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HOUSE PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE,
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

INTERVIEW OF: SIMONA MANGIANTE

Wednesday, July 18, 2018

Washington, D.C.

The interview in the above matter was held at 234
Cannon House Office Building, commencing at 11:40 a.m.

1 Appearances:

2

3 HOUSE PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

4

5 DENNY HECK, MEMBER

6 NANCY PELOSI, MEMBER

7 ADAM SCHIFF, MEMBER

8 ERIC SWALWELL, MEMBER

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10 STAFF

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 MR. SCHIFF: Madam Leader?

3 MS. PELOSI: Well, thank you very much. And
4 Mr. Schiff, our ranking members, and to our member and
5 our members of the committee, welcome to this
6 interview. I am sorry that this isn't a bipartisan
7 interview, but the Republican majority has refused to
8 hear a number of witnesses in your case, in terms of
9 Maria Butina, somebody who could have had a valuable
10 contribution.

11 What the purpose of this is is to seek the
12 truth. So we welcome your testimony. The reason I
13 have to be involved at this level as an ex officio
14 member is because the Republicans would not do it
15 officially. So we are doing it officially, as
16 Democrats. So welcome, and thank you for being here.

17 MS. MANGIANTE: Thank you very much.

18 MR. SCHIFF: Thank you, Madam Leader, and
19 thank you -- Mangiante?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Mangiante.

21 MR. SCHIFF: Thank you, Ms. Mangiante, for
22 your willingness to come and testify today.

1 This is a transcribed interview of Ms. Simona
2 Mangiante as part of our ongoing congressional
3 investigation into Russia's interference in the 2016
4 U.S. election. House Democrat Leader Nancy Pelosi, who
5 is also an ex officio member of the House Permanent
6 Select Committee on Intelligence, is hosting today's
7 interview.

8 Before we begin I just want to say a few
9 things for the record. Questioning today will be
10 conducted by Members and staff. Some questions may
11 seem basic, but that is because we need to clarify and
12 establish certain facts and understand the situation.

13 Please don't assume that we know any facts
14 that you have not previously disclosed as part of -- or
15 that you may have discussed with other investigative
16 bodies. So I wouldn't presume that we are familiar
17 with things that have come to your attention.

18 This interview will be conducted in a closed
19 format at the unclassified level. The contents of
20 today's testimony will be considered private.

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Okay.

22 MR. SCHIFF: And we can discuss thereafter

1 with you your testimony. We can share with you a
2 transcript to make sure that it accurately reflects
3 what you had to say. And if at any time you need to
4 take a break, let us know. If we can get you anything,
5 let us know.

6 MS. MANGIANTE: Okay.

7 MR. SCHIFF: We ask that you give complete
8 replies to questions based on your best recollection.
9 If a question is unclear or you are uncertain in your
10 response, please let us know. Especially if there are
11 any translation or language issues, definitely let us
12 know.

13 You are entitled to have counsel present for
14 you during the interview.

15 We appreciate your accommodation by traveling
16 here to Washington, D.C. for the interview.

17 And let me see if there is anything else.
18 There is a reporter making a record of these
19 proceedings so that we can easily consult a written
20 compilation of your answers. Because the reporter
21 cannot record gestures we ask that you answer all
22 questions verbally. If you forget to do this, you may

1 be reminded occasionally.

2 We also ask -- we may also ask you to repeat
3 certain answers to ensure that we have an accurate
4 record of today's testimony.

5 No recording devices are otherwise permitted.
6 You don't have any recording devices with you, I
7 assume?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: I have my phones, but they
9 are not active. So I can just switch them off, if you
10 prefer.

11 MR. SCHIFF: All right. And we will probably
12 go through the various members. We will try to keep
13 this in a chronological order for simplicity. But
14 members may have to come and go because of hearings and
15 other commitments on the Hill. Please don't be put off
16 by --

17 MS. MANGIANTE: Okay.

18 MR. SCHIFF: -- those interruptions.

19 I should mention also under U.S. law it is
20 unlawful to deliberately provide false information to
21 Members of Congress or staff.

22 Lastly, again, I want to mention our

1 appreciation for your willingness to voluntarily be
2 with us and testify today.

3 And with that, we will begin our questioning
4 and then we will --

5 MS. PELOSI: I will excuse myself. Thank you
6 again for coming.

7 Thank you, Mr. Ranking Member, and thank you,
8 members. Thank you to our recorder, as well.

9 MR. SCHIFF: Thank you, Madam Leader.

10 MS. PELOSI: Thank you.

11 MR. SCHIFF: I just want to -- this one I am
12 going to defer for the beginning of our questioning to
13 Mr. Swalwell of California.

14 MR. SWALWELL: Thank you again, Ms.
15 Mangiante. Do you go by Ms. Mangiante, or is it Ms.
16 Papadopoulos?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: I keep my name, Mangiante,
18 because of recently -- yes, both --

19 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. Do you intend --

20 MS. MANGIANTE: But Mangiante is fine.

21 MR. SWALWELL: Do you intend to change your
22 name?

1 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

2 MR. SWALWELL: Okay.

3 MS. MANGIANTE: I think I will add --

4 MR. SWALWELL: And --

5 MS. MANGIANTE: -- eventually.

6 MR. SWALWELL: Is your husband aware that you
7 are testifying today?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

9 MR. SWALWELL: He is? And where is he today?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: He is in Chicago.

11 MR. SWALWELL: And did you discuss at all
12 your testimony in advance with your husband?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, very generally.

14 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. And what do you mean by
15 very generally?

16 MS. MANGIANTE: We were discussing about
17 attendance, we were simply -- something without talking
18 about it, of course. I mean it is not an ordinary
19 event. So we were generally talking about it. And
20 that is not, of course, about the -- I can't discuss
21 the content or whatever, because I don't know what is
22 going to be discussed today.

1 MR. SWALWELL: Did you talk at all with your
2 husband's lawyer?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

4 MR. SWALWELL: Who is your husband's lawyer
5 now?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: Thomas Breen.

7 MR. SWALWELL: Crane?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: Breen, I think so.

9 MR. SWALWELL: Breen. Is he Washington-
10 based, or --

11 MS. MANGIANTE: No, it is a -- based in
12 Chicago.

13 MR. SWALWELL: It was based in Chicago?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: Mm-hmm.

15 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. And so you've never
16 discussed --

17 MS. MANGIANTE: With the lawyer? No.

18 MR. SWALWELL: -- the facts of this case with
19 his lawyer?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I discussed with the --
21 George, yes, but not with his lawyers. I don't know if
22 he discussed with his lawyers, but his lawyers are -- I

1 don't have a good relation with his lawyer.

2 MR. SWALWELL: Did you rely on any notes, or
3 go back through any emails, text messages, or any type
4 of written correspondence, just to refresh your memory
5 to prepare for today?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes. I mean I think most of
7 the work I have done is -- in my opinion, is the one
8 concerning my work at London Centre, so that is only --
9 memories I tried to recollect.

10 MR. SWALWELL: And what types of
11 correspondence did that include?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: With Professor Mifsud.

13 MR. SWALWELL: And was that through text
14 messages --

15 MS. MANGIANTE: No, email.

16 MR. SWALWELL: Email? All right. And what
17 was the email provider that you were using at the time?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: I think a Gmail.

19 MR. SWALWELL: A Gmail account?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, unless -- actually, I
21 didn't have much correspondence directly. But there is
22 this specific email in which I resigned from the London

1 Centre in which I say that I didn't want my name
2 associated to them any more.

3 MR. SWALWELL: And were you using at the time
4 an email address from the Centre, or --

5 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, I used to, but I don't
6 know why -- that is why -- emails on my private
7 account, and one of them -- I don't have -- this
8 account has been deleted, so --

9 MR. SWALWELL: The Centre's account?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: The Centre's account, of
11 course, yes.

12 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. And do you still use
13 today the same Gmail account that you were using at the
14 time?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

16 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. And what is that Gmail
17 address?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: [REDACTED]

19 MR. SWALWELL: And in addition to emails that
20 you had with the professor, did you ever Gchat with the
21 professor?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

1 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. Did you ever use Gchat
2 at all --

3 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

4 MR. SWALWELL: -- during this time?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: Uh-uh. There are very few
6 email. I mean probably three.

7 MR. SWALWELL: Have you been in touch with
8 anyone affiliated with the White House, including the
9 White House's counsel's office, with respect to your
10 testimony today?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: What do you mean, exactly?
12 Can you please --

13 MR. SWALWELL: Yes.

14 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't understand the
15 question.

16 MR. SWALWELL: Have you talked to anyone at
17 the White House about your testimony?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: Absolutely not.

19 MR. SWALWELL: Have you talked to anyone,
20 just in general, at the White House?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: I have been talking with the
22 reporters. I don't know if they were affiliated with

1 the White House or not. I don't know if my answer is
2 correct in this extent. But I don't know if they were
3 reporters from the White House or a random request from
4 Twitter, so --

5 MR. SWALWELL: I meant people who work for
6 the administration, not the -- there is the press, and
7 they cover and report on the administration, and then
8 there is folks that work inside the administration.
9 Have you talked to anyone who has worked --

10 MS. MANGIANTE: Inside the administration?

11 MR. SWALWELL: Yes.

12 MS. MANGIANTE: As far as I know, no.

13 MR. SWALWELL: Have you been in touch with
14 anyone affiliated with the Trump campaign about your
15 testimony?

16 MS. MANGIANTE: That has worked with Trump,
17 affiliated with Trump?

18 MR. SWALWELL: Yes.

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Journalists --

20 MR. SWALWELL: No, excluding journalists.

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Just give me an example of
22 someone that could be affiliated to the Trump campaign.

1 Sorry for the wording --

2 MR. SWALWELL: Yeah. No, so --

3 MS. MANGIANTE: I just try to be careful. I
4 don't want to be the wrong --

5 MR. SWALWELL: Like a campaign lawyer,
6 someone representing the campaign as a lawyer. Have
7 you ever worked with anyone --

8 MS. MANGIANTE: No, no.

9 MR. SWALWELL: -- in that respect?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

11 MR. SWALWELL: How about a campaign aid?
12 Like Brad Parscale is the campaign manager.

13 MS. MANGIANTE: I didn't talk with anyone.

14 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. How about, like, an
15 informal advisor to the campaign?

16 MS. MANGIANTE: No, no.

17 MR. SWALWELL: If you wanted to get a hold of
18 someone in the Trump campaign, who is the person you
19 know that knows someone in the campaign? Like, other
20 than George?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Nobody.

22 MR. SWALWELL: Nobody. So the only person

1 you know associated with the campaign, it is safe to
2 say, is George?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: That I know personally, yes,
4 and another being communicating with anyone else about
5 probably public Twitter exchange with Michael Caputo.
6 That is all --

7 MR. SWALWELL: When did you have the Twitter
8 exchange with Mr. Caputo?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: Public, never private
10 exchange. I don't know him. Probably a month ago,
11 when he apologized for calling George a coffee boy.
12 And I just answered, "Thank you."

13 MR. SWALWELL: Were there any direct messages
14 that were --

15 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

16 MR. SWALWELL: -- not open --

17 MS. MANGIANTE: Never.

18 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. Where were you born?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Caserta.

20 MR. SWALWELL: And where is that?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: It is in south of Italy.

22 MR. SWALWELL: Okay.

1 MS. MANGIANTE: Between Rome and Naples.

2 MR. SWALWELL: Did you live there most of
3 your life?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I have been -- I was raised
5 there, then Rome and Naples. Then I study
6 international law in Brussels. I have been working for
7 the European Parliament for seven years.

8 MR. SWALWELL: What -- how old were you when
9 you moved to Brussels?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't remember. I think it
11 was probably my mid-twenties.

12 MR. SWALWELL: Was that the first time that
13 you had spent any time outside of Italy?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: No, no, I also been in
15 Washington. I was studying international law, so I did
16 an international -- I did an internship in Mayer Brown,
17 a law firm in Washington and New York.

18 MR. SWALWELL: When was that?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: 2008 -- no, 2007, I think,
20 2007. So I have been --

21 MR. SWALWELL: How old were you when you did
22 that internship?

1 MS. MANGIANTE: Oh, my gosh. Twenty-
2 something, like -- I don't know. Like my twenties
3 still.

4 MR. SWALWELL: And then you --

5 MS. MANGIANTE: But, like, the dates are --

6 MR. SWALWELL: And the first year that you
7 moved to Brussels was when?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: I moved to Brussels -- I went
9 first for an internship, I think, in -- I have to see
10 my CV, but I started work in 2009 until 2016. That is
11 -- I can recollect. Earlier I did an internship for
12 six months at European Parliament, as well. But
13 probably -- let's say a year before, part of the
14 interchange program now -- I don't recall the exact
15 dates. I should see my CV.

16 MR. SWALWELL: So just so I understand,
17 before moving to Brussels the other countries you had
18 worked in -- and I am not talking --

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Work, not. More study and
20 internship. I mean even in Washington and New York it
21 was a short internship with Mayer Brown. I was a
22 junior --

1 MR. SWALWELL: Any countries, other than the
2 United States?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

4 MR. SWALWELL: Where else?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: I used to live in London, of
6 course, most recently. And then in Paris, I worked for
7 Versace in Paris right after my studies one year. And
8 Spain, I did my Erasmus project in Europe. It is an
9 exchange program. I think it was my early years at the
10 university. And so Spain and France, England, the
11 United States.

12 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ever work in Russia
13 prior to moving to Brussels?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

15 MR. SWALWELL: You never --

16 MS. MANGIANTE: I went once in Russia for --

17 MR. SWALWELL: When did you go there?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: 2015 or '14.

19 MR. SWALWELL: Was that the first time you
20 had traveled there?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, it was for holiday. St.
22 Petersburg. First I --

1 MR. SWALWELL: Could you describe your work
2 in Brussels when you first moved there, started working
3 there for the European Parliament?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes. I was working for the
5 labor committee, which is committee on liberty. I can
6 say it in French; I don't know in English. It is like
7 justice and home affairs. I was a legal advisor for
8 this committee administrators -- the qualification on
9 my position.

10 And then I moved to the presidency office,
11 which is structured with 1 president and 14 vice
12 presidents. Every vice president has a specific task,
13 and I used to work for the vice president, who was the
14 mediator for cases of international child abduction. I
15 ended up managing the office for -- managing those
16 cases, parental child abduction.

17 MR. SWALWELL: And did you develop foreign
18 contacts while you were in this position? It seems
19 like you are at the center of the European Union and
20 its Parliament.

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, of course. Everything
22 is about international relations and -- I mean I think

1 some kind of work -- mostly from Europe, European
2 member states and all the representatives from member
3 states to the European Union.

4 MR. SWALWELL: Can you tell us in detail who
5 Professor Mifsud is, and how you met him?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: Well, in detail,
7 unfortunately, I don't know. But I know that I met
8 Professor Mifsud for the first time at the European
9 Parliament through an MEP. I used to work more -- that
10 I know personally.

11 MR. SWALWELL: Is MEP Member of European
12 Parliament?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: He used to be the head of
14 socialist group until probably two months ago. Now he
15 is a Senator in Italy. His name is Gianni Pittella. I
16 remember he introduced me to Mifsud. I can check on
17 exactly the date in which he introduced me to Mifsud,
18 but it was probably a few years ago.

19 So I knew Mifsud for a few years before I
20 joined the London Centre international practice --

21 MR. SWALWELL: Was it before 2016?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, definitely.

1 MR. SWALWELL: Okay, was it --

2 MS. MANGIANTE: I think it was around -- must
3 be around 2011, 2012. I don't remember -- I don't
4 recall exactly the date, but definitely before 2016 I
5 met him for the first time, because --

6 MR. SWALWELL: What was the nature of the
7 introduction? Like why was he --

8 MS. MANGIANTE: He was attending an event
9 organized by Mr. Pittella, European Parliament, and I
10 was working for the committee. And in that context I
11 remember just -- no, really occasional introduction.
12 He was coming with his student. I remember he was
13 bringing his student to European Parliament to have an
14 experience of the -- know how committee works,
15 political committee works.

16 And then I -- when my experience at European
17 Parliament was close to the end, I was actually looking
18 for a job in London, and I spoke with Mr. Pittella, who
19 told me, "You should contact Mifsud again, because he
20 is running this London Centre international law
21 practice, which could fit your skills and your
22 competencies. So you might want to contact him," and

1 that is how I have been in touch with Mifsud, who
2 offered me a position with Nagi Idris, which is the --

3 MR. SWALWELL: Could you spell that for us?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: N-a-g-i I-d-r-I-s, Nagi Idris
5 from Sudan, I think, living in London, director of the
6 London Centre international law practice.

7 And just -- Mifsud at the time was the
8 director of the London Academy of Diplomacy, which is
9 another body. But he became director of the London
10 Center of International Law Practice probably a month
11 earlier I joined.

12 MR. SWALWELL: So how soon was it after you
13 met Professor Mifsud that you were in talks with him
14 about working for him?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: No. Actually, the reason why
16 I think Gianni Pittella contact him is to tell him my
17 -- this "Simona Mangiante is looking for a job in
18 London. Do you have anything to offer to her?" So it
19 was -- you know, I think he recommended me to Mifsud,
20 and Mifsud then offered me a position. Well, a
21 position is very --

22 MR. SWALWELL: Just so I am clear, you first

1 met -- you were in Brussels when you first had a face-
2 to-face with Professor Mifsud, is that right?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

4 MR. SWALWELL: Was there any contact with him
5 prior to being in Brussels?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: No --

7 MR. SWALWELL: Like through email or a phone
8 call?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

10 MR. SWALWELL: So --

11 MS. MANGIANTE: I met him, and I could not be
12 in touch with him if I didn't know him.

13 MR. SWALWELL: So after meeting him in
14 Brussels, how soon was it that the job offer --

15 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I --

16 MR. SWALWELL: -- or negotiation took place?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: First of all, I mean, I am
18 just -- it is a -- when I met him the first time it was
19 in the context of a political event. I didn't have any
20 intention to leave European Parliament. It was
21 building up my career there. So I met him, like, let's
22 say, I meet you today. Occasion, it is different, but

1 I -- in the context of a political event.

2 So I -- as I said, I don't remember exactly
3 when I met him. But the reason why I worked with him
4 is because later on, when my contract was close expire
5 with European Parliament, I was looking for a job in
6 London.

7 MR. SWALWELL: And how far -- how long after
8 you first met him did that occur? Like, was it six
9 months after, a year after?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: No. The first time I met him
11 is, as I said, a few years ago. Then I did -- in 2016,
12 let's say May 2016, I started to look for a job. And
13 then, on September 2016 I joined the London Centre.

14 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ever see Professor
15 Mifsud outside of Brussels in between those two periods
16 of time?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: In London.

18 MR. SWALWELL: In London?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, when I started to work
20 for the London Centre.

21 MR. SWALWELL: Did he invite you to London,
22 or did you go there and just --

1 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

2 MR. SWALWELL: -- happen to run into him?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: I did need to go to London to
4 meet with Professor Mifsud. When I started to work for
5 the London Centre, he was there.

6 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. So I guess just to
7 clarify, from the time you saw him in Brussels and the
8 time you started working in London, did you ever see
9 him again, face to face, anywhere?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: From the time I --

11 MR. SWALWELL: So that first meeting in
12 Brussels, where you were introduced to him by --

13 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

14 MR. SWALWELL: -- the MEP --

15 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

16 MR. SWALWELL: -- and the time --

17 MS. MANGIANTE: I met him -- probably I have
18 seen him around the European Parliament in a number of
19 occasions. I think it was -- it was my first meeting.
20 Definitely it was not -- I have seen him other times,
21 remember also in the context of another conference.
22 All the -- he was attending all the conferences

1 organized by the --

2 MR. SWALWELL: What was he doing when you
3 were seeing him around? Like what did he represent
4 himself as?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: He was representing himself
6 as an academic, bringing his student. That is -- as I
7 said, my impression of him has never been as an
8 academic. He looks to me somebody who tried to build
9 connection in political circles. And I don't know for
10 which purpose, but definitely not a transparent person,
11 not somebody definitely could be qualified as an
12 academic. He has many connection, I know, to high
13 level, even in Italy.

14 What I know is that -- this must be
15 interesting -- he teach also -- he speaks fluent
16 Italian, first of all, is --

17 MR. SWALWELL: Does he speak any other
18 languages?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: The language I spoke with him
20 is Italian and English, so I don't know if he speaks
21 other languages. He is from Malta, so he might speak
22 also -- I don't know --

1 MR. SWALWELL: Do you remember anything about
2 the students he would bring around? Like what type of
3 students were there? And do you know where they were
4 from?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: That I can't -- I don't
6 remember, no.

7 As -- I wanted to say that Professor Mifsud
8 would teach at the Link Campus in Rome, which basically
9 train -- it is to train -- how could I say --
10 intelligence officer. That is something like I think
11 you should dig into, his connection with the Link
12 Campus in Rome.

13 MR. SWALWELL: Who was the intelligence
14 officer?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: They train, let's say, the
16 equivalent of FBI agent for the -- I don't know, it is
17 -- for Italy. It is an international campus. So it
18 has student from everywhere. I have never been there,
19 but I have been invited --

20 MR. SWALWELL: What was Professor Mifsud's
21 connection there?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: He is a professor there, and

1 this is called by Stephen Roh wife, which is a Russian
2 princess with a lot of money, and I think it is
3 important information to share.

4 Yes, very active role, and Stephen Roh -- I
5 don't know if you heard about Stephen Roh --

6 MR. SWALWELL: Can you spell the last name?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: R-o-h.

8 MR. SWALWELL: Okay.

9 MS. MANGIANTE: He is a Dutch lawyer, a Swiss
10 lawyer, something, married to Russian princess. And he
11 co-owns this Link Campus, where Professor Mifsud --

12 MR. SWALWELL: You said Link Campus?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: Link Campus, L-I--k Campus,
14 Rome.

15 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. And how is that
16 connected to Professor Mifsud?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: Through Olga Roh, which is
18 the wife of Stephen Roh, partner of Mifsud, and friend
19 that co-owned this body -- Professor Mifsud has an
20 important role there.

21 MR. SWALWELL: What is his role there?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: Professor -- I mean he is --

1 I know he was definitely more often at Rome, at Link
2 Campus, than in London. And that is all I know. I
3 mean I think it is interesting to --

4 MR. SWALWELL: Did he -- did Professor Mifsud
5 tell you that he had a connection there, or did you
6 hear that from others?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I forget from others --
8 no, I -- no, he told me that he had a connection there.
9 He said that he was creating the partnership with
10 London Centre, organizing a trip to Rome with Naga
11 Idris. But information that is co-owned by Olga Roh is
12 not coming from Mifsud.

13 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ever visit that
14 center, the Link center?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: No, never.

