

Teasing fate? The sacrificial lamb/dancer?

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Even though Easter is approaching, there is no sacrificial “lamb” or dancer involved here. Instead, it’s an elaborate show of an age-old cultural tradition of the Xiangxi Miao tribe of southwest China. See p. 7.

Sports

Vincent Zhou wins bronze at World Figure Skating championship

By Randall | [AsAmNews](#) | March 26, 2022



AsAmNews Photo. Vincent Zhou in the long program at the team event of the Winter Olympics

Vincent Zhou bounced back from his COVID-shortened Olympics to take the bronze at the World Figure Skating championship in Montpellier, France Saturday.

USA Today reports he came back for a

storybook ending despite feeling the depths of despair returning to the ice.

He had to withdraw from the men’s figure skating competition at the Olympics shortly after helping Team USA win the silver in the team event.

“Eleven, 12 days ago, I woke up in this bottomless pit. I called my agent, coaches and some important people and told them I thought my whole career was a failure and for nothing,” [USA Today](#) quoted him as saying in his news conference. “I thought I couldn’t do it. The one thing that got me here was the feeling inside that I didn’t want to live with the regret that I didn’t try. It was the only thing that kept me invested in my journey of getting on the plane and to the rink and taking it day by day.”

With Olympic gold medalist Nathan Chen out with an injury, Shoma Uno and Yuma Kagiya, both from Japan won gold and silver.

Nothing, however, could take away from Zhou’s return. He rose from sixth place in

the short program to finish with a total score of 277.38.

“I feel very, very proud of myself,” Zhou [said to NBC](#). “I couldn’t do anything in training leading up to this. I was mentally just in a very bad place, but I got myself on a plane, I got myself together, I took it one practice at a time, and now I put out two strong performances. I’m so proud of myself.”

“I was mentally in a very bad place,” the [Washington Post reported](#) Zhou said. “I couldn’t do anything. But I got myself on the plane, I got myself together, I took it one practice at a time and now I’ve put out two strong performances, and I’m so proud of myself.”♦

AsAmNews has Asian America in its heart. We’re an all-volunteer effort of dedicated staff and interns. Check out our new [Instagram account](#). Go to our [Twitter feed](#) and [Facebook page](#) for more content.



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We are seeking your input as to the future direction of ChinaInsight ...

By Greg Hugh

As the United States leads the western nations to counter the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, are there lessons for China from this war? If Taiwan were invaded, would it be similarly defended and would sanctions have any effects?

The U.S.-China relationship is the most complex bilateral relationship for the United States. Over the last 30 years, Sino-American relations have undergone an impressive transformation from animosity and conflict to candid dialogue and constructive cooperation. These two vast and complicated countries have found limited common ground on issues of trade, investment and, more recently, security. But key issues remain unresolved, and the potential for troubling divergence is real as China becomes an economic powerhouse, a military force in Asia, and a potential rival to U.S. hegemony. What role should **ChinaInsight** take covering these future developments?

Although there is not too much we can do to change whatever trajectory is in motion, the Chinese American community needs to become more proactive and become more involved as citizens by getting involved in politics, charitable giving and other activities to shatter the "model minority" label and work together instead as factions within their own communities.



should we go?

Although **ChinaInsight** began as a free, printed newspaper back in 2001, it continues now to be available digitally at www.chinainsight.info. For those of you that are not familiar with ChinaInsight, we are proud that during the previous 20 years to have been involved with the following:

- The St Paul-Changsha China Friendship Garden, poetically known as 柳明園 (Liu Ming Yuan), Lub Vaj Phooj Ywg (Garden of Friendship), and Garden of Whispering Willows & Flowing Waters, is a community-based, volunteer-driven public garden developed through long-term collaboration among the Minnesota China Friendship Garden Society (MCFGs), the St. Paul Department of Parks & Recreation, the Phalen Park neighborhood, and Twin Cities Hmong and Chinese communities. The city of Changsha is St Paul's sister city in south China.
- Supported the campaign to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Chinese American Veterans of World War II that was spearheaded by the Chinese American Citizens Alliance.
- In collaboration with the Chinese Heritage Foundation, established A Passage to China in 2008 which became an annual event at Mall of America that promotes Chinese history, culture and customs through interactive activities for all ages with over 40 organizations from throughout the Twin Cities communities participating as a FREE event for the general public
- Planned and hosted a forum on how to do business in China with speakers from Zhejiang Province
- Developed a relationship with a WTO Training delegation from Zhejiang, China

to promote business relationships between Zhejiang and Minnesota

- Sponsored events held by the Chinese American Association of Minnesota, Asian Media Access, Dragon Festival and the China Center at the University of Minnesota
- Sponsored and partnered with the Minnesota Timberwolves to promote all Timberwolves and Houston Rockets games featuring Yao Ming since 2002 resulting in the Timberwolves' sponsorship of a China Expo at the Target Center in March 2004
- Assisted and accompanied Governor Jesse Ventura on the trade mission to China in 2002

ChinaInsight is proud over the years to have been involved in initiating events such as these in spite of tepid support from the community that provides minimum communications or advertising support. Consequently we have relied on a dedicated volunteer staff which reduces our financial burden since this is what we have chosen to do to support the community.

That being said, as **ChinaInsight** continues its twenty-first year of publishing, we are soliciting comments from our targeted readers as to how our mission statement could be updated to better reflect current relations between the U.S. and the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) which has become more confrontational on many fronts. We have typically remained neutral on most issues that affect these two countries over the years. Would you like to see us take a different approach? Would you be interested in pro- and con-China points of view? Why? How do you feel about how western media handles the news?

Also, we would like to see **ChinaInsight** grow so would be like to hear from those that would be interested in joining us as a staff member, an investor or a board member.

Thank you to those of you that have already sent your comments. They are deeply appreciated and please accept our best wishes for your continued good health.

Please contact me directly at ghugh@chinainsight.info or 612-723-4872 with your comments. ♦

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04-2022

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Chinese naval flight officer imprisoned for illegal firearms purchases

Lt. Fan Yang, a naval flight officer, was sentenced on March 16 to four years in prison for failing to disclose the nature of his relationship with a Chinese citizen in a conspiracy to smuggle U.S. military-style boats to China.

Yang was born in China and emigrated to the U.S. in 1999 and became a naturalized citizen in 2006. He enlisted in the Navy in 2005 and was honorably discharged in 2007. After earning a degree in electrical engineering, he re-enlisted in 2012.

Since May 2018, Yang has been assigned to the Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Weapons School at Naval Air Station in Jacksonville, Fla. He and his wife (also a naturalized U.S. citizen) were both arrested in October 2019. At the time of his arrest, Yang had a top secret security clearance and was trained in anti-submarine warfare.

According to court documents, from September 2018 to the time of their arrest, the Yangs attempted to smuggle U.S.-made equipment to China by way of a Hong Kong-based shell company they represented. Yang was found to have routinely concealed his dealings with a Chinese citizen who owned the company. The Yangs were charged with



Former Lt. Fan Yang in March 2018

submitting false export information and to fraudulently attempt to export articles from the United States and fraudulently attempting to export seven vessels and eight engines.

Yang also purchased firearms on behalf of the Chinese in 2017 and 2018 for which he was charged with violating firearms laws, making false written

statements to licensed firearms dealers when purchasing the weapons.

The Justice Department said Yang failed to disclose the extent of his contacts with the foreign national, hid that he had maintained a bank account in China, sometimes worked for his family business, and possessed an expired Chinese passport.

The FBI stated, "Lt. Fan Yang swore an oath to protect this country, but instead posed a significant risk to U.S. National Security when he failed to report his contact with the head of a Chinese Defense Contracting firm. This act was even more egregious considering Yang's Top Secret security clearance and active-duty status as an officer in the U.S. Navy."

A federal jury convicted him in November 2021. The smuggling charges were dropped. ♦

Beijing-backed Chinese national charged with harassing Congressional candidate



Congressional candidate Xiong in western Ukraine

A Chinese national, retired Chinese secret police officer Qiming Lin, was indicted in March 16 in a federal court in New York in a plot to fabricate derogatory information about a former pro-democracy protester who is running for Congress in the 2022 mid-terms in New York's first district on Long Island. The scheme is alleged to be backed by Beijing.

The prosecutors did not name the targeted victim. However, The New York Times confirmed the victim is believed to be Xiong Yan, a former student leader of the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests.

The private investigator whom Lin hired last September to work with him to discredit Xiong contacted the FBI immediately. Lin told the private investigator "They do not want Xiong to be elected." Money was offered to dig up dirt on Xiong, such as "affairs, sexual harassment, child porn and prostitution." Violence was not ruled out either to disrupt Xiong's campaign. "Beat him, beat him until he cannot run for election.

Heh, that's the-the last resort. You-you think about it. Car accident, [he] will be completely wrecked, right?" were some of the ideas Lin was alleged to have floated to the private investigator.

When Xiong heard about the plot, he had just returned from a trip to western Ukraine to pray with the refugees. He commented, "They used a stupid way [to come for me]. Ridiculous, I am a U.S. Army chaplain, very disciplined. I served the country

for 27 years. I've left China for 30 years. I have nothing to do with them."

So why is the Chinese government after him? Yan believed if he were to be elected, perhaps as a former student leader during the Tiananmen Massacre, "maybe that would have more influence on the Chinese. I carried a lot of bodies during the June 4th massacre. I really witnessed that tragedy."

Yan came to the U.S. as a refugee in 1992 after being detained for 19 months. He joined the Army in 1994, became a chaplain and served in Iraq. In 2015, he went to HK to join the pro-democracy demonstrators. He declared his candidacy for the Democratic midterm elections for New York's first district, running against Congressman Jerry Nadler. He said he has no fear as God is with him. He will continue his candidacy.

Charged with conspiring to commit harassment and conspiring to do so with a false identification, Lin will face up to a decade in prison if convicted. ♦

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U.S. Olympic skater Alysa Liu and father target of Chinese spying

The Department of Justice reported that 16-year-old U.S. figure skater Alysa Liu and her father were targets of a spying operation ordered by the Chinese government.

Arthur Liu, Alysa's father, was notified of the scheme by the FBI last fall but did not tell his daughter who was preparing for the Winter Olympics. "This is her once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to compete at the Olympic Games.

