

People's Daily, 1 August 2004

**SCO defense security seminar a great success: officers**

The first Defense Security Seminar of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) closed in Beijing on July 31. Senior military officers said the seminar was a great success with significant fruits. During the 10-day meeting, sixteen military officers from China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, discussed regional security and international issues of common concern such as global anti-terrorism situation and the role and future development of the SCO. At the seminar, which was sponsored by the Chinese Ministry of National Defense, the foreign officers visited Chinese army, navy and air force to gain a deep view about China. Major general Zhang Bangdong, head of the Foreign Affairs Office of the Ministry of National Defense, said this seminar had achieved significant results. Zhang said China would, with joint efforts from other SCO members, push forward regional security cooperation and make it more substantial. Representatives from Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan agreed that the seminar was a new manner to carry out the cooperation in military security for maintaining regional security. The member states would bring the SCO's role to full play in maintaining regional security and world peace and fighting against the "three forces" of terrorism, separatism and extremism, they said.

Associated Press, 1 August 2004

**China Holds 1st Hong Kong Military Parade**

Hong Kong: China's military staged its first parade in Hong Kong on Sunday, with 3,000 soldiers marching crisply in formation along with armored vehicles and helicopters, in a display of Beijing's military might in the territory. Chinese officials say the parade was aimed at strengthening Hong Kong's relations with the People's Liberation Army and boosting "patriotism" in the former British colony. But some saw it as a

reminder by Beijing of who's in charge amid tensions over the expected victory of pro-democracy candidates in September elections. The parade "displays the army's strength and determination to maintain Hong Kong's prosperity and stability," said Wang Jitang, commander of the PLA's Hong Kong garrison. The army invited pro-democracy lawmakers to the event, held at a barracks on the outskirts of town. Yeung Sum, Hong Kong's top opposition party leader, watched the parade with eight other Democratic Party lawmakers. "They are very well-trained and disciplined and leave us with a lasting impression," he said. China has long viewed pro-democracy politicians as troublemakers and has barred some from entering the mainland, so the invitation was presented as an attempt to build bridges.

People's Daily, 2 August 2004

#### **Army to smash any independence plot: Minister**

Chinese Defense Minister Cao Gangchuan gives a speech at the grand reception to mark the China's army has the ability to crush any attempt by Taiwan to move towards independence, Defence Minister Cao Gangchuan said in a speech Saturday, July 31. China's Ministry of National Defense gave a grand reception in the Great Hall of the People Saturday to mark the 77th anniversary of the founding of the People's Liberation Army (PLA). In his toast at the reception, Defense Minister Cao Gangchuan said the PLA had, over the past year, implemented the important thought of "Three Represents" in an earnest way and scored remarkable achievements in revolutionizing, modernizing and regularizing itself. Cao, also vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission and state councilor, said the PLA would steadfastly adhere to the absolute leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC) with Hu Jintao, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee at the core. On army building, Cao said, China would actively promote military reform with Chinese characteristics to push the military's modernization through advanced

technology, run the army according to law and be strict in army discipline.

Daily Times, 2 August 2004

#### **Tibetans cold towards Sino-Indian talks** (Jyoti Malhotra)

With the Dalai Lama still living in India, Beijing thought it important to get Vajpayee to accept that the TAR, which China had created in 1965, was a part of China. In exchange for the diplomatic jugglery, India proposed that two Special Representatives would be directed by the political leaderships to come up with solutions to the border issue. As witnesses to history, few know better than the Tibetans about the propensity of the kalachakra or the wheel of time to repeat itself both as tragedy and farce. But as the elephant and the dragon, India and China, faced off for the third time last week to discuss a border issue that has defied solution for the last 42 years, Lhasa's inhabitants displayed an unusual reticence to talk about New Delhi's imagined sphere of influence in this part of the world, that goes much beyond their regular reserve. After all, it all began in this Tibetan city exactly fifty years ago. On April 29, 1954, India and China signed an agreement on Trade and Intercourse between the Tibet region of China and India that basically relinquished the special privileges New Delhi had inherited as a legacy of the British Raj in Tibet. Eight years later, India and China would fight a border war on two fronts. And while it cemented its claims to Aksai Chin in the west, which it needed to keep control over Tibet, Beijing would unilaterally withdraw in the east to the frontiers established by the McMahon Line.

The Guardian, 2 August 2004

#### **Blair caught in middle over China arms ban** (Ewen MacAskill and Jonathan Watts)

Beijing: President George Bush has been lobbying Tony Blair over the last few months to veto an EU plan to lift a 15-year-old arms embargo on China. Mr Blair, who is on holiday, has been left squeezed between Washington and France and other European governments, which argue that the

time is right to end the embargo. The US secretary of state, Colin Powell, has expressed alarm at the possibility of EU arms being used against American troops in the Taiwan Straits. A Downing Street spokesman said this weekend: "At the moment, ministers are reviewing proposals with European Union partners. Until we see the findings of the review, we are not saying anything." A government official said that though Mr Blair would "probably" still vote for lifting the embargo, the prime minister was having second thoughts. Mr Blair's difficulty is compounded by renewed tension in the Taiwan Straits over the last fortnight. China has mounted the biggest military operation in the straits for 20 years and on Friday threatened invasion if the Taiwanese government pushed ahead with constitutional plans which would cement separation.

People's Daily, 3 August 2004

**PM Clark: China to be the largest trade partner of New Zealand**

New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark met with the People's Daily delegation headed by deputy chief editor Jiang Shaogao on August 2 at the PM office. She said during the interview that China has become the forth-largest trade partner of New Zealand and she believed it would become the largest in the near future. In recent years China-New Zealand relations develop quickly. The trend of high-level exchange is becoming better and better. Economic cooperation continues to deepen and the scope is expanding continuously. New Zealand is the first among Western countries to have reached bilateral agreement on China's entry into the WTO and also the first country to have recognized the market economy status of China. In answering how to view the rapidly developing China-New Zealand relations Madam Clark said China is a country with huge potentials in various areas. Therefore as we consider the bilateral relations between New Zealand and China we do not limit ourselves to one aspect. Instead we consider the all-round bilateral cooperation including such aspects as

politics, economics, culture, tourism and regional cooperation. In terms of economics China is playing increasingly important role.

China Daily, 3 August 2004

**Lee's visit hampers free-trade talks (Jing Ji)**

Talks on a free-trade area between China and Singapore could suffer setbacks because of Lee Hsien Loong's visit to Taiwan. An official from China's Ministry of Commerce said trade ties had been hampered by the Singaporean leader's visit. "His visit has dampened the mood to negotiate the free trade area between the two countries," said the unnamed official. Reports have speculated that the FTA talks will be delayed or cancelled because of Lee's visit, which took place between July 10 and 13. "Delaying or cancelling the talks will not cause problems because a neither a feasibility study nor negotiations have started," the official said. The Chinese Government has expressed its strong disapproval of the visit. On July 11th, Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Zhang Qiyue said that whatever pretext the Singaporean leader used for the visit, it would damage China's core interests and the political foundation for China-Singapore relations. It had offended 1.3 billion Chinese people and the Singaporean side had to take responsibility for the consequences, Zhang said.

People's Daily, 4 August 2004

**Chinese president meets US Senate leader**

Chinese President Hu Jintao told a US Senate delegation Tuesday afternoon that China's stance on the Taiwan issue is unalterable and clear. The US side should keep its promises on the Taiwan issue and send no wrong signals to the Taiwan authorities, he said. Hu made the remarks when meeting with Ted Stevens, president pro tempore of the Senate of the United States, who arrived in Beijing Sunday for an eight-day official goodwill visit. Hu said that different histories, cultural traditions, social systems and values between China and the United States share should not

prevent both sides from strengthening exchanges and communications, and increasing understanding and friendship on the basis of mutual respect and equal treatment. To develop a healthy and stable China-US relationship is not only in the fundamental interests of both peoples, but also of great importance to world peace, stability and development, said Hu.

