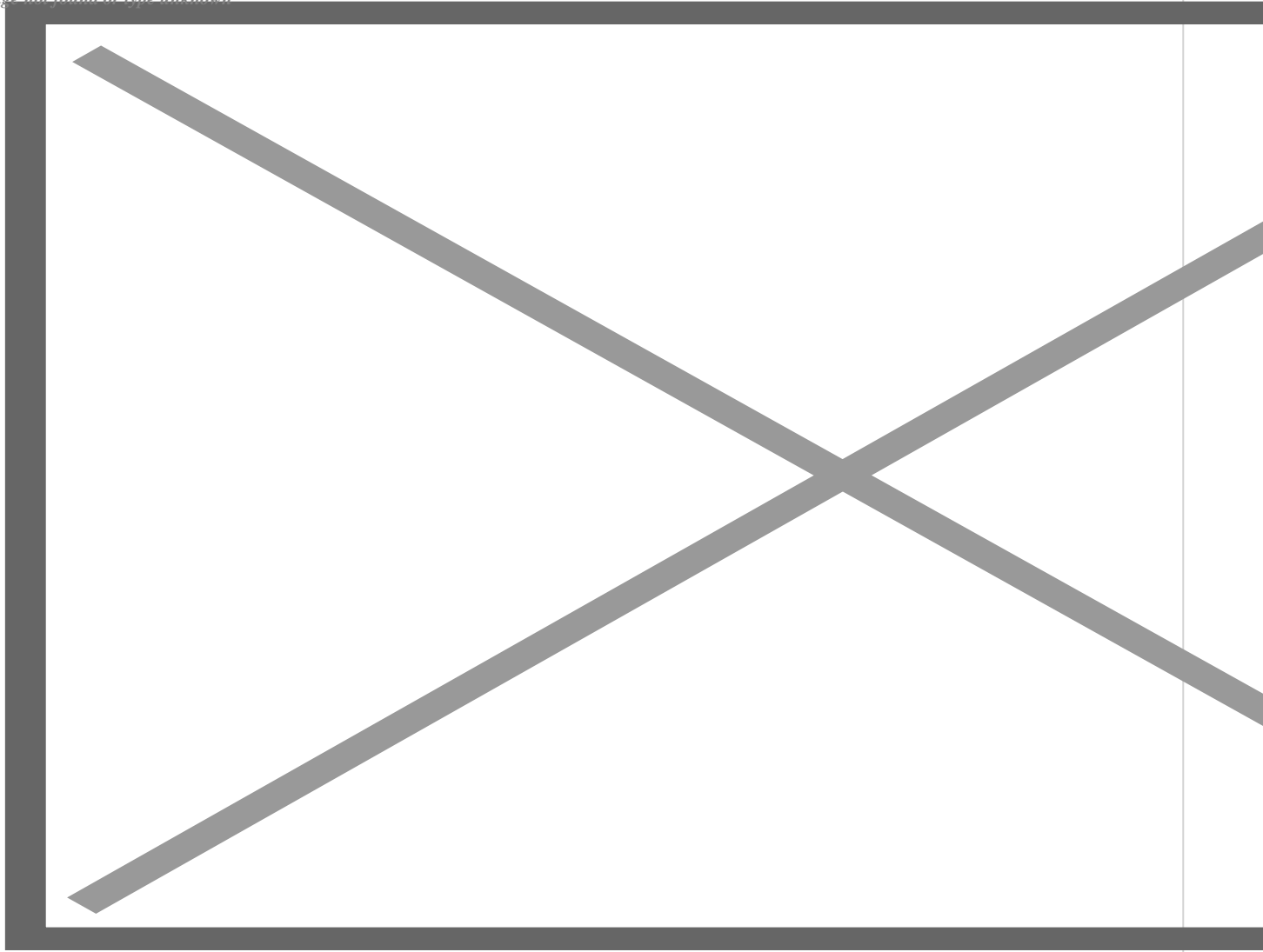


Adviser says Pompeo and Bolton made rich by Israeli lobby

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John Bolton and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo share good times in Rose Garden at the White House on June 7, 2018. (Photo: Getty Images)

Washington, November 16 (RHC)-- A top adviser at the Pentagon says prominent U.S. officials -- including Iran hawks Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and former national security advisor John Bolton -- have been taking money and getting rich from the Israeli lobby.

Washington's support for Tel Aviv is the result of Israeli lobby money, said retired Army Colonel Douglas Macgregor, who was appointed this week as senior adviser to newly installed acting Defense Secretary Christopher Miller, in two media appearances back in 2012 and 2019.

"You have to look at the people that donate to those individuals," he said in a September 2019 interview when asked if Bolton and Republican Senator Lindsey Graham wanted war with Iran. "Mr. Bolton has become very, very rich and is in the position he's in because of his unconditional support for the Israeli lobby. He is their man on the ground, in the White House. The same thing is largely true for Mr. Pompeo; he has aspirations to be president. He has his hands out for money from the Israeli lobby, the Saudis and others," he added.

In another interview in 2012, Macgregor stressed that the Israel lobby in the US has "enormous influence" on Congress and that it wanted to instigate "military strikes" with Iran. "I think the American Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) and it's subordinate elements or affiliated elements that represent enormous quantities of money that over many years have cultivated an enormous influence in power in Congress," he told Russia's state media network RT.

"I think you've got a lot of people on the Hill who fall into two categories. One category that is interested in money and wants to be re-elected, and they don't want to run the risk of the various lobbies that are pushing military action against Iran to contribute money to their opponents."

AIPAC is known for being the main architect of U.S. policies throughout the Middle East, and has been criticized repeatedly for wielding disproportionate influence in Congress.

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