

## Morning Mind-Probe

April 12, 2019

There's news reporting, done well or not, and opinion, with which one can agree or disagree. But on MSNBC's *Morning Joe* you get something even more illuminating: *mind-reading*.

Yesterday, the show addressed U.S. Attorney General William Barr's testimony the previous day before a Senate subcommittee. Viewers were shown *The Washington Post's* succinct front-page headline: "Barr thinks U.S. spied on Trump."

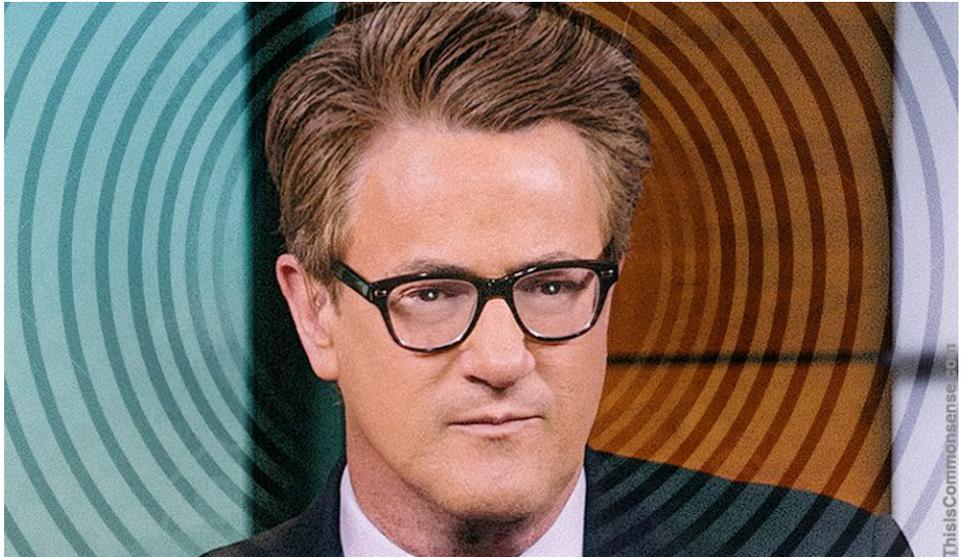
And heard the Attorney General tell Senators that he wanted to "explore" and "make sure there was no unauthorized surveillance" of the Donald

*"I want to satisfy myself that there were no abuse of law enforcement and intelligence powers," Barr told the committee. "I think that is one of the principal roles of the attorney general."*

Trump for President campaign. "I think spying on a political campaign is a big deal," he added.

"You're not suggesting that spying occurred?" asked Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-N.H.)

"I think spying did occur," Barr replied, "yes." Barr defined "spying" as "unauthorized surveillance."



"Someone's been Trumped!" co-host Mika Brzezinski exasperatedly declared as the footage ended. Co-host and husband Joe Scarborough then took over, likewise uninterested in any such inquiry.

"[Barr] knows that what he's saying is unbelievably reckless," the clairvoyant former congressman informed. "And you can almost see in his mind, Barr going, 'How do I answer this question so that Trump doesn't tweet at me, so that I keep my job, but still not make a jackass of myself for lying?'"

As on-set bobbleheads nodded, Mike Barnacle vouched for Joe's telepathic veracity, sharing a tale that "two people who have known Bill Barr for 30 years" were "stunned." These unnamed sources are known only to Mr. Barnacle, the disgraced former *Boston Globe* columnist, a plagiarist and fabricator of stories, once described accurately as "cynically churning out fiction clothed as journalism."

"I want to satisfy myself that there were no abuse of law enforcement and intelligence powers," Barr told the committee. "I think that is one of the principal roles of the attorney general."

I agree . . . but you read my mind.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.