China Simulating Invasion as US Relations Nosedive, says Taiwan

Chinese planes and ships were seen operating in the Taiwan Strait, analysts say.

**AP**
Taipei - Taiwan's military said Thursday that Chinese military planes and ships had operated in the Taiwan Strait, past the median line, a change in behavior that could be of concern.

China has been increasing its activities in the strait in recent weeks, with many analysts suggesting it is simulating an invasion.

In a statement, the Ministry of National Defense said that the Chinese military had sent planes and ships into the strait on Wednesday and that they had continued to operate there throughout Thursday.

China has been increasingly aggressive in its regional activities over the past few years, with confrontations in the South China Sea and with Taiwan.

China and Taiwan have been divided since 1949, with Taiwan remaining a self-governing region under Chinese rule.

China claims Taiwan as a province.

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**Japan PM Kishida Condemns China’s Ballistic Missile Test**

**NHK**

TOKYO, Aug. 31 (Kyodo) - Prime Minister Fumio Kishida condemned China’s ballistic missile test on Thursday, saying it was an “affront to international norms and the principles of security and prosperity”.

The test, which was launched from the north of the country, was condemned by many in Japan as a provocation.

Kishida said in a statement: "We strongly condemn China’s launch of a ballistic missile from the north of China. This is an affront to international norms and the principles of security and prosperity. We strongly urge China to refrain from such actions in the future.”

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**Japanese Economic News**

**NHK**

TOKYO, Aug. 31 (Kyodo) - Japan’s economy remained on track for growth in the current fiscal year, despite a sharp rise in the consumer price index (CPI) and uncertainties over the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

The government’s economic growth forecast for the fiscal year through March 2022 was unchanged at 2.2 percent, with a projection of 1 percent for fiscal 2023.

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**China Cuts Off Vital US Contacts over Pelosi Visit**

**AP**

Beijing - China is cutting off all major contacts with the United States over House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s visit to Taiwan, which the Chinese government said was a violation of its sovereignty.

China has been increasing its military activities around Taiwan in recent weeks, with many analysts suggesting it is simulating an invasion.

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**China’s Sri Lanka Trade**

**Reuters**

BEIJING - China’s trade with Sri Lanka has been declining in recent years, a report said.

China is the country’s third-largest trading partner after the United States and Japan.

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**77th Atomic Bomb Anniversary**

**NHK**

HIROSHIMA, Aug. 6 (Kyodo) - Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui said Thursday it was time to reflect on the atomic bomb dropped by the United States on Aug. 6, 1945.

Matsui said: "It is time to reflect on the atomic bomb dropped 77 years ago, and to consider the future. We cannot forget the 140,000 people who lost their lives in Hiroshima.

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**First American Artist Invited US Millen to Attend I-Day Event**

**AP**

NEW YORK, Aug. 31 (Kyodo) - The United States has invited a first-time American artist to attend an international event.

The invitation was made by the American artist, who is known for his use of mixed media and digital art.

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**Bharti Petroleum Corporation Limited**

**The Economic Times**

MUMBAI, Aug. 31 (PTI) - Bharti Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPL) has published its Q4 results for the quarter ended March 31, 2022.

The company reported a net profit of Rs 1,580.94 crore for the quarter, up 61.3% from Rs 967.45 crore in the corresponding period last year.

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**Twitter Deal Should go Ahead if it Provides Real Accounts of Musk**

**The Economic Times**

MUMBAI, Aug. 31 (PTI) - Twitter’s board has decided that the Twitter deal should go ahead if it provides real accounts of Elon Musk.

The board has asked Musk to provide a plan for the acquisition of Twitter, which has been under scrutiny.

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