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China shifts to Iranian tankers to keep oil flowing amid U.S. sanctions - sources



Inside C2

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China defies U.S. pressure as EU parts ways with Iranian oil

BEIJING/SINGAPORE (Reuters) - China, seeking to skirt U.S. sanctions, will use oil tankers from Iran for its purchases of that country's crude, throwing Tehran a lifeline while European companies such as France's Total are walking away due to fear of reprisals from Washington.

A gas flare on an oil production platform in the Soroush oil fields is seen alongside an Iranian flag in the Persian Gulf, Iran, July 25, 2005. REUTERS/Raheb Homavandi/File Photo

The United States is trying to halt Iranian oil exports in an effort to force Tehran to negotiate a new nuclear agreement and to curb its influence in the Middle East.

China, which has cut imports of U.S. crude amid a trade war with Washington, has said it opposes unilateral sanctions and defended its commercial ties with Iran.

On Monday, sources told Reuters Chinese buyers of Iranian oil were beginning to shift their cargoes to vessels owned by National Iranian Tanker Co (NITC) for nearly all their imports.

The shift demonstrates that China, Iran's biggest oil customer, wants to keep buying Iranian crude despite the sanctions, which were reimposed after the United States withdrew in May from a 2015 agreement to halt Iran's nuclear program.

"The shift started very recently, and it was almost a simultaneous call from both sides," said one source, a senior Beijing-based oil executive, who asked not to be identified as he is not allowed to speak publicly about commercial deals.

Tehran used a similar system between 2012 and 2016 to circumvent Western-led sanctions, which had curtailed exports by making it virtually impossible to obtain shipping insurance for business with Iran.

Iran, OPEC's third-largest oil producer, relies on sales of crude to China, Japan, South Korea, India and the EU to generate the lion's share of budget revenues and keep its economy afloat.

The United States has asked buyers of Iranian oil to cut imports from November. Japan, South Korea, India and most European countries have already slashed operations.

French oil major Total, previously one of the biggest European buyers of Iranian oil, has said it had no choice but to halt imports and abandon Iranian projects to safeguard its operations in the United States.

On Monday, Iranian Oil Minister Bijan Zanganeh said Total had officially left Iran's South Pars gas project. Iranian officials had earlier suggested China's state-owned



FILE PHOTO: A gas flare on an oil production platform in the Soroush oil fields is seen alongside an Iranian flag in the Gulf

CNPC could take over Total's stake and Zanganeh said the process to replace the French company was under way.

French President Emmanuel Macron has repeatedly called for safeguarding the Iranian nuclear deal and defended the interests of EU companies in Iran.

But most European companies have conceded that they would be forced to walk away from Tehran for fear of sanctions and losing access to operations that require U.S. dollars.

The first round of U.S. sanctions, which included cutting off Iran and any businesses

that trade with it from the U.S. financial system, went into effect on Aug. 7.

A ban on Iranian oil purchases will start in November. Insurers, which are mainly U.S.- or European-based, have begun winding down their Iranian business to comply with the sanctions.

To safeguard their supplies, state oil trader Zhuhai Zhenrong Corp and Sinopec Group, Asia's biggest refiner, have activated a clause in long-term supply agreements with National Iranian Oil Corp (NIOC) that allows them to use

NITC-operated tankers, four sources with

direct knowledge of the matter said.

The price for oil under the long-term deals has been changed to a delivered ex-ship basis from the previous free-on-board terms, meaning Iran will cover all costs and risks of delivering the crude as well as handling the insurance, they said.

In July, all 17 tankers chartered to carry oil from Iran to China were operated by NITC, according to shipping data on Thomson Reuters Eikon.

In June, eight of 19 vessels chartered were Chinese-operated.

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China shifts to Iranian tankers to keep oil flowing amid U.S. sanctions - sources

BEIJING/SINGAPORE (Reuters) - Chinese buyers of Iranian oil are starting to shift their cargoes to vessels owned by National Iranian Tanker Co (NITC) for nearly all of their imports to keep supply flowing amid the re-imposition of economic sanctions by the United States.

The shift demonstrates that China, Iran's biggest oil customer, wants to keep buying Iranian crude despite the sanctions, which were put back after the United States withdrew in May from a 2015 agreement to halt Iran's nuclear program.

The United States is trying to halt Iranian oil exports to force the country to negotiate a new nuclear agreement and to curb its influence in the Middle East. China has said it is opposed to any unilateral sanctions and has defended its commercial ties with Iran.

The first round of sanctions, which included rules cutting off Iran and any businesses that trade with the country from the U.S. financial system, went into effect on Aug. 7. A ban on Iranian oil purchases will start in November. Insurers, which are mainly U.S. or European based, have already begun winding down their Iranian business to comply with the sanctions.

To safeguard their supplies, state oil trader Zhenrong Corp and Sinopec Group, Asia's biggest refiner, have activated a clause in its long-term supply agreements with National Iranian Oil Corp (NIOC) that allows them to use NITC-operated tankers, according to four sources with direct knowledge of the matter.

They spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not allowed to speak publicly about commercial deals.

The price for the oil under the long-term deals has been changed to a delivered ex-ship basis from the previous free-on-board terms, meaning that Iran will cover all the costs and risks of delivering the crude as well as handling the insurance, the

sources said.

"The shift started very recently, and it was almost a simultaneous call from both sides," said one of the sources, a senior Beijing-based oil executive.

In July, all 17 tankers chartered to carry oil from Iran to China are operated by NITC, according to shipping data on Thomson Reuters Eikon. In June, eight of 19 vessels chartered were Chinese operated.

Last month, those tankers loaded about 23.8 million barrels of crude oil and condensate destined for China, or about 767,000 barrels per day (bpd). In June, the loadings were 19.8 million barrels, or 660,000 bpd.

In 2017, China imported an average of 623,000 bpd, according to customs data.