I'm not going to let them stop her from going and I'll do whatever I can to make sure she's safe ...", Liu said. The U.S. Olympic Committee and the State Department assured him Alysa would be closely protected while competing in China.

The elder Liu is a political refugee who fled China after participating in the 1989 Tiananmen Square pro-democracy student protests. After leaving China in his 20s, he settled in the California's Bay Area and earned a law degree. He said he knew "the Chinese government will extend their long hands into any corner in the world. I'm going to continue to enjoy life and live life as I want to live. I'm not going to let this push me down and I'm not going to let them



Alysa Liu and father Arthur

succeed."

One of the men charged in the case asked for copies of the Lius' passports for COVID-19 "preparedness check" over the phone, pretending to be a representative of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee. When refused, he threatened to delay or deny them international travel. Liu thought the request was fishy and cut the phone call off. Li said he took a stand against China's bullying by allowing his daughter to compete at the recent Olympic Winter Games, where she placed 7th in the women's event.

The caller, who was hired to perform surveillance on the Lius, was arrested mid-March on charges of conspiring to commit interstate harassment and criminal use of a means of identification. ♦

Quarantine in HK? Best hotels to do so

By Elaine Dunn | April 2022

Many of us have been itching to start traveling again. Here's some welcoming news for those who have relatives in Hong Kong and have been waiting to go visit: On March 21, 2022, Hong Kong announced it will ease travel restrictions by lifting a ban on flights from nine countries and reducing hotel quarantine time.

As of April 1, fully vaccinated returning Hong Kong residents and overseas visitors who have received a negative PCR test will be allowed to enter on flights from Australia, Canada, France, India, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, UK and the U.S. These residents and visitors also will be required to have verified seven-day hotel quarantine booking, instead of the previously required 14 days. Mask-wearing and gathering limits are being relaxed in phases as well.

Hong Kong had maintained some of the strictest COVID-related border policies in the world, virtually blocking non-residents from entry. At one point, it even enforced a 21-day quarantine rule. However, with recent infections and fatalities on the rise, its "dynamic zero" policy of eliminating each outbreak proved ineffectual.

The heavy-handed COVID restrictions have resulted in mass exit of residents: 54,000 resident departures as of the third week of March and 71,000 in February. Multinational companies have lost professionals and managing director-level personnel during the pandemic as a result of the travel restrictions. "How can a CEO of Asia-Pacific operations manage its companies and factories in East and Southeast Asia if he has to quarantine for three weeks after each trip?" said one business consultant.

An American Chamber HK survey published in January 2022 reflected certain concerns:

- There is a perception that foreign businesses are less welcome in Hong Kong than in 2020. More than half the respondents feel the government is "unconcerned" or "dismissive" about business concerns. Over 8 in 10 business operations have felt the impact of the National Security Law, particularly when it comes to staff morale and loss of employees who have emigrated.
- Nearly 60% of respondents say Hong Kong's rule of law has worsened in the last 12 months, and 23% do not feel confident in the rule of law in Hong Kong. Businesses universally feel that free access to the internet and information platforms is important, with 51% currently satisfied with data freedom in Hong Kong; however, 42% believe they may not be able to continue to have free access in the future.
- 5% of global/regional headquarters have definite plans to move their headquarters out of Hong Kong, though half are unsure.

With the shortening of quarantine period and lifting of flight bans, some travel advisers have been touting the week-long isolation as a "staycation!" Well ... compared to the 21- and 14-day requirements earlier, the 7-day stay is a piece of cake. Right!

Following are a few hotels recommended by a lifestyle website as top places to stay while quarantining in Hong Kong. Be forewarned, some require significant deep pockets!

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Causeway Bay

Situated in the heart of Causeway Bay, most rooms have floor-to-ceiling windows



offering stunning views of rolling hills and towering buildings. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included and guests can choose their meals from the menu and conveniently order via WhatsApp, indicating preferred time of delivery. The hotel also offers free local calls, high speed WiFi, broadband internet and multi-dock USB outlets.

Rooms also feature a flat-screen TV, DVD player and a spacious bathroom with a bathtub. Other in-room amenities include a safe and iron. *Rates start at US\$190 per night.*

Four Points by Sheraton, Tung Chung



Located on the island of Lantau, the Four Points opened in 2020. The hotel offers complimentary in-room recreational activities, access to live-streamed fitness classes, complimentary WiFi, basic cleaning supplies, and HDMI cables to hook up electronics to the TV.

The hotel site also mentions, "Booking a room with a panoramic ocean view overlooking the airport can be therapeutic and help you overcome your quarantine blues." Maybe, maybe not. Moi? I think it'll just compound the torture knowing what's out there and what's not possible!

The hotel kitchen offers Asian, Western and vegetarian options, as well as 24-hour in-room dining and 24-hour delivery services. There are also complimentary bottled water, coffee and tea service. Not possible to go hungry. *Rates start at US\$135 per night.*

Lan Kwai Fong @ Kau U Fong



Situated in the heart of HK island's party district, the four-star Lan Kwai Fong is THE place to be, though it makes no difference if you're under quarantine! This boutique quarantine hotel is one of the most flexible hotels offering options for change

and cancellations. It is a most popular choice for those looking to book quarantine stays.

To make the isolated days go by a lot faster, the hotel offers daily necessities, microwave, coffee machine, fitness equipment rental services and free WiFi. For those traveling with families, there also are connecting rooms, making caring for young children or elderly relatives convenient and easy.

Lan Kwai Fong is also home to one-Michelin-starred Cantonese restaurant, Celebrity Cuisine by Chef Cheng. The hotel also has massage services and a 24-hour fitness center. Luxurious guestrooms are all equipped with a flat-screen TV and a minibar. Some rooms come with a private balcony, while upper floor rooms enjoy city views. *Rates start at US\$127 per night.*

The Landmark Mandarin Oriental, Central



Probably the most exclusive quarantine hotel in Hong Kong, Landmark Mandarin Oriental is more of a luxurious retreat than an isolation spot. Suites are approximately 3,660 square feet and each is spacious enough to include an individual living space and work area with a separate large whirlpool tub, rain shower, and even a walk-in closet. (Though, who needs a walk-in closet if all one needs to wear are PJs since one is not allowed to leave the room!) The room rate includes three set meals a day and a menu that rotates weekly (in case you need to extend your isolation), so dining is never boring. Guests also can order from hotel eateries with a 20% discount. Also, friends and family are welcome to drop off care packages. Exercise equipment are available for rent.

Few hotels in Hong Kong can beat the sheer luxury offered here. This five-star paradise in the heart of Central boasts 96 rooms, 13 suites, an incredible spa over two floors and dining options like the MO Bar with its unbeatable buffet breakfasts, and one of the city's most iconic restaurants, Amber. Furthermore, the hotel has some of the friendliest staff in HK. The rooms are elegantly and artistically designed, with luxurious bathrooms.

This luxurious experience will set you back *US\$507 a night.*

Ovolo Southside, Wong Chuk Hang



Ovolo Southside is located on the

southwest tip of HK island. The hotel was formerly a warehouse meticulously designed, with lots of "awe-inspiring" art. Its website claims the 162-room hotel was designed for "maximum effect": floor-to-ceiling windows, sleek exposed industrial piping or super-duper comfortable bedding. Free luggage storage and concierge services are also part of the deal.

Rooms come with a flat-screen TV, a safe deposit box and a minibar, rain shower, hair dryer and free toiletries. Three meals a day are included. Guests can choose from world-class modern bistro dishes throughout the day. Daily happy hour, social sessions with neighbouring "quarantiners" at the hotel, in-room fitness gear like mats, gliders and resistance bands, and meditation workshops are available.

To deter guests from becoming couch potatoes, there's also a daily step challenge. Those who successfully complete it are rewarded with treats. And, to celebrate the completion of the quarantine stay, the hotel rewards guests with an indulgent Last Supper Meal and a farewell bottle of bubbly (for 14- and 21-day stays). *Rates start at US\$87 per night.*

W Hong Kong, west Kowloon



Since January, W Hong Kong has been converted into a designated quarantine hotel, welcoming visitors and returning locals to a five-star experience. It is located in one of the coolest spots in town. -- just steps away from the luxury Elements shopping mall.

The hotel's suites offer views of west Kowloon and a flood of natural light, providing a feeling of being out in the open without being so under the restrictions.

Meals are prepared by a top-notch culinary team. Besides, being connected to the Elements Mall opens up plenty of options for food delivery, ranging from dim sum, baked goods, pho, hotpot, etc.

To maintain your mind and body, W guests can also enjoy in-room recreation, game and fitness gadgets, online classes ranging from yoga, wine tasting to coffee making, at an additional charge. *Rates start at US\$294 per night.*

Wondering where locals are sent for their quarantine? There are several government camps available, all stark and prison-like compared to hotels listed above. However, daily rate is much cheaper: US\$26 in 2020. Room size averages 200 square feet and comes with a table and chairs as well as a plastic-wrapped mattress. No WiFi access though. You pay for what you get.

The government-operated Penny's Bay quarantine camp is made up of shipping-container style buildings ringed by concrete, flood lights and a tall wire fence. Camp can house up to 3,500 people. Travelers from countries with rising cases are required to

Continued on page 5

State exports rebound to \$24 billion in 2021, 6% above 2019, prior to the pandemic

North American markets drove growth; machinery, electrical equipment and mineral fuel & oil led export gains

St. Paul – Minnesota exports of agricultural, mining and manufactured products rebounded from 2020, increasing by 17% to \$24 billion in 2021, according to a report released today by the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED). Not only did exports recover in 2021 from weakened exports during the first year of the pandemic in 2020, but they even surpassed 2019 levels, prior to the pandemic.

"The continued rebound in the state's exports is good news for Minnesota businesses - and the 112,000 Minnesotans whose jobs are supported by state exports," said DEED Commissioner Steve Grove. "We're heartened by this continued growth, but we know we must continue to do more to bring Minnesota goods to the global stage. We want the world to know: we build what matters in Minnesota."

"The Minnesota Trade Office offers innovative programs and services to assist small and medium-sized Minnesota companies navigate international markets and successfully grow their export sales," said Gabrielle Gerbaud, Executive Director of the Minnesota Trade Office. "We are dedicated to growing state exports to global markets as the world continues to emerge from pandemic disruptions."

