Dragging their feet

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(THREAD) Here's an explanation for why the Republicans are dragging their feet on investigating Trump. It's more complicated than you think.

1) Per John Schindler (@20committee), former NSA agent, evidence of Trump-Russia _collusion_ will be found soon after investigation begins.

2) House/Senate Intel Committee investigations are slow, private, & partisan. They're ideal for the GOP, which needs to stall 8 more months.

4) The GOP line in 8 months will be: "The nation has a referendum every two years on its government. That preempts impeachment proceedings."

5) But the GOP has gerrymandered the U.S. to within an inch of its life, so in fact we _don't_ have a valid referendum on the WH biennially.

6) Also (of course) _no_ electoral process can obviate the need for Congressional oversight of the biggest political scandal in our history.

7) An impeachment takes months. If the GOP can claim such proceedings would slip into 2018, they can refuse them on "election year" grounds.

8) Realistically, then, the GOP only has to hold out on conducting a thorough investigation of Trump for about 150 more days. If they can...

9) ...they'll declare that the "American people will speak" on Trump in the mid-term elections, obviating the need for impeachment hearings.
10) If, instead, the GOP were to allow a Special Prosecutor, not only would s/he not be beholden to the WH, they'd have the power to indict.

11) The power to indict is _critical_ because it compels witnesses to talk and leads to the truth far more quickly--_too_ quick for the GOP.

12) There are already _many_ witnesses (Page, Flynn, Sessions, Phares, Manafort, Gordon, Kushner, Cohen) w/ _potential_ criminal liability.

13) A good Special Prosecutor could most likely break one or more members of Trump's team with a threat of indictment in fairly short order.

14) Most DC GOPers think Team Trump's hiding _something_--there's just too many lies on the same subject--so they fear a Special Prosecutor.

15) What all this means is that the Dems only have 150 days to force the GOP's hand on a Special Prosecutor and impeachment. So: stay tuned!