16 MR. SWALWELL: No?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: I have been invited many
18 times, even to give lessons. But --

19 MR. SWALWELL: Who invited you?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Mifsud.

21 MR. SWALWELL: Okay, and --

22 MS. MANGIANTE: Nagi Idris, too.

1 MR. SWALWELL: Did he ever talk about --
2 considering that a Russian princess was connected to
3 the center, were there Russians studying at the center?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

5 MR. SWALWELL: Did he ever talk about
6 Russians studying at the center?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: No. And as I said, my
8 experience, Mifsud was focusing on the Middle East, at
9 least as far as I am concerned. And yes, and a lot of
10 ties to Western intelligence. I mean the --

11 MR. SWALWELL: Mifsud did?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: -- Link Campus -- yes,
13 definitely. I mean now we know that it was training.
14 At least, I don't know, there is this interesting book
15 wrote by Stephen Roh. I don't know the credibility of
16 this book, self-published, in which he allegedly report
17 the first interview with Mifsud since it has appeared.
18 And it says that, basically, Mifsud trains spies.

19 MR. SWALWELL: What type of spies?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Western intelligence spies, I
21 think, in Rome. I don't know, probably Italian
22 intelligence, I don't know. I am not one.

1 MR. SWALWELL: Did you -- have you ever heard
2 from -- anything from Mr. Mifsud to make you believe
3 that he was associated with Russian intelligence
4 services?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

6 MR. SWALWELL: No?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: No, the only -- as I said,
8 the only -- definitely he is a very shady figure to me.
9 He makes --

10 MR. SWALWELL: Who is?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: Is a very shady person, is
12 not a --

13 MR. SWALWELL: Who is?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: Mifsud.

15 MR. SWALWELL: Mifsud.

16 MS. MANGIANTE: Is a way -- behavior is way
17 too -- his communication is rarely direct and
18 transparent, so I am -- would not be surprised to learn
19 he is a intelligent -- now, I don't know from which
20 country. Could be Russia, could be Western
21 intelligence, I don't know. But definitely it is very
22 -- I mean the fact that he disappeared completely, it

1 is very suspicious.

2 MR. SWALWELL: When you were working at the
3 parliament and you had a relationship with Mr. --
4 Professor Mifsud, did he ever ask you about your work,
5 or what was going on in the parliament, or decisions
6 that were being considered?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: Oh, yeah.

8 MR. SWALWELL: He did?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

10 MR. SWALWELL: And did he ever ask you to
11 share with him information that was not public?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: Nagi Idris, his partner,
13 definitely. His partner, definitely. He would tell me
14 usually to keep contact with European Parliament, we
15 need this report, we need that, we need that --

16 MR. SWALWELL: Can you say the partner's
17 name?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: Nagi Idris.

19 MR. SWALWELL: Can you spell that?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: N-a-g-i I-d-r-i-s.

21 MR. SWALWELL: Nagi Idris?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: Idris, yes. I think their

1 interest in me was because of my political connection
2 in Europe, and being recommended by the head of
3 Socialist group at the time was a big boost for them.
4 And the first day I joined the London Centre they made
5 me director for international diplomatic relation,
6 which is a big title, though I didn't expect such a --

7 MR. SWALWELL: So Idris, is that a male or a
8 female?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: It is a male.

10 MR. SWALWELL: Male. Do you know Mr. Idris's
11 nationality?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: Sudan.

13 MR. SWALWELL: Sudan. And who introduced you
14 to Mr. Idris?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: Mifsud.

16 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. And how soon did that
17 occur after you first met Mr. Mifsud?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't remember.

19 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. And would you meet with
20 Mr. Idris in person, or would you communicate by email?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I met in person. It was
22 every day at London Centre. It was my direct boss.

1 MR. SWALWELL: No, I am talking about the
2 time when you were working for the EU.

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Oh, no. No, no, no. When I
4 was working, I -- all this contact, where the -- the
5 very last month, I mean, I started to have a -- like,
6 let's say connection after I left the EU. I mean the
7 first time -- let's say it was around May, June, and
8 then I -- when I left EU on August 2016, then I joined
9 them in London September --

10 MR. SWALWELL: Yes.

11 MS. MANGIANTE: -- 2016. So there is no
12 overlap between the two --

13 MR. SWALWELL: No, my question is --

14 MS. MANGIANTE: -- experience --

15 MR. SWALWELL: -- when you were working for
16 the EU.

17 MS. MANGIANTE: No, they didn't -- yeah --

18 MR. SWALWELL: Did you have a relationship
19 with Mr. Idris? Like, were you in contact with Mr.
20 Idris when you were working for the EU?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: No, just to tell him I am
22 going to leave the EU, so Mifsud had made introduction,

1 I will be happy to join London Centre. And then he was
2 saying, oh, keep contact with the EU, it is very
3 important, your network, and it will be very helpful.
4 I remember he told me that.

5 MR. SWALWELL: And what did Mr. Idris say
6 that you believed was asking for non-public
7 information, or seeking for you to take actions that
8 would be non-public that could help inform him?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: I am not sure I can say he
10 was asking me for non-public information. He was
11 simply advising me to keep in touch with my network,
12 just in case. Then it never materialized with any
13 request --

14 MR. SWALWELL: Just in case what?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: Just in case, I don't know,
16 we might need access. That is -- I just said it is not
17 really real event. He never asked me to give him
18 confidential information. But I had definitely the
19 perception that he was interested in me keeping those
20 contacts and those -- you know, those relation, in case
21 they need having access to any type of draft
22 legislation or whatever from the inside. But he never

1 explicitly -- as far as I remember right now, he never
2 asked me directly --

3 MR. SWALWELL: When you worked for the
4 parliament did you have access to confidential
5 information?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: Of course.

7 MR. SWALWELL: Did you have to go through a
8 background check to get that access?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: What do you mean?

10 MR. SWALWELL: Like a -- to get a -- to get
11 access to confidential information, did you --

12 MS. MANGIANTE: I was working for the
13 presidency office, of course. I mean I would be
14 responsible, legally, for the -- any information -- I
15 wasn't in -- I will say I did -- had knowledge of.

16 MR. SWALWELL: But did you go through a
17 security clearance before --

18 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, there was --

19 MR. SWALWELL: -- you were given access?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: What do you -- security
21 clearance? What do you mean?

22 MR. SWALWELL: Like, was your background,

1 your personal biography, your CV reviewed?

2 MS. MANGIANTE: Well, first of all, we don't
3 access European Parliament by chance. We pass a
4 competition. I mean I was lawyer, legal advisor, based
5 on my background, based on the competition. You know,
6 there is a system of recruitment, so I suppose that
7 every function -- European Union has to comply with a
8 certain number of requirements, and based on the
9 background and based on the --

10 MR. SWALWELL: Sure.

11 MS. MANGIANTE: -- also the legal commitment
12 you -- everybody has when -- you know, we do sensitive
13 information.

14 MR. SWALWELL: Did anyone ever ask you for
15 you to relay to them access to classified information
16 or confidential information who wasn't entitled to it?
17 Any time that you worked there, were you asked to
18 provide confidential information?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Oh, yeah.

20 MR. SWALWELL: And who --

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Refused completely.

22 MR. SWALWELL: But who were some of the

1 people?

2 MS. MANGIANTE: Random people. Random
3 people. I remember, while I was working for the
4 international -- for cases on international child
5 abduction you would have lawyers, private lawyers
6 contacting the office to ask -- the cases addressed to
7 European Parliament to their private office, which is
8 completely illegal.

9 And this is -- you know, we were -- of
10 course, when you -- I guess it is something -- it is
11 your duty to protect an institution from those kind of
12 unlawful requests.

13 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ever sense that people
14 were trying to become friends with you or network with
15 you because they wanted access to this confidential
16 information?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: No, not confidential
18 information. Probably more to have access to
19 politicians.

20 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. And who were some of
21 the nationalities that you recall doing this?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: Oh, Italians, many, because I

1 am Italian, so they feel more confident talking to me.

2 Very randomly, I mean --

3 MR. SWALWELL: Any non-Italians ever ask you,
4 or others seek confidential information or try and get
5 close to you because of your political network?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't remember.

7 MR. SWALWELL: Did you provide to our
8 committee the emails and text message correspondence
9 that you have in your possession covering exchanges
10 with Professor Mifsud and Mr. Idris?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

12 MR. SWALWELL: Okay.

13 MS. MANGIANTE: There are not many, but you
14 will read some fiery -- messages I don't have, but a
15 few emails, one addressed to my private account in
16 which I basically -- the last email he sent to me was
17 trying to meet up with me in London when I resigned,
18 because they never paid me, first of all. They -- I
19 signed a contract with a salary. They never paid me.
20 And they were completely unprofessional. I never
21 understood what was their agenda.

22 MR. SWALWELL: Are those documents that you

1 already provided to our committee?

2 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I didn't.

3 MR. SWALWELL: Okay.

4 MS. MANGIANTE: Because I recall you asked me
5 for the documents based on -- I mean it was based on
6 which -- I don't consider George a coffee boy, so I
7 selected in this direction.

8 MR. SWALWELL: Did you --

9 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: There were a couple exchanges
10 with Mr. Mifsud in 2016 that you provided.

11 MS. MANGIANTE: I did? Okay, sorry, I
12 forgot.

13 MR. SWALWELL: So, you are comfortable
14 providing --

15 MS. MANGIANTE: Maybe they are -- that is all
16 I have, I did --

17 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. Do you mind taking one
18 more look at the end of this interview, just to see if
19 there is anything else?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

21 MR. SWALWELL: Thank you. And did you ever
22 see Mr. Mifsud interact in Brussels with any other

1 European Parliament members that were not Mr. Pittella?

2 MS. MANGIANTE: Personally, not. I always
3 met him with Mr. Pittella. But I know he had a wide
4 political network. That is at least what he said. But
5 he also said to George, that he was introducing to him
6 with his niece, so I don't know the credibility of this
7 person.

8 MR. SWALWELL: Did Mr. Mifsud ever interact
9 with Russian government individuals while in Brussels?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. In Brussels,
11 it is -- we don't deal with many Russians in Brussels.
12 It is European --

13 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ever see Mr. Mifsud
14 interact with any Russians in Brussels?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: No, never. But I -- what I
16 know is -- was often telling me, "I am coming back from
17 Moscow." I don't know what the --

18 MR. SWALWELL: Mr. Mifsud would say that to
19 you?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes. One of those emails he
21 says, "I am coming back from Moscow." I don't know
22 what he was doing in Moscow, but I never seen him

1 interacting personally with any Russian.

2 MR. SWALWELL: And did you interact with any
3 Russians while in Brussels?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes. A friend of my friend
5 was Russian, but random people --

6 MR. SWALWELL: And by Russians, I mean any
7 Russian government officials, or anyone suspected to
8 work for the Russian government.

9 MS. MANGIANTE: It is very difficult. You
10 meet so many people, and I don't know if they were
11 working for the Russian government or not. But no,
12 never had close relation with any Russian government
13 official, never.

14 (Pause.)

15 MS. MANGIANTE: I remember, though, in Rome,
16 a Belgium friend of mine a few years ago introduced me
17 to somebody Russian. But many years ago, probably in
18 2015 again.

19 MR. SWALWELL: Was that in Brussels?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: No, it was in Rome.

21 MR. SWALWELL: In Rome?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: In Rome, yes. I don't really

1 remember. Maybe it was somebody working for the
2 government, yes, because they wanted to organize an
3 event, and they approached me. I remember this -- yes.
4 There is actually somebody that approached me to have
5 contacts at European Parliament linked to Russia, but
6 it has nothing to do, I think, with this
7 investigation --

8 MR. SWALWELL: So that happened in 2015 in
9 Rome?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah, I -- I mean I don't
11 want to mess up with dates, because I am very bad with
12 that. I can provide with the specific dates if you
13 want me to check on.

14 But some few years ago, let's say, I was
15 introduced to someone. A Belgian friend of mine
16 introduced me -- whose wife is Russian and works in
17 Moscow -- introduced me to someone from the Russian
18 government, asking me if I could introduce to them
19 somebody from the European Parliament to organize a
20 meeting. But I never understood what they wanted, so I
21 never did anything.

22 MR. SWALWELL: Where did this meeting take

1 place with you and the --

2 MS. MANGIANTE: It was over a drink in Rome,
3 because this is a very old friend of mine, Belgian,
4 married to this -- moved to Moscow and, you know, that
5 is all. But I know -- I am just trying to be as
6 much --

7 MR. SWALWELL: Sure.

8 MS. MANGIANTE: -- as accurate as I can.

9 MR. SWALWELL: No, it is very helpful to us,
10 thanks.

11 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, it is -- but there is,
12 of course, no real events, I think, for the
13 investigation.

14 MR. SWALWELL: And the person who you thought
15 might work for the Russian government, was that a male
16 or a female?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: Male.

18 MR. SWALWELL: Male?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Mm-hmm.

20 MR. SWALWELL: And do you remember the name
21 of the individual?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: I can't -- I don't really --

1 something -- oh, my God, no.

2 MR. SWALWELL: Did you exchange any contact
3 information --

4 MS. MANGIANTE: No. To the -- my friend,
5 yes. I think my friend -- I don't know. But it is so
6 many, and we never follow up. I mean I didn't organize
7 anything. I didn't put forward -- I mean my job was
8 not as a politician, I was a political advisor. So I
9 was not in the position to do anything. But people
10 approach you for any type of reason.

11 MR. SWALWELL: So why didn't you organize the
12 meeting?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: I was not interested. Why
14 would I be interested? I was doing my job, I was
15 following instruction of my boss. I was not taking
16 initiative --

17 MR. SWALWELL: Did your friend ever follow up
18 with you and see whether progress has been made on you
19 organizing this event?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Once, probably twice, and
21 then that is all.

22 MR. SWALWELL: Do you mind seeing if you

1 could ask that friend for the name of the Russian --

2 MS. MANGIANTE: I am not in contact with him
3 any more from -- I don't even have his number any more.

4 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. Okay, and --

5 MS. MANGIANTE: But it is really long time
6 ago.

7 MR. SWALWELL: Sure.

8 MS. MANGIANTE: I mean I think I am talking
9 probably about 2014, 2015. I mean I don't think it is
10 -- I mean you are asking me about --

11 MR. SWALWELL: Yes.

12 MS. MANGIANTE: -- Russian officials, so I am
13 just trying to be accurate.

14 MR. SWALWELL: No, that is very helpful for
15 us. And anything else that comes to mind like that
16 situation, where someone is trying to introduce you to
17 someone that may work for the Russian government?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't have -- I mean, as I
19 said, I know a few people who are Russia's friends,
20 and, you know, this person I am not sure was working
21 for the Russian government, but introduce -- this is
22 the only occasion which I remember, I can recollect,

1 and that is someone from the Russian government, which
2 is many years ago, I think. Trump wasn't even in.

3 MR. SWALWELL: When you worked at the Centre
4 how many employees were there, do you think?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: Where? In the London Centre?

6 MR. SWALWELL: At the Centre in London.

7 MS. MANGIANTE: Oh, my God, this is -- I
8 never understood the structure of this London Centre.
9 It was basically a room like that, with a table like
10 that, people coming with their laptop and sitting
11 casually. They would change -- they were mostly young
12 professional -- young students. Most of the people was
13 from -- that I met there from Iraq, Middle East, Sudan.
14 I didn't meet any Russian.

15 MR. SWALWELL: At the Centre you never met a
16 Russian?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

18 MR. SWALWELL: Were there any Russian
19 nationals working at the Centre?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Probably, but I never met
21 them, I don't know. I had been there very shortly.

22 MR. SWALWELL: Were you familiar with any

1 travels that Professor Mifsud was taking to Russia
2 while you were working at the center?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Not -- apart from his email,
4 which he told me, "I am coming back from Moscow,"
5 another -- I don't know anything about this trip.

6 MR. SWALWELL: While you were working at the
7 Centre with Professor Mifsud, did he ever talk about
8 meetings he was taking or contacts he had in Russia?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: No. I mean he would say, "I
10 am flying to" -- Mifsud was talking about many things
11 and nothing. To me, he was always talking about his
12 connection to the Italian government. Mifsud seems to
13 be very connected to the Italian government.

14 MR. SWALWELL: To the Italian government?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

16 MR. SWALWELL: How is the Centre financed, do
17 you have any idea who paid for the Centre?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: I have no idea.

19 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ever have access to,
20 like, the accounting?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: I been there for three months
22 and I left because they didn't pay me. So my --

1 MR. SWALWELL: So since you left --

2 MS. MANGIANTE: -- my experience is really
3 limited.

4 MR. SWALWELL: Did Professor Mifsud ever
5 discuss the London Academy of Diplomacy?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, he also -- I went there.
7 He invited me to visit, so I went there.

8 MR. SWALWELL: What was the purpose of that
9 academy?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: I suppose to teach, to train
11 diplomats. That is my guess, but again, to me, that is
12 my opinion, of course. This looks like a facade for
13 something else.

14 Even the London Centre doesn't look like -- I
15 mean really, completely unprofessional, not organized.
16 It was very strange. They put me in touch with a
17 number of people from -- I mean I talked -- my
18 expertise was European Union, and then they put me in
19 touch with a number of people from the Middle East,
20 trying to raise money from the Middle East, and that is
21 -- and then they would say, "Okay, if you raise money
22 to finance this project, and you will earn on this

1 project."

2 And I said, "Sorry, I signed a contract for a
3 salary, and I don't understand why we are changing the
4 condition of work, or the terms on my cooperation in
5 this -- with the London Centre." So I was very
6 confused by the -- I didn't understand their agenda.

7 But they were organizing events, inviting
8 people, mostly political connection. As I said, in --
9 from the Mifsud side with Italian government. I think
10 there are quite enough evidence that Mifsud is very
11 well connected to Western intelligence right now.

12 I don't know what he was doing in Russia, but
13 -- so definitely his connection to the Campus, his
14 connection to the Italian government, and to Scotti,
15 which was, at the time, a foreign minister of Italy
16 makes me think he had definitely very deep ties. I
17 mean --

18 MR. SWALWELL: What was your title?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: And he is also the -- member
20 of the Clinton Foundation.

21 MR. SWALWELL: Who was?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: Mifsud is a member of the

1 Clinton Foundation.

2 MR. SWALWELL: How did you know that?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: He told me.

4 MR. SWALWELL: What did he tell you about the
5 foundation?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: He told it also in a public
7 interview, not -- he was always talking about him being
8 important, because it is the way -- you know, he is
9 always playing, like, a big role, and "I am a member of
10 the Clinton Foundation."

11 And I think in the public interview, when
12 they -- The Republic, which is an Italian journal, the
13 last one released -- I can try to find this article for
14 you on -- I will just note it -- it says, "Why would I
15 introduce Papadopoulos to Russian agent? I am a part
16 of the Clinton Foundation."

17 MR. SWALWELL: All right. But do you recall
18 him ever talking about the Clinton Foundation to you?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Not -- yeah, to many -- yeah,
20 it was a -- yes. To me and to other people, yes. I
21 remember once he was talking about it. I remember once
22 he was talking about it.

1 MR. SWALWELL: What was your job title when
2 you started working there?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Director for international
4 diplomatic relation.

5 MR. SWALWELL: And what was your salary
6 arrangement? Was it a hourly salary, or is it an
7 annual salary? How was it --

8 MS. MANGIANTE: Monthly.

9 MR. SWALWELL: Monthly? And what was the
10 salary?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: Well, it was -- the
12 arrangement was based of 2,500 pounds, which was much
13 less than I used to earn --

14 MR. SWALWELL: A month?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: -- at the European
16 Parliament, but I -- you know, and then adding, like,
17 benefits over, you know, achievement --

18 MR. SWALWELL: Yes.

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Like, first of all, when I
20 joined the London Centre, I talked -- I was going to
21 work with the law cases, because it is, of course,
22 qualified as London Centre international law practice.

1 I never see anyone practicing law over there. So this
2 was my first question mark. What is this about?

3 Because I am a lawyer, I was expecting to be
4 in the political field work, again, with law practice
5 that could have, of course, a European focus, European
6 law focus --

7 MR. SWALWELL: So let me just back up. So it
8 was 2,500 a month, pounds.

9 MS. MANGIANTE: Mm-hmm.

10 MR. SWALWELL: It was -- and that was a
11 decrease from what you were making for the EU?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

13 MR. SWALWELL: And you left that job --

14 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I didn't left it, it
15 ended. My contract, I was a temporary agent.

16 MR. SWALWELL: Your contract --

17 MS. MANGIANTE: So I did not -- I didn't have
18 much choice.

19 MR. SWALWELL: Could you have extended, if
20 you had wanted?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: I should have -- no, I really
22 went -- no. I was very disappointed because I was

1 evicted by my position, by the vice president at the
2 time, and I did a claim against European Parliament and
3 -- still into now.

4 MR. SWALWELL: And it was less than what you
5 were making at the EU, but was it significantly less?
6 Like was it 50 percent less, or -- just trying to
7 understand the difference --

8 MS. MANGIANTE: It was the half.

9 MR. SWALWELL: I am sorry?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: Half.

11 MR. SWALWELL: Half? Half of what you are
12 making? And you were -- you said it was a total of
13 three months without being paid before you said --

14 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

15 MR. SWALWELL: -- enough.

16 MS. MANGIANTE: It was crazy. So I started
17 to practice law by myself.

18 MR. SWALWELL: And you wrote an email to Mr.
19 Idris and Martin Wilson and Mr. Pittella and Mr. Mifsud
20 that you wanted to be paid, and you asked about being
21 paid. You said -- and he wrote back, "Dear Simona, I
22 hope you are fine. I was in Moscow. Now I am in

1 London. Can we meet in person? I am here until
2 Tuesday night. A hug. J."

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah.

4 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ever write back to
5 that email?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

7 MR. SWALWELL: Why not?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: At the time I had enough of
9 them.

10 MR. SWALWELL: I am sorry?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: I had -- as far as I
12 remember, either I replied something like I can't make
13 it, either I didn't reply. I don't remember. I can
14 check in my mail, see if there is any answer to Mifsud.
15 But that -- I never met with him. I was very upset. I
16 thought they were charlatans. I was very upset also
17 about some people, shady people, introduced to me.
18 They were not serious at all. They --

19 MR. SWALWELL: Who were not?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Introduced me -- to me. I
21 remember Nagi Idris -- my job task was to deal with
22 this person from Iraq, who invited me to secret

1 symposium in Beirut, and they refused to disclose the
2 agenda, the -- and then the -- and even the -- you
3 know, the attendants, who are -- I mean it was really
4 unprofessional and I felt very much insulted, because I
5 think I didn't need it.

6 MR. SWALWELL: Was that the last time you
7 heard from Mifsud?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: This is the last email, yes.

9 MR. SWALWELL: That email was the last time -
10 -

11 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, yes.

12 MR. SWALWELL: Did he ever follow up with a
13 phone call?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: Never.

15 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ever run into him --

16 MS. MANGIANTE: Never.

17 MR. SWALWELL: -- anywhere?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: Never.

19 MR. SWALWELL: What drew you to want to work
20 for Professor Mifsud? Was -- were you impressed by his
21 work, was he just someone who was dynamic in
22 personality? What was --

1 MS. MANGIANTE: To be totally honest with
2 you, I was -- for personal reasons at the time I wanted
3 to live in London. And it was the biggest offer. And
4 then I said I still have to be there, and then I will
5 figure out what to do.

6 MR. SWALWELL: Why did you want to be in
7 London?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: At the time my boyfriend
9 there.