North American markets drove Minnesota's export growth in 2021. Demand significantly strengthened in Canada, Minnesota's top export market (\$6.6 billion, up 36%) and Mexico, Minnesota's third largest export market, (\$2.5 billion, up 27%).

Export growth was more moderate to Asia (\$7.7 billion, up 8%) and in Europe (\$4.8 billion, up 11%). Exports recovered to 2019 levels in Asia but fell short in Europe (down 7%). Exports grew the most to the Philippines (ranked 6th largest; up \$451 million to \$786 million), China (ranked 2nd largest; up \$235 million to \$2.7 billion) and Ireland (ranked 10th largest; up \$102 million to \$547 million).

Among products, machinery, electrical

equipment, and mineral fuel & oil saw the largest export gains. Surging global sales of machinery (up \$1 billion), mineral fuel & oil (up \$751 million), and electrical equipment (up \$747 million) fueled Minnesota's overall recovery in exports in 2021 and pushed these exports over their 2019 levels.

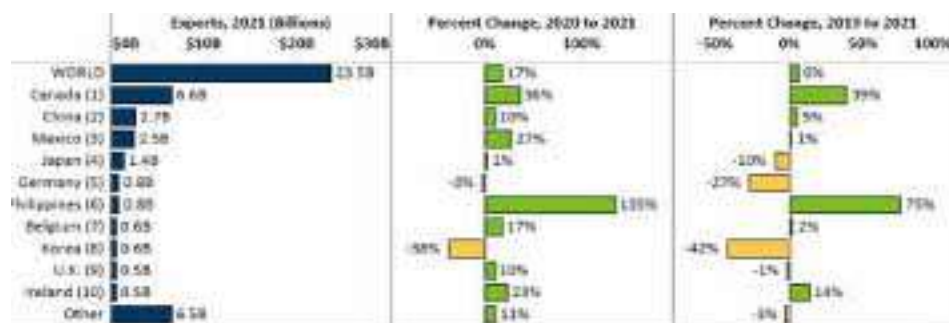
Minnesota conducted \$56 billion in total trade in goods with over 200 countries in 2021. Total trade grew 16% since 2020 (up 8% since 2019). With \$32 billion in imports of goods, the state ran a trade deficit in goods of about \$9 billion in 2021. In 2021, U.S. exports grew by 23% over 2020. Minnesota ranked 22nd highest in exports among the 50 states for total exports, down from 21st in 2020.

Additional details can be found in the 2021 annual report, which is posted on DEED's website in the [Export and Trade Statistics](#) section.

The Minnesota Trade Office (MTO) supports small- and medium-sized Minnesota businesses through technical assistance, export education and training programs, trade promotion activities, services by offices in strategic overseas locations, and export expansion grants. State Trade and Export Promotion (STEP) grants – 50% matching, up to \$7,500 – support a range of export development activities, including participation in virtual and in-person trade shows and missions. The MTO also serves as Minnesota's Office of Protocol, ensuring that the state's interactions with foreign delegations and dignitaries are conducted with appropriate diplomatic etiquette and cultural practices.♦

DEED is the state's principal economic development agency, promoting business recruitment, expansion and retention, workforce development, international trade and community development. For more details about the agency and its services, visit the [DEED website](#), the [JoinUsMn.com website](#), or follow us on [Twitter](#).

Exports for Minnesota's Top 10 Markets in 2021, with Trends Since 2020 and 2019



Exports for Minnesota's Top 10 Products in 2021, With Trends Since 2020 and 2019



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Travel

Quarantine in HK?

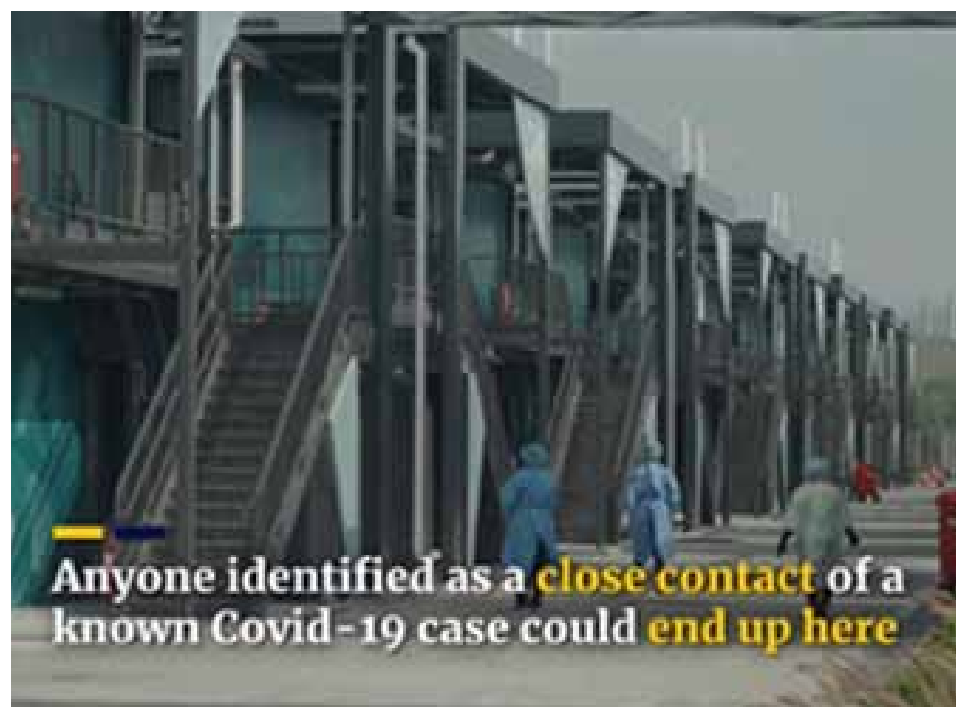
Continued from page 4

stay at least a week at the camp. The teaser image on p. 1 is an aerial view of one of Hong Kong's quarantine centres the Lady MacLehose Holiday Village.

Word has it that bookings for quarantine hotels are going fast. So, if you are interested

in visiting Hong Kong in the near future, reserve early to avoid disappointment.

To access a complete list of designated quarantine hotels, booking status, and the latest news regarding travel requirements, visit [Hong Kong SAR website](#).♦



The government-operated Penny's Bay quarantine camp is made up of shipping-container style buildings ringed by concrete, flood lights and a tall wire fence. Camp can house up to 3,500 people. Travelers from countries with rising cases are required to stay at least a week at the camp. The teaser image on p. 1 is an aerial view of one of Hong Kong's quarantine centres the Lady MacLehose Holiday Village.

Chinese Language Corner (漢語角)

Around the dinner table

By Pat Welsh | contributor

This lesson focuses on simple sentences heard around the dinner table.

English	Pinyin	Classifier*
knife	dāo-zi	bǎ
fork	chā-zi	.ge, gè
spoon	sháo-zi	bǎ
napkin	cān-jīn-zhǐ	zhāng
plate	pán-zi	.ge, gè
cup	bēi-zi	.ge, gè
glass	bō-lí	.ge, gè
bowl	wǎn	.ge, gè
bottle	píng-zi	.ge, gè
salt	yán	
pepper	hú-jiāo	
sugar	táng	

*Recall that classifiers are used after numbers and words meaning “another”, “this”, “that” and “which” (lìng-yī, zhè, nà and nǎ). The sentences below will show how they are used. Notice that the word for “a” is literally “one+classifier”.

English	Literal Translation	Pinyin
Please pass me a fork.	Please-pass-me-one-fork	Qǐng dì-gěi wǒ yī-gè chā-zi
Do you want another napkin?	You - want - another - classifier - napkin - spoken question mark	Nǐ yào lìng-yī zhāng cān-jīn-zhǐ ma?
Yes, (I want one.)	want	Yào
No, (I don't want one.)	not - want	Bù-yào
Can you give me a spoon?	You - can - give - me -one -spoon - spoken question mark	Nǐ néng gěi wǒ yī-ge sháo-zi ma?
Yes, here it is.	Can, then - be at - here.	Néng, jiù zài zhè-lǐ
Yes, here it is.	Is so, then - be at - here	Shì-de, jiù zài zhè-lǐ
No, I don't have any.	No, I - not - can. I - not - have	Bù, wǒ bù néng. Wǒ méi-yǒu.

English	Pinyin	Classifier
breakfast	cǎo-cān	
lunch	wǔ-cān	
supper	wǎn-cān	
dining room	fàn-tīng	jiàn, gè, ge
table	zhuō-zi	zhāng
surrounding	zhōu-wéi-de	
prepare	zhǔn-bèi	
here	zhè-lǐ, zhèr	
enter, come into	jìn-lái	
enter, go into	jìn-qù	
sit	zuò	
sit down	zuò-xià	
seat	zuò-wèi	ge
next to X	zài-X-páng-biān	

English	Literal Translation	Pinyin
Dinner is ready. Dinner is served.	Supper - prepare - well.	Wǎn-cān zhǔn-bèi hǎo-le.*
Please go into the dining room.	Please - enter/ go into - dining room.	Qǐng jìn-qù fàn-tīng.
Please sit anywhere around the table.	Please - sit - at - table - surrounding - any - place.	Qǐng zuò zài zhuō-zì zhōu-wéi de rèn-hé dì-fāng.
Please sit here.	Please - sit - at - here.	Qǐng zuò zài zhè-lǐ.
That is your seat.	That - is - your - seat.	Nà shì nǐ-de zuò-wèi.
Please sit next to Mr. Wang.	Please - sit - at - Wang - Mr. - next to	Qǐng zuò zài Wáng Xiān-shēng páng-biān.

* “-hǎole” is a verbal suffix indicating a satisfactory result of the preceding verb. It is translated as “well” in this lesson.

