

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
JACKSONVILLE DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

Case No.:

3:19-cr-192-HES-JRK

FAN YANG

_____ /

DEPOSITION OF

ZHENG YAN

Taken on behalf of the United States of America

DATE TAKEN: Wednesday, March 24, 2021
TIME: 10:55 a.m. - 4:31 p.m.
PLACE: United States Attorney's Office
300 North Hogan Street
Eighth Floor
Jacksonville, Florida 32202
REPORTED BY: Marianne Branson, RPR

- - -

1 APPEARANCE FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

2 MICHAEL J. COOLICAN, Esquire
3 United States Attorney's Office
4 300 North Hogan Street
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6 Jacksonville, Florida 32202

7 APPEARANCE FOR THE DEFENDANT

8 CHARLES L. TRUNCALE Esquire
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11 Suite 14130
12 Jacksonville, Florida 32202

13

14

15

ALSO PRESENT:

16

Henry M. Coxe, Esquire
Brian T. Coughlin, Esquire
John Krol, Advantage Video Production
Blake Eber
James Churchill
Truong Q. Nguyen
Juan Smaine
Fan Yang

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Hailin Huang, standby interpreter
(present via phone only to be sworn)

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1 VIDEOGRAPHER: This is the videotaped
2 deposition of Zheng Yan in the matter of the
3 United States of America versus Fan Yang, case
4 Number 3:19-cr-192-HES-JRK, heard in the United
5 States District Court, Middle District of Florida,
6 Jacksonville Division.

7 The deposition is being held at the United
8 States Courthouse, Jacksonville, Florida, on March
9 24th, 2021, at 10:55 a.m.

10 My name is John Krol, with Advantage Video.
11 The court reporter is Mari Branson, with Certified
12 Court Reporters.

13 Would everybody please introduce themselves,
14 and the witness will be sworn?

15 MR. COOLICAN: Assistant United States
16 Attorney Michael Coolican. With me at counsel
17 table is FBI Special Agent Blake Eber.

18 MR. TRUNCALE: Charlie Truncale,
19 T-R-U-N-C-A-L-E, attorney for Mr. Fan Yang, who is
20 seated beside me.

21 MR. COOLICAN: We're going to start the
22 proceedings by calling the standby interpreter,
23 Mr. Hailin Huang. He is available on a standby
24 basis. We're going to contact him by telephone,
25 swear him, and then call him back in the event the

1 witness needs his services.

2 This is Michael Coolican, Assistant United
3 States Attorney in Jacksonville. We're going to
4 have you state your name and then swear you as an
5 interpreter.

6 MR. HUANG: Okay.

7 MR. COOLICAN: Please state and spell your
8 name, sir.

9 MR. HUANG: Hailin Huang, H-A-I-L-I-N, last
10 name H-U-A-N-G.

11 HAILIN HUANG,
12 was sworn to interpret the proceedings truly and
13 accurately.

14 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.

15 MR. COOLICAN: Thank you, Mr. Huang. We'll
16 call you back in the event the witness needs your
17 services.

18 MR. HUANG: Yes, sir.

19 ZHENG YAN,
20 having been produced and first duly sworn as a witness,
21 testified as follows:

22 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.

23 DIRECT EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. COOLICAN:

25 Q Miss, would you please state and spell your

1 name for the record?

2 A Yeah. Zheng Yan, Z-H-E-N-G, Y-A-N.

3 Q All right. For the first couple questions,
4 Miss, I'm going to ask that you take your mask off so
5 that the judge and jury can get a look at your face.

6 For the most of the questioning this morning,
7 I understand you want to wear your mask because of the
8 global pandemic, and we'll permit that, but if you
9 would just take your mask off for the first couple
10 questions.

11 Miss, where were you born?

12 A I was born in Sichuan, China.

13 MR. TRUNCALE: Mr. Coolican, I cannot hear
14 her at all. Could you direct her to speak into a
15 microphone? I cannot hear her. Or I'm going to
16 have to sit somewhere else closer.

17 MR. COOLICAN: Let's go off the record for a
18 moment, please.

19 VIDEOGRAPHER: We're off the record at 10:59.

20 (Off-the-record discussion)

21 VIDEOGRAPHER: We're back on the record at
22 11:01.

23 BY MR. COOLICAN:

24 Q All right. Miss, I think I was asking you,
25 where were you born?

1 A I was born in Sichuan, China.

2 Q And did you grow up there?

3 A No. My parents sent me to -- with my
4 grandparents when I was five years old to Shanghai.
5 It's also a city in China.

6 Q Did you grow up in Shanghai, then?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Did you go to school there?

9 A Yes.

10 Q In high school, did you spend a year in the
11 United States?

12 A Yes, I do.

13 Q Where was that?

14 A It's Medford, Oregon.

15 Q Let's move that microphone around to the
16 other side of you.

17 A This side?

18 Q Yes. After high school, did you continue
19 your education?

20 A Yes. Yes, I do.

21 Q Where was that?

22 A I went to the State University of New York --
23 New York, Binghamton.

24 Q What did you study there?

25 A Business administration.

1 Q Did you graduate from that institution?

2 A Yes, I do.

3 Q Now, you've been answering my questions today
4 in English. Did you study -- were the courses at
5 Binghamton in English?

6 A Yes, I do.

7 Q If you have any problems answering or
8 understanding my questions in English, or
9 Mr. Truncale's questions, will you let us know?

10 A Yes, I will.

11 Q And you understand that there is a standby
12 interpreter available that could assist us. You
13 understand that; right?

14 A Yes, I do.

15 Q All right. After you graduated from
16 Binghamton, did you look for a job?

17 A I didn't look for -- actually, my dad -- my
18 parents set up a job for me in New York City, but I
19 didn't went to that job. I fly back to China directly.

20 Q Okay. And did you get a job in China?

21 A Yes. One of my best friend, she's submitted
22 many of the -- of my résumé online to get a job for me.

23 Q And was that successful?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Where did you -- and by successful, that

1 means you got a job?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Where did you get a job?

4 A Shanghai Breeze.

5 Q Shanghai Breeze. What is Shanghai Breeze?

6 A It's kind of an agency company, so we are the
7 agents or dealers for couple -- no, three, four boat
8 manufacturers and also a life jacket company in China.

9 MR. TRUNCALE: Mr. Coolican, I'm having
10 troubles. Is there any way I could move?

11 MR. COOLICAN: Yeah, let's go off the record.

12 VIDEOGRAPHER: We're off the record at 11:04.

13 (Off-the-record discussion)

14 VIDEOGRAPHER: We're back on the record at
15 11:09.

16 BY MR. COOLICAN:

17 Q All right. Miss, you started to explain what
18 Shanghai Breeze does, and I think you were saying that
19 it's a dealer or an agent for other manufacturers. Do
20 I have that right?

21 A Yes. Other U.S. manufacturers.

22 Q And what type of merchandise are we talking
23 about?

24 A What do you mean, merchandise?

25 Q What is it that the U.S. manufacturers were

1 manufacturing that Shanghai Breeze became a dealer or
2 an agent for selling?

3 A So the U.S. manufacturer, they build boats.

4 Q Okay. And who were Shanghai Breeze's
5 customers, primarily?

6 A Primarily it's the fishery department, some
7 government agency.

8 Q Government agencies in China?

9 A Yes.

10 Q All right. Did Shanghai Breeze hope to get
11 in the business of Chinese military contracts?

12 A Yes.

13 Q When is it that you started working for
14 Shanghai Breeze?

15 A What year?

16 Q What year?

17 A At the beginning of 2016. I think it's
18 January 2016.

19 Q Okay. What was your first job when you
20 started at Shanghai Breeze?

21 A Assistant.

22 Q What are some of the basic duties of an
23 assistant at Shanghai Breeze who's just getting
24 started?

25 A It's kind of like doing some typing,

1 printing, like the basic, basic stuff.

2 Q Okay. And when you started in that role, is
3 that around the time that you had just graduated from
4 college?

5 A Yes. It's just after my -- like the second
6 month I graduate.

7 Q Two months after you graduated?

8 A No. I think it's the next month, because I
9 graduate in December.

10 Q So in January 2016, how old were you at that
11 point?

12 A 23 or 24.

13 Q Okay. Who's the chairman of Shanghai Breeze?

14 A Ge Songtao.

15 Q Did your job at Shanghai Breeze change over
16 time?

17 A Yes. So I think it's at the -- in June or
18 July 2016 I become Mr. Ge's assistant.

19 Q And when you say Mr. Ge, you're talking about
20 Ge Songtao?

21 A Yes.

22 Q What does the assistant to Mr. Ge, or Ge
23 Songtao -- what were those duties?

24 A Sometimes his translator, and sometimes it's
25 when Mr. Ge has something asking me to do, I have to do

1 that, and to remind him to do something, yeah.

2 Q So pretty much anything --

3 A He asked me.

4 Q -- Mr. Ge tells you to do?

5 A Yes.

6 Q All right. Did that include communicating
7 with other Shanghai Breeze employees?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Did that include communicating with Shanghai
10 Breeze contractors in the United States?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Did you get involved in the company's
13 finances at all?

14 A Yes, I do.

15 Q What type of duties related to finance did
16 you have?

17 A So Mr. Ge said he's not trusting our --
18 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to hearsay.

19 Q You can answer the question.

20 A So Mr. Ge said he's not trusting our
21 financial management -- the manager, so he asked the
22 manager give the bank -- the company bank U key to me,
23 which is a -- it's kind of like a USB drive.

24 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to unresponsive. I
25 object to testifying in the narrative is what I'm

1 saying.

2 Q Miss, what were the specific duties that you
3 had when you were working in the finance field for Ge
4 Songtao?

5 A Transfer moneys and receive the moneys.

6 Q Now, as his assistant, did you also help keep
7 his schedule?

8 A Yes, I do.

9 Q Did you assist him in arranging travel?

10 A Yes, I do.

11 Q When he traveled overseas, did you sometimes
12 travel with him?

13 A Yes.

14 Q What are some of the countries that you went
15 to with Ge Songtao?

16 A Mostly it's the United States, but we also
17 went to Malaysia, Singapore, Dubai.

18 Q All right. And --

19 A And some others.

20 Q When you traveled to the United States with
21 him, did you ever act as his translator?

22 A Yes. Because he typically don't speak
23 English.

24 Q All right. During trips to the United
25 States, were these business trips?

1 A Yes.

2 Q And what type of business was being conducted
3 by Ge Songtao when you went with him to the United
4 States?

5 A Most of the trips, the business trip, is
6 going to the boat manufacturer, meet with the factory
7 managers.

8 Q Okay. In addition to traveling with him, did
9 you sometimes assist him with some personal tasks?

10 A Yes. He will send me some link or some name
11 of the stuff asking me to order for him.

12 Q So you would buy things for him?

13 A Yes, I do.

14 Q All right. Did you ever assist him in
15 communicating with people in the United States so that
16 they could buy things?

17 A Yes, I do.

18 Q All right. Did you become familiar with who
19 some of the investors -- by being his executive
20 assistant, did you become familiar with some of the
21 investors at Shanghai Breeze?

22 A Yes, some of them.

23 Q Did you become familiar with some of Ge
24 Songtao's friends?

25 A Yes, some of them, when we go together.

1 Q When you traveled together?

2 A Yes, I mean.

3 Q Did you become familiar with any of his
4 hobbies?

5 A Yes, some of his hobbies.

6 Q All right. What are some of Ge Songtao's
7 hobbies?

8 A Shooting, motorcycle, diving.

9 Q When you say shooting, you're talking about
10 shooting firearms or guns?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Did Ge Songtao ever have discussions with you
13 talking about his plan or desire to become a U.S.
14 citizen or a U.S. resident?

15 A Yes. He talked about --

16 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to the hearsay, that --
17 yes is the sufficient answer.

18 Q You can answer.

19 A Yes. He talk about that many times.

20 Q Did he explain to you his motive for wanting
21 to become a U.S. citizen or resident?

22 A Yes. What he telling -- told me is --

23 MR. TRUNCALE: Object again to what -- a
24 continuing objection to what he's saying as
25 hearsay.

1 Q You can answer.

2 A So he told me because if he can get a
3 citizenship in the United States or green card then he
4 can hold the toys -- I mean the weapons legally.

5 Q You said "toys" and "weapons."

6 A I mean toys is the weapons.

7 Q Toys are weapons?

8 A It's -- because sometimes he calls the
9 weapons "toys."

10 Q And when we're talking about weapons, are we
11 talking about --

12 A Firearms.

13 Q -- firearms?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Okay. As Ge Songtao's assistant, did you
16 learn that he has a friend named Fan Yang?

17 A Yes.

18 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to -- she's Chinese.
19 I'd like to understand -- I object to the question
20 because it's not specific, whether she even knows
21 what the term "friend" means.

22 Q Do you know what the word "friend" means?

23 A I think I do.

24 Q What is a friend?

25 A So you talk with each other, you eat

1 together, you hang out together, you see each other
2 sometimes, you chat with each other.

3 Q Are you having any difficulty understanding
4 me?

5 A No.

6 Q All right. So I don't recall whether you
7 answered my question.

8 Did you learn that Ge Songtao has a friend
9 named Fan Yang?

10 A Yes.

11 MR. TRUNCALE: Object again for the reasons
12 stated, a failure to understand what a friend is.

13 Q Have you ever met that person?

14 A Yes, I did.

15 Q Where does that person live?

16 A Jacksonville, Florida.

17 Q Do you know what he does for a living?

18 A He's a Navy officer.

19 Q All right. And what are some of the
20 situations in which you met Fan Yang?

21 A In --

22 MR. TRUNCALE: I would ask for -- I object.
23 I would like some times and dates.

24 MR. COOLICAN: You can answer the question.

25 MR. TRUNCALE: Too open ended.

1 THE WITNESS: I remember we met around three
2 times in the restaurant, at their house, and in a
3 shooting range.

4 BY MR. COOLICAN:

5 Q All right. The time that you met at a
6 restaurant, was that in the United States?

7 A Yes. It's in Orange Park, I think.

8 Q Orange Park, Florida?

9 A Yes.

10 MR. TRUNCALE: I would object. I would like
11 a time when and where.

12 Q You testified that you also met Mr. Yang at
13 his house. You're talking about Mr. Yang's house?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And where was that?

16 A I think it's in Orange Park.

17 Q And then you mentioned a shooting range. Was
18 it one shooting range, multiple shooting ranges?

19 A Two shooting -- different shooting ranges.
20 So one's an indoor shooting range in Orange Park. I
21 think it's the biggest shooting range there. That's
22 what Yuki -- I mean Yang Yang told me.

23 Q Okay. A shooting range in Orange Park --

24 A Yes.

25 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to what Yang Yang told

1 her as hearsay.

2 Q And there was a second shooting range?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Where was that?

5 A It's an outdoor shooting range in Sioux --
6 it's that city called -- I mean it's a three-state
7 city, so it's in Nebraska.

8 Q A shooting range in Nebraska?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Okay. And I think you said something about
11 three states. Is it a shooting range that's near the
12 border of three states?

13 A Yes.

14 Q And was that time that you saw Mr. Yang at a
15 shooting range in Nebraska, was that in July of 2018?

16 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to leading.

17 A Yes.

18 Q During these instances or times that you met
19 Mr. Yang in person, was Ge Songtao with you?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Did you see Ge Songtao speaking with
22 Mr. Yang?

23 A Yes.

24 Q How did they treat each other?

25 A I feel they treated each other like friends.

1 Q Okay. Why is that?

2 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to the answer. She
3 doesn't understand what a friend is, based on her
4 previous explanation of what a friend is.

5 BY MR. COOLICAN:

6 Q Why do you think they acted like friends?

7 A Because when they -- like the first time when
8 they see each other, they will hug, and they talk with
9 each other, and like the -- they even shoot together.

10 Q They go shooting together; is that what you
11 said?

12 A Yes, yes.

13 Q Did you ever see Ge Songtao give Mr. Yang --
14 well, first of all, is Fan Yang married to someone?

15 A Yes.

16 Q What's the name of the person he's married
17 to?

18 A So when I first met Fan Yang's wife --

19 Q I'm just asking her name.

20 A Oh, okay. So the beginning she called her
21 Yang Yang -- no, Chen Yang, and then she change her
22 name to Yang Yang.

23 Q Okay. Is there a nickname that she sometimes
24 used?

25 A Yeah. We always call her Yuki.

1 Q All right. Did you ever see Ge Songtao give
2 a gift or gifts to Mr. and Mrs. Yang?

3 A Yes, I did see that.

4 Q Do you remember what the gift was?

5 A I remember the first time when we come to the
6 United States to meet with Yuki -- I mean Yang Yang,
7 Mr. Ge asked -- asked her what about my coworker, to
8 order a Burberry dress for their daughter.

9 Q A Burberry dress?

10 A Yes.

11 Q All right. As Mr. Ge, or Ge Songtao's
12 assistant, did you learn that in late 2016 he hired
13 Mrs. Yang?

14 A Yes.

15 Q After Mrs. Yang was hired by Ge Songtao, did
16 you have any new duties in connection with Mrs. Yang?

17 A Yes.

18 Q What were those duties?

19 A So, first of all, I have to transfer the
20 money to her, I mean the salary, and then when Mr. Ge
21 sometimes had something he need to ask Yuki to do,
22 Mr. Ge will tell me and tell me to contact with her to
23 do the work.

24 Q All right. You mentioned transferring money
25 to her. Do you remember how much Mrs. Yang was paid by

1 Ge Songtao?

2 A Yes. So the first three months it's around
3 3,000 U.S. dollar per month, and after that it raised
4 to 5,000 U.S. dollar per month. But when she's
5 pregnant, so she gets like \$3,500 per month during her
6 pregnancy.

7 Q Is that because she was doing less work while
8 she was pregnant?

9 A Yes.

10 Q All right. If Shanghai Breeze is in China
11 and Mrs. Yang is in Florida, how was she paid? How did
12 she get money?

13 A So at the beginning when Mr. Ge hired her, we
14 have trouble with the company to transfer the money to
15 her account. Then the first time I did use my personal
16 account to transfer the money to her personal account.

17 And then we had to talk with the bank, and we
18 get a company account in foreign currency, and then we
19 started transfer the money is through the company
20 account, and also sometimes when we come to the United
21 States. There's at least one time when Yuki's mom come
22 to China, we gave her cash.

23 Q You gave Yuki's mom cash to give to --

24 A Yuki. I mean Yang Yang.

25 Q And when you say -- when you're saying Yuki,

1 you mean Mrs. Yang?

2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q All right. And then you also mentioned
4 traveling to the United States. I didn't follow that.
5 What does that have to do with paying Mrs. Yang?

6 A So we give her some cash if we bring the
7 extra cash.

8 Q To the United States?

9 A Yes.

10 Q As the person who sometimes communicated with
11 Mrs. Yang for Ge Songtao, did you learn about what
12 Mrs. Yang's job responsibilities were?

13 A Yeah, I learned some of that.

14 Q All right. What were some of the job
15 responsibilities that you learned about?

16 A So she's doing some translating works,
17 translating such as the catalog for us for like the
18 U.S. manufacturer, with dealer. And sometimes she help
19 Mr. Ge ordering some stuff in the United States, and
20 sometimes she helps us to call the factories.