10 MR. SWALWELL: And that is not Mr.
11 Papadopoulos?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

13 MR. SWALWELL: Is that someone -- was that
14 person an Italian national?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: No. I don't want to answer
16 these --

17 MR. SWALWELL: What nationality was this
18 person?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: French.

20 MR. SWALWELL: French? Okay.

21 Are you aware of Mr. Mifsud's activities
22 since your last exchange? Do you know if he has been

1 in touch with anyone that you know?

2 MS. MANGIANTE: If Mifsud has been in touch
3 with anybody --

4 MR. SWALWELL: Since your October 13, 2016
5 email.

6 MS. MANGIANTE: He might have been in touch
7 with Pittella.

8 MR. SWALWELL: Did Pittella tell you this?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: I asked Pittella many times,
10 "Who is Mifsud?" And he said, "I have no idea."

11 And he said, "You should care who is
12 Papadopoulos," like why you keep asking me about
13 Mifsud.

14 MR. SWALWELL: So you don't have any
15 firsthand knowledge of where Mr. Mifsud is today?

16 MS. MANGIANTE: No. I tried to -- actually,
17 I tried to ask contacts around, but apparently -- in
18 this Stephen Roh book it says -- but I don't know how
19 much credible is it, I don't know if you had a copy of
20 this book -- he says he is in Italy, hidden in Italy
21 somewhere. I don't know.

22 MR. SWALWELL: Did you discuss with George

1 your decision in late October 2016 to stop working for
2 Professor Mifsud?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: At that time, no. Me and
4 George were never -- we didn't meet each other. The
5 first time we start to communicate was probably in
6 September 2016. George reached out to me --

7 MR. SWALWELL: On LinkedIn?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: -- on LinkedIn, based on
9 saying, oh, you are working there, as well. I had no
10 conversation with him at all. I mean mostly I would
11 not have the confidence to talk about my professional
12 problems.

13 MR. SWALWELL: Yes.

14 MS. MANGIANTE: I met George for the first
15 time in April 2017 in New York.

16 MR. SWALWELL: When he reached out to you on
17 LinkedIn, where did the conversation move? Did it move
18 to email, or text message?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: WhatsApp.

20 MR. SWALWELL: WhatsApp?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Mm-hmm.

22 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ever communicate in

1 any other way, besides WhatsApp?

2 MS. MANGIANTE: Probably Skype.

3 MR. SWALWELL: Skype?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: Mm-hmm.

5 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. Any other --

6 MS. MANGIANTE: Skype, LinkedIn, WhatsApp,

7 Facebook --

8 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ever use --

9 MS. MANGIANTE: No, no, it was much later on.

10 MR. SWALWELL: How about Gmail?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: With George?

12 MR. SWALWELL: Yes.

13 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

14 MR. SWALWELL: How about Facebook Messenger?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: We -- I connected with George

16 on Facebook only later on, when I met with him, not

17 before.

18 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. How about Telegram?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

20 MR. SWALWELL: Have you ever used Telegram?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: I think I did, but not with

22 George, no.

1 immediate boss.

2 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

3 MR. SCHIFF: And was Professor Mifsud his
4 boss?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: No, they were both director.

6 MR. SCHIFF: They were both co-directors.

7 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, co-directors, yeah.

8 MR. SCHIFF: And about how many staff did the
9 Centre have?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: I -- that is a question that
11 -- I mean I -- I don't even know if I could be
12 considered a staff member, because they were random
13 people. I would not meet the same person for the -- in
14 the same week. People would randomly come in, open
15 their laptop. Idris would tell me, "You don't even
16 need to come here, you can work home." It was really
17 -- no structure whatever.

18 If I can give any -- an image what is going
19 on, it was Nagi at a little desk with a computer, the
20 British director on the other side, and then people
21 coming randomly, you know, just sitting at the table,
22 open their laptop. Everybody not coordinating with

1 each other, organizing -- I remember the only -- that
2 was a conference organized once, and it is the only
3 thing attended --

4 MR. SCHIFF: So in terms of supervisory
5 personnel, apart from Mifsud and Idris, the only other
6 person was this British --

7 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

8 MR. SCHIFF: -- person.

9 MS. MANGIANTE: That I met personally.

10 MR. SCHIFF: Named Peter. And you don't
11 recall --

12 MS. MANGIANTE: Peter.

13 MR. SCHIFF: -- his last name?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: I can check on -- I really
15 don't remember.

16 MR. SCHIFF: And were you ever paid by the
17 Centre, or --

18 MS. MANGIANTE: Nobody paid me, never.

19 MR. SCHIFF: And I take it from --

20 MS. MANGIANTE: I didn't --

21 MR. SCHIFF: -- listening to your
22 description, the Centre -- it came across to you as

1 some kind of a front for something else.

2 MS. MANGIANTE: Completely.

3 MR. SCHIFF: It was not what was advertised?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: It was advertised as a London
5 -- a serious -- but if you go on the website, they
6 would talk about a serious project and human rights.
7 But then it is completely facade, facade.

8 MR. SCHIFF: And do you have any idea where
9 Mifsud got his money?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: No idea.

11 MR. SCHIFF: Or --

12 MS. MANGIANTE: But definitely -- what I know
13 is that he failed to appear to court in Palermo,
14 probably last week. And he was -- because he didn't --
15 inflated -- for money reason, apparently inflated -- he
16 wanted more money for his contribution to a university
17 in Palermo, in Sicily. But -- and he didn't appear.
18 They said it is a ghost. So he is having legal issues.
19 I don't know where is money coming from.

20 I remember Nagi Idris would tell me that they
21 were bankrupt when I was --

22 MR. SCHIFF: That they were bankrupt?

1 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, when I was asking for my
2 salary. He said, "You have to look at long picture.
3 We are all bankrupt. Mifsud is bankrupt. So you have
4 to look at the big picture."

5 The only task I used to work with Mifsud was
6 to organize a meeting with the ambassador from Abu
7 Dhabi in London. So my -- I mean my focus was
8 completely -- the focus they wanted from me was Middle
9 East, which made no sense. I have no experience myself
10 in the Middle East at all.

11 MR. SCHIFF: Didn't Mifsud, Professor Mifsud,
12 did he make use of your Italian or European contacts?
13 Did he ask you to put him in touch with people?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: Oh, yes, yes. He wanted me
15 to be in touch with the Ministry of Education in Italy,
16 trying to -- even people that I didn't know.

17 And then I was invited myself to a conference
18 in Rome organized by an association with the minister
19 of justice for children, because I used to work in this
20 field, so I was well known, and they kept inviting me.
21 And Najji Idris came with me, and he was acting very
22 weird, like trying to take -- like trying to take big

1 connections, you know. He was acting very weird, very
2 weird.

3 MR. SCHIFF: And knowing what you do now
4 about the sort of sketchy nature of the Centre and the
5 questionable background of Professor Mifsud, is there
6 anything in retrospect that you look back on now that
7 would indicate to you that Mr. Mifsud was acting as an
8 agent of a foreign power?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: That is an interesting
10 question. Actually, I think yes. I think he was
11 fitting the profile of a foreign agent in the extent in
12 which he was constantly capable to answer a question
13 without answering a question. You would never know
14 where he was, and you were supposed to work with him.

15 It was targeting people to have access --
16 specific environment. I felt myself was targeted in a
17 certain way, too, for my contacts in Italy. He wanted
18 me -- I mean it was never work. Like -- so London
19 Centre was never work.

20 But the way he lived was very -- today I can
21 see he is not an academic. I mean he pretends to be,
22 could be a facade. I am not sure his income can come

1 from this bankrupt organization.

2 He used to train intelligence officer. He
3 had the very ties -- very deep ties with the Link
4 Campus, which is well-known for its -- for being the
5 center of Italian intelligence, in many ways. I don't
6 know, though, if these information are true. I am just
7 trying to be accurate and -- but I think -- I suspect
8 they are. I mean I cannot have the 100 percent sure
9 what I am saying. I don't want to be sued or that, but
10 I definitely can see somebody who is -- you don't know
11 where he was living, if he was living in a room, if he
12 was living in London.

13 It is very difficult to profile, to -- this
14 extent, yes. Today I think -- and the fact that he
15 disappeared completely ex post makes me think that
16 definitely could be foreign agent.

17 MR. SCHIFF: Did anyone maintain a calendar
18 of Mifsud's meetings or calls at the Centre, that you
19 know of?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: They would not give access to
21 me.

22 MR. SCHIFF: Did he have an executive

1 assistant, though, that would --

2 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes. I think he changed the
3 -- I met him with different girls all the time. So
4 everyone was an assistant. I don't know.

5 MR. SCHIFF: Do you remember the names of any
6 of his assistants?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: No. Maybe one is in the
8 email.

9 MR. SCHIFF: In the statement of the offense
10 that your husband attested to, there is a reference to
11 a female Russian national. Did you ever see Mifsud
12 with her?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: No, no.

14 MR. SCHIFF: And do you know who that Russian
15 national is?

16 MS. MANGIANTE: Absolutely not. I -- there
17 is another thing about Mifsud. He would talk a lot.
18 He would inflate people's title.

19 I will not be -- I don't know why he came up
20 with Putin's niece, if he wanted to impress George or
21 if he wanted to impress the girl. I don't know. But I
22 am not sure why he was inflating this. I mean it was

1 giving -- he was introducing this person as niece of
2 Putin. She was a student, apparently. I never met
3 her. I think I never did. And he talks a lot.

4 MR. SCHIFF: What did Mifsud ever tell you
5 about the London Academy of Diplomacy?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: That he was running -- that
7 it was incredible --

8 MR. SCHIFF: Did you ever go there?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

10 MR. SCHIFF: And what was that academy? What
11 kind of a physical structure did it have?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: It was a beautiful structure,
13 quite a credible -- compared to the London Centre --
14 London Centre also very nice location, where all the
15 law offices are located in London, Chancery Lane. So
16 when I went there for the first time I also thought it
17 was kind of incredible.

18 London Academy was definitely a big building
19 with different rooms for students, with a room with a
20 café, and then Mifsud office upstairs --

21 MR. SCHIFF: And was he a professor there, or
22 was he an owner there, or -- what was his role there?

1 MR. SCHIFF: Yes.

2 MR. SWALWELL: On Link University, were you
3 aware of its affiliations with Russian universities?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: No, this is the result of my
5 little research after all this kind of came out.

6 MR. SWALWELL: But did you ever --

7 MS. MANGIANTE: I wanted more information
8 about the --

9 MR. SWALWELL: -- hear anything about
10 Lomanosov Moscow State University? Was that ever
11 discussed?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

13 MR. SWALWELL: How about --

14 MS. MANGIANTE: I mean I never been to the
15 Link Campus.

16 MR. SWALWELL: No, I am just talking about
17 did Professor Mifsud ever talk about the affiliation
18 that Link had with seven different Russian
19 universities?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Not with -- he has
21 association with Russian.

22 MR. SWALWELL: No, but the -- that there was

1 an official link -- that there was an official
2 connection between Link and seven Russian universities.
3 Were you aware of that?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I didn't know that.

5 MR. SWALWELL: Okay, thanks.

6 MR. SCHIFF: You mentioned Stephen Roh as, I
7 guess, one of the principals behind the Link Center,
8 and someone close to Mifsud.

9 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah. I never met with him.
10 I remember Mifsud, one of our last meetings, he asked
11 me to contact him to organize an event in London. Then
12 I quit.

13 And I -- then later on I -- during my
14 research, asking around to different people in touch
15 with Mifsud, I realize that he is a close partner,
16 employer. I don't know, I think Mifsud is employer,
17 technically one of the -- his consultants, and is
18 married to this Russian princess, who is financing some
19 of the activities.

20 MR. SCHIFF: There has been some public
21 reporting that in April of 2016 Mifsud and Roh spoke on
22 a panel together at a Kremlin-backed club, the Valdai

1 Club.

2 MS. MANGIANTE: Ah, yes.

3 MR. SCHIFF: Did he ever discuss that with
4 you?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: No, never.

6 MR. SCHIFF: Were you aware that they -- that
7 he had participated in that event?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: On Internet, you know, when I
9 Googled him. But in 2016, no. I was working for the
10 European Parliament still. So my experience with
11 Mifsud is very limited from September 2016 until
12 November 2016. That is the time of the -- working for
13 the London Centre.

14 MR. SCHIFF: Okay. Mr. Quigley, who may or
15 may not be your Member of Congress, and if you need --

16 MR. QUIGLEY: Same --

17 MS. MANGIANTE: Just like write a message
18 to --

19 MR. SCHIFF: Sure, sure.

20 MS. MANGIANTE: For lunch, just -- I think --
21 I don't know, I think it is going -- I mean no rush,
22 just to --

1 MR. SCHIFF: No, no, please. I need to use
2 the restroom, myself.

3 (A brief recess was taken.)

4 MR. QUIGLEY: I am Mike Quigley. Thank you
5 for being here.

6 To sum a few things up in a question, should
7 we trust or believe anything that the professor says or
8 has said? I mean is your skepticism about him that
9 strong, that you would doubt or question whatever he
10 says publicly?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: Not that strong. I mean I
12 can't be 100 percent sure he is lying about everything
13 he says. I am just saying his personality --

14 MR. QUIGLEY: I think you used the words
15 sneaky, weird --

16 MS. MANGIANTE: Completely.

17 MR. QUIGLEY: -- fake, artificial.

18 MS. MANGIANTE: Completely, yes. That is
19 what his --

20 MR. QUIGLEY: That is hardly compelling to
21 trust.

22 MS. MANGIANTE: No, no, of course. But I

1 always save the benefit of the doubts, even to liar
2 sometimes.

3 MR. QUIGLEY: Well, I mean, you lasted three
4 months without getting paid. What gave you that trust
5 that at some point they were going to pay you, right?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: It was unbelievable to me
7 they were going to be not serious at this point -- I
8 mean at that point. It was --

9 MR. QUIGLEY: To your knowledge, was anyone
10 else not paid at the Centre?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: No, but I remember -- I mean
12 I don't remember the name, but I was talking with this
13 guy from Iraq, and I was telling him are you paid here,
14 he said, "No, they didn't pay me yet, but they told me
15 they are going to." So I remember it was quite -- I
16 mean at least when I confronted somebody else working
17 there, and they shared my same experience.

18 MR. QUIGLEY: And I just -- why don't you
19 give it one more stab at this? You called it a facade,
20 a front.

21 MS. MANGIANTE: That is my perception, yes.

22 MR. QUIGLEY: Yes. You were there for three

1 months, you got to know these folks and at least see
2 some of the operations. Give us your best guess. What
3 was really going on?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I think three months were --
5 time, long enough to develop my perception that they
6 were everything but serious. They were not academics,
7 they were not lawyers. Nagi Idris was introducing
8 himself as international lawyer, and I never see him
9 working with a law case.

10 Professor Mifsud was introducing himself as
11 an academic. I never see him giving a speech or deep
12 in an academic topic.

13 I have seen a very disorganized context,
14 where there were randomly organized meetings,
15 introducing me to other shady people -- I remember --
16 so --

17 MR. QUIGLEY: What were they really doing?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: I can give you my guess.

19 MR. QUIGLEY: That is what I am asking for.

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Coordinating people,
21 infiltrating other contacts for financing projects,
22 trying to take money from governments. That is my

1 perception.

2 I think that definitely this could be very
3 comfortable facade for spies, because the profile of
4 the people you would meet through them was still quite
5 high.

6 MR. QUIGLEY: You couple this -- Mr. Swalwell
7 has a quick interjection here -- you couple this with
8 his, as you mentioned, coming back from Moscow, they
9 are coordinating something for or with the Russians?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: I can't say that, because it
11 is not enough of an information. He was coming back
12 from Moscow --

13 MR. QUIGLEY: Coordinating for someone, but
14 they are going back and forth from Moscow. But --

15 MS. MANGIANTE: But it was going --

16 MR. SWALWELL: Were you ever directed by the
17 Centre --

18 MR. QUIGLEY: I am sorry.

19 MR. SWALWELL: -- to represent yourself as
20 somebody that you were not? Did they ever tell you --

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah. To me, I was
22 definitely not a director of international diplomatic

1 relation. How could I ever -- I mean I just joined the
2 Centre, I was --

3 MR. SWALWELL: No, I am sorry, I should have
4 been clear. Did the Centre -- did Mr. Mifsud or anyone
5 at the Centre ever ask you to present yourself to
6 somebody else not using your true name, but by --

7 MS. MANGIANTE: No, never. No, never.

8 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ever see them ask
9 someone else to do that?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I never seen that.

11 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ever --

12 MS. MANGIANTE: But definitely, when I told
13 them why should I introduce myself -- this is
14 interesting -- why should I introduce myself as
15 director of international diplomatic corporation if I
16 didn't -- they said, "You have to say things to earn
17 people's trust and to have access to people. It
18 doesn't matter if it is true or not." That is what
19 they said to me.

20 MR. SWALWELL: Did they ever ask you to lie
21 for the Centre?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, of course. I mean this

1 is a lie. I was not a -- I mean Nagi Idris asked me to
2 basically lie about my contribution to the London
3 Centre. I mean he didn't ask me to use a different
4 identity, but definitely to present myself with skills
5 I don't have. It is a lie.

6 MR. SWALWELL: And did you do that?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

8 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ever lie for the
9 Centre?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

11 MR. QUIGLEY: Let me just tell you why I
12 asked the question, because you mentioned the professor
13 talking about going back from Moscow. But also in your
14 quote -- if this is accurate -- in the January 18th
15 interview with The Guardian, "I never met any Russians
16 there." Why would you mention Russians? Why not "I
17 never met any Poles there," or French there? Why was
18 it --

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Because everybody is asking
20 me if I met Russians.

21 MR. QUIGLEY: Okay. All right. So three
22 months you lasted.

1 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah.

2 MR. QUIGLEY: And so you left exactly when?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: November 2016.

4 MR. QUIGLEY: November --

5 MS. MANGIANTE: I think end of November 2016.

6 MR. QUIGLEY: Okay.

7 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't remember the -- which
8 is the date on my email, October or November.

9 MR. QUIGLEY: Okay. Now --

10 MS. MANGIANTE: I can check on the email.

11 Sorry, I don't want to give you --

12 MR. QUIGLEY: That is fine.

13 MS. MANGIANTE: I am very bad with numbers.

14 MR. QUIGLEY: So you were there three months
15 and you finally said "I need to get paid" and that's --

16 MS. MANGIANTE: No --

17 MR. QUIGLEY: -- primarily why you quit?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: Payment was part of the -- of
19 course, it is a problem, because you have to make a
20 living. But it is -- it was not the only problem. I
21 found them completely not transparent.

22 I could have invested, in terms of

1 professional experience, even a month more, if I found
2 it interesting at some point through, I don't know, a
3 project. But I really found them unprofessional --

4 MR. QUIGLEY: So if the work --

5 MS. MANGIANTE: Unprofessional, and not
6 transparent. I never understood what they wanted from
7 me.

8 MR. QUIGLEY: So if the work had been
9 worthwhile and valuable, you would have probably stuck
10 it out a little bit longer.

11 MS. MANGIANTE: Exactly, yeah.

12 MR. QUIGLEY: I mean how were you able to
13 support yourself?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: Well, I -- when I left
15 European Parliament, first of all, I had a big
16 allowance from European Parliament. Also my saving, my
17 savings.

18 MR. QUIGLEY: All right. There have been
19 reports that your husband briefly worked at the Centre.

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

21 MR. QUIGLEY: Were you aware of that? Is
22 that accurate?

1 MS. MANGIANTE: It is true, yes, he did.

2 MR. QUIGLEY: Do you know when he worked
3 there, when he started, or when --

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't remember, but I know
5 much before I did. So we never crossed each other at
6 the London --

7 MR. QUIGLEY: He worked before -- he worked
8 at the Centre before you did?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, yes.

10 MR. QUIGLEY: Did he tell you when he
11 started, or do you know, personally, when he started,
12 and how long --

13 MS. MANGIANTE: To be honest with you, he
14 probably told me, but I don't remember. He has been
15 there also for a couple of months, probably two, three
16 months. He had also as direct boss Nagi Idris, the
17 same person.

18 MR. QUIGLEY: His boss would have been --

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Nagi Idris, too. Nagi Idris
20 was his boss, George's boss, too.

21 MR. QUIGLEY: Okay. And do you have any idea
22 of roughly how long before you worked there?

1 MS. MANGIANTE: I think it was shortly before
2 he joined the Trump campaign, I don't know. Or -- I
3 don't -- I mean, honestly, I don't know. But I know he
4 met with Mifsud in Rome some time -- it was in March of
5 2016, right? So he might have worked with them at the
6 time. He went on a trip with Naji to Rome, where he
7 met Mifsud, where Mifsud approached him. So it might
8 be around -- but I -- don't take it for -- I mean I can
9 check, but it must be -- I think he was working there
10 around March 2017, but I am very bad with the dates, I
11 can --

12 MR. QUIGLEY: 2017 or 2016?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: Sixteen, sorry, sixteen.

14 MR. QUIGLEY: So you think he worked there
15 before he got involved with the Trump campaign?

16 MS. MANGIANTE: I think he did, yeah. I
17 think before, right? It makes no sense after, because
18 it would be now.

19 MR. QUIGLEY: I have learned to -- anything
20 is possible. I appreciate that.

21 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I am trying to think in
22 my memory, trying to -- I don't know -- I can't tell

1 you the dates, exactly.

2 MR. QUIGLEY: Did he talk to you about
3 working there? Did he have similar experiences?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: Our first conversation,
5 honestly, was, "Do you understand this Mifsud? What
6 does he do?" I remember George asking me that.

7 MR. QUIGLEY: What did he ask? I am sorry.

8 MS. MANGIANTE: "What do you know about
9 Mifsud? Who is this person?" That is his first
10 question, one of his first --

11 MR. QUIGLEY: Was this your communication
12 with him in person, or by --

13 MS. MANGIANTE: No, it was in person, when we
14 met months later.

15 MR. QUIGLEY: Okay, so he was --

16 MS. MANGIANTE: At the beginning we didn't
17 talk about Mifsud.

18 MR. QUIGLEY: So he asked you about Mifsud.
19 Do you think -- did you understand that is when he was
20 thinking about working for the Centre, or while he was
21 working at the Centre?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: No, it -- we were having this

1 -- no, this was later, when we met. So the first time
2 was -- so after the Trump -- everything, you know,
3 much --

4 MR. QUIGLEY: Oh, so you --

5 MS. MANGIANTE: When we met in New York for
6 the first time, we are laughing because we both had
7 difficulty to profile Mifsud. Because, of course, it
8 was the only things we had in common at the time.

9 MR. QUIGLEY: Was the --

10 MS. MANGIANTE: Mifsud and London Centre.

11 MR. QUIGLEY: The experience of working at
12 the Centre?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, exactly.

14 MR. QUIGLEY: What did he say to you after
15 the fact about what it was like working there, and his
16 -- did he say much at all about what it was like
17 working there, as you were commiserating about it?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't remember the
19 conversation, I just remember we were literally
20 laughing about Mifsud. It is not nice to say, but it
21 is what happened.