People's Daily, 4 August 2004

**India-China trade to touch US\$10 bln mark: Indian official**

Indo-China trade is moving swiftly toward the historic 10 billion US dollars mark, with traderegistering robust growth on the fronts of exports to China and imports from China, Indian Minister of State for Commerce and Industry E.V.K.S. Elangovan said while inaugurating the India-China Business Conclave here Tuesday. The Indo-China border trade has also picked up, and the growth in trade is indicative of the strengths of the two countries for achieving new heights, he added. The Business Conclave is being organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry in association with the Department of Commerce of India and the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade. Elangovan, while indicating the growing symmetry between the two countries, said that China has become India's number one trading partner in the North East Asian Region, overtaking Japan. "Another important feature of India's trade with NEA (North East Asian) countries is that the highest imports are from China," he added. The minister said that while considerable improvements have been made in bilateral trade, yet there exists great scope for touching new heights and concluded that the Indian government was committed to build long-term and sustainable economic relationship with China.

International Herald Tribune, 4 August 2004

**EU must keep its ban on arms sales to China**

Brussels: The current Dutch presidency of the European Union will be required to

consider the lifting of the EU's existing ban on selling arms to China. Imposed in 1989 after the Tiananmen Square massacre, the current ban has been a clear gesture of Europe's ongoing dissatisfaction with the pace of political reform in China and the continuing repression of dissent by its authoritarian government. Recent pressure from within the EU to lift the ban reflects not political change in China, but a new willingness by some in Europe to ignore the lack of it. The pressure to lift the ban has been encouraged by the European Commission and by China. The European Commission has done much to suggest that it foresees an end to the ban. The commission was one of the strongest advocates of making China part of Europe's Galileo global positioning system, a move that will ensure that China shops in the EU when it is looking for modern military hardware that operates with the assistance of GPS technology.

People's Daily, 5 August 2004

**China hopes US to honor promises on Taiwan issue, premier**

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao Wednesday said China hopes the United States to honor its promise on the Taiwan issue and the US congress to correctly understand and cautiously handle the Taiwan issue. Wen made the remarks in his meeting with Ted Stevens, president pro tempore of the United States Senate, who arrived in Beijing on Sunday for an eight-day visit. More efforts should be made on things "conducive to the stability of the Taiwan Strait," he told Stevens. Wen reiterated the principled stance of the Chinese government on safeguarding the national unification, stressing that Taiwan is an integral part of the Chinese territory. Such a fact has been recognized in the Cairo Declaration, the Potsdam Proclamation and Resolution 2758 of the United Nations General Assembly, the Chinese premier said. All of the US administrations after China and the United States established diplomatic ties stated to adhere to the one-China policy and President George W. Bush has time and again

reiterated the stance to oppose the "Taiwan independence." Stevens and Daniel K. Inouye, one of the eight US senators with the delegation, said that the US side attaches importance to US-China relations and adheres to the China policy adopted by all US presidents since 1972.

China Daily, 6 August 2004

**Parliament exchange pushes Sino-US ties**  
(Meng Yan)

The inter-parliamentary group of China's National People's Congress (NPC) and the US Senate have completed their first round of talks in Beijing. The meeting marks the official launch of a formal exchange mechanism between the NPC and the US Senate, which was established in January. So far, the US Senate has only established similar exchange mechanisms with Britain, Canada, Mexico and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. It is yet another major move to expand China-US parliamentary exchanges and co-operation since the NPC and the US House of Representatives first created a conference mechanism in 1999. Since then, the NPC and the US House of Representatives have had five conferences. The delegation, headed by Ted Stevens, president pro tempore of the US Senate, is the highest-ranking group sent by the US Congress to China in nearly seven years.

People's Daily, 6 August 2004

**China's terrestrial frontier defense infrastructure takes shape**

Frontier roads are like rainbow, frontier wires like knitting and frontier junctures like ironwork. Recently during a visit to the thousands-kilometer frontier of the motherland the reporter witnessed broad and smooth patrol roads stretching to the end of the sky, grand wire nettings winding their ways through the lofty and precipitous peaks and alert monitoring equipment constantly turning their "eyes" ---. China's terrestrial frontier defense infrastructure has taken shape. China's terrestrial borderline is more than 22,000 kilometer long. Over the last ten years the government put special funds into it and has, in nine terrestrial border

provinces and autonomous regions nationwide, built frontier defense patrol roads of 15,000-plus kilometers, frontier wire nettings of 4,600-plus kilometers, port iron fencings of 50,000-plus meters, more than 300 frontier monitoring and alarm systems and some accessory establishment such as border caution and management signs.

Reuters, 6 August 2004

**China, Pakistan Begin Anti - Terror Military Drill**

Beijing: More than 200 Chinese and Pakistani troops began joint anti-terrorism exercises in China's mainly Muslim northwestern region of Xinjiang on Friday, the Xinhua news agency said. China has backed the U.S.-led war on terror, calling for international support in its campaign against ethnic Uighur separatists in Xinjiang, a mostly Muslim region that has borders with Afghanistan and Pakistan. More than 200 military officers were taking part in the first such land drills with Pakistan, codenamed "Friendship 2004," taking place in an area of Xinjiang bordering Kashmir, a rugged and volatile territory claimed by India and Pakistan and parts of which are also disputed by China. The goal of the exercises was to "improve the capacity of jointly combating terrorism, and contain and crack down on the forces of separatism, extremism and terrorism," Xinhua quoted unidentified Chinese military sources as saying. China usually shrouds such military drills in extreme secrecy.

Southasianmedia.net, 6 August 2004

**Sino-India trade to double by 2008**

New Delhi: Sino-India bilateral trade is set to cross \$ 10 billion mark by the end of the current fiscal and could double by 2008. "The bilateral trade volume could touch \$ 20 billion by 2008 and is likely to reach \$ 12 billion by the end of the current year," Shao Qiwei, Governor of Yunnan province in China, said during a meeting with FICCI. Qiwei, who is leading a business delegation in New Delhi, said trade ties between the two Asian giants have entered a new era

with accelerated economic development of India. The bilateral trade grew by over 90 per cent to touch six billion dollar during the first half of the current year over the corresponding period last year.

The Hindu, 7 August 2004

**'Chinese, Indian diplomacy in 1962 was immature'** (Amit Baruah)

Beijing, Aug. 6: "Looking back at the China-India border conflict in 1962, one may find that the two countries were both inexperienced in various fields and their diplomacy was immature as they had just won their independence," the former Chinese Ambassador to India, Cheng Ruisheng, has said. Writing in the May issue of 'International Studies', official journal of the China Institute of International Studies, a think-tank funded by the Chinese Foreign Ministry, Mr. Cheng put the blame on both countries for the border war. "At different stages, the two countries had been emotional in dealing with their boundary question, which had finally led to the border conflict and consequently a major setback to bilateral relations," he said.

People's Daily, 8 August 2004

**How far can Taiwan authorities' "arms purchase diplomacy" go? Analysis**

The case of arms sales worth 610.8 billion New Taiwan Currency has always been questioned by outsiders whether it has something to do with the general election of the United States. On July 29, Chen Shui-bian jumped out to specially "clarify" the matter, saying that the arms sales case had nothing to do with US general election and the purchase of submarines was not done due to pressure and request from the US side. Chen Shui-bian even repeatedly extended "thanks" to the United States, saying "he is very grateful for the Bush administration, the US Congress and the American people, and if someone still thinks it was done out of US pressure, that is completely inconsistent with the facts and very unfair to the US government and the Bush administration."