21 Q All right. Did she ever assist you or assist
22 Mr. Ge arranging travel in the United States?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Did she ever pay people in the United States
25 who were owed money either by Ge Songtao or Shanghai

1 Breeze?

2 A Yes, she did.

3 Q Did she or did she not sometimes let you or
4 Mr. Ge use her credit cards?

5 A Yes. She gave me couple of her credit card
6 numbers and billing information, and also the company
7 debit card information.

8 Q Why was -- why was that necessary?

9 A Because when we was in the United States,
10 sometimes we have it easier with the billing address
11 when we booking the tickets or something else online,
12 so I ask her -- so Mr. Ge told me to ask her if that's
13 okay we use her card and if she can get the money back
14 from the company account.

15 Q All right. If she's making purchases for
16 Mr. Ge and letting you use her credit cards and
17 sometimes paying people that Mr. Ge or Shanghai Breeze
18 owed money, was there some way to document all those
19 transactions?

20 A Yes. So every two or three months, she will
21 send us the expense report.

22 Q You said she would send it to "us." Who did
23 she send it to?

24 A Mr. Ge and me.

25 Q Okay. Was it always Mr. Ge and you?

1 A No. Sometimes. Because sometime Mr. Ge will
2 forward her email to me.

3 Q Did you pay close attention to those expense
4 reports?

5 A Not really.

6 MR. COOLICAN: I'm going to approach the
7 witness with what's been marked as Government's
8 Exhibit 1A.

9 (Government's Exhibit Number 1A was marked
10 for identification.)

11 BY MR. COOLICAN:

12 Q I'm handing the witness what's been marked as
13 Government's Exhibit 1A.

14 Miss, do you recognize Government's Exhibit
15 1A?

16 A Yes, I do. I took the picture.

17 Q All right. Let's slow down. Is Government's
18 Exhibit 1A a picture?

19 A Yes.

20 Q And you just said that you took it. Do you
21 recall when you took that photograph?

22 A I think it's when we was in -- at their
23 house.

24 Q At whose house?

25 A Mr. and Mrs. Yang's house.

1 Q All right. Who is in the photograph that's
2 Government's Exhibit 1A?

3 A Mr. Ge, Yuki, and Mr. Yang.

4 Q And is that photograph an accurate picture of
5 what the three of them looked like on the day you took
6 it?

7 A Yes.

8 (Government's Exhibit Number 42 was marked
9 for identification.)

10 BY MR. COOLICAN:

11 Q All right. I'm going to approach the witness
12 with Government's Exhibit 42.

13 Miss, do you recognize Government's Exhibit
14 42?

15 A Yes, I do.

16 Q What is Government's Exhibit 42?

17 A It's my plea agreement.

18 Q Miss, were you charged with and pled guilty
19 to the offense of conspiracy to cause the submission of
20 false export information to the federal government and
21 to illegally export merchandise from the United States?

22 A Yes.

23 Q And in that plea agreement, Government's
24 Exhibit 42, did you agree to plead guilty to that
25 charge?

1 A Yes, I do.

2 Q As part of that agreement, did the United
3 States agree that if you pled guilty to that conspiracy
4 charge that the United States would dismiss two other
5 charges that were pending against you?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Did all three of those charges involve the
8 submission of false information to the United States
9 government?

10 A Yes.

11 Q And what was the type of false information
12 involved?

13 A Fill in the incorrect information to the --
14 the export system.

15 Q All right. And was the false information
16 about who was buying merchandise and where they were --

17 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to leading, Michael.

18 BY MR. COOLICAN:

19 Q Let me rephrase the question.

20 Was the false information about or not about
21 the submission of information about the buyer of
22 merchandise?

23 A It's about.

24 Q It's about that?

25 A Yeah.

1 Q All right. Was the false information about
2 or not about where the buyer was located?

3 A It's about.

4 Q It's about that?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Okay. And what merchandise are we talking
7 about? What goods?

8 A The wing boats and the MFE engines.

9 Q Okay. Are wing boats rubber inflatable
10 boats?

11 A Yes.

12 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to relevance of all of
13 this, about the facts of her -- the offense to
14 which she pled guilty. It's sufficiently set
15 forth in the record. Object to anything further.

16 BY MR. COOLICAN:

17 Q Now, so the crime that you pled guilty to was
18 a conspiracy about providing false information; is that
19 true or not true?

20 A It's true.

21 Q Is it true that or not true that you're
22 eventually going to be sentenced for having pled
23 guilty?

24 A Yes, it's true.

25 Q Is that scheduled to happen next week?

1 A Yes. Next Wednesday.

2 Q Do you know what sentence you're going to
3 get?

4 A No, I don't know.

5 Q Do you know who decides what sentence to
6 impose?

7 A The judge.

8 Q Has anyone promised you that you're going to
9 receive a light sentence?

10 A No.

11 Q Does your plea agreement contain paragraphs
12 concerning cooperation?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Have you agreed to cooperate with the United
15 States?

16 A Yes, I did.

17 Q Does that cooperation include testifying
18 today?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Did you agree to cooperate because you're
21 hoping you'll receive a light sentence?

22 A Yes.

23 Q By pleading guilty and cooperating, is it
24 your hope that the United States, the prosecution, will
25 recommend a light sentence?

1 A Yes.

2 Q Do you know whether that's going to happen or
3 not?

4 A No, I don't know.

5 Q And if the United States recommends a light
6 sentence for you, who is ultimately going to decide
7 what sentence you should get?

8 A The judge.

9 Q Now, have you always been cooperating with
10 the United States?

11 A Yes.

12 Q You've always been cooperative, or were there
13 times when you weren't cooperative?

14 A So when they first arrested me, I won't
15 cooperate.

16 Q Okay. Were you arrested on October 17th of
17 2019?

18 A Yes.

19 Q All right. Were you interviewed by federal
20 agents on that day?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Did you tell federal agents on that day that
23 you had only met Mr. Yang once or twice?

24 A Yes, I did.

25 Q All right. Was that true?

1 A No.

2 Q How many times do you think you've met with
3 him?

4 A At least three time.

5 Q Did you tell federal agents during that
6 interview in October of 2019 that you weren't sure how
7 well Ge Songtao knows Mr. Yang? Did you tell agents
8 that?

9 A Yes, I did.

10 Q All right. Was that completely truthful?

11 A No.

12 Q On October 17th, 2019, did you tell federal
13 agents that you weren't sure why Mrs. Yang was being
14 paid so much money for Shanghai Breeze?

15 Did you tell them that?

16 A Yes, I did.

17 Q All right. Was that truthful?

18 A No.

19 Q Did you tell federal agents that Ge Songtao
20 doesn't own any guns but he has friends that loan guns
21 to him, specifically guns that he likes?

22 Did you tell the agents that?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Was that completely truthful?

25 A No.

1 Q All right. Do you understand or not
2 understanding that lying to federal agents is a crime?

3 A I understand.

4 Q Have you ever been charged with lying to
5 federal agents on October 17th, 2019?

6 A Not yet, no.

7 Q After that interview, did there come a point
8 in time when you started cooperating with the United
9 States?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Did you and your attorneys meet with the
12 prosecution team, including me and some of the agents?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Did that happen several times?

15 A Yes.

16 Q All right. Did we meet twice this week?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Did we meet for several hours on Monday of
19 this week?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Did we meet for about an hour and a half
22 yesterday?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Did we have several meetings throughout the
25 year 2020?

1 A Yes.

2 Q All right. Let's shift back and talk a
3 little bit about Mrs. Yang's employment by Ge Songtao
4 and Shanghai Breeze.

5 Correct me if I'm wrong, I think you
6 testified that she started working there in late 2016.
7 Do I have that right?

8 A Yes, you have that right.

9 Q Okay. Did she continue working for the
10 company and Mr. Ge after that?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Did that continue through the date of your
13 arrest in October of 2019?

14 A Yes.

15 Q So, tell me if I'm wrong, that's a little
16 less than three years?

17 A Yes, you are right.

18 Q How did you communicate with Mrs. Yang when
19 you were in China and she was in the United States?

20 A Sometimes it's -- she sent me emails.
21 Sometimes -- most of the time we contact each other
22 through WeChat.

23 Q What is WeChat?

24 A It's -- WeChat is a China -- I mean
25 Chinese-based communication app.

1 Q Okay. And can people who use WeChat
2 communicate in Chinese?

3 A Yes. In Chinese and in other language, too.

4 Q You said it's an app. Is that something you
5 use on a smartphone?

6 A Yes, you can use that on a smartphone, but
7 you can also log in that on the laptop computer, and
8 even iPad.

9 Q All right. So it's a communication app.
10 What type of communication can users of WeChat use?

11 A You can send a message, a voice message, you
12 can send a picture, videos, and you even can send
13 locations, and share name cards.

14 Q Okay. When you say messages, do you mean
15 like text message?

16 A Yeah, text messages and a voice message.

17 Q All right. Why would you use a voice message
18 as opposed to a text message?

19 A Because sometimes it's much easier to just
20 send a voice message; it save you time.

21 Q All right. The functions that you were just
22 talking about, sending voice messages, pictures, texts,
23 did you use those functions on WeChat when you
24 communicated with Mrs. Yang?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Now, this WeChat app, is it just for one-on-
2 one communications, or can multiple people communicate
3 together at the same time?

4 A You can do both. They have group chat.

5 Q Did you communicate with Mrs. Yang just one
6 on one, or was she part of -- sometimes part of group
7 chats?

8 A We do both. So I communicated with her
9 directly, and the -- and Yuki and Mr. Ge and me had a
10 group chat.

11 (Government's Exhibits 16A, 16B, 19A, and 19B
12 were marked for identification.)

13 BY MR. COOLICAN:

14 Q All right. I'm going to approach the witness
15 with Government's Exhibit 16A, 16B, 19A, and 19B.

16 Miss, would you take a look at those
17 exhibits, please?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Do you recognize those exhibits?

20 A Yes, I did.

21 Q All right. Are they compact disks?

22 A What's compact disks?

23 Q Are they CDs?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Have you put those CDs into a computer and

1 looked at what's on them?

2 A Yes, I did.

3 Q All right. Was that earlier this week?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And did you mark the CDs in any way so that
6 you would recognize them today?

7 A Yes. I put my initial on there and also the
8 date.

9 Q All right. Do two of the CDs contain
10 spreadsheets?

11 A Yes.

12 Q All right. Is that 16A and 19A?

13 A Yes.

14 Q What's in the spreadsheets contained or saved
15 on 16A and 19A?

16 A It's a group chat.

17 Q All right. We'll do one at a time, okay.
18 We'll start with 16A.

19 A Okay.

20 Q 16A is a group chat?

21 A Oh, no. It's my personal chat, like
22 individual chat, with Yuki.

23 Q Okay. Why don't we put 16A into the computer
24 and have you take a look at it. Let me know when
25 you've got it.

1 A It's open. Yeah, the 16A is the group chat.

2 Q 16A is a group chat?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Okay. 16A has -- you testified that it has a
5 spreadsheet saved on it, and you're saying it's a group
6 chat?

7 A Yes.

8 Q What is contained within the spreadsheet
9 that's saved on 16A?

10 A It's like what time and what we talk about
11 and which people said that.

12 Q Okay. Does the spreadsheet contain
13 information from a WeChat group chat?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And the information that you just started
16 talking about, dates and times, explain that. Dates
17 and times of what?

18 A Of when we have the conversation.

19 Q Does the spreadsheet on 16A contain the text
20 messages that were sent on those dates and times?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Does 16A, the spreadsheet saved on it, have
23 the name of the file names of files that were sent
24 using WeChat?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Can you speak up?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Does it -- the spreadsheet on 16A have the
4 screen name of the people sending messages?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Does it have the screen names of the people
7 receiving messages?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Who are the -- you said it's a group WeChat.
10 Who are the members of the group on the WeChat in the
11 spreadsheet on 16A?

12 A It's Mr. Ge, Yuki -- I mean Mrs. Yang, and
13 me.

14 Q All right. Why don't you take out 16A out of
15 the computer, and we'll put 16B into the computer.

16 Before I ask you any questions about 16B,
17 16A, the group WeChat that's in the spreadsheet on that
18 disk, do you recognize the messages in that WeChat?

19 A Yes, I did.

20 Q Does the spreadsheet appear to contain the
21 complete content of the WeChat among Mr. Ge, Mrs. Yang,
22 and yourself?

23 A You mean all the contact?

24 Q For that one group chat. Does it appear to
25 have everything there, or does it appear to have been

1 altered?

2 Do you want to look at it again?

3 A Yeah.

4 Q All right. Let's look at it again.

5 A I think it's part of the message.

6 Q Why do you say that?

7 A Because we have more -- we talk more than
8 like what I see here.

9 Q Okay. Were there ever times where you had to
10 start a new WeChat after you changed phones?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Were there times where you would start new
13 WeChats, group WeChats with other participants, other
14 than just you and Mrs. Yang and Ge Songtao?

15 A No, I didn't have others, like this is the
16 first person I -- no.

17 Q All right. Let's remove that disk. Let's
18 put in 16B, please.

19 A Okay.

20 Q Now, Miss, you've reviewed Government's
21 Exhibit 16B before; correct?

22 A Yes.

23 Q All right. What is saved on Government's
24 Exhibit 16B?

25 A It's the voice message we send through the

1 WeChat group chat.

2 Q Okay. And when you say the WeChat group
3 chat, is that the group chat among Mrs. Yang and Ge
4 Songtao and yourself?

5 A Yes.

6 Q All right. Is it all of the audio files or
7 just some of them?

8 A Some of them.

9 Q All right. Have you listened to the audio
10 files on -- saved on Exhibit 16A?

11 A 16B?

12 Q I'm sorry, 16B. You're right.

13 A Yes.

14 Q All right. Do you recognize the voices of
15 the people on those audio files?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Who are the people that you hear?

18 A Sometime it's Yuki, sometimes it's Mr. Ge.

19 Q Okay. When you say Yuki, you mean --

20 A Mrs. Yang.

21 Q -- Mrs. Yang?

22 A Yeah.

23 Q Does it appear to you that the audio files
24 are copies of the original audio files that were part
25 of that WeChat, or have they been altered or edited in

1 some way?

2 A I think it's the original file.

3 Q All right. Let's take out 16B and take a
4 look at 19A.

5 Do you see your initials on 19A?

6 A Yes.

7 Q And are your initials on 16A, 16B, 19A, and
8 19B?

9 A Yes.

10 Q All right. What is saved on Government's
11 Exhibit 19A?

12 A It's an Excel file.

13 Q And what information is contained within that
14 Excel file or spreadsheet?

15 A It's my WeChat message with Mrs. Yang.

16 Q Okay. Is the spreadsheet similar to the
17 spreadsheet that you were testifying earlier about
18 that's saved on 16A?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Does it contain similar type of information?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And by that -- well, let me ask you this,
23 does it include the date and time that messages were
24 sent?

25 A Yes, it does.

1 Q Does it list on the spreadsheet who sent a
2 particular message?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Does it list who received a particular
5 message?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Does it list the file names of any
8 attachments that were sent during the WeChat between
9 you and Mrs. Yang?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Does it contain the content of text messages
12 that were sent by either you or Mrs. Yang?

13 A Yes.

14 Q All right. Does the spreadsheet contain
15 multiple years' worth of WeChat communications between
16 you and Mrs. Yang?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Are there thousands of entries in the
19 spreadsheet?

20 A Yes.

21 Q All right. Let's take that disk out and look
22 at 19B, as in Bravo.

23 What is saved on Government's Exhibit 19B?

24 A It's the voice message between Yuki and -- I
25 mean Mrs. Yang and me.

1 Q Okay. And are we talking about voice
2 messages sent during the WeChat between you and
3 Mrs. Yang?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Is it all of the voice messages or just some
6 of them?

7 A Some of them.

8 Q Have you listened to all of the voice
9 messages on that disk, 19B?

10 A Yes, I did.

11 Q Do you recognize the voices on the disks?

12 A Yes, I did.

13 Q Who are the voices on the disks?

14 A Either me or either Yuki -- I mean Mrs. Yang.

15 Q Did you -- in addition to recognizing the
16 voices, did you recognize some of those messages as
17 messages that you sent to Mrs. Yang?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Did you recognize messages that she had sent
20 to you?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Did it appear that the recordings had been
23 altered or edited in any way?

24 A No.

25 Q All right. So then taking a step back, the

1 four CDs, 16A and B, 19A and B, do those CDs contain
2 some of your communications with Mrs. Yang about work
3 that she was doing for Ge Songtao?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Do some of those communications concerning --
6 concern work that she was doing for Mr. Ge's company,
7 Shanghai Breeze?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Does some of the work described in those
10 communications include work that she did for Mr. Ge
11 personally?

12 A Yes.

13 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to leading. Let the
14 witness testify.

15 Q You can answer the question.

16 A Yes.

17 Q What type of personal things did you -- those
18 communications concerning personal tasks that Mrs. Yang
19 did for Ge Songtao, what type of personal things are
20 described in those communications?

21 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to the form of the
22 question, leading.

23 BY MR. COOLICAN:

24 Q Go ahead.

25 A Ordering stuff, make orders in the United

1 States.

2 Q Were there products that Mr. Ge could not
3 order in China for himself?

4 A Yes.

5 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to the question. It's
6 a little late, but it's -- how would she know?
7 This is an improper question, calling on the
8 mental -- mental processes of another person.

9 Q How often did you speak with Mr. Ge when you
10 worked as his executive assistant?

11 A Almost every day.

12 Q When you traveled with him, were you in his
13 presence many hours a day?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Did you help him with his shopping?

16 A Yes, I did.

17 Q Are you familiar with products that he likes?

18 A Yes, I did.

19 Q Do you know whether all of those products are
20 available in China?

21 A No. There's many stuff Mr. Ge likes that
22 they don't sell that in China.

23 Q You testified earlier about traveling to the
24 United States with Ge Songtao on business trips. When
25 you were on these business trips with him, did you ever

1 accompany him to a firing range?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Once? Multiple times?

4 A Multiple times.

5 Q And what would he do at these firing ranges?

6 A Have some other people shooting with him.

7 Q So he would shoot firearms?

8 A Yes.

9 Q And what would you do while with him at the
10 firing ranges?

11 A So, first of all, he cannot speak with them,
12 so I have to do the translator work for him. And then
13 he really like to shooting, so he's asking me to take
14 photos, videos for him.

15 Q All right. Do you like shooting firearms?

16 A No.

17 Q Did you like going to the firing ranges?

18 A No.

19 Q Why not?

20 A I feel they are scary, like the sounds, and
21 it -- probably will get hurt.

22 Q I'm sorry, I didn't hear that last part.

23 A I mean if it's miss shooting or something,
24 get hurt.

25 Q Okay. Do you know -- do you personally know

1 a lot about firearms?

2 A No.

3 Q When you were in the United States and went
4 to firing ranges with Ge Songtao, did he sometimes use
5 a firearm that the Yangs possessed and gave him when he
6 was in the United States?

7 A Yes.

8 Q At times did you coordinate with Mrs. Yang to
9 get that gun or guns to Mr. Ge when he was in the
10 United States?

11 A Yes.

12 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to -- put a time and a
13 place. Object to --

14 Q When did you first start working for Shanghai
15 Breeze?

16 A At the beginning of 2016, which is January
17 2016.

18 Q Okay. You were arrested when?

19 A October 17, 2019.

20 Q Okay. During that period, did you travel to
21 the United States with Mr. Ge?

22 A Yes, I did.

23 Q How many times?

24 A Multiple times. Maybe like two times every
25 year, two or three times every year.

1 Q Do you know or do you not know the exact
2 dates of all those trips?

3 A No, because it's too many times. I cannot
4 remember all the exactly dates.

5 Q Okay. You were testifying about coordinating
6 with Mrs. Yang to get guns to Ge Songtao. Even though
7 you helped him in that way, have you ever been charged
8 with a crime in connection with giving him access to
9 firearms?