22 MR. QUIGLEY: Okay. And he had a different

1 boss, but he was working with the professor at that
2 point?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: No, it was not working for
4 Mifsud, it was work -- I think George's boss was the --
5 my same boss, Najj Idris.

6 MR. QUIGLEY: But Mifsud is around there.

7 MS. MANGIANTE: Mifsud, at the time, was not,
8 I think, yet director of the London -- of the
9 international law practice, London Centre. I think
10 Mifsud approached George in Rome during a trip that
11 George did to the Link Campus with Najj Idris.

12 MR. QUIGLEY: Okay. Did George mention
13 working at all at that time, any connection with the
14 professor?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: The only -- no. The only
16 things that George told me is that while he was working
17 in London Centre he went to Rome with Najj Idris. He
18 was approached by Mifsud, who started to sell himself
19 as somebody big, introduced to him this girl, saying
20 that she was Putin's niece. And he said it was
21 randomly talking about emails. They started to gossip
22 about emails on Hillary Clinton, but really randomly.

1 That was -- that is something that I can see Mifsud
2 doing, because he talks a lot.

3 MR. QUIGLEY: Was he paid?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I think -- I asked him. I
5 think probably -- I don't know if it is -- he told me
6 he has been paid probably one month, and then he was
7 not paid any more, I don't know. They never paid me.
8 At least George probably was paid, though.

9 MR. QUIGLEY: And again, I am sorry, how long
10 did George work there?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. I mean I can't
12 give you the details about his -- I think not much,
13 either. I don't remember.

14 MR. QUIGLEY: Did he talk about any of the
15 work he did there the period of time he worked, or what
16 kind of work he did?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: Honestly, the only thing we
18 discussed was Mifsud. That is the only things we
19 discussed. I don't know, really.

20 MR. QUIGLEY: Okay.

21 Do you have any follow-up on this?

22 MR. SCHIFF: I don't know if you are prepared

1 to go --

2 MR. QUIGLEY: I just want to make sure,
3 before I do, if you have any follow-up on this section.

4 MR. SCHIFF: Just to make sure that I
5 understand the chronology, your understanding is that
6 your husband initially was working for the Centre for
7 Idris, he did not know Mifsud when he went to work for
8 the Centre?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah.

10 MR. SCHIFF: At some point, while he was
11 working for the Centre, he is asked to go to this Link
12 Campus.

13 MS. MANGIANTE: On a trip with Naji.

14 MR. SCHIFF: On a trip with Mr. Idris. And
15 the Link Campus, that is a campus of the University of
16 Malta in Italy. Is that what that is?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I think it is an
18 international campus. I don't know if it is from
19 University -- I think it is -- has partnership with the
20 London Centre, with another number -- I don't know
21 Malta. I don't know. Probably even Malta.

22 MR. SCHIFF: And so he goes with Idris, your

1 husband goes with Idris to the Link Campus.

2 MS. MANGIANTE: Mm-hmm.

3 MR. SCHIFF: And there he meets Mifsud.

4 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes. That is my
5 recollection.

6 MR. SCHIFF: And I think it states -- and I
7 think this is in the state of the offense -- that
8 Mifsud showed a particular interest in your husband
9 when he learned that he was working on the Trump
10 campaign.

11 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah.

12 MR. SCHIFF: Would that indicate, then, that
13 your husband's work for the Centre was concurrent with
14 his work on the campaign?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. I don't know
16 which -- my husband worked in the Centre -- I think, as
17 a person interested in building political networks, he
18 targeted George because he was going to join the Trump
19 campaign and could be a new access to some other
20 political environment.

21 MR. SCHIFF: But just in terms of timing,
22 does this indicate to you, if Mifsud showed an interest

1 in your husband when he learned your husband was
2 working with the Trump campaign, that your husband was,
3 in fact, working with the Trump campaign at the same
4 time he was also working for the Centre?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: No, no, no. It wasn't.
6 Definitely wasn't. I think it was on trip to Rome with
7 Naji Idris. It wasn't work for the two at the same
8 time.

9 MR. SCHIFF: Well, what I am saying is he
10 went to Rome on a trip with Idris while he was --

11 MS. MANGIANTE: This was -- no, it was
12 actually -- that is also the interesting -- he didn't
13 join officially the Trump campaign during this meeting.
14 He was going to join the Trump campaign. He was going
15 to be appointed officially as a foreign policy advisor
16 to the Trump campaign only a few days later this
17 meeting. And when he went there, they were discussing
18 him to join the Trump campaign.

19 That is why is lie to the FBI when they ask
20 him when did you meet Mifsud, during or after the
21 campaign. And, actually, he said before -- is because
22 he was not officially appointed yet. So it confused.

1 But even though there were already discussion about --
2 at the time about him joining the campaign. So he knew
3 he was going to join the campaign, but he was -- you
4 know, this happened officially only days later.

5 MR. SCHIFF: I see. So just in terms of
6 chronology, then, he goes to Rome with Idris, meets
7 Mifsud. And at the time he meets Mifsud, he knows that
8 he is going to be the foreign policy advisor for the
9 Trump campaign, but has not started yet?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: Well, I can't answer those
11 questions, really, because it is -- I don't -- I didn't
12 even know George at the time. So I would not like to
13 give you misleading information. I just -- my
14 understanding is that I don't even know if the timing
15 was -- he went to Rome, he was working still for London
16 Centre, or went on a trip, like can happen anyway.

17 MR. SCHIFF: Okay.

18 MR. SWALWELL: I have just a couple more
19 questions about London Centre.

20 Did -- when you were working at -- when you
21 were working at the EU, were you familiar with any work
22 that Mr. Mifsud was doing with the leave campaign and

1 Brexit? Was he affiliated with that at all?

2 MS. MANGIANTE: Oh, no, but he would talk a
3 lot about it. He asked me to research about Brexit.

4 MR. SWALWELL: What was Mr. Mifsud's position
5 on Brexit?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: He was asking me to arrange
7 meetings with people working for the Brexit at European
8 Commission.

9 MR. SWALWELL: What was his -- was he for
10 leaving, or was he in favor of remaining?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: In favor of remaining.

12 MR. SWALWELL: Mr. Mifsud wanted to remain?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

14 MR. SWALWELL: Okay.

15 MS. MANGIANTE: To him was a disaster, I
16 remember.

17 MR. SWALWELL: Did Mr. Mifsud ever talk about
18 any relationship that he had with Boris Johnson?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Not to me.

20 MR. SWALWELL: Were you aware of any
21 relationship he had with Boris Johnson?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: I just -- no, I didn't -- I

1 was not aware at the time.

2 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. Are you aware now?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, because I have seen some
4 articles in the press, portraying him with Boris
5 Johnson.

6 MR. SWALWELL: How about Nigel Farage? Was -
7 - did Mr. Mifsud have any relationship with Nigel
8 Farage?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

10 MR. SWALWELL: Who is Olga Polonskya?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: I learned -- I think you are
12 referring to this person -- Putin's niece. I learned
13 from George and from the press her real name.

14 MR. SWALWELL: Before you learned that name
15 from George, did --

16 MS. MANGIANTE: I never --

17 MR. SWALWELL: -- Mr. Mifsud ever talk about
18 her?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: No, never.

20 MR. SWALWELL: No?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Never to me.

22 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. One moment.

1 (Pause.)

2 MR. SWALWELL: One moment, if that is all
3 right. We will go off the record.

4 (A brief recess was taken.)

5 MR. QUIGLEY: Let's make sure I have -- we
6 talked about it, but I was trying to get this -- the
7 initial meeting between your husband and Mifsud, the
8 professor, is March 2016?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: I think so.

10 MR. QUIGLEY: Okay.

11 MS. MANGIANTE: But I am not sure.

12 MR. QUIGLEY: Okay. And you were -- did --
13 were you made aware of the circumstances for that?
14 Social, business, just casual interaction the first
15 time they met?

16 MS. MANGIANTE: George told me that Mifsud
17 was very casual and -- what I know is that he was
18 telling George to have a lot of Russian connections.

19 MR. QUIGLEY: The professor was telling
20 George to --

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, yes.

22 MR. QUIGLEY: -- have the Russian

1 connections.

2 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, he did.

3 MR. QUIGLEY: Did he say why?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: He -- George used -- wanted
5 to -- when he said that, George -- what tried to do, as
6 far as I know, is to organize a meeting between Trump
7 and Putin, because, apparently, the professor was
8 introducing him to Putin's niece, and was telling those
9 important connection in Russia that was -- George told
10 me he understood were probably not even true, because
11 he could not even meet -- organize a meeting with the
12 Russian ambassador in London.

13 I know what George was trying to do,
14 actually, was trying to organize a meeting between
15 Trump and Putin.

16 MR. QUIGLEY: And he thought that the
17 professor --

18 MS. MANGIANTE: And thought that Professor
19 Mifsud was a connection likely to do that.

20 You have to understand that Professor Mifsud,
21 yes, he talk about emails on Hillary Clinton to
22 George --

1 MR. QUIGLEY: Well, what did he think the
2 professor's relationship was with -- did he believe
3 they had a strong relationship with those very high up
4 in the Russian government?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: I think the first impression
6 -- of course, George said, "I meet a man who is
7 introducing himself as an academic in a very important
8 context. I believed he had important connection until
9 I thought he was a nobody when he failed even to
10 organize a meeting with Russian ambassador in London."
11 That is what he told me.

12 So that is -- we can see all these emails in
13 which he tries to organize a meeting between -- as
14 foreign policy advisor to the campaign, he wanted to
15 establish a bridge with the foreign governments. To
16 make -- he tried to do it with Russia, as well. I mean
17 not in an illegal, unlawful way, of course.

18 When Mifsud talked about emails, he said it
19 was talking --

20 MR. QUIGLEY: When he talked about what?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: When he mentioned that those
22 -- the emails to George --

1 MR. QUIGLEY: Yes.

2 MS. MANGIANTE: Emails on Hillary Clinton.

3 He said, "Oh, you know there are a lot of -- Russian

4 told me there are a lot of dirt on Hillary Clinton."

5 He said he was doing that in a very casual, gossip way,

6 in a specific moment where those emails on Hillary

7 Clinton were speculated a little bit by the press all

8 over the world. So he didn't give that much

9 importance, and actually never forced to obtain those

10 emails in any way. Mifsud never showed any email to

11 George, he never offered emails. He was talking about

12 emails.

13 Now I don't know why he would do that,

14 actually. That is interesting.

15 MR. SCHIFF: And we have a lot of questions

16 for you about that. But just so we can keep the

17 chronology straight --

18 MS. MANGIANTE: Okay, okay.

19 MR. SCHIFF: I think we are still interested

20 in --

21 MR. QUIGLEY: The initial --

22 MR. SCHIFF: -- the initial meeting that your

1 husband had with Mifsud. What has he related to you
2 about that initial meeting?

3 What did your husband tell you about that
4 initial meeting, in particular about any interest that
5 Mifsud showed in either your husband's soon-to-be
6 connection with the Trump campaign, or any ties your
7 husband had with Russia?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: No, he had no ties with
9 George. They don't have any ties with Russia
10 whatsoever. As a -- let's say someone who is seeking
11 for political connection, when he happened to meet in
12 Rome someone that was going to be a policy advisor to
13 the Trump campaign, he targeted him as an -- probably
14 an interesting person to be in touch with.

15 What I know -- because, as I said, I didn't
16 even know George at the time, so I mean, my
17 contribution is according to what George told me -- is
18 that Mifsud was acting very big, saying that he had a
19 lot of -- I mean he said he had a lot of connection to
20 Russia, and that he could help organize a meeting
21 between Trump and Putin, so he could be the middleman
22 for this introduction to give him access.

1 So George was very enthusiastic, because of
2 course he wanted to impress, as a young -- you know,
3 when you work in politics, you want to do your best to
4 impress your boss. And I think, as he tried to do with
5 the Egyptian president successfully, he tried to do
6 with Putin unsuccessfully through Mifsud.

7 MR. SCHIFF: And so, was this discussed at
8 their first meeting?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. That is a
10 "don't know". I don't know. I can't -- I think George
11 will be better placed to answer those questions,
12 because I don't know the chronology. I can tell you
13 that the first introduction was about -- so I know -- I
14 mean, what is -- the nature of the relationship can
15 be --

16 MR. SCHIFF: Is it accurate to say, though,
17 that the professor had an interest in your husband
18 because of his soon-to-be connection with the Trump
19 campaign, and your husband had an interest in Mifsud
20 because of his claimed contacts with Russia?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah, I think it is correct.

22 MR. SCHIFF: Mr. Quigley?

1 MR. QUIGLEY: Did George tell you he
2 communicated back with the Trump campaign after the
3 first meeting with the professor?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry, can I --

5 MR. QUIGLEY: Did your husband tell you that
6 he communicated back to the Trump campaign after his
7 first meeting with the professor?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: No. He always told me this
9 is an information he is discussing with the FBI, and is
10 not even communicating that to me, because I could --
11 it is very confidential.

12 MR. QUIGLEY: So -- but he didn't talk with
13 anybody --

14 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't -- I can't answer
15 this question. Sorry.

16 MR. QUIGLEY: Because you don't know, or
17 because --

18 MS. MANGIANTE: Because George would simply
19 not talk to me about that, because it is part of his
20 cooperation with the FBI.

21 MR. SCHIFF: So in terms of questions about
22 your husband's interactions with Mr. Mifsud and with

1 the Trump campaign, those are issues that you have
2 either been asked by your husband or the special
3 counsel asked your husband not to share information on?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I think it is I don't know
5 who told what, but definitely -- I mean I don't know.
6 George, every time I -- I mean I prefer not to answer
7 those questions, because I don't know.

8 And I know this is a really sensitive topic
9 about his cooperation with the FBI, so he would tell
10 me, "I don't remember" to me, honestly. He would tell
11 me, "I don't remember." That is --

12 MR. SCHIFF: We will go through the
13 chronology, and --

14 MS. MANGIANTE: He always told me, "I never
15 saw an email. What I was trying to do was to organize
16 a meeting with -- between Putin and Trump." That is
17 what he would tell me.

18 He would say, "I don't recall," you know,
19 ever had an interest in those -- this gossip
20 conversation about emails.

21 As far as I read from these emails, there are
22 many emails in which he tries to set up a meeting with

1 Putin, but I never seen an email in which he says, oh,
2 I have somebody offering any emails on Hillary Clinton.

3 MR. SCHIFF: So your husband has discussed
4 with you the conversation he had with Mifsud over the
5 emails?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, he did.

7 MR. SCHIFF: Okay.

8 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, he did.

9 MR. SCHIFF: Okay. Well, we will want to get
10 into that in detail. But why don't we try to stick
11 with the chronological order?

12 MR. QUIGLEY: So my question -- I want to
13 make sure we are on the same page of what you don't
14 want to talk about -- was after the first meeting with
15 the professor, did he communicate with the Trump
16 campaign about that meeting?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. I really don't
18 know.

19 MR. QUIGLEY: You don't know? Okay. Are you
20 aware of anyone on the Trump campaign telling your
21 husband to stop communications, or to continue the
22 communications with the professor?

1 MS. MANGIANTE: This is -- I don't think
2 anyone -- I mean, as far as I read from the emails, I
3 don't think they ever stopped them. I think it would
4 never take an initiative, as I said, unauthorized. He
5 never did anything which -- when I say that I mean he
6 never meant to do anything illegal. And probably -- I
7 don't know if the perception of the campaign --

8 MR. QUIGLEY: I am not suggesting legality or
9 not. I am just asking if -- first, if your husband
10 communicated with the campaign after the first meeting
11 with --

12 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't --

13 MR. QUIGLEY: And then second, whether the
14 Trump campaign encouraged or discouraged those
15 meetings.

16 MS. MANGIANTE: As I said, I don't know.

17 MR. QUIGLEY: Okay.

18 MS. MANGIANTE: And I just say I don't know
19 if the Trump campaign encouraged or discouraged. I
20 didn't know George at the time. But my feeling is that
21 he would not do anything without a blessing from the
22 campaign.

1 MR. QUIGLEY: Well, did your husband explain
2 to you how he became involved with the Trump campaign?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, he told me it was
4 working for the campaign of Ben Carson, and then
5 probably through those night work -- he reached out,
6 again, through LinkedIn, probably, to somebody -- a
7 higher official on the campaign, saying he was
8 interested to work for the campaign. And then he was
9 lucky.

10 MR. QUIGLEY: On March of -- March 21st of
11 2016, then-candidate Trump announced his national
12 security team. And we have the photograph and the
13 table you are familiar with, with George, among many
14 others. At the time candidate Trump said of Mr.
15 Papadopoulos, "He is an energy and oil consultant,
16 excellent guy."

17 According to press reports, a Greek
18 journalist in touch with George stated that he -- that
19 George told the -- that the President had personally
20 phoned him and asked him to join the campaign. Did
21 George tell you that that was accurate?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: I didn't even know about this

1 article.

2 MR. QUIGLEY: Okay, but did George tell you
3 that the candidate called him to ask him to become
4 involved with the campaign?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: No, George told me it was
6 reaching out to officials to join the campaign. He
7 told me that he was trying to do -- to join the
8 campaign. He never told me the other way around.

9 MR. QUIGLEY: Did he say that he had talked
10 to the candidate before he went to that meeting with
11 the table, and so forth, with the other --

12 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry, I didn't understand.

13 MR. QUIGLEY: Did George tell you that
14 candidate Trump -- did candidate Trump ever call him?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: No, he never told me -- I
16 don't know. He never told me that, no. He never told
17 me that.

18 Actually, I don't know this article, I would
19 be interested to read it.

20 MR. SWALWELL: Has George ever discussed a
21 conversation he has had with Donald Trump?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I don't think it -- I

1 mean he said only once to me that the first time he met
2 with Trump -- I don't even remember under which
3 circumstances he -- Trump was very nice to him, and,
4 you know, it was very positive.

5 MR. SWALWELL: Do you know if they ever
6 talked on the phone?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: Talking to --

8 MR. SWALWELL: Do you know if Donald Trump
9 and George ever talk on the phone?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't think so, actually.

11 MR. SWALWELL: Okay.

12 MS. MANGIANTE: I think it was more in touch
13 with the -- while he was in London, I think he was --
14 first of all, George was in London at the time, and was
15 coordinating with the -- I think with other officials
16 in the campaign. That is why I said he had -- he would
17 call. But I don't think -- he never told me he was
18 talking to him on the phone. He never --

19 MR. SWALWELL: Do you --

20 MS. MANGIANTE: I mean I don't recall him
21 ever telling me that he would talk with Trump on the
22 phone.

1 MR. SWALWELL: And, to your knowledge, George
2 has only met Donald Trump once? Or how many times do
3 you believe he has met him?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I think probably a couple of
5 times, but I don't remember.

6 MR. SWALWELL: What makes you think that?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: Because once I asked him how
8 many times did you meet with Trump, and he would say
9 not much, really. So he just mentioned one meeting.
10 But then I suppose that he -- also the big, famous
11 picture table. So must be, I don't know, a couple of
12 times.

13 MR. SWALWELL: The one meeting that he
14 described meeting him at, was that the March 30, 2016
15 meeting that -- the big picture meeting?

16 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I think it was referring
17 to another meeting at the beginning, when they --
18 introduced himself first to Trump. I don't know if it
19 was the same day. I don't think so.

20 But we really didn't talk about -- much about
21 his meeting with Trump. So I don't think he really met
22 Trump many times. I don't -- this is my --

1 MR. SWALWELL: And when did he first start
2 talking to Hope Hicks?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Excuse me?

4 MR. SWALWELL: When did he first start
5 talking to Hope Hicks?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. I just know he
7 was in touch with her while -- for example, in -- okay,
8 from London, you know, just like I was saying, oh, did
9 you -- were you in touch with Hope Hicks, and he said,
10 "Yes, I was in touch with her." That is all. I mean I
11 didn't dig into this interaction with Trump or, you
12 know -- just like coordinating things.

13 I remember probably when -- he mentioned his
14 article, London -- Times of London would say that he
15 asked the -- Cameron to apologize for saying Trump -- I
16 don't know, insulted Trump, and George -- and then this
17 article appeared, and then it caused problems in the
18 campaign, and so on that occasion I think he talked
19 with Hope Hicks. That is what my recollection of --
20 around the conversation I had with him.

21 MR. SWALWELL: Do you know who he was in
22 contact with in the early stages, from the time that he

1 joined the campaign to having the meeting with -- the
2 first meeting with the professor, and then leading up
3 to that March 30 meeting at the Trump Hotel? Do you
4 know which Trump campaign individuals he was talking
5 to?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: I wouldn't have much accurate
7 knowledge of his work at the time. And I barely
8 recollect what I did myself, so I don't know about
9 George.

10 What I know is that in that -- it was --
11 while he was working the campaign he would refer to
12 high officials in the campaign. I saw Steve Bannon,
13 Michael Flynn via email, because he was based in
14 London, so he was definitely in touch with high
15 officials in the campaign. That is all I know.

16 MR. SWALWELL: Did the professor ever talk to
17 you about George's early days on the campaign, and the
18 professor's meeting with George?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: The professor never talked
20 with me about George at all, because the time -- I
21 might have -- I started to work for the London Centre I
22 didn't even know George. So we connected much later.

1 MR. SWALWELL: Did the professor ever talk to
2 you about -- because you were working -- you started
3 working for him right as the campaign was reaching
4 election day. Did you and the professor ever talk
5 about the American election going on?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, we did.

7 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. Did the --

8 MS. MANGIANTE: I remember Najj Idris in this
9 context. This is even before George reached out to me
10 through LinkedIn. He told me someone who used to work
11 for us is now advising the campaign. That is -- I
12 remember -- the only reference to George.

13 And I remember the professor, while we were
14 talking about American campaign, I was giving my point
15 of view. He said, "Never express your point of view in
16 politics. That is rule number one."

17 MR. QUIGLEY: What was that?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: That is the only thing said
19 -- the professor to me. We were having lunch in London
20 with Najj Idris, and we were talking about the American
21 election.

22 MR. SWALWELL: And Mr. Idris, when he said

1 that someone worked for us who was connected to the
2 campaign, did he name George, or did he just --

3 MS. MANGIANTE: No, he didn't --

4 MR. SWALWELL: -- give that description?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: He didn't name George, no.

6 MR. SWALWELL: Okay.

7 MR. QUIGLEY: Did George talk to you about
8 what he had hoped to accomplish in the campaign,
9 besides setting up the meeting between candidate Trump
10 and President Putin?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: Well, actually, he told me
12 that -- first of all, as a foreign policy advisor, was
13 trying to do the same job with other foreign leaders.
14 So he successfully organized a meeting with Sisi in
15 Egypt, and was trying to develop contacts with the
16 Japanese government, British governments.

17 I see that you received those -- the
18 addressed to him letter of congratulation when Trump
19 won the election. So Russia is really a small, small,
20 small part of his contribution to the -- it was not his
21 main focus.