Sinopec declined to comment on the change in tankers. A spokesperson with Nam Kwong Group, the parent of Zhenrong, declined to comment. NIOC did not respond to an email seeking comment. An NITC spokesman said it would forward a request from Reuters for a comment to the country's Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance.

NOT THE FIRST TIME

Iran used a similar system between 2012 and 2016 to circumvent Western-led sanctions which were effective in curtailing exports because of a lack of



FILE PHOTO: General view shows a unit of South Pars Gas field in Asalouyeh Seaport, north of Persian Gulf

insurance for the shipments.

It was not immediately clear how Iran would provide insurance for the Chinese oil purchases, worth some \$1.5 billion a month. Insurance usually includes cover for the oil cargoes, third-party liability and pollution. "This is not the first time companies exercised the option... Whenever there is a need the buyers can use that," said another of the sources, also a senior Beijing-based oil executive.

Term buyers of Iranian submitted their plans to NIOC earlier this month of how much crude they will lift in September, said two trade sources.

It typically takes about a month for Iranian

crude to reach China.

With the new shipping arrangement, Iranian oil cargoes to China are expected to stay at recent levels through October, said the four sources with knowledge of the tanker changes.

Reporting by Chen Aizhu in Beijing and Florence Tan in Singapore; additional reporting by Parisa Hafezi in Ankara; Editing by Henning Gloystein and Christian Schmollinger

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Editor's Choice



Cattle is pictured at a livestock market ahead of the Eid al-Adha in Istanbul



North and South Korean family members meet during a reunion at North Korea's Mount Kumgang resort



A Muslim pilgrim prays as she gather with others on Mount Mercy on the plains of Arafat during the annual haj pilgrimage, outside the holy city of Mecca



People sitting inside a swimming pool play giant cards at a water park on a hot day in Chongqing



Simone Biles competes on vault at the U.S. Gymnastics Championships in Boston



Puppy-shaped ice cream is seen in a restaurant in Kaohsiung



A man selected as a participant for a reunion shows pictures of his deceased mother and little brothers living in North Korea, at a hotel used as a waiting place in Sokcho



Goats are pictured as their prices are being negotiated by vendors and buyers at a livestock market where people buy sacrificial animals ahead of the Eid al-Adha celebrations in Sanaa

Magnify Money, a consumer finance website, released a new study this week that found Texas dominated the list of U.S. "boomtowns" and Austin scored the top spot. "Americans are flocking to and prospering in Texas," wrote Kali McFadden, a Magnify Money senior analyst. She said Lone Star State metros represented one-third of the top 15 spots on their rankings. Five of the six Texas cities on the list placed in the top 11.

"We wanted to find out where Americans are gathering now to take advantage of growing prosperity and improved lifestyles to achieve the American dream," said McFadden.

Magnify Money researchers examined the 100 largest U.S. metropolitan statistical areas (MSA) over the five year period from 2011 to 2016 using data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey and County Business Patterns. Researchers focused on business growth, population and housing, and workforce and earnings. Boomtowns saw the biggest influx of people, work opportunities, and business growth.

"Austin jumps way out ahead of all the metros we reviewed, showing the greatest five year growth in population and housing," said McFadden. The Texas capital earned a perfect population and housing score of 100. It added people and had jobs for them. The Austin metro area experienced a 23 percent drop in unemployment. The median wage increased by nearly nine percent. The number of businesses operating in Austin rose by 21 percent and new hires soared by 24 percent. Analysts identified one shortcoming — 10 percent housing unit growth lagged next to the almost 16 percent population boom.

Dallas (7), San Antonio (9), and McAllen (10) made the top 10. Houston (11) and El Paso (24) placed in the top 25.

Business also boomed in Provo, Utah; Raleigh, North Carolina; Charleston, South Carolina; and Nashville, Tennessee; ranking second through fifth, respectively.

Provo got the highest score, 95.1, in the business growth category. Its population increased by 12 percent and housing rose eight percent. Although the workforce grew by 13 percent, median wages stalled, budging only 3.5 percent higher than five years earlier.



Provo, Utah

Texas Cities Dominate List of U.S. 'Boomtowns'

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



Aerial View of Austin, Texas. (Photo AP)

Raleigh, with a 13 percent surge in residents and a nine percent rise in dwellings, ranked second to Austin in the population and housing subset. The North Carolina capital was fifth in business growth. Nearby Durham ranked 16th. Charlotte took 13th.

Charleston got the third highest marks for workforce and earnings, with a healthy 22 percent drop in joblessness. Its workforce grew by 11 percent. During this time, Charleston's population also increased 11 percent but the number of housing units fell short, stalled at slightly more than six percent.

Nashville firms grew staff by a healthy 21 percent. Their workforce grew nine percent. Unemployment dropped 25 percent. Median wages rose seven percent. McFadden suggested the boom "may be luring people to work" and noted the city diversified from its traditional country music roots. Housing, though, increased by five percent, not nearly enough for the influx of new people.

Colorado's Denver ranked sixth while Colorado Springs placed 23rd. Boise, Idaho, took eighth, and Des Moines, Iowa, was 15th. Top 25 listers included Florida's Orlando (14),

Fort Myers (17), and Sarasota (25); Utah's Ogden (12) and Salt Lake City (18), and California's San Jose (19) and San Francisco (22). Riverside (40), San Diego (43) and Los Angeles (58) placed lower. (Courtesy <https://www.breitbart.com/texas>)

The study also identified the slowest growing places in the nation. Four of six Ohio metros shrunk their labor forces and number of businesses between 2011 and 2016. Only Columbus (34) saw appreciable growth. Connecticut and Pennsylvania MSAs landed in the bottom quarter of the findings as did metros in New York, except for New York City (62). Boston (46) was the sole northeastern city in the top half of the list.

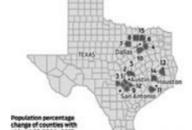
Eight of 15 of the fastest-growing counties in the U.S. between 2016 and 2017 are in Texas

Suburban counties in Texas led the way nationwide in percentage growth in that one-year period.