10 A No.

11 Q Did you use WeChat to coordinate getting Ge
12 Songtao firearms from the Yangs?

13 A Yes, I did.

14 Q Now, when you used WeChat to coordinate in
15 that way, were you communicating with Fan Yang or Yang
16 Yang?

17 A Yang Yang.

18 Q Have you had WeChats with Fan Yang?

19 A No. I don't have his contact information.
20 No.

21 Q Okay. Have you had conversations with
22 Mr. Yang?

23 A Maybe when we meet up together, I will say
24 hi. But except that, I don't think we talk a lot --
25 no, I don't think we even talk sometimes.

1 Q Now, the WeChat communications with Yang Yang
2 coordinating getting guns from the Yangs to Ge Songtao,
3 do some of those WeChat communications, are they saved
4 on the spreadsheets and the audio files on Government's
5 Exhibits 16A, B and 19A and B?

6 A Yes.

7 MR. TRUNCALE: I would ask that you establish
8 which exhibit she's talking about. Otherwise I
9 object to the question and answer as too vague.

10 Q Did you have group chats with Mrs. Yang and
11 Ge Songtao about firearms?

12 A Yes, we did.

13 Q Did you have one-on-one chats, WeChats, with
14 Mrs. Yang and yourself about firearms?

15 A Yes, I did.

16 Q Now, when Mrs. Yang and Ge Songtao
17 communicated about getting guns for Ge Songtao to use,
18 at times did they describe it as Ge Songtao borrowing
19 the Yangs' guns?

20 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to the question. It
21 assume facts not in evidence and assumes --
22 assumes facts not in evidence.

23 BY MR. COOLICAN:

24 Q You can answer.

25 A Sometimes.

1 Q Did they always talk in those terms about
2 borrowing and lending the firearms?

3 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to whom you're talking
4 about? Is it Yang Yang or -- or whom -- would
5 you --

6 MR. COOLICAN: I'll rephrase.

7 MR. TRUNCALE: -- identify the party?

8 BY MR. COOLICAN:

9 Q When Mrs. Yang and Ge Songtao communicated
10 about Ge Songtao borrowing guns, or the Yangs lending
11 guns, did they always talk in those terms or just
12 sometimes?

13 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to the question.

14 There's -- you haven't laid a foundation of any
15 time or place or that she was present or how she
16 would know. She's not qualified to answer the
17 question. She's simply not competent.

18 You're asking about two other persons talking
19 generally over a period of three years.

20 BY MR. COOLICAN:

21 Q Can you answer the question? Did you always
22 talk in those term -- I'm sorry.

23 Did they always communicate in those terms?

24 A Not always. Sometimes.

25 MR. TRUNCALE: Again, object to the answer.

1 Q In the WeChats that you've been testifying
2 about that are saved on Government's Exhibits 16A and B
3 and 19A and B, are there communications about a Glock
4 firearm?

5 A Yes, I think so. Yes.

6 Q On those same exhibits, are there
7 communications about a Sig Sauer firearm?

8 A Yes. It's two different time.

9 Q You testified earlier about Mr. Ge referring
10 to firearms as toys.

11 A Yes.

12 Q Do the four exhibits that I just mentioned
13 contain communications in which firearms are referred
14 to as toys?

15 A Yes. So he -- normally he will talk -- he
16 will say all the firearms as toys. But sometimes he
17 has a nickname.

18 MR. TRUNCALE: Sorry, I could not hear that.

19 MR. COOLICAN: Why don't we go off the record
20 for a minute to fix the audio.

21 VIDEOGRAPHER: Off the record at 12:05 p.m.

22 (Off-the-record discussion)

23 VIDEOGRAPHER: We're back on the record at
24 12:12.

25 BY MR. COOLICAN:

1 Q All right. Miss, I was asking you questions
2 about WeChats in which firearms were referred to as
3 toys. When I'm talking about WeChats, I'm talking
4 about WeChats that you either had with Mrs. Yang or
5 WeChats that you had with Ge Songtao and Mrs. Yang.

6 Do you understand that?

7 A Yes.

8 Q All right. In addition to firearms sometimes
9 being called toys, were there any other names used to
10 describe firearms?

11 A Not about firearms. It's about the model of
12 the -- the guns.

13 Q The model of the guns?

14 A Yeah. It's not like the big name, as
15 firearms, but, for example, the Sig Sauer, they call it
16 Xiao Xi.

17 Q Okay. Who called it Xiao Xi?

18 A I think all three of us had used that name.

19 Q And "all three" is who -- is what people?

20 A Mrs. Yang, Mr. Ge, and me.

21 Q Okay. And are you talking about in WeChat
22 communications?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Were there any other names used to describe
25 specific firearms?

1 A Yes. There's another gun called a Glock. We
2 call it Xiao Ge.

3 Q And, again, are we talking about using that
4 term in WeChats?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Why would you use those terms instead of just
7 calling them Sig Sauer or Glock?

8 A Because Mr. Ge told me do not use that in --
9 like when we're talking about that.

10 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to the hearsay
11 response. I would ask that it would be stricken.

12 Q When he told you not to refer to them as Sig
13 Sauer or Glock, did you understand why he was telling
14 you that?

15 A He said it's kind of --

16 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to the hearsay
17 continually, and this answer as well.

18 Q You can answer. What did he say?

19 A He told me sometimes it's kind of sensitive.

20 Q Do you know someone named Gabriel Lopez?

21 A Yes, I did.

22 Q Did Gabriel Lopez work for Shanghai Breeze in
23 the United States?

24 A Yes. For some months, yes.

25 Q Do you know what type of work -- as the

1 executive assistant to the chairman of Shanghai Breeze,
2 do you know what type of work Gabe, or Gabriel, Lopez
3 did in the United States for Shanghai Breeze?

4 A Yes. I think I know some of them, but I'm
5 not sure it's all of them.

6 Q Okay. What tasks do you know about that Gabe
7 Lopez did in the United States for Shanghai Breeze?

8 A So the first time we hire him -- before we
9 hire him, he was playing the toys with Mr. Ge in the
10 shooting range.

11 Q Okay. And when you say toys, what are you
12 referring to?

13 A Firearms.

14 Q Okay. So he's someone that you and Mr. --
15 well, did you go to firing ranges with Gabe Lopez and
16 Ge Songtao?

17 A Yes, I did.

18 Q Okay. Do you know if he was paid to take Ge
19 Songtao to firing ranges in the United States?

20 A Yes. I remember we gave him two or three
21 thousand in cash that time.

22 Q All right. Did you and Ge Songtao travel to
23 the United States in business -- on business in late
24 2017?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Did you visit New Orleans during that
2 business trip?

3 A Yes.

4 Q What was the purpose of visiting New Orleans
5 in late 2017?

6 A So we at the dealer for Metal Shark Boats,
7 and in New Orleans there's the ward -- the ward --
8 WorkBoat Show.

9 Q Okay. I think you mentioned two things
10 there, Metal Shark and a boat show. Is Metal Shark a
11 United States manufacturer?

12 A Yes.

13 Q What do they manufacture?

14 A They manufacture boats, like fiberglass boats
15 and also aluminum boats. And I think that right now
16 they also do yachts.

17 Q And are you saying during the business trip
18 in late 2017, you and Ge Songtao visited a Metal Shark
19 business?

20 A Yes.

21 Q You also mentioned a boat show. Did you and
22 Ge Songtao attend a boat show or not attend a boat
23 show? I don't understand.

24 A So we attended a boat show, not only us but
25 two other coworkers from Shanghai Breeze, as Metal

1 Shark's agent there.

2 Q So during this business trip to the United
3 States in late 2017, did you also travel to
4 Jacksonville, Florida?

5 A Yes, I think -- yes.

6 Q Now, you testified about Gabe Lopez going
7 with you and Ge Songtao to shooting ranges. During
8 this trip to Jacksonville in late 2017, did you go to a
9 shooting range with Gabe Lopez and Ge Songtao?

10 A Yes. I think we went at least two different
11 shooting range.

12 Q Before going to the shooting range in late
13 2017, did you, Ge Songtao, and Mrs. Yang have a
14 three-way WeChat about getting a toy to Ge Songtao?

15 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to leading.

16 A Yes.

17 Q Is that three-way chat contained on
18 Government's Exhibits 16A and 16B?

19 A Yes.

20 (Government's Exhibit Number 26A was marked
21 for identification.)

22 BY MR. COOLICAN:

23 Q All right. I'm going to approach the witness
24 with Government's Exhibit 16 -- I'm sorry, 26A.

25 All right. Miss, if you could take a look at

1 Government's 26A. Do you recognize Government's
2 Exhibit 26A?

3 A Yes.

4 Q What is Government's Exhibit 26A?

5 A It's an expense report Yuki -- I mean
6 Mrs. Yang sent to us.

7 Q How did she send the expense report?

8 A To both Mr. Ge and me.

9 Q Was that via email?

10 A Yes, through email.

11 Q Is the email included as part of Government's
12 Exhibit 26A?

13 A Yes.

14 Q What's the date that the email was sent?

15 A June 30th, 2018.

16 Q You testified earlier about Mrs. Yang sending
17 expense reports to either Ge Songtao or you or both of
18 you. Is the expense report that's attached to the
19 email on Government's Exhibit 26A an example of that
20 type of report?

21 A Yes.

22 Q All right. The expense report, does it have
23 a date range?

24 A It's from April 1st, 2018, to June 30th,
25 2018.

1 Q Does the expense report have a column listing
2 dates?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Do you know what those dates are?

5 A Yes.

6 Q What are the dates?

7 A Like April 1st, April 18th.

8 Q I don't mean what dates are listed. I mean
9 what do the dates represent?

10 A The time the money is spent.

11 Q Is there a column to the right of the date
12 column?

13 A Yes.

14 Q All right. And is that column titled
15 Category?

16 A Yes.

17 Q When you received this email with the expense
18 report attached, did you understand what the categories
19 represented in that column?

20 A Yes.

21 Q In that column, are there certain
22 transactions listed under the category personal?

23 A Yes.

24 Q What was your understanding of what personal
25 meant for a particular transaction?

1 A I think it means it's for Mr. Ge personal
2 use.

3 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to the response. I
4 object to what she thinks.

5 No objection to what she knows.

6 I object as not competent to answer that
7 question, not responsive.

8 BY MR. COOLICAN:

9 Q Is this the only expense report you received?

10 A No.

11 Q You received many expense reports from
12 Mrs. Yang?

13 A Yes.

14 Q All right. I want you to look at a
15 transaction, the first transaction listed for June 1st
16 on the expense report that's Government's Exhibit 26A.

17 Do you see that?

18 A Yes.

19 Q What's the description of the transaction?

20 A Xiao Ge and three magazines.

21 Q Do you have an understanding of what Xiao Ge
22 refers to?

23 A The Glock.

24 Q Is Xiao Ge a term that you used to describe
25 the Glock with Mrs. Yang?

1 A Yes.

2 Q All right. Miss, did you and Ge Songtao take
3 a business trip to the United States in July 2018?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Was this a trip where you visited with Metal
6 Shark again or other manufacturers?

7 A Metal Shark.

8 Q Okay. And where is a Metal Shark facility?

9 A In Louisiana. And it's a very small town.

10 Q As part of that business trip in July of
11 2018, did you go anywhere else?

12 A Yes. We went to another shooting range.

13 Q All right. Was that a shooting range in
14 Nebraska?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Now, you testified earlier about meeting
17 Mr. Yang at a shooting range in Nebraska. Is that the
18 trip that we're talking about?

19 A Yes.

20 Q How long were you at the shooting range in
21 Nebraska?

22 A Around ten days.

23 Q Was there a person in charge of the facility?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Did you meet him?

1 A Yes.

2 Q Did you spend any time with him?

3 A Yes. He's one of the instructor -- I mean
4 the guy who play the toys with Mr. Ge.

5 Q Okay. And what do you mean by toys?

6 A The firearms.

7 Q All right. What was that person's name?

8 A Tim.

9 Q Tim?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Do you remember his last name?

12 A It's a hard last name.

13 Q It's a hard last name?

14 A Yes.

15 Q What was Mr. Ge, or Ge Songtao, doing for ten
16 days at this firing range or training facility?

17 A Shooting.

18 Q Okay. What were you doing?

19 A Translator -- translating and sometimes take
20 videos.

21 Q Okay. Was there a lot of video taken during
22 that trip, some video, no video?

23 A There was a lot of video. And I think Tim
24 helps Mr. Ge to hire a professional camera guy there to
25 take the video.

1 Q Okay. Was that on one day, multiple days?
2 How long did that filming by a professional take place?

3 A At least two days. I think multiple days.

4 Q In connection with the trip to Nebraska in
5 July of 2018, were you communicating on WeChat with
6 Mrs. Yang during that time?

7 A Yes, I did.

8 Q What are some of the things that you
9 communicated about with her?

10 A So, first of all, Mr. Ge asked me to invite
11 them come to visit us.

12 Q Invite who?

13 A Both Mr. and Mrs. Yang.

14 Q Okay. And you communicated on WeChat about
15 that?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Okay. What else did you communicate, if
18 anything, with Mrs. Yang about?

19 A And also asked Mrs. Yang to send one of his
20 toys -- I mean Mr. Ge's toy here.

21 Q And when you say toy, what are you referring
22 to?

23 A Firearms.

24 Q And is that something Ge Songtao asked you to
25 do, or is that your idea? How did that come about?

1 A He told me to ask Mrs. Yang to do that.

2 Q Did you do that?

3 A Yes, I did.

4 Q Do you know whether Mrs. Yang complied with
5 your instructions?

6 A Yes. He -- I mean she sent it to a weapon
7 store there, and I think a team or some of -- one of
8 his guy go pick it up.

9 Q Okay. Do you know why the gun was sent to a
10 weapons store?

11 A I think at that time Tim explained to Mr. Ge,
12 but it's like a super long conversation why it needed
13 to be -- do that, but --

14 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to the hearsay response
15 with regard to Mr. Grover.

16 Q All right. Did you consult with Tim, the
17 person running the training facility, on how to ship a
18 firearm to Nebraska?

19 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to leading.

20 BY MR. COOLICAN:

21 Q Did you consult with him about that?

22 A Yes. He gave me like a where to send, like
23 address, and the people name. He sent that as a text
24 message to me.

25 Q What did you do with that text message?

1 A I copy-pasted and sent to Mrs. Yang.

2 Q The communications on WeChat that you were
3 just testifying about -- and by that I mean inviting
4 the Yangs to come to Nebraska and instructing Mrs. Yang
5 to ship a toy -- were these WeChat communications on
6 Government's Exhibit 19A and B?

7 A Yes.

8 MR. TRUNCALE: Could you tell me which one
9 you are referring to, Mr. Coolican?

10 MR. COOLICAN: I'm referring to both, 19A and
11 19B.

12 THE WITNESS: Yes.

13 BY MR. COOLICAN:

14 Q Is 19B audio files?

15 A Yes.

16 MR. TRUNCALE: I'm talking about what
17 particular message of the tens of thousands of
18 messages are you speaking of?

19 I object to the questioning when I have no
20 idea of how to refer to what she is testifying
21 about. So I'll ask you to be particular. And I
22 object to the question and answer until there is
23 at least that minimal specificity.

24 BY MR. COOLICAN:

25 Q Mrs. Yang, do you remember WeChat-ing with --

1 I'm sorry.

2 Do you remember WeChat-ing with Mrs. Yang
3 about the Yangs coming to Nebraska in July of 2018?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Have you reviewed communications about that
6 subject that you had with Mrs. Yang on Government's
7 Exhibit 19A and Government's Exhibit 19B?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Did the Yangs eventually join you and Ge
10 Songtao at the training facility in Nebraska?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Do you know who paid for that travel?

13 A So first --

14 Q Do you know?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Okay. How do you know?

17 A Because first when -- at the beginning Mr. Ge
18 asked me to --

19 MR. TRUNCALE: Object, unresponsive and
20 hearsay.

21 Q Did you tell Mrs. Yang that Ge Songtao would
22 pay for the Yangs' travel to Nebraska, or did you not
23 tell her that?

24 MR. TRUNCALE: Object to leading.

25 A I told him.

1 Q After -- all right. How long were the Yangs
2 at the shooting facility in Nebraska?

3 A A whole weekend.

4 Q Did you socialize with the Yangs while they
5 were there?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Did Ge Songtao socialize with the Yangs while
8 they were there?

9 A Yes.

10 Q What type of things did you do together?

11 A We went to dinner together, and Mr. Ge and
12 Mr. Yang, they shooting together.

13 Q Did you see Mr. Yang and Ge Songtao together?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Other than shooting, what type of things did
16 they do, if anything?

17 A Like sit in the chair, and they went to
18 dinner -- I mean four of us went to dinner together.

19 Q Okay. Did you ever see them speaking?

20 A Yes.

21 Q You testified earlier about seeing them hug
22 at some point. Was it during this trip, or was that
23 during a different meeting?

24 A I cannot remember exactly which time they hug
25 together, but I do see them hug.

1 Q Okay. During the weekend that the Yangs were
2 at the training facility in Nebraska, did you give any
3 money to Mrs. Yang?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Why did you give money to Mrs. Yang?

6 A For two reasons. First is their trip, come
7 to the shooting range to meet with us, and the second
8 is I asked Mrs. Yang to order something for me, so I
9 pay her back.

10 (Government's Exhibit Number 29A was marked
11 for identification.)

12 MR. COOLICAN: I'm going to approach with
13 what's been marked as Government's Exhibit 29A, as
14 in Alpha.

15 MR. TRUNCALE: I will be objecting to this
16 specifically.

17 BY MR. COOLICAN:

18 Q All right. Miss, do you recognize
19 Government's Exhibit 29A?

20 A Yeah. I recognize the pictures.

21 Q You recognize the pictures, okay?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Is Government's Exhibit 29A 13 pages?

24 A Yes.

25 MR. TRUNCALE: I object unless she can

1 explain how she recognizes it, where it's from,
2 how she -- what -- could she authenticate the
3 document before it's admitted -- attempted to be
4 admitted.

5 Q Is it 13 pages long?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Do the last 11 pages of the document contain
8 photographs?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Who took those photographs?

11 A I did.

12 Q What -- where did you take those photographs?

13 A In the shooting range with Mr. Ge's phone.

14 MR. TRUNCALE: I have no objection to those
15 last 11 photographs.

16 Q When you say shooting range, are you talking
17 about the shooting range in Nebraska?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Was this during the trip in July of 2018?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Are the last 11 pages of Government's Exhibit
22 29A accurate --

23 A Yes.

24 Q -- depiction -- let me finish -- accurate
25 depictions of the scenes that you photographed in July

1 of 2018?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Let's look at the first photograph that's on
4 Page 3 of Government's Exhibit 29A. Are there people
5 in that photograph?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Do you recognize the people?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Who are they?

10 A Mr. Yang and Mr. Ge.

11 Q All right. Let's turn to the fourth page of
12 Government's Exhibit 29A. Are there people in that
13 photograph?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Do you recognize anyone in that photograph?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Who do you recognize?

18 A Mr. Yang and Mr. Ge.

19 Q All right. Is there someone on the far left
20 of the picture?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Are you sure who that is? Can you tell from
23 the photograph who that is?

