

People's Daily, 1 June 2008

China, Vietnam to end land border demarcation this year

China and Vietnam will complete erecting markers along their land border by year end, a visiting Vietnamese leader said on Friday. In talks with Chinese President Hu Jintao, Nong Duc Manh, Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) Central Committee general secretary, reaffirmed efforts to meet this deadline set in 1999

People's Daily, 1 June 2008

Pakistan Embassy in Beijing raises funds for China's quake-hit area

The Pakistan Embassy in Beijing raised more than 300,000 yuan (43,183 U.S. dollars) through a fund-raising bazaar here on Saturday, as part of efforts to contribute to the relief for the May 12 earthquake survivors in southwest China. The bazaar included Pakistani food and beverage stalls, handicrafts, henna art and toys for children. The capital's Pakistani community, including businessmen, students and media, as well as Chinese officials, business representatives, scholars and members of the diplomatic corps, attended

Taipei Times, 1 June 2008

Wu upbeat about visit to China

SATISFACTORY: The KMT chairman said that in light of the warmer relations across the Strait, China would be unlikely to launch an attack against Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou described yesterday the meeting between Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) Chairman Wu Poh-hsiung and Chinese President Hu Jintao as "satisfactory" and "successful," adding it was a demonstration of Taiwan's "soft power." Ma said Wu and his entourage deserved acknowledgment for their efforts in the past six days. 'The success of the KMT is everybody's success,' Ma said. Wu, who met Hu in Beijing on Wednesday, visited Ma at the Presidential Office shortly after returning from China yesterday evening

People's Daily, 2 June 2008

China, Vietnam agree on joint maritime survey in parts of Beibu Bay

China and Vietnam has agreed to further clarify the ownership of greater maritime zones between the two countries as they pledged to start a joint survey in the waters outside the mouth of Beibu Bay. In a joint statement issued here on Sunday evening, the two neighbors agreed to steadily push forward talks on demarcation in maritime zones outside the mouth of Beibu Bay, a part of the South China Sea that separates the southern part of China and northern Vietnam

Taipei Times, 2 June 2008

US official praises cross-strait policy

A top US National Security Council official said on Saturday that Washington would like to see Taipei develop better ties with Beijing and it has no concerns about any potential negative effects of recent developments in cross-strait relations. National Security Council Senior Director for Asian Affairs Dennis Wilder made the remarks in response to a reporter's question on Washington's understanding of recent developments in cross-strait relations and their implications and whether the US had any concerns, the Central News Agency (CNA) reported

Taipei Times, 2 June 2008

KMT chairman suggests missile gesture

Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) Chairman Wu Poh-hsiung said yesterday that China could demonstrate its goodwill toward Taiwan by reducing the number of ballistic missiles it has pointing at Taiwan. 'What I emphasized [during the meeting with Chinese President Hu Jintao last Wednesday] was that Taiwan needed security, dignity and international space. [Chinese Communist Party (CCP)] Chairman Hu responded positively,' he said on his way to a Hakka event in Taipei

Taipei Times, 2 June 2008

DPP warns pace of cross-strait exchanges too rapid

Exchanges between the Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), if continued at their current pace, could put Taiwan's democracy, sovereignty, cross-strait negotiating position, economy and national security at great risk, the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) said. The DPP issued the warning in a press release on Saturday night after KMT Chairman Wu Poh-hsiung concluded a six-day visit to China

Yomiuri Shimbun, 2 June 2008

Japan urges China to be more open about military expenditures and intentions

SINGAPORE (AP) -- Japan does not regard China as a security threat but wants it to be more open about its military capabilities and motives to allay fears among its neighbors, the Japanese defense minister said Saturday. Shigeru Ishiba told an international audience of defense officials and analysts that China must be willing to give details of its military arsenal, including ballistic missiles and nuclear weapons. Ishiba said he is not critical of China's increased military spending - the declared defense budget for 2008 is US\$59 billion (38 billion), up 17.6 percent from a year ago

Chosun Ilbo, 2 June 2008

Time to Mend Fences With Taiwan

The skies were dazzlingly clear over Myong-dong, Seoul. As the national flag slowly descended the pole at the embassy's front gate, the shoulders of girl students in the band playing the national anthem began to tremble. Waving paper flags of blue sky, white sun and red earth, the national flag of Taiwan, some wept and choked. The white uniforms worn by students of the Overseas Chinese School in Seoul looked like the mourning clothes of women at a national funeral

JoongAng Ilbo, 2 June 2008

China's influence over the North rapidly gaining economic weight

North Korea, whose tattered economy has been partly sustained by trade with and aid from South Korea and imports from China, is now increasingly seeing its economy influenced by China. With China now rapidly beefing up its economic leverage over the North, Seoul is feeling pressured to deepen its economic ties with Pyongyang in order to cut the costs of eventual reunification, no matter how far in the future it may be

Indian Express, 3 June 2008

India, China border personnel meet at Bum La in Arunachal

New Delhi, June 2: India and China held a Border Personnel Meeting (BPM) on the Sino-Indian border at Bum La in Arunachal Pradesh on Friday. The meeting, which is conducted annually in May, comes weeks after the countries exchanged tough words over the sensitive finger area in Northern Sikkim during a border post meeting. The BPM is conducted at Bum La since 1999 and is aimed at improving relations between the Indian Army and PLA personnel who man the Sino-Indian border. India also used the opportunity to convey grief over the loss of life due to the earthquake in China

People's Daily, 3 June 2008

Mainland to promote links with Taiwan

Beijing will push forward with the three direct links across the Taiwan Straits and expand its policies benefiting Taiwan businessmen investing on the mainland, the country's top political advisor said yesterday. Jia Qinglin, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, made the remarks while meeting a delegation from the Association of Taiwan Investment Enterprises on the Mainland

Taipei Times, 3 June 2008

DPP urges Beijing to dismantle and destroy missiles

The Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) yesterday urged Beijing to dismantle the missiles aimed at Taiwan and when doing so, to follow the same procedure laid down by Washington for North Korea to disarm its atomic weapons. Lin Chen-wei director of DPP's Department of International Affairs, told reporters that the Chinese Nationalist Party's (KMT) request that Beijing withdraw the missiles targeting Taiwan was meaningless militarily, because they were mobile and could easily be restored

Hindu, 4 June 2008

Five questions on the Tibetan issue (Mao Siwei)

Question 1: Why do the Chinese people doubt the sincerity of Dalai Lama's suggestion for 'genuine autonomy' of Tibet within China? One of the main reasons is that the Dalai Lama refuses to recognise Tibet has been part of China for several hundred years. The issue of 'Tibet independence' began emerging in the beginning of the 20th century, but in the last one hundred years there was no sovereign state recognising Tibet as an independent country. It was not because China was influential, but because the historical evidences were strong