People's Daily, 9 August 2004

**US Senate leader concludes China visit**

President pro tempore of the United States Senate Ted Stevens on Sunday left Kashi city in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region in northwest China, concluding his eight-day official goodwill visit to China. Stevens' visit is of historical significance and it marked a new beginning of exchanges between China's National People's Congress and the US Senate, said Sheng Huaren, vice-chairman and secretary general of the NPC Standing Committee, who accompanied Stevens and his delegation in their visit to Xinjiang and Gansu Province, at the farewell banquet Sunday here. Stevens said the US side attached great importance to the meetings with Chinese leaders and the working talks with the Chinese side. The United States understands China's concern with the Taiwan issue, Stevens said, adding that the US side adheres to the "one-China" policy and the policy will not change. This was the highest-ranking US congressional delegation to China in nearly seven years, and was an important high-level contact between China and the United States. The visit symbolizes the official commencement of the exchange mechanism between China's National People's Congress and the US Senate.

People's Daily, 10 August 2004

**Sino-Indian ties warming up**

The Sino-Indian border talks have moved onto the fast track, though dramatic achievements in the near future shouldn't be expected. The 1962 Sino-Indian border war cast a long shadow over the bilateral relationship, but India and China have never dropped attempts to seek a fair and reasonable solution to their boundary issue. To date, official-level talks and expert panels have been held many times though no major breakthroughs have been made. Since last year, China and India have picked up negotiation efforts, holding three rounds of talks at the level of special representative. Analysts believed that this time India harboured a positive attitude towards settling the border issue, as was especially

indicated by the latest appointment of J. N. Dixit, Indian national security adviser, as special representative for Sino-Indian boundary dialogues. It is due to the joint efforts of the two country's leaders that the boundary talks can now be held at such a high level. During the summit between President Hu Jintao and then Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee in Petersburg on May 31, 2003, Hu told Vajpayee that the Chinese leadership highly regards Sino-Indian relationship and is willing to enhance bilateral relations to a higher level. It was just after the meeting that Vajpayee made the decision to visit China.

People's Daily, 10 August 2004

**Consensus on border reached with Vietnam**

Diplomats from China and its neighbour Vietnam held talks on Sunday, agreeing to take no drastic or military action in dealing with boundary disputes. Vice-Foreign Minister Wang Yi, who is the head of the Chinese delegation, met and exchanged "in-depth views" with his Vietnamese counterpart Vu Dung in Nanning, the capital of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on how to implement the consensus reached by the national leaders in May, reported Xinhua. According to a meeting summary issued after their meeting, the two sides vowed to strengthen mutual trust, to prevent and properly handle disputes on border issues. Bilateral hotline communications and more timely and effective mechanisms should be set up in dealing with issues concerning terrestrial borders between the two countries, it said. Following the principles of mutual understanding and give-and-take, the two neighbours will not take drastic or military measures in carrying out the agreement on demarcation and fishing co-operation in the Beibu Gulf, which took effect on July 30.

The Tribune, 10 August 2004

**The changing face of Tibet** (Amar Chandel)

Right since the Chinese annexed Tibet in 1951 they call it liberation a systematic

attempt has been made to assimilate it. This process is now almost complete. The invitation extended for the first time to Indian journalists last month to visit Tibet and see things for yourself by the newly formed China Association for Preservation and Development of Tibetan Culture has to be viewed in that context. It was a veritable presentation of fait accompli. Indeed, China is very much in command there. The internal ferment that one has heard so much about is not perceivable anywhere. The whole Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) is as quintessentially Chinese today as its other provinces. Thirteen hundred years old Lhasa could be a replica of any other medium-sized Chinese city. There are wide roads, high-rise buildings and a flourishing market in the city of sunlight. There are no signs of impending revolt. Life goes on as usual. There are long lines of devotees at the imposing Potala Palace, which is the residence of various generations of the Dalai Lama and towers over the town, the Jekhong temple, the holiest of holy shrines of Tibetan Buddhists. People wear modern clothes and yet prostrate themselves while going round the monastery.

People's Daily, 11 August 2004

**'One-China' essential to ties with PIF nations**

Liu Shinan Samoa: China has stressed the importance of the one-China principle to the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) member nations. Vice-Foreign Minister Zhou Wenzhong told the meeting that it was essential for a 'smooth development of China-PIF relations.' He also said he hoped China could contribute to the nations' economic and social progress by strengthening co-operation with them. Zhou told his counterparts in the regional organization that China supports the efforts of PIF members to develop national economies and improve their people's livelihoods. "China will continue to do its utmost to provide aid to all island countries that have diplomatic relations with China," Zhou said. Zhou made the statement Tuesday morning, Beijing time, at the Post-

Forum Partners' Dialogue, which was held at the end of the 15th Pacific Islands Forum. The forum groups Australia, the Cook Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, the Solomons, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. China first took part in the partners' dialogue in 1990.

The Associated Press, 11 August 2004

**China Releases Detained U.S. Professor**  
(Joe McDonald)

Beijing: China has released a Chinese-born American university professor who was held for two weeks on espionage charges, the U.S. Embassy said Wednesday, adding to a string of such cases against academics with ties to the United States. Fei-ling Wang was arrested July 25 in Shanghai and released Aug. 8, when he returned to the United States, where he teaches at the Georgia Institute of Technology, said an embassy spokeswoman. She said Wang was accused of stealing state secrets but she had no details of the charges or the status of his case. Wang, a naturalized American citizen, told U.S. diplomats that he was held in solitary confinement for four days and deprived of sleep and water for "extended periods," the spokeswoman said, speaking on condition of anonymity. Chinese authorities failed to notify U.S. officials of the detention until Aug. 4, a violation of a consular treaty requiring notification within four days, she said. The U.S. government plans to lodge a formal protest with China over that delay and the "harsh and inappropriate treatment" given to Wang, the spokeswoman said.

China Daily, 12 August 2004

**Proposal for Taiwan's UN entry condemned**

China is resolutely opposed to a proposal raised by a small handful of countries for "Taiwan's entry into the United Nations," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Kong Quan said in Beijing Wednesday. On August 11, Chad and a few other countries wrote to the UN secretary-general,

requesting the 59th session of the UN General Assembly to discuss the issue. "China resolutely opposed," said Kong. Since 1993, the Taiwan authorities have instigated those countries that have "diplomatic relations" with it to put forward proposals for Taiwan's joining the United Nations. This is firmly opposed by the Chinese people as a whole, including Taiwan compatriots, said Kong. He said there is only one China in the world and the Government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legitimate government that represents all Chinese people. Taiwan, which is an inalienable part of the Chinese territory, has no qualifications to enter the United Nations which is composed of sovereign states.

The Hindu, 12 August 2004

**China warns of overflow any time** (Amit Baruah)

New Delhi, Aug. 11: Chinese authorities said today that the lake created by a landslip on the Pareechu river which flows into Himachal Pradesh could overflow "any time." A statement from the Chinese Embassy maintained that the departments on the Chinese side had been working day and night to monitor the situation and study measures to cope with the situation. " ... Taking full note of the concern of the Indian side, the Chinese side has carefully studied the suggestions and requirements of the Indian side and conveyed the relevant information to the Indian side in time," an Embassy spokeswoman said.

People's Daily, 13 August 2004

**US actions speak louder than words**

As the separatist forces in Taiwan have quickened their steps towards independence, people wonder why they can go so wild. Independence forces alone are not undeterable. They do not have enough courage or the strength and will to become the enemy of the whole nation, including Taiwanese compatriots. But substantial support, covert or obvious, is given to Taiwan pro-independence forces from the United States. The support has proven a

large obstacle to the mainland's reunification efforts. The commitments reached by thoughtful Chinese and US politicians more than 25 years ago, which have made possible a generally stable and healthy Sino-US relationship in the years that have followed, are continually challenged by certain US elements. In the Sino-US Joint Communiqué of August 17, 1982, the then-US government committed to a policy of not pursuing a long-term course of arms sales to Taiwan.