24 A I think it's Tim.

25 Q Tim?

1 A Yes.

2 Q Let's go to the sixth page of Government's
3 Exhibit 29A. Do you recognize the people in the
4 photograph on the sixth page?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Who are the people in that photograph?

7 A Mr. Ge and Tim.

8 Q Let's turn to the next page, the seventh of
9 Government's Exhibit 29A. Do you recognize the people
10 in that photograph?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Who are the people in that photograph?

13 A Mr. Ge, Mr. Yang, and Tim.

14 Q All right. Besides Tim, were there other
15 people at the firing range in Nebraska in July of 2017
16 who assisted Mr. Ge?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Do you remember any of their names?

19 A I remember Tim bring more -- like many of
20 their instructor and to show them to Mr. Ge, but
21 there's one or two times there's another guy called
22 Pete.

23 Q Pete?

24 A Yeah.

25 Q Do you remember Pete's last name?

1 A No.

2 Q Okay. Referring back to the firearm that you
3 told Mrs. Yang to ship to Nebraska, do you know what
4 happened to that firearm after Mr. Ge completed his
5 training for those ten days?

6 A We lock that in the shooting range in a
7 locker.

8 Q In a locker?

9 A Yes.

10 MR. TRUNCALE: Could I ask who is "we"?

11 Q Who participated in locking it in a locker?

12 A Mr. Ge, Pete, and me; maybe Tim is there.

13 Q All right. Do you remember what kind of lock
14 it was? Was it a key lock, a combination lock?

15 A It's a key lock, because we have two separate
16 keys.

17 Q Okay. What happened to those keys?

18 A One of the keys Tim had -- no, I mean Pete
19 had that. And Mr. Ge and me bring back the other key.

20 Q So Pete had one key and you and Mr. Ge had
21 the other key?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Miss, during your trips to the United States
24 with Ge Songtao in 2016, '17, or '18, when visiting
25 with the Yangs, did you ever overhear Ge Songtao tell

1 Fan Yang that he cannot buy a gun because he's not a
2 citizen and doesn't have a green card?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Do you know specifically what date that
5 occurred on?

6 A No. Because Mr. Ge said many times.

7 Q Many times to Mr. Yang?

8 A Yeah. And also to other peoples.

9 Q Okay. He said that to other people. Did
10 that include Mrs. Yang?

11 A Yeah. And all the others.

12 Q How would that conversation -- how would that
13 topic even come up?

14 A Sometimes it's because Mr. Ge was trying to
15 explain to other people why he want to get a green card
16 here, and sometimes it's when they were talking about
17 how he loves the toys.

18 Q And what do you mean by toys?

19 A Firearms. And that it's not legal in China
20 at all.

21 Q When traveling to the United States with Ge
22 Songtao and visiting with Fan Yang, did you ever
23 overhear Ge Songtao tell Fan Yang that it was
24 permissible for Americans to lend Ge Songtao guns?

25 A No, I never heard that.

1 Q Did you ever hear Ge Songtao during those
2 same trips tell Mrs. Yang that it was okay for
3 Americans to lend him guns?

4 A No, I never heard that.

5 Q Did you ever tell Fan Yang during any of your
6 trips to the United States that it was permissible for
7 Americans to lend guns to Ge Songtao?

8 A No. I don't really talk to him.

9 Q You never really talked to Fan Yang; is that
10 what you're saying?

11 A Yes. Except say hi and bye.

12 Q Did you ever overhear anyone -- while you
13 were visiting with Fan Yang, did you ever hear
14 anyone -- overhear anyone tell Fan Yang that it was
15 okay for Americans to lend Ge Songtao guns?

16 A No.

17 Q During your visits with Mrs. Yang, did you
18 ever hear anyone tell Mrs. Yang that it was permissible
19 for Americans to lend Ge Songtao guns?

20 A No.

21 Q While traveling to the United States and
22 visiting the Yangs, did you ever overhear Ge Songtao
23 tell Fan Yang that it's legal for Fan Yang to buy a gun
24 to let Ge Songtao use it?

25 A No.

1 Q Did you ever tell Fan Yang that it was legal
2 for him to buy a gun and let Ge Songtao use it?

3 A No.

4 Q Did you ever tell Mrs. Yang that?

5 A No.

6 Q Did you ever overhear anyone tell Fan Yang
7 that it was legal for him to buy a gun to let Ge
8 Songtao use it?

9 A No.

10 Q Did you ever overhear anyone tell Mrs. Yang
11 that it was legal for her to buy a gun to let Ge
12 Songtao use it?

13 A No.

14 MR. COOLICAN: I'm just going to need a
15 minute.

16 All right. Those are my questions.

17 MR. TRUNCALE: It's ten minutes of 1:00. I
18 was thinking perhaps we might break for lunch now,
19 because I'm going to be hours. I don't think
20 we're going to finish by 5:00, honestly.

21 MR. COOLICAN: Let's go off the record.

22 VIDEOGRAPHER: We're off the record at 12:48.

23 This is end of Media 1.

24 (Recess from 12:48 p.m. to 1:36 p.m.)

25 VIDEOGRAPHER: We're back on the record at

1 1:36 p.m., and this is the start of Media 2.

2 CROSS EXAMINATION

3 BY MR. TRUNCALE:

4 Q Good afternoon, Ms. -- is it Zheng?

5 A Zheng.

6 Q Ms. Zheng, I would like to ask you some
7 questions in response to some of the questions that
8 Mr. Coolican asked you, and then some additional ones,
9 too.

10 So let me start with, first of all, is it
11 your understanding that you're here today to give
12 testimony in a trial against Mr. Fan Yang because you
13 expect to be back in China after next week's
14 sentencing, or shortly after that?

15 A Yes, I hope that.

16 Q No, isn't it more than a hope?

17 Don't you expect Mr. Coolican to either
18 outright say, Judge, please let her -- we recommend
19 that she has no further -- no further incarceration,
20 she had approximately six months, and you also -- isn't
21 that what you expect?

22 A I hope that happen.

23 Q No, then -- why are you here today, then? I
24 thought you were here because your testimony is being
25 preserved because the government expects that you're

1 going to be in China.

2 A Because I cooperated, and it's a requirement
3 to testified.

4 Q I don't think you quite understand. You're
5 saying you only hope that you get a lenient sentence
6 and that next week the judge says no further
7 incarceration for you. Isn't that what you said, you
8 hope?

9 A Yes, I hope that happen.

10 Q But don't you expect your lawyer to say -- to
11 ask the judge to do that?

12 A My lawyer never said anything, but I --

13 Q He's not --

14 A -- do hope that.

15 Q He's not going to ask that you have no more
16 incarceration? Are you saying that?

17 A I say I hope that next week I can get time
18 served, but nobody is telling me what I can get next
19 week.

20 Q Let's -- let's break this down, because I do
21 not think you understand the question I'm asking.

22 You expect either Mr. Coxe to ask the judge
23 that you have no further incarceration than you had
24 already served in jail, don't -- you expect that to
25 happen, don't you?

1 A I hope that happen.

2 Q You hope that your attorney -- do you think
3 your attorney is going to ask for more incarceration?

4 A No. I mean --

5 Q I'm not talking about Mr. Coolican. I'm
6 talking about Mr. Coxe.

7 A Yes.

8 Q Do you not expect him to ask that?

9 A I expect my attorney to ask that.

10 Q Now, don't you expect Mr. Coolican is not
11 going to object if your attorney asks that?

12 A I hope Mr. Coolican does not object.

13 Q In fact, you expect either that he will join
14 in and agree and not object to you going home, to have
15 no further incarceration, or you just expect
16 Mr. Coolican to outright ask, Please, there's no
17 further sentence?

18 A I mean I hope Mr. Coolican is saying that.
19 But he never said anything to me.

20 Q You were not told by Mr. Coolican that you
21 were being deposed because --

22 A He told --

23 Q May I finish the question? I'm sorry, ma'am.
24 Didn't Mr. Coolican tell you that you needed
25 to be deposed -- and this is a deposition -- because

1 you're not expected be ordered to -- to serve any more
2 imprisonment, because you will not be available for his
3 trial if he were to be tried in May of this year, or if
4 he were to be tried in August of this year?

5 A I hope Mr. Coolican do that.

6 Q But you testified that he's -- that you don't
7 believe he's going to recommend it?

8 A I didn't say that. I just say I hope he's
9 going to -- like for my cooperation he's going to do
10 that.

11 Q But that doesn't really square why you're
12 here today, because you're here because the government
13 said you're probably not going to be here to testify
14 against Mr. Yang at trial, that you're going to get --
15 don't you know that the government has already told the
16 judge that they expect you will get a time-served
17 sentence next week?

18 Would you answer the question, ma'am?

19 A I'm not quite sure.

20 Q Do you know that the government attorney
21 asked the court to allow your testimony to be preserved
22 today --

23 A Yes.

24 Q -- because the government told the judge that
25 he fully expects you to get a sentence of time served

1 next week and that you will be deported to China and
2 that you won't be here to testify at Mr. Yang's trial?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Do you know that?

5 A I mean -- no, I don't know that, but --

6 Q You don't know that; is that what you're
7 saying?

8 You don't know that the government has
9 already stated to the court that the government expects
10 you not to be sentenced to any further incarceration?
11 Yes or no?

12 A I think yes. I --

13 Q So you do pretty much expect that you're
14 going to have no more incarceration.

15 How long were you incarcerated from the time
16 you were arrested on October 17, 2019, to the time you
17 got out of a jail?

18 A Six months.

19 Q Okay. And when you were released, that was
20 right after you signed the plea agreement that
21 Mr. Coolican referred to earlier?

22 A Yes.

23 Q That's so, isn't it?

24 A (Nods head)

25 Q And when you signed the plea agreement, you

1 kind of expected to no longer be in jail?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And today you still -- you expect to continue
4 not to have to go to jail anymore?

5 A Yes.

6 Q And that's all for your cooperation for
7 helping Mr. Coolican and helping the FBI agents;
8 correct?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And you understand that what Mr. Coolican --
11 what position he takes with the judge is very important
12 to you?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Yeah. Today, since you went home from jail
15 after signing the plea agreement --

16 A I didn't went home.

17 Q Where did you go? I'm sorry.

18 A They put me in a hotel room for quarantine,
19 with a lot of conditions.

20 Q Okay. And then how long were you there?

21 A 11 months.

22 Q 11 --

23 A Yeah, 11 months.

24 Q Where are you living now?

25 A In a hotel in Jacksonville.

1 Q In Jacksonville. And is it home detention?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And is it -- do you -- you're not -- you
4 don't wear any chains or handcuffs, do you?

5 A I have an ankle monitor.

6 Q No, I didn't ask if you had an ankle monitor.

7 Do you -- since you got out of jail, have you
8 been handcuffed and -- handcuffed anymore?

9 A No.

10 Q And tell me about your -- the situation.
11 Ever since you signed the plea agreement -- what was
12 that, in August of 2020?

13 A No. April.

14 Q When was it? I'm sorry.

15 A In April.

16 Q April. It was even earlier, okay.

17 And so you've never been handcuffed again?

18 A No.

19 Q Never had leg -- leg cuffs on either, have
20 you, since signing the plea agreement and being moved
21 out of the jail?

22 A No.

23 Q And that was all because you were cooperating
24 with the government?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Okay. And you do expect not to be ordered to
2 go back to jail?

3 I mean you've been out of jail since April of
4 2020; isn't that correct?

5 MR. COOLICAN: Asked and answered.

6 A Yes.

7 Q And you want your answers to be pleasing to
8 Assistant United States Attorney Coolican, Michael
9 Coolican; isn't that correct?

10 A Yes.

11 Q In addition to not being in jail anymore --
12 now, you're on home detention, is that -- what is the
13 restrictions that you have? Let me ask you that.

14 A So they put the ankle monitor on me 24/7, and
15 also has the two different guy check on me randomly.

16 Q What do you mean by that?

17 A They hire -- my attorney hired a third-party
18 check on me.

19 Q And what does that third party do?

20 A At the beginning, they check on me twice
21 every day.

22 Q What do you mean "check" on you? I don't
23 understand, that's why I'm asking.

24 A So they come to see if I was still there, if
25 I do all the stuff I supposed to do.

1 Q And what is that? What are the things that
2 you are supposed to do?

3 A No internet and no contact with my other
4 defendant, and to stay in the room.

5 Q Okay. So you don't leave the hotel room?

6 A No. Until couple months later, I can go to
7 the parking lot.

8 Q For how long have you been permitted to leave
9 the room and go to the parking lot?

10 A Couple months -- I mean more than couple
11 months. It's like three, four months I have to stay in
12 the room, two, three months.

13 Q Uh-huh. So that would be --

14 A And I can --

15 Q If it were three months it would be May,
16 June, July of 2020?

17 A Yeah. I cannot remember the exactly dates.

18 Q Sure. And then -- so you're wearing an ankle
19 monitor. How far can you stray from the hotel room?

20 A In the first couple months I can only stay in
21 the room.

22 Q I know that. But a couple months have
23 passed. Now what are the restrictions?

24 A I can go anywhere inside of the hotel room --
25 I mean inside the hotel and also the hotel parking lot.

1 Q And that's a heck of a lot better than being
2 in the -- where were you in jail? What was the name of
3 the jail?

4 A Bradford.

5 Q Bradford County Jail?

6 A Yes.

7 Q I see. So it's significantly much better; is
8 that correct?

9 A Not really.

10 Q It's better than being in jail?

11 A Not a lot.

12 Q Not a lot? Oh, okay.

13 A No.

14 Q But you can go anywhere in the hotel, you
15 wear a monitor, no cuffs, you can eat when you want to
16 eat, you can go to the bathroom when you want to go to
17 the bathroom. You don't have to ask anybody any
18 permission; correct?

19 A I have to stay in the room from 7:00 to --
20 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

21 Q Okay. And that's -- and you don't see your
22 circumstances as being better than being in jail?

23 A Yeah. But one of the condition is I cannot
24 like see other people. I have to stay mostly by myself
25 a lot.

1 Q Okay. In addition to not being in the
2 Bradford County Jail or any other jail, didn't this
3 plea agreement prevent you from possibly being subject
4 to 15 more years in prison, if the judge were to
5 sentence you on the dismissed charges?

6 A What do you mean by that?

7 Q Do you remember Mr. Coolican said, in return
8 for your guilty plea to that conspiracy charge to
9 violate export laws, that the government was going to
10 dismiss two other charges in the indictment --

11 A Yes.

12 Q -- against you? Isn't that --

13 A Yes.

14 Q Is that your understanding?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And is it your understanding that even though
17 you're in -- you're not in jail, and even though you
18 fairly expect to be not sentenced to any more
19 incarceration next week and not be available for his
20 trial, isn't it your understanding that for the charge
21 you have you could be -- if the judge chose to ignore
22 Mr. Coolican, he could -- a favorable recommendation
23 from Mr. Coolican, he could sentence you up to five
24 years in jail?

25 A Yeah, but -- yes. But it depends on the

1 judge.

2 Q Okay. Do you understand that the sentence
3 that you pled guilty carries a five-year maximum -- the
4 charge to which you pled guilty carries a maximum
5 sentence of five years' imprisonment?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Do you understand that you have two other
8 charges that are still outstanding and that they will
9 be dismissed at your sentencing?

10 A Yes.

11 Q And do you understand that one of the charges
12 has a punishment of up to five years in prison?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Do you understand that the second charge that
15 will be dismissed has a maximum sentence of up to ten
16 years' --

17 A Yes.

18 Q -- imprisonment? Do you know that?

19 A Yes.

20 Q So in addition to a lack of incarceration,
21 you're having charges dismissed, where even if the
22 judge didn't accept Mr. Coolican's recommendation of
23 leniency, the judge could never sentence you to those
24 fifteen years' imprisonment?

25 A Yes.

1 Q And so you don't want to really upset
2 Mr. Coolican if he's asking you to -- about something?

3 A But Mr. Coolican told me to be truthful.

4 Q Okay. What I'm going to do now, just -- I
5 have an exact copy of the plea agreement that
6 Mr. Coolican showed you, which was marked as
7 Government's Exhibit 42. And I just want to show it
8 to you, because I'm going to call it Defendant's
9 Exhibit 1.

10 Do you see this? I just want you to make
11 sure that that's the same plea agreement that
12 Mr. Coolican showed you.

13 Do you recall signing that?

14 A (Nods head)

15 Q May I have that back?

16 A Yes.

17 Q The reason why is I just wanted to show you
18 the entire document, but as -- do you remember
19 Mr. Coolican said some portions of it were removed? Do
20 you remember that?

21 A Yes.

22 Q I just wanted to show you the whole document.
23 That was a copy of the whole document.

24 Now, I'm going to do the same thing that
25 Mr. Coolican did. I'm going to remove just those last

1 nine pages, pages 19 through 28, and that's how I'm
2 going to offer it into evidence when there's a trial.

3 (Defendant's Exhibit Number 1 was marked for
4 identification.)

5 BY MR. TRUNCALE:

6 Q Ma'am, there was another -- Ms. Zheng, there
7 was another question about these charges. I'll go to
8 another area.

9 Do you recall Mr. Coolican asking you how
10 many times since you've been working for Shanghai
11 Breeze, I guess in January of 2016, have you been in
12 the presence, seen, Mr. Fan Yang? And do you remember
13 saying at least three times?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Okay. And then you testified, from
16 questioning from Mr. Coolican, he told you the dates,
17 you remember, in 2017 visiting the home of the Yangs,
18 and Yuki and Mr. Yang were there?

19 A Yes. And the first we went to a restaurant.

20 Q And then you also testified that you saw him
21 in a firing range in Orange Park?

22 A Yes, an indoor.

23 Q And then don't you remember Mr. Coolican
24 asking you the questions about whether you saw him in a
25 firing range in Nebraska, near I believe -- he didn't

1 say this. I believe you said part -- was it Sioux
2 City?

3 A Yes.

4 Q All right. Now, let's get this clear: You
5 said at least three times. Have you seen him in
6 addition to those three occasions?

7 A I cannot recall all the memories right now,
8 but that's what I remember.

9 Q Wouldn't that be the kind of thing that you
10 would be remembering by now, if you saw him more than
11 those three times, or does that just sound good for
12 Mr. Coolican? I'll say at least three times, meaning
13 could be a million times; right?

14 You're trying to help Mr. Coolican out,
15 aren't you, by saying at least three times I saw, met
16 with, Fan Yang?

17 A No. I see him at least the three times.

18 Q So you stand on that? You may have seen him
19 more than that?

20 A Maybe couple more times, but that's the three
21 times --

22 Q When would that --

23 A -- I can recall.

24 Q When would that be?

25 A I can only recall the three times right now.

1 Q Did Mr. Coolican or the FBI agent tell you to
2 say at least three times, when the only thing you told
3 them was those three events?

4 A They didn't tell me to say that, but that's
5 the only three time I told them.

6 Q Yeah. It's certainly nice if Mr. Coolican
7 was happy with that, with you saying at least, to make
8 folks -- make a jury think possibly that you met with
9 him numerous times.