Suburban counties in the Austin and San Antonio metropolitan areas were among the fastest-growing in the nation between 2016 and 2017, according to figures the Census Bureau released late Wednesday.

Growth spurt

15 fastest-growing counties in Texas from 2016 to 2017.



County	Population	% Change
1. Comal County	162,000	5.5%
2. Hays County	214,400	4.9%
3. Marshall County	44,500	4.9%
4. Rockwall County	122,800	4.8%
5. Williamson County	52,500	3.7%
6. Bexar County	95,100	3.6%
7. Parker County	133,400	3.5%
8. Denton County	856,200	3.4%
9. Collin County	108,600	3.3%
10. Elgin County	173,600	3.3%
11. Fort Bend County	764,300	3.0%
12. Caldwell County	42,200	2.9%
13. Park County	49,800	2.9%
14. Montgomery County	202,800	2.8%
15. Collin County	988,600	2.8%

In the Austin area, Hays, Williamson and Caldwell counties were among the fast-growing at 4.96 percent, 3.75 percent and 2.99 percent, respectively.

Caldwell County, which abuts Travis County to the south, saw its largest growth rate this decade; its previous annual growth rates since 2010 were under 2 percent.

Among metro areas with more than 1 million people, the five-county Austin area was the fastest-growing for the seventh consecutive year.

The agency estimated population changes between July 1, 2016, and July 1, 2017.

Amelia Smith, who's worked in real estate in Caldwell County for more than 30 years, attributed the area's growth to lighter traffic and lower cost of living.

"The toll road is becoming increasingly popular," Smith said of Texas 130. "Even though it is expensive to drive, it is a flash trip from Austin to Lockhart. I live in Lockhart, and I can get to Onion Creek in about 18 minutes. It's fast."

"People in Austin, particularly in the east side, are seeing property values rise so much that the land their \$100,000 house sits on is worth \$700,000 or \$800,000, and they're being driven out by high taxes, and they're coming to Lockhart with proceeds from their sale and buying houses (with) cash. ... We're seeing a lot of that."

Also, under a new Lockhart school superintendent, the district is working toward becoming one of the best in Central Texas, which might be another draw, Smith said.



Austin, Texas



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Kofi Annan 1938-2018

(CNN)Kofi Annan, the first black African to lead the United Nations, has died at age 80. He served as Secretary-General at a time when worries about the Cold War were replaced by threats of global terrorism, and his efforts to combat those threats and secure a more peaceful world brought him the Nobel Peace Prize. Annan, who was born in Ghana in 1938, served as the seventh UN Secretary-General, from 1997 to 2006, and was the first to rise from within the ranks of the United Nations staff. He had also been a member, since 2007, of The Elders, a humanitarian group of a dozen leaders and activists of worldwide stature formed by Nelson Mandela. In 2013, Annan became its chairman.

The Kofi Annan Foundation confirmed his death with "immense sadness" in a statement posted on Twitter.

Kofi Annan Foundation
✓@KofiAnnanFdn

It is with immense sadness that the Annan family and the Kofi Annan Foundation announce that Kofi Annan, former Secretary General of the United Nations and Nobel Peace Laureate, passed away peacefully on Saturday 18th August after a short illness...4:46 AM - Aug 18, 2018

Annan passed away peacefully Saturday morning after a short illness, with his wife Nane and their three children by his side during his final days, the statement said.

The foundation paid tribute to Annan as a "global statesman and a deeply committed internationalist who fought throughout his life for a fairer, more peaceful world."



Liberian politician Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, left, Kofi Annan and former Algerian UN politician Lakhdar Brahimi, right, attend an Elders event in South Africa on July 18.

Tributes pour in

As news of Annan's death has spread, many are paying tribute to a man who became a global figure as head of the United Nations but was also known by those close to him for his warmth, style and charm.

Kofi Annan, Former United Nations Secretary-General, Dead At Age 80

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

Current UN Secretary-General António Guterres told CNN that Annan had been "an enormous source of inspiration" to him, adding that the late leader had been committed to his principles and values even if he had to pay a heavy price for them.

Kofi Annan: A career of triumphs and tribulations in Africa

"He was not only a statesman, he was not only a leader, he was a warm person who would support his friends in difficult moments. He was a true colleague and a true friend," he said. US Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley said Annan "worked tirelessly to unite us and never stopped fighting for the dignity of every person."

"Kofi Annan devoted his life to making the world a more peaceful place through his compassion and dedication to service," she added. The UN Migration Agency tweeted: "Today we mourn the loss of a great man, a leader, and a visionary."



UN human rights chief Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein said he was "grief-stricken" over Annan's death. "Kofi was humanity's best example, the epitome, of human decency and grace," he said.

"In a world now filled with leaders who are anything but that, our loss, the world's loss becomes even more painful."

A statement from The Elders said its members were "shocked and deeply saddened" by his death. "Kofi was a strong and inspiring presence to us all, and The Elders would not be where it is today without his leadership," said deputy chairman Gro Harlem Brundtland, adding that the group was resolved to continue to uphold Annan's values and legacy.

NATO leader Jens Stoltenberg tweeted that the world had lost one of its giants. "His warmth should never be mistaken for weakness," he said. "Annan showed that one can be a great humanitarian and a strong leader at the same time."

Ghanaian President Nana Akufo-Addo extended condolences on behalf of the entire nation and said the Ghanaian flag would fly at half staff across the country for a week, starting Monday. As the first person from sub-Saharan Africa to become UN Secretary-General, Annan "brought considerable renown to our country," he said.

Zimbabwe opposition leader Nelson Chamisa said he had met with Annan only a few days ago. "A rare breed of diplomat; soft spoken but unshakably firm. He had great love for world peace & democracy," he wrote on Twitter. "Go well son of Africa, Champion of the world!"



In this 2007 file photo, Nelson Mandela and Kofi Annan arrive together at the 5th Nelson Mandela Annual Lecture in South Africa.