22 That is something I would like to share with

1 you is also that George told me that during his
2 interview with the FBI he volunteered Mifsud to the
3 FBI. So he was the -- when the FBI asked, "Do you know
4 anything about -- did you ever hear about Russia,"
5 whatever, "Did you have any contact with Russia," he
6 has been actually in -- he mentioned this person who is
7 a Maltese professor, so he is not even Russian
8 professor, who said -- alleged to have Russia
9 connection that George wanted to use to organize a
10 meeting. And then he said to the FBI, he -- and he was
11 mentioning also dirt on Hillary Clinton.

12 MR. QUIGLEY: Who was mentioning the dirt on
13 Hillary --

14 MS. MANGIANTE: The professor was also
15 mentioning to me these emails. So it was George
16 telling those information to the FBI, thinking to do
17 something for, you know, just being as transparent as
18 he could.

19 MR. SCHIFF: I am sorry, but I may have
20 misheard. The professor mentioned emails to you, or
21 you --

22 MS. MANGIANTE: No, no, no.

1 MR. SCHIFF: -- are recollecting what George
2 had said about the professor's conversation with him?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I am saying -- no, no.
4 The professor never mentioned anything to me. It was
5 -- I said that George gave to the FBI the information
6 that the Professor Mifsud was talking to him about
7 those emails.

8 MR. SCHIFF: Yes, okay.

9 MS. MANGIANTE: Not the other way around.

10 MR. SCHIFF: I think we should probably try
11 to move through the outline with more alacrity, because
12 we may be called away. I don't know what the vote
13 schedule is, but -- what is that? Okay.

14 MR. HECK: Can I --

15 MR. SCHIFF: Go ahead.

16 MR. HECK: Can I go to the beginning of this
17 with a real brief question?

18 MR. SCHIFF: Yes, of course.

19 MR. HECK: And I had to step out, and I am
20 having a hard time hearing.

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry.

22 MR. HECK: So I apologize if you have

1 clarified this --

2 MS. MANGIANTE: I tried to raise my voice as
3 much as I can.

4 MR. HECK: I just want to quickly understand.
5 And thanks for being here, by the way.

6 MS. MANGIANTE: You are welcome.

7 MR. HECK: I thought I heard you continually
8 refer to Mr. Roh's wife as a Russian princess.

9 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah.

10 MR. HECK: Did he give you any more
11 description of that? I thought the Czar age was long
12 gone. What do you mean by princess?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: It is the way she is -- I
14 think she is coming from the -- yeah, let's say the
15 Czar family descendent.

16 MR. HECK: Did he ever suggest a name, a
17 Russian name?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know her name, but
19 you can Google her, Olga Roh.

20 MR. HECK: Pardon?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know her surname, but
22 you can Google this person. She is Olga Roh.

1 MR. HECK: And it is your impression -- or he
2 attempted to convey to you --

3 MS. MANGIANTE: No, that is not --

4 MR. HECK: -- that --

5 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry. This information, it
6 was -- came from my own research, never --

7 MR. HECK: Okay.

8 MS. MANGIANTE: -- Mifsud or anybody else
9 told me about --

10 MR. HECK: And did your own research suggest
11 that this was a source of considerable wealth?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

13 MR. HECK: Okay, thank you.

14 MR. SWALWELL: On March 23rd, 2016 George
15 emailed Carter Page and copied Sam Clovis and others.
16 Are you familiar with that email?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

18 MR. SWALWELL: He included a link in that
19 email to an interview he had given by -- about his
20 thoughts on ISIS, the Kurds, and radical Islam. It is
21 two days after Donald Trump announced his foreign
22 policy team.

1 Did George express that he was a substantive
2 voice on the foreign policy team? Was he giving advice
3 to the team that was being received at the highest
4 levels?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know precisely with
6 respect to this specific email you are talking about,
7 because I don't know this email. But yes, my
8 understanding is that he was heard.

9 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. Now we have talked a
10 little bit about the meeting with who is referred to as
11 Olga Polonskya. And that was on March 24th, 2016, with
12 George and the professor in London. What did George
13 tell you about that meeting? That is where the
14 professor brought who he described as Putin's niece.

15 MS. MANGIANTE: He was -- he simply told me
16 that he was under the impression she was someone
17 important, because of the introduction that Mifsud
18 made. That is all.

19 MR. SWALWELL: Did George believe her to be
20 Putin's niece at the time?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: I think yes.

22 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. And did --

1 MS. MANGIANTE: I think.

2 MR. SWALWELL: And did George hope to be
3 connected to President Putin to connect President Putin
4 to candidate Trump?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: He wanted to. That is what
6 he wanted to do.

7 MR. SWALWELL: Did George have, like, a
8 directive from anyone on the campaign to make this
9 connection, or was this --

10 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

11 MR. SWALWELL: -- just George's idea?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. I really don't
13 know.

14 MR. SWALWELL: Did George ever talk about
15 anyone else on the campaign wanting to connect Donald
16 Trump and Vladimir Putin? Has he ever talked to you
17 about that?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

19 MR. SWALWELL: Well, do you think George was
20 the only one on the campaign who was interested in
21 connecting Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know anybody else in

1 the campaign, so --

2 MR. SCHIFF: Let me just ask, as well. It
3 looks like this was the second meeting between your
4 husband and the professor. And he shows up at the
5 second meeting with somebody he claims is Putin's
6 niece.

7 Do you know why -- did George tell you why
8 the professor brought her, why he wanted to introduce
9 your husband to this Russian woman? Had they discussed
10 Russia in the first meeting, or what accounts for her
11 being brought to the second meeting?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: I can't be so accurate for
13 the second meeting, I really don't know. When you
14 asked me what George talked about, this person, he
15 thought it was an important contact to help having
16 access to the network line to organize a meeting with
17 -- between Trump and Putin.

18 He thought that Mifsud was bringing her to
19 the meeting to -- you know, to make an introduction
20 important, likely to give him the access to -- like
21 make this -- you know, she can help because she is high
22 level. That is what he told me.

1 And but then he told me later on, "While I
2 was attempting to organize this meeting, while I was
3 attempting to have access to," you know, people capable
4 to organize this meeting, "I realize that they were
5 nobody." And she might have been Mifsud's mistress, I
6 don't know. It was also talking like that, you know.
7 That is what his guess -- he started to guess
8 everything.

9 MR. SCHIFF: But did the -- did George and
10 the professor discuss Russia in their first meeting?
11 Is that why he would bring this woman to the second
12 meeting?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

14 MR. SCHIFF: Or --

15 MS. MANGIANTE: This I don't know.

16 MR. SCHIFF: Do you know whether this was the
17 professor's initiative to bring a Russian to the second
18 meeting?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: I honestly can't tell.

20 MR. SCHIFF: Okay, thank you.

21 MR. SWALWELL: Did George get contact
22 information from this Russian woman at that meeting?

1 Did they exchange --

2 MR. SCHIFF: Yes, they -- I think they were
3 communicating via Skype or email. I think they were.
4 I don't know Skype, but maybe email. I don't know.
5 Definitely she -- I think they exchanged contact.

6 MR. SWALWELL: Did George ever talk about his
7 relationship with Sam Clovis?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah, he mentioned that he
9 probably asked Sam Clovis to join the campaign. I
10 don't know if he reached out to Sam Clovis through
11 LinkedIn.

12 MR. SWALWELL: Did he talk about any
13 conversations he had, or emails he had with Sam Clovis
14 after the meeting with the professor and Olga?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: No, he didn't.

16 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. Now, did George mention
17 going to the March 31st meeting at the Trump Hotel with
18 candidate Trump? Did George ever talk about what
19 George said during that meeting, if --

20 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

21 MR. SWALWELL: Have you heard reports that
22 George offered at that meeting to connect Donald Trump

1 and Vladimir Putin?

2 MS. MANGIANTE: It was -- yeah, I heard it,
3 but --

4 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ever ask George if he
5 said that?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: He said -- I mean, honestly,
7 I don't remember. We might have discussed it, but I
8 don't remember right now.

9 MR. SWALWELL: Did George ever talk about to
10 you whether candidate Trump discussed candidate Trump's
11 views about Russia at that March 31st meeting?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know if there was a
13 March 31st, but definitely George's understanding was
14 that improving relation with countries was important
15 thing for Trump, including Russia.

16 MR. SWALWELL: Did George ever talk to Donald
17 Trump directly about improving the relations with
18 Russia?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know, I really don't
20 know. But George was under the impression doing
21 something good, trying to organize a meeting. There
22 was absolutely nothing illegal in trying to -- he was a

1 foreign policy advisor. I mean at least in his
2 perception -- my perception, too.

3 MR. SWALWELL: Did George ever tell you that
4 Jeff Sessions shot down George's idea at that March
5 31st meeting to connect Donald Trump and Vladimir
6 Putin?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: I think it would be
8 interesting to address to him directly those questions,
9 because I am really not sure to be accurate enough. I
10 don't know. My --

11 MR. SWALWELL: Do you remember when the
12 attorney general --

13 MS. MANGIANTE: My idea, what is my idea, is
14 that if it was shot down they would not go through
15 this --

16 MR. SWALWELL: Yes.

17 MS. MANGIANTE: That is my assumption. But I
18 don't know, I don't recall George telling me explicitly
19 I -- he did not do that or he did do that. It is very
20 confusing also for me. I don't want to give
21 information that I am not sure of.

22 MR. SWALWELL: So, Ms. Mangiante, it is fair

1 to say that, since George's cooperation agreement and
2 his arrest, your lives have changed. You see your name
3 in the news now, and you read about George. Do you
4 remember when Attorney General Sessions gave an
5 interview about that meeting at the Trump Hotel? Do
6 you remember when he said that --

7 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah.

8 MR. SWALWELL: -- he remembers George
9 speaking up?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: I mean he was -- which
11 meeting? I mean which interview you are talking about?

12 MR. SWALWELL: So after George's arrest --

13 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

14 MR. SWALWELL: -- do you remember -- it was
15 in the public discussion and on the news.

16 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes. If Jeff Sessions shot
17 him down.

18 MR. SWALWELL: Yes.

19 MS. MANGIANTE: One of --

20 MR. SWALWELL: And my question for you is,
21 you know, you are seeing your family now on TV, your
22 fiance at the time is on TV.

1 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

2 MR. SWALWELL: The Attorney General of the
3 United States is saying publicly that your fiancé
4 recommended something and that the attorney general
5 shot it down.

6 There must have been a reaction in your home
7 about, you know, hey, George, did this really happen,
8 or is he telling the truth. What happened when that
9 occurred?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: Well, of course the -- one of
11 the reasons why I finally accepted an interview, first
12 with ABC News, the time I was invited -- say okay,
13 first of all, that is not true, he had no contact with
14 the high official in the Russian campaign because I
15 have seen the campaign distancing them from George.

16 And then I delivered another message, which
17 is it will never do a push on anything without
18 authorization from the campaign.

19 Now I can't recall exactly the conversation
20 we had when this piece of news was heard. That is -- I
21 can tell you that definitely my understanding is that
22 he would never do anything if he was shot down.

1 MR. SWALWELL: So your reading of George's
2 reaction when the attorney general said that was that
3 that was not --

4 MS. MANGIANTE: First of all --

5 MR. SWALWELL: -- what the attorney general
6 said.

7 MS. MANGIANTE: -- I think it was like why
8 are we talking about arranging a meeting with Putin,
9 between Putin and Trump, when there is nothing illegal,
10 unlawful, trying to attempt this. So why would the
11 campaign stop me?

12 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. According to the
13 statement of the offense for George, in early April
14 2016 George sent multiple emails to other members of
15 the campaign's foreign policy team about his contacts
16 with the Russians. Are you familiar with any April
17 2016 communications between George and the campaign
18 about ongoing contacts with the Russians?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

20 MR. SWALWELL: So this -- just so we are
21 clear on the timeline, this is now after the attorney
22 general allegedly shut George down when he suggested

1 connecting Donald Trump and Putin.

2 MS. MANGIANTE: That is what he said.

3 MR. SWALWELL: Right. And so I guess what
4 you are telling us is that George wouldn't -- based on
5 your conversations with George, he would not have
6 proceeded to develop further relations with the
7 Russians if he felt --

8 MS. MANGIANTE: Based --

9 MR. SWALWELL: -- he shouldn't be doing --

10 MS. MANGIANTE: Based on my understanding of
11 his work, definitely he would not do that. And as I
12 said, he was also under the -- he was confident he was
13 doing something good, because improving relation with
14 Russia was one of the goal of campaign.

15 MR. SWALWELL: And on April 10th George
16 emails Olga and suggests setting up a potential foreign
17 policy trip to Russia. Olga actually --

18 MR. SCHIFF: Before you get into that --

19 MR. SWALWELL: Yes.

20 MR. SCHIFF: -- if I could just clarify a
21 bit.

22 If I understood what you were saying

1 correctly, your understanding is George wouldn't be
2 pursuing this meeting with Putin if the campaign had
3 communicated to him that they didn't want to have
4 him --

5 MS. MANGIANTE: Exactly. This is what I
6 said, yes.

7 MR. SCHIFF: That is correct?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

9 MR. SCHIFF: And so, if he was pursuing this,
10 this was both with the knowledge of the campaign,
11 people higher up in the campaign, and with their
12 blessing.

13 MS. MANGIANTE: That is my assumption. As I
14 said, I can't recall every conversation I had with
15 George when a piece of news came out. I am just here
16 to refer my understanding as -- you know, I don't want
17 to give inaccurate details about timing and
18 conversation or what he told me. But this is my
19 understanding based on my experience of this situation.

20 MR. SCHIFF: And in this early period, April
21 2016, is George communicating by email with the
22 campaign to keep them in the loop about his discussions

1 with the professor, his meetings with Putin's niece?
2 To your knowledge, is George communicating this with
3 the campaign?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know, because I
5 didn't read all his emails. But I don't know if -- I
6 think the prosecutors have those emails.

7 MR. SCHIFF: And do you know who George's
8 immediate supervisors were on the campaign? Who would
9 he be keeping in communication with about his efforts
10 to establish a relationship with the Russians?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: Immediate supervisor? I
12 don't know. I can say that, going through his iPad, I
13 have seen myself a few communication, random
14 communication to Steve Bannon, Michael Flynn. That
15 is --

16 MR. SCHIFF: Steve Bannon and Michael Flynn?
17 To your knowledge, did he also communicate with Sam
18 Clovis?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: I think he did, but I don't
20 remember. I didn't go through all his emails. But
21 that -- his name was in contact with officials in the
22 campaign. And as I said, being based in London, most

1 of his communication were -- happened via email. So I
2 guess the prosecutor have full access to all this.

3 MR. SWALWELL: Are you -- has George ever
4 talked to you about emailing with the Russian Ministry
5 of Foreign Affairs connection, that -- the person from
6 the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs based in
7 London?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: I remember George told me he
9 wanted -- that Mifsud failed to introduce to him,
10 basically, anyone real advantage. The only people he
11 introduced to was this fake Russian -- Putin's niece.
12 He tried to attempt to arrange a meeting with the
13 ambassador in London he told me, but that never
14 happened. He could not even introduce to him the
15 ambassador, Russian ambassador in London.

16 And then he mentioned to me later on that --
17 introduced to him a think tank Russian person, was
18 holding a think tank.

19 MR. SWALWELL: And are you familiar with any
20 Skyping -- Skype conversations that George was having
21 in April 2016 to lay the "groundwork" for a potential
22 meeting between the campaign and Russian government

1 officials, Skype conversations between George and a
2 Russian MFA connection?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: I -- as far as I know, George
4 didn't have any contact with the Russian -- with
5 officials, whatsoever, zero. So that is what he told
6 me. And it is -- as I said, the only Russian
7 connection he developed through Mifsud are his Russian
8 Putin niece and another person that I didn't even know
9 existed until probably a few months ago, is this
10 Russian guy -- I can't even remember his name -- from a
11 think tank.

12 MR. SWALWELL: George told you about this
13 Russian guy?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I think it is written
15 everywhere. He told me that -- I mean he told me, "I
16 didn't really have any connection to Russians." I
17 mean --

18 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. So just so I can --

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Mifsud sold a lot of contacts
20 that he could not provide.

21 MR. SWALWELL: And just so we are clear, I am
22 referring to George's statement of the offense, where

1 Mifsud introduced George over email to an individual in
2 Moscow who told George that this individual had
3 connections to the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
4 Did you -- you don't recall that?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry. This individual in
6 Moscow, what -- can you say it again, just --

7 MR. SWALWELL: Yes. According to the
8 statement of the offense, on April 18, 2016 the
9 professor introduced George to an individual in Moscow
10 who told George he had connections to the Russian
11 Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

12 MS. MANGIANTE: Is that the think tank
13 person, maybe?

14 MR. SWALWELL: Well, in the statement of the
15 offense he is referred to as the Russian MFA
16 connection, and that George had several conversations
17 over Skype.

18 MS. MANGIANTE: I think it is exactly, yeah.
19 I asked George, after all. I remember even the FBI
20 asked me about this person I didn't know at the time.
21 I think it is -- you are talking about this -- George
22 told me this think tank person.

1 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. And so this is now
2 clearly --

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah, that is --

4 MR. SWALWELL: -- two weeks after --

5 MS. MANGIANTE: And it is not an official, it
6 is not a Russian official, it is a Russian national.

7 MR. SWALWELL: Are you aware of any meetings
8 between George and the Russian ambassador to the United
9 Kingdom?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: No, never happened. He told
11 me it never happened, even though in email I read it
12 said I met the Russian ambassador. Actually, it never
13 happened.

14 MR. SWALWELL: So on April 25th, 2016,
15 according to the state of the offense, nearly one month
16 after Attorney General Sessions allegedly told George
17 not to work on the Putin-Trump meeting, George emails a
18 senior policy advisor saying the Russian government has
19 an open invitation by Putin for Mr. Trump to meet him
20 when he is ready.

21 Did George ever talk to you about --

22 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah.

1 MR. SWALWELL: -- that arrangement?

2 MS. MANGIANTE: It was -- no, he was trying
3 to set up a meeting. Yes, he told me he tried his best
4 to set up a meeting with -- between Trump and Putin.

5 MR. SWALWELL: And he believed, even after
6 the attorney general allegedly said this on April 25th,
7 2016, that it was okay to try and make that
8 arrangement?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: I --

10 MR. SWALWELL: Let me rephrase that. So
11 April -- as late as April 25th, 2016 George still
12 believed that he should set up a meeting between Trump
13 and Putin.

14 MS. MANGIANTE: Well, you are asking me for
15 dates. And, as I said, all events that happened when I
16 didn't even know George. So I think this -- he can
17 only answer those questions accurately.

18 MR. SWALWELL: The email also -- George also
19 suggested in the email that the government speak in
20 neutral cities. Do you know why George was proposing
21 that they speak in a neutral city?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know why he writes

1 these kind of emails. I don't know. Maybe he was
2 quoting what people said. Like to be out of the -- I
3 don't know. Neutral cities means not Russia, not -- I
4 don't know.

5 (Pause.)

6 MR. SCHIFF: According to the statement of
7 offense, on April 26th, 2016 George met with Professor
8 Mifsud for breakfast at a London hotel, and it was at
9 that meeting that Mifsud told your husband that he had
10 just returned from a trip to Moscow, where he met with
11 high-level government officials, and learned that the
12 Russians had obtained dirt on then-candidate Clinton.

13 According to the statement of the offense,
14 Mifsud told Papadopoulos -- as your husband later
15 described to the FBI, "They, the Russians, have dirt on
16 her. Russians had emails of Clinton. They have
17 thousands of emails."

18 When did you first learn of this overture by
19 Professor Mifsud to George, this discussion of the all
20 the Clinton emails?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: When did I learn?

22 MR. SCHIFF: Yes.

1 MS. MANGIANTE: George didn't mention that to
2 me before all the scandal came out.

3 MR. SCHIFF: So when would you have learned
4 about that, that meeting, that discussion?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: I think I was in his lawyer's
6 office while he was signing the agreements. I think I
7 told -- I asked him -- because at the time I was in New
8 York, and I said I will tell you -- I was guessing what
9 is going on with you, what is this -- what is
10 happening, and then he said, "I don't know what is
11 going on. I was approached" -- I think it was close to
12 his plea agreement when I learned about exactly the
13 fact that the Mifsud offered emails. I think even
14 George didn't really realize what was going on until
15 the plea agreement, until the -- he negotiated with the
16 FBI.

17 MR. SCHIFF: And what did he tell you about
18 what Mifsud told him regarding the emails?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah, was mentioning to
20 George -- who the -- "they," when you say "they" --

21 MR. SCHIFF: What did George tell you that --

22 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah, George --

1 MR. SCHIFF: -- Mifsud told him about the
2 emails?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah, George told me -- yeah,
4 Mifsud -- if I can report -- that looks like a case --
5 it is like a subject to talk about, emails, dirt on --
6 Russians have thousands of emails on Hillary Clinton.
7 He told me that he had a connection to Russia. But he
8 was talking like on -- they informally, casually,
9 randomly told me was not in the context of serious,
10 dramatic disclosure of something that, you know, was
11 likely to be awful, the news.

12 George also said today who knows what he was
13 trying to do, if he was -- what was real intention.
14 When we learned that he was affiliated actually with --
15 if he was simply talking, was -- if he -- I mean why
16 would he talk about that to somebody? To see how this
17 person reacts? I don't know.

18 MR. SCHIFF: You mentioned I think earlier
19 that -- in characterizing this, that it came across as
20 gossip, this was something that was in the public --

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Domain.

22 MR. SCHIFF: -- domain. But at this time in

1 April of 2016 it was actually not in the public domain.

2 MS. MANGIANTE: It was not?

3 MR. SCHIFF: No. They -- the first release
4 of the emails didn't take place until June, July,
5 months later.

6 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry, we are talking about
7 the emails of Hillary Clinton or the DNC emails?

8 MR. SCHIFF: Well, either Clinton or DNC
9 emails.

10 MS. MANGIANTE: Okay, both of them. So --

11 MR. SCHIFF: Neither of those began to be
12 released until the summer.

13 MS. MANGIANTE: Okay.

14 MR. SCHIFF: So at this point it wasn't
15 public information.

16 MS. MANGIANTE: Because I remember there were
17 a lot of talk about this. Now I can't recollect
18 exactly when, but I remember there were talking over
19 the world about those things. Now you are telling me -
20 - okay, so I take note.

21 MR. SCHIFF: Well, I just want to make sure
22 that we have the chronology correct. So this is taking

1 place in April of 2016, when there is no public
2 information that Hillary Clinton or the DNC emails may
3 be in the possession of the Russians.

4 Your husband described this as the professor
5 relating it in a casual way?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, that is how he described
7 it to me.

8 MR. SCHIFF: But did your husband tell you
9 that the professor had informed him prior to revealing
10 that the Russians had these emails, that he had just
11 come from a trip to Russia, and learned this from
12 Russian government officials?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: No. I think he was talking
14 about -- I mean he told me it was randomly -- I don't
15 know -- I should read again the legal paper. I think
16 it was mentioning those emails. The Russians, there is
17 a lot of emails --

18 MR. SCHIFF: Yes, I mean --

19 MS. MANGIANTE: I mean, I don't -- sorry, you
20 can --

21 MR. SCHIFF: Yes. No, I -- it is less
22 important what you remember from the written statement

1 of the offense, because we can read that. But it is
2 more important what your husband told you about it at
3 the time he first relayed these facts to you.