10 MR. COOLICAN: Objection, argumentative.

11 BY MR. TRUNCALE:

12 Q Is that so? Please answer.

13 No, you can look at me if you want. I mean
14 you can look at Mr. Coolican, but can you answer the
15 question?

16 A Can you say it again?

17 Q Yeah. Isn't it a fact that you're saying at
18 least three times I met with him to please the
19 prosecutor?

20 A No. I actually see him at least three times.

21 Q But no more?

22 A It may be more, but that's the three times I
23 can remember.

24 Q Okay. And you've been thinking about this
25 and cooperating with them, and you never -- you never

1 caused yourself to think about -- you can remember lots
2 of little things, detailed things for Mr. Coolican, but
3 you can't remember whether you saw Mr. Yang more than
4 three times?

5 A Because I don't even really know him.

6 Q That's right. Now, when -- let's stay on
7 this.

8 Remember you indicated Yuki, or Yang Yang,
9 the wife of Fan Yang --

10 A Yes.

11 Q -- she got hired to work for Shanghai
12 Breeze, was it late 2016?

13 A Yes.

14 Q And that you and Songtao visited the Yang
15 residence, Yuki and Fan Yang, was it in March 2017?

16 A I cannot remember which month exact.

17 Q But it was a few months after she began
18 working?

19 Do you not remember Mr. Coolican giving you
20 that time when he asked you the question?

21 A I can remember the year, but the -- like
22 actually which month and which day I see him -- I see
23 her I cannot remember that.

24 Q If Mr. Coolican asks you did it happen in
25 March 2017 you remember it, but if I ask you the same

1 question you don't remember it was March 2017; is that
2 so?

3 A No.

4 Q Well, it sounds like it. Did you visit
5 him -- the home in approximately, approximately, March
6 of 2017?

7 A I visit their home in 2017, yes.

8 Q And how long were you in the home?

9 A I think it's two or three hours.

10 Q And was that -- the primary purpose not to
11 meet Fan Yang, but wasn't that the first time
12 Mr. Songtao, Mr. Ge, ever met Yuki?

13 A No. I think we met Yuki before we went to
14 their house. My first time met Yuki is at Brunswick's
15 factory.

16 Q And when was that?

17 A It's my first business trip come to the
18 United States with Mr. Ge.

19 Q And you don't -- and you think that's before
20 March of 2017?

21 A Yes.

22 Q And it would have been -- would it have been
23 between December of 2016 and March of 2017?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Is that your best recollection? And where

1 was that?

2 A It's at Brun -- it's -- actually, the first
3 time I saw her is at a -- in a hotel lobby nearby
4 Brunswick's factory.

5 Q And Mr. Yang was not with her; correct?

6 A No.

7 Q If that happened, he was not with her?

8 A No, he's not there.

9 Q Okay. And the purpose for visiting her home
10 was not to visit Mr. Fan Yang, it was in connection
11 with Yuki's business with Ge Songtao; correct?

12 A So the first time -- like the time we went to
13 Mr. and Mrs. Yang's house, we went to the lunch at the
14 restaurant first, and Mr. or Mrs. Yang paid for that as
15 a welcome. And then they invited us to see their
16 house.

17 Q Okay. And, again, wasn't that in connection
18 with Songtao wanting to speak with Yuki about an
19 upcoming trip to meet with a manufacturer by the name
20 of BCGP?

21 A No. I think at that time we already see the
22 Brunswick factory, and Yuki is helping to set up a
23 meeting with the Metal Shark factory.

24 Q Okay. So it was the Metal Shark -- that it
25 was an upcoming trip to --

1 A Yes.

2 Q -- meet with Metal Shark with Mr. Songtao?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Not Mr. Yang. Yuki; correct?

5 A Yes.

6 Q And that was the subject -- an important
7 subject of conversation when you and Mr. Ge visited
8 Yuki at her house where her husband also was?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And wasn't Mr. Songtao also talking with
11 her -- oh, do you remember what was discussed while in
12 the home of the Yangs?

13 A So what I remember is when we arrived their
14 house, it's kind of Yuki tell us where is the -- which
15 part of the house, and then we be in the living room
16 for couple minutes, and then Mr. Yang and Mr. Ge was
17 sitting in the living room, and me and Yuki took my
18 laptop, maybe her computer, in their office room to
19 trying to set up the trip to New Orleans.

20 Q And didn't Mr. Songtao -- Mr. Ge Songtao also
21 speak with Yuki at that visit about his desire to set
22 up to have firing ranges and having -- and to have
23 Chinese citizens, tourists come, and use firearms at
24 firing ranges?

25 A He talk about the firearms.

1 Q And the tourists? Didn't he specifically
2 talk about wanting to be able to obtain firearms ranges
3 where tourists could come -- Chinese tourists could
4 come and do what he was doing, using firearms at
5 firearm ranges?

6 A Yes, I recall they were talking about that.

7 Q And you earlier were asked questions about
8 whether Ge thought it was legal or not legal for him to
9 use a firearm at a firing range.

10 Wasn't it your understanding, when they were
11 talking, that there was no question about the legality
12 of Chinese tourists like coming here and using firearms
13 at firearms ranges?

14 A They never talk about the -- it's legal or
15 not legal, if the Chinese tourists come here to
16 shooting, in front of me.

17 Q Didn't he indicate at one time that -- well,
18 that essentially it was okay if the firearms were given
19 to a third person rather than to him directly?

20 A He never said that to me.

21 Q So for certain there was discussion of
22 firearms. You didn't see anything illegal about it,
23 did you?

24 You don't have to look at Mr. Coolican. I'm
25 just asking, can you just tell me whether you thought

1 it was illegal when he was talking about it?

2 A We never talk about if it's legal or not
3 legal for the tourist to --

4 Q But I'm asking what did Songtao believe about
5 the firearms that he was talking about and that you
6 were helping him obtain firearms through many U.S.
7 citizens who were not charged, by the way, other than
8 Mr. Yang?

9 MR. COOLICAN: Objection, relevance.

10 BY MR. TRUNCALE:

11 Q What did Songtao believe about the legality
12 of him using firearms in the United States when you
13 were helping him?

14 A I didn't think about that. I just did what
15 he told me to do.

16 Q You didn't -- you didn't think whether it was
17 legal or not?

18 A No.

19 Q Didn't you assume it was legal?

20 A No. It's because when every one of my
21 coworker in the company, Mr. Ge will tell us, Do not
22 ask any question. If he's explaining to you, then you
23 listen, then no more question.

24 So I never questioned him, I never think
25 about that, just did what he told me to do.

1 Q I'm not asking you if you thought it was
2 illegal for him to use firearms at firearm ranges in
3 the United States.

4 I'm asking you if you believed you were
5 breaking the law, the firearms laws of the United
6 States at the time.

7 A At the time, I don't know.

8 Q Oh, how about now?

9 A Now I know.

10 Q Now you do?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Is that because of what the prosecutors told
13 you?

14 A My attorney told me.

15 Q Well, you weren't charged with any firearms
16 offenses when you were arrested in October of 2019;
17 correct?

18 A Yes.

19 Q And that's because -- and that was consistent
20 with your belief that you didn't do anything wrong
21 about firearms?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Ms. Zheng, do you remember speaking with
24 Mr. Coolican about the exhibits 16A, the group WeChat,
25 and I believe 16B were attachments to the group WeChats

1 of was it you, Mr. Songtao, and Yang Yang?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Okay. And do you recall indicating that you
4 reviewed the document with the CD that Mr. Coolican had
5 you initial?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Okay. What did -- first of all, what did you
8 understand that to be? I mean did you ask him anything
9 about what is this, who prepared it, or whatever?

10 A No, I didn't ask him.

11 Q What did he tell you about it?

12 A It's my WeChat comm --

13 Q He told you, you didn't tell him?

14 A Yeah. But he showed me and he let me read
15 it, and then I recognized that's my WeChat message.

16 Q Okay. Did you ask where it came from, maybe?

17 A No, I didn't ask.

18 Q Okay. Did he represent to you what it was?
19 I mean because there were many, many, many messages;
20 correct?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Thousands upon thousands upon thousands;
23 correct?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And do you remember saying, when asked, you

1 know, is this all of them -- and I think you -- you
2 said -- didn't you say it's only some of them, not all
3 of them?

4 A Yes, I said that.

5 Q I'm not challenging you. I'm honestly asking
6 this, why -- how did you determine it was only some but
7 not all?

8 A Because I have more conversation with Yuki.

9 Q Than what -- than what you saw on that?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Oh. In that regard, then, there was -- I
12 believe you mentioned that there were attachments to
13 some of the emails -- or the WeChat messages, excuse
14 me, the group WeChat, 16A, that is the Government's
15 Exhibit 16A, and that there were some attachments,
16 either audio files or whatever.

17 Do you remember that?

18 A Yes.

19 Q And I'm asking you right now, is it your
20 present understanding today that Exhibit 16B contains
21 some attachments to the group chats?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Could you do something for me, then? I'm
24 going to direct you to a -- ma'am, I'm going to just
25 ask you if you could possibly do this. I'm going to

1 give you the name of a file on that, and if you can --
2 if you can access it, I would ask you to do that.
3 It's on that. It's --

4 A I don't have the disk.

5 MR. COOLICAN: Mr. Truncale, can I give her
6 the disk?

7 Q I believe the date is December 2nd of 2017.
8 The file number to that attachment is 23.

9 Ms. Zheng, would you please get that -- I'm
10 sorry about getting ahead. I thought it was before
11 you.

12 A Which one is that?

13 Q Okay. It is -- the file name is 23.aud. --

14 A Yeah, I see that.

15 Q -- silk -- where is it? Could you -- I
16 believe that that may be in the Chinese language, is
17 it?

18 A No, it's English letters. I mean, yeah, the
19 conversation is in Chinese.

20 Q Yeah. And can you listen to that right now?
21 Because I want to ask you, doesn't that indicate a
22 conversation where, in fact -- between Mr. Songtao and
23 Yuki, Yang Yang, instructing him -- instructing, excuse
24 me, Yuki, Mrs. Yang, to deliver the toy, the Sig Sauer
25 pistol, to Lopez because it wouldn't be good to give it

1 to him, Mr. Songtao?

2 A Okay.

3 Q Does that say that, in essence?

4 A (Witness complies)

5 Q Does he instruct her that it's not good for
6 her to give the gun to him, but it would be proper to
7 give it to Lopez?

8 A Mr. Ge is telling Yuki to give the toys to
9 Mr. Lopez, yes.

10 Q But didn't he say something that it would not
11 be good to give it to him?

12 A Yes.

13 Q To him, himself, Songtao?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And do you not understand that to believe --
16 to understand that he believed it was lawful to give it
17 to Lopez --

18 A I don't --

19 Q If Lopez were to bring the gun to the
20 firearms range. Wasn't this all in connection with a
21 planned visit to a firearms range on December 17th of
22 2017 where Mr. Gabriel Lopez would be with him?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Okay. I'm saying, so he -- it appears he
25 didn't have a concern about legality for U.S. citizens

1 possessing a firearm at a firearms range and allowing a
2 foreign national, here on visa or whatever, to use it
3 at a firing range; he didn't have any problem with
4 that?

5 MR. COOLICAN: Objection, foundation.

6 BY MR. TRUNCALE:

7 Q You can answer it.

8 A I don't know what Mr. Ge thinks.

9 Q Okay. So you don't know whether he thought
10 it was legal or not. But he said what he said; is that
11 correct?

12 A I don't know what he thinks. He just do it.

13 Q Yeah. Nevertheless, he said it would not be
14 good to give it to him, but to give it to Lopez?

15 A Yeah. But I don't know what Mr. Ge actually
16 thinks.

17 Q Yes. Do you know Mr. Ted Asencio -- Melvin,
18 excuse me, Melvin Asencio?

19 A Mel.

20 Q Mel, yes.

21 A Yes.

22 Q How do you know this Mel?

23 A I first met him as Mr. Ge went to another
24 shooting range, and it's arranged by -- I think it's
25 one of the manager from ETC International, and she help

1 Mr. Ge to prepare a shooting course, and Mel was the
2 instructor.

3 Q And did you understand whether Mel was
4 assisting Mr. Songtao in obtaining firearms to shoot at
5 ranges?

6 A Yes.

7 Q And do you remember even having a series of
8 communications with him in the English language?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And do you recall discussing -- discussing
11 that with him?

12 A Yes.

13 (Defendant's Exhibit Number 2 was marked for
14 identification.)

15 BY MR. TRUNCALE:

16 Q If you wouldn't mind, I'd like to approach
17 you with what I've marked as Defense Exhibit 2, and see
18 if you just recognize whether this is a communication
19 between you and Mr. Mel.

20 Why don't you look at the entire thing, and
21 then I'm going to ask you questions about the last
22 page.

23 A Yes, I recognize that.

24 Q Now, look at the very last page, which would
25 be a chat between you and him, handwriting of

1 11:43 a.m. I guess the nonhighlighted portion would be
2 you, and then the highlighted portion would be him.

3 Do you see that?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And weren't -- previous to that, on Page 10,
6 didn't you indicate to him -- look on Page 10, at
7 11:43 a.m., and didn't you tell him -- and Sherman, is
8 Sherman a reference to Mr. Ge Songtao?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Okay. "And Sherman is saying he would like
11 to pay the money to buy those guns. But he feels you
12 may don't accept it, so he suggest how about he pay
13 half of it, and then both of you can own those guns
14 together?"

15 You recall making that.

16 And then he responds, "That's really
17 generous, but I'll pay for them, then when we make our
18 business, I'll transfer them to him and he can pay me
19 then. That way there will be no legal problems.
20 Thanks and get some sleep."

21 Is that correct?

22 A Yes.

23 Q And wouldn't that -- wouldn't that indicate
24 that he believed there was no legal problems with what
25 they were planning with the firearms, at least

1 Mr. Asencio?

2 A I don't know what Mel thinks.

3 Q Well, you received this message about him not
4 having any concerns that there was any illegality in
5 him getting firearms and allowing Songtao to use them;
6 right?

7 And this is the message you passed on to
8 Mr. Songtao, isn't it?

9 A Yes.

10 Q In fact, didn't you -- right after he said
11 that, he tells you thanks and get some sleep, and then
12 you said, "Ok, thanks. I'll let him know it."

13 "Him" being?

14 A Mr. Ge.

15 Q Mr. Ge. So -- and after while did -- did you
16 assist Mr. Asencio in ever getting any firearms for
17 Mr. Songtao -- Mr. Ge, your employer, to use in the
18 many visits that he would have to the United States?

19 A So when we was with Mel, Mr. Ge did trying to
20 ask Mel to buy weapons -- I mean a firearm for him, and
21 he actually give the money to Mel. But two days -- or
22 one days later, Mel bought a backpack and put the
23 money Mr. Ge gave to him in an envelope and give that
24 backpack back to us.

25 Q So he returned the money?

1 A Yes.

2 Q Okay. So Mr. Asencio never did get the
3 firearms that he was going to do for Mr. Songtao?

4 A I'm not sure he get the firearms or not, but
5 he didn't receive any money for the firearms he was
6 trying to purchase.

7 Q But you don't know whether -- well, I'm
8 asking, the ultimate question is did Mr. Asencio ever
9 get firearms for Mr. Songtao, Mr. Ge Songtao?

10 A Mel told me he build up some weapons.

11 Q But you don't know whether he did?

12 A No, I don't know.

13 Q Did you -- do you recall saying whether or
14 not persons other than Fan Yang had ever gotten
15 firearms for Mr. Songtao to use on your visits with
16 Mr. Songtao to the United States?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Could you tell me who those persons were?

19 A Mr. Lopez, Tim, Pete. We also went to a gun
20 range with Jim Vann and his friend.

21 Q Jim, is that V like Victor, A, N like Nancy,
22 N like Nancy?

23 A No, J-I-M.

24 Q Oh. Jim Vann? Last name is Vann?

25 A Yes.

1 Q Yeah, okay. And anybody else?

2 A Yes. And the lady from the ETC
3 International, I forgot her name. Her husband is
4 playing the toys with Mr. Ge.

5 Q And when you say toys, that's -- as
6 Mr. Coolican had asked --

7 A I mean the firearms.

8 Q -- that means firearms?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And did you always come -- did you always
11 accompany Mr. Songtao on the trips as his assistant,
12 you know, so that -- the reason I'm asking is, so that
13 you would know whether he went to firing ranges?
14 That's the only thing I'm asking.

15 A Yes.

16 Q And whether he used firearms?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And did he speak freely to you about that?

19 A Can you say it again?

20 Q About the coming here and using firearms,
21 various United States citizens helping him enjoy his
22 hobby of shooting the firearms at the ranges?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Okay. And of all those persons, none of
25 these persons were ever charged with violating firearms

1 laws like Mr. Yang?

2 MR. COOLICAN: Objection, foundation.

3 BY MR. TRUNCALE:

4 Q Do you know? Do you know whether any of
5 these people were charged -- or arrested or charged
6 with violating firearms laws?

7 A I don't know if they get charged or not,
8 because I was arrest. And after they let me out, I
9 have no internet.

10 Q Well, I mean prior to your arrest, none of
11 the persons you mentioned were ever arrested for
12 firearms offenses, isn't that so, that you are aware --
13 of which you are aware?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Yes. So -- but with Mr. Yang, you saw
16 Mr. Yang with Songtao on two occasions at shooting
17 ranges, and Mr. Yang has been charged for violating
18 firearms laws that all these other people did often
19 with Mr. Songtao, correct, Mr. Ge Songtao?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Was any -- concerning your visits to the
22 United States -- and, ma'am, help me if I'm correct,
23 you began working for Shanghai Breeze approximately in
24 January of 2016?

25 A 2016, yes.

1 Q Okay. And then for those almost however --
2 how many years that you were working for him, '16, '17,
3 '18, and most of '19, how often did you travel with him
4 from the country of China to here on his business and
5 pleasure -- you know, business and hobby trips?

6 A Probably twice -- around twice a year.

7 Q Okay. And was that the only -- so he only
8 came to America generally averaging two times a year?

9 A I think there's one year he came here three
10 times, but I'm not sure.

11 Q Okay.

12 A Because I didn't come then.

13 Q Would most of the times you accompany him for
14 business purposes?

15 A In the United States?

16 Q Yeah, yeah.

17 A Yes.

18 Q And what was the -- if you can recall, what
19 was the approximate length of time that Mr. Songtao and
20 you would be in the United States when you would make
21 these visits?

22 A When we make the visits to the factory or to
23 the range?

24 Q Both. Why not start with the factory and
25 then the range. Just how long would you be in the

1 United States?

2 A Sometimes it's three weeks, sometimes it's
3 like two weeks.

4 Q Never less than two weeks, or was there any
5 short trips?

6 A It may have short trips just to come to the
7 States to meet -- like the time we are being arrest, we
8 supposed to come here only eight days and there's no
9 firearms range, but we get arrest.

10 Q If you know and -- if you know, would
11 Mr. Songtao like to -- like to engage in his hobby, the
12 firearms shooting, as much as possible when he was here
13 even on business?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Yeah. I mean wouldn't that make sense,
16 because that's -- it was -- tell me, is it not possible
17 for him to do that in China? Is that not --

18 A It's illegal to shooting guns unless you are
19 a police officer or some securities. Except that, no,
20 it's illegal to carry around guns.

21 Q In the People's Republic of China?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Do you recall -- I'm not trying to put words
24 in your mouth. Do you recall discussions or plans by
25 Mr. Ge Songtao to get tourism from China, for that

1 reason, that they could come to the United States and
2 use various shooting ranges and, you know, use firearms
3 like he did, for instance, in Sioux City?

4 A He said it multiple times to multiple
5 peoples.

6 Q Yeah. I don't know whether you ever saw an
7 email or a letter to -- from -- to either Mr. Yang or
8 his wife on behalf of -- what is BQ Tree?

