

# Did you know...?

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Read more at American Military News →

In May 2022, it was estimated that a Chinese state actor has siphoned trillions from North America, including blueprints of fighter jets and missiles.

Read more at CBS News→

Chinese firms have expanded their presence in American agriculture over the last decade by snapping up farmland and purchasing major agribusinesses, like pork processing giant Smithfield Foods. By the start of 2020, Chinese owners controlled about 192,000 agricultural acres in the U.S., worth \$1.9 billion, including land used for farming, ranching and forestry, according to the Agriculture Department."

Read more at Politico →





China-based entities, including the Chinese government, secured \$120 million in contracts with American colleges in 2021, federal data reveals. The Chinese institutions entered into agreements ranging from \$105,000 to \$31 million with more than two dozen universities, a search of the College Foreign Gift and Contract Report database shows.

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# CHINA'S ENCROACHMENT ON AMERICA

## **PURCHASING LAND NEAR U.S. MILITARY BASES**

Chinese Entities Have Purchased Acres Of Land Close To Multiple Air Force Bases, Which The U.S. Government Has Flagged As Raising "Security-Related Concerns"

In November 2021, The Fufeng Group Of Shandong, China, Purchased A 370-Acre Plot Of Land 12 Miles From Grand Forks Air Force Base. "In November of 2021, Grand Forks, North Dakota announced that Fufeng Group of Shandong, China had selected the area as a location for a new wet corn mill. According to a May report by the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission (USCC), the new Fufeng Group mill would be on a 370-acre plot of land located about 12 miles from the Grand Forks Air Force Base. The U.S. Air Force base is home to some of the top U.S. intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capabilities. The base is home to 319th Reconnaissance Wing, which is one of the major operators of the RQ-4 Global Hawk unmanned aerial reconnaissance vehicles. The base will also host a new space networking center which will help facilitate U.S. military communications across the globe." (American Military News, 11/14/22)

General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, The American Contractor Responsible For Unmanned Aircraft Systems At Grand Forks Air Force Base Called The Acquisition "Very, Very Concerned" "But General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, the American contractor responsible for developing the unmanned aircraft systems at the air base, issued a statement opposing the investment and called on the U.S. government to halt the project. 'Chinese business efforts are inextricably linked with Chinese government efforts,' General Atomics Aeronautical Systems spokesman Mark Brinkley said. 'We can't ignore the opportunity for sophisticated military espionage to co-locate itself within a Chinese business of such scale and scope. Given the proximity to critical national airspace and sensitive military operations on and around Grand Forks Air Force Base, American leaders should be very, very concerned." (Nikkei Asia, 10/18/22)

The U.S. China Economic And Security Review Commission Reported The Land Could Be "Particularly Convenient For Monitoring Air Traffic Flows In And Out Of The Base, Among Other Security-Related Concerns." "The USCC report said the land purchase near the U.S. military base could be "particularly convenient for monitoring air traffic flows in and out of the base, among other security-related concerns." (American Military News, 11/14/22)

Another Firm, Guanghui Energy Co, Owned By A Billionaire With Ties To The CCP, Purchased 140,000 Acres About 70 Miles From Laughlin Air Force Base. "Prior to the Fufeng Group's effort to buy up land near Grand Forks Air Force Base, another Chinese firm had begun efforts to buy up around 140,000 acres of land located about 70 miles from Laughlin Air Force Base. That Chinese Firm, Guanghui Energy Co. Ltd, wanted to build a massive wind farm known as the Blue Hills Wind Project. Guanghui Energy Co. is owned by Sun Guangxin. Sun is a Chinese billionaire who reportedly has ties to the ruling Chinese Communist Party." (American Millitary News, 11/14/22)

# STEALING AMERICAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Annually, China Is Estimated To Steal Up To \$600 Billion Of American Intellectual Property Annually, Including Fighter Jets And Missiles

In May 2022, It Was Estimated That A Chinese State Actor Has Siphoned Trillions From North America, Including Blueprints Of Fighter Jets And Missiles. "A yearslong malicious cyber operation spearheaded by the notorious Chinese state actor, APT 41, has siphoned off an estimated trillions in intellectual property theft from approximately 30 multinational companies within the manufacturing, energy and pharmaceutical sectors. A new report by Boston-based cybersecurity firm, Cybereason, has unearthed a malicious campaign — dubbed