Pronunciation reminders

This system follows Chinese Pinyin with the exception that the letter “u” has two pronunciations. Sometimes it has the value of ü (“ee” as in “see” with rounded lips). At those times we use the symbol “ü” instead of Pinyin “u.” In making this sound, it is most important that the vowel more resembles an “ee” sound as in “see” and definitely does not sound like a “oo” sound as in “moon”.

a, an, ang	The ‘a’ in these syllables sounds like the ‘a’ in “father”.
ai	Sounds like the ‘igh’ in “high”.
ao	Sounds like the “ow” in “cow”.
cong	ts’oong (the ts is aspirated - a slight breath of air follows the ts sound.)
de, ke	Here the “e” sounds much like the “a” in “above” or the “u” in “under”.
ei	Sounds like the “ay” in “say” or “day”.
en, eng	Sounds like the “un” in “fun” or the “ung” in “lung”.
ian	Sounds like “ee-ehn” or “yen” (Here “ehn” and “en” almost sounds like the word “yen”.)
ie	Sounds like “ye” in “yet”.
le	The ‘e’ sounds like the ‘u’ in “fun”.
-nr	This is a nasal ‘r’ sound; yì-diǎnr sounds almost like yeè-dyǎnr.
ong	The “o” here sounds much like the “oo” in “ooze” or “spoon”.
ou	Sounds like the “ou” in “dote”
qian	Sounds “tchee-ehn” (ehn rhymes with “hen”)
qi	Sounds like “chee” in “cheese”.
qū	Sounds like “chee” in “cheese” but uttered with rounded lips.
shi	Sounds almost like the “shir” in “shirt”. The tongue is retracted and lightly curled.
si	Sounds somewhat like sz, the vowel is short, it is between “i” in “it” and “u” in “mut”.
ü	Sounds much like the “ee” in “see” but the vowel must be uttered with rounded lips.
ui	Sounds almost like the English word “way”.
x	Sounds like a weak “sh”; xing sounds like “sheeng”.
you	Sounds somewhat like the “yo” in “yodel”.
z	Sounds like a “tz” without any aspiration. Pronouncing this as ‘dz’ betrays American accent which will still be understood by the listener.
zi	Unaspirated tz, the vowel ‘i’ is short, it is between “i” in “it” and “u” in “mut”.
zh	This is an unaspirated “ch” with the tongue retracted and lightly curled. For example “zhong” almost sounds like “droong” and “zhu” sound almost like “drew”.
zhi	Sounds almost like “djir”. It sounds much like the “jer” in “jerk”.

Tones

Using numbers: 5 = your normal high 4 = mid-high 3 = your normal mid pitch 2 = mid low pitch 1 = your normal low pitch

Tone	Description	Notes
ā	High level pitch (55)	Regarding tone ā
á	Mid-Rising Tone (35)	• when occurring directly before another dipping tone, tone ā changes tone á.
ǎ	Dipping (213)	Thus “hěn hǎo” (very good) changes to “hén hǎo”
à	High falling pitch (51)	• occurring directly before any other tone, Tone ǎ will change to a mid-falling tone
a	An unstressed neutral tone. Following other syllables, syllables in this tone tend to be somewhat lower than that of the previous syllable. The lone exception is when it occurs after tone ǎ when the neutral tone is often slightly higher in pitch.	Regarding tone à When occurring before another à tone, the first tone à reduces its fall to 53 or 54

In my next offering, we will learn short sentences and phrases that might be heard in a restaurant.♦

About Pat Welsh

In 2009 while teaching English at Sichuan University, Welsh was asked to give a speech where he was introduced to the audience as a “pioneer of Chinese American relations” as a result of his cooperative work in international banking during the Deng Xiaoping era. For more than 65 years, Welsh has been learning Chinese and has used this knowledge both professionally and personally to enhance his understanding of Chinese and Asian affairs. He uses Beijing Mandarin most frequently when meeting with senior Chinese government officials when conducting business in China.

For 17 years, Welsh taught Chinese, German and Spanish in two local high schools. Now fully retired, he currently resides in Georgia where he used to lecture on China to a number of classes at Dunwoody High School.

Xiangxi Miao Drum Dance in China

Part 2: Meaning and roles of drum dance

By Bu Aihua and Yang Zhiqing | Center for Hunan Cultural Heritage at [Huaihua University](http://www.huaihua.edu.cn) | contributors

The meaning of the drum dance movements

Typically, Xiangxi Miao drum dance movements are very expressive and rich in connotations. They involve and vividly narrate the four subjects closely related to Xiangxi Miao people's daily life and laboring, martial arts, Chinese boxing, and some animal movements.

The imitated movements relevant to daily life such as combing hair, cleaning ears, looking at the mirror, getting dressed, making bed, wearing Miao headscarf, washing face and brushing teeth, washing rice, cooking, doing some cleaning, doing laundry, picking up flowers, wearing flowers, arranging flowers, doing embroidery, doing some sewing, carrying a baby, itching, pounding back, pulling a beard, walking, kicking shuttlecock, climbing mountain, etc.

The imitated movements relevant to the routine laboring are weaving, beating beans, pounding dried hot peppers, digging wild onions, rolling sun-cure mats for drying rice, plowing, sowing, transplanting rice shoots, treading the weeds in the rice fields, cutting rice, threshing rice, carrying rice, drying rice, harvesting rice, cutting into a mountain to build a road or a house, fishing, making glutinous rice cakes, forging iron, etc..

The movements of martial arts and Chinese boxing are such as *xuehuagaiding* "雪花盖顶," *liuxingchanyao* "流星缠腰," *qinglongsuohou* "青龙锁喉," *zhitougong* "指头功," *kaizhuanggong* "开桩功," *dunpaigong* "盾牌功," *qianniuguohu* "牵牛过河," *huangtousuodan* "黄头锁胆," Chinese boxing "打拳," etc.

The imitated movements of animals are chiefly of monkeys and buffaloes. For monkeys: picking ears, pulling a bead, picking peaches, itching, playing drums, drinking wine, picking corn, hitting stones, catching lice, smoking cigarette; and for buffaloes: fighting against each other, wiping the back, drinking water, eating grass, plowing fields, etc..

The roles and values of Xiangxi Miao drumming and drum dance

In ancient times, Miao people regarded drum as the embodiment of the God of thunder and an artifact for offering sacrifice to gods or ancestors, or for driving away ghosts or evils. It gradually expanded to drive away wild animals or for military affairs during the war because of its unique "spirit" and sound effect. With passage of time and the development of social economy and culture, the roles and values of Xiangxi Miao drum-

ming and drum dance primarily include four aspects: worship or driving away evils; narration; transmission and encouragement; entertainment and celebrations.

Worship or driving away evils

Drumming has been employed to offer sacrifices to the gods or ancestors since ancient times. Xiangxi Miao people believe that drumming could entertain the gods and awaken the sleeping souls of their ancestors to keep away the evils and bless them with happiness, well-being and prosperity.

Narration (Chronicle and history transmission)

One of the most typical features of Xiangxi Miao drum dance is it has a narrative function, which is different from that of other ethnic groups. The drum dance of the other ethnic groups is mostly lyrical, while Xiangxi Miao's is not only lyrical, but also narrative. As Xiangxi Miao people don't have a written language, though, with thousands years of history, they have recorded history and inherited civilization in different forms of arts. It is generally believed that Miao songs, embroideries, drum dance, etc., are the major "recorders" of Miao history and culture. As to Xiangxi Miao drum dance, it vividly reproduces the history, laboring and life of Xiangxi Miao ethnic groups through logical drum dance movements, forming a relatively complete drum culture of logical narration, which fully reflects the role and narrative value of the Xiangxi Miao drum dance. For example, the Monkey Drum Dance reflects a historical memory of human ancestors---apes. The imitated movements of the slashing and burning cultivation in the drum dance record the history of Miao nationality with agrarian roots. The martial arts movements represented in the drum dance reflect Xiangxi Miao people's martial spirit and historical struggles. Xiangxi Miao drum dance has formed its own national artistic language by integrating the occurrence, development and ending of things into the genre of drum music. It is rich and popular, vivid and logical.

Transmission and encouragement

Xiangxi Miao drumming, with a very long history, has become a great national cohesive force among Xiangxi Miao ethnic groups. It played a vital role in calling on and encouraging Miao people to resist against the invasions of foreign forces and the repression from the feudal ruling classes of different dynasties. The drumming has

been used to transmit information with its unique "drum language" since ancient times by Xiangxi Miao people. Because the sound of a drum is very strong and loud, travelling long distances, drumming is an extremely effective communication tool to enhance communication with each other or among Miao ethnic groups. Xiangxi Miao people have lived in the



Xiangxi Miao drum dance on mountain cliff

deep mountains with villages usually far apart. So during emergencies, timely and effective messages could be delivered using "drum language." According to historical records, Miao drumming was originally used in the battlefield. For example, during the war with the Yanhuang tribe in Zhuolu "涿鹿" (in Zhuolu County, Hebei province), which was called War of Zhuolu in history "涿鹿之战." Miao ancestors used the agreed unique "drum language" -- the strength or rhythms of the drumming, to convey secret orders, supervise the battle, enhance cohesion and boost the morale of the army. Even today, Miao drumming has always been an effective tool to inspire the fighting spirit of Miao people.

Entertainment and celebrations

Xiangxi Miao people have been struggling for generations. They have been living in remote and less-developed areas, isolated by thick forest. In order to improve the spiritual life, they played drums for entertainment and communication, gradually created the art of Xiangxi Miao Drum Dance. During festivals or celebrations, etc., they perform drum dance for entertainment and jubilation. Nowadays, they perform drum dance for good health or cultural inheritance. These primarily include Festival Drum Dance "节庆鼓," Invitation Drum Dance "邀请鼓," Welcoming Drum Dance "迎宾鼓," Visiting Drum Dance "拜客鼓" and Gate Drum Dance "拦门鼓," etc. For example, the New Year's Celebration Drum Dance "庆年鼓" is performed in the first half of the first lunar month every year. When the New Year's coming, everyone, old and young in the village, would gather

together to perform drum dance. Some spectacular celebrations will have 100 drums being played at the same time!

It's a splendid sound of songs, cheers, drums, gongs, Suona "唢呐," Lusheng "芦笙," immersed in a sea of joy echoing around the villages and deep mountains.

Xiangxi Miao drum dance is produced, evolved, developed and spread in the long-term social life, laboring and struggle of Miao people, which is inextricably linked to Miao people's history, culture, economy and life. It has become a typical and unique national folk art with its unique and diverse forms, rich cultural connotations, powerful artistic heritage, remarkable roles and values, moreover, and directly reflects the characters of Xiangxi Miao people, such as enthusiasm, hospitality, simplicity, diligence, courage, unity, wisdom, integrity, and love of life. With the advance of social culture and economy, the survival context of Xiangxi Miao drum dance has been changing with the times, which raises new challenges for the protection, inheritance, innovation and development. We need do our best to push the work forward and help the world get to know more about it and let Xiangxi Miao drum dance connect the world, and the world connect Xiangxi Miao drum dance.