Indian Express, 4 June 2008

Border issue on agenda as Pranab leaves for China today

New Delhi: : Contentious boundary issues between India and China are expected to be taken up during External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee's three-day China visit, starting Wednesday. Mukherjee, besides meeting Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao and Foreign minister Yang Jiechi, is also expected to meet the Chinese special representative for boundary talks, Dai Bingguo. Foreign Secretary Shivshankar Menon will be accompanying Mukherjee

Times of India, 4 June 2008

Tawang is part of India: Dalai Lama

NEW DELHI: For the first-time, Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama has said that Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh, a territory that's still claimed by China, is part of India. Acknowledging the validity of the MacMohan Line as per the 1914 Simla Agreement in an interview to Navbharat Times , he said that Arunachal Pradesh was a part of India under the agreement signed by Tibetan and British representatives. In 2003, while touring Tawang, the Dalai Lama had been asked to comment on the issue, but had refused to give a direct answer, saying that Arunachal was actually part of Tibet. China doesn't recognize the MacMohan Line and claims that Tawang and Arunachal Pradesh are part of its territory

Times of India, 4 June 2008

Ladakh base fresh crimp in ties with China

NEW DELHI: That India and China are going through an unusually rough patch in their relations will be reflected in the talks Foreign Minister Pranab Mukherjee holds with his Chinese counterpart Yang Jiechi when he arrives in Beijing on Wednesday. China has "expressed unhappiness" to India about the reopening of its old Ladakh airbase on the India-China border. This protest, made after India operationalized the base on Saturday, has been informally transmitted through officials

Taipei Times, 4 June 2008

How China could erode Taiwanese democracy (Lai I-chung)

Beijing's warm reception of Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) Chairman Wu Poh-hsiung during his visit to China to meet Chinese President Hu Jintao was an attempt to use the KMT-Chinese Communist Party (CCP) platform to relieve pressure on the KMT for government-to-government dialogue and marginalize Taiwan's democratic supervisory mechanisms. Furthermore, the Chinese government has sought to weaken the Taiwanese government's ability to control cross-strait policy by winning over various KMT heavyweights individually

Taipei Times, 4 June 2008

We're all Chinese, but two states are possible (Ning Yin-bin)

Recently, the Chinese Nationalist Party's (KMT) rhetoric promoting cross-strait reconciliation has gradually shifted from 'one China, different interpretations' to 'the Chinese people,' perhaps in the hope of eventually settling upon a framework for a 'Greater China.' This new challenge for the pan-green camp, which insists on Taiwanese independence, should perhaps lead them to consider the possibility of a three-way win-win situation through 'Chinese Taiwanese independence.' The term 'the Chinese people' has two meanings and different interpretations. One meaning is the strict academic definition, as in the Schicksalgemeinschaft, or 'community of fate,' which gradually developed from the end of the 19th to the 20th century. It is also the modern nation-state shaped by the state apparatuses of the Republic of China and the People's Republic of China (PRC)

Yomiuri Shimbun, 4 June 2008

Chinese largest foreign group in Japan

The number of Chinese residents in Japan has reached 606,889, making them the largest group of registered foreigners, according to the Justice Ministry. The ministry said Tuesday that Chinese had claimed the top spot from Koreans--mainly South Koreans and pro-Pyongyang Koreans--who had held it since 1959. The ministry believes the number of ethnic Korean special permanent residents is declining because of an aging Korean population. The trend is likely to continue, and the number of Koreans will continue to shrink, it said

People's Daily, 5 June 2008

DPRK vows to boost economic, trade co-op with China

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) will further strengthen economic and trade cooperation with China, the DPRK's foreign trade minister said Wednesday.. Ri Ryong Nam said the DPRK people speak highly of the achievements made by the Chinese people under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party

Hindu, 6 June 2008

India will not tolerate any anti-China activity: Pranab

BEIJING: Visiting External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee on Thursday said India would never tolerate any political anti-China activities by anyone in its territory. Mr. Mukherjee made the remarks during talks with his Chinese counterpart Yang Jiechi. He reiterated the Indian government's persistent stance on the Tibet issue, according to the Chinese Foreign Ministry. Mr. Yang thanked India for sending relief materials worth \$5 million to quake victims in western China. He noted that Prime Minister Manmohan Singh as well as Mr. Mukherjee had written letters personally, expressing grief over the natural calamity, which claimed nearly 70,000 lives

People's Daily, 6 June 2008

Indian FM: India opposes any political anti-China activities in Indian territory

Visiting Indian Foreign Minister Pranab Mukerjee on Thursday said India would never tolerate any political anti-China activities by anyone in the Indian territory. Mukerjee made the remarks during talks with his Chinese counterpart Yang Jiechi. He reiterated the Indian government's persistent stance on the Tibet issue, according to the Chinese Foreign Ministry. Indian officials have previously reiterated the Indian government's stance that the Tibet Autonomous Region is part of China's territory and India would never tolerate any political anti-China activities in Indian territory

People's Daily, 6 June 2008

State leader to visit DPRK in two weeks

Vice-President Xi Jinping will pay a goodwill visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) in two weeks' time, announced Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang yesterday. The three-day visit, beginning on June 17, is at the invitation of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government. It will be Xi's first overseas trip after being elected as a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee in March

Asian Age, 6 June 2008

Sikkim raised in Beijing

Beijing, June 5: India and China discussed the latest row over Sikkim during talks between their foreign ministers here on Thursday, dominated by the festering boundary issue. External affairs minister Pranab Mukherjee, on a four-day visit to China, met his counterpart Yang Jiechi and discussed key issues. The two sides agreed to use existing mechanisms whenever necessary to maintain peace and tranquillity along the border, foreign secretary Shivshankar Menon said. "Both sides covered all major issues in a constructive, positive and forward-looking manner. The minister was very satisfied with both the content and the nature of the talks and the outcome on all these issues," Mr Menon told reporters after the meeting

Hindu, 7 June 2008

China for push to strategic ties

BEIJING: India and China on Friday vowed to strengthen their strategic ties. The resolve came at a meeting between External Affairs Pranab Mukherjee and Chinese Vice-President Xi Jinping here. 'China will work with India to promote the bilateral strategic partnership of cooperation and contribute to long-lasting peace and prosperity in the world,' Mr. Xi said. China was satisfied with the development of relations with India. The two countries had cooperated in all areas, deepened mutual understanding and trust and maintained close coordination and cooperation in international and regional affairs, he said