Reuters, 14 August 2004

### **Taiwan Flaunts Its Air Superiority Over China**

Taiwan: Taiwan flaunted its fighter jets in the biggest-ever air show on the island on Saturday, a show of strength as tensions simmer with arch-foe China. U.S.-made F-16s, French Mirage fighters and Taiwan-made Indigenous Defense Fighters (IDFs) streaked across the sky above the Taoyuan airbase in northern Taiwan, spinning 360 degrees in sharp formations in front of a cheering crowd. The exhibition came as Taiwan and China hold annual military drills, with tensions especially high this summer because Beijing is convinced the island it views as a renegade province could push for formal statehood under President Chen Shui-bian. It is a move, China says, that can lead to war. "Communist China has deployed missiles pointed at Taiwan and is building its sea and air power to attack Taiwan," Chen told a conference in Taipei.

People's Daily, 15 August 2004

### **Bahamas prime minister arrives in Beijing**

Bahamas Prime Minister Perry Gladstone Christie arrived here Sunday morning, starting his official visit to China from Aug. 15 to 21. Christie is visiting China at the invitation of Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao.

People's Daily, 15 August 2004

### **India for better ties with China, Pakistan: Indian PM**

"India is committed to strengthening and expanding its relations with China and the

two countries shall carry forward the process of discussion to resolve the boundary question with political vision and a practical approach," Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said here Sunday. Addressing the nation on the occasion of the 58th Independence Day, the prime minister said that India is also committed to strengthening and expanding its relations with Pakistan. Manmohan Singh said that the positive trends which commenced with (former Indian prime minister) Rajiv Gandhi's visit to China in 1998 have provided a sound basis for later trends in the bilateral ties. Referring to relations with Pakistan, the prime minister said that India is committed to carrying forward the peace process with Pakistan but cross-border terrorism and violence would make this task "more difficult and complex," adding that "we have always been in favor of a purposive bilateral dialogue with Pakistan to resolve all outstanding issues." "The edifice of peace that we wish to build must stand on the twin pillars of mutual trust and confidence."

Reuters, 15 August 2004

### **China Holds Hard Line on Talks With Dalai Lama**

Tibet, Aug. 14: The Dalai Lama may only return to his homeland if he renounces aspirations for Tibetan independence, and any talks can be held only with his personal representative, a Chinese official said Saturday. The tough words from Xiao Bai, deputy mayor of the Tibetan capital, Lhasa, signaled that recent tentative behind-the-scenes contacts between envoys from the Dalai Lama and China might have broken down. China imposed Communist rule on Tibet in 1950, and the Dalai Lama fled in an aborted uprising in 1959. China established direct contacts with him in 1979, but officials were stunned at the emotional welcome given to the envoys by Tibetans. The dialogue was suspended in 1993 but had quietly revived in the last 18 months, and there were signs China might have decided to allow a subtle, if significant, shift in policy toward the Dalai Lama. Deputy

Mayor Xiao, an ethnic Han Chinese, was adamant, though. "The Chinese government's attitude to the Dalai Lama is consistent and clear," he said at a news conference.

People's Daily, 16 August 2004

### **Egypt says ready to promote ties with China**

Egyptian Prime Minister Ahmed Nazef said on Sunday in Cairo that his country was ready to further promote strategic and cooperative relations with China. Nazef made the remarks during a meeting with visiting Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Wang Yi, according to a Chinese embassy source. Nazef said that Egypt regards China as a reliable friend and is willing to deepen its cooperation with China in political, economic, trade, scientific, technological and educational fields. Egypt welcomes Chinese investment, and Chinese enterprises could see Egypt as a springboard for expanding their businesses in Africa, the Middle East and Europe, the prime minister said. Egypt is also interested in learning from China's experience in its reforms and development drive, Nazef added. For his part, Wang said that Egypt is one of the first group of developing countries to establish strategic ties with China, and China is prepared to strengthen strategic dialogue with Egypt and further expand cooperation with Egypt. During his stay here, Wang also met with Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul Gheit.

People's Daily, 16 August 2004

### **Australian PM highly evaluates China's open-door policy**

China's policy of openness and reform initiated by Deng Xiaoping has not only benefited the Chinese people, but also greatly enhanced Australian-Chinese relations, Australian Prime Minister John Howard has said. "Australia and the international community have watched with great admiration China's progress in economic reform over the past 20 years," Howard said in an interview with Xinhua on the eve of the 100th birthday anniversary of

the late Chinese leader, known as the Chief Architect of China's reform, opening and modernization, on Aug. 22. "This progress has benefited greatly from the reform agenda initiated by Deng Xiaoping," "Ultimately," he said, "those historic reforms have enabled the Chinese people to realize greater prosperity and the benefits of modern living." "The greater openness that Deng Xiaoping's policies encouraged has paved the way for the close trade and economic relationships China now shares with the international community, including a flourishing economic relationship with Australia," the prime minister said.

China Daily, 16 August 2004

### **East Asia relations at critical juncture** (Pang Zhongying)

Regional integration has become an irresistible trend in East Asia's development, mainly in the field of economic cooperation, which has served as a catalyst for stability in the region. The "10-3" process (Association of Southeast Asian Nations plus China, Japan and the Republic of Korea) in East Asia further continues. The new "East Asia Identity" has been filtering swiftly. Promoting and negotiating the establishment of the Free Trade Area (FTA) has become a sizzling topic amid most of the countries in the region. An East Asian FTA network based on bilateral exchanges is being formed. The regional politics of East Asia may be the most complicated international situation in the world. Though there is co-operation in the aforementioned fields, there exist at the same time some negative factors which could have impacts upon the long-term regional future. East Asia's international politics are featured with territorial disputes, competition for economic resources, rise of over-irrational nationalism and inter-action of balance-of-power geopolitics.

People's Daily, 17 August 2004

### **President Hu emphasizes friendship with Nepal**

Chinese President Hu Jintao said in Beijing Monday that China treasures its traditional

friendship with Nepal and will continue to deepen bilateral cooperation in all areas. Hu made the remark during his meeting with Crown Prince of the Kingdom of Nepal Paras Bir Bikram Shah Dev in the Great Hall of the People Monday afternoon. Hu said China and Nepal are good neighbors. The peoples of the two countries share a history of friendship lasting more than 1,000 years. Hu said since the two countries established diplomatic ties 49 years ago, relations have been growing steadily. Hu said the two sides respect and treat each other as equals. They also trust and support each other. Hu said he appreciates the King of Nepal and the royal family for their special and important role in developing the relationship. He also thanked Nepal for lending precious support to China on such issues as Tibet and Taiwan.

The Hindu, 17 August 2004

**India, China discuss police-level cooperation** (P. S. Suryanarayana)

Singapore, Aug. 16: India and China today explored the possibilities of bilateral cooperation at the level of the policing agencies in respect of internal security duties. The talks were held in Beijing between top officials of the Chinese People's Armed Police (PAP) and a five-member Indian delegation led by the Joint Secretary (Police), Ministry of Home Affairs, A. K. Jain. The delegation called on the PAP commander, Gen. Wu Shuang Zhan, and also held detailed discussions with the PAP deputy commander, Lt. Gen. Liang Hong, who had visited India earlier this year. The Sino-Indian talks on police-related functions were initiated during Lt. Gen. Liang's visit. Interactions in this sphere have been envisioned under the overall framework of the joint statement on wide-ranging cooperation, which was agreed upon in June 2003, when the then Prime Minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, visited Beijing.

China Daily, 17 August 2004

**China tests new guided missile - CNS report**

China has successfully tested a new guided missile it says is highly accurate, according to a China News Service report. "Several days ago, a new model of a guided missile developed and built by China was tested and achieved satisfactory success," the CNS quoted project researcher Feng Dawei as saying. "The missile accurately hit its target with a high degree of precision." The agency did not give any details about the missile's range or payload or about the test site, saying only that it was developed by China Aerospace Science and Industry Corp. The report says Cao Gangchuan, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission and also minister of defense, attended and praised the test, saying the researchers have made huge contribution to the national defense. The CNS quoted Feng as saying researchers were committed to "promoting military modernization and realizing the grand task of reunifying the motherland."