9 A BQ Tree, it's owned by Mrs. Yang.

10 Q Yeah. Did you ever recall her discussing a
11 letter sent to a firearms range owner alerting them to
12 a desire to have Chinese firearm tourism?

13 A No. I was not copied on that.

14 Q Do you know -- do you know if Songtao ever --
15 Mr. Songtao, Mr. Ge Songtao, ever did communicate with
16 various firearms owners like -- firearms range owners,
17 like Tim, about having other Chinese tourists coming in
18 and engaging in the hobby, firearms --

19 A Yes, I remember Mr. Ge talked about it with
20 Tim.

21 Q I'm sorry, with whom?

22 A Tim.

23 Q Tim, okay. Were you present during those
24 discussions or --

25 A Yes. Because he cannot speak English.

1 Q Oh, yes, yeah. So you would interpret for
2 Mr. Ge?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And, in fact, when you went to Sioux City,
5 Nebraska, in July of 2018, I think you indicated that
6 Mr. Songtao was -- Mr. Ge Songtao was using firearms
7 there, and you took some pictures of him. And do you
8 recall a film being made?

9 A Yes. There's a lot of films be made.

10 Q Do you recall for that specific weekend, that
11 trip there, that -- I think you testified somebody -- a
12 cameraman -- a professional cameraman made a film and
13 I -- do you remember that?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Would you pay for -- you know, as the
16 assistant to Mr. Ge Songtao, would you pay for the --
17 for that -- for things like that?

18 Did you pay -- did Mr. Songtao have to pay
19 something like \$10,000 for the film for that trip up
20 in -- for the --

21 A No. He --

22 Q -- firing range?

23 A He only paid, I remember, it's like \$500 to
24 the camera guy, and it include in -- so Tim give us the
25 invoice together with all the expense he spent, and

1 then Mr. Ge swipe the credit cards through an iPad
2 machine, something.

3 Q What I'm saying is, am I correct that total
4 expenses and everything for shooting that film was
5 about \$10,000?

6 A No.

7 Q No? For the several days at Grover's firing
8 range?

9 A No, it's not that much money. I think Mr. Ge
10 only paid a couple thousand in total, like including
11 the Tim's fee, and also the range fee, and all the
12 ammos, and the camera guy.

13 Q For that whole --

14 A Whole thing.

15 Q -- episode, for the whole thing, what was the
16 cost?

17 A Five, six thousand, or seven thousand, I
18 cannot remember exactly.

19 Q Okay, it was in the thousands. And that was
20 the type of things that the tourists -- that he would
21 want to have tourists do here in the United States?

22 A He talk about that.

23 Q Yeah, I mean that was one of his plans, or he
24 talked about it.

25 He talked to various persons to see if it

1 could be done?

2 A He talked to different people about that.

3 Q Yeah. You know what I'm going to do, ma'am,
4 I'm going to show you -- did you ever see the finished
5 video that Mr. Grover, you know, had --

6 A Yes, I did.

7 Q -- had put together for him?

8 What I'd like to do, I have a -- a disk -- a
9 flash drive with a copy of that, and I'd like you to
10 actually look at it and see if that -- if you are
11 familiar with it, if this was the -- was the film that
12 was produced and paid for. I guess he may have paid
13 Tim Grover and then Tim would have, you know, paid
14 whomever else. But there was also, before -- and I'm
15 going to show you that and ask you to identify it.

16 And there's a second thing. There was an
17 overall video with more -- more video than the finished
18 film. I was wondering, did you ever video him, or were
19 you present when the videos were being taken to make
20 this finished film?

21 A I was there when the video was making. And
22 if the camera guy is not there, Tim and me have to take
23 the video or the photos for Mr. Ge.

24 Q You would assist Mr. Ge then, just like any
25 time, you would translate into the English language so

1 if he needed to communicate with Tim --

2 A Yeah. But I do took the videos sometimes.

3 Q You did or you did not? I'm sorry.

4 A I did.

5 Q What I'd like to do, ma'am, is I'd like to
6 show you what I'm going to ultimately mark Defense
7 Exhibit 3, which is the finished film. And then, after
8 that, I would just ask you to look at that and see if
9 that is what it purports to be, and it would show
10 Mr. Songtao and others, you know, using the firearms at
11 the range.

12 And then the second thing I'd show you is the
13 over -- the longer video from which the final one was
14 cut.

15 A Okay.

16 Q And I'm talking about exhibits that we
17 previously tendered to Mr Coolican.

18 MR. COOLICAN: Counsel, are both videos on
19 the same thumb drive?

20 MR. TRUNCALE: Yes, they are. And I will
21 identify them.

22 VIDEOGRAPHER: You should be able to walk --

23 MR. TRUNCALE: Can I walk --

24 VIDEOGRAPHER: Yeah.

25 BY MR. TRUNCALE:

1 Q Ms. Zheng, I'm going to ask you if you could
2 put this flash drive in there. And there's more than
3 one -- there are two videos.

4 A I didn't see a place I can plug in.
5 Do you know where?

6 MR. COOLICAN: Does it have a USB?

7 MR. EBER: It should. Try the back --

8 THE WITNESS: No I don't see it.

9 MR. COOLICAN: Why don't we go off record --

10 THE WITNESS: Oh, yeah, here. No.

11 MR. COOLICAN: Do you want to go off the
12 record?

13 MR. TRUNCALE: I have --

14 MR. COOLICAN: Let's go off the record,
15 please.

16 VIDEOGRAPHER: We're off the record at 2:39.

17 (Off-the-record discussion)

18 VIDEOGRAPHER: We're back on the record at
19 2:42, beginning Media 3.

20 (Defendant's Exhibits 3 and 4 were marked for
21 identification.)

22 BY MR. TRUNCALE:

23 Q Ms. Zheng, thank you for -- for putting up
24 with the delay. I'm sorry.

25 I've handed you a flash drive with what I'm

1 going to -- what I'm referring to as Defense Exhibit 3.
2 But on that flash drive there should be a file, I
3 believe with a number 17946 in there, and it's a
4 description of finished film.

5 I wonder if you could please open that file
6 and review it. It's probably about a couple minutes
7 long, but I want to see if that's what you recall the
8 film to be --

9 A Okay.

10 Q -- that Mr. Grover produced for Mr. Ge
11 Songtao.

12 A (Witness complies)

13 Q Ma'am, have you looked -- Ms. Zheng, have you
14 looked at the entire film?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And was that -- was that a copy of the film
17 that was actually produced to Mr. Ge Songtao after that
18 meeting -- after that trip to Sioux City, Nebraska, in
19 July of 2018?

20 A The first part of that is the proof that I
21 done, and Mr. Ge asked us to add the second part on
22 there.

23 Q Okay. So -- but are you familiar that that
24 was what was, I guess, the transaction between
25 Mr. Songtao and Grover to get that film --

1 A (Nods head)

2 Q -- about which we were just speaking? I just
3 needed to establish that.

4 And does it -- the film shows various
5 firearms being used by Mr. Songtao and others; correct?

6 A Mostly is Mr. Ge.

7 Q Yeah, most. I mean did you see the fellow
8 you describe as Mr. Tim, was he in that video too?

9 A Yes.

10 Q I noticed neither -- I did not see you or
11 Ms. Yuki or Mr. Yang in any of that. Do you -- did
12 Mr. Yang have anything to do with that, or even
13 knowledge of that going on?

14 A For the video?

15 Q Yeah.

16 A No.

17 Q Thank you. Along the lines of what I'd asked
18 you earlier, there is a second video on that flash
19 drive, and I wonder if you would look at that to see if
20 that shows accurate depictions of when you were there
21 and helping, you know, Mr. Songtao and Tim in the --
22 you know, in the course of getting that film produced.

23 A Do you want me play it now?

24 Q Yeah. Could you just view it and just see if
25 that is -- if you can -- first of all, did you get a

1 copy of the whole uncut one, or no?

2 A Yes. We went to the camera guy's house --

3 Q Okay.

4 A -- to get the whole copy.

5 Q Yeah. I just didn't know whether you would
6 be able to even recognize it.

7 A (Watching)

8 Q Did you finish reviewing that --

9 A Yes.

10 Q -- Ms. Zheng?

11 A Yes.

12 Q And is that the copy of the video from which
13 the finished film was made that you just referred to
14 earlier?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Okay. And there were in that -- I mean did
17 you even see yourself was in it for about a second or
18 two?

19 A Yes.

20 Q And I believe Tim was in that, and some
21 others and --

22 A The camera guy.

23 Q Just asking about that shooting range, is
24 that out in the open, I mean in public view?

25 I mean nobody was hiding there, were they,

1 using the firearms?

2 A So what Tim told me is it's -- first of all,
3 it's an outdoor range and that's owned by him, because
4 his house is actually next to the range. He was living
5 there.

6 Q And is that --

7 A Very open.

8 Q -- a business that he has to the public?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Okay. What I'd like to do, then, is just tie
11 up some other topics.

12 I was just wondering, with regard to the
13 three times that you saw Mr. Fan Yang -- remember, the
14 first one we've already talked about, the visit at the
15 home, and then there was -- were you present in -- I'm
16 going to try to refresh your recollection -- around May
17 22nd of 2017 at the On Target firing range, or shooting
18 range, with -- with Ge Songtao, and I believe Gabriel
19 Lopez was there, and -- do you remember that?

20 A I don't remember the exactly date, but if
21 Mr. Ge is on the trip to the States and he's in the
22 range, I was there.

23 Q Whatever month it was, that was -- you saw
24 Mr. Yang there; correct?

25 I think that was the second time you said you

1 had seen Mr. Yang present with -- it was an indoor
2 range, remember, in --

3 A I don't remember the range's name, but I
4 remember the range.

5 Q I'm sorry, I could not hear that.

6 A I cannot remember the range -- the indoor
7 range's name.

8 Q Yes, yes. But do you remember saying it was
9 around Orange Park, Florida?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Yeah, that's what I'm referring to.

12 At that time did you -- you didn't expect
13 Mr. Yang to be there, did you?

14 A No, I didn't.

15 Q I'm asking you to see if you recall this.
16 Was your colleague Yuki, Mr. Yang's wife, do you know
17 that she was pregnant with her second child at that
18 time?

19 A Yes.

20 Q And did you know that she was concerned about
21 going to a firing range, you know, you can bring --
22 just even being there, because of her condition?

23 A I think she talk about that.

24 Q Yeah. And what I'm getting at is Mr. Yang
25 ultimately brought the pistol to -- I think it was a

1 Sig Sauer to Mr. Lopez, and Mr. Songtao did use it at
2 that facility. I don't even know if you went in or --
3 did you know that he used the Sig Sauer in that
4 facility?

5 A I'm not sure he used that -- exactly the one
6 we were talking about, the weapon, but he went in there
7 and I went in there, because I was not familiar with
8 all the weapons. So I'm not sure he is using the one
9 we are talking about, but he did shoot there.

10 Q But he didn't bring weapons in? I mean
11 didn't Gabriel Lopez give him weapons while in the
12 shooting range to shoot?

13 MR. COOLICAN: Can you clarify who "he" is?
14 BY MR. TRUNCALE:

15 Q "He" -- I'm sorry -- Ge, Mr. Songtao, Mr. Ge
16 Songtao. Mr. Ge Songtao didn't bring any firearms into
17 the shooting range -- in the indoor range?

18 A No, he didn't.

19 Q Yeah. I mean is it your understanding, from
20 either being present or speaking with Mr. Ge that
21 Mr. Lopez, Gabriel Lopez, was the one that actually
22 handed him the firearms that he was using at the indoor
23 facility?

24 A I cannot remember exactly.

25 Q Is it a fair statement, a correct statement,

1 that Mr. Fan Yang showed up only because his wife was
2 pregnant and she had the -- and she -- he didn't want
3 her in the facility? And I think the facility didn't
4 even allow pregnant women in it, in the firing range.

5 A I mean I remember they showed up, and at
6 least one of them left like after while when we were
7 there, yes.

8 Q Okay. But it wasn't -- from your position
9 and duties as the assistant to Mr. Ge Songtao, was it
10 your understanding that he wasn't coming there to meet
11 with Fan Yang and shoot with Fan Yang?

12 A No, he didn't say that.

13 Q Again, from the best of your recollection, I
14 mean he was -- didn't he have some kind of
15 communication, perhaps with Yuki, Mrs. Yang Yang, to
16 bring a firearm so that it could be used? Do you
17 recall that?

18 A Yes, I think so.

19 Q And the only thing I'm trying to establish is
20 that Mr. Fan Yang wasn't planning on meeting with Ge
21 Songtao that week, and I don't think you were planning
22 to see Mr. Fan Yang, it just turned out he showed up
23 because his wife was pregnant and to get her out of the
24 range, basically, get her out of that facility. Does
25 that --

1 MR. TRUNCALE: Objection, there's no
2 question.

3 BY MR. TRUNCALE:

4 Q -- sound right? Does that sound right?

5 A I mean I only know he -- he didn't explain
6 why he was there, but ...

7 Q But you knew she was concerned about being
8 pregnant and being there?

9 A Yeah, she talk about that a lot. She told me
10 she's pregnant, something like that, yes.

11 Q And then I believe the only other time that
12 you testified being with -- being in the presence of
13 Fan Yang and Ge at the same time was at the Sioux City
14 trip, the Nebraska shooting range that you just viewed
15 the videos of.

16 A Yes.

17 Q So do you recall speaking with Mrs. Yang Yang
18 approximately a week before -- even less than a week
19 before the trip to Nebraska, and that it was possibly a
20 week before that when Mrs. Yang Yang for the first time
21 ever suggested that she bring her husband with her to
22 visit -- to be there?

23 A So what I remember is before we come to the
24 United States, Mr. Ge asked me to ask Mr. Yang, say if
25 they can -- we may can meet if they are available. And

1 Mr. (sic) Yang told me they can have a vacation off --
2 her husband can have a vacation off, and then they can
3 come to visit us together.

4 And then Mr. Ge -- so Mr. Yang asked me which
5 city we will be in, and then I proved them -- I don't
6 remember, it's three or four different locations, to
7 them to pick up to see which one they want to meet with
8 us. And then they pick up the -- the range location.

9 Q All right. What I'm getting at -- because I
10 may ask you to refresh your recollection by looking at
11 a particular communication with Yuki.

12 Do you recall that -- her telling you some
13 six days before the trip that her husband, Fan Yang,
14 was out of the states, she didn't know where he was
15 particularly because it was -- because he was not
16 permitted to disclose his whereabouts when on Naval
17 missions, and that he had no idea of -- you know, of
18 the fact that she was talking with you about inviting
19 him to go with her when he came back?

20 A I don't remember how much day that off, but
21 Yuki told me many times that her husband was not there,
22 not only for this trip, but others.

23 Q If a communication between you and her exists
24 where she says, you know, I don't even -- where you
25 were discussing that and her mentioning, Jeez, it would

1 be a nice place to have a vacation, it would be
2 wonderful to be with my husband, he's not home, I don't
3 know particularly when he's going to be home, I can't
4 even -- I don't even know where he is in the world
5 because he can't tell me, do you remember such an
6 email?

7 If I showed you something to refresh your
8 recollection, would that be helpful?

9 A Yes.

10 MR. TRUNCALE: May I approach the witness to
11 see what is on that flash drive? Because I wish
12 to refresh her recollection with a document.

13 MR. COOLICAN: Of course.

14 MR. TRUNCALE: I do not intend to offer it
15 into evidence, but I'm just going to ask her to
16 read it.

17 BY MR. TRUNCALE:

18 Q Ms. Zheng, would you be kind enough to see --
19 I want to see if a particular file is on that flash
20 drive. Thank you.

21 Yes, I see a file, and I don't want you to
22 talk about it. Just read it silently to yourself, and
23 then after you read that, I'm going to ask if it might
24 remind you of a communication that you may have had.

25 A Which one?

1 Q This very last one.

2 A This one?

3 Q This is --

4 A Which one I should choose.

5 Q On Page --

6 A No, no, no. I mean it has --

7 Q Oh, try the Adobe Acrobat. Yes.

8 I'll -- may I go back to my table, and I'll
9 ask you to read certain pages quietly to yourself.

10 A Okay.

11 Q If you would go and read the translation on
12 Page 83 of the document?

13 A 83?

14 Q Yes. And it would be the third -- the third
15 statement. And I believe if you scroll back to the
16 previous page, that would have been July 6th, I
17 believe -- July 5th of 2018.

18 And then if you would move up to Page 85,
19 it's a series of communications again about whether
20 Yuki was communicating anything about her husband's
21 whereabouts and whether he even knew of the Sioux City
22 trip.

23 On Page 85 it would be specifically on the
24 6th, beginning with the word: No worries.

25 And also on the same page about whether her

1 husband was in town -- in the States.

2 When you are finished reading, would you let
3 me know if your recollection may be refreshed about
4 whether you and -- whether Yuki spoke with you in early
5 July about her husband being out of town and her unable
6 to speak with him?

7 A Yes, I finish reading.

8 Q Do you recall the communications back and
9 forth with her about whether -- what I'm trying to get
10 at is whether Mr. Yang was even planning to be there or
11 even knew about the Sioux City trip at that time?

12 A No. Yuki said he -- she needed to ask her
13 husband when her husband get home.

14 Q That's -- thank you. And is that your
15 recollection, too, he just wasn't around at the time
16 you were discussing --

17 A Yes.

18 Q Was that when you -- I'm just asking you for
19 your best recollection. Had Mrs. -- had Yuki first
20 raised the subject of, Jeez, I'd like to take a
21 vacation with my husband, or had Mr. Songtao already
22 offered to host them there?

23 A Mr. Ge offered that every time we come to the
24 United States.

25 Q Oh, okay. That was a standing offer for them

1 to come --

2 A Yes.

3 Q -- to visit with you? Okay. Thank you. I
4 have -- you can --

5 A I can close that?

6 Q -- shut that, yes.

7 A Okay.

8 Q Could you -- a little bit more clearly -- you
9 have identified your job duties with Mr. Ge -- is that
10 what I should refer to him as, Mr. Ge?

11 A Mr. Ge, yes.

12 Q Mr. Ge. And Mrs. Yang, Yuki, came on almost
13 10, 11 months after you began, came on assisting
14 Shanghai Breeze in the United States; isn't that
15 correct?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Yeah. I mean you were very early in 2016,
18 she was very late in 2016?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Was her duties and her presence here in the
21 United States helpful to you at all with regard to your
22 duties to Mr. -- Mr. Ge?

23 A Sometimes.

24 Q I mean did she assist in things where you
25 couldn't be here and do them because you weren't

1 present?

2 A Yes.

3 Q I mean was it -- what were precisely the
4 things that she did? You had mentioned the pay that
5 she would get and everything.

6 A Can you ask that again?

7 Q What were her duties -- what did you -- what
8 did Mr. Ge and you expect of her to do here in the
9 United States for Mr. Ge?

10 A First of all, do the translator work, for
11 example, translating all the catalogs for all the boat
12 manufacturer was in the States so we can use that in
13 China. And then sometimes helps Mr. Ge to ordering
14 some stuff.

15 Q Were those things that you couldn't -- you
16 yourself couldn't do, or it would be too burdensome in
17 addition to your duties because you were not here in
18 the United States?

19 I'm not challenging you. I'm just trying to
20 see if there was added benefit by having her working
21 here and doing things here, in addition to what you
22 were doing both in China and when you visited, what,
23 twice a year, maybe?

