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### Huawei, Su Bin and Canadian Déjà vu ... Chasing Bliss not Abyss

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Date: December 11, 2018

Meng Wanzhou, Huawei Technologies' chief financial officer and daughter of the company's founder, was arrested in Canada on December 1, 2018.<sup>1</sup> A US federal judge issued a warrant for her arrest on August 22, 2018.<sup>2</sup>

Ms. Wanzhou was arrested on charges that she committed fraud in 2013 by telling financial institutions that Huawei had no connection to a Hong Kong-based company, Skycom, which reportedly was selling U.S. goods to Iran in violation of U.S. sanctions.<sup>3</sup>

Huawei is China's largest privately held company.<sup>4</sup> It was founded in 1987 by Meng's father, Ren Zhengfei, and has grown to become the biggest supplier of telecommunications gear in the world, this year surpassing Apple to become the second-largest maker of cellphones.<sup>5</sup>

In response, a former Canadian diplomat has been detained by the Chinese.<sup>6</sup> On December 11, 2018, Michael Kovrig was detained in Beijing during one of his regular visits to the city.<sup>7</sup> Kovrig was working in Hong Kong as the North East Asia senior adviser for the

International Crisis Group, a Brussels-based non-governmental organization.<sup>8</sup>

#### What this means to AmerAsia Report readers:

On November 4, 2018, the AmerAsia Report published a whitepaper entitled "The Honey Pot: Bliss or Abyss?"<sup>9</sup> In that article, the AmerAsia Report informed its readers of an arrest in China.<sup>10</sup>

The Garratts were a Canadian couple held in custody for over two years by the Chinese.<sup>11</sup> The Garratts were unaware that six weeks earlier in Vancouver, Su Bin, a Chinese aviation entrepreneur, had been accused by the United States of conspiring with two Chinese PLA soldiers to steal secret United States military data.<sup>12</sup> Those supporting the Garratt's say "the Chinese made it clear that the Garratt case was designed to pressure Canada to block Su Bin's extradition to the U.S.," said James Zimmerman, an American lawyer in Beijing hired by the family to lobby Canadian and China government officials for their release.<sup>13</sup>

From these actions, the China Government has demonstrated a clear modus operandi: If you arrest one of ours, we will arrest one of yours.

If you are thinking about taking data out of China, do it with respect and rule of law. Don't get trapped in a Honey Pot, talk to AmerAsia.

Contact: [info@amerasialaw.com](mailto:info@amerasialaw.com)

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<sup>1</sup> Julia Horowitz, Alberto Moya and Scott McLean, December 10, 2018, "Bail hearing for jailed Huawei executive spills into third day", [cnn.com](#).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> Emily Rauhala, December 10, 2018, "Huawei executive fights for release in Canada bail hearing that will continue into third day", [washingtonpost.com](#).

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> Rob Gillies, December 11, 2018, "Canadian ex-diplomat detained in China, official confirms", [washingtonpost.com](#).

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

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<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> John Ybarra, November 4, 2018, "Honey Pot: Bliss or Abyss?", [AmerAsiaReport.com](#)

<sup>10</sup> *Id.*

<sup>11</sup> *Id.*

<sup>12</sup> *Id.*

<sup>13</sup> *Id.*