Former Kenyan Prime Minister and opposition leader Raila Odinga paid tribute to Annan's "tireless work in stabilizing the world and encouraging Africa to aspire to higher ideals of democracy, respect for human rights and sound governance."

Annan was remembered in Kenya as the man who "saved the country from collapse following the 2007-2008 post-election violence," Odinga said.

Russian President Vladimir Putin praised Annan's efforts to build the United Nations' peacekeeping potential in a telegram to Guterres, cited by Russian state news agency TASS. "I was lucky to personally interact with Kofi Annan. I have been in genuine awe of his wisdom and courage, of his ability to make informed decisions even in the most difficult, critical situations," Putin said.

Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif said he was extremely saddened by the loss of an "unwavering champion for peace, justice and rule of law" and a "dear old friend."



Kofi Annan Shown with Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu expressed his sorrow, saying, "We will remember him as having been very active in the international arena and as someone who fought anti-Semitism and Holocaust denial."

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the

world had lost "not only a great African diplomat and humanitarian but also a conscience keeper of international peace and security."

The director of Human Rights Watch, Kenneth Roth, praised Annan as a "great leader." Former US President Jimmy Carter, also a member of The Elders, said Annan "was a cherished personal friend and an inspiration to all who knew him."

What shaped his global thinking?

Annan was descended from tribal chiefs on both sides of his family. After studying in Ghana and at Macalester College in St. Paul, in the US state of Minnesota, he joined the United Nations in 1962 as a low-ranking officer with the World Health Organization in Geneva. He thought he would stay only a few years but ended up spending almost his entire working life with the organization.

Then-UN peacekeeping chief Kofi Annan at a press conference in 1993 in Mogadishu, Somalia.

While leading the UN's peacekeeping operations, Annan was involved in decisions that were potentially career-ending but which he managed to survive.

In 1994, the UN Security Council and others including Annan were accused by the UN field commander in Rwanda of ignoring his warnings, which resulted in the world's reluctance to send troops in and the estimated 800,000 deaths.

Speaking in 2004, Annan said: "I believed at the that time that I was doing my best, but I realized after the genocide that there was more that I could have and should have done."

The next year, another moment came with the thousands of Muslims who were massacred in Srebrenica as Bosnian Serbs overran a UN "safe zone."

The Secretary-General at the time, Boutros Boutros Ghali, took the heat for UN failings in two of the darkest episodes of its history. Subsequent UN reports about the body's handling of the massacres were critical of Annan's leadership.

Champion of human rights

On taking the helm as Secretary-General in 1997, Annan became a high-profile figure who championed human rights and urged the United Nations to protect civilians if their own governments turned on them.

His first term was highly-rated but his second term, which coincided with the US invasion of Iraq, was not as smooth.

Annan would later call the assault illegal. "I think the worst moment of course was the Iraq war, which as an organization we couldn't stop -- and I really did everything I can to try to see if we can stop it," he said, speaking in 2006.



In this 2003 file photo, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan greets US President George W. Bush before the start of the 58th UN General Assembly.

Former President Bill Clinton and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton called Annan a "truly great" Secretary-General.

"It was an honor to work with him in his efforts to reform the UN, strengthen global health and peacekeeping, and reduce poverty. He made the fight against AIDS and the responsibility to protect civilians in conflict zones true priorities for the UN," they said in a statement.

"After he left office, he continued his leadership on poverty, environmental, and peace issues through his foundation," they wrote. "In every phase of his life, he held fast to his Ghanaian roots and set a powerful example of determined leadership while always treating others with respect and dignity."

Former US President George W. Bush, whose pursuit of the Iraq war often set him on a collision course with Annan, paid tribute to him as "a gentle man and a tireless leader of the United Nations. His voice of experience will be missed around the world."

Former US President Barack Obama said Annan "embodied the mission of the United Nations."

"His integrity, persistence, optimism, and sense of our common humanity always informed his outreach to the community of nations," Obama said.

In February 2012, the United Nations appointed Annan the UN and Arab League joint special envoy to Syria. Only six months later, he quit, citing increasing militarization in Syria and "the clear lack of unity" at the UN Security Council.

In a statement released by the United Nations, Guterres described Annan as both a personal mentor and an inspiration to all.

"He provided people everywhere with a space for dialogue, a place for problem-solving and a path to a better world. In these turbulent and trying times, he never stopped working to give life to the values of the United Nations Charter. His legacy will remain a true inspiration for all of us." (Courtesy cnn.com)

蔡英文

妳分裂台灣，製造各個階層的對立！

妳耗損公帑，衰退經貿，無視小市民的痛苦和吶喊！

妳毀憲亂政，假改革真鬥爭！

妳錯誤、粗糙、刻薄、高傲的政策，不是改革！

妳冰封兩岸，把台灣推向戰爭！

妳灑錢外交，換到的是流失邦交國！

妳在野時批台電藏電，執政後卻無法提供穩定電源！

妳踐踏政府基石，把軍警消公教勞玩弄於股掌之上！

妳酬庸選舉，任用不適任的部長、國策顧問、經理！

妳「一例一休」亂修法，讓各行各業困擾，年輕人絕望！

妳！施政無能！民粹誤國！我們不歡迎妳！

休士頓泛藍支持中華民國九合一選舉後援會

休士頓中山學術研究會

國民黨華府中山分部



相中隱約見到Cody的可愛樣子。網上圖片



Cody乖巧地伏在爸爸身上。網上圖片



余文樂一家為Cody準備溫馨百日宴。網上圖片

上載百日宴相一時大意 余文樂親手揭開 愛子真面目

香港文匯報訊 余文樂早前為當“新手爸爸”而放“侍產假”，專心照顧太太王紫雲和兒子余初見（Cody），兒子已3個多月大，樂仔特別為愛兒搞了百日宴，並於社交網站分享照片，可是樂仔卻一時大意讓兒子的可愛樣子曝光了！