Hindu, 7 June 2008

Pranab presents Padma Bhushan to Ji Xianlin

Beijing: In a rare gesture, External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee on Friday personally conferred the Padma Bhushan award on Ji Xianlin, considered the foremost Chinese Indologist, who has inspired love for Indian culture and literature among generations of his countrymen. He is the first Chinese to receive the honour. Mr. Mukherjee visited the ailing 97-year-old scholar in a military hospital to present the medallion and the award certificate. Foreign Secretary Shiv Shankar Menon and India's Ambassador to China Nirupama Rao accompanied the Minister, who is on a four-day visit to the country

Hindu, 7 June 2008

India for a new security framework with China

Beijing: India on Friday said it was ready to join hands with China to evolve a new flexible 'security architecture' that would be 'open' and 'inclusive' to ensure peace and stability in Asia and beyond. 'An open and inclusive architecture, which is flexible enough to accommodate the great diversity which exists in Asia, is needed,' External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee told students and scholars at the prestigious Peking University here. The Minister opposed creation of 'sub-regional security arrangements that are narrow and ultimately ineffective.' 'We cannot transplant ideas from other parts of the world,' Mr. Mukherjee said a day after holding talks with his Chinese counterpart, Yang Jiechi, here

Asian Age, 7 June 2008

India-China exercises soon

June 6: Even as external affairs minister Pranab Mukherjee is on his second official visit to China in two years, discussions between the Indian Army and the People's Liberation Army of China are in its final stages to decide the nature and location of the joint-Sino-Indian military exercise expected to take place in September this year in India. "The discussions between the two sides are in its final stages. The nature of the exercise and the location in India are expected to be decided by Tuesday," Indian Army sources said. "The location will depend on the nature of the exercise; for instance, whether it will be a desert exercise or a mountainous exercise," sources added

Taipei Times, 7 June 2008

Kinmen set for boost to economy from PRC tourists

The Kinmen County Government and County Council yesterday hailed Premier Liu Chao-shiuan's pledge to expand the so-called "small three links" to help boost the local economy. Liu announced earlier yesterday that the Executive Yuan would open the direct shipping links between Taiwan's Kinmen and Matsu islands and several ports in China's Fujian Province to all Taiwanese citizens within two weeks. Currently the direct transportation routes are only open to those with household registrations in Kinmen and Matsu and Taiwanese businesspeople working in Fujian

People's Daily, 9 June 2008

Nepali police arrest some 100 Tibetan separatists

Nepali police on Sunday detained some 100 Tibetans who have recently resumed anti-China activities in the Nepali capital Kathmandu. At around 14:45 local time (0900 GMT) Sunday afternoon, around 100 Tibetans staged a protest in front of the visa office of the Chinese embassy in Nepal, located in downtown Kathmandu. The protestors, who are seeking so-called "Tibet independence," blocked the traffic and shouted anti-China slogans

People's Daily, 10 June 2008

China warns of threat of U.S. protectionism

The slack economy of the United States has led to a rising sentiment of trade protectionism, which may pose a threat to the multilateral trading system, the Chinese ambassador to the World Trade Organization (WTO) warned on Monday. "The U.S. economic fatigue has led to a significant retrogression in domestic attitude towards multilateral trade liberalization, a rising voice for protection of domestic industries and a reduction to further trade reform," said Sun Zhenyu at a WTO review of the U.S. trade policies

People's Daily, 10 June 2008

EU troika, China to discuss strategic partnership in Slovenia

The EU troika and Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi on Monday will review relations between the 27-nation bloc and China and progress in negotiations toward a strategic partnership agreement. According to the Slovenian EU presidency, the

ministerial meeting is expected to discuss issues of common concern, including relations across the Taiwan Strait, human rights, climate change and the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula

Taipei Times, 10 June 2008

Rethinking cross-strait strategies

President Ma Ying-jeou outlined Taipei's diplomatic strategy in his inaugural address, while the recent actions of Chinese leaders imply that Beijing is also considering its own strategy. Ma's new strategy includes the following five points. First, Taiwan considers the US its most important ally. Hence, Taipei's most urgent task will be the building of mutual trust between Taipei and Washington and reinforcing bilateral security and trade cooperation. Second, as Taiwan considers China its most important economic partner, the resumption of cross-strait negotiations and dialogue between the Straits Exchange Foundation and China's Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Strait (ARATS) will be a top priority

Taipei Times, 10 June 2008

Singapore reflects the pitfalls of China ties (Liou You-shine)

SINCE President Ma Ying-jeou's inauguration, various government agencies have been working to promote the common market between Taiwan and China that Ma proposed during his election campaign. They are looking forward to an influx of students, low-skilled workers, technical personnel and other Chinese showing up on Taiwan's campuses and in its job markets soon. Taking Singapore - which is often cited as a model by Taiwan's new government - as an example, we find that Singapore's foreign workers can be divided into three groups. The first group consists of laborers from nearby, less developed countries like Indonesia or Thailand. They mostly earn between NT\$5,000 and NT\$7,000 per month doing physical labor

Hindu, 11 June 2008

Antony: no confrontation with China

NEW DELHI: Defence Minister A.K. Antony on Tuesday said India would follow a non-confrontationist approach to resolving the border issue with China. Asked to respond to the Bharatiya Janata Party's charge that the government was ignoring alleged Chinese incursions, Mr. Antony said: 'We are in the process of finding a solution to the long-standing dispute with China. The process is continuing. As far as national security is concerned, we do not compromise.' Speaking to journalists after addressing the top brass of the armed forces from unified commands here, the Minister said the dialogue with China started several years ago and since then 11 rounds of talks had been held. While the dialogue would continue, the armed forces were primed to meet any challenge

Indian Express, 11 June 2008

Afghan Copper (C Raja Mohan)

China's intense search for mineral resources in Afghanistan, as reported earlier in this column, has drawn its first success. Two top Chinese metals producers, Jiangxi and CMG Corp, have announced last month they are paying a little over US\$ 800 million for the right to explore and develop the copper deposits in Aynak valley about 60 km south west

of the Afghan capital Kabul. Aynak's copper reserves are believed to be one of the world's finest and estimated to be worth nearly US\$ 90 billion dollars. Afghanistan's copper prospects have been known since the time of Alexander the Great. It has now fallen upon a rising China to make them a reality

People's Daily, 11 June 2008

Paulson: economic relations with China growing in positive direction

The U.S.-China economic relationship is growing in a positive direction through the ongoing, dynamic and respectful discussions of the Strategic Economic Dialogue (SED), U.S. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said Tuesday. Delivering a speech outlining the goals of the high-level economic talks the two countries will hold next week, Paulson described the bilateral economic relationship as "complex, broad and important to both our countries and to the world economy."

