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U.S.-China trade war - the levers each country can pull



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

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Best-case scenario for Trump-Xi talks is resumption of trade negotiations

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The best-case scenario for talks on Saturday between U.S. President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping is a resumption of trade negotiations, a top adviser to Vice President Mike Pence said on Friday.

“Restarting negotiations would be a best-case scenario,” Pence’s chief of staff, Marc Short, told reporters at the White House.

Trump and Xi are to meet in Osaka, Japan, where they are among world leaders gathered for a G20 summit.

Trade talks have stalled between the two countries and Trump is threatening \$325 billion more in tariffs on Chinese imports unless Beijing makes concessions.

Pence postponed a speech about China’s human rights record and national security concerns that had been scheduled for June 24 in order to avoid antagonizing the Chinese in advance of the Trump-Xi meeting.

Short said that speech would be rescheduled.

Chinese President Xi Jinping talks with Donald Tusk, president of the European Council, prior to a working lunch at the Group of 20 (G-20) summit in Osaka, Japan, on Friday, June 28, 2019. Kiyoshi Ota/Pool via REUTERS



France roasts in record heatwave, two die in Spain

PARIS/MADRID (Reuters) - France registered its highest temperature since records began on Friday as the death toll rose from a heatwave suffocating much of Europe.

The mercury hit 45.9 degrees Celsius (114.6 Fahrenheit) in Gallargues-le-Montueux, in the southern Provence region, weather forecaster Meteo France said, nearly two degrees above the previous high of 44.1 Celsius recorded in August 2003.

French all-time record temperature rises further to 45.8 degrees

France sees record 45.1 degree heat near Nimes

Twelve towns in southern France saw new all-time highs on Friday and three experienced temperatures above 45 degrees, it said.

The World Meteorological Organization said 2019 was on track to be among the world’s hottest years, and that 2015-2019 would then be the hottest five-year period on record.

It said the European heatwave was “absolutely consistent” with extremes linked to the impact of greenhouse gas emissions.

Four administrative departments in France were placed on red alert, signaling temperatures of “dangerous intensity”

that are more typical of Saudi Arabia.

The unusually high temperatures are forecast to last until early next week.

In Spain, where temperature peaked above 43 degrees for the second day running, wildfires raged across 60 sq km (23 sq miles) of land in the north-eastern Tarragona province. Officials said firefighters battling the blazes on 20 fronts managed to avoid them from spreading.

In the central region, a fire broke out on the outskirts of Toledo, forcing the evacuation of two public buildings, a regional official told Reuters.

To the north in Valladolid, a man of 93 collapsed and died due to the heat, police said. And in a small town outside Cordoba, a 17-year-old died of heat-related effects after jumping into a swimming pool to cool off.

Since 1975, Spain has registered nine heatwaves in June, including five in the last decade, according to the Spanish meteorological office.

In France, one boy was seriously hurt when he was thrown back by a jet of water from a fire hydrant. Some 4,000 schools were either closed or running a limited service to help working parents unable to stay at home.



State-run rail operator SNCF offered free cancellations or exchanges on long-distance trips, social workers helped homeless people cope with the heat, and French families with elderly relatives who were ill or living alone were advised to call or visit them twice a day and take them to cool places.

The greater Paris region, Ile de

France, has banned more than half of cars from its roads as the stifling heat worsened air pollution, the toughest restriction provided for — although all cars were to be allowed to leave the city as school holidays began.

The cities of Lyon, Strasbourg and Marseille have also restricted traffic.



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U.S.-China trade war - the levers each country can pull

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping will seek to revive talks to end a trade war when they meet on Saturday on the sidelines of a Group of 20 summit in Japan.

The session will be the first time they have met since the last G20 summit in late November in Buenos Aires.

Negotiations between the two sides on trade broke down in May. Since then, the trade war has escalated with both sides imposing higher tariffs on the other, and Trump declaring Chinese telecommunications giant Huawei Technologies [HWT.UL] a national security threat.

Trump has said he could hit China with more tariffs, depending on the outcome of the meeting with Xi. Neither side has softened its position ahead of the meeting.

The following are some other possible pressure points for each side:

Xi visited a rare earth firm in southern China in May, fueling speculation that China could cut off supplies of the metals, a key ingredient in high-technology consumer electronics and military equipment, to the United States as part of the trade war. China supplies 80% of U.S. rare earths.

China could impose tariffs on around \$10 billion of U.S. goods that as yet carry no retaliatory tariffs. Beijing removed some tariffs on American car imports in December, and could reimpose them.