Operation CuckooBees — exfiltrating hundreds of gigabytes of intellectual property and sensitive data, including blueprints, diagrams, formulas, and manufacturing-related proprietary data from multiple intrusions, spanning technology and manufacturing companies in North America, Europe, and Asia. 'We're talking about Blueprint diagrams of fighter jets, helicopters, and missiles,' Cybereason CEO Lior Div told CBS News. In pharmaceuticals, 'we saw them stealing IP of drugs around diabetes, obesity, depression.' The campaign has not yet been stopped." (CBS News, 5/4/22)

**U.S.** Officials Estimate That China Steals Up To \$600 Billion Of American Intellectual Property Annually. "Consider China's ongoing campaign to appropriate U.S. companies' trade secrets — the proprietary know-how that enables American firms to make everything from lifesaving medicines to next-generation alloys used in spacecraft. U.S. officials have estimated that China steals up to \$600 billion of American intellectual property annually. This theft endangers the jobs of more than 45 million Americans who work in IP-intensive industries, which account for more than \$6.5 trillion in economic output." (The Hill, 2/23/23)

#### <u>Chinese Companies Have Been Accused Of Stealing Trade Secrets From Their American Business Partners</u>

China Utilizes Policies Requiring Foreign Car Companies Partner with Local Auto Manufacturers To Gain Access To American Trade Policy Secrets. "China sometimes tries to obtain this intellectual property through bullying — essentially, requiring American companies that want to sell their goods to the Middle Kingdom's 1.4 billion consumers to partner with Chinese firms. For example, until last year, China mandated that foreign car companies partner with local auto manufacturers. China has required wind turbine and solar panel producers to make a certain percentage of their products in the country. Those local "partners" frequently use this access to sensitive information to learn American secrets and, eventually, reproduce the technology without any need for a U.S. partner." (The Hill, 2/23/23)

In 2018, Chinese Company Sinovel Wind Group Was Convicted Of Stealing Technology From its American Partner. "In November 2022, a U.S. court sentenced Chinese national Xu Yanjun to 20 years in prison for planning to steal trade secrets from multiple U.S. aeronautical companies. In 2018, Chinese company Sinovel Wind Group was convicted in a Wisconsin federal court for stealing technology from its American partner. A recent report by Boston company Cybereason revealed a Chinese campaign called 'Operation CuckooBees' that stole the blueprints for hundreds of gigabytes of advanced technology." (The Hill, 2/23/23

## **UNDERMINING AMERICAN ELECTION INTEGRITY**

<u>China Has Become "More Aggressive" In Its Attempt To Influence The U.S. Elections, Including Trying To Increase Political Division In The 2022 Midterms To Undermine American Democracy</u>

China Has Become "More Aggressive" In Its Attempt To Influence U.S. Elections. According To A U.S. Cybersecurity Firm, China's Influence Campaign Has Actively Worked To Discourage Americans From Voting And To Sow Division By "Exacerbating Racial Strife And Criticizing American Society." (The New York Times, 10/26/22)

Leading Up To The 2022 U.S. Elections, Cybersecurity Firms Assessed "With High Confidence" That China Was Trying To "Sow Division" In The U.S. With Disinformation. "A group of Chinese-linked cyber criminals known as 'Dragonbridge' has expanded influence operations aimed at discrediting and undermining the U.S. political system, including explicit attempts to discourage Americans from voting in the 2022 midterm elections, according to a new report by cybersecurity firm Mandiant. Mandiant assessed 'with high confidence' that Dragonbridge is operating in support of the political interests of the People's Republic of China (PRC). According to new research and monitoring by the cybersecurity firm, the Chinese-aligned disinformation campaign has 'aggressively target[ed] the United States by seeking to sow division both between the U.S. and its allies and within the U.S. political system itself." (CBS News. 10/26/22)