Taipei Times, 11 June 2008

US freezes weapons sales to Taiwan

The US has frozen arms sales to Taiwan until the end of the Beijing Olympics and possibly until US President George W. Bush leaves office, the latest edition of Defense News said. The periodical reported on Monday that the US State Department had elected to freeze all congressional notifications - an essential process prior to approval - for weapons sales to Taiwan. The sales would amount to some US\$12 billion for the acquisition of 30 Apache Longbow attack helicopters, 60 Black Hawk helicopters, eight diesel electric submarines, four PAC-3 air defense missile batteries and 66 F-16 fighter aircraft

Taipei Times, 11 June 2008

EDITORIAL: Trading values for political currency

The anniversary of the Tiananmen Square Massacre came and went without any major incidents and Beijing is no doubt breathing a sigh of relief. Mourning was - as usual - banned, authorities harassed those trying to commemorate the day in Beijing and a silent parade to grieve for the victims of the June 4, 1989, massacre passed through Hong Kong. This year, the sorrow was compounded by the devastating Sichuan earthquake, with the Tiananmen Mothers and other groups calling for China to honor the victims of state violence with the same public recognition - such as flying flags at half mast - afforded the thousands killed in the natural disaster

People's Daily, 12 June 2008

China launches anti-terror drill for Olympics

China launched a series of anti-terrorist drills at the national level on Wednesday to ensure security for the upcoming Beijing Olympics. Minister of Public Security Meng Jianzhu announced the commencement of the drills, dubbed "Great Wall 5," at the national anti-terrorist command center. The drills will include missions to deal with a chemical attack, hijacking athletes' buses and other possible contingencies

People's Daily, 12 June 2008

China, EU pledge to deepen ties

China and the European Union (EU) should promote cooperation and deepen ties in a globalized world, Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi and European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso said Wednesday. Yang, who paid an official visit to the EU today, said at a meeting with Barroso that China is willing to strengthen dialogue with the EU both on bilateral cooperation and on international and regional issues

People's Daily, 12 June 2008

Defense ministry spokesman: China open to foreign military aid in disaster relief

China is open to assistance in disaster relief by foreign armies, which shows the country has become increasingly self-confident, Senior Colonel Hu Changming, Ministry of Defense spokesman, said Wednesday. Hu thanked foreign defense ministries and armies for their donations and sympathetic messages at the press conference on the current earthquake relief sponsored by the Information Office of the State Council

Taipei Times, 12 June 2008

Cross-strait delegation arrives in Beijing

Straits Exchange Foundation (SEF) Chairman Chiang Pin-kung arrived in Beijing yesterday for historic talks on improved cross-strait relations. 'We hope through the talks this time that the two sides will be able to achieve a win-win situation so that people across the Taiwan Strait can live better,' Chiang said before departing Taipei

Taipei Times, 12 June 2008

Understanding the word 'Chinese' (Lee Hsiao-Feng)

Toward the end of the Qing Dynasty, Governor of Taiwan Liu Mingchuan issued stamps bearing the words 'Great Qing Taiwan Post Office.' <> The postal services were of course part of the Qing administration, but the stamps bore the characters for Taiwan on them alongside the word 'Formosa.' When the Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) fled to Taiwan after the Chinese Civil War, it implemented policies designed to undermine any Taiwanese identity. The post office was called Chunghwa Post and was no longer allowed to use the name 'Taiwan.' Only toward the end of Chen Shui-bian's presidency did the government change the name to Taiwan Post. The administration of President Ma Ying-jeou wants to change the name back to Chunghwa Post and again delete the word 'Taiwan' from all stamps

People's Daily, 13 June 2008

Straits talks yield full agreement

The first cross-Straits talks in nearly a decade yesterday resulted in agreement on a broad range of issues to boost bilateral exchanges. On the first day of their meeting, the two sides agreed to set up permanent representative offices to coordinate contacts. Top mainland negotiator Chen Yunlin also accepted an invitation by his Taiwan counterpart to visit the island later this year, a move which analysts believe will inject momentum into the development of cross-Straits ties

People's Daily, 13 June 2008

China opposes any nation helping Dalai Lama separatism

China said on Thursday it is resolutely opposed to any nation facilitating the Dalai

Lama's secessionist activities. "We demand that Australia take China's solemn concerns seriously and not allow the Dalai Lama to use the Australian territory to engage in separatist activities," Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang told a regular press conference

People's Daily, 13 June 2008

Nepali police arrest 70 Tibetan separatists

Nepali police on Thursday detained some 70 Tibetan separatists involved in anti-China activities in the Nepali capital Kathmandu. Around 80 Tibetans staged a protest at 16:00 local time (1000 GMT) on Thursday afternoon outside the visa office of the Chinese embassy in Nepal, located in downtown Kathmandu, shouting anti-China slogans and scattering anti-China banners and posters on the street

Taipei Times, 13 June 2008

Deal sealed on liason offices, charter flights

AGENCIES, Beijing Friday, Jun 13, 2008, Page 1 Taiwan and China agreed yesterday to set up permanent offices in each other's territories to coordinate ongoing contacts. Both also announced they had reached an agreement on all provisions regarding the launch of weekend cross-strait charter flights, with negotiations on cargo charter flights expected to be completed within three months. The agreements came on the first day of talks between the Straits Exchange Foundation (SEF) and its Chinese counterpart, the Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Strait (ARATS)

Taipei Times, 13 June 2008

EDITORIAL: Sovereignty at stake in Beijing

With talks between the Straits Exchange Foundation (SEF) and China's Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Strait (ARATS) under way, it is hard not to understand the concerns of those who have been calling for Taiwan's sovereignty to be protected. This time the talks are being held in Beijing, a factor that is itself full of symbolism. Not holding the talks on neutral ground, as happened in the past, gives China the chance to frame events as it desires. The venue for the talks, the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse, is proof of this, as it is where the Chinese government houses visiting provincial government officials. Thus, Beijing can portray the talks as one of its provinces coming to pay tribute to the seat of power

People's Daily, 14 June 2008

China opposes any nation helping Dalai Lama separatism

China said on Thursday it is resolutely opposed to any nation facilitating the Dalai Lama's secessionist activities. "We demand that Australia take China's solemn concerns seriously and not allow the Dalai Lama to use the Australian territory to engage in separatist activities," Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang told a regular press conference. Commenting on the Dalai Lama's ongoing visit to Australia, Qin said the Chinese government is strongly against him undertaking any secessionist activity in any country by any name

People's Daily, 14 June 2008

China, Germany to reopen strategic dialogue and human rights dialogue

China and Germany will reopen strategic dialogue and human rights dialogue in the second half of this year, said China's minister of foreign affairs Friday. Yang Jiechi said this when meeting the press together with German Vice Chancellor and Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs Frank-Walter Steinmeier after talks. Steinmeier is here on a visit to China from June 13 to 15 at the invitation of Yang

Taipei Times, 14 June 2008

Cross-strait charter flight deal inked

Negotiators from Taiwan and China yesterday signed agreements to begin regular weekend charter flights from July 4 and allow Chinese tourists to visit Taiwan starting from July 18. The Taiwanese delegation later met Chinese President Hu Jintao at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing. Hu told Straits Exchange Foundation Chairman Chiang Pin-kung the agreements marked a 'good start.'