People's Daily, 18 August 2004

**China asks US not to send "wrong signal" to terrorists**

China Tuesday asked the United States not to send the "wrong signal" to terrorist forces operating in western China in its handling of Chinese detainees at the US base at the Guantanamo Bay in Cuba. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Kongquan made the remarks when asked to comment on a report that the United States will not send those suspects back to China and was striving to find destination for them elsewhere. The spokesman asked the United States to handle the issue according to international rules and with a view toward international anti-terrorism cooperation and bilateral ties. The terrorists, who call themselves "East Turkistan," are part of the international terrorist forces and pose a vital threat to people's life and property safety worldwide, including in China and the United States as well, Kong said. Listed as a terrorist group by the UN Security Council, the "East Turkistan" force has staged more than 260 attacks inside western China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, in which 162 people of different nationalities have been

killed and more than 440 wounded. The group is colluding with al-Qaeda, Taliban remnants, Chechen terrorist groups and other international terrorist organizations, the Chinese Ministry of Public Security said.

People's Daily, 18 August 2004

### **Deng Xiaoping and China's relations with Japan, US and Soviet Union**

In the changeable situation of the world today, relations between big powers are intricate and complex, anti-China forces dished out the "China threat theory" in an attempt to use this to hold back our development, Chinese leaders' strategy of "peaceful rise" has cleared up public opinion. How should a rising big country handle relations with the world's big powers? What kind of enlightenment can great man Deng Xiaoping's experience in handling relations with Japan, the United States and the Soviet Union bring us? China-Japan relations: Encouraging friendly cooperation with great foresight. In his diplomatic activities, Deng twice visited Japan, and, in his heavy schedules, the most guests he met were Japanese. He had many talks on Sino-Japan relations, which were either farsighted or to the point. Due to limited space, extracts are given as follows. A review of the great man's incisive expositions reveals his broad mindedness and remarkable wisdom.

People's Daily, 19 Daily 2004

### **China hopes six-party talks move forward**

China is calling for all six parties in the Korean Peninsular nuclear stand-off to stay calm, flexible and continue talks despite inevitable difficulties. "We believe the parties have the willingness to continue to promote the procedure of peaceful talks," China Daily quoted Foreign Ministry spokesman Kong Quan as saying. Kong said it is unavoidable and also normal for differences to emerge in the course of talks. He spoke amid flurries of diplomatic activity aiming to set up a working-level meeting before the fourth round -- its main session -- on the nuclear issue. The six countries

agreed at the end of third round six-party talks, held in Beijing in June, to have a fourth round before the end of September. They also agreed to hold a couple of working-level talks to lay the groundwork for the main session. On Monday, the DPRK said it cannot attend the working-level talks under the current circumstances, and accused the US of continuing to pursue a "hostile" policy towards it. "A nuclear freeze is possible and it can only lead to the nuclear programme being dismantled if the US starts dropping hostile acts against the DPRK," the Korean Central News Agency quoted the spokesman.

Asahi Shimbun, 20 August 2004

### **Left-out Japan seeking joint probe into crash**

Japanese police finally inspect the now-empty site of the U.S. chopper accident in Okinawa. Japan, shut out and embarrassed in the aftermath of a U.S. military helicopter crash in Okinawa Prefecture, will ask the United States for a joint investigation into the accident, sources said. Tokyo also plans to seek new on-site rules on dealing with U.S. military accidents. Some in the central government even want to call on the United States to review routes of its military aircraft and the frequency of flight drills. The U.S. military had barred Japanese police from entering the crash site on a university campus in Ginowan, Okinawa Prefecture, based on stipulations in the Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA). Okinawa prefectural police were finally allowed to enter the site Thursday, but by then all the debris from the chopper had been removed. The joint investigation into the cause of last week's accident ``must be taken up as soon as possible," Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda told reporters in Tokyo.

The Korean Herald, 20 August 2004

### **'U.S. deterrent in Korea stronger'**

Rice says American military capabilities powerful despite reductions. South Korea yesterday asked the United States to delay by "more than a year" its planned troop cuts

even as U.S. national security adviser Condoleezza Rice stressed American military power will be stronger despite the reductions. "Yes, the numbers (of troops in Korea) will come down but that is more than made up for with the capability that we have in air, in land, in sea - and in the fact that our ground forces are now more capable technologically than they were 50 years ago," Rice said on the U.S. Fox TV channel in Washington. Korean Defense Ministry officials said the request for a hiatus of over a year in U.S. troop cuts was made as the two sides opened the 11th round of policy talks known as the Future of the Alliance Policy Initiative (FOA). South Korea also asked the United States to leave key U.S. weaponry in place. Washington has already earmarked \$11 billion over the next few years on updated weapons systems in Korea.

People's Daily, 21 August 2004

#### **China pledges to promote Asian-African cooperation**

China will work vigorously for the establishment of a New Asian-African Strategic Partnership (NAASP) for further cooperation between the two continents, Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Wang Yi said Friday in South Africa's port city of Durban. China has all along "been vigorously advocating and faithfully acting on Asian-African solidarity and cooperation," Wang told delegates at a ministerial meeting of the Asian-African Sub-Regional Organizations Conference (AASROC). Foreign ministers and delegates from 81 Asian and African countries, as well as regional organizations, focused on the proposed establishment of the NAASP, which was initiated by South Africa, Indonesia and other countries. "The Chinese government highly appreciates and fully supports the initiative," Wang said, adding that the partnership should be built up in the spirit of solidarity, equality and cooperation." Wang said Asian and African countries should jointly promote multilateralism and should respect diversity among civilizations and the right of all

countries to independently choose their own roads to development.

People's Daily, 21 August 2004

#### **Peacekeeping force sets out for Congo**

The third Chinese peacekeeping force left Beijing on Friday for the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) to replace a second batch which has been carrying out the UN mission there since last December, official sources said on Friday. The Chinese Blue Helmet troops, made up of 100 personnel including a sapper company and a medical team, flew to the DRC. All have received training in light arms, field survival, driving and fitness before leaving for the African nation, and have to pass strict examinations to make sure they are capable of the work. "We will complete our peacekeeping mission with the experiences gained from the first two batches," Qin Bokai, a 46-year old lieutenant colonel, told Xinhua News Agency. The first Chinese contingent with a sapper company of 175 members and a medical team of 43 was sent to the DRC last April. China has so far also had 550 troops on a UN peacekeeping mission in Liberia. Chinese officials said that as a permanent member of the UN Security Council, China has always supported the UN's peacekeeping operations and its efforts to settle conflicts in Africa, and has actively participated in peacekeeping operations in the region.

Daily Times, 23 August 2004

#### **Hu says China can crush Taiwan independence**

Beijing: Chinese President Hu Jintao vowed Sunday to crush any attempt by Taiwan to declare formal independence amid escalating cross-strait tensions. "We are ready to strive for the prospects of peaceful reunification with our utmost sincerity and utmost efforts," he said in a speech to mark the centenary of late paramount leader Deng Xiaoping's birth. "But we are also fully determined and capable of smashing any scheme to separate Taiwan from China" Hu said. He called for solidarity among "the sons and daughters of the Chinese nation",

including the "Taiwanese compatriots," to oppose Taiwan independence and safeguard China's sovereignty.

Taipei Times, 23 August 2004. (Ko Shu-ling)

**Yu shyi-kun says China wants a war**

Speaking to a group in New York, the premier said it was an open secret that China wants to push the US out of the Asia-Pacific. "China is secretly mapping underwater terrain in the Pacific in preparation for an eventual conflict with the US there," reports yesterday quoted Premier Yu Shyi-kun as saying. Chinese surveillance ships sailed close to Japanese waters 14 times last year and seven times this year, and have also sailed "numerous times" just east of Taiwan, the state-funded Central News Agency quoted Yu as saying during a transit stop in New York on his return from Latin America. "I'm calling on American people to support Taiwan for the sake of world peace, safety and stability of the Asia-Pacific region and the world's military security." The Cabinet Spokesman Chen Chi-mi said that the premier was merely stating the facts. "China's so-called 'unification law' is tantamount to an authorization to invade Taiwan," Chen said

The Washington Times, 23 August 2004.