China could raise tariffs from 25 percent on some U.S. goods such as soybeans. China was the top buyer of U.S. soybeans until the trade war, which came close to halting the flow altogether. If it raises tariffs again, Chinese soy importers will seek more supplies from Brazil and elsewhere, as they did in 2018, which would hurt U.S. farmers. These are targeted tariffs, aimed at the U.S. farming community that helped Trump win the presidency in 2016.

High-tech items, such as semiconductor manufacturing equipment and chips, would be unlikely to feature on a list for higher tariffs because China cannot easily find alternatives.

China has so far spared Boeing Co (BA.N) passenger jets, its single most valuable U.S. import, from tariffs. Chinese carriers are expanding rapidly to meet rising demand, so tariffs on Boeing could slow development of the domestic travel industry.

China could buy more aircraft from France's Airbus (AIR.PA) instead of Boeing, which would make it more reliant on Europe for a few years until it completes development of homegrown commercial aircraft, the COMAC C919.



FILE PHOTO: U.S. President Donald Trump and China's President Xi Jinping meet business leaders at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, China, November 9, 2017. REUTERS/Damir Sagolj/ File Photo



Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe shakes hands with U.S. President Donald Trump during the G20 summit in Osaka, Japan June 28, 2019. Sputnik/Mikhail Klimentyev/ Kremlin via REUTERS ATTENTION EDITORS - THIS IMAGE WAS PROVIDED BY A THIRD PARTY.

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Editor's Choice



Trump kisses Brigitte Macron at the G20 leaders summit dinner in Osaka, Japan



Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and other world leaders pose for a family photograph with their partners in front of Osaka Castle at the G-20 summit, in Osaka, Japan June 28, 2019 Tomohiro Ohsumi/Pool via REUTERS



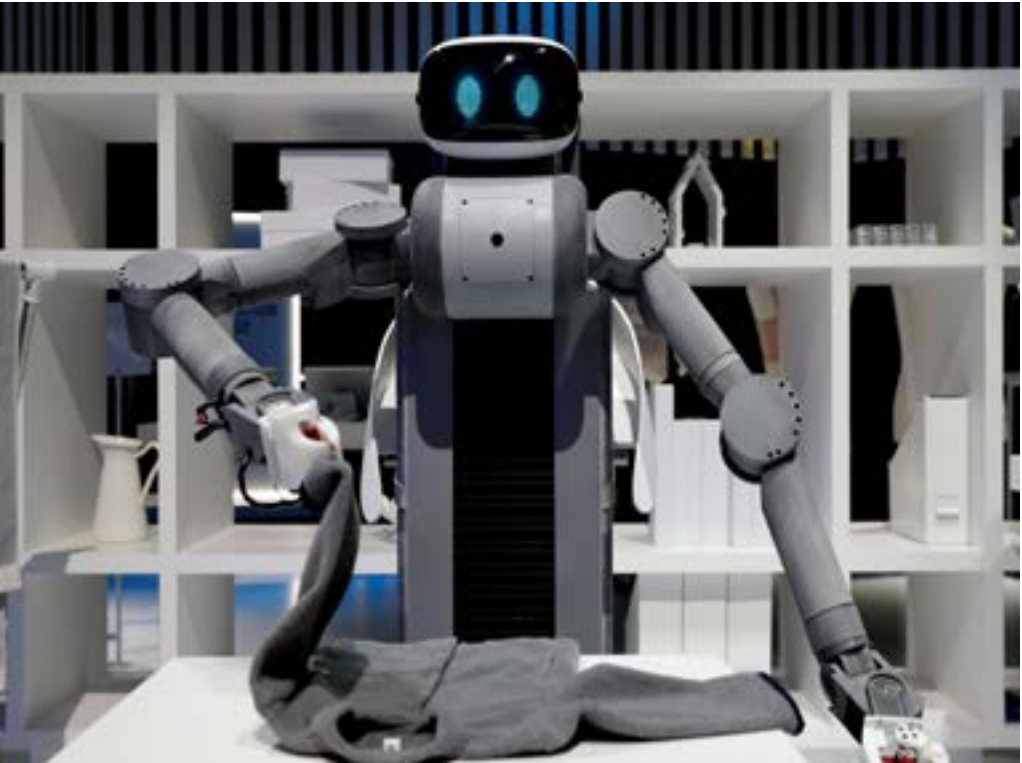
A maiko (apprentice geisha) attends a cultural exhibition at G20 leaders summit venue in Osaka, Japan, June 28, 2019. REUTERS/Kim Kyung-Hoon



U.S. President Donald Trump speaks with Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman during family photo session with other leaders and attendees at the G20 leaders summit in Osaka, Japan, June 28, 2019. REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