Indian Express, 15 June 2008

Revealed: how Pak and China didn't want India at UN high table

New Delhi, June 14: New Delhi has obtained 'documented evidence' of Beijing acting in concert with Islamabad to stall India's efforts for a permanent seat at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). India, Brazil, Germany and Japan (referred to as G4) were looking to renew their bid last year after a UN panel had suggested immediate UNSC expansion as an 'intermediate arrangement' subject to review after a specific timeframe. But key to G4's efforts was a consensus in the African Union (AU) to accept this transitional approach. So the AU Summit in Accra last year assumed significance given that AU was going by its own consensus which called for at least two UNSC seats for Africa with full privileges, including the right to veto.

People's Daily, 15 June 2008

Japan, China, S Korea agree to strengthen co-op

Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi, Japanese Foreign Minister Masahiko Komura and South Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Yu Myung Hwan reached the agreement at the second trilateral meeting of foreign ministers from the three countries. Yang said the meeting was held when the trilateral cooperation is showing bright prospect. "The trilateral cooperation is facing new opportunities and is standing at a threshold," Yang told his counterparts during the meeting held later in the afternoon. "Further development of the trilateral cooperation is in line with the expectation of the three peoples and is conducive to peaceful development of the three countries and the region," Yang said.

Asian Age, 16 June 2008

'Sino-India trade ties unaffected'

June 15: External affairs minister Pranab Mukherjee said here on Sunday that the boundary dispute with China is not a deterrent for the economic relationship between the two countries. Inaugurating the branch secretariat of external affairs ministry in Guwahati, Mr Mukherjee said that some steps have been taken by the two neighbouring countries to resolve the boundary dispute. He also asserted that India is following the

policy of living peacefully with its neighbours. Referring to the phenomenal growth of trade relationship with China he said, "We have set the target of achieving \$60 billion trade with China by 2010 as the earlier target of \$40 billion has already been surpassed." He reiterated: "This shows that boundary dispute between the two countries was not standing in the way of the economic relationship."

Asian Age, 16 June 2008

'China and India most optimistic about economies'

Silicon Valley, June 15: People in India and China remain upbeat and optimistic about their national economic conditions, contrary to the trend witnessed globally, a recent survey by independent body, the Pew Research Centre has found. Majority of people in 18 of the 24 countries surveyed described the current economic situation of their country as bad and believe things will either worsen or stay constant, according to the survey conducted on more than 24,000 people in 24 countries. China and India, however, are exceptions to these trends and publics in the two countries are largely happy with their current economic situation and optimistic about their economic future. The survey found the people of South Korea were the most overtaken by gloom, with 92 per cent of the respondents saying their national economic conditions is bad, followed by Lebanon with 90 per cent, Japan with 85 per cent and France with 81 per cent. The most negative evaluations of economic conditions came from the West

People's Daily, 17 June 2008

China, Japan make progress on East China Sea consultation

The Chinese Foreign Ministry confirmed on Monday that the consultation with Japan on the East China Sea had "made remarkable progress". "The two sides now are working out the final details," said Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Jiang Yu in a press release. She said the governments of the two countries would make an announcement once an agreement had being reached

People's Daily, 17 June 2008

Chinese vice-premier: China-U.S. energy cooperation would produce win-win results

Chinese Vice Premier Wang Qishan has called for stronger cooperation between China and the United States in energy, the environment and other related areas, saying that bilateral cooperation in these areas would lead to win-win results. "The Chinese government gives high priority to energy and resources conservation and the protection of the environment. It is committed to building a resource-conserving and environment-friendly society," Vice Premier Wang wrote in an article published by The Financial Times on Monday in its North American edition

Taipei Times, 17 June 2008

Wang urges speed on cross-strait bill

Legislative Speaker Wang Jin-pyng yesterday urged the Cabinet to submit its draft bill regulating cross-strait agreements to the legislature as soon as possible. 'Current legislative oversight over cross-strait agreements remains insufficient. Related legislation should be passed as soon as possible to prevent controversies arising from execution of

the deals and to prevent harming Taiwanese interests,' Wang told reporters after meeting Straits Exchange Foundation (SEF) Chairman Chiang Pin-kung. Wang said the Legislative Yuan will also set up a task force to handle cross-strait affairs and to assist and supervise the Cabinet in cross-strait negotiations

Times of India, 18 June 2008

Message to China: Army plans trek to Khatling

NEW DELHI: Even as the army plans another civilian expedition to the forbidding Siachen region, the first edition of which had riled Pakistan no end last year, it is also going to cock a snook at China by undertaking an expedition of its own to the Khatling glacier next week. The army expedition to the Khatling glacier, located at an altitude of 4,717-metre altitude in Uttarakhand close to the still-unresolved Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China, will take place from June 25 to July 7

People's Daily, 18 June 2008

Chinese vice president makes five-point proposal to develop relations with DPRK

Visiting Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping on Tuesday made a five-point proposal to strengthen bilateral ties and cooperation with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). Xi, who is also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, made the proposal while meeting with Yang Hyong Sop, vice president of the Presidium of DPRK's Supreme People's Assembly.

People's Daily, 18 June 2008

China, U.S. pledge to further cooperation at 4th Strategic Economic Dialogue

China and the United States pledged to further and expand mutual cooperation at the 4th round of their Strategic Economic Dialogue (SED) here on Tuesday. "Due to the complicated, changeable nature of the current global economic and financial situation, both China and the U.S. are facing a lot of challenges. Holding the 4th SED under such circumstances will have special significance for us to enhance mutual strategic trust, deepen economic and trade cooperation, and respond jointly to challenges," visiting Chinese Vice Premier Wang Qishan said at the opening session of the meeting

People's Daily, 18 June 2008

Chinese vice-premier: China-U.S. energy cooperation would produce win-win results

Chinese Vice Premier Wang Qishan has called for stronger cooperation between China and the United States in energy, the environment and other related areas, saying that bilateral cooperation in these areas would lead to win-win results. "The Chinese government gives high priority to energy and resources conservation and the protection of the environment. It is committed to building a resource-conserving and environment-friendly society," Vice Premier Wang wrote in an article published by The Financial Times on Monday in its North American edition.

