EU has been shaped by Jeremy Corbyn's hard-left advisers, profiled this week by chief political correspondent Jim Pickard.

6. Africa editor David Pilling makes a pitch for the cheapest Lunch with the FT of all time, a £2.16 feast in a Ugandan slum with rapper turned politician Bobby Wine, an unlikely challenger to President Yoweri Museveni's three decade rule.

7. Republicans are getting worried about saving the planet, just don't call it a fight against climate change. Gillian Tett finds conservative activists adding "energy freedom", "regulatory simplification", and "carbon dividends" to their vocabulary. For more on business and the environment, subscribe to the FT's new Moral Money newsletter.

8. Martin Wolf looks back on 75 years since the Bretton Woods conference, and see the global economic order established in 1944 under threat today like never before. At the heart of the issue is whether countries gain most by co-operation or if it is every nation for itself.

9. James Dyson hoovered up Singapore's most expensive penthouse this week, as his company bins its UK headquarters. Edwin Heathcote writes that the pro-Brexit billionaire's new pad symbolises the age of the international super-rich.

10. Happy birthday to Lucy Kellaway who contemplates life (and dating) after 60 in a sparkling weekend read. She muses on whether her next phase is best described as "extended middle age", "young-old", or "aged adolescence".

What to watch

Criminals stole at least £350m in the UK last year through authorised push payment scams, including £4,300 from FT deputy head of video Joe Sinclair, who now examines the fraud, its victims, and how to avoid being duped.

Have a nice weekend,

Roula

Subscribe to the FT [{twitter}](#) [{facebook}](#) [{google plus}](#) [{linkedin}](#)

[Manage the emails you receive in your Contact Preferences](#)

[Unsubscribe from this newsletter.](#)

[Terms & Conditions](#) [Privacy policy](#) [Contact us](#) We use pixels in HTML emails (not in plain text emails) to tell us if the email is opened or links in it are clicked on. The pixel will be deleted if you delete the email. See our [cookie policy](#) for more information.

© THE FINANCIAL TIMES LTD 2019

This email was sent by a company owned by Financial Times Group Limited (FT Group), registered office at Bracken House, 1 Friday Street, London EC4M 9BT. Registered in England and Wales with company number 879531.