余文樂和太太王紫雲近日為Cody搞百日宴，宴會上擺出可愛蛋糕、Cupcake慶祝。而樂仔亦於社交網站開心share蛋糕照，並留言：“Happy 100 Days.”，不過卻意外曝光用兒子相片製作的裝飾。相片隱約看到Cody鼻子高高、嘴小小，笑得相當可愛。樂仔察覺兒子樣曝光後，雖然隨即快速刪走，但仍被網民成功截圖。樂仔的親友也分享百日宴的花絮，更留言大讚王紫雲是世上最好的母親，但po出時也用上圖像來遮蓋Cody的容貌，非常小心！

樂仔之後再上載父愛滿瀉的抱住Cody之照片，留言：“PaPa love you so much”。雖然樂仔仍然不想讓兒正面曝光，但Cody乖巧地伏在樂仔身上，網友們看照片都感受到溫馨氛圍。

婚後變化：工作非首位

而樂仔目前繼續努力工作賺奶粉錢，日前更到杭州出席活動。樂仔一出場，台下數千觀眾及粉絲尖叫聲不斷，樂仔還主動走到粉絲群簽名，十分親

切。大會更讓阿樂欣賞毛巾操，還安排三組成員比賽，以毛巾摺成不同禮物送給他，由他選出優勝者，當中包括：“毛巾花”寓意代送給樂仔太太，毛巾還可以為BB沖涼，一物兩用，“毛巾狗仔”送贈生肖屬狗的兒子Cody，還有“三隻毛巾熊”，寓意樂仔一家三口永遠幸福，樂仔在台上流露幸福笑容，全部接收大家心意。

問到樂仔當了好老公、好爸爸之後最大變化是什麼？阿樂坦言：“結了婚，有了孩子，最大變化就是工作不是放第一位。我想這變化也很正常，在座結了婚、有孩子的，都會明白我的感受。”提到3個多月大的Cody，樂仔變成“廿四孝潮爸”，他指自己負責陪兒子玩，現時兒子對一切事物也很好奇，所以他就背兒子，或推BB車，陪伴去散步。



因兒子生肖屬狗，余文樂收到“毛巾狗仔”後也真感興趣。



余文樂收到大會用毛巾摺成的玫瑰花作禮物。

Fabel 誓不做“樂壇喪屍”



Fabel

香港文匯報訊（實習記者張雅婷）Fabel 新歌《寂寞塗鴉》MV雖然帶點憤世嫉俗控訴現實社會，但大家往往只會着重眼前事物，實則是過眼雲煙之事。其實Fabel二人都是開朗的人，最喜歡是到世界各地旅遊增廣見聞後而可以投放於音樂上的創作。

他們出道至今，一直想為樂壇做一些事，眼見近好幾年樂壇好像迷失方向，歌手們的歌類幾乎只為迎合市場而作，幸好他們仍有公司的支持，一直能堅持電子音樂上的創作，令人一聽就知已是Fabel的風格，所以他們仍會堅持自己的音樂風格，可以鼓勵樂壇多元化，只要堅持就有人欣賞支持。二人更說不要做“樂壇喪屍”，誓要用堅持的心，用對音樂的愛和熱誠，去溫暖去感動，讓那些“喪屍”重生，那樂壇才能回復以前百花盛放的年代。

劉美娟視喬宏妻小金子為媽媽

香港文匯報訊（記者吳文釗）劉美娟、張崇德夫婦20日接受由已故影星喬宏太太小金子主持的創世電視節目《喜樂婆婆會客室》訪問，與小金子認識30年的劉美娟，表示每次到美國也是住在對方家中，已視對方是自己的第二個媽媽。劉美娟笑言因與小金子太熟，反而少機會接受對方訪問，更說當年她與張崇德閃婚，家人和身邊朋友都沒有反對，只有小金子反對，更第一時間約他們出來“見家長”。劉美娟笑稱結婚多年，小金子現在見到他們開心恩愛，終於明白他們會走在一起，還說他們是一定要結婚的。

首演私影模特兒 Stephy 令古仔好驚訝

香港文匯報訊 由黃百鳴監製、林德祿執導、古天樂、張智霖等主演的反貪風暴系列電影過去一直叫好叫座，成績理想，來到第三集《L風暴》，將於8月23日上映。動作場面突破以往之餘，亦有新面孔加入，鄧麗欣（Stephy）是次飾演私影模特兒，帶來演藝生涯上嶄新的戲路；而陳庭欣（Toby）及新人栢天男（Adam）則首度參演電影。

Stephy、Toby及Adam日前出席活動宣傳電影。三位演員於台上分享拍攝心得，Stephy首次飾演私影模特兒，為了角色事前也特意上網搜集資料，造型上還刻意露腰，增加真實感，就連古仔對於Stephy全程露腰也大感驚訝，兩人還會在馬路上展開一段跳車逃亡戲，驚險萬分，幸好最後也順利完成。

Toby首度跳入大銀幕就已經和古仔、張智霖有對手戲，封街拍攝槍戰幾日，使用了過千發子彈，更有爆破反車場面，令她大

感刺激！承接反貪風暴系列第二集《S風暴》，今集《L風暴》故事講述ICAC（廉政公署）首席調查主任陸志廉（古天樂飾），JFIU（聯合財富情報組）總督察劉保強（張智霖飾）同時偵查一宗海關關員狄偉傑（謝天華飾）貪污及洗黑錢案，但二人苦無線索。這時廉政公署L組（內部紀律調查組）總調查主任程德明（鄭嘉穎飾）收到模特兒Eva（鄧麗欣飾）舉報，指陸志廉收賄1,200萬港元，陸無法辯解即時停職。