4 And so, do you remember your husband telling
5 you that the professor had informed him that he had
6 just come back from Moscow?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't remember. He is --
8 him telling me that. I remember George telling me he
9 was acting like -- talking about this -- but he never
10 gave much importance to that.

11 It is -- sorry, you are telling me that this
12 -- those information were in the public domain when?

13 MR. SCHIFF: Well, the emails didn't start to
14 become the subject of discussion by their release until
15 the summer. And just to put in context, it wasn't
16 until July of 2016 that candidate Trump said publicly,
17 "Hey, Russians, if you are listening, hack Hillary
18 Clinton's emails."

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, I remember.

20 MR. SCHIFF: So what -- as specifically as
21 you can recall, what has your husband told you about
22 the specifics of what Mr. Mifsud said about the emails?

1 MS. MANGIANTE: The -- is this -- that he
2 told me he was not referring to the DNC email, he was
3 talking about thousands of dirt emails, dirt on Hillary
4 Clinton, probably was referring to -- the email that
5 Hillary Clinton deleted?

6 MR. SCHIFF: I -- don't ask --

7 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I am sorry, okay. So I
8 don't ask you. What he told me is that he didn't give
9 much importance, but he thought it was very weird, that
10 a professor, this professor who barely knew him and --
11 would talk about these emails. But he told me also
12 that -- because I said, "Did he show you an email, did
13 he offer you to give you any emails?" He said no,
14 never.

15 MR. SCHIFF: Now, in the statement of the
16 offense it talks about -- well, let me ask you this
17 way. Did he relate to you information that the
18 Russians were prepared to be helpful to the campaign by
19 anonymously releasing these emails?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: No, no.

21 MR. SCHIFF: So what, if anything, did he
22 tell you about the emails, as best as you can

1 recollect? What has your husband told you about that
2 conversation with Mifsud?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: He really told me when Mifsud
4 started to talk about those emails I didn't give much
5 importance. And, you know, it was like gossip to me.

6 What I gave importance to is the fact that it
7 could have Russian connection useful to organize a
8 meeting with Putin. That was his focus. George really
9 wanted to organize a meeting.

10 So it really didn't tell me much about email.
11 I would like to tell you more, but really, he didn't.

12 MR. SCHIFF: So George felt that the
13 professor had good enough connections, though, in
14 Russia to arrange a meeting with the President of
15 Russia.

16 MS. MANGIANTE: At first that was his
17 impression. Then he changed his mind when he realized
18 that he wasn't capable to even organize a meeting with
19 the Russian ambassador in London.

20 MR. SCHIFF: But at the time that the -- that
21 Mifsud tells him that the Russians have these emails,
22 and he has just come back from Russia, your husband was

1 under the impression that he was well connected enough
2 in Russia to arrange a meeting with Putin?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Well, it was -- he had this
4 perception, based on what -- how Mifsud introduced
5 himself and his connection to Russia deep into the --
6 by the conversation about emails.

7 MR. SCHIFF: And at that point, though, in
8 April of 2016, your husband believed that in fact he
9 had these good connections in Russia.

10 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, he believed -- he said
11 no reason to think he was lying. Why would he lie
12 about his connection to Russia? He is an academic, he
13 is a middle-aged person. Why would he make a fool of
14 himself?

15 Then he -- his idea changed over time. That
16 is why he said, "What do you think about it?" He would
17 ask me, "What do you think about Mifsud?"

18 MR. SCHIFF: And prior to this meeting had
19 Mifsud or anyone else suggested to your husband that
20 the Russians might have information that would be
21 useful for him, for the Trump campaign?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

1 MR. SCHIFF: And prior to the meeting had
2 Mifsud given any indication that he had information to
3 convey to your husband from the Russians?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry, what do you mean,
5 exactly, to convey to --

6 MR. SCHIFF: Did your husband ever tell you
7 that before he met with the professor in which he
8 raised these emails, that the professor was going to
9 share with him information that he had obtained in
10 Moscow?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: No, he didn't know that. I
12 don't think he knew that. He met him, he didn't know
13 what to expect from this meeting.

14 MR. SCHIFF: So prior to going to the
15 breakfast meeting your husband didn't know what to
16 expect of the meeting.

17 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't want to answer -- I
18 don't know. Because we are talking --

19 MR. SCHIFF: And it is fine --

20 MS. MANGIANTE: My --

21 MR. SCHIFF: If you don't know --

22 MS. MANGIANTE: Exactly, I said don't know.

1 MR. SCHIFF: -- it is best that you tell us
2 that you don't --

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, I don't know.

4 MR. SCHIFF: And did he tell you whether --
5 who else was present at this meeting in which the
6 professor mentioned the dirt and the emails?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: Putin's -- no, no, I don't
8 know. I don't know if it is -- which meeting he met, I
9 don't know.

10 MR. SCHIFF: So you don't --

11 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry, Putin -- sorry, I
12 don't know.

13 MR. SCHIFF: So you don't know who, if
14 anyone, was --

15 MS. MANGIANTE: Who was present?

16 MR. SCHIFF: Present.

17 MS. MANGIANTE: No. No, I don't know.

18 MR. SCHIFF: Did your husband ever tell you
19 whether anyone else had raised with him, beside Mifsud,
20 the Russians' possession of these emails?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't think he mentioned
22 anybody else.

1 MR. SCHIFF: And who did your husband tell
2 you he communicated this information to on the Trump
3 campaign?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I can't answer this question.

5 MR. SCHIFF: And when you say can't answer,
6 does that mean that you have been asked not to answer
7 this question?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: No, it means that I don't
9 know, first of all. And that is George will not
10 clearly give an answer to me. I mean he never gave me
11 a straight answer to that.

12 MR. SCHIFF: And did you ask him that? When
13 you say he never gave you a straight answer, that
14 suggests that you had asked him, but he wouldn't give
15 you a clear answer to it.

16 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah.

17 MR. SCHIFF: Did he tell you why he didn't
18 want to tell you that?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: He told me that it was object
20 of the investigation and, you know, he said -- you
21 know, sometimes he doesn't recall, really. He doesn't
22 recall himself. It is very difficult sometimes to

1 recall exactly -- I said there is no -- as you can read
2 now -- I don't know.

3 MR. SCHIFF: Well, I mean, obviously, this is
4 a critical question.

5 MS. MANGIANTE: I know. This is the object
6 of the investigation, and I don't -- I mean I -- all
7 the interview between George and the FBI is about.

8 MR. SCHIFF: So I guess my question is when
9 you say you can't say, is this a --

10 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry, this is probably an
11 English mistake. When I say I can't say, it is
12 translation from me to say I would not know. It
13 doesn't mean that I am not allowed to say.

14 MR. SCHIFF: Well, that is what I wanted
15 clarification on.

16 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry, it is my English --
17 okay. It is -- I should think of better English when I
18 answer.

19 MR. SCHIFF: Are you --

20 MS. MANGIANTE: I will say I don't know.

21 MR. SCHIFF: Okay. So in terms of who your
22 husband communicated to within the campaign that he had

1 emailed John Mashburn and copied other people on the
2 email about this conversation with Mifsud on the
3 emails. Did he ever tell you that he had emailed
4 others on the campaign, even if he didn't tell you who
5 they were?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I -- he didn't tell me
7 anything about that. It is a straight no. I didn't
8 even know there were -- I mean I didn't do my research
9 well enough. I didn't even know there were public
10 email in which he is talking about those emails.

11 MR. SCHIFF: Let me be clear. There is a
12 public report that he emailed others. I am not saying
13 there are public emails.

14 MS. MANGIANTE: I have never seen this email,
15 though.

16 MR. SCHIFF: But he has never confided in you
17 whether he emailed other people in the campaign or not
18 about the conversation with Mifsud on the emails?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Well, I remember we were
20 discussing it as -- so there is an email about that,
21 and he said, "I don't recall sending an email. If
22 there is an email, it would be up to people to show

1 me," because his memory doesn't remember to send an
2 email. So --

3 MR. SCHIFF: So he has told you that he
4 doesn't recall emailing others on the campaign?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, and he will -- about
6 emails or --

7 MR. SCHIFF: Let me just --

8 MS. MANGIANTE: This is about something --
9 the news a few -- probably two months ago, right?

10 MR. SCHIFF: Yes.

11 MS. MANGIANTE: Okay.

12 MR. SCHIFF: But let me ask this again, just
13 to make sure that -- because I think you started
14 answering before I was finished with the question.

15 MS. MANGIANTE: I am sorry.

16 MR. SCHIFF: Your husband has told you he
17 doesn't recall sending an email to other members of the
18 campaign about his conversation with Mifsud about the
19 Russians having Clinton emails.

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah.

21 MR. SCHIFF: Is that correct?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

1 MR. SCHIFF: But as to whether he verbally
2 communicated with other members of the campaign about
3 his discussion with Mifsud on the emails, that he would
4 not discuss with you.

5 MS. MANGIANTE: He would probably give me the
6 same answer, he doesn't recall.

7 MR. SCHIFF: So your understanding, then, is
8 he doesn't recall either sending an email -- he doesn't
9 recall whether he sent an email or not, and he doesn't
10 recall whether he discussed it or not. Is that a
11 accurate summary?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: Which is -- probably it is
13 accurate to say that I simply don't know.

14 MR. SCHIFF: Okay, well -- because this is
15 very important that we be specific on this. You don't
16 know whether he sent an email and you don't know
17 whether he discussed the Mifsud conversation --

18 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

19 MR. SCHIFF: -- with others on the campaign.

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

21 (Pause.)

22 MR. SCHIFF: Did your husband ever tell you

1 What his reaction was when the President publicly --
2 then candidate-Trump publicly called for the Russians
3 to hack Hillary Clinton's emails, that they would be
4 rewarded? Did your husband ever tell you what his
5 reaction to that was?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: No, he never told me.

7 MR. SCHIFF: Now, the story that I referred
8 to --

9 MS. MANGIANTE: It was -- I remember it was
10 -- ah, yes. It was like, oh, yeah, if they are -- some
11 Russian collusion ever happened, why would he publicly
12 say that? That is what he told me.

13 MR. SCHIFF: The story that I am referring to
14 is a story from two months ago, in May, in which it was
15 reported that Mr. Mashburn said repeatedly that he
16 recalled receiving a message with some detail about
17 Russian information on Mrs. Clinton, and that other
18 campaign officials almost certainly would have been
19 copied on the memo. And that is an email that Mr.
20 Mashburn is reported to have testified he received from
21 your husband.

22 And I think, if I understood your testimony

1 today, you don't know whether that is accurate or not,
2 that Mr. Mashburn received a --

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes. I mean did he show this
4 email?

5 MR. SCHIFF: I am sorry?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: During his testimony provided
7 with the email?

8 MR. SCHIFF: I am just reading --

9 MS. MANGIANTE: No, no, just -- no, it was --

10 MR. SCHIFF: Yes.

11 MS. MANGIANTE: I know you are reading, but I
12 think that was our guess, was -- I remember George
13 telling me about a call to --

14 MR. SCHIFF: That he doesn't recall putting
15 it in writing?

16 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah.

17 MR. SCHIFF: Do you have a question on
18 this --

19 MR. SWALWELL: So January 27 of 2017, you and
20 George were dating at that point?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: No, we were talking.

22 MR. SWALWELL: You were talking. Does that

1 date stand out for any reason to you?

2 MS. MANGIANTE: I think it is the date of the
3 interview with the FBI, George's interview with the
4 FBI. I remember because it was close to my birthday.

5 MR. SWALWELL: When is your birthday?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

7 MR. SWALWELL: Where did the FBI interview
8 George that day?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: I think they came to his
10 house.

11 MR. SWALWELL: Do you know what time of day
12 they came?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: In the morning.

14 MR. SWALWELL: Do you know what time in the
15 morning?

16 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I don't remember. I
17 think early in the morning.

18 MR. SWALWELL: Was he expecting them?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I don't think so.

20 MR. SWALWELL: Was it a surprise to him?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: We had been talking about --
22 no, he told me it was very comfortable. He didn't

1 suspect anything could happen to him eventually. He
2 told me he was preparing to go to Washington because he
3 wanted to have an interview with the White House, to
4 have a job with the White House, so -- and that is why
5 I said I would cooperate, say whatever I have to say, I
6 am happy to help with the FBI, that is what he told me.

7 So I was not even -- his mother was more
8 concerned. She told me she would not allow the FBI
9 agent in the house, and George said, "No, no, I want to
10 talk with them." That is what happened --

11 MR. SWALWELL: Where was George at the time?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: His mother's house.

13 MR. SWALWELL: Where is that?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: In the Lincoln Square.

15 MR. SWALWELL: In Chicago?

16 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

17 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. Lincoln Square.

18 Did George tell you that day that he had been
19 interviewed --

20 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

21 MR. SWALWELL: -- by the FBI?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

1 MR. SWALWELL: Do you know if George told
2 anybody else that he had been interviewed by the FBI
3 that day?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know who he was in
5 touch with, what he was doing at the time. I know he
6 was in touch with me via WhatsApp, you know, but he
7 didn't tell me.

8 MR. SWALWELL: Do you know if George told
9 anybody working at the White House that he had been
10 interviewed?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

12 MR. SWALWELL: Have you ever asked him?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't think -- yes. I
14 think one of the things he told me about the interview
15 with the FBI is not allowed to have any contact
16 whatsoever with anyone affiliated to Trump. So that is
17 one restriction. So I don't think he would.

18 MR. SWALWELL: No, I am talking about the
19 first interview.

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Ah, the first interview. I
21 don't know, I really don't know.

22 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. Do you know if he

1 talked after the January 27 interview in the morning --
2 if George talked to anybody on the campaign about that
3 interview?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. He didn't even
5 tell me at the time, so whatever I learn is months
6 later.

7 MR. SWALWELL: And the second time George was
8 interviewed about a month later, in February, did
9 George tell you about that interview?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

11 MR. SWALWELL: He didn't?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: I didn't know.

13 MR. SWALWELL: Do you know if George told
14 anybody else about that interview?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

16 MR. SWALWELL: Do you know where the second
17 interview took place?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I don't know.

19 (Pause.)

20 MR. SCHIFF: On April 27th there was an event
21 at the Mayflower Hotel that was hosted by the Center
22 for National Interest in Washington, D.C. Did your

1 husband ever tell you anything about that particular
2 event? That was one where President Trump delivered
3 his first foreign policy speech.

4 MS. MANGIANTE: 2016?

5 MR. SCHIFF: No -- yes, 2016.

6 MS. MANGIANTE: Mentioned about attending
7 this event and editing Trump's speech.

8 MR. SCHIFF: So he attended the event?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: I think he did. I think he
10 did.

11 MR. SCHIFF: Was that one of the times you
12 mentioned -- one of the few times that he may have met
13 Donald Trump?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: I am -- I think it is -- I
15 don't -- I mean I don't want to -- I think he did, but
16 I don't want to be -- I don't want to confuse an event
17 with another.

18 MR. SCHIFF: Yes. Was he involved at all?
19 Did he tell you whether he was involved at all in
20 drafting any part of the President's speech?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, he told me that he
22 edited Trump's speech.

1 MR. SCHIFF: That he edited the speech?

2 MS. MANGIANTE: Mm-hmm.

3 MR. SCHIFF: Anything else he told you about
4 that particular event?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't remember, even if I
6 am thinking about the same event. But I suppose it is
7 the same, because it is a foreign, right? He gave his
8 speech on foreign policy.

9 MR. SCHIFF: According to statement of the
10 offense, on the day after your husband had the meeting
11 with Mifsud, where he brought up the emails, your
12 husband emailed a high-ranking official of the campaign
13 to discuss Russia's interest in hosting Mr. Trump. And
14 -- which he said that -- "Have some interesting
15 messages coming in from Moscow. How about a trip when
16 the time is right?"

17 Did your husband tell you about that email?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: I read this email, yes. He
19 was trying to arrange a meeting with Putin. The
20 purpose of this email was to arrange a meeting with
21 Putin.

22 MR. SCHIFF: So at that point he still

1 believed that the professor had sufficient connections
2 to make that happen.

3 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know what he
4 believed. I don't know if he was trying to impress the
5 campaign, or he believed it, or he was hoping that he
6 had this connection. So I am not in his mind, I just
7 know what he was trying to do.

8 MR. SCHIFF: And do you know who the high-
9 ranking official of the campaign was that he was having
10 this communication with the day after that meeting with
11 the professor?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. I mean I --
13 maybe in the email? I don't know who he was -- I read
14 the email, it is public. But I don't know who it was
15 addressed to.

16 MR. SCHIFF: Do you know -- did your husband
17 tell you whether he received any feedback back from
18 that high-ranking campaign official?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: No, he didn't. He said
20 simply that he thought he was doing a great job. That
21 is what -- they thought it was really great job, yeah.

22 MR. SCHIFF: On April 30th your husband

1 emailed Mifsud and thanked him for what he described as
2 critical help in arranging a meeting between campaign
3 and Russian government officials. Did you discuss that
4 at all with your husband?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: I didn't discuss this email,
6 but must be in contradiction with what actually
7 happened. I mean it is nothing. I don't know --

8 MR. SCHIFF: And you say that because the
9 meeting didn't come about?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: Not -- yeah. It didn't --
11 yes. So it wasn't successful, and he didn't introduce
12 to him real person, you know. Not -- I don't consider
13 a Russian student and a Russian think tank important
14 enough.

15 MR. SCHIFF: Well, Professor Mifsud did
16 arrange for meetings with individuals from the Ministry
17 of Foreign Affairs, did he not?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: He did arrange a meeting with
19 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs? No.

20 MR. SCHIFF: Not the minister, but people
21 from the ministry.

22 MS. MANGIANTE: George told me he never met

1 any Russian officials. That is what he told me.

2 MR. SCHIFF: According to the statement of
3 the offense, a Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
4 connection sent an email to your husband and Professor
5 Mifsud that says, "I have just talked to my colleagues
6 from the MFA. They are open for cooperation. One of
7 the options is to make a meeting for you at the North
8 America desk if you are in Moscow."

9 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry, can you tell me again?
10 Was this person somebody -- is an official from the
11 Ministry of Foreign Affairs?

12 MR. SCHIFF: According to the statement of
13 the offense --

14 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

15 MR. SCHIFF: -- your husband received an
16 email from an MFA connection saying, "I have just
17 talked to my colleagues from the MFA. They are open
18 for cooperation. One of the options is to make a
19 meeting for you at the North America desk if you are in
20 Moscow."

21 Papadopoulos responded that he was glad that
22 the MFA was interested.

1 Did you ever discuss this interchange with
2 your husband?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Not specifically. But he
4 told me he was -- never met any Russian people. So I
5 am just now -- okay.

6 So who is qualified as the Russian minister
7 foreign affair connection?

8 MR. SCHIFF: Well, the pertinent thing is --

9 MS. MANGIANTE: No, because it is important.

10 MR. SCHIFF: -- did your husband --

11 MS. MANGIANTE: No, it is important, because
12 it is a Russian official. Is this person from the
13 think tank that is quoted, and -- in this -- as the
14 Russian connection?

15 MR. SCHIFF: Yes, and part of the question is
16 do you know the answer? Did your husband tell you who
17 this MFA contact was?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: No. I mean I think this is
19 the same -- sorry if I take my time because of the
20 English.

21 MR. SCHIFF: No, please take your time.

22 MS. MANGIANTE: This is -- we are talking

1 about this document. Even the Mifsud is -- was his
2 professor, right? I mean we don't have any name in
3 this document --

4 MR. SCHIFF: Correct.

5 MS. MANGIANTE: -- in the statement of the
6 offense.

7 So I have the reason to believe that this
8 person -- as far as I know, George met Mifsud -- I mean
9 was in touch to Mifsud only with this student, Russian
10 niece, and this other person that I learned about from
11 two -- a few -- two months ago, because he also
12 released an interview saying that George was
13 unprofessional.

14 We are talking about Ivan Timofeev, right?

15 MR. SCHIFF: Well, I am asking you --

16 MS. MANGIANTE: I am -- I think it is in the
17 public record right now. That is why I am sharing with
18 you the guess. Because this is not up to date.

19 MR. SCHIFF: Well, it is very important for
20 us to know what your husband related to you, not what
21 you have learned through reading public reports, or
22 even --

1 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I --

2 MR. SCHIFF: -- the statement of the offense.

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Of course, I know. I am just
4 saying that my understanding is that this person is
5 Ivan Timofeev. And it is not a Russian official, he is
6 a think tank person who said he had contacts that he
7 failed to introduce to George. A lot of talking.

8 MR. SCHIFF: And Ivan --

9 MS. MANGIANTE: I think I --

10 MR. SCHIFF: -- Timofeev, what is his
11 background?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know this person at
13 all. I remember the first time his name came out --
14 came up to me was during my interview with the FBI in
15 which they asked me if I knew this person. And at the
16 time this name was absolutely black, obscure to me.
17 That is when I asked George -- the FBI asked me about
18 even Timofeev.

19 And then he told me after my interview with
20 the FBI, he told me is the other person that Mifsud
21 introduced him to, and he is a think tank, and he was
22 in touch with him, trying to organize the meeting with

1 the Putin and -- so this person must be Ivan Timofeev.

2 MR. SCHIFF: Okay. And did your husband ever
3 tell you that he was in contact with someone named Ivan
4 Timofeev?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: No, never. Neither before --
6 I asked him, because the FBI brought up this name to
7 me, and I was curious to know, because they asked me,
8 "Have you ever met Ivan Timofeev? Do you know Ivan
9 Timofeev?"

10 I said no, and then I went -- I asked George
11 who is Ivan Timofeev, why the FBI was so much
12 interested to know if I know this person, and that is
13 when George told me who is this person.

14 MR. SCHIFF: So what did George tell you?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: He told me that it is think
16 tank -- how you say in English -- think tank, or --

17 MR. SCHIFF: Yes.

18 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah.

19 MR. SCHIFF: So he -- George told you that
20 his knowledge of this guy was that he was affiliated
21 with a think tank?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: He is affiliated with a think

1 tank, and --

2 MR. SCHIFF: With a Russian think tank? What
3 kind of a think tank?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I think is a Russian
5 national, as well. And it was the other person that
6 Mifsud introduced, was working with Mifsud, as well.
7 And this is the other contact that Mifsud introduced
8 George to, in order to organize the meeting with Trump
9 and Putin. But he was not technically an official
10 Russian -- because he never met with a Russian
11 official, so it is not technically Russian official.

12 MR. SCHIFF: No, some people work for the
13 Russian government, work in undeclared positions.

14 MS. MANGIANTE: That is -- I don't know. He
15 just told me --

16 MR. SCHIFF: All you can tell us is that,
17 from what you gather from your husband, Mr. Timofeev
18 put himself off as a academic at a think tank?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, saying that he could
20 arrange a meeting, they could help arranging a meeting
21 with Putin.

22 MR. SCHIFF: And again, you wouldn't be aware

1 precisely of who your husband was informing of the --
2 at the campaign of these overtures by Timofeev or
3 Mifsud or others, in terms of a Russian meeting?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know, because, as I
5 said, the first time I ever heard about Timofeev it was
6 on October, during my interview with the FBI.