Yomiuri Shimbun, 18 June 2008

Japan, China 'also agreed to share Asunaro gas field'

Japan and China have agreed to include the Asunaro gas field in their joint development of gas fields in the East China Sea, it was learned Monday. According to the details of the joint gas field development so far agreed upon by Japan and China, the development of the Shirakaba gas field will be financed by both countries. But the distribution of revenues from gas production at the field, called Chunxiao in China, will favor the Chinese side, which has invested significant funds in advance of Japan, according to sources

Taipei Times, 18 June 2008

China trails US, Japan in 'soft power' in Asia: study

China may be an economic and military giant in Asia but it still trails the US and Japan in wielding 'soft power' influence in the region, a new study released yesterday said. The US in particular remains highly regarded in all five key areas of soft power addressed in the survey: economics, culture, human capital, diplomacy and politics, said the report by The Chicago Council on Global Affairs and the East Asia Institute of South Korea. 'China's growing economic and military might have not yet been fully translated into the elements of soft power that help a nation wield indirect influence in its region and the world,' said the report based on public opinion surveys in Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia, China and the US.

Taipei Times, 18 June 2008

Ma reasserts ROC's claim to Diaoyutais

SOVEREIGNTY STATEMENT: The president said Taipei and Tokyo should try to resolve their disputes peacefully, including negotiating fishing rights and sovereignty Japanese demonstrate in front of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Tokyo, Japan, yesterday. Members of the Japanese public gathered there in support of Japan's claim of sovereignty over the Diaoyutai islands. President Ma Ying-jeou asserted Taiwan's sovereignty over the Diaoyutai islands yesterday and called on Tokyo to negotiate fishing disputes and the issue of sovereignty calmly and peacefully. His comments came one week after a Japan Coast Guard vessel collided with a Taiwanese fishing boat that later sank. 'We are not trying to provoke anybody, but the Diaoyutais are part of our territory. Why can we not go there?' he said.

Times of India, 19 June 2008

Another Chinese 'incursion' at Sikkim border

NEW DELHI: Despite having implicitly accepted Sikkim to be a part of India earlier, China continues to undertake "incursions" across the LAC into the tiny north-eastern state. The latest "incursion" by Chinese troops took place on Monday, with a vehicle-mounted patrol crossing almost one km into Indian territory in Sikkim's northernmost tip known as the "finger area", to which Beijing is now laying claim despite New Delhi's position that the Sikkim border question is "settled"

Hindu, 19 June 2008

There is Tamil in China's air

While north India's Buddhism-threaded historical links to China are well known, the relationship between the erstwhile Middle Kingdom and Tamil speaking peoples also has

a long history. Trade linkages between south India and China stretch back to the medieval period. As a result, several Tamil inscriptions dating between the 9th and 13th centuries have been found in certain parts of coastal China, like the port of Quanzhou. Unknown to most, this medieval connection continues on in a modern avatar: that of shortwave radio. The state-owned China Radio International (CRI) broadcasts an hour-long programme in Tamil every evening from its studios in western Beijing and has over the years built up an avid fan club of listeners among the Tamil speaking populations of Sri Lanka and South East Asia, but most specially Tamil Nadu itself.

People's Daily, 19 June 2008

China, U.S. sign 10-year energy, environment framework

China and the United States signed a 10-year energy and environment cooperation framework here Wednesday after the two nations concluded their fourth round of Strategic Economic Dialogue, or SED. Speaking to reporters before the signing ceremony at the U.S. Treasury Department, visiting Chinese Vice Premier Wang Qishan said the deal was "a major achievement of the meeting," which will influence future bilateral economic cooperation and contribute to the sustainable development of the world

People's Daily, 19 June 2008

China, Japan reach principled consensus on East China Sea issue

China and Japan, through consultations on an equal footing, reached principled consensus on the East China Sea issue, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Jiang Yu made the announcement in Beijing Wednesday

People's Daily, 19 June 2008

Kim Jong Il meets Chinese vice president

The top leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Kim Jong Il, met visiting Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping on Wednesday to highlight the warm ties between the two neighboring countries. At the meeting, Xi conveyed Chinese President Hu Jintao's greetings to Kim. He also congratulated the leader on the 60th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK, wishing it even more and greater achievements in the future

People's Daily, 19 June 2008

Senior Indian journalist unmask separatist Dalai clique

Reports in western media on the March 14 riots in China's Tibet autonomous region were "false" and "manipulated," and the Dalai Lama is a "consummate politician" and "separatist political figure," says N. Ram, editor-in-chief of Indian daily The Hindu, in a recently published article. A notable feature of recent Western media coverage of Tibet is "the way journalism feeds off the disinformation campaign" unleashed by the Dalai clique and the supporters of "Tibet independence," Ram says in the article

Taipei Times, 19 June 2008

Direct flights not a threat: MND

Minister of National Defense Chen Chao-min said yesterday that weekend charter flights that fly directly between Taiwan and China instead of through a foreign air zone would not be a threat to national security. "The final routes for direct charter flights shall be

decided by the Mainland Affairs Council and the Ministry of Transportation and Communications [MOTC]. We will submit recommendations to the MOTC that take national security into consideration, but I do not foresee any problems if the flights travel directly between Taiwan and China,' Chen told the legislature's Diplomacy and National Defense Committee. His remarks were a reversal of the ministry's earlier stance

Taipei Times, 19 June 2008

The balancing act across the Strait (Richard Bush)

The balancing act across the Strait (Richard Bush) So far, events have proven the optimists to be correct. The dialogue between the Straits Exchange Foundation (SEF) and the Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Strait (ARATS) has resumed. As the basis, the Taiwanese side has only pledged adherence to the so-called '1992 consensus' and Beijing has not objected to President Ma Ying-jeou's 'each side has its own interpretation' formulation, even though the resulting association with 'one China' is vague. SEF Chairman Chiang Pin-kung held meetings in Beijing on June 12 and June 13 with his counterpart, ARATS Chairman Chen Yunlin. The two signed agreements concerning weekend charter flights and Chinese tourists. True, the former Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) government did most of the work on both agreements, but it was not until the political climate had changed with Ma's victory in the March presidential election that drafts could be turned into signed texts

Taipei Times, 20 June 2008

US arms decision made last Christmas

The decision by US President George W. Bush's administration to delay the processing of US\$12 billion in arms sales to Taiwan dates back at least to last Christmas and recent requests by the Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) government of President Ma Ying-jeou to further delay the process simply reaffirmed US policy, but did not initiate it, sources in Washington say. The story was broken by Defense News on June 9, but observers said Washington's decision was more complex and long standing than recent news reports indicate. But, as more details of the situation emerge, the sources warn, the implications could be just as harmful for Taiwan's defense