為洗嫌疑陸四出搜證，同時被黑白兩道追捕；隨着調查的不斷深入，劉發現陸被誣陷，並跟一直調查的洗黑錢案有着千絲萬縷關係，更懷疑銀行主任游子新（栢天男飾）協助犯罪集團首腦王海禾（譚耀文飾）洗黑錢；國家反貪局偵查處處長洪亮（丁海峰飾）來港，給劉保強提供了重要情報，兩地合力打擊貪腐；陸亦冒險搜證，過程中遭禁錮，命懸一線……



Stephy飾演私影模特兒。《L風暴》



《L風暴》電影海報



譚俊彥

朱晨麗

香港文匯報訊 無線小花朱晨麗在主演的新劇《特技人》中，除了應付多場動作戲之外，也有與“大師兄”譚俊彥有感情線，日前播出的二人結婚戲，其實只是一場戲中戲，最後譚俊彥更娶起朱晨麗逃走。

雖然譚俊彥在鏡頭前表現型到爆，但其實有苦自己知，因為拍攝該場戲份前一天，譚俊彥在拍攝中途手部受傷，並要入院縫廿多針，但翌日便要繼續拍動作戲，令朱晨麗也擔心非常，她說：“因為他要抱起我，我怕他手上的傷口爆，所以我自己都有用力，令他沒有那麼辛苦，好在最後拍幾次就OK！”

講到跟譚俊彥合作，朱晨麗表示很放心，大讚對方一直表現很淡定，她說：“真是好像‘大師兄’，好照顧我們整個team的人，記得舊年開工頭幾日他生日，我就準備了個蛋糕一齊慶祝，當時大家都未熟，他有少少尷尬，不過好快熟絡。最深刻是拍kiss戲，因為當時他的兒子出世第二日，整個劇組都為他再做爸爸開心，我覺得譚俊彥真是大贏家，太太生完第二日就kiss第二個，好好有範嘍！”



古仔和Stephy展開一段逃亡戲。

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瘋狂劇透！碟中諜6揭秘終極預告

阿湯哥挑戰極限 西蒙·佩吉問候中國觀眾

今日，好萊塢動作冒險片《碟中諜6：全面瓦解》終極預告、終極海報聯袂登場，將影片上映前的火熱氛圍推向了壹個新的高峰。

在終極預告中，阿湯哥極限跳傘高樓飛躍，巴黎飆車室內搏擊，全片最為驚險高燃的動作場面壹覽無余，看完讓人腎上腺素飆升，恨不得立刻前往影院過把癮。終極海報則以阿湯哥片中的最高難度特技“高跳低開”為主元素，展現了他作為影史上完成此動作第壹人的無限魄力。與此同時，主演西蒙·佩吉也發來驚喜問候，宣布影片已正式開啓預售。

這次曝光的終極預告集結了影片中最為精彩激烈的動作特技場面，文·雷姆斯壹句“好戲開場”，拉開了預告片的序幕。阿湯哥箭步沖刺，倫敦樓頂上演高樓飛躍，摔斷腳踝依舊堅持拍攝。之後他又轉戰巴黎，在凱旋門邊鬧市街道與70輛車對向行駛，時速高達170公裏，同時更與亨利·卡維爾結伴迎敵，廁所內連環雙打重拳出擊血性爆棚。就連阿爾卑斯雪山之巔也少不了阿湯哥直升機螺旋速降的驚險身影。

當然，預告片中最為招人眼球的

鏡頭還是當屬最後的極限跳傘。阿湯哥從25000英尺（約7600米）高空跳下，2000英尺（約600米）低空開傘，9座迪拜塔騰空距離讓你體驗人類極限。難怪麗貝卡與西蒙兩人會滿臉驚悚，直呼“我覺得妳還是不看為妙！”

與終極預告壹同發布的，還有“極限跳傘”版終極海報。海報選取了阿湯哥在影片中最高驚險高燃的特技動作——“高跳低開”作為

主元素。為完成這壹首次在銀幕上亮相的空軍級別難度動作，阿湯哥與劇組成員從訓練到實拍總共進行了106次極限跳傘，每天進行10到15次，個中艱險可想而知。與此同時，影片主演西蒙·佩吉特地向廣大中國影迷送來上映祝詞。

《碟中諜6：全面瓦解》將於8月31日以2D、3D、IMAX3D、中國巨幕3D、杜比影院以及杜比全景聲制式登陸全國院線。



憨豆特工重出江湖！化身英國特工最後希望 內地有望引進



距離上壹部已過7年的《憨豆特工3》發布新海報，憨豆特工約翰·英格利士再次與觀眾見面，新造型相當酷炫，雖然羅溫·艾金森今年已經63歲，頭髮花白，皺紋也更深了但是觀眾對憨豆先生的喜愛卻不會減。

在這壹部裏，憨豆特工約翰·英格利士先生將與高科技來壹次爆笑碰撞。由於壹場網絡攻擊曝光了英國所有活躍的臥底特工的秘密身份，已經退休的約翰·英格利士成為了唯壹壹個沒有被揭底的特工，壹邊是艱巨任務壹邊又是特工最後唯壹的希望。已經退休的憨豆先生又要做回特工，並尋找這場網絡攻擊的黑客！但面臨高科技犯罪，只會用老派落伍的方法調查的憨豆先生想必又要鬧出層出不疊的笑料。

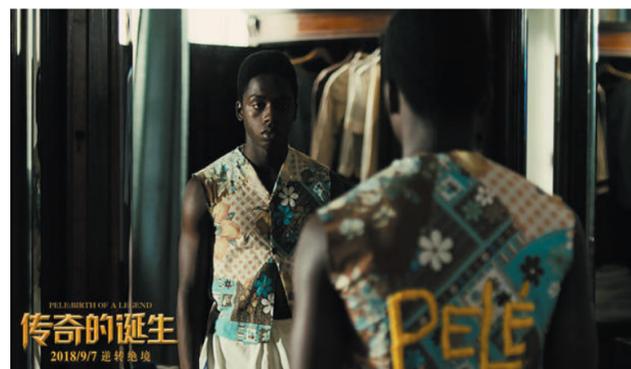
《憨豆特工》前兩部分別在2003年、2011年上映，該系列影片目前已在全球攬獲超3.2億美元票房，“007”系列電影金牌編劇尼爾·珀維斯、羅伯特·維德再次聯手，與該系列的老搭檔威廉姆·戴維斯壹同繼續為《憨豆特工3》撰寫劇本。