Partners of the G20 leaders enjoy a Japanese teatime during G20 partners' program at Tofuku-ji Temple in Kyoto, Japan, June 28, 2019. G20 Osaka Summit Photo/Handout via Reuters ATTENTION EDITORS -



Remote-controlled Ugo robot folds a clothes during its exhibition at Japan innovation lounge of G20 leaders summit venue in Osaka



People participate in a demonstration against G20 during the leaders summit in Osaka, Japan June 28, 2019. REUTERS/Jorge Silva



Partners of the G20 leaders pose for a family photo at G20 partners' program in Tofuku-ji Temple, Kyoto, Japan, June 28, 2019. Du Xiaoyi/Pool via REUTERS

On the evening of June 24, Mr. Wea Lee, the Chairman of the Houston International District, the President of Southern News Group and Chairman of the International Trade Center, hosted a reception at his personal residence to welcome Fitsum Arega the Ethiopian Ambassador to the United States on his visit to Houston. Mr. Arega assumed his office on December 24, 2018. He served previously as the Director General of the Ethiopian Investment Commission and was Chief of Staff for the Prime Minister of Ethiopia. More than 80 dignitaries including State of Texas representative, Houston City Council members, Harris County Council members and leading members of Houston’s political, business, financial, investment, and real estate sectors were in attendance. Chairman Lee warmly welcomed Fitsum Arega, the new Ethiopian Ambassador to the United States, to Houston and delivered a welcoming speech. Lee stated, “This year marks the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Southern News Group. It is also the 40th anniversary of my entrepreneurial development. We have made many gratifying achievements in the past 40 years. We will continue to work together with all countries and nations in the world to move toward bigger and wider goals!”



“Houston has been a diversified city that has attracted the influx of immigrants from different countries over the years and has also promoted Houston’s external rapid development of international trade. Therefore, we established a cross-border, cross-racial, cross-cultural, cross-regional International Trade Center (ITC) in 2006 to respond to these important trends. In the near future, we look forward to fully understanding

Chairman Wea H. Lee Hosts Welcome Reception For Fitsum Arega, Ethiopian Ambassador To The United States



By Quansheng Zhu

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

Ethiopia in terms of its economic, cultural, educational, medical, tourism needs and other aspects, and also hope to encourage businesses to go to Ethiopia for investment opportunities.”



The Honorable Gezahgen Kebede, Ethiopian Honorary Consul General in Houston and Co-Chairman of the International Trade Center, introduced Fitsum Arega, the Ethiopian Ambassador to the United States. Kebede pointed out that

Fitsum Arega is the leading diplomat of Ethiopia to the United States who is currently serving as the Ethiopian ambassador to the United States. Fitsum Arega is also the Director General of the Ethiopian Investment Committee and the Chief of Staff of the Ethiopian Prime Minister, working to attract foreign investors to Ethiopia. Kebede said that the position of Ethiopian Ambassador to the U.S. is considered to be one of the most important tasks of the Ethiopian diplomatic service. The ambassador’s main responsibility is to introduce the Ethiopian policy to the U.S. government and its people and to report the U.S. policies and views to the Ethiopian government. The ambassador is the main communication channel between the two countries and plays an important role in treaty negotiations and decision-making between the two countries.



In his speech to the dignitaries in attendance, Fitsum Arega thanked Chairman Lee for organizing the reception and thanked officials at all levels of the political circles in Houston and friends from the business community for their support. He said: “This is the fifth American city I have visited in one week and the last stop of this event. I like Texas and I also like Houston. I welcome you all to our historic African country, Ethiopia, to invest and for tourism! Our government

welcomes bilateral trade between the United States and Ethiopia to conduct business and strengthen ties.” “Ethiopia’s promising investment areas include manufacturing, telecommunications, electricity and solar energy, and creative arts/entertainment.”



Arega went on to say, “In my visits to San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Las Vegas and Houston, I shared this investment information with elected officials and business leaders in these cities, in order to inform investors, especially African Americans, that Ethiopia has great partnership potential and enjoys rapid economic growth indicators that will benefit individuals and companies as well as the economic development of Ethiopia.”



Chairman Lee presented a memorial silk scarf of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Southern News Group to Fitsum Arega, and welcomed the ambassador to visit the Southern News Group and International Trade Center any time. During the reception, Chairman Lee held a buffet dinner and invited pianist and pop singer Ruiwei Zhu to play live piano; Houston’s famous singer Kijana Wiseman sang “Pie Jesu” to bring the reception to a climax.

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Hundreds of illegal aliens from the Democratic Republic of Congo in Africa, which is currently experiencing a massive Ebola virus outbreak, have been dropped off in San Antonio, Texas and hundreds more will arrive in the near future.