24 A Yes. It will help us because it will take a
25 lot of time to do the translation works.

1 Q Okay. So, in your opinion, she was providing
2 a service that was helpful?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Translating catalogs -- and I'm not
5 challenging you, I'm just -- I'm trying to figure out
6 everything.

7 She translated catalogs. She did orders for
8 him for business?

9 A Both business and personal.

10 Q All right. We'll break them down. For the
11 boat -- for the boat business, what kind of orders
12 would she do?

13 A So when we first started doing business with
14 the Metal Shark, my first meeting to Metal Shark Yuki
15 attend, and the first two boat, 38 Defend and the 45
16 Defend, Yuki help us to communicate with Dean -- yeah,
17 his name is Dean, is one of the manager in Metal Shark,
18 and to help us to place the order.

19 Q So I mean she -- what I'm driving at, ma'am,
20 is very simple. I mean was she providing services for
21 which she was being paid?

22 A Yes, she provide service.

23 Q I mean was she doing a good job, a bad job,
24 an okay job?

25 A For me is okay, yeah.

1 Q And didn't -- didn't in your communications
2 with her by WeChat or email or whatever, I mean you
3 would -- you and she would communicate about things for
4 the benefit of Mr. Ge's business that she could do or
5 information that you would need from her?

6 A Yes, sometimes.

7 Q Okay. Are we missing anything else on the
8 business, translating, and ordering, and trying to just
9 see what she did for her pay?

10 A So she help us to call the factory couple
11 times, because, you know, there's at least 12-hour time
12 difference between China and the United States.

13 Q Okay.

14 A So when you guys are working in the morning,
15 it's actually our nighttime.

16 Q Okay. And I guess she is fluent in two
17 languages, as you are, so that was good that she could
18 communicate to them and then to you --

19 A Yes.

20 Q -- and to Mr. Songtao?

21 Can you think of any other business services
22 that she provided in addition to those things?

23 A No. Because Mr. Ge actually also contacted
24 Yuki by himself, so it's not all the work Yuki did it
25 goes through me.

1 Q Okay. I mean just from your position -- I'm
2 not challenging you. Just from your position with
3 Mr. Songtao and the business, I mean do you know
4 whether she did anything in addition to that for
5 Mr. Songtao directly?

6 A She also help us to pay Mr. Lopez.

7 Q And he was a Shanghai Breeze employee?

8 A For some months. I cannot remember how many
9 months he work for Shanghai Breeze, but it's less than
10 a year.

11 Q But she didn't get him into -- he was a prior
12 relationship with Mr. Ge, wasn't he? I mean Yuki
13 didn't reach out to him?

14 A No, Yuki didn't reach out to him.

15 Q Okay. What were the -- then you said
16 personal things. You had mentioned earlier that she
17 would buy things for you and for him things, products
18 that might not be available in China, is that it?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Or expensive?

21 A Some of them are expensive, some it's kind of
22 cheap.

23 Q Some -- why -- what was the benefit to Mr. Ge
24 or you of her buying things here? I'm just asking.
25 I'm not challenging you. I'm thinking maybe they

1 weren't available or maybe the price was prohibitive in
2 China.

3 A Some of the product is not available in
4 China, and some of them is actually very cheap in
5 United States.

6 Q Okay.

7 A But because of the tax, the import tax, it's
8 super high in China.

9 Q Okay. What kind of stuff did she get for
10 you? What kind of stuff did she get for Mr. Ge?

11 A So for me personally, she would help me to
12 order, for example, like creams, makeup stuffs.

13 Q Are they less available in China?

14 A So when they publish online and then they
15 sold out, you cannot order it anymore.

16 Q Okay. So it's a --

17 A Yes.

18 Q -- lack of availability?

19 A Yes.

20 Q And didn't -- at one time did you have a
21 computer -- a laptop computer that was failing, and did
22 you ask Yuki to help you get a new computer here?

23 A Yes. But that's for the company business
24 use, not for my personal use.

25 Q Okay. So that was a business expense?

1 A Yes.

2 Q Because isn't that the computer that Yuki's
3 mom delivered to you in China?

4 A Yes. Her mom shipped that -- I mean sent
5 that through a carrier to me.

6 Q I'm sorry, I did not understand. I could not
7 hear.

8 A So her mom is going to a different city, so
9 her mom was using -- in China it's called Shem Fo
10 (phonetic); it's kind of like FedEx or UPS in the
11 United States -- and send that to me.

12 Q So when Yuki's mom landed somewhere in China,
13 from there she could use the Chinese FedEx to get
14 something to you?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Is that how you got the computer that you
17 were seeking?

18 A Yes.

19 Q And I'm just asking, I mean we all have
20 laptops; sometimes they go on the blink. Is that
21 basically the need, why you -- why you or
22 Mr. Songtao -- Mr. Ge, asked to get a replacement
23 laptop?

24 A So my laptop was going bad, and I switched to
25 another laptop, and the newest version is actually just

1 come out in the United States, because it's in -- I
2 think it's Thanksgiving or Christmastime when she
3 purchased that, so it has a huge discount on that.

4 So I asked Mr. Ge is that okay, asking Yuki
5 to order that. He said yes. Then I told Yuki to order
6 that for me.

7 Q And I don't know if you recall, I mean you
8 and she would have talked about getting that computer
9 on WeChats, probably, or either in person, but you-all
10 communicated about getting that, did you not?

11 A Yes.

12 Q I have to ask, was there -- was it a brand
13 new computer in the box? Was there any information on
14 it being transmitted by her to you?

15 A It's a brand new computer. And when I
16 received the computer from her mom, I actually took the
17 pictures through the open box to how I see the laptop
18 and to send it to -- I think I sent -- I definitely
19 sent it to her, but I'm not sure I sent it to her mom
20 or not. But I tell her mom I received the computer and
21 thank you.

22 Q Okay. And it was brand new, for sure, and --

23 A Yes. I took the picture, sent to them.

24 Q And that was -- and the timing was just
25 advantageous to get it there, and her mom was just --

1 her mom didn't take a special trip to China to bring
2 you a laptop; is that correct?

3 She was going there and Yuki just offered to,
4 Hey, my mom is going there, she can deliver a laptop?
5 Is that how it happened?

6 A Yeah. So Yuki told me her mom had something
7 to do in China, and then I was asking her, Is that okay
8 for your mom, does her luggage still have space for
9 that?

10 She said she will go to check with her mom,
11 and her mom says okay, then she bring that back.

12 Q I've got to ask you -- I just needed to
13 establish, to, you know, get your understanding of that
14 computer.

15 So a computer, some cosmetics. What other
16 kind of things would she help you get from the United
17 States?

18 A She helped me to order my toys -- but it's
19 not a firearms. It's Lego, L-E-G-O.

20 Q Lego?

21 A Yes.

22 Q Yes, yes. And various merchandise like that?
23 Nothing special, just certain things that you would
24 want and they were available here?

25 A Yes. Because in China the price is at least

1 twice.

2 Q Okay. What about -- what about personal
3 things for Mr. Ge?

4 A So she helped him to order, I think, some
5 face cream and send it back, and --

6 Q I'm just asking, when you-all came and
7 visited here --

8 A Yes.

9 Q -- you and Mr. Ge, could you not buy stuff
10 and then take it back on the plane with you, or no?

11 A Yes, we can.

12 Q I mean did y'all do that, too, in addition to
13 Yuki sending you things?

14 A Yes.

15 Q So there was nothing sinister about that;
16 correct? I mean there was nothing wrong about that?
17 It was just her doing a favor, essentially?

18 A Yes.

19 Q Did Ms. Yuki help you with cell phones or
20 maintain cell phones here in the United States to make
21 it easier for y'all to communicate when you were here?

22 A Yes. So --

23 Q Could you explain that? Because I don't
24 quite understand it.

25 A Okay. So when we go to international, like

1 go to another country, not in China, so our sim card,
2 we can pay for to use that in another country, but it's
3 like super expensive. So Mr. Ge asked me to ask Yuki
4 is that possible to set up two lines for us.

5 So Yuki said yes, and Yuki help us to order
6 the newest -- I think at that time is iPhone 10.

7 Q Okay. And was that for business primarily,
8 business and personal, or either/or?

9 A I think it's kind of mixed.

10 Q Mixed, okay. And did she also have what is
11 called an upper case V, upper case P, upper case N, a
12 VPN account for y'all?

13 A What sort of --

14 Q A virtual something network?

15 A Oh, VPN?

16 Q Yeah, VPN.

17 A Yes.

18 Q Okay. And she did that for you -- was there
19 problems with the Chinese firewall with regard to
20 these? Is that why a VPN is good?

21 A So there's many website or app is blocked in
22 China, such as we cannot use Google in China, no
23 YouTube, no Google, no gmails. There are lots of
24 things -- no Facebook, so it's all blocked in China.

25 Q Is WeChat sort of like American Facebook?

1 A No.

2 Q No?

3 A No.

4 Q So I think I can just go to another topic,
5 excuse me.

6 Oh, with regard to Ms. Yuki working -- before
7 I end that -- didn't you -- she was pregnant and had
8 her second child, and didn't she take off two or three
9 months or something like that?

10 A So he -- first she was saying she's going to
11 take off, and then Mr. Ge said we still can pay you,
12 you can work less time. And then Yuki was getting not
13 the full price, not the 5,000, it's like 3,500 per
14 month during her pregnancy.

15 Q Was that sort of like a business giving
16 maternity benefits to a woman?

17 A What --

18 Q Do you know what I'm -- all right. That was
19 to keep her employed and just get over the period of
20 pregnancy and such that she could continue working?

21 A Yes.

22 Q That's -- here in America it's called
23 maternity benefits, employee benefits.

24 Did Fan Yang work for Shanghai Breeze?

25 A Help -- what?

1 Q Did Mr. Yang work for Mr. Ge in his Shanghai
2 Breeze business?

3 A No, I don't know that.

4 Q That's why I ask. You don't know that?

5 A No, I never heard that.

6 Q And you really didn't see Mr. Yang that much?

7 I believe you said just a few times and --

8 A No, I really don't see him that much.

9 Q And really you didn't have any reason to
10 engage with him other than hello or that; is that a
11 fair statement?

12 A Yes.

13 Q You did mention that, in your opinion, you
14 thought Fan Yang was a friend of Songtao's?

15 A Yes.

16 Q I'm not challenging it. You mention -- in
17 your understanding of friend from -- you said he hugged
18 one time -- they hugged?

19 A It's like the first time they see each other,
20 yeah.

21 Q Yeah, hello. And that they would talk to
22 each other, and we know that on two times they were at
23 a firearm range, an indoor and an outdoor?

24 A Yes.

25 Q But that's over almost four years that you

1 knew of Mr. Yang. That's over a four-year period that
2 you knew of, or no, from when you started working --

3 A Yes.

4 Q -- for Mr. Ge?

5 A Yes.

6 Q You had mentioned early in your testimony
7 with Mr. Coolican earlier today that Mr. Ge had a
8 military contract of some sort?

9 A No. He was trying to get.

10 Q Okay. Is there any -- even a suggestion that
11 Mr. Fan Yang had anything -- or had any knowledge of
12 Mr. Ge trying to get a military contract?

13 A I don't know about that, because I didn't get
14 involved in the contracts thing.

15 Q Well, I'm asking you, you don't know of any?

16 A No, I don't know.

17 Q I'm happy to say we're very close to at least
18 the end of my part. Let me see my notes.

19 Did you know that Yuki, when you first met
20 her, when you and Mr. Ge visited in their house that
21 one time, did you know or did she disclose to
22 Mr. Songtao -- Mr. Ge at that time that she
23 previously -- she previously had worked in an
24 immigration law firm?

25 A She didn't tell me that, but Mr. Ge told me.

1 That's how Mr. Ge introduced Yuki to me before I
2 actually met Yuki. She -- no, Mr. Ge told me he had a
3 friend, and his friend has a wife used to work in a law
4 firm in New York City, but then they get married and
5 then her -- his friend's wife lost the job.

6 Q Okay. I was wondering if Mr. Ge -- two
7 things. First, did he ever express any intentions to
8 actually move and emigrate to the United States; and,
9 number two, if he conveyed that to Yuki, if you know?

10 A Mr. Ge told many people he trying to get a
11 green card in the United States.

12 Q And what is a green card? I just have to ask
13 you.

14 A It's kind of like a temporary delay
15 citizenship.

16 Q So he was --

17 A So he can stay here and -- from my point of
18 view, green card is -- only you don't have the vote,
19 you cannot vote, and except that it's kind of like a
20 U.S. citizen.

21 Q So it's -- is that a permanent resident?

22 A Kind of.

23 Q But he was that interested in staying in the
24 United States?

25 A That's what he was talking about.

1 Q Okay. And was his plans to continue with his
2 business but just located here in the United States?

3 A No. He say he -- what he told me is that he
4 wanted to do the business both in China and the United
5 States, maybe in other countries too.

6 Q Do you know if it's permissible to do that in
7 China? Can you have a green card in the United States
8 and still be a citizen of China, if you know?

9 A No, it's not legal. But you can do business
10 in China if you are a green card holder.

11 Q You can do business if you're a green card
12 holder?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Okay. I'm just asking you this, does
15 Mr. Songtao -- does Mr. Ge refer to many people as
16 friends, or just a few or -- some people have different
17 understanding of a friend. To one person it might be
18 an acquaintance; to another person it's a friend.

19 Do you know whether Mr. Songtao expressed,
20 you know, deep friendship with Mr. Yang?

21 A He told me he's friend with him.

22 Q Friend, I mean that's the extent of it?

23 And then you observed them hug one time and
24 shooting on two occasions and talking?

25 A Yeah.

1 Q Did anyone ever tell you that engaging in
2 these practices of Mr. Ge going to these firearm ranges
3 and using firearms was illegal at that time?

4 Just like when Mr. Coolican asked you the
5 question, did anybody -- did anybody ever tell you that
6 Mr. Songtao having a -- Mr. Ge Songtao having a gun was
7 illegal, using it at a firing range?

8 A Give me a second.

9 Yes. There are people was saying he cannot
10 have the guns because he's not a U.S. citizen.

11 Q Could not have a gun. But even at a firing
12 range? Did they say that that was illegal, for him to
13 use it at a firing range?

14 A I didn't hear that.

15 Q Specifically that's what I mean.

16 A I didn't hear that. But there's people --
17 people -- like multiple people telling him it's not
18 legal for him to have guns in the United States since
19 he's not a citizen.

20 Q Yet -- I mean was there any -- but you see
21 that persons of foreign nationality can use firearms at
22 firing ranges?

23 A Yes.

24 Q I mean did anyone tell -- ever say that that
25 was illegal specifically, like Mr. Grover or anyone

1 else, Mr. Tim or anyone else, that it was illegal for
2 Ge to be doing what he was doing in the film, for
3 instance?

4 A No. I never heard that.

5 Q Just a moment, please.

6 Did Ms. Yuki ever share with you, you know,
7 concerns like her -- you know, the problem she had with
8 her pregnancies and things? Had she ever shared her
9 personal life like that with you?

10 A Maybe.

11 Q Did she ever share with you whether she was
12 afraid of loud noises, like firearms, shooting and
13 things like that?

14 A Yeah, maybe.

15 Q Okay. I mean it was a very personal thing.
16 That's what I'm trying to ask, if you -- do you recall
17 that, something about a childhood trauma?

18 A I remember she was saying something, it's not
19 good for the child.

20 Q The shooting -- you mean the loud noises, is
21 that what you're talking about, or just for shooting
22 because she --

23 A She said the noise.

24 Q -- is pregnant? Yeah.

25 Was it the latter, the shooting if you're

1 pregnant?

2 A I just remember she said if the noise was too
3 loud, that's not good for her kid, the kid he was --
4 she was pregnant with.

5 Q Did you -- Ms. Zheng, did you ever see
6 Mrs. Yang, Yuki, hand to Mr. Ge a firearm anywhere,
7 number one, and then, if so -- anywhere, anywhere --
8 and then also whether it was at a firearm range?

9 Have you ever seen her hand a gun to Mr. Ge?

10 A No.

11 Q What about Mr. Yang here, did you ever see
12 him hand a gun to Mr. Ge outside of a firing range?

13 A No.

14 Q You had mentioned, ma'am, about -- I guess at
15 that trip in Nebraska at the firing range, at the -- I
16 believe, if my memory is correct, that at the end of it
17 a firearm or firearms were put in a locker and keys
18 were shared.

19 I may have the places wrong, but you talked
20 about some locker that firearms were placed in and that
21 a key was shared with Mr. Ge?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Do you remember that?

24 A Yes. There's two keys.

25 Q Would you please help me? Where was that and

1 when?

2 And did Mr. Yang know about Mr. Songtao
3 sharing a key to a locker with firearms?

4 A I don't know if Mr. Yang knows that or not,
5 because Mr. Ge never told me anything about if he
6 communicated with him about that.

7 Q Where was that locker that you were talking
8 about?

9 A In the shooting range in Nebraska.

10 Q Okay. So he never told you, and you don't --
11 and you personally don't know of anything of Mr. Yang
12 knowing about that -- about that locker and whether --
13 I guess did you ever see Mr. Ge actually access the
14 firearms there?

15 A What you mean by access?

16 Q I mean take -- was that locker inside a
17 shooting facility?

18 A Yes.

19 Q A firing range?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Oh, okay. Ma'am, I believe --

22 A It's a movable locker, so it's kind of like a
23 big box. It's like a gun -- they put a gun in there,
24 and they buy the lock to lock on that.

25 Q Uh-huh.

1 A Yes.

2 Q Oh, I believe you mentioned earlier in your
3 testimony -- I'm jumping all around.

4 But you mentioned about problems with
5 transferring money from China to the United States, and
6 I believe you mentioned that as a result you would pay
7 -- that Mr. Songtao would pay cash to various people,
8 including Yuki?

9 A Yes. That's one of the reasons.

10 Q What is the nature -- what was the nature of
11 the problem of transferring money from China to the
12 United States?

13 A The Chinese government thinks -- so in
14 Chinese we called this washed money, so try to put some
15 of your money, like it go overseas so the government
16 cannot -- I mean the Chinese government cannot control
17 the money. So that's why the -- so there's one
18 department in China is watching all the banks.

19 Q Oh, okay. So was it that -- was it that
20 money could not go through from a China bank to a
21 United States location or that -- or that it caused
22 scrutiny by the Chinese government?

23 A So, first of all, they are watching that.
24 And it can go through, but it takes a lot of time and a
25 lot of paperwork. You have to fill in tons of

1 paperwork to get it approved.

2 Q If it takes time, does that affect your
3 ability to conduct business in the United States?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Yeah. So what I'm getting at is, was there
6 anything sinister about paying Yuki in cash or any
7 other person with whom you did -- he did business here
8 in cash?

9 It was just simply because it was difficult
10 to make payment timely, fast payments from China?

11 A That's one of the reasons.

12 Q Okay. I mean there was no demands that you
13 knew of from Yuki or from Fan Yang about getting cash;
14 correct?

15 A What you --

16 Q I mean Fan Yang never asked that Ge pay cash
17 to his wife?

18 A I don't know about that.

19 Q Okay. So you don't know?

20 A No.

21 Q And you know of no -- he's never said
22 anything, and you have no reason to know that?

23 A Nobody tell me that.

24 MR. TRUNCALE: Just let me check to make
25 sure.

1 I tender the witness to you.

2 MR. COOLICAN: We've gone about two hours.

3 Can we take a five-minute break?

4 MR. TRUNCALE: Of course. Yeah, please.

5 MR. COOLICAN: Let's go off the record,

6 please.