Part 1 of this article can be found in the March issue China Insight. It covered drum music and the various forms of dances. It also highlighted the Hmong (part of the Chinese Miao minority group) and Chinese connection and the inclusion of a Hmong Heritage Wall in Phalen Park's China Friendship Garden. ♦



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Yang Zhiqing is the director of Cultural Centre of Huaihua City. He is also a senior research fellow and his research interest focuses on the protection, inheritance, innovation and development of Chinese culture.

Fenwick Pier, HK historical landmark, disappears

By Elaine Dunn | April 2022



You've heard often that in real estate, it's "location, location, location." Well, the sword cuts both ways. Old and older buildings built on prime property are often prime targets for demolition.

Hong Kong's Fenwick Pier (分域碼頭) recently suffered such a fate.

The pier was once where tens of thousands of sailors from U.S. first set foot on HK soil and passed through its halls for their R&R. After the 1997 Handover, it also opened its facilities to military ships from 13 other countries.

The facility was built along Victoria Harbor in Wanchai, moving to 1 Lung King St. (龍景街), Admiralty, in 1970. Considered the "lighthouse" of hospitality, it offered foreign sailors a font of information about Hong Kong, money changers and opportunities for buying foreign magazines and souvenirs at reasonable prices. This historic landmark closed this past Feb. 11, after 69 years of service.

Fenwick Pier had always been an interesting place. Since 1957, it was owned and operated by the Servicemen's Guides Association (SGA), a nonprofit founded in 1953 on behalf of the British government to provide service to visiting sailors. Its records show that from 1981 to 1997, between 37 and 99 naval ships docked there annually, each carrying hundreds of sailors. In 2011, the facility welcomed 28 ships with "over 36,500 naval visitors who spent over

US\$36,500,000" in Hong Kong.

AND, for years, it also had one of a handful of McDonald's around the world and the only one in HK that served beer and pizza!



When McDonald's left, its vinyl booths were put to good use in the atrium of the facility

Before the days of internet, smartphones and video chat, there were banks and banks of telephones for people to call home. "Then with the advent of WiFi and video chatting – just seeing them here, laughing, chatting with their families, and relaxing, are some of my fondest memories," said an ex-Fenwick employee.

An honorary adviser to the Hong Kong Museum of History said Fenwick Pier had moved several times in its lifetime.

From the 1880s to 1927, the very first pier was located at the junction of Ship Street and Johnston Road. It was a private pier for the shipyard, Geo. Fenwick & Co., owned by George Fenwick.

According to the Public Works Report, Public Pier "A," the "official" Fenwick Pier, was built in 1929 at the end of the mile-long Fenwick Street. It was T-shaped and projected a little over 41 ft. from the sea wall.

In the early 1960s, the pier sustained severe damage by typhoons Wanda (1962) and Ruby (1964) to the degree it had to be rebuilt. The rebuilt pier opened in June 1965. By 1967, the government had started extensive land reclamation projects in the Wanchai waterfront, which was slated

for the new expressway. The SGA had to relocate and the new building was opened for service in 1970 on Lung King St.. An extension to the pier was completed in 1974 and provided an enlarged area for the servicemen to relax.

In 1994, The Fleet Arcade, a four-storey mall opened at the pier. Admission to the facility is by membership only. However, everyone can apply, and there's no fee involved. Hong Kongers also enjoyed the mini mall and its eateries. In its most vibrant times, there was even a Lane Crawford, one of Hong Kong's high-end luxury department stores.



Times change and land-use evolve. The facility became landlocked as of 2016, sailors had been disembarking at another pier west of Fenwick. Decrease in naval visitors, coupled with the pandemic, business declined. The pier, no more as vital as in its heyday, had its days numbered.

Tony Wong, one of the shopowners, a third-generation tailor whose tailor shop had been there since 1994, remembers it fondly. He took over the shop from his father. He said in the "good old days," long queue of sailors lined up to get measured for their suits, "but they also want their beer, too! But we weren't allowed to sell them liquor." Since the '90s, people had been dressing down, so less business. When the place closes, he will move into a new location and, since he's established younger clients, he hopes he will be able to serve them better at the new location.



Tony Wong in his tailor shop, calling customers to come and pick up their orders before the store closes

The owner of an Italian restaurant told the South China Morning Post that since 2015, the future had been uncertain. Rent was on an annual basis, then on 6-month basis. But he said "every year is a gift," and every day is appreciated. He, too, has moved to another Wanchai location, but continued to operate at Fenwick until the day the facility closes.

A retired U.S. Navy officer remembered the mini shopping mall where sailors could get suits and jewellery at good prices well. In 1997, he worked at the pier in the Ship Support Office, which helped get supplies, from food to fuel, onto ships. He reminisced about a lunch in 1997. "My boss, a US Navy lieutenant commander, invited me

to lunch at an Indian restaurant, and the owner introduced himself as Bob. Over the next two hours Bob ordered plates of food and explained their origin, the spices and elements that gave them their flavour, and how each was cooked," he said in an email.

"At one point he brought us back to the kitchen to see the tandoori ovens and show us how naan bread was made. I asked him about his family origin, and he told a great story that was not uncommon in Hong Kong – a family that came with nothing and built something special. To this day it's one of the most memorable meals of my life. Our host that day was Bob Harilela, and I had no idea at the time that he was a member of one of Hong Kong's most prominent business families.*"

Alas, the historic point of arrival for generations of sailors visiting Hong Kong is no more. An era has ended. The new plan for the harbourfront site is for public landing steps, a fire station and a park. Not quite the same.

Nothing will stand in the way of progress. Not even the historic Fenwick Pier! ♦

* The Harilelas are multimillionaires and hotel kings of Hong Kong. The Harilela Group encompasses hotels, restaurants, travel agencies, real estate and stores. Although they have lived in Hong Kong for more than 90 years, their roots go back to Hyderabad, Sindh, which is now in Pakistan.



Many young service men and women had walked down these stairs in anticipation of a good time in Hong Kong



Geo. Fenwick & Co. shipyard with pier on left, c.1880s



Fenwick Pier's Servicemen's Guide, c.1962



A landlocked Fenwick Pier with enlarged Fleet Arcade



CHINESE HERITAGE FOUNDATION FRIENDS
傳龍基金友誼會

Please join the CHFF for Part II of our Sunday Tea Series on May 15th

for a presentation of

The History of Chinese Restaurant Business in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area

The Chinese Heritage Foundation Friends (CHFF) will continue our Sunday Tea series on the *History of the Chinese Restaurant Business* in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Part II of the series will feature special guest Laura Chin, who will join CHFF board member Mary Yee for a discussion of contemporary Chinese women restaurateurs. Leeann Chin, who with her daughter Laura Chin, opened Leeann Chin Chinese Cuisine in 1980 and rapidly expanded their successful business to 50 well known restaurants regionally.



This event will take place on **Sunday, May 15, 2022 from 1:00 – 3:00 PM.**

THE TRAFFIC ZONE CENTRE FOR VISUAL ART
250 3rd Avenue North
Minneapolis MN 55401
Instructions for RSVPs in May Issue

Early Chinese Immigrants in Minneapolis

Reprinted with permission from Michael Rainville Jr. and Mill City Times | Nov. 22, 2021 (original pub date)

Immigrants from China first arrived in North America before the United States became a nation, working as sailors and merchants on Spanish galleons, sailing between Mexico and the Philippines. The United States acquired much of Mexico's northern territory in 1848 with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, ending the Mexican – American War. By this time, many small communities of Chinese immigrants in California were already established, and that number only grew during the next few decades as many came to America to test their luck during the California gold rush and to help complete the first transcontinental railroad.

One of the first Chinese men to start a new life in Minneapolis was Woo Yee Sing who first arrived in San Francisco in the early 1880s at the age of 18. Soon after in 1882, the U.S. passed the Chinese Exclusion Act, which restricted Chinese immigration to America and led to further segregation of Chinese Americans within the communities they have called home for decades. Woo Yee Sing came to Minneapolis in order to escape persecution on the west coast and operated a laundromat. In 1883, he started the first Chinese restaurant in Minneapolis with his brother Woo Du Sing known as the Canton Café. Woo Yee Sing returned to San Francisco in 1892 with the goal of finding a bride, and that's when he met Liang May Seen who arrived in San Francisco in 1885 at the age of 14. Liang May Seen's parents were approached by a man who said if she went to America, she would be marrying a



Portrait of Liang with son Howard taken in 1910.

wealthy Chinese American businessman. However, he sold her to a brothel as soon as they arrived in San Francisco.

Liang May Seen escaped the brothel in 1889 and was taken in by the Presbyterian Mission Home in San Francisco where she became fluent in English and also took classes in housekeeping and mathematics. Once Liang May Seen and Woo Yee Sing were introduced to each other, they married and headed to Minneapolis making Liang May Seen the first Chinese woman to call Minnesota home.

Because of Liang May Seen's excellent grasp of the English language, she quickly made friends in Minneapolis, opening a curio shop in 1904. During her time at the Presbyterian Mission Home in San Francisco, she converted to Christianity, and in Minneapolis, she continued to participate in the faith. She joined the Women's Foreign Missionary Society where she met suffragist Mabeth Hurd Paige who was one of the first four women to be elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives. Liang May Seen and her husband also joined the Westminster Presbyterian Church, located on Marquette Avenue and South Twelfth Street. The church had a Chinese Sunday School that helped many Chinese immigrants get acquainted with Minneapolis society. ♦



Honeymoon portrait of the couple taken in 1893



Cantonese sign for their restaurant reading "Yuen Faung Low," made in 1913. ♦

Government & Politics

Taiwan's Olympic name

By Elaine Dunn | April 2022



For those who watched the Winter Olympics, you may remember the tiny four-athlete contingent from Taiwan entered the stadium at the Opening Ceremony minus the Taiwanese flag. They were announced as the team from "Chinese Taipei," a place with a name that's not on any map! Why?

It's a long, contentious story involving the competing Chinas.