A local news reporter looking for French-speaking volunteers to communicate with the individuals made this request on Twitter:

“City confirms hundreds of migrants from the Congo have arrived in SA. The city is in desperate need for French-speaking volunteers,” Jaleesa Irizarry of KENS 5 San Antonio wrote on Thursday.

In a local news report, Interim Assistant City Manager Dr. Collen Bridger said, “We didn’t get a heads up.”

Bridger said the illegal aliens started to arrive in town on Tuesday and that CBP confirmed “another 200 to 300 from the Congo and Angola will be coming to San Antonio.”

“A group of about 350 migrants from the Congo will be arriving in San Antonio in the near future,” a notice from the San Antonio Department of Human Services reads.



The City of San Antonio's Department of Human Services has opened an emergency shelter for immigrant families released to San Antonio by the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and U.S. Customs and Border Protection. Working in coordination with the San Antonio Food Bank, Interfaith Welcoming Coalition, Catholic Charities, Travis Park Church, Goodwill Industries of San Antonio, Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services and others, the Migrant Resource Center (MRC) is in need of additional support from the community.

Opportunities for French-Speaking Volunteers

A group of about 350 migrants from the Congo will be arriving in San Antonio in the near future. Currently, there are about 50 Congolese at the MRC and all are monolingual French speakers.

To ensure the continued safety and exemplary support to the families and children at the MRC, DHS is seeking volunteers who are able to converse in French and assist our guests with answering their questions, assist with intake of the migrants' information (e.g., name, country of origin, final destination), helping with making phone calls, and most importantly, making our guests feel welcome.

The center is open seven days a week. French speakers are needed from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. We will work with all volunteers to accommodate their schedules and availability. The peak times are 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Important Information
The MRC is located at 400 N. St. Mary's St. in the St. Mary's Parking Garage near the corner of Pecan and St. Mary's. The door faces St. Mary's Street and is close to the city-owned bus station. Parking validation will be provided for the city-operated St. Mary's Parking Garage only. Please enter the garage from Travis Street, across from the Observation Center parking lot and just a block. Validation tickets will be provided to all volunteers and will cover the cost of the parking.

Additional Information:
• Meals are not provided to staff so volunteers should bring snacks. Water is provided.
• Volunteers should wear comfortable shoes and clothing. There is no secure place to store personal belongings. Volunteers are encouraged to bring small purses or clothes with pockets to store keys and cell phones.
• To respect our guests, no photos or video are allowed to be taken at the MRC.
• If someone is expecting or has a computerized immune system, they cannot volunteer at the MRC.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact volunteer@sanantonio.gov or volunteer@sanantonio.gov. Please write "MRC French Speaker Volunteer" in subject line to ensure an immediate response.

Thank you!



Immigrants are swamping the San Antonio bus station.

After being placed in San Antonio, the illegal immigrants are bussed to a destination of their choice by local charities who spend

At Least 350 More On The Way
Hundreds Of Illegals From Ebola-Ridden Congo Have Been Dumped In San Antonio, Texas



Illegals from Africa fleeing Ebola-stricken Congo who made it across the Rio Grande river a week ago first arrive at a city-owned shelter in San Antonio and then are transported by bus and van to undisclosed locations across The United States.

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

“roughly \$14,000 a week on bus tickets.” Last weekend, a group of more than 100 illegals from Angola, Cameroon and Congo were filmed wading through the Rio Grande River and entering the United States. In a statement, CBP said, “Agents have encountered 182 large groups (100+ individuals) across the SW border this fiscal year. This is the first large group apprehended in Del Rio Sector this FY and the first large group apprehended on the SW border this FY consisting entirely of African nationals.”



U.S. Border Patrol agents assigned to Del Rio Sector apprehended a large group of 116 individuals—from Angola, Cameroon and Congo—after they illegally crossed the Rio Grande River into the U.S. on Thursday: bit.ly/216Q0RG

5,645

5:06 PM - May 31, 2019

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The White House

@WhiteHouse

Last night, U.S. Border Patrol agents apprehended more than 100 illegal aliens from Congo, Angola, and Cameroon near the U.S.–Mexico border.

Our southern border is now a magnet for illegal immigration from all over the world. It's time for Democrats to help close the loopholes!

9,160

5:33 PM - May 31, 2019

Today, the World Health Organization said one in four Ebola infections in Congo are going undetected and that the country is experiencing the second-worst Ebola epidemic on record. (Courtesy infowars.com)

Related

Ebola tops 1,000 cases in Congo, officials express concern

The Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Re-

public of the Congo reports more than 1,000 confirmed and probable cases, and experts warn this could continue for the long haