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CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA



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I. Social Media Chatter in China

- **Documentary airs on Weibo about Galwan martyr Wang Zhuoran:** A 10-minute documentary has been posted by military accounts on Weibo on Wang Zhuoran, a Chinese soldier who died in the India-China clash. The documentary speaks of his childhood and enrolment into the army. The documentary also shows a few seconds of clip from the Galwan clash.
- China's national radio on Weibo posts soldiers with nunchaku skills: The post references that the soldier is deployed in Karakoram region. A picture of a soldier with a spear was also shared on Weibo.
- **Netizens react to Taiwan's Olympic wins:** Taiwan's flag anthem was <u>played</u> in front of Chinese athletes for the first time in the history of the Olympics when the Taiwanese team beat China in badminton men's doubles final.

II. News in China

- Focus on promoting Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) superiority over the People's Liberation Army (PLA) can be seen as a major immediate trend in Chinese media. People's Daily published an article titled "Always uphold the party's absolute leadership over the army". It also published an article on the front page titled "The military's flag always floats with the party". Meanwhile PLA daily published "march forward courageously in the direction guided by the party" and "adhere to the party's absolute leadership over the PLA and strive to achieve the Centennial goal of building the army". Guangming Daily, Global Times and Qiushi have also published pieces along the same line of thought.
- Speculations in non-mainstream Chinese media have arisen reporting that the Beidaihe meeting has begun since there has been no news of the 7 politburo members over the last two days (1st and 2nd August).
- People's Daily has carried a <u>piece</u> on the potential for 'Asia-Pacific' digital economic cooperation, which it says must be carried out in an "open, fair, and non-discriminatory" manner.
- Digital news outlet Initium is quitting Hong Kong for Singapore, making it the first media organization in the city to move overseas since the enactment of the controversial national security law.

III. India Watch

- Both nunchuka –which is also an effective weapon –and spears can be used along the border and do not violate the treaty prohibiting use of firearms.
 Chinese soldiers training –or already possessing skills –in the same is a matter of concern for India.
- The regular press conference of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will be in recess from August 2 to August 13 and will resume on August 16.
- The <u>opening</u> of the Estrella-Pantaleon Bridge in the Philippines is a point of focus for New Delhi. The Chinese Ambassador to the Philippines Huang Xilian has said that as one of the docking projects between the "Belt and Road" initiative and the Philippines' "Build, Build, Build" plan, the same will only improve ties between China and the South-East Asian country.