7 And then George told me, oh, no, it is
8 somebody that Mifsud introduced me to, working as an
9 academic for a think tank, working with Mifsud, and
10 having access to contact important enough to arrange a
11 meeting.

12 MR. SCHIFF: Your husband appears to have
13 forwarded some of the information he receives from
14 Timofeev to Paul Manafort. Do you know what George's
15 relationship was with Paul Manafort during the
16 campaign?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. I don't think
18 they knew -- I think they probably called on the phone.
19 I asked him if he ever met Manafort. I think -- I seem
20 to recall he never met with -- personally.

21 MR. SCHIFF: Did he discuss with you at all
22 keeping Manafort in the loop about his discussions

1 with --

2 MS. MANGIANTE: No, that --

3 MR. SCHIFF: -- Timofeev or Mifsud?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't think so. I don't
5 know. Let's say I don't know. It is better, because I
6 don't think so sounds my opinion. I don't know.

7 MR. SCHIFF: You mentioned earlier that one
8 of the reasons that you went public is you were -- you
9 didn't describe it as upset, but you were not pleased
10 that the campaign was representing your husband as a
11 coffee boy.

12 MS. MANGIANTE: I was -- that -- defending
13 more than my husband. The -- at the time I was
14 contacted by all the American media and they -- for a
15 long time before I went on Stephanopoulos the first
16 time, invitation. But then, when I saw that they were
17 saying he was a low-level volunteer doing nothing, it
18 was not about his reputation, it was just contradicting
19 what I knew about his contribution that was completely
20 different.

21 MR. SCHIFF: It is just that what they were
22 saying wasn't true?

1 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, and that is when I
2 remember I was being -- Pamela Brown, they told me, "So
3 what did you think about George being qualified as a
4 low-level volunteer?"

5 I said, "I think it is not true." I was
6 talking over the phone, based on some exchange with
7 higher-level officials and other information I had
8 about his contribution to the campaign.

9 And they said, "Would you like to come and
10 simply tell that?" And then I accept the invitation.
11 That was the purpose of my own TV appearance.

12 MR. SCHIFF: And part of the reason why you
13 knew that wasn't the case, that he was a low-level
14 coffee boy, was that he had informed you that, in fact,
15 he was in communication with people like Mike Flynn and
16 Paul Manafort --

17 MR. SCHIFF: Exactly, Steve Bannon, yes.

18 MR. SCHIFF: -- and Steve Bannon, and people
19 who were --

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

21 MR. SCHIFF: -- top of the campaign.

22 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

1 MR. SCHIFF: And I want to get into it a
2 little later on about his work -- arranged meetings
3 with foreign leaders like el-Sisi.

4 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes. And they also used the
5 interview to -- facts to Russian media. Why would a
6 low-level be approved to release the only interview to
7 the Russian media? I mean that is completely -- it was
8 completely false.

9 MR. SCHIFF: Just to finish up on this, in
10 court filings Mr. Timofeev has been described as
11 connected to the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
12 but you are not aware of what that connection would be?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I don't.

14 MR. SCHIFF: The email that your husband sent
15 to Paul Manafort about these arrangements to -- a high-
16 level meeting --

17 MS. MANGIANTE: Which email? If I can ask --

18 MR. SCHIFF: Yes, of course.

19 (Pause.)

20 MS. MANGIANTE: So this is from Paul Manafort
21 to Rick Gates. George wasn't copied on these emails?
22 No.

1 MR. SCHIFF: Well, they start --

2 MS. MANGIANTE: Okay, so this is --

3 MR. SCHIFF: So this email from Ivan Timofeev
4 dated May 4th saying, "Dear George, I just talked to my
5 colleagues in MFA. They are open for cooperation. One
6 of the options is to make a meeting for you at the
7 North America desk if you are at Moscow. They
8 reinforced my initial idea about a letter where you
9 could fix the idea of Mr. Trump's visit, a range of
10 persons he would like to meet, and the time he would
11 like to do it. Such a letter could be signed by Mr.
12 Trump himself" --

13 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah.

14 MR. SCHIFF: -- "or by yourself, as his
15 advisor."

16 MS. MANGIANTE: Mm-hmm.

17 MR. SCHIFF: This is, I think, forwarded by
18 your husband to Paul Manafort.

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Okay. I see now.

20 MR. SCHIFF: And then it is sent by Manafort
21 to Gates. And in the discussion between Manafort and
22 Gates, it looks like Manafort says, "We need someone to

1 communicate that DT" -- Donald Trump -- "is not doing
2 his trips. It should be someone low-level in the
3 campaign, so as not to send any signal."

4 Did your husband --

5 (Witness examined the document.)

6 MR. SCHIFF: So --

7 MS. MANGIANTE: Okay, I have no idea.

8 MR. SCHIFF: Is this exchange of emails
9 anything you --

10 MS. MANGIANTE: No, just --

11 MR. SCHIFF: -- discussed with your husband?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: No, George never discussed
13 those emails with me.

14 MR. SCHIFF: All right.

15 MS. MANGIANTE: Probably -- yeah. Probably
16 the only one I have knowledge of is this one from Ivan
17 recently. I was reading this email very recently, just
18 saying -- you see it is just trying to organize a
19 meeting with Putin again. I mean, like, this is
20 evidence.

21 MR. SCHIFF: All right. I am going to pass
22 that to you. And we may be able to finish before

1 votes, or we may not.

2 I am going to use the restroom again, I will
3 be right back.

4 MR. SWALWELL: Ms. Mangiante, other than the
5 Russian individuals we have discussed, to your
6 knowledge was George interacting with anyone we haven't
7 discussed, any Russians that haven't been covered yet
8 in our conversation?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

10 MR. SWALWELL: Did he have any prior
11 relationships with any Russians --

12 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

13 MR. SWALWELL: -- that we haven't discussed?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

15 MR. SWALWELL: Has he talked to you about any
16 Russians that he has worked with?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't recall him talking
18 about it.

19 MR. SWALWELL: Did George go to the
20 Republican National Convention?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: I think he did. When was it?

22 MR. SWALWELL: It was in July 2016.

1 MS. MANGIANTE: I didn't know at the time,
2 but I think he did, no? I don't -- I mean I don't
3 recall --

4 MR. SWALWELL: Has he talked about attending?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: I realize right now we talked
6 about so many things that sometimes I have difficulties
7 to answer to specific questions.

8 MR. SWALWELL: So just closing up on this MFA
9 exchanges, in May 2016 the professor told George that
10 he had an update on their recent conversations, and he
11 "will continue to liaise through you with the Russian
12 counterparts in terms of what is needed for a high-
13 level meeting of Mr. Trump with the Russia Federation."

14 George then emailed back and stated that the
15 Russian -- he emailed a high-ranking campaign official
16 and said, "The Russian government has relayed to me
17 they are interested in hosting Mr. Trump."

18 Is that something George had discussed with
19 you?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry, can I ask you to
21 repeat it again? I am a bit tired.

22 MR. SWALWELL: Sure. No, it is okay. So

1 this is May 13 and 14. Again, it is just more follow-
2 up between the professor and George. And the George --
3 and the professor is telling George that "We will
4 continue to liaise through you with the Russian
5 counterparts in terms of what is needed for a high-
6 level meeting of Mr. Trump with the Russian
7 Federation."

8 Did George ever talk to you about this
9 exchange?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: Specifically? I don't
11 remember.

12 MR. SWALWELL: And then George continues to
13 stay in touch with a "high-ranking campaign official,"
14 and on May 21st, 2016 says that -- "Request from Russia
15 to meet Mr. Trump." That is the subject line.

16 And George said -- and added the May 4th MFA
17 email that said Russia has been eager to meet Mr. Trump
18 for quite some time, "and has been reaching out to me
19 to discuss it." Are you familiar with that?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Mm-hmm.

21 (Witness examined the document.)

22 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah, mm-hmm.

1 MR. SWALWELL: George discussed that with
2 you, his continued work to make that arrangement?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, he mentioned -- I mean I
4 don't remember with specific emails. I have been
5 reading many of them. And yes, he was telling me that
6 he was actually trying to do that. It was insisting,
7 insisting.

8 MR. SWALWELL: And according to the state of
9 the offense, from mid-June through mid-August 2016
10 George pursued an off-the-record meeting between one or
11 more campaign representatives and members of President
12 Putin's office. Do you know --

13 MS. MANGIANTE: Can I see where --

14 MR. SWALWELL: Yes, so that is page 9,
15 paragraph 21.

16 MS. MANGIANTE: Okay, so it is --

17 (Witness examined the document.)

18 MS. MANGIANTE: Members of President Putin's
19 office.

20 MR. SWALWELL: And the MFA.

21 MS. MANGIANTE: And off the record, okay. I
22 think I am tired of --

1 MR. SWALWELL: Do you know what off the
2 record means?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, yes, of course.

4 MR. SWALWELL: And what do you think the
5 purpose was of holding an off-the-record meeting? Or
6 what did George mean by that?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: I think he wanted to make
8 sure he could arrange a meeting before making it
9 official.

10 MR. SWALWELL: Do you know if that meeting
11 ever took place?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

13 MR. SWALWELL: On June 19, 2016, after
14 several emails, Skype exchanges with the MFA connect,
15 George emailed the high-ranking campaign official --

16 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry, I prefer to read it
17 too, if you tell me where you are reading.

18 MR. SWALWELL: Sure. Well, I am mostly
19 referring to continued discussions that George had in
20 June 2016.

21 When did George tell you that he was having
22 Skype conversations with the MFA? When did you first

1 learn of that?

2 MS. MANGIANTE: As I said, after my interview
3 with the FBI I asked George who is Ivan Timofeev, and
4 then he explained me who is this person, and then he
5 told me the nature of the -- this person. And I said,
6 "Did you ever meet with him?" And I recall him telling
7 me that he was mostly having this Skype conversation.

8 MR. SWALWELL: Do you know if George ever
9 took any trips to Russia during the campaign?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: Never.

11 MR. SWALWELL: Has George ever been to
12 Russia?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: Never.

14 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ask him?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

16 MR. SWALWELL: According to the statement of
17 the offense -- so, again, page 9, paragraph 21 -- after
18 several weeks of communications about this off-the-
19 record meeting, on August 15, 2016 the campaign
20 supervisor told George, "I would encourage you and
21 other foreign policy advisors to make the trip if it is
22 feasible."

1 Did George ever talk about directions that he
2 received from the campaign to make the trip?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Not specifically, but he told
4 me they were happy about his work.

5 MR. SWALWELL: Do you know if any plane
6 tickets were bought, or --

7 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I think --

8 MR. SWALWELL: -- travel itineraries were
9 worked up?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know, but I -- he
11 never went to Russia. So that --

12 MR. SWALWELL: Do you know if he ever went
13 anywhere else to meet Russians?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I don't know. But I
15 think he didn't, because he has always told me, "I
16 didn't meet any Russian official, I don't have anything
17 to do with Russia." That is what he tells me all the
18 time.

19 MR. SWALWELL: How did George feel when
20 Donald Trump tweeted on October 31st last year that
21 "few people knew the young, low-level volunteer named
22 George, who has already proven to be a liar"? What did

1 George think when he --

2 MS. MANGIANTE: I think that Trump has
3 misunderstood his role, and he feels like he is doing
4 everything in his capacity to help his country, and he
5 also feels as a victim, being a victim of -- so more
6 than --

7 MR. SWALWELL: Did George have any thoughts
8 on why people at the White House and from the campaign
9 were trying to minimize his role? You know, one
10 person, as you referenced earlier, called him a coffee
11 boy.

12 MS. MANGIANTE: He -- as I said, he thought
13 it was based on misunderstanding of the situation and
14 the -- recently this same person apologized. So it was
15 -- I think it was -- again, he was not a coffee boy.

16 MR. SWALWELL: And you mentioned Hope Hicks
17 briefly earlier. Did Ms. Hicks ever tell George to
18 stand down or not continue communications that he was
19 having with the press on behalf of the campaign?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

21 (Pause.)

22 MR. SWALWELL: One witness has informed us

1 that, in September 2016, George and Steve Bannon were
2 engaged directly with Egyptian officials to organize
3 candidate Trump's meeting with Egyptian President Sisi,
4 which eventually took place on September 19th, 2016.

5 According to one witness, Bannon and
6 Papadopoulos met in Washington with Egyptian officials
7 to work out meeting details. You mentioned in your own
8 statement last December that George set up Donald
9 Trump's meeting with Egypt's President Sisi.

10 What is your understanding about George's
11 role in that meeting, and arranging it?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: It was coordinating the
13 meeting -- coordinated all the -- everything to make
14 the meeting possible. I think he had contacts in
15 Egyptian embassy and that through those contacts he
16 tried to set up a meeting and he succeeded.

17 I don't know much more details about who are
18 the people involved, but I know it was -- had quite
19 interesting expertise in this area, and he had many --
20 he has many contacts in the Middle East.

21 MR. SWALWELL: Did George mention that he
22 worked with Steve Bannon on this meeting?

1 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

2 MR. SWALWELL: Who else did George mention he
3 has worked with to set up this meeting?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I remember only Steve Bannon.
5 There must be also other people.

6 MR. SWALWELL: Did you see any evidence --

7 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

8 MR. SWALWELL: -- that George had worked with
9 Steve Bannon --

10 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes. I have seen --

11 MR. SWALWELL: What did you see?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: -- emails, some exchange via
13 email, in which he is talking about arranging this
14 meeting. Because before saying these things on TV I
15 said, "Show me the email."

16 MR. SWALWELL: Did Steve Bannon and George
17 talk after George was arrested?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

19 MR. SWALWELL: Okay.

20 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

21 MR. SWALWELL: Did you --

22 MS. MANGIANTE: No, he didn't have a -- after

1 his arrest -- he doesn't have any -- basically, after
2 his arrest, and probably before, he didn't have any
3 contact --

4 MR. SWALWELL: What did you read in those
5 emails between Steve and George?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: Really random emails, like
7 George saying, "I have -- I can arrange a meeting if
8 President Trump is interested. I put in touch with
9 this person from the embassy," something like that.
10 "Let's put it forward." "Really?" Or, you know, short
11 emails.

12 MR. SWALWELL: Did George go to the meeting
13 that candidate Trump had with President Sisi?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

15 MR. SWALWELL: We also heard that George was
16 involved in a Get Out the Vote effort during the final
17 weeks of the Trump campaign, mobilizing the orthodox --

18 MS. MANGIANTE: Get out?

19 MR. SWALWELL: Mobilizing voters, getting
20 them to the polls, focused on mobilizing orthodox
21 Christian constituencies. Is that true?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. But it might

1 be true, I don't know.

2 MR. SWALWELL: Has George ever talked about
3 it?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

5 MR. SWALWELL: What was the contact that you
6 saw between George and General Flynn?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: Again, random emails of
8 updating about work, you know, like work emails,
9 exchange -- not specific content of the specific --

10 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ever --

11 MS. MANGIANTE: I just say correspondence
12 between the two of them.

13 MR. SWALWELL: Did you -- before George was
14 arrested in July 2016, did you ever observe George talk
15 on the phone with General Flynn?

16 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

17 MR. SWALWELL: How about talk on the phone
18 with Steve Bannon?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry. I met George for the
20 first time on April 2017.

21 MR. SWALWELL: April 2017?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

1 MR. SWALWELL: So he hadn't been arrested
2 yet.

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah, no.

4 MR. SWALWELL: So from the time that you met
5 him on April --

6 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't recall -- I never pay
7 attention who he was talking to on the phone.

8 MR. SWALWELL: Did you ever see him talk to
9 any administration officials?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I never see him talking
11 to any administration official.

12 MR. SWALWELL: Did he ever talk to you about
13 access he had to administration officials?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

15 MR. SWALWELL: Did George have a relationship
16 with Jared Kushner?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. I don't think
18 -- I don't know, but I don't think much, no. I don't
19 think so. I don't know if he ever met with him, but I
20 don't know.

21 MR. SWALWELL: How about Stephen Miller?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: Who?

1 MR. SWALWELL: Stephen Miller.

2 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know even --

3 MR. SWALWELL: In October 2016, George
4 appeared to still be representing the campaign, and in
5 a news story at news.com it reports the Polish media
6 are commenting today on the interview that George
7 Papadopoulos, Trump campaign advisor, gave to the
8 Russian Interfax News Agency on September 30th, 2016.

9 Do you know anything about that interview?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

11 MR. SWALWELL: What do you know?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: I read the article.

13 MR. SWALWELL: What did -- how did George get
14 in touch with Interfax?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. But I know
16 that Bryan Lanza is the person who authorized this
17 interview.

18 MR. SWALWELL: Bryan Lanza of the campaign --

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

20 MR. SWALWELL: -- communications team?

21 When did George's work with the campaign end?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. I really -- I

1 don't know these details.

2 MR. SWALWELL: Has George ever been to Trump
3 Tower?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I think so.

5 MR. SWALWELL: Do you know when that
6 occurred?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry?

8 MR. SWALWELL: Do you know when that
9 occurred?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know if you want an
11 official position. Technically, we have been together
12 also, on occasion of my first trip to New York. But
13 that was not -- it was probably for a coffee, so --

14 MR. SWALWELL: Was it with someone on the --

15 MS. MANGIANTE: No, no.

16 MR. SWALWELL: -- Trump family campaign?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: Me and him. No, no, no. Me
18 and him.

19 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. You and George went to
20 Trump Tower for coffee?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

22 MR. SWALWELL: When was that?

1 MS. MANGIANTE: April 2017, when I went to
2 New York for a trip. So I definitely know he has been
3 to Trump Tower, but I don't know which other context,
4 other than this.

5 MR. SWALWELL: Did you meet with anyone else,
6 or was it just the two of you?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: No, me and George.

8 MR. SWALWELL: Have -- other than that time
9 going to Trump Tower, have you ever been to Trump
10 Tower?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, before.

12 MR. SWALWELL: For what purpose?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: When I was living in New
14 York.

15 MR. SWALWELL: Okay. And why did you go to
16 Trump Tower?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: Starbucks.

18 MR. SWALWELL: Oh. But did you ever meet
19 with anyone --

20 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

21 MR. SWALWELL: Has George ever been to the
22 White House?

1 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

2 MR. SWALWELL: Has he ever talked about going
3 to the White House?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: I know he wanted to work for
5 the White House. That is all I know.

6 MR. SWALWELL: Have you ever been to the
7 White House?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: I think, yes, I have been to
9 the White House when I was in Washington with my
10 internship with Mayer Brown. Yes, I have been -- 2007.

11 MR. SWALWELL: Has George ever -- has anyone
12 affiliated with the President talked to George or his
13 lawyer or anyone in George's family about a pardon for
14 George?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I am only -- the only one
16 who asked for a pardon for George out of nothing. Even
17 his lawyer didn't file any formal request for a pardon.

18 MR. SWALWELL: Who have you asked?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry?

20 MR. SWALWELL: Who have you asked?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Trump, via CNN and FOX News.

22 MR. SWALWELL: Have you ever talked to anyone

1 directly in the campaign --

2 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

3 MR. SWALWELL: -- about a pardon?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

5 MR. SWALWELL: Has anyone reached out to you?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: Nobody.

7 MR. SWALWELL: Has anyone reached out to your
8 lawyer?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: Nobody.

10 MR. SWALWELL: Has anyone reached out to
11 anyone you know, a family member or a friend, about a
12 pardon for George?

13 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

14 MR. SWALWELL: Do you believe anyone has ever
15 -- let me --

16 MS. MANGIANTE: The only people reaching out
17 to me are journalists to ask me about the reason why I
18 did ask, but nobody from the White House, no one.

19 MR. SWALWELL: What role did George want with
20 the White House?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. I think a
22 function, or --

1 MR. SWALWELL: A what?

2 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. Maybe a
3 function. I don't know which role he wanted. His
4 expectation was to work at the White House.

5 MR. SCHIFF: We are close to the end you will
6 be happy to know. We appreciate your long day with us.
7 I am going to ask you about some people, whether you
8 know them or not.

9 Do you know Sergei Millian?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: I heard about him a lot.

11 MR. SCHIFF: Did you hear about him from
12 George, or --

13 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

14 MR. SCHIFF: And what did George tell you
15 about Sergei Millian?

16 MS. MANGIANTE: So this is -- George always
17 referred to Sergei Millian -- I remember when we met,
18 when we were in Europe, it was always telling Sergei
19 Millian was a friend that was very interesting, very
20 nice, but he was thinking that he was acting weird.

21 I mean I remember that he talked at some
22 point that he was an agent from the FBI. He thought he

1 was trying to set him up because he made him crazy job
2 offer, so he was guessing is that a shady businessman,
3 or is informant or trying to set me up, involve me with
4 some financial crime.

5 MR. SCHIFF: And when did he think that
6 Sergei was trying to engage him in some financial
7 crime?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: Because he came to -- Sergei,
9 I know, went to see George in Chicago. They had a
10 meeting in the Trump Tower. I don't know -- maybe in
11 the Trump Tower or somewhere else.

12 And he offered him to work together as
13 consultants, but for an incredible amount of money to
14 set up an office in New York. And he said that this
15 would require him to be working at the same time for
16 Trump.

17 MR. SCHIFF: Now, has he known Millian for
18 years? Or how long has he known Millian?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: He told me that Millian
20 reached out to him after he joined the campaign.

21 MR. SCHIFF: And was Millian working on the
22 campaign, or how did they come into contact with each

1 other?

2 MS. MANGIANTE: He had reached out to George,
3 saying -- I don't know what he was doing. Apparently
4 is a real estate agent. He was taking care of the
5 Trump business in -- the Trump Tower's business. And
6 he started to -- it was very friendly with George.

7 He said he was inviting me to house, dinner,
8 drinks everywhere, until he made me this job proposal
9 which was completely unlikely. It was too good to be
10 true and, of course, would engage me in --

11 MR. SCHIFF: So Millian was working for Trump
12 when he met your husband.

13 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

14 MR. SCHIFF: And --

15 MS. MANGIANTE: I think so.

16 MR. SCHIFF: He was working --

17 MS. MANGIANTE: I think so.

18 MR. SCHIFF: -- for the Trump organization,
19 though, not the Trump campaign?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah, I don't know. This is
21 a detail I can't tell, because it is so much
22 information in my head right now. I don't --

1 MR. SCHIFF: But your impression, from
2 discussing this with your husband, is --

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah, he was working with
4 Trump organization, probably --

5 MR. SCHIFF: On a business side.

6 MS. MANGIANTE: Or on the -- I mean I don't
7 know if his corporation with -- from the business side
8 led him to work on the campaign, as well. I don't
9 know. I don't know if it is the connection to Trump,
10 or it is only interaction with Trump.

11 MR. SCHIFF: But they met while George was
12 working on the campaign.

13 MS. MANGIANTE: Sergei Millian reached out to
14 George after George joined the campaign.

15 MR. SCHIFF: And Millian was working in some
16 other capacity for the Trump organization, campaign, or
17 business?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: George was -- what drew my
19 attention to -- was the fact that he had the feeling
20 that Sergei was recording him during this meeting at
21 Trump Tower, while he was making -- trying to involve
22 him in a financial crime.