**Singapore to back China in Taiwan conflict**

Singapore, 23 August: Speaking during his first National Day Rally speech on Sunday, Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong says "If a war breaks out across the straits, we will be forced to choose between the two sides. He also said "A move towards independence is not in Singapore's interest...(nor) the region's interest. If Taiwan goes for independence, Singapore ... no Asian country will recognise it. Nor will European countries." "I regret that my visit (in July) to Taiwan caused this severe reaction from China" he said.

Xinhuanet, 23 August 2004

**Hu pledges to inherit Deng's political legacy**

Beijing, 22 August: "Comrade Deng Xiaoping is a great man of the world," said Chinese President Hu Jintao at the meeting, "whose remarkable achievements and scientific theories will, as they already did, continue to change and influence China and the world at large" at the meeting (of the CCP) attended by top leaders Jiang Zemin, Wu Bangguo, Wen Jiabao and Jia Qinglin. Deng called on the nation to allow some regions and people to get rich first so they can help others for common prosperity, saying that planning and the market are only means of economic development rather than the symbols of socialism and capitalism.

People's Daily, 23 August 2004

**UN's role irreplaceable in global affairs, senior official**

The role of the United Nations is irreplaceable as an important venue for pushing forward democratization and legalization in international relations, Chinese State Councilor Tang Jiaxuan said Sunday, adding that UN is the best stage for implementing multilateralism. Tang said the reform (of the UN) should be conducive to enhance the role played by the organization and its capability to cope with threat and challenges. The reform should also take into consideration of the rational concern and legal interests of developing countries, Tang stressed. Tang in the meeting restated that the Chinese people absolutely oppose certain countries' proposal to allow Taiwan to join the United Nations for such move violates widely recognized legal principles, he said.

The Hindu, 24 August 2004

**Rajiv's China visit 'path-breaking': Vajpayee**

New Delhi, 23 August: Terming as "path-breaking" the visit of then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to Beijing in 1988, former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee has said India and China have since traveled a long way in improving bilateral relations, including making progress on border issue. In a note on his memories of late Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping for publication in

People's Daily newspaper of China on his 100th birth anniversary, he said the two countries have much to gain by harnessing the synergies in their economies. He said "The unfortunate military conflict between India and China in 1962, caused by the border dispute, had left a scar on the centuries-old affinity between the two great nations of Asia and the world," he said.

Taiwan News, 24 August 2004

**MOFA says cross-strait issue misinterpreted** (By Tsai Ting-I)

Minister of Foreign Affairs Mark Chen yesterday blamed the uneven levels of democratization in Singapore and Taiwan for Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's refusal on Sunday to support Taiwan if it provoked cross-strait conflict over the issue of independence. Chen contended "There is no country around the world that loves peace more than Taiwan, and Taiwan has no intention to provoke any conflict across the strait." Chiu Tai-san, vice chairman of the Mainland Affairs Council, argued, however, that it was "inappropriate" for Lee to criticize Taiwanese leaders' understanding of the cross-strait issue, noting that these politicians deal with the issue every day. Chen, meanwhile, downplayed Lee's remarks, saying that Singapore's prime minister was forced by heavy pressure from Beijing to send hostile rhetoric Taiwan's way. "With our multiparty political background, we understand Lee's remarks," Chen noted.

China Daily, 24 August 2004

**Budget reveals US motives**

The United States' 2005 fiscal year defence budget has hit record high, betraying its real motive to strengthen its status as the sole superpower in the world, according to an article in People's Daily. The United States recently released the stunningly high defence budget figure, amounting to US\$417.5 billion. Obviously, such a colossal amount in a military budget far outweighs the defence needs of a country.

China Daily, 24 August 2004

**China cancels 4,800 development zones**  
(Cao Desheng)

China's tough measures to regulate its land market have paid off with the cancellation of more than 4,800 so-called development zones. More than 1,300 square kilometres of lands have returned to agricultural use. This is a result of a joint campaign launched in February last year by the Ministry of Land and Resources and four other ministries, including the National Development and Reform Commission, the Ministry of Construction and the Ministry of Supervision, to regulate the nation's land use. The campaign aimed to stop the real estate sector from overheating and protect arable land, ministry sources said.

People's Daily, 24 August 2004

**Nine laws to be amended to limit govt power**

China's legislature is considering amendments to nine laws, including the highway law, the corporate law and the auction law, to limit and further legalize government's involvement in social and economic affairs. Since October 2002, the State Council has abolished or adjusted 1,795 items formerly subject to administrative approval, nearly a half of the total handled by departments of the State Council.

The Straits Times, 24 August 2004

**Deng's name used to pressure Jiang**

Beijing: The 100th birth anniversary of China's late paramount leader Deng Xiaoping has been used by influential party elders to put pressure on former president Jiang Zemin to fully relinquish authority to his successor Hu Jintao. By many accounts, President Hu has little leeway to undertake pressing changes because he must share power with Mr Jiang, who never tried opening the political system. Ms Deng Lin, Deng's eldest daughter and a painter who rarely discusses politics, used a recent interview on Chinese Central Television (CCTV) to take an implicit swipe at Mr Jiang's regency.

People's Daily, 25 August 2004

### **Chinese premier holds talks with Cape Verde PM**

During his talks with Neves, Wen said that the Chinese people had firmly supported the people in Cape Verde for their fighting for national independence. Wen also expressed his gratitude for Cape Verde's adherence to the one-China policy. As two developing countries, Wen said, both China and Cape Verde need to develop economy and improve people's living. He said his country tries to become a freight transit and a financial center in West Africa.

Washington Times, 25 August 2004

### **Hong Kong's Elections**

Emotions are running high in Hong Kong as it prepares for legislative elections that will reveal public views on the political future of the Chinese territory. For the first time since Hong Kong returned to Chinese rule seven years ago, voters will cast ballots for 30 seats instead of 24, giving the democrats a chance of winning a legislative majority (30 other seats are filled by professional associations, most of which back Beijing). A win by the democrats would be seen as a repudiation of China's heavy-handed opposition to self-rule, particularly its April edict preemptively vetoing any proposals for direct elections of the chief executive, currently handpicked by Beijing, or of the full legislature before 2008.

New York Times, 25 August 2004

### **China Will Use Ping-Pong to Influence Hong Kong Elections** (Keith Bradsher)

Hong Kong, 24 August: The mainland Chinese and the Hong Kong men's doubles table tennis teams will stage a rematch here. The rematch will be on Sept. 8, just four days before Hong Kong's legislative elections, officials said this week. The match, is just part of a drive by Beijing to induce Hong Kong voters to support its candidates and not the pro-democracy opposition. Earlier this month, the People's Liberation Army held its first big military parade in this former British colony,

featuring a dozen helicopters, 28 armored vehicles and 3,000 troops.

The Korea Times, 25 August 2004

### **The Latest China Syndrome** (Tom Plate)

LOS ANGELES - You can bet they have been salivating, waiting patiently for the delicious, divisive moment: for Cultural Revolution Two or Tiananmen Square Two. They are the anti-communist neo-cons, the true believers in China's essential evil, its essential incompatibility with the 'civilized world.' They would like to see a Yugoslavia-like disintegration of the entire country, and thus the end of China as the new millennium's up-and-coming superpower.