此外，英國著名喜劇演員本·米勒將延續其在第壹部中的角色，再壹次配合羅溫·艾金森，出演特工強尼的倒黴搭檔包爾，著名“邦女郎”歐嘉·柯瑞蘭寇則擔任影片女主角。

電影《憨豆特工3》由美國環球影業出品，將於2018年10月12日北美上映。



貝利《傳奇的誕生》定檔9.7 曝預告



由邁克爾·澤佛巴利斯特、傑夫·澤佛巴利斯特導演，凱文·德·保拉主演，貝利特別出演的電影《傳奇的誕生》將於9月7日全國上映。今日，片方發布定檔預告、海報。

海報為觀眾展現了少年貝利的燃情追夢瞬間，而在定檔預告中，少年貝利通往世界之巔的道路上遭遇重重阻礙。這個貧民窟男孩該如何沖破偏見與嘲諷？如何在絕境中逆風翻盤？

電影《傳奇的誕生》講述了貝利從貧民窟窮小子壹路逆襲，最終成長為球王貝利的傳奇故事。在曝光的定檔海報中，貝利低下頭若有所思，似乎正在經歷人生的重大選擇，他的腦海中正在回憶著童年時自己在故土上縱情壹躍，全力追夢的決定性瞬間。在遠處，父母和夥伴不離不棄跟隨其後，他們如何幫助貝利逆襲引人期待。

在定檔預告中，貝利遭遇了前所未有的嘲諷和打擊，在逆襲路上無人支持踽踽獨行。曾是足球運動員的父親因傷不得不放棄夢想，貝利也因此從小被教育要遠離足球。跟隨父親在貧民窟掃廁所的他，甚至因為買不起球鞋而被富家球員嘲笑為“光腳小分隊”。進入國家隊後，貝利雖堅持自我，卻遭到了教練的極力反對和隊友的排擠，通往世界之巔的道路舉步維艱。貝利在種種逆境下成長，用壹腔熱血為逆襲正名。

除了讓人腎上腺素飆升的熱血故事，影片還有壹個重量級彩蛋。據悉，貝利本人在電影中友情客串，見證了少年貝利的成名前夜。有了本尊親自蓋章，電影更能生動精準地還原壹代傳奇的逆襲之路。貝利本人還表示：“這部電影最可貴的地方在於，讓觀眾看到了我是怎麼成為‘貝利’的。”

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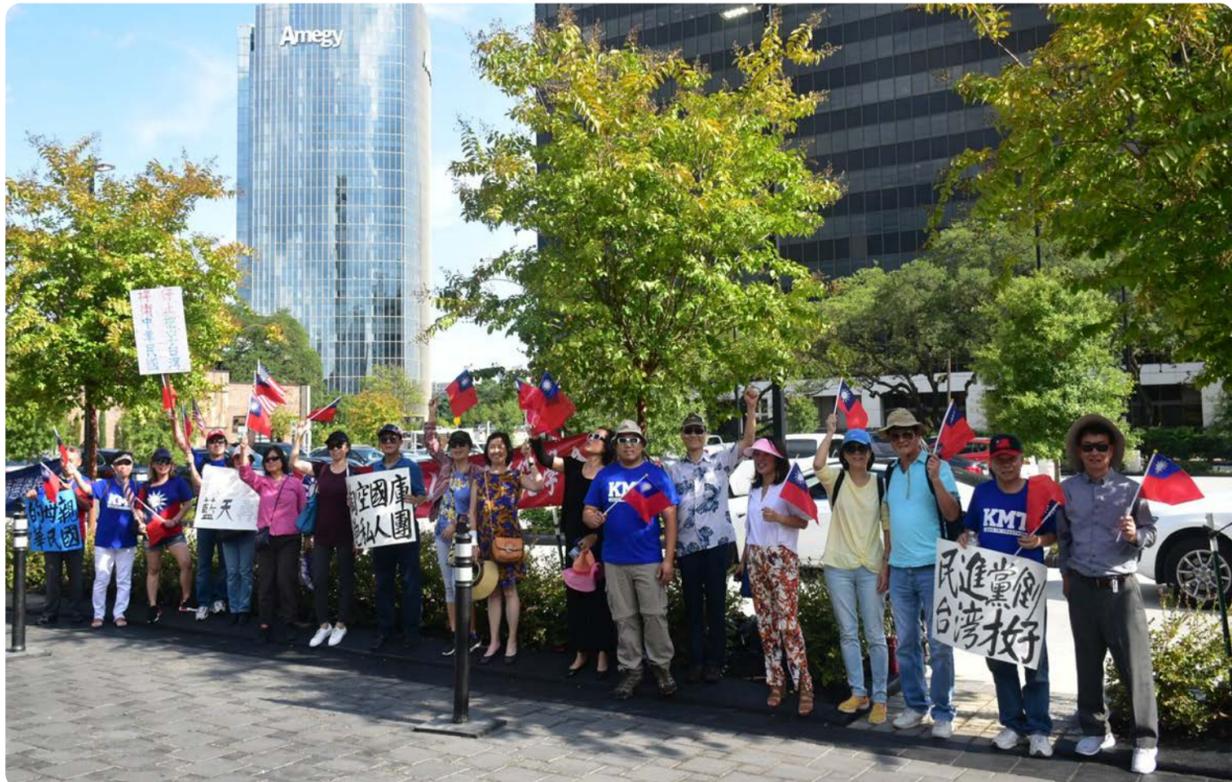
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蔡英文過境休士頓藍營不歡迎示威抗議