Yomiuri Shimbun, 20 June 2008

MSDF vessel leaves for 1st China call

KURE, Hiroshima--The destroyer Sazanami left the Maritime Self-Defense Force's Kure Base here Thursday for Zhanjiang in Guangdong Province, China, and is set to become the first MSDF vessel to visit a Chinese port. The visit will take place following an agreement in August between the Japanese and Chinese defense ministers to send ships to each others' country. The 4,650-ton Sazanami was carrying relief supplies for victims of the Sichuan Earthquake, which struck last month

Indian Express, 21 June 2008

How far, Arunachal? (Deepak K. Singh)

Arunachal has been making news with the renewed exchange of claims and counter claims between India and China. The central government has also announced the relaxation of 'entry norms' for foreigners visiting the state. The changes introduced in the

Restricted Area Permit (RAP), which all foreign tourists must obtain before visiting Arunachal, are, however, cosmetic. The restriction of a minimum of four persons in a group has been relaxed to two, while the maximum number of days of permissible stay in the state has been upped from 10 to 30. Strangely, this modified restriction also applies to a foreigner married to an Arunachali and visiting the state on a tourist visa

People's Daily, 21 June 2008

Chinese vice premier urges stronger strategic dialogue between China, U.S.

Chinese Vice Premier Wang Qishan said here Friday that China and the United States should strengthen their strategic dialogue to enhance understanding and trust and facilitate the long-term, stable and sound development of Sino-U.S. constructive cooperation. Establishing and developing constructive relations between Beijing and Washington is a historic inevitability, the vice premier said at a meeting with former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger

People's Daily, 21 June 2008

Tibet to reopen to foreign tourists soon

Tibet will reopen to foreign tourists soon, Palma Trily, executive vice chairman of Tibet, told a press conference here on Friday. The official, however, said the move would not occur immediately after Saturday's Olympic torch relay. He did not give specific date. A 50-strong delegation of journalists left Beijing for Lhasa on Friday to report the Olympic torch relay. The group included staff from 29 overseas news organizations, including BBC, Reuters, AP and AFP

Asian Age, 23 June 2008

China's mischief in Sikkim's 'Finger' must not be ignored (Anil Bhat)

As China reeled from death and destruction caused by the severe earthquake and its aftershocks and accepted substantial aid from India, in May-June 2008 its government piped up a claim on Sikkim's northern tip, referred to as the "Finger Area", by objecting to the stone cairns placed by India to demarcate the Line of Actual Control. This claim preceded external affairs minister Pranab Mukherjee's visit to China. Analysts feel the failure of President Hu Jintao and Prime Minister Wen Jiabao to meet the visiting minister was a major snub to India, even though earthquake-related factors were cited as the reason. Vice-president Xi Jinping did meet Mr Mukherjee, only to warn India not to support the Tibetan cause and once again linking Sikkim to the border dispute. No Chinese leader has said in so many words that the question of Sikkim has been settled

People's Daily, 23 June 2008

Chinese vice president proposes to enhance Sino-Saudi economic, trade links

Visiting Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping presented Sunday a three-point proposal on deepening economic and trade cooperation between China and Saudi Arabia. He made the proposals at the opening ceremony of a seminar on China-Saudi economy and trade held in the western port city of Jeddah

People's Daily, 23 June 2008

Living Buddha: Religious activities revive in Tibetan monasteries

Religious activities has been revived in monasteries across Tibet, a living Buddha said on Sunday. "The religious activities were interrupted by riot in March, but they all have been resumed as the whole region has come into peace," said Dadrak Tenzin Gelek, a living Buddha and vice president of the Tibetan branch of the Buddhist Association of China, when answering a foreign reporter in Lhasa

Chosun Ilbo, 23 June 2008

China Invites Kim Jong-il to Olympics Opening

Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping invited North Korean leader Kim Jong-il during a recent Pyongyang visit to the opening ceremony of the 2008 Summer Olympics on Aug.8 in Beijing, the Asahi Shimbun reported Sunday. The Japanese newspaper quoted a remark made Saturday by Taku Yamasaki, former deputy president of Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda's Liberal Democratic Party

Times of India, 24 June 2008

Despite snub, India backs Oz 'community' plan with China

External affairs minister Pranab Mukherjee and his Australian counterpart, Stephen Smith, in Canberra. NEW DELHI: Despite the growing proximity between Australia and China since the Labour Party took over in Canberra, prime minister Kevin Rudd seems to have found support from India on his proposal to form Asia-Pacific Community involving US and China among other countries. In a meeting with his counterpart Stephen Smith, foreign minister Pranab Mukherjee said on Monday that India would "watch with interest" Rudd's move to build the new institution for cooperation in security, political and economic affairs

People's Daily, 24 June 2008

Chinese vice president emphasizes cooperation with GCC

Visiting Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping said here on Monday that China is ready to strengthen cooperation with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). During a meeting with the GCC Secretary General Abdul Rahman al-Attiya on Monday afternoon, Xi said China is willing to enhance cooperation with the GCC and its members in such fields as politics, economy and culture. China is ready to maintain contact and consultation with the GCC on regional issues so as to continue to play an constructive role in maintaining peace and stability inthe Middle East and Gulf region

People's Daily, 24 June 2008

China-EU talk discusses enterprises' responsibility, trade investment

A round table between the China Economic and Social Council (CESC) and the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) is discussing the social responsibility of enterprises and trade investment between China and the European Union (EU). Wang Zhongyu, CESC president, and Dimitrios Dimitriadis, EESC president, both spoke at the opening ceremony of the round table on Monday, the third of its kind

People's Daily, 25 June 2008

Q&A: Chinese FM on East China Sea issue

Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi answered media questions on East China Sea here

Tuesday. Following is a tentative translation of the questions and answers: I. Q: What's the purpose of China to reach consensus with Japan on East China Sea issue? What benefits could China gain from this? A: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has expounded China's stance time and again. I would like to emphasize here one more time that the understanding inked between China and Japan on East China Sea issue through consultation is a key step to implement the major consensus reached by leaders of both countries in an effort to make the East China Sea a place of peace, cooperation and friendship. The outcome is mutually beneficial and in line with the fundamental interests of the two countries and the two peoples

Taipei Times, 25 June 2008

Tainan urges Falun Gong to leave site

The Tainan City Government has decided to persuade Falun Gong protesters to leave a historic site where they have maintained a constant presence to highlight their cause. City government officials yesterday said the decision was reached after a meeting on Monday. If their efforts to communicate with the protesters fail, they will consider further steps, the officials said

Yomiuri Shimbun, 25 June 2008

MSDF ship docks at China port

ZHANJIANG, China: A Maritime Self-Defense Force destroyer carrying relief supplies docked at a Chinese port Tuesday afternoon, the first MSDF vessel to do so under an agreement between Japan and China for reciprocal visits. The Sazanami was welcomed by about 400 people at the military port of Zhanjiang in China's southern Guangdong Province--home to the Chinese Navy's South China Sea Fleet

Hindu, 26 June 2008

Cricket makes its mark in China

Karachi: China might conjure up visions of the Great Wall and lip smacking cuisine. How about China and cricket? Does the twain meet? Yes it does and according to Rashid Khan, former Pakistan fast bowler, cricket's formative steps in China has been brisk and steady. Rashid should know. He is the head coach of the Chinese cricket teams cutting across age groups and even the sexes.