Taiwan had been competing under "Chinese Taipei" after communist China first made its Olympics debut at the 1980 Winter Olympics. Until then, Taiwan had been competing under the name the Republic of China. But Beijing petitioned in 1980 to disallow the use of that name by Taiwan and Taiwan athletes arriving at Lake Placid, New York, were not allowed to compete.

In 1949, the Chinese Communist Party won the civil war against the Nationalist Party, the Kuomintang. The latter fled across the strait to the island of Taiwan, which, at that time, was transitioning from decades of Japanese colonization.

For two decades, the exiled Chinese, known as the Republic of China and known internationally as "Free China," received international support and was recognized as "China." On the other hand, communist China, was shunned by the United States and many members of the United Nations as well as the International Olympic Committee. The mainland was known at that point as the People's Republic of China and was not allowed to participate at the Olympics, unlike the Taiwanese team.

Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, both Taiwan and communist China maintained there was only "one China" and no country or entity was allowed to recognize both as "China."

However, the winds began to shift during the 1960s when the U.S. began to see "normalizing" U.S.-Beijing relations was beneficial, if not essential. Growing Sino-Soviet rivalry provided the opportunity.

In July 1971, a secret diplomatic mission was set up by Dr. Henry Kissinger, then U.S. National Security Advisor, to solidify the U.S.-Beijing relation. The U.S. had a heavy price to pay: drop its longtime ally Taiwan and, drop its veto of the People's Republic of China's admission to the U.N. However, the U.S. still argued that Taiwan should remain a member of the UN. But Beijing would not hear of it, insisting on "One China." ♦

So Taiwan's political fortune all changed on Oct. 25, 1971, when the UN General Assembly passed resolution No. 2758 with a two-thirds majority to admit the People's Republic of China. Taiwan, which had been a member and held a seat as a permanent member of the Security Council since 1945 was expelled, just like that!

President Richard Nixon's trip in 1972 to Beijing further warmed ties between the U.S. and communist China, leading to diplomatic recognition of the mainland in 1979. Also in 1979, the International Olympic Committee passed a resolution by which both Taiwan and Beijing agreed to abide – that Taiwan would compete as "Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee" and mainland China, "Chinese Olympic Committee." (Hong Kong athletes compete under "Hong Kong, China.") And, medal counts would be separate. In addition, during medal ceremonies, a "flag-raising anthem will be played instead of Taiwan's and Hong Kong's official national anthems.

Taiwan's international recognition as an independent government has continued to dwindle, thanks to China's political bullying.

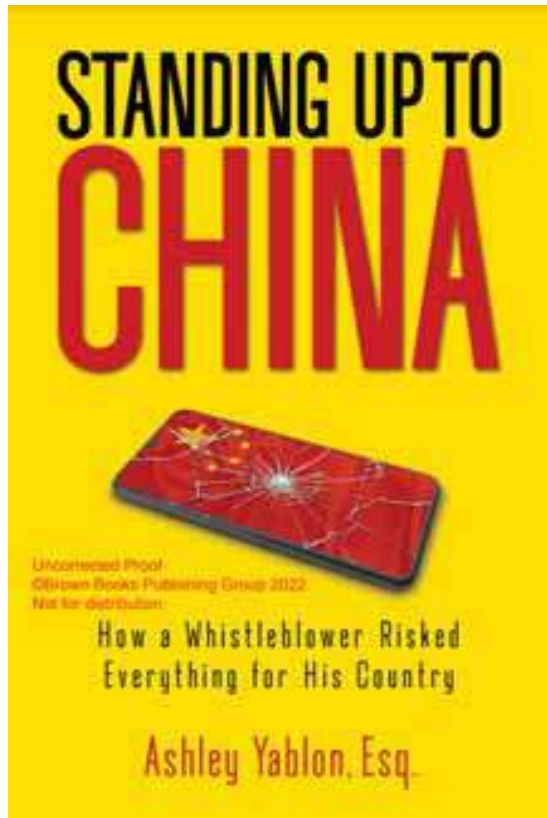
Perhaps in defiance or perhaps it was an honest mistake, at the 2021 Tokyo Olympics, a Japanese announcer referred to the Taiwanese team as "the team from Taiwan" instead of the "Chinese Taipei Olympic Committee." Mainland Chinese officials were not happy!

To head off further "mistakes," Beijing's Taiwan Affairs Office modified the Chinese name for the team from Taiwan. Instead of "zhonghua," it used "zhongguo." "Zhonghua" refers to anything Chinese whereas the latter, "zhongguo" specifically applies to China, the country, thereby implying to Mandarin-speakers that the team from Taiwan is part of the Chinese team! Of course the Taiwan government protested its altered name!

In 2018, a former Taiwanese Olympian launched a campaign to change the team's name back to "Taiwan." But many opposed him, fearing that name change could result from Taiwan athletes being barred from competing, a high probability knowing how Beijing works.

Finally, the IOC does not include Taiwan and Hong Kong athletes' medals in China's medal tallies, but guess who does? ♦

“Standing up to China: How a Whistleblower Risked Everything for his Country” by Ashley Yablon



Author: Ashley Yablon
Publisher: Brown Books Publishing
Publication date: April 2022
Hardcover: 246 pages

Ashley Yablon was born and raised in Dallas. He graduated cum laude from Southern Methodist University with a degree in political science and went on to graduate from Loyola New Orleans. He moved up the career ladder quickly. By age 40, he became general counsel for ZTE.

The ambitious, driven law man believes that success is earned, not given. As general counsel of ZTE, Yablon bravely stood up for his country during the biggest scandal to ever hit the tech industry.

His refusal to toe the line when faced with a dangerous moral dilemma is an inspiration to all Americans.

As the political conversation shifts back to China in the midst of Ukraine-Russia conflict, Ashley Yablon’s book is incredibly timely.

Former Attorney General Bill Barr recently warned on a Fox News interview that “China is the biggest threat that the country faces, not only militarily – but also technologically,” echoing comments from Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines and FBI director Christopher Wray. Barr warned that China has a “highly aggressive plan to take control of key technologies ... seizing on the high ground of a lot of that, through thefts and secrets.”

“Standing Up to China: How a Whistleblower Risked Everything for His Country” tells the thrilling true story of Yablon — a whistleblower who risked his life and career to expose his company’s illegal business dealings with Iran. Yablon’s debut nonfiction recounts the national headline spiral that followed his affidavit leak, outing him as an informant to the F.B.I. He takes readers with him on a head-to-head legal battle against the world’s top Chinese telecoms giant.

As the freshly minted general counsel for ZTE, Yablon believed he’d landed his dream job. That was, until a confidential meeting in China where Yablon uncovered his company’s illegal scheme to sell billions of dollars’ worth of surveillance equipment to embargoed countries. If overlooked, the transactions could have led to critical security threats against the United States. Yablon’s choice to become an informant and expose illegal trade within his company led him down a course of personal and professional peril that ended with ZTE pleading guilty. This resulted in the largest fine levied in U.S. history at the conclusion of the court case in March of 2017: \$1.2 billion in criminal and civil penalties.

“Standing Up to China” remains more relevant than ever today. As reported during the Defense Intelligence Agency’s annual threat assessment, China remains unquestionably “the primary danger to U.S. national security,” and ZTE continues to make headlines with new bribery and corruption allegations. Even 10 years after the whistle was blown, the domino effect of Yablon’s

actions continues to assist in rooting out corruption within the Chinese tech behemoth.

Yablon has firsthand knowledge not just of China’s capability, but also their willingness to conduct illegal activity that threatens U.S. national security.

Following are a Q&A session with the author.

Q. “Standing Up to China” includes accessible explanations of relevant laws and ordinances. In as condensed an answer as you can manage, could you please break down the illegal activity you uncovered while at ZTE?

A month into the job, I realized that ZTE was under investigation by the House Intelligence Committee for potentially being a “threat to national security” because their cell phones had “backdoors” and other ways to gather personal information. In early 2012, the Department of Commerce was investigating ZTE for selling phone and spying equipment that contained U.S. component parts to Iran, a country banned from receiving U.S. goods. When the House Intelligence Committee accepted an invitation to visit ZTE’s Shenzhen headquarters in April 2012, I flew out to China to help prepare for the meeting. This is where I was shown a contract that included all the ZTE entities that would help Iran get the equipment, a 900-page packing slip naming all the shell companies of ZTE involved and a section header stating, “How we are going to get around U.S. Export Laws.” ZTE was intentionally breaking U.S. trade laws by purchasing U.S. component parts domestically in America and shipping them to Shenzhen, where they would be incorporated into ZTE products and then illegally be “re-exported” to the embargoed countries — in this instance, Iran.

Q. After writing of their experiences, fellow whistleblowers who expose corruption among China’s elite are once more put in the Chinese Communist Party’s crosshairs. Do you have any concerns you would once more be risking your personal and professional safety by publishing “Standing Up to China”?

After going through what I did years ago, concerns are natural. However, not once did I hesitate while writing or going through with publishing my story, my truth. The risk will always be there. But the truth needed to be told.

Q. How is your professional life impacted to the present moment from what you endured working at ZTE?

As you could imagine, I initially tried to steer clear of all conversations relating to ZTE. I reasoned no company would want to hire a G.C. who was recently on the front page of the Smoking Gun, receiving death threats and involved with the FBI. The inevitable part was accepting that this incident is now a part of my legacy and it would follow me for my lifetime, and I wouldn’t let it define or destroy me. I am now working as an attorney providing outsourced general counsel services to companies. I take my expertise and serve as a consultant to help companies streamline their in-house legal departments. Whether I am on an interview for a new placement or on a meeting with clients discussing my relevant experience, the question always arises: “Can you tell us about this thing with you and ZTE?”

Q. Working in ZTE’s U.S. base allowed you ample opportunity to compare contrasting perspectives on U.S. law. Looking back, what red flag(s) shocked you the most about ZTE’s flagrant disregard of U.S. sanctions?

Looking back, there were so many red flags that stuck out to me, but I was too blinded by my ambition to pay close attention to them. I will tell you, what shocked me the most was how brazen ZTE was throughout the investigation. From the “How we are going to get around U.S. Export Laws” header to their blatantly asking me to help them commit illegal acts against my own country, it was as though they never thought what they were doing was wrong and that U.S. laws were merely a nuisance that they needed to get around.