Entities Connected To China Were Found To Have Shared Information Sharing Frequent Mentions Of "Civil War" And Trying To Increase Distrust In American Democracy. "The video, which contained images from the Jan. 6 assault on the U.S. Capitol, also aimed to sow doubts about the productivity of the U.S. Congress and its legislative process in influencing Americans' lives. The video went on to question the utility of bills that become laws. 'DRAGONBRIDGE posted content asserting that political infighting, partisanship, polarization, and division had become fundamental aspects of American democracy,' the report by Mandiant found. 'The campaign also pointed to frequent mentions of "civil war" on social media and incidents of politically motivated violence, including confrontations between individuals supporting opposing parties and acts against the FBI, as evidence of the deterioration of the political process and its impending demise." (CBS News. 10/26/22)

In October 2022, China-Based Operations Were Found To Have Shared More Than 250,000 Tweets Spreading False Information And Hate Speech About Politics In The United States. "In one social media campaign uncovered by U.S. cybersecurity firm Mandiant, a Chinese hacker group with the code name Dragonbridge posted English-language videos across social media, blogs, and other platforms questioning the efficacy of voting and highlighting 'civil war' as a possible way to "root out" the United States' 'ineffective and incapacitated' system. These posts also suggested attacks against law enforcement and other forms of political violence. Separately, Twitter announced in late October that it had disrupted several China-based operations on its platform. Those campaigns involved 2,000 user accounts and more than 250,000 tweets containing false election-rigging claims about the 2020 U.S. presidential election and hate speech against the transgender community." (Foreign Policy, 11/4/22)

While Continuing Its Political Warfare, The Chinese Communist Party's Global Times Have Claimed That Western Democracy "Cannot Solve New Problems" And Has Highlighted The Communist Government Model As The Future. "If the principal target of these political warfare operations is the United States, Washington is hardly alone. Hours after former British Prime Minister Liz Truss announced her surprise resignation, the Chinese Communist Party's Global Times claimed Britain's political upheaval demonstrated that Western democracy 'cannot solve new problems.' This specious framing mirrors Beijing's portrayal of the West's pandemic response as "chaotic," whereas China claimed its superior governance model, consisting of mass surveillance and lockdowns, achieved a 'strategic victory' over COVID-19. These themes were later broadcast on Chinese and foreign platforms around the world, leading to a marked increase in favorable views—most notably in the global south—about China's global stewardship." (Foreign Policy, 11/4/22)

In November 2022, It Was Projected China's Meddling Would Claim Voter Fraud And Contest Different Elections To "Undermine Democracy's Credibility" In The United States." As for the U.S. midterms, Beijing's meddling is unlikely to cease on Election Day. In fact, just the opposite. After polls close, malicious cyberactors and Chinese state-backed media will almost certainly amplify claims about voting irregularities and contested election outcomes. These operations will not be limited to any one political party or geography. Their goals will be the same: to undermine democracy's credibility and exploit cultural cleavages inherent in all pluralistic, nontotalitarian societies." (Foreign Policy, 11/4/22)

# **PURCHISING AMERICAN AGRIBUSINESS**

China's Purchases Of U.S. Farms And Agribusinesses Threatens America's Food Security

The U.S.-China Economic And Security Review Commission: "The CCP (Chinese Communist Party) May Have Undue Leverage Over U.S. Supply Chains If Further Consolidations And Chinese Purchases Of U.S. Agribusinesses Take Place." (U.S.-China Economic And Security Review Commission, 5/26/22)

Rep. Dusty Johnson: "Food Security Is National Security" When Discussing The Possibility Of Chinese Influence Over American Agribusiness "Chinese entities slowly are buying up more U.S. farmland. Some members of Congress see that as a threat to national security. One of them is South Dakota Republican Rep.

Dusty Johnson, a member of the new China-focused committee. He told Morning Edition's Steve Inskeep on Wednesday that while China is by no means a major player in U.S. agriculture, its growing holdings abroad are cause for concern. 'Food security is national security,' he said. 'And I think we've seen that Russia was able to exercise undue influence over Europe because they supplied them [with] so much natural gas. And similarly, if China has control over food supplies in South America, Africa, Southeast Asia, even in North America, that can give them more power, more coercive power, over the globe." (Rachel Treisman, "China Is Buying Up More U.S. Farmland. Some Lawmakers Consider That A Security Threat," NPR, 3/1/23)

Chinese Owned Entities Own Approximately 383,000 Acres Of U.S. Farmland, Raising Concerns About The Possibility Of A Chinese Owned Agricultural Monopoly