蔡英文過境休士頓，休士頓中山學術研究會副會長黃鷹超表示：有人很開心因為有總統來訪，有人不爽因為蔡政府施政無能，全民受害。泛藍從蔡政府綠色恐怖借改革實打壓的教訓之中，深刻體會到，就算溫良恭儉「不讓」也是討不到公道的，我們必須有所改變，行動才有作為。據了解「不歡迎蔡英文」的活動僅是幾天前才決定的，當天成功地跟旅館警衛還有七八位維安警察協調，才能夠留在旅館裡面抗議，相較於大陸的抗議是在馬路外面進行，泛藍的「不歡迎蔡英文」活動卻是在旅館裡面進行，許多參加活動者都認為是一個非常難得的人生經驗，很驕傲我們參與了，很高興我們做到了！我們成功地做到了拉布條（休士頓泛藍支持中華民國九合一選舉後援會）（休士頓中山學術研究會）、舉看板、喊口號（分裂台灣製造對立、灑錢外交痛失友邦、錯誤政策不是改革、耗損公帑衰退經貿）表達了泛藍對蔡英文的不歡迎心情。

中華民國蔡英文總統「同慶之旅」過境休士頓

中華民國蔡英文總統「同慶之旅」過境休士頓，8月19日下午7時結束拜會行程，啟程搭機返國，熱情支持蔡總統的休士頓僑胞，當天下午4時多即主動聚集在蔡總統下榻旅館列隊歡送，不到下午5時已聚集150餘位熱情僑胞，包含休士頓台灣同鄉會、休士頓台聲合唱團、休士頓臺灣社、松年學院、長春會、全美台灣人公共事務協會、台美學會等僑團會員，另僑務委員鄭金蘭、張世

勤、僑務諮詢委員劉秀美、李席舟、宋明麗、楊明耕、陳美芬以及全美台灣人公共事務協會總會長郭正光、台美學會會長楊朝諱均在歡送人潮之列。

下午5時50分蔡總統在外交部部長吳釗燮、僑務委員會委員長吳新興等人陪同下至飯店一樓大廳準備搭車前往機場，當蔡總統出現在一樓大廳，休士頓熱情僑胞高呼總統好，蔡總統於上車前一一與歡送人群握手致意，休士頓台聲合唱團團員更在張廖利娜及王慶隆團長帶領下高唱「台灣」，歌聲響遍大廳，唱出大家對家鄉的思念，以及無限的祝福，蔡總統感謝僑胞一路相挺，「台灣加油！有僑民相挺，台灣不孤單」。

現場僑胞表示，此次蔡總統過境不僅有機會一睹總統芳容，更讓美南地區僑胞受到莫大鼓舞，加強美國與台灣的友誼極其重要，促進台美關係的友好以及常態發展，也能從經貿等各方面幫助台灣，改善台灣民眾生活。另有僑胞表示，此次是總統第二次過境，是休士頓僑界的驕傲，昨天見證僑宴盛況，看到台美人齊心支持台灣，令人感動，希望小英總統帶著他們的滿滿祝福，回國繼續為台灣打拼，推動各項改革，讓台灣走向世界，讓世界看見台灣。（台北經文處供稿）

新開幕! 大創百貨 Daiso 進駐凱蒂 將於8/31舉行盛大慶祝活動 好禮相送



(記者韋寬凱報導)以物美價廉而聞名於世的日本大創百貨(Daiso Japan)終於進駐休士頓地區了，8月31日(星期五)上午10點，第一個休士頓地區的大創商店即將於凱蒂隆重開幕，歡迎舊雨新知共襄盛舉，一起來參加，大創準備

了不少好禮要相送囉。

DAISO Japan 是一家快速發展的生活用品店，店裡大部分以1.50美元的價格出售高質量商品。為了慶祝商店開業，大創將於8月31日(星期五)上午10點舉行剪彩儀式，並與9月1日(星期六)舉



行為期兩天的慶祝活動。凱蒂大創店有11,089平方英尺大，在這個慶祝活動中，將包括音樂、禮品袋、幸運抽獎、氣球、和發現新品的樂趣。

大創 Daiso Japan USA 高級副總裁



Yoshi Murata 先生表示：“我們很高興能在休士頓地區開設第一家大創店，可說是期待已久”，“希望休士頓與凱蒂的居民能參加我們的慶祝活動，來發現大創提供的有趣的、獨特的購物體驗。”

8/31和9/1/18兩天，前100位客戶將獲禮品袋 Goodie Bags，以收據為準。小朋友可獲大創氣球，送完為止。8月31日全天發放抽獎券，到9月1日下午4:30為止，幸運抽獎將於9月1日(週六)下午5點舉行。獎品包括 iPad Mini、Apple Watch、\$100元 VISA 禮卡(2)、\$50元加油卡(2)和\$50元星巴克禮卡(2)。幸運中獎的民眾可在兩週之內領取獎品，9月15日為止。有關詳細內容，請在慶祝活動期間詢問 Daiso 服務



目標是以便宜的方式把樂趣帶入購物中，提供有用並且獨特的產品，滿足家庭中每個購物者的需求。大創的產品採購員努力去購買那些“必須有”的商品，以及新奇的產品，為顧客創造令人難忘的購物體驗，讓顧客常常再回來選購。從園藝用品、家庭雜貨、到越來越多的特色食品，大創是個適合全家的一站式商店。

日本大創百貨DAISO以低價提供多種家居產品，平均每月在全球各地開設10到20家新店。大創在日本擁有2,800多家商店，海外則有600多家商店，因為大量購買，大創商店能夠降低成本，也讓大創很自豪地向世界各地的購物者介紹其DAISO品牌的商品。隨著生活成本的不斷提高，大創的宗旨是幫助消費者維持高水準的生活而不需要花費很多。有關更多信息，請訪問 <http://www.daisoglobal.com/>。

歡迎民眾參加為期兩天的慶祝活動，時間：8月31日至9月1日(週五和週六)。

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