Q. “Standing Up to China” addresses the financial burdens, professional jeop-

ardies, and interpersonal hardships that followed in the wake of the FBI affidavit leak. If there was a crash-course in what to expect after whistleblowing, what key lessons do you wish you’d been debriefed on beforehand?

Standing up for what is right is not easy by any means. Whistleblowing is not for everyone, either. You may need to be the one who puts your hand down and finds another job. I don’t think there was anything I could’ve known beforehand that would have prepared me for the aftermath of the ZTE scandal. I can say, you will learn who your true friends are and the value of those relationships. Never take those friendships for granted. You will also learn to reinvent yourself and become more adaptable — this is for the good. Be willing to accept the fallout, and realize that the truth is a much better course forward than lying or not saying anything.

Q. In “Standing Up to China,” intense, never-ending gaslighting put you through the ringer. What advice do you have to share for those who are about to risk undergoing similar psychological warfare after blowing their own whistles?

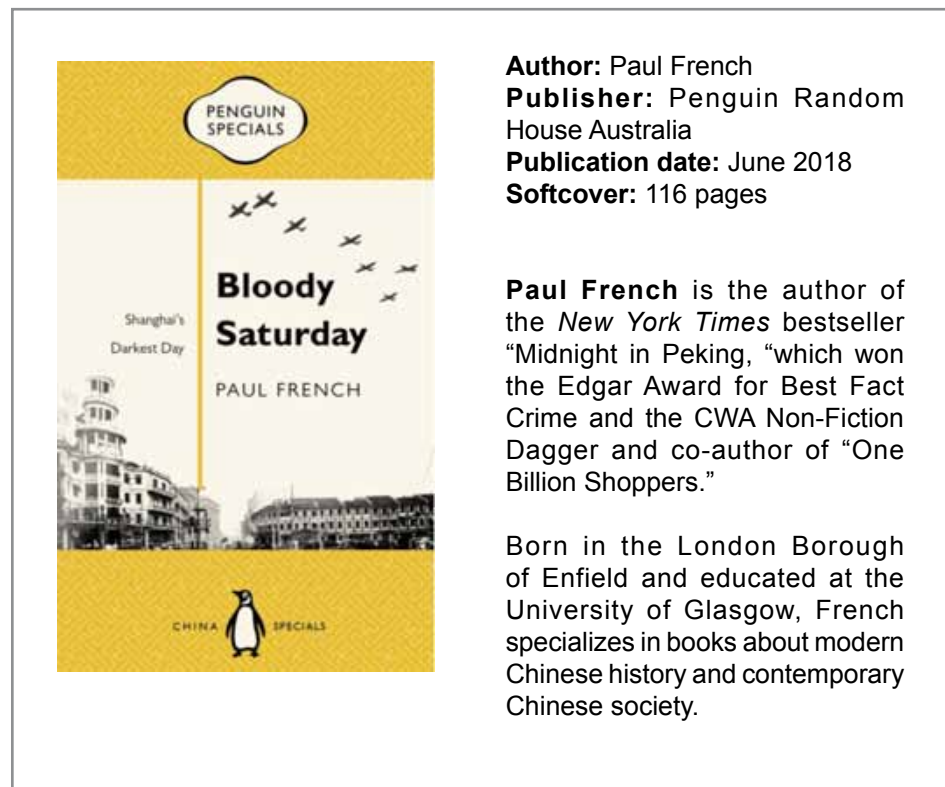
Following your moral compass isn’t always the easy route, as some would think. You have a ton of factors to consider. However, the cost of doing the wrong thing is sometimes higher in the long run. If I would’ve kept my head down and not made waves, there’s a very good chance I would be in federal prison right now. My advice would be to just realize that doing the right thing, while tougher, may cost much less in the long run.

Q. Perhaps drawing from your own experiences, can you share safe steps and procedures for those looking to expose corruption within their workplace while retaining anonymity?

Start with consulting your compliance or H.R. department; they will be able to advise you on the proper steps. Also, being aware of your company’s resources will be

“Bloody Saturday: Shanghai’s Darkest Day” by Paul French

Reviewed by Susan Blumberg-Kason | *Asian Review of Books* | January 15, 2022



Author: Paul French
Publisher: Penguin Random House Australia
Publication date: June 2018
Softcover: 116 pages

Paul French is the author of the *New York Times* bestseller “Midnight in Peking,” which won the Edgar Award for Best Fact Crime and the CWA Non-Fiction Dagger and co-author of “One Billion Shoppers.”

Born in the London Borough of Enfield and educated at the University of Glasgow, French specializes in books about modern Chinese history and contemporary Chinese society.

The mass aerial bombing that so characterized World War II and the wars that followed didn’t start with the blitz, Dresden or Tokyo, but was instead prefigured by the lethal bombing of Shanghai on 14 August 1937, preceded only by the bombing of Guernica in the Spanish Civil War earlier that year.

Paul French writes in “Bloody Saturday: Shanghai’s Darkest Day” — now available in a Southeast Asian edition of the original Penguin Australia “short”—of Japan’s bombing of Shanghai and the Chinese retaliation. Japan had bombed Shanghai back in 1932, but there had seemed to be some stability until Bloody Saturday in 1937.

French is a master storyteller and “Bloody Saturday” stands out not just for the story he tells but also for the everyday people he highlights. People like Claire Chennault and Victor Sassoon are household names and French includes both — or rather

Sir Victor’s Cathay Hotel and Broadway Mansions to be more specific — in his narrative. He also writes about other, lesser-known people, who witnessed, recorded, and helped save lives after bombings in front of the Cathay and Palace Hotels and the Great World amusement center.

Vanya Oakes was an American librarian who moved to Shanghai in 1933 to escape the Great Depression back home. She ended up writing for the China Press and covered the bombings. She knew that tensions were brewing with the Japanese and witnessed the growing numbers of Japanese gunboats along the Whangpoo River. After the bombing started near Bund, between the Palace and Cathay Hotels, she became trapped on the Garden Bridge, only to retreat later that day to the tea house at Yu Yuan Gardens when bombing occurred near the Great World.

Another lesser-known figure in the book

was Lucien Ovadia, a cousin of Victor Sassoon who worked in the family business. French describes him as a quintessential Shanghaier:

Born in Egypt, he was of Spanish nationality, educated in France, had lived in London and travelled extensively throughout the Far East. It was often said of him that he was, almost, as cosmopolitan as Shanghai itself.

Ovadia worked alongside the Cathay Hotel management to evacuate more than 150 hotel guests and diners, including Eleanor B Roosevelt, the daughter-in-law of Teddy Roosevelt, after the bombing started that day.

Since Shanghai was administered by different countries because of the foreign concessions, groups that could make up a mini League of Nations came together to defend the city. In the International Settlement, the Shanghai Volunteer Corps were called in to fortify that concession the night before the bombings — and the war — began. The preparations almost read like social club gatherings.

All members were volunteers recalled from their day jobs at times of emergency and were spread out across the Settlement. One and a half thousand SVC members were present in the city to muster themselves immediately. The Shanghai Scottish and Jewish companies were billeted in the Rowing Club adjacent to Soochow Creek, just across the road from the sprawling British Consulate’s compound. The SVC’s Air Defence detachment was stationed close by in the gardens of the Union Church.

Besides these companies, the SVC also included Chinese, White Russians, Americans, Filipinos, Portuguese, and Japanese. Thanks to the wide array of entertainment in the city, it wasn’t too difficult to send messages to the SVC members.

White Russian refugee Boris Ivanovich was watching a movie that evening

at the Metropole Cinema on Thibet Road in the French Concession. Halfway through the night’s main feature — Hollywood’s Cowboy, a Wild West adventure with George O’Brien — a slide flashed on the screen ordering all members of the SVC to immediately report to their companies for mobilization orders. Boris felt a chill run down his spine. He was just 17 years old and had lied about his age to get into the corps.

When the bombings were over that day, there was disagreement over whether the Chinese air fleet had accidentally bombed the International Settlement or whether their planes were damaged by Japanese air fire and the bomb racks were disabled, thereby releasing the bombs unintentionally. Madame Chiang Kai-shek wrote to Eleanor B Roosevelt about the latter while Claire Chennault witnessed Chinese bombers firing into a British vessel on the river.

Thousands of civilians lost their lives on Bloody Saturday and, as war raged on for the next decade, Shanghai would never be the same freewheeling city that attracted people from all over the world. ♦

About the reviewer

Susan Blumberg-Kason is the author of “Good Chinese Wife: A Love Affair with China Gone Wrong” and co-edited “Hong Kong Noir.”

As a child, she dreamed of visiting China and Hong Kong and eventually, went to study Mandarin and received a Master of Philosophy in Government and Public Administration from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, where she also researched emerging women’s rights. She’s a freelance journalist now based in the Chicago suburbs, where she is also an elected trustee of her public library as well.

“Standing up to China”

Continued from page 10

beneficial in situations that may arise. Many companies are now offering an anonymous “if you see something, say something” help line that allows employees to report unethical behavior without it being held against the reporter. As a last resort, and it may come to this, hire an attorney who will be able to help you navigate through the issue at hand. Bottom line, you need to report wrongdoing while always protecting yourself.

Q. Your lawyer notably stated your story “reads like a John Grisham novel.” Now that you’ve lived experiences many people only see in theaters, has your taste in entertainment changed in any way?

I wouldn’t say my taste in entertainment has changed. I now realize that what you see and/or read is closer to home than any of us think. We’ve all had the “this would never happen to me” moment. I’m here to tell you it could, without you even realizing it.

Q. Knowing all that your choice between

career and country entailed, how do you see “Standing Up to China” impacting conversations around China, the technology industry, and whistleblowing as a whole?

I like to believe “Standing Up to China” will serve as a cautionary tale. China is the new 800-pound gorilla in the global business arena. Nearly every industry is affected by the country, and that will only intensify in the future. China is extending their reach all around the globe and is building infrastructure in dozens of countries, all leading to one destination: China. Inevitably, any person in business will at some point have direct dealing with Chinese companies, and we should be prepared. Dealing with China is culturally and politically different than dealing with the U.S. or other western countries. I also like to believe that my story will change the negative connotation that “whistleblower” currently has. There are positives that can come out of standing up for what you believe is morally and ethi-

cally correct. When you risk everything, you stand to gain more than your losses. I hope my story encourages those to stand up for what is right — no matter what.

