WEEKEND ISSUE 18.9.21-19.9.21

CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA



ORGANISATION FOR RESEARCH ON CHINA AND ASIA

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I. Social Media Chatter in China

- Movement in Taiwan Strait: The official Weibo of the "South China Sea Strategic Situational Awareness" think tank has reported that US Navy "Barry" has crossed the Taiwan Strait from north to south. This is the ninth time that the US military has crossed the Taiwan Strait in 2021. During the operation, the Planet satellite image found a Chinese Navy 052D destroyer in the waters southeast of the US ship, near the side of Taiwan Island, and was following the alert.
- **WeChat external links in a one-to-one chat screen**: People's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology launched a six-month Internet industry rectification action for shielding URL links. Now that the external chain is released, <u>users can directly access</u> external links in a one-to-one chat screen. How to shield and identify has become a problem.

II. News in China

- The SCO circle of friends continues to expand as the 21st meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) was held. The meeting launched the process of accepting Iran as a member state, and at the same time absorbed Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Qatar as new dialogue partners.
- Concerns about the nuclear proliferation activities grow as the United States throws out the "Pacific Deterrence Initiative" and regards China as its biggest competitor. On <u>Sep 15</u>, the United States, Great Britain and Australia issued a joint statement and announced the establishment of the trilateral security partnership, AUKUS, that also looks at the same.
- <u>Zhao Jingwen</u>, former party committee member and executive director of China CITIC Group Co., Ltd., sentenced to 18 years in prison in the first instance on allegation of alone illegally accepting renminbi 0.191 billion yuan.
- The USS "<u>Barri</u>" guided-missile destroyer passed through the Taiwan Strait, and the eastern theater of operations followed and monitored the entire process. The theater forces remain on high alert at all times and resolutely defend national sovereignty and security and regional peace and stability.
- According to the <u>official website</u> of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Wang Yi mentioned in SCO meeting that China, Russia, Pakistan and Iraq need to build unanimous voices on the Afghan issue. He further stated that power politics, military interference and the so-called "democratic transformation" are the root causes of the current situation in Afghanistan arguing that the hasty withdrawal of the United States and its allies have brought new problems to Afghanistan.

- A man threw explosives at the <u>Chinese Consulate</u> General in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The Consulate General and the Chinese Embassy in Brazil condemned this and issued safety tips to remind China's institutions in Brazil, businesses and citizens pay attention to safety.
- The <u>US "Forbes News"</u> website has expressed fear that its windows hack helped India to monitor China and Pakistan. The hacker company subsequently terminated its contract with India and stated that the company's hacking technology is not allowed to be used as a "muskets" to "attack Pakistan and China".
- China, on behalf of a group of countries, delivered a joint speech at the Human Rights Council to express concerns about <u>human trafficking and forced labor</u> in the United States.

III. India Watch

- Growth in the SCO highlights the growing expanse of the Asian landmass; with more West Asian powers getting involved, the SCO's regional importance is steadfastly growing. India must ensure its active presence in the same to balance China's clout in the regional power identity struggle.
- News that India used a windows hack to spy on Pakistan and China is being widely circulated by China; an official response and steadfast shutdown of such an opinion by Indian official authorities is needed on the international stage.