
BORIS JOHNSON VERSUS THE 'BLOB'

- 26.02.2020

Politico (25 February 2020)

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LONDON — Welcome to the U.K.s permanent revolution.

Having won a referendum and an election, Boris Johnson and Dominic Cummings have turned their attention to overhauling the machinery of government.

Their plan? To centralize power in No. 10, improve efficiency and reduce the influence of a civil service establishment that Cummings likes to call the blob.

Whitehalls top brass have been put — very publicly — on notice, with a briefing from senior Tories to a Sunday newspaper that three heads of department are on a No. 10 hit list. The Home Office has been rocked by briefings and counter-briefings about boiling tensions between Home Secretary Priti Patel and her top official Philip Rutnam.

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