People's Daily, 26 June 2008

Official: Five-nation tour by Chinese vice president to strongly promote ties

Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping's visits to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Mongolia, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Yemen will effectively push forward the development of China's ties with these countries, a senior diplomat said Wednesday. Xi paid official visits to the five nations at the invitation of the countries' leaders on June 17-25

People's Daily, 26 June 2008

China builds supercomputer rivaling world's 7th fastest

Although missing the world's most extensive rankings for the best supercomputers, a Chinese-made high performance server rivals the 7th fastest for computing speed.

Dawning 5000A, with a capability of 160 trillions of computing operations per second, is signed to be installed in the Shanghai Supercomputer Center (SSC) which specializes in super computing outsourcing services for daunting jobs such as genome mapping, quake appraisal, precise weather forecast, mining survey and huge stock exchange data

People's Daily, 26 June 2008

What has the Japanese Navy Ship brought?

A Navy ship hung with the Japanese flag entered a Chinese harbor on June 24. Although before this, military ships hung with the French flag, British flag, and US flag have all visited China, there are still people who do not understand the current visit or even feel perturbed by it. After all, the self-proclaimed "Imperial Army" brought unprecedented destruction upon the people of this land during war. In the eyes of many people, a Navy destroyer is a weapon, and a weapon is a tool of war. However, as human civilization has developed up to today, Navy ships are no longer just an instrument of war; more often, they are platforms for exchange, dialogue, and the transference of certain information between two countries. Today, a visit by a Navy destroyer may express the visitor's militaristic intentions, or it may express hope for dialogue or willingness for friendly cooperation

Taipei Times, 26 June 2008

Diane Lee says DPP manipulating issue of dual citizenship

Chinese Nationalist Party (KMT) Legislator Diane Lee accused the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) caucus yesterday of confusing the public with its discussion of whether she has US citizenship, but denied authorizing prosecutors to look into the issue. 'Prosecutors did not talk to me about [asking the US to check on my citizenship status] when I met them,' she said at the Legislative Yuan. Lee made the remarks after coming under fire yesterday for not authorizing prosecutors to seek assistance from US authorities to determine whether she has US citizenship

People's Daily, 27 June 2008

EU welcomes China's re-opening of Tibet to foreign tourists, journalists

Slovenian Ambassador to China Marjan Cencen, who is also presidency of the European Union in Beijing, said here Friday he welcomed the re-opening of China's Tibet Autonomous Region to foreign tourists and journalists. "I welcome the decision of the Chinese authorities allowing foreign tourists to visit Tibet Autonomous Region again, starting 25 June 2008," said Cencen in a statement

People's Daily, 27 June 2008

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People's Daily, 27 June 2008

Japanese naval visit brings memories, smiles to China

Pan Chenkai, a 15-year-old middle school boy, came to visit the naval destroyer "Sazanami" on Friday afternoon, the first time a visiting Japanese warship had been open to the Chinese public. "I was always impressed by Japan's scientific and technological development," said Pan, a local resident of Zhanjiang who has just finished his entrance examination for high school. "We should not only think negatively of Japan. We can learn from its advanced technology."

People's Daily, 28 June 2008

DPRK official: China plays important role in denuclearization

The demolition of the cooling tower at Yongbyon, the nuclear center of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), demonstrated that China had played an important role in the denuclearization process, a DPRK official said Friday. The destruction was a fruit of the six-party talks in which China, the chair of the negotiations, played an important role, said Li Yong Ho, a department director of the DPRK General Department of Atomic Energy, to Chinese reporters who witnessed the explosion of the tower

People's Daily, 29 June 2008

First Japanese naval visit brings memories, smiles to China since WWII

"Please send the love and friendship of the Chinese navy and people back to Japan," Lt. Gen. Su Shiliang, commander of the South Sea Fleet of China, said to Major-Gen. Shinichi Tokumaru of the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force. After a five-day visit to China, Japan's Maritime Self-Defense Force destroyer "Sazanami" left the southern Guangdong Province port city of Zhanjiang on Saturday morning

People's Daily, 29 June 2008

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People's Daily, 29 June 2008

Backgrounder: Major events on Korean Peninsula nuclear issue since last October

KEY EVENTS IN 2007 Oct. 3, a joint document on the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue, named the Second-Phase Actions for the Implementation of the Joint Statement, was released at the second session of the sixth round of the six-party talks. According to the document, the DPRK agreed to disable all its existing nuclear facilities at Yongbyon and provide a complete and correct declaration of all its nuclear programs by the end of 2007 and the United States would fulfill its commitments to the DPRK in parallel with the DPRK's actions

Indian Express, 30 June 2008

Chopper service connects Tawang to Guwahati

NEW DELHI, JUNE 29: In a further assertion of its sovereign control over Tawang, a

territory that has long been at the centre of a border dispute with China, India on Sunday connected this small Arunachal Pradesh hill town, perched 11,000 feet above sea level, with an exclusive helicopter service from Guwahati. Flagging off the inaugural flight of a Pawan Hans MI 172 helicopter from Tawang's Chongprong helipad today, Arunachal Pradesh Governor General J J Singh fulfilled the commitment made to this effect by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh during his maiden visit to the easternmost frontier state earlier this year. As much as 75 per cent of the total cost of running this service has been subsidised by the Government of India.

Indian Express, 30 June 2008

Tibet stir: China worried over open Indo-Nepal border

Kathmandu, June 29: Nepal's inability to contain mounting pro-Dalai Lama protests has sparked concerns in China which is now lobbying for the closure of the Himalayan country's open borders with India. 'China has cautiously expressed its concern over the existing 1,700 km open border between Nepal and India, accusing that Tibetans have been frequently crossing the border to launch free Tibet agitation in Nepal,' a Nepalese weekly reported. Beijing is regarding the open border as a major factor that is fuelling the nearly three-month long protests sparked after Beijing's crackdown on anti-China protests in Lhasa, the weekly said. China, therefore, wants to either close down the Indo-Nepalese border or regulate it through certain mechanism. In order to control such pre-planned anti-China activities in the Nepalese land, it is essential to regulate or control the open international border between Nepal and India, officials from Beijing pointed out