7 VIDEOGRAPHER: We're off the record at 3:44.

8 (Off-the-record discussion)

9 VIDEOGRAPHER: We're back on the record at
10 3:58.

11 MR. COOLICAN: All right. Miss, I just have
12 a couple more questions for you.

13 I'm going to approach the witness and hand
14 her Government's Exhibit 42.

15 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. COOLICAN:

17 Q Miss, did you look at Government's Exhibit 42
18 earlier today?

19 A Yes.

20 Q And what is Government's Exhibit 42?

21 A It's my plea agreement.

22 Q All right. I'd like you to turn to Page 5 of
23 Government's Exhibit 42.

24 At the bottom, do you see a paragraph
25 numbered Paragraph 8, Cooperation, Responsibilities of

1 the Parties?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Does that paragraph continue on to Page 6?

4 A Yes.

5 Q All right. And then is there a subparagraph
6 (b) on Page 6?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Are you familiar with this plea agreement?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Have you read it or had your attorneys read
11 it to you?

12 A Yes.

13 Q All right. Does paragraph (b) on Page 6
14 discuss what would happen if you were to knowingly
15 provide incomplete or untruthful testimony today?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Does it discuss the consequences if that were
18 to happen?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Does the plea agreement on Page 6, continuing
21 on to Page 8, have a list of things that could happen
22 if you knowingly provided incomplete or untruthful
23 testimony today?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Was one of those things that you could be

1 prosecuted for perjury?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Is one of those things that you could be
4 prosecuted for false declarations?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Is one of those things that you could be
7 prosecuted for obstruction of justice?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Mr. Truncale was asking you about charges
10 that the United States has agreed to dismiss as part of
11 the plea agreement. Do you remember that?

12 A Yes, I do.

13 Q On Page 6 of your plea agreement, does it
14 state that if you were to knowingly provide incomplete
15 or untruthful testimony that the United States could
16 prosecute you for the charges that are dismissed?

17 A Yes.

18 Q On Page 7 of your plea agreement, does it
19 state that if you knowingly provide incomplete or
20 untruthful testimony that the government could use
21 against you your own admissions and statements and
22 information, and books, papers, documents, and objects
23 that you furnished during your cooperation?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Do you understand that means that we could

1 use any incriminating testimony that you gave today
2 against you?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Do you have any doubt that if the United
5 States discovered that you lied during your testimony
6 today that the prosecution would rely on these
7 provisions that you've been testifying against you --
8 testifying about, that the United States would use
9 those provisions against you?

10 A Yes, I understand.

11 Q Do you believe that the United States would
12 use those provisions against you?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Miss, did I ever tell you or did I not tell
15 you that you need to be deposed today because around
16 the time of trial you won't be in the United States?
17 Did I tell you that or did I not tell you that?

18 A You told me that.

19 Q I told you you needed to be deposed because
20 you won't be in the United States?

21 A Oh, no, no.

22 Q All right. What did I tell you about that,
23 if anything?

24 A You told me I have my deposed today.

25 Q Okay. Did I tell you you were being deposed

1 today because you won't be in the United States at the
2 time of the trial?

3 A No.

4 Q Did I tell you that?

5 A No, you didn't tell me that.

6 Q Mr. Truncale asked you about some time in
7 jail. And I think you testified that you were in jail
8 for about six months; is that right?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And I believe you testified that since that
11 time you've been on an electronic monitor in a hotel
12 room in Jacksonville for approximately seven months; is
13 that correct?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Okay. Was it your lawyers, was it me, or was
16 it the judge who ordered you released from jail and
17 detained in the hotel?

18 A The judge.

19 Q Have I ever told you or have I not told you
20 to provide answers today to please me?

21 A No. You told me to be truthful.

22 Q All right. Miss, I want you to -- well,
23 Mr. Truncale was asking you about WeChats with
24 Mrs. Yang discussing the possibility of the Yangs
25 traveling to Nebraska.

1 Do you remember him asking about that?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And he refreshed your recollection with a
4 document.

5 A Yes.

6 Q Do you recall that?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Do you remember specifically or not remember
9 in a WeChat with Mrs. Yang telling her that before
10 deciding whether to come to Nebraska she should check
11 to make sure that her husband could come?

12 A She told me she will go check with her
13 husband.

14 Q Okay. But did you ever tell her that before
15 booking any travel, make sure that he's available?

16 Do you remember that or not remember that?

17 A No, I don't remember that.

18 Q Okay. Would it help you to look at the
19 WeChat?

20 A Yes.

21 Q All right. I'm going to hand the witness
22 Government's Exhibit 19A.

23 All right. Would you bring up the
24 spreadsheet that you've been testifying about that's
25 saved on Government's Exhibit 19A?

1 A Yes.

2 Q All right. To refresh your recollection, I'd
3 like you to look at communications numbered 8562. I
4 want you to start reading there to yourself.

5 And just to make sure we're on the same page,
6 are those communications from July 9th, 2018, once you
7 get there --

8 A It froze.

9 Q It froze?

10 A Yeah.

11 Now it's going. Can you say the date again?

12 Q Sure. I'm looking at -- I want you to start
13 at communication 8562 from July 9th, 2018.

14 Would it be helpful if I found it for you?

15 A Yeah, I found it, but it's kind of ...

16 Q Okay.

17 A I already had the July 9th, and I was trying
18 to find the -- thank you.

19 Q Can you read about ten lines to yourself,
20 starting at communication 8562 on July 9th, 2018?

21 A Yes. Yes.

22 Q Okay. Now that you've read that, is your
23 recollection refreshed as to whether you told Mrs. Yang
24 that before making any plans to come to Nebraska she
25 should check to see if her husband could come first?

1 A Yes.

2 Q Do you remember why you told her that?

3 A Yes. I said -- so first Yuki telling me
4 she's afraid to come, why she come by herself. And
5 then I said it's okay if maybe we can do it the next
6 time. If this time we cannot meet up, we can do it
7 next time. And then I told her how about you check to
8 see if your husband cannot get -- can get time off or
9 not.

10 Q So was it better if her husband could come,
11 too, is that -- I'm trying to understand why you told
12 her to make sure that -- to check if her husband could
13 come.

14 Did you tell her that if your husband could
15 come, then Mrs. Yang should come?

16 A I -- I told her she can come. I didn't tell
17 her if your husband cannot come, you cannot come.

18 Q I understand.

19 A Yes.

20 Q But did you tell her to check if her husband
21 could come?

22 A Yes, I did.

23 Q All right. Why did you tell her to do that?
24 Did you want her husband to come?

25 A I -- I think it's Mr. Ge told me that.

1 Q Okay. Mr. Truncale was asking you some
2 questions about someone named Mel, or Melvin, Asencio.
3 Do you recall that?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And you testified that Ge Songtao gave him
6 some money to buy a gun, and Mr. Asencio gave it back?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Did you have a discussion with -- or a
9 communication with Mr. Asencio about why he was giving
10 the money back and not buying the gun?

11 A So he left the backpack with someone else,
12 gave to Mr. Ge, and then I text him, say, Why you give
13 it back to us? He say he feels like it's not good for
14 him to take the money first, and he feels like he
15 should use his own money to do that first.

16 Q Okay. You identified a number of people who
17 let Ge Songtao use guns when Mr. Truncale was
18 questioning you. Do you remember that?

19 A Yes.

20 Q In addition to Mr. Asencio, someone named Jim
21 Vann?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Pete Velez?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Tim Grover?

1 A Yes.

2 Q All right. Do you have any information one
3 way or the other about Mel Asencio letting Ge Songtao
4 use a gun that had Ge Songtao's initials engraved in
5 it? Do you have any information about that?

6 A No.

7 Q Do you have any information about Pete Velez
8 letting Ge Songtao use a gun that had Ge Songtao's
9 initials engraved in it, any information? Yes or no?

10 A Not a hundred percent sure, because Pete --
11 Pete -- there's one -- our first time meet Pete he --
12 because Mr. Lopez is going out of town, and then Pete
13 went to Mr. Lopez house and use all the weapons
14 Mr. Lopez has to let Mr. Ge use.

15 Q Okay. And that included the gun that the
16 Yangs had?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And the gun that the Yangs had had Ge
19 Songtao's initials engraved in it; is that true or
20 false?

21 A Truth.

22 Q It's true?

23 A Yeah.

24 Q So you're saying that -- or you tell me if
25 this is right or wrong. Pete Velez may have given Ge

1 Songtao a gun that had Ge Songtao's initials in it, but
2 are you saying -- and you tell me if this is right or
3 wrong, whether that was the Yangs gun that maybe
4 Mr. Velez gave to Ge Songtao?

5 A I cannot remember a hundred percent sure the
6 initial is on one of the weapon Pete give to Mr. Ge to
7 use.

8 Q Okay. Do you have any information one way or
9 the other about Tim Grover giving Ge Songtao a gun that
10 had Ge Songtao's initials engraved in it?

11 A No, I don't think so.

12 Q You were asked some questions about Ge
13 Songtao wanting to start a firearms business with Mel
14 Asencio. Do you remember that?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Was Ge Songtao interested in starting
17 businesses in the United States or buying businesses in
18 the United States, besides businesses about firearms?

19 A Yes.

20 Q What other types of businesses was he
21 interested in buying or starting in the United States?

22 A So he talked with Chris from Metal Shark
23 factory, and Chris has a trailer company in Louisiana.
24 I'm not sure the address where it is. They were
25 talking about because Chris -- Mr. Ge told Chris he

1 really want to get a green card in the United States;
2 then Chris say maybe he can help Mr. Ge use his
3 company, like Mr. Ge buy Chris's trailer company and to
4 get the green card.

5 Q Okay. So based on your discussions with Ge
6 Songtao and any discussions that you overheard when you
7 were translating for him in the United States, is there
8 some connection between starting a business in the
9 United States and getting a green card?

10 A Yes. So he want to get a green card in the
11 United States. Then the most -- the easiest way to get
12 a green card is invest in some U.S. company.

13 Q Invest in a U.S. company?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Did Ge Songtao ever tell you the reason why
16 or his motive for wanting to get a green card?

17 A He told me it's because he's not a U.S.
18 citizen and that he cannot own his toys, I mean any
19 firearms, legally.

20 Q Mr. Truncale was asking about the things that
21 Fan Yang and Ge Songtao did that might indicate they're
22 friends. Do you remember him asking about that?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Did -- do you have any information about Fan
25 Yang giving Ge Songtao U.S. Navy uniforms?

1 A No, I don't think I have -- no.

2 Q All right. Do you have any information about
3 Fan Yang buying for Ge Songtao a U.S. Naval officer
4 sword?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Were you present when Fan Yang gave a sword
7 to Ge Songtao?

8 A I cannot say a hundred percent sure I was
9 present when they were giving to Mr. Ge that, but we
10 bring that -- sword?

11 Q Sword.

12 A Sword back to China.

13 Q So you saw the sword that Ge Songtao had when
14 he flew back to China; is that what you're saying?

15 A Yes. We pack it in the airport.

16 Q And just along the lines of other things
17 that -- about the friendship between Ge Songtao and Fan
18 Yang, did Ge Songtao hire Fan Yang's wife?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Did the Yangs buy guns and let Ge Songtao use
21 them?

22 A Yes.

23 Q You were asked about -- and I think you may
24 have even played an audio file in which Ge Songtao is
25 giving instructions on how he is to receive a firearm

1 from Yang Yang, and the instruction is that it should
2 go through Mr. Lopez.

3 Do you recall testifying about that?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Is that -- was that -- in the years of
6 traveling to the United States with Ge Songtao and
7 going to firing ranges, was that the practice, that the
8 Yangs would give the gun to somebody, and then somebody
9 else would give the gun to Ge Songtao?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Did Ge Songtao ever tell you his -- his
12 motive for doing that?

13 A For doing what?

14 Q Did he ever explain why he wanted it done
15 that way?

16 A No, he didn't explain that. He just did it.

17 Q And just to clarify about the locker or the
18 locked case at the firing range in Nebraska in July of
19 2018, is that the -- that lockbox, is that the lockbox
20 that the Yangs' gun went into when you and Ge Songtao
21 were done training with Tim at the firing range in July
22 2018?

23 A Yes. And with -- I think with another
24 weapon.

25 Q So maybe two weapons?

1 A Yes.

2 Q One that was the Yangs and then a different
3 one?

4 A Yes.

5 Q All right. And Fan Yang -- the lockbox -- I
6 think you testified that Fan Yang didn't know about
7 that?

8 A I don't know he knows it or not.

9 Q Okay. But he wasn't there -- was he there
10 when the guns were put away?

11 A No. He left earlier.

12 Q Did anyone give him a key to that lockbox?

13 A I don't know, because -- I don't think so,
14 because there are only two keys. So we bring back to
15 China one key, and Pete has another key.

16 Q So you don't think Mr. Yang had a key to the
17 lockbox in which the Yangs' gun was stored?

18 A No, I don't think so.

19 MR. COOLICAN: All right. Those are my
20 questions.

21 RE CROSS EXAMINATION

22 BY MR. TRUNCALE:

23 Q Ms. Zheng, do you still have that -- I
24 believe it's Exhibit -- Government Exhibit 19A. I
25 believe it's 19A that you just testified about?

1 A Yes.

2 Q About the July 9th -- the July 9th, 2018,
3 chat between you and Yang Yang about -- asking about
4 whether her husband was going to come. That was July
5 9th, correct, July 9th of 2018?

6 What I'd like you to do, could you please go
7 back to that exhibit, to file -- to message number
8 8032, which is a July 6th -- that's three days
9 earlier -- a chat that you had with Mrs. Yang Yang.
10 And would you just read that, and then I'd like to ask
11 you a question about that. Please let me know when
12 you're finished reading.

13 A Can you say which line that -- again?

14 Q I'm sorry, I could not hear you, ma'am.

15 A Can you say which line is that?

16 Q It's 80 -- on the -- I think it's the second
17 column, it gives chat numbers, and it would be 8032.

18 A 32.

19 Q Do you find that?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Ma'am, does that chat refresh your
22 recollection what Mrs. Yang Yang said -- chatted to you
23 that day?

24 A Yes.

25 Q What I'm asking you is, in that chat, 8032,

1 on July 6th, didn't Mrs. Yang Yang tell you that she
2 needed to know if her husband can take leave so that
3 they could go on a vacation together, and that was the
4 Sioux City that you and her had been talking about?

5 Is that correct, what that -- what that
6 message indicates?

7 A She said her husband said he still has
8 vacation. If it has enough time to get a time off from
9 the work then will fly to see us, but not sure if the
10 boss had time or not.

11 Q The boss, would that mean her husband?

12 A No. The boss means Mr. Ge.

13 Q Okay. But I'm -- that is on July 6th that
14 she said that; correct?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And she's talking about whether her husband
17 can come and go there, and that's before July 9th where
18 you tell her that Mr. Ge is inviting them to come. I
19 mean doesn't it appear that she rose the -- she arose
20 the issue first of whether she might want to come with
21 her husband?

22 Didn't she indicate on July 6th, three days
23 earlier than you telling her Songtao is inviting him to
24 come, you and him to come, wasn't it Yuki that first
25 brought up the proposition of if my husband can come, I

1 want him to come with me?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Can I ask you about one other thing?

4 Remember I asked you a couple questions earlier about
5 different stuff that Yuki would purchase and stuff,
6 requests on behalf of Songtao -- on behalf of Mr. Ge
7 and on your behalf, things that Yuki agreed to, and the
8 sword you spoke of, that wasn't a gift from Fan Yang to
9 Mr. Ge, was it?

10 A No, I don't think so, but I didn't have the
11 conversation with them when -- I just see the sword
12 there. I was not involved in the conversation how they
13 get the sword there.

14 Q Yeah. I mean -- and did you see that as
15 anything out of the ordinary of getting items from the
16 United States for you or Mr. Ge to take to China?

17 Wasn't that along the lines of what you
18 testified about?

19 A Yeah. But I'm not sure how --

20 Q Well, you don't -- you're not suggesting it's
21 a gift, are you, ma'am?

22 A I don't know.

23 Q Yeah. And there's no question that that was
24 the arrangement -- one of the arrangements with
25 Mrs. Yang, that she would do things for business for

1 Mr. Ge and also accommodate requests for merchandise
2 that you and Mr. Songtao would like to have that -- you
3 know, at your own expense that were difficult to get in
4 China.

5 I mean was that -- wasn't that sword among
6 that understanding?

7 A I don't know --

8 Q You don't know.

9 A -- how they get that part. I just remember
10 we bring back one of the swords.

11 Q Yeah. But you're not testifying -- as I
12 understand it, you're not testifying that that was a
13 gift from Mr. Yang to Mr. Ge?

14 A No, I don't know about that part.

15 Q You don't know? I mean --

16 A I only know is we bring back one.

17 Q Okay. I was just wondering, about that
18 lock -- that box that you had mentioned about that was
19 locked and Mr. Ge had a key, and I believe you said
20 there was different firearms in there, and one of them
21 was Mr. Yang's gun?

22 A One of is the Glock.

23 Q So you're familiar with what the Glock looked
24 like and --

25 A I mean because it's a small -- it's different

1 with the other ones.

2 Q You don't know what the other one was, but
3 you recognized the Glock, is that -- I'm just asking
4 you. You don't know what the other firearm was, but
5 you're sure that the Glock was in there?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Okay. You were asked just a couple of
8 questions, I think, about Mr. Asencio and some others.

9 Didn't other people buy firearms for Mr. Ge's
10 use at firearm ranges just like Mr. Yang?

11 A Yes. Tim.

12 Q And you don't know of any others other than
13 Tim?

14 A Mr. Lopez.

15 Q Yeah. And I believe we already went over
16 this. Perhaps a Mr. Vann, too, maybe, or no?

17 A I never see that.

18 Q Okay. And you don't recall Mr. Ge talking
19 about that or anything?

20 A No. I only recall they were planning to do
21 the shooting and the -- yeah.

22 MR. TRUNCALE: Excuse me.

23 I have no other questions. Thank you so
24 much, ma'am.

25 MR. COOLICAN: All right. I don't have any

1 further questions.

2 Just for the record, I do have a subpoena to
3 testify at trial for the witness. It calls for
4 her to appear, Courtroom 10C, on August 2nd, 2021,
5 at 9:30, and I'm going to present it to the
6 witness.

7 But I don't have anything further. We can go
8 off the record.

9 VIDEOGRAPHER: End of deposition at 4:31.

10 (Whereupon, at 4:31 p.m., the deposition was
11 concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE OF OATH

STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF DUVAL)

I, the undersigned authority, certify that
HAILIN HUANG appeared via telephone and ZHENG YAN
personally appeared before me and both were duly sworn
on March 24, 2021.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this 6th day
of April, 2021.

Marianne Branson

MARIANNE BRANSON, RPR
Notary Public, State of Florida
My Commission No.: GG 174097
Expires: January 25, 2022



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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF DUVAL)

I, Marianne Branson, RPR-CP, certify that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the deposition of ZHENG YAN; that a review of the transcript was not requested; and that the transcript is a true and complete record of my stenographic notes.

I further certify that I am not a relative, employee, attorney, or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a relative or employee of any of the parties' attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially interested in the action.

Dated this 6th day of April, 2021.


Marianne Branson, RPR-CP
Court Reporter