According To The USDA, Chinese Landowners Own Approximately 383,000 Acres of U.S. Farmland, Worth Close To \$1.9 Billion. "According to the USDA, Chinese landowners control approximately 383,000 acres of U.S. farmland – and their investments are growing, FOX Business' Lydia Hu reported on Monday. Chinese ownership of U.S. farmland jumped more than 20-fold in a decade from \$81 million in 2010 to nearly \$1.9 billion in 2021." (Fox Business, 2/6/23)

Chinese areas Of Investments Have Included Purchasing Farmland And Major Agribusinesses, Including Pork Processing Company Smithfield Foods. "Chinese firms have expanded their presence in American agriculture over the last decade by snapping up farmland and purchasing major agribusinesses, like pork processing giant Smithfield Foods. By the start of 2020, Chinese owners controlled about 192,000 agricultural acres in the U.S., worth \$1.9 billion, including land used for farming, ranching and forestry, according to the Agriculture Department." (Politico, 7/19/21)

In 2021, Rep. Dan Newhouse Said "The Current Trend In The U.S. Is Leading Us Toward The Creation Of A Chinese-Owned Agricultural Land Monopoly." "USDA reported in 2018 that China's agricultural investments in other nations had grown more than tenfold since 2009. The Communist Party has actively supported investments in foreign agriculture as part of its 'One Belt One Road' economic development plans, aiming to control a greater piece of China's food supply chain. 'The current trend in the U.S. is leading us toward the creation of a Chinese-owned agricultural land monopoly,' Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-Wash.) warned during a recent House Appropriations hearing." (Politico, 7/19/21)

## **INFILTRATING AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES**

<u>In 2021, Chinese-Based Entities, Including The Chinese Government Secured \$120 Million In Contracts With</u>
American Colleges

In 2021, Chinese-Based Entities, Including The Chinese Government Secured \$120 Million In Contracts With American Colleges. "China-based entities, including the Chinese government, secured \$120 million in contracts with American colleges in 2021, federal data reveals. The Chinese institutions entered into agreements ranging from \$105,000 to \$31 million with more than two dozen universities, a search of the College Foreign Gift and Contract Report database shows. The federal records, however, contain minimal details on the arrangements, such as the private Chinese entities involved and the specifics of the contracts." (Fox News, 4/12/22)

Since January 2021, University Of Pennsylvania Has Received \$14 Million In Anonymous Gifts From China And Hong Kong

Since January 2021, University Of Pennsylvania Has Received \$14 Million In Anonymous Gifts From China And Hong Kong. "China, like many of our global adversaries, is attempting nothing short of espionage via America's colleges and universities — buying its way into influencing teaching, stealing our intellectual property and manipulating US foreign policy. This issue came further into focus when it was revealed the University of Pennsylvania received millions of dollars in secretive Chinese and foreign donations — even as the university's

Biden Center for Foreign Policy was home to scores of mishandled classified documents. Since President Biden's inauguration, Penn has received more than \$50 million in foreign funding, including more than \$14 million in anonymous gifts from China and Hong Kong. That's on top of the more than \$60 million Penn received since the Biden Center launched in 2017." (Betsy DeVos, "Chinese Money Is Flooding Into American Higher Education – With Little Transparency," New York Post, 2/3/23)

# In 2021, The University Of Houston Agreed To A \$32 Million Agreement With The Dalian Maritime University, An Entity Which Is Controlled By A Member Of The Chinese Communist Party

In 2021, The University Of Houston Agreed To A \$32 Million Agreement With The Dalian Maritime University, An Entity Which Is Controlled By A Member Of The Chinese Communist Party. "The University of Houston reported the largest monetary contract with a Chinese entity last year, the records show. Houston inked a nearly \$32 million agreement with an unreported private source. Chris Stipes, the director of media relations for the University of Houston, told Fox News that the contract is between Houston and Dalian Maritime University in China. The two schools combined forces to form the Dalian Maritime University International Institute. 'The institute offers three undergraduate programs in mechanical engineering, civil engineering and electrical engineering,' Stipes said. 'Students graduate with degrees from both UH and DMU.' Dalian Maritime University falls under the Ministry of Transport of the People's Republic of China. Li Xiaopeng, the agency's head, is a member of the Chinese Communist Party." (Fox News, 4/12/22)