1 George told me he has been involved in many
2 situations this nature. One of them, I witness it
3 myself when we were on holiday in Europe.

4 MR. SCHIFF: And what kind of financial
5 crimes does he try to involve your husband in?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: Well, you -- I guess you are
7 not allowed to have private money and the public job at
8 the same time. And mostly making business out of your
9 lobby to -- your network you are developing with Trump
10 campaign.

11 MR. SCHIFF: Well, was this after Trump got
12 elected, or before that he was pursuing this
13 business --

14 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. Maybe it was
15 in transition or before. I don't know. But definitely
16 something that was highly suspicious for George to
17 refuse.

18 MR. SCHIFF: So the business proposition came
19 about while you were dating?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: No, we were not, but he told
21 me about it. When he -- this guy is very friendly, I
22 don't know if he is a friend, or if he is an informant,

1 I don't know what it is, or he is a spy. I don't have
2 any idea who he is, because -- and I ask him why, why
3 you say that, and he mentioned this episode of this
4 dinner, lunch in Chicago, where he flew from I don't
5 know where, New York to Chicago to see him and to make
6 this proposal.

7 MR. SCHIFF: But you don't know any more
8 about this proposal than it seemed like kind of a shady
9 financial transaction?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: Could be. Could be a
11 financial transaction. But then why he was under the
12 impression that it was recorded?

13 MR. SCHIFF: And what do you know of
14 Millian's background? What did George tell you
15 about --

16 MS. MANGIANTE: A journalist --

17 MR. SCHIFF: -- where he was from, or --

18 MS. MANGIANTE: A journalist told me that is
19 not even his real name, Millian.

20 MR. SCHIFF: What did George tell you,
21 though, about where he was from?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: George doesn't -- George

1 thinks he is an American Russian, but he says he is an
2 American.

3 MR. SCHIFF: And did the shady business deal
4 involve Russia at all?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't think -- I don't
6 know. I don't know which was the proposal, honestly.
7 Consultancy? I don't know which was --

8 MR. SCHIFF: There have been some public
9 reports about your husband having some involvement with
10 Israeli nationals. Is that different -- a different
11 allegation, or is that related to Millian, as well?

12 MS. MANGIANTE: No, it is different.

13 MR. SCHIFF: What is that --

14 MS. MANGIANTE: It is a --

15 MR. SCHIFF: What does that involve?

16 MS. MANGIANTE: This -- I witnessed myself
17 Israeli national who came to -- through to Mykonos
18 while we were on holiday over there, and to discuss
19 business with George.

20 And this person, I remember, was myself
21 highly suspicious because this person would invite both
22 of us to Tel Aviv and Cyprus to formalize the details

1 of this proposal. But I didn't go, I flew back to
2 London, and George accepted his invitation. And this
3 person kept talking about setting up a consultancy
4 business, like consultants --

5 MR. SCHIFF: And is this after the campaign,
6 or is --

7 MS. MANGIANTE: This is after. This is
8 summer 2017.

9 MR. SCHIFF: Summer --

10 MS. MANGIANTE: So we were talking about June
11 2017. Before -- right before George's arrest
12 Washington -- so that is a particular situation,
13 because this person handed \$10,000 cash to George in a
14 room in Tel Aviv, I think, or -- yes, in Tel Aviv. And
15 I remember I was on the phone. I said it is weird.
16 And he said, "Yeah, you are right."

17 So I give back -- he gave this money to his
18 lawyer in Greece, and then he wrote an email to this
19 person to return this money, to ask to return this
20 money. Now --

21 MR. SCHIFF: And what did this person want
22 him to do for the money?

1 MS. MANGIANTE: The idea was -- first of all,
2 this person never wanted the money back. Why? I mean
3 if there is a shady businessman, why the -- the
4 business deal don't go through, why would I not accept
5 the money back?

6 MR. SCHIFF: Yes.

7 MS. MANGIANTE: The idea is mostly that it
8 was probably a set-up again. When -- I don't know, it
9 is -- George has been treated by the FBI to be accused
10 as possibly being an Israeli agent himself. This
11 happened right before he flew to United States, which,
12 if he was flying with this cash, where his cash coming
13 from --

14 MR. SCHIFF: This happened --

15 MS. MANGIANTE: June 2017.

16 MR. SCHIFF: So this is well after he has
17 been interviewed by the FBI. And is this before or
18 after he is arrested?

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Before, right before.

20 MR. SCHIFF: And do you know anything about
21 -- more about this Israeli, or what the business deal
22 was, or what the consultancy was supposed to be about?

1 MS. MANGIANTE: That is what was completely
2 unclear.

3 MR. SCHIFF: What did George tell you about
4 what the business was supposed to --

5 MS. MANGIANTE: No, he didn't understand,
6 either. He said it was very vague about consultancy
7 lobby, you know, this kind of business. And so that is
8 why also he refused.

9 And that is -- but I think the main reason is
10 that this person, if you -- appears to be also part of
11 intelligence. I mean linked -- had problems with
12 intelligence. I mean problems -- he was involved -- my
13 English is becoming very bad, I am sorry, I am tired.

14 But this person -- we have to think about
15 George being -- coming back to the United States. He
16 was arrest at the airport in Washington with a charge
17 of lying to the FBI on January -- when he had this
18 interview. His idea was were they trying to find a
19 reason to arrest me?

20 MR. SCHIFF: Does he -- does George suspect
21 that he -- this person worked for Israeli intelligence?
22 Or you just have no idea?

1 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes. We suspect he was
2 working for Israeli intelligence. Why he would not
3 take the money back if he was simply shady businessman?
4 This is my guess and his guess.

5 MR. SCHIFF: Did you ever discuss with your
6 husband the meeting at Trump Tower that Don, Jr., Jared
7 Kushner, Paul Manafort took with the Russian
8 delegation?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I never discussed it.

10 MR. SCHIFF: Did you ever discuss with your
11 husband the emails that became public to Don, Jr.
12 offering dirt on Hillary Clinton as part of what was
13 described as the Russian Government effort to help the
14 Trump campaign? Did you ever discuss those emails,
15 those -- or emails designed to set up the meeting in
16 Trump Tower? Do you know the ones I am referring to?

17 MS. MANGIANTE: No.

18 MR. SCHIFF: Prior to the June 9th meeting at
19 Trump Tower --

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

21 MR. SCHIFF: -- this is 2016 -- Emin Agalarov
22 emails Don, Jr. requesting a meeting at Trump Tower,

1 offering dirt on Hillary Clinton on part of what he
2 describes as a Russian Government effort to help the
3 Trump campaign. That sounds, obviously, a lot like
4 what Professor Mifsud was talking about, dirt on
5 Hillary Clinton.

6 Did you ever discuss that June overture by
7 the Russians to the Trump campaign with your husband?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: I think we were just
9 commenting that he doesn't know what happened to the
10 other ones, you know, he just knows what happened to
11 him. He doesn't know much about it at all. Because it
12 was --

13 MR. SCHIFF: But when it became public, and
14 it was a big deal, obviously --

15 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah, yeah, I know --

16 MR. SCHIFF: -- when it became public that,
17 hey, there was this Trump Tower meeting, and here are
18 these emails, and the President's son is falsely
19 claiming it is about adoptions, and -- so when that
20 became public, do you know what your husband's reaction
21 was? Did he say, "Well, maybe that is what Professor
22 Mifsud was talking about"?

1 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah, it was -- basically, we
2 were commenting that it didn't show to him an email.
3 You know? Maybe. I don't know if -- maybe -- I don't
4 know. Mifsud was not the same person. I mean we are
5 -- I think we are talking about other people offering
6 emails in this second case.

7 MR. SCHIFF: Well, I am just interested in
8 what your husband's reaction was when it became public.

9 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah, it was -- I think it
10 was just commenting that Mifsud had never shown him any
11 emails or -- it was not such a, you know -- I can't --

12 MR. SCHIFF: Did he have any reaction,
13 though, to the revelation of the Trump Tower meeting?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: George is trying to -- as I
15 said, also, he thinks his cooperation is a little piece
16 in a puzzle, and we are all waiting to know what has
17 happened. And his personal experience doesn't
18 necessarily -- he doesn't feel it is reflected, and
19 other people just observing as an external -- with an
20 external eye, as well, sometimes, because just -- it is
21 really --

22 MR. SWALWELL: Is George still cooperating

1 with the FBI and Department of Justice?

2 MS. MANGIANTE: No, now it is over, because
3 he has been -- set the date for sentencing. So
4 cooperation is over.

5 MR. SWALWELL: But, I mean, is he -- when he
6 is sentenced, will he be sentenced as someone who was
7 cooperative, or did he break off the cooperation
8 agreement?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: No, no, he did cooperate.

10 MR. SCHIFF: Have you had any contact with
11 the majority on our committee? We invited them to
12 participate, but --

13 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, I know. I was at the
14 beginning represented by pro bono attorney who let me
15 down because I took the initiative to contact you
16 directly. And I -- on his own initiative, invited the
17 majority.

18 I have been in touch with the lawyer, a
19 lawyer from the majority committee, who told me that it
20 was a volunteer, that I didn't have to go if I didn't
21 want to, and that for the Republicans the investigation
22 is over, so there is no reason why they should talk to

1 me.

2 MR. SWALWELL: Who was that?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't remember the name.

4 MR. SWALWELL: If I tell you the name, would
5 you --

6 MS. MANGIANTE: The lawyer of the -- he said
7 he --

8 MR. SWALWELL: Was it Kash Patel?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: Possibly. I can't remember
10 the name. Again, maybe I have his number. I just
11 recently called.

12 MR. SCHIFF: Well, we want to thank you for
13 coming in. We appreciate your answering all of our
14 questions.

15 Yes. If I could, we have a vote, so we are
16 going to go vote. I am going to leave you with my
17 wonderful staff. We have a few remaining questions,
18 but we shouldn't be keeping you that much longer.

19 And you are free to discuss your testimony as
20 you like. And we appreciate the participation and your
21 cooperation with us, as well as your husband's
22 cooperation with the special counsel.

1 MS. MANGIANTE: I hope it was helpful.

2 MR. SCHIFF: So we thank you.

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Thank you very much. It was
4 a pleasure meeting you.

5 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Feel free to eat. I had to eat
6 something.

7 (A brief recess was taken.)

8 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: We can go back on the record. As
9 you know, I am [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. This is my colleague,
10 [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

11 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Nice to meet you.

12 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Do you recall who your husband
13 communicated with during the transition?

14 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't.

15 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: And during the transition did he
16 expect -- was still hoping to work for the Trump
17 Administration?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: Mm-hmm. Sorry.

19 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Was your husband hoping to work
20 in the Trump Administration?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah, he was. He was.

22 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Do you recall if he was in

1 communications with officials in the transition team
2 about employment?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't remember.

4 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Do you know if your husband
5 participated in any travel during the transition?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. I really
7 didn't even know him. I mean I knew him, yes. I knew
8 him.

9 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: According to public reports, your
10 husband met with the Greek defense minister.

11 MS. MANGIANTE: Mm-hmm.

12 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Around the time of the
13 inauguration. Do you -- has George mentioned that to
14 you?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

16 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: What did he mention about that
17 meeting?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: It was in Athens. It was in
19 Athens.

20 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Yes.

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Just told me that. So it was
22 just him mentioning the political personality of his

1 country he met with -- he mentioned this person, as
2 well. But he didn't tell me anything specific about
3 the meeting.

4 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Okay. The public reporting
5 indicated that Steve Bannon and Reince Priebus, among
6 others, attended, as well. Did your husband mention
7 that?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: No, not to me. Or maybe he
9 did. I don't remember.

10 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: The Greek defense ministry, on
11 the website, on Inauguration Day, posted information
12 about the staff of the new President. And among the
13 names listed is your husband. Do you recall seeing
14 that, that press reporting?

15 MS. MANGIANTE: No, it was January 2017. I
16 was not following that closely.

17 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Yes. At that time in January was
18 Mr. Papadopoulos still hoping to work with the
19 administration?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: I did not really know him at
21 the time.

22 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Right.

1 ██████████: Yes. Are you aware of your
2 husband's travel abroad during the election? Has he
3 spoken to you about his travel to, for example, Israel,
4 as well --

5 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

6 ██████████: -- as travel to Greece?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

8 ██████████: Is it your understanding that he
9 did so in his capacity as a Trump campaign foreign
10 policy advisor?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: I -- yeah. I think he was
12 attending the big -- he mentioned this big LNG
13 conference in Israel I think he was attending as a
14 Trump campaign advisor.

15 ██████████: His meetings in Israel in March
16 of 2016 --

17 MS. MANGIANTE: Exactly, that is what I was
18 referring to.

19 ██████████: Okay. Do you know whether he
20 provided written or oral read-outs of his travels
21 abroad and his meetings during his travels back to the
22 campaign?

1 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. But I know it
2 was approved, everything he did.

3 [REDACTED]: Everything he did was approved?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: That is what he told me.

5 [REDACTED]: That is what he told you. The --

6 MS. MANGIANTE: He was not acting like a
7 freelancer, no.

8 [REDACTED]: Just quickly on the presidential
9 transition period. You mentioned that you were not
10 certain who he communicated with.

11 By chance did he mention whether or not he
12 communicated with -- and these are people that he
13 communicated with before the election -- General
14 Michael Flynn? Do you know whether he mentioned that
15 he had been in touch with Michael Flynn --

16 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes.

17 [REDACTED]: -- during the transition?

18 MS. MANGIANTE: I think he -- yes, I think he
19 did.

20 [REDACTED]: He did?

21 MS. MANGIANTE: He mentioned he did.

22 [REDACTED]: Do you know --

1 MS. MANGIANTE: I recall -- my memory --

2 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Right.

3 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't -- if I am wrong --
4 but I recall he told me he was in touch with Michael
5 Flynn during the transition.

6 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: During the transition. Do you
7 know about what?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't.

9 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: You don't. Steve Bannon?

10 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know. I mean I know
11 that he was in touch with Michael Flynn. Now I can't
12 remember exactly if it was during the transition or --
13 Michael Flynn I seem to remember it only was in touch
14 during the transition with him.

15 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Okay --

16 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: And Michael Flynn, during the
17 transition, was named as President Trump's National
18 Security Advisor. Was Mr. Papadopoulos hoping to work
19 on the national security team?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Okay. I don't know. I
21 thought you were telling me. Unfortunately, I don't
22 have such details on the whole -- work, I mean. I know

1 it general.

2 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: And then these are just a few
3 more questions following up on statements made during
4 the -- during your interview.

5 Do you remember the name of the Israeli
6 businessman or national -- who approached Mr.
7 Papadopoulos?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: Mm-hmm. I remember Charles
9 something.

10 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: You don't have a full name?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: I --

12 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: You were talking about the June
13 2017 --

14 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Yes, that is right.

15 MS. MANGIANTE: I have the full name, yes. I
16 am a bit scared to give it to you.

17 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: We can arrange for the name to be
18 provided separately to us.

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Can I give you --

20 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Outside of the --

21 MS. MANGIANTE: Exactly. Can I give you off
22 the record?

1 ██████████: Off the record, sure.

2 MS. MANGIANTE: I want to give you off the
3 record.

4 ██████████: Okay. So let's -- we will do
5 that right after the end of this interview.

6 Did George ever mention the name Dmitri Simes
7 to you?

8 MS. MANGIANTE: No. Who is -- this is like
9 the FBI interview.

10 ██████████: He is involved in the Council for
11 the National Interest, the organization that hosted the
12 first foreign policy speech that the members asked you
13 about.

14 Finally, you mentioned at one point in the
15 interview that when George Papadopoulos learned that
16 Mifsud was affiliated with --

17 MS. MANGIANTE: Sorry, excuse me.

18 (The interview was interrupted.)

19 ██████████: Sure, I will repeat it.

20 So the question was in the course of the
21 interview at one point you mentioned when George
22 learned that Mifsud was affiliated with, and then you

1 didn't finish the sentence. If you recall that
2 sentence, do you remember what you were trying to say?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Western intelligence.

4 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: And when you say that, is that
5 because of the self-published book by Mr. Roh?

6 MS. MANGIANTE: No, not only, just based on
7 the book about his connection to the Link Campus, so
8 the Italian Government I know -- so to his own -- I
9 mean it -- his own statements about his -- being member
10 of the Clinton Foundation, it would make much -- no
11 sense him to be Russian agent trying to sell dirt on
12 Hillary Clinton unless his -- I don't know.

13 Actually, to be honest with you, I am just
14 sharing with you my perception.

15 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Of course.

16 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't think my statements
17 are -- can be taken as an absolute, you know, truth,
18 absolutely not. That definitely -- I know it is a lot
19 of ties with the --

20 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Right. Although it appears also
21 from the factual information that has emerged and the
22 statement of information that relates to your husband,

1 and information subsequent to that, that Mr. Mifsud
2 obviously also had connections to Russian individuals.

3 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes. But my guess now is
4 that he was pretending to really have important -- why
5 he could not introduce to George any substantial
6 Russian national official, why introduce to a student
7 and a think tank young boy --

8 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: And this is -- to clarify --

9 MS. MANGIANTE: No, that is -- I mean I know
10 why we are -- the statement of offense, we have an
11 impression, we had the impression that things are
12 sometimes much bigger than they are when we see the --
13 behind the -- these quotes about these people. Who is
14 the person, you know?

15 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Right. So just to clarify that
16 statement, part of this impression is the result of the
17 fact that, despite these contacts, despite these
18 emails, the meetings that were being sought with the
19 Russian leadership ultimately never came about?

20 MS. MANGIANTE: Not only -- even when he was
21 talking about emails, he never showed that email. He
22 never -- I mean he was -- that is why I used this term,

1 gossip, because it was talking.

2 Now I understand this information was not
3 public yet at the time, so it must -- might have some
4 sort of source. But still, he didn't -- whatever his
5 intention -- but today I am still unclear to me. They
6 never materialized in anything, in any action in my --
7 that can be likely to cause any sort of collusion, at
8 least on George's side. As I said, I don't know what
9 other people did.

10 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: You mentioned earlier that Mr.
11 Mifsud told you that he was connected to the Clinton
12 Foundation.

13 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, I -- not to me,
14 personally. We were, as I said, in a room with other
15 people from the Socialist group. And he said he was
16 connected with Clinton Foundation.

17 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: I just want to clarify. You
18 heard directly --

19 MS. MANGIANTE: Yes, I heard it.

20 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: -- from him.

21 MS. MANGIANTE: I heard it.

22 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Okay. Did you convey that

1 information during your interview with the FBI?

2 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't recall. I don't
3 think they asked me.

4 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Did you tell them that?

5 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I don't think I did.
6 First of all, I started to refresh my memory about this
7 character after the interview with the FBI, you know?
8 And I started to contact Pittella, and they say, "Oh,
9 we remember he was telling this," you know. Other
10 people, that is how it works. I mean --

11 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Sure.

12 MS. MANGIANTE: -- it is -- this person had
13 no importance for me until the moment his name came up
14 with the FBI.

15 I mean I thought it was a shady person that
16 is not transparent in any way, but I was not -- I
17 didn't have, you know, a red flag on him. I was very
18 surprised to know that it could be such an important
19 player in this -- in America.

20 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: When did you remember that he had
21 told you this about the Clinton Foundation?

22 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't recall. I recall to

1 -- I heard this information sometimes in the past, I
2 don't know, through somebody else, like -- technically,
3 the last time I heard it is when he, on the press,
4 Italian Republic, said Clinton -- it was for Clinton.
5 He would say it was for Clinton.

6 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Oh, so you heard Mr. Mifsud say
7 to the press --

8 MS. MANGIANTE: No, no, no. There are two
9 different contexts.

10 So in one context I remember to hear Mifsud
11 saying that he was affiliated to the Clintons'
12 foundation. But it was probably during one of the
13 events that took place at European Parliament. I can't
14 recall exactly the date in which he said that, you
15 know. It is really difficult for me now. It is not a
16 database, my brain.

17 But is -- I remember also that in the
18 interview that he granted to La Repubblica, when they
19 said why you were offering Papadopoulos those emails,
20 he himself said, "I am Clintoniano, I am affiliated to
21 Clinton. Why would I do that?"

22 Maybe I should find those articles for you.

1 ██████████: Oh, it is okay. I just wondered
2 if -- have you gone back to the FBI with additional
3 information that you have recalled?

4 MS. MANGIANTE: No, I didn't. But they have
5 my -- I mean I always been quite open to tell them.
6 And I think they knew, because -- I think they knew at
7 the time.

8 The FBI didn't -- I don't remember the
9 context of the interview, but I just answered what they
10 asked me, so --

11 ██████████: I think just on a final note,
12 part of the timeline, in terms of understanding the
13 Russian government-directed hacking operation, when the
14 emails were removed from the various individuals that
15 were attacked, and then when things were publicized --
16 that is outlined in the recent indictment on July 13
17 this year -- of the various Russian intelligence
18 officers -- yes.

19 So in that it lays out a very detailed
20 timeline of when the first -- they are called spear
21 phishing attacks occurred in Russian -- in -- against
22 Clinton campaign officials, including the chairman of

1 the Clinton campaign. And then at what point the
2 Russian operators for the first time started to put
3 information out in the public about these matters.
4 That is -- that timeline has the hacking occurring in
5 March, middle of March, 2016. So prior to the
6 conversation between Mr. Mifsud and your husband.

7 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah.

8 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: And it has the public release
9 through the website of DCLEAKS.COM occurring in the
10 beginning of June. So after that conversation.

11 MS. MANGIANTE: Yeah. Just one second. Just
12 -- I need to take a pain killer so I don't feel --

13 (Pause.)

14 MS. MANGIANTE: I see that isn't -- sorry,
15 just --

16 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Take your time.

17 (Pause.)

18 MS. MANGIANTE: Okay. Now, so you were --
19 you referred to the documents, or the -- yeah, that was
20 an interesting --

21 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: But that lays out a timeline of
22 both the hacking operation and the --

1 MS. MANGIANTE: So the hacking operation
2 started on --

3 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Yes. And you will see it is laid
4 out in detail.

5 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Did Mr. Papadopoulos attend the
6 inauguration?

7 MS. MANGIANTE: I think he did.

8 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Do you know who he attended with?

9 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

10 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Did he go to any events?

11 MS. MANGIANTE: I wasn't -- I think he did,
12 yeah.

13 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: I think I missed this in the
14 conversation earlier. When did Mr. Millian offer to
15 pay Papadopoulos \$30,000 a month? When was that?

16 MS. MANGIANTE: Some time before I even met
17 George, some time in 2016.

18 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: During the election? During --

19 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't -- I really don't
20 know.

21 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: You don't know whether it was
22 during the election or during the --

1 MS. MANGIANTE: I don't know.

2 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: -- transition?

3 MS. MANGIANTE: I -- exactly. I don't know.

4 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Okay.

5 (Pause.)

6 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Thank you again for all of your
7 time. I really appreciate it.

8 MS. MANGIANTE: Thank you.

9 (Whereupon, at 3:23 p.m., the interview was
10 adjourned.)

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