People's Daily, 25 August 2004

### **China's first peacekeeping riot police batch to leave for Haiti**

China's first batch of peacekeeping riot police forces is scheduled to leave for Haiti in September to carry out the United Nations peacekeeping missions, sources with the Ministry of Public Security said. It also showcases China's devotion to maintaining world peace and stability, Zhou Yongkang, state councilor and minister of the Public Security said. He ordered the policemen to observe all relevant UN rules and regulations, respect local customs and fulfill all tasks.

The Star Online, 26 August 2004

### **China welcomes Singapore's comments on Taiwan**

Beijing, 26 August: China welcomed comments by Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong supporting the so-called one-China policy, saying it was "conducive to regional peace." "We have taken note of the Singaporean leader's speech reaffirming support for the 'one-China policy' and resolutely opposing 'Taiwan independence,'" said a statement by Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Kong Quan. The statement issued Wednesday gave no indication whether Beijing was scrapping threats to delay trade talks and other retaliation announced after Lee visited self-ruled Taiwan.

People's Daily, 26 August 2004

**IMF: China's GDP to grow 9 percent this year, 7.5 percent next year**

China's real gross domestic product (GDP) is projected to average around 9 percent in 2004 and to slow to about 7.5 percent in 2005, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said Wednesday. In April, the IMF estimated that the Chinese GDP growth would be 8.5 percent this year and 8 percent next year. "Executive Directors commended the Chinese authorities for their skillful economic management, which has reduced the risk of overheating and further strengthened the Chinese economy," the IMF said. It said that the Chinese authorities must speed up reforms in key areas including banks, state companies and labor markets to achieve a controlled deceleration.

Telegraph.co.uk, 26 August 2004

**Act now to stop crash, China told (Edmund Conway)**

26 August: The International Monetary Fund yesterday called on China to speed up the overhaul of its banking, labour market and state-owned businesses or risk a crash. In its annual survey, the IMF warned that a "crucial short-term concern" was whether China's policymakers would be able to slow the economy down gradually from recent blistering rates of growth. They said: "Greater exchange rate flexibility remains in China's best interest."

The Straits Times, 26 August 2004

**Taiwan: Storm over Japan 'visit'**

Taipei: Taiwan's Premier said a typhoon forced his plane to make a rare stopover in Japan yesterday, but China suggested he was using the storm as an excuse to engage in political activities with one of Beijing's diplomatic allies. China has already expressed to Japan its 'serious concern' about the Taiwanese leader's brief visit yesterday, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Kong Quan said in a statement on its website. The last time such a high-level Taiwanese leader visited Japan was in September 2001, when then Premier Chang

Chun-hsiung stopped at Tokyo's Haneda airport while returning from Honolulu. Japan's Kyodo News agency said Mr Yu met Okinawa Vice-Governor Hiroataka Makino in an airport waiting room.

The Guardian, 26 August 2004

**China's farmers cannot feed hungry cities (Special Report, Jonathan Watts)**

Beijing, 26 August: No longer self-sufficient in food, the country today increasingly has to buy abroad, raising global prices. China's leaders have raised the alarm about their country's ability to feed itself as rapid development sucks land, water and people from the food-producing countryside into increasingly large and hungry cities. With economic zones opening up across the country and more than 10 million peasants moving into cities every year, the amount of arable land in China has shrunk by 6.7m hectares (16.75m acres) since 1996. "Urbanisation has eaten into the size of the nation's arable land" he said.

China Daily, 27 August 2004

**UN promotes role of 'new silk road' (Fu Jing)**

27 August: The United Nations will continue to support economic co-operation among regions along the new Eurasian Continental Bridge, which runs across China from east to west. Khalid Malik, UN Resident Co-ordinator in China suggested putting the development of the rail link on the agenda of high level government dialogue mechanisms such as the Asia-Europe Conference and the Shanghai Co-operation Organization. The new Eurasian continental bridge, the cheapest and fastest land rail route from Asia to Europe, starts in the coastal city of Lianyungang and ends at the Port of Rotterdam in the Netherlands.

People's Daily, 27 August 2004

**China calls for preventing outer space arms race**

China called Thursday for international consensus and a legally-binding agreement on preventing an arms race in outer space. China's Ambassador for Disarmament

Affairs, Hu Xiaodi, introduced two informal papers -- initiated jointly by China and Russia -- outlining the two countries' concerns over the lack of definition and verification of arms in outer space and concluding that verification will be highly difficult in terms of cost and technology.

Taipei Times, 27 August 2004

**US ties 'increasing' under Bush (Melody Chen)**

27 August: Chen Chien-jen, the nation's (Taiwan) former representative to the US said his office had found there was little that could be done to wear away at restrictions imposed on the Taiwan-US relationship under the Clinton administration, but when Bush came to office in 2000, he immediately sensed a change of atmosphere. "People realized President Bush was sympathetic to us ... Many of his top officials have either been to Taiwan or know well what's going on here.? "The US is now the strongest and staunchest supporter of our efforts to join the WHO as an observer," Chen said.

Taipei Times, 27 August 2004

**Chen shortens Central America tour**

Taipei, 27 August: President Chen Shui-bian will shorten his visit to two diplomatic allies in Central America by a day in response to Typhoon Aere which devastated the north and center of the country, said Presidential Office Deputy Secretary-General James Huang yesterday. Huang urged the public not to attach political significance to his shortened stay in the US.

Asia Times Online, 28 August 2004

**India battles the red river dragon (Arun Bhattacharjee)**

New Delhi - India's fear of a downstream deluge in the Sutlej River in the northwestern state of Himachal Pradesh, should a blockage on the Peerechu river in Tibet burst, highlights the need for trust and comprehensive agreements between South and Southeast Asian nations and China. It is a fear that has brought several serious problems to light in India, including the country's vulnerability to environmental

warfare. China issued an early warning this year, but refused to grant Indian engineers permission to visit the site. But the good news is that China is slowing taking note of global differences.

People's Daily, 28 August 2004

**Vivid expression of China's diplomacy of good neighborliness and friendship**

Developing contacts with political parties in various Asian countries has always been the focus of the Communist Party of China's (CPC's) foreign relations. The CPC's intercourses with the ruling parties of the three socialist countries--Vietnam, DPRK and Laos--are deepening with each passing day ... relations with the main political parties of Japan, the ROK and Mongolia are developing steadily. CPC's relations with the main political parties of Southeast Asian countries ... also keep developing ... contacts with the main political parties of Central and West Asian countries also present a good momentum of development. The CPC will host the Third Asian Political Party International Conference.

Taipei Times, 28 August 2004

**Status-quo must be upheld, KMT Chairman Lien says**

Taipei, 28 August: Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) Chairman Lien Chan urged Japan yesterday to think about the collective security of East Asia. Lien made the remarks at the KMT headquarters when he received a large delegation from Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, which arrived Wednesday on a four-day visit. He added that 60 percent of Japan's sea traffic has to pass through the Bashi Channel and that both sides should think about the collective security in East Asia with a broad vision and open-minded spirit so as to work toward regional peace and security. He also called for the shelving of cross-strait disputes, saying that his party does not advocate Taiwan independence, nor does it believe that both sides should move toward unification at the present stage.

Asia Times Online, 28 August 2004

**China gaining on India's IT lead (Indrajit Basu)**

Kolkata, 28 August: In most aspects, competition between China and India has hardly been a contest. But in terms of software services, it is a different story...India is way ahead of the game. Or is it? Many in India's famed software services industry aren't so sure anymore. When China announced about three years back that it wanted to partner with India to gain a foothold in the global software services arena, it sent shock waves across the Indian software industry.

CNN, 29 August 2004

**China war games may be off, says Taiwan**

Taipei: The southeastern Chinese island of Dongshan was the scene of a major military drill in May, when 18,000 troops from the Chinese People's Liberation Army simulated an invasion of Taiwan, over which Beijing claims sovereignty. Defence ministry spokesman Huang Shuey-sheng said more than 3,000 ground troops moved to Dongshan in mid-August had since been gradually pulled out. "We will continue to monitor to see whether they plan to cancel the Dongshan drill," he said. "Both sides held their annual war games this summer, with Taiwan rescheduling its major Han Kuang, or Chinese Glory, joint-force drills to Sept. 9 because of a typhoon last week. A spokesman for China's military said he knew nothing about an exercise on Dongshan. China's other military bases were continuing drills and only exercises in Dongshan exercises had been cancelled, it said.