Pre-publication reviews

“*Standing Up to China*” reads like an action thriller but is real life inside China’s major international corporations whose leaders believe, as one of Yablon’s bosses told him, that U.S. laws are only ‘suggestions.’ If you wonder why China, under the misrule of the Chinese Communist Party, will never become a responsible member of the existing world order, respect international law or abide by its agreements, read “*Standing Up to China*.” —**Steven W. Mosher, China expert and author of “Bully of Asia: Why China’s Dream is the New Threat to World Order”**

“Yablon’s story reads like a John Grisham novel.” —**Steve Kardell, Founder of Kardell Law Group and Whistleblower**

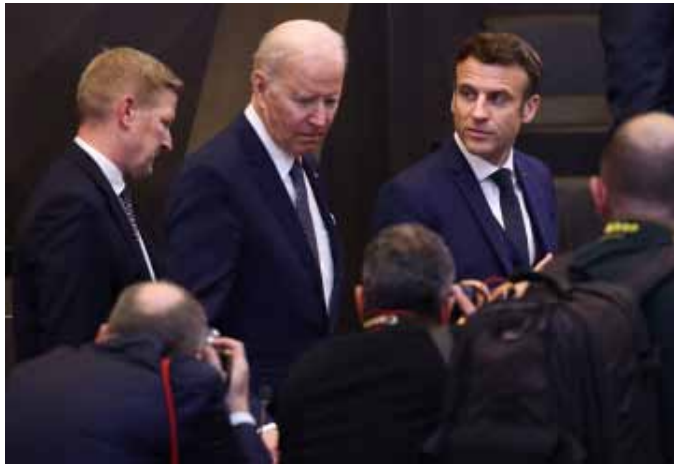
Law Attorney

“Why do whistleblowers do it? Ashley Yablon’s experience illustrates why whistleblowers make the life crossroads choice to risk everything and ‘commit the truth.’ His story is also a microcosm of why whistleblowers are vital: they change the course of history by using freedom of speech to expose the dark side of corporate and governmental bureaucracies. This book is a must-read for anyone who doubts how one person can make a difference armed only with the truth.” —**Tom Devine, Legal Director of the Government Accountability Project, Ambassador of Whistleblowing for the State Department, and author of “The Corporate Whistleblower’s Survival Guide”**

Additional reading on the ZTE case can be found on LAW.com. ♦

West needs to show wisdom by giving peace a chance

Source: *China Daily* | March 22, 2022



US President Joe Biden and France's President Emmanuel Macron attend a North Atlantic Council meeting during a NATO summit in Brussels, Belgium, March 24, 2022. [Photo/Agencies]

The series of meetings U.S. President Joe Biden had on Thursday in Europe should have been an opportunity for the United States and its allies to recalibrate their security stance and push for a peaceful solution to end the month-long conflict in Ukraine.

Instead, they showed how firmly caught in the grip of the Cold War mentality they

are. NATO itself is not involved in the coordination or facilitation of security assistance to Ukraine. It's been individual countries, which have provided it with military equipment and weapons. But the full-house NATO meeting consolidated support for Ukraine, ratified some of the decisions taken by defense ministers of member states last week, and discussed "a longer-term game plan" for what forces and capabilities

are "going to be required" in NATO's eastern flank countries.

In his subsequent summit with the other G7 leaders, intensifying the sanctions on Russia topped Biden's agenda, with an initiative rolled out to coordinate sanctions enforcement so that Russian efforts to evade the sanctions or other countries' efforts to

help Russia evade the sanctions "can be dealt with effectively and in a coordinated fashion".

This came despite the fact that sanctions never worked in resolving a conflict as they only deepen enmity and acrimony, leaving less room for diplomatic mediation, and they create damaging spillover effects, as the G7 leaders themselves acknowledged with their proposed mitigation efforts.

To end the crisis in Ukraine, the US-led West needs to stop fanning the flames of the conflict and stop sanctioning Russia so as to set the stage for a less hostile environment for talks and negotiations between Russia and Ukraine, which have so far made little progress due to the intransigence of their respective stances.

The spillover effects of the crisis, in terms of the civilian exodus from Ukraine and the disruptions to food and energy supplies, continue to grow. As such, what the Western bloc is doing is only exacerbating the already severe economic challenges the world faces as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is clear from Biden's visit that Wash-

ington's belief in the power it commands is greater than the mental and moral capacity it has to guide its use.

In making China a major part of his talks with the European Council, in a bid to coordinate the approach of the European Union toward China with that of the US ahead of the upcoming China-EU Summit, Biden showed the extent to which his administration and US foreign policy architects are in the thrall to a long-expired Cold War perception of the world.

Allowing the Ukraine crisis to drag on and escalate does not serve the interests of that country, Europe or indeed the US, whatever it may believe to the contrary given its inability to forsake the comforting familiarity of the past.

The European leaders need to distance themselves from the hysteria-inducing disinformation campaign being waged by the US, and look at the situation objectively and rationally. The threats countries face "are rising and the cost of inaction is clear", but those threats are from the pandemic, climate change and acting reflexively on long-incubated biases. ♦

China will pay high price for supporting Putin's invasion

By Mark O'Neill | *ejinsight* | March 24, 2022

The longer Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine goes on, the higher economic and diplomatic price China will have to pay for supporting him.

On March 16, at the International Court of Justice in The Hague, the Chinese judge voted with the Russian judge against an order, passed 13-2, to Russia "to immediately suspend its military operations in Ukraine."

The Chinese media does not use the words "war" or "invasion," only the Russian wording of "special military operation in Ukraine."

This support is the result of an unprecedented joint declaration signed by Putin and President Xi Jinping on February 4 during the former's visit to Beijing ahead of the Winter Olympics. This is part of the declaration, on the Kremlin's website:

"The new inter-State relations between Russia and China are superior to political and military alliances of the Cold War era. Friendship between the two States has no limits, there are no 'forbidden' areas of cooperation, strengthening of bilateral strategic cooperation is neither aimed against third countries nor affected by the changing international environment and circumstantial changes in third countries." In the 1950s, China never signed such an agreement with the Soviet Union.

Opinion within China is far from unanimous, according to Hu Wei, vice-chairman of the Public Policy Research Centre of the Counselor's Office of the State Council, in an article written on March 5 and published in English by the U.S.-China Perception Monitor.

"Russia's 'special military operation' against Ukraine has caused great controversy in China, with its supporters and opponents being divided into two implacably opposing sides," he wrote.

"This military action constitutes an irreversible mistake ... The hope of Russia's victory is slim and Western sanctions have reached an unprecedented degree ... China

cannot be tied to Putin and needs to be cut off as soon as possible ... It must unload the burden of Russia as soon as possible. It should give up being neutral and choose the mainstream position in the world," he wrote.

In this way, China can save itself from isolation and prevent the U.S. and the West from imposing joint sanctions against it, he wrote. His Chinese-language article was deleted from the Internet within an hour after being posted.

Fearful of such a fall-out, Chinese banks and companies have become cautious in dealing with Russian firms subject to the Western sanctions.

Mykhailo Fedorov, Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine, wrote an open letter to DJI, China's top manufacturer of drones, asking it to stop doing business in Russia "until the Russian aggression in Ukraine is fully stopped. "Russian troops are using DJI products in Ukraine to navigate their missiles to kill civilians," he said. DJI has also sold its products to Ukraine.

In recent months, foreign investors have dumped a significant amount of Chinese shares. One major reason is the fear that the West will sanction China for its support for Putin's war.

China's economy is far more vulnerable than that of Russia to such sanctions, with a larger and more diverse foreign trade and dependence on imports of many commodities, including oil, minerals and foodstuffs.

In a two-hour conversation with President Xi last Friday, President Joe Biden warned that China would pay a heavy price if it provides material supports to Russia in its attack on Ukraine. Diplomats say that Moscow has asked for Chinese drones – efficient and cheap – and chips for its military units.

Jean-Pierre Cabestan, research professor of Political Science at Baptist University, said that Xi has probably been informed by Putin about a possible invasion but Putin may have told him that it was one

option among several and that it would be a quick intervention, a kind of blitzkrieg, that would compel Ukraine to rapidly make concessions without causing too many negative economic consequences.

During the call, Xi criticised the sanctions against Moscow. "Sweeping and indiscriminate sanctions would only make the people suffer. If further escalated, they would trigger serious crises in global economy and trade, finance, energy, food and industrial and supply chains," he said.

On Saturday, Foreign Minister Wang Yi said that China's position on Ukraine was "objective and fair" and time would prove it was "on the right side of history."

Jude Blanchette, Freeman Chair in China Studies at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said that "the intensifying war in Ukraine has prompted calls for Taiwan to improve its defense capabilities and has given security partnerships such as NATO, the Quad and AUKUS a renewed sense of purpose.

"Early signs indicate that Putin's military advisers misled him about the true state of the Ukrainian army." Xi may fall into the same trap of inaccurate information and advice. "Xi will increasingly be surrounded by younger, more inexperienced and more pliant senior leaders. What Xi needs is a team of rivals. What he has now and will likely have in the future is a group of yes men."

China's relations with the European Union are also in the balance. An EU-China Summit will be held on April 1, the first since the outbreak of the war. The Ukraine invasion will be a leading item on the agenda. This is a "defining moment" in EU-China relations for decades to come, diplomats said. In Europe, government and public support for Ukraine and loathing of Russia are intense.



Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping

Russian companies are facing not only international sanctions but also the opprobrium of consumers in most countries in the world. A reduction in sales, or even boycott, of Russian goods is likely.

The risk for Chinese goods is even higher. As the factory of the world, it is the number one producer of consumer goods. If these consumers see China as complicit in Russia's war crimes, they may decide not to buy Chinese goods as well.

The governments of China's largest export markets – the EU, the U.S. and Japan – are all imposing sanctions against Russia and public opinion in these countries is strongly pro-Ukraine. ♦

About the writer

Mark O'Neill is a veteran local journalist and author. Oxford educated, he worked in Washington, D.C. and the UK before moving to Hong Kong in 1978 where he now resides.

He is a professor, speaker and former correspondent for the South China Morning Post as well author of books on the history of China. His 2016 book, "The Miraculous History of China's Two Palace Museums," details how artefacts from Beijing's Palace Museum found their way to Taipei before the Communist victory in 1949.