Reuters, 29 August 2004

**Powell, China's Li Discuss N.Korea Talks**

Beijing, 29 August: Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing and Secretary of State Colin Powell swapped views on the North Korean nuclear crisis at the weekend amid a diplomatic push to prepare for a new round of multi-party talks. China's Foreign Ministry did not say if they had agreed on dates for a fourth round of six-party discussions on the crisis during the Sunday telephone call, but South Korea's Yonhap

news agency reported on Sunday the meeting was likely in September. Efforts to plan for that round have run into difficulties, and analysts say North Korea is unlikely to take part in serious negotiations until after the U.S. presidential election in November. China, host of the six-way talks, has a major stake in seeing the process continue smoothly and renewed a diplomatic push to resolve the 22-month-old crisis at the weekend with top-level visits to both Koreas. Powell reiterated U.S. support for a "one China" policy, it said.

ABC News Online 29 August 2004

**China sends envoys to Koreas**

China has renewed a diplomatic push to try to solve the North Korean nuclear crisis, with top-level visits to both Koreas. A delegation of China's top advisory body has arrived in North Korea on an unannounced trip, led by its vice-chairman. State media has given no further details but notes it coincides with a visit to South Korea by the body's national committee chairman, who has stressed the need to pursue a diplomatic solution to the crisis over the North's nuclear program. China is the biggest ally of reclusive and impoverished North Korea. It has hosted three rounds of talks, in which South Korea, North Korea, the United States, Japan and Russia have taken part.

People's Daily, 29 August 2004

**Chinese senior leader raises proposals on development of Sino-S. Korea ties**

A Chinese senior leader has raised four-point proposals on development of relations between China and South Korea, said sources close to the visiting Chinese delegation Saturday. Jia Qinglin, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), made the proposals during his meeting here with South Korean National Assembly Speaker Kim One-ki on Friday. "China and South Korea shall make joint efforts to contribute to peace, stability and prosperity of the above (Northeast Asian, East Asian and Asian) regions," said Jia. Kim and South Korean Prime Minister Lee

Hae-chan reiterated that after the two countries established diplomatic ties in 1992, South Korea has been holding the "One China" policy and will stick to it in the future. South Korea is the first leg of Jia's four-nation tour, which will also take him to Austria, Spain and Portugal.

Daily Times, 30 August 2004

**China sees better ties with Aziz**

Beijing: China hopes that its decades' old partnership with Pakistan will grow, particularly in the economic field, now that Shaukat Aziz is Prime Minister, said a Chinese Foreign Office spokesman. Welcoming Aziz's election, the spokesman said Sino-Pakistani friendship was evergreen and growing stronger with time. He said Pakistan and China had always worked alongside in regional and international affairs. The relationship enjoyed the confidence and trust of their people. The Chinese prime minister said that the friendship between the two countries was an example for neighbouring countries.

South Asian Media Net, 30 August 2004

**Delhi sounded on Beijing's linking Tibet**

New Delhi: At a time when Sino-Indian trade has touched the 10 billion US dollar mark and the two countries have been sitting at the table to try and resolve the vexed boundary dispute, New Delhi has been sounded about Beijing's massive exercise to upgrade communication links in Tibet. Work on the western highway linking Xinjiang with Tibet via occupied Aksai Chin and the 1,118 km Gormu-Lhasa railroad will significantly improve Chinese communication capabilities. Although the security establishment here places the China threat perception in the "low" category, the Government has been told that it would be in India's interest to prioritise upgradation of its own road network in Arunachal Pradesh, eastern Ladakh and Uttaranchal. Beijing is also expanding its air capability in Tibet, adding two more air bases to the existing four.

China Daily, 30 August 2004

**US told to stick to Sino-US joint communiques**

China firmly opposes any words or deeds that go against the principles of the three Sino-US joint communiques, said Foreign Ministry spokesman Kong Quan in Beijing Sunday. Kong made the remark while asked to comment on reports that a new draft of the US Republican Party says China is a strategic competitor rather than a partner of the United States, and the United States acknowledges that there is only one China in the world but will help Taiwan to defend itself.

People's Daily, 30 August 2004

**China launches science satellite**

China on Sunday launched a recoverable science experimental satellite into a preset orbit, atop a Long March 2C carrier rocket from a launch center in northwest China. They said that it is the 19th recoverable science experimental satellite China has launched.

Taipei Times, 30 August 2004

**Downer sending the wrong signals**  
(Michael Danby)

Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer has a talent for putting his foot in his mouth. But now Downer has done it again, managing to simultaneously annoy Washington, Beijing, Taipei and probably also his own prime minister with his recent comments at a press conference in the Chinese capital. Asked what attitude Australia would take in the event of a Chinese attack on Taiwan, and whether the US might call on Australia to assist in defending Taiwan under the terms of the ANZUS Treaty, Downer said: "Well, the ANZUS Treaty is a treaty which is, of course, symbolic of the Australian alliance with the US, but the ANZUS Treaty is invoked in the event one of our two countries, Australia or the US, being attacked. So some other military activity elsewhere in the world does not automatically invoke the ANZUS Treaty." The Taiwanese have behaved with great tact during the current crisis with Beijing.

Having foregone their right to self-determination, they are entitled to a guarantee of their security.

New York Times, 31 August 2004

**Taiwan Cancels War Games, Mirrors China Move - Papers**

30 August: Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian has asked the military to call off annual war games in a goodwill gesture aimed at mirroring China's cancellation of its military drills, newspapers said on Tuesday. "Regardless of whether Communist China was sending out a goodwill gesture, our side must show goodwill," Chen was quoted as telling reporters on board a plane to Hawaii on Monday night, according to the mass-circulation China Times. Chen met Taiwan Defense Minister Lee Jye earlier on Monday and told him to cancel the Han Kuang, or Chinese Glory, live fire drills that were scheduled for Sept. 9, the paper said.

eTaiwan News, 31 August 2004

**MND confirms China pulling troops from drill** (Taijing Wu)

The Ministry of Defense confirmed yesterday that China's military had withdrawn most of its troops from Dongshan Island where it was to hold an annual war game, but would not say if the action indicated Beijing was calling off the maneuvers that simulate invasions of Taiwan. In an article published yesterday, however, the China Times reported that China pulled out most of its troops before Typhoon Aere approached the country's southern coast last Tuesday, and they had not been redeployed since, leading analysts to conclude the military maneuvers had been called off. The report speculated the China called off the exercise because the propaganda campaign mounted prior to the drill had achieved the goal of rattling Taiwan. Local analysts, however, disagreed over the report's claims.

China Daily, 31 August 2004

**Jiang urges improving military equipment**

Chairman of China's Central Military Commission Jiang Zemin Monday called for raising the level of weapons in China's military. It is a priority matter to brace against military fighting, said Jiang, adding that it is an important strategic task that will impact the country's lasting peace and stability. Jiang made the remarks when he and Hu Jintao, who is vice chairman of the commission, met with military staff working to improve the combat readiness of existing military equipment and the ability to guarantee the supply of such equipment. Jiang urged full preparation for winning a fight on the basis of existing weapons, improving the overall combat capability of military units and making preparations against war.

Xinhuanet, 31 August 2004

**China hopes Iran will fully cooperate with IAEA: FM**

Beijing, 30 August: Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing said here Monday that China hoped Iran would continue to have the full cooperation of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to clear up problems that remained unsettled. Li said that the problems related to nuclear issues in Iran should be solved through dialogue and consultation within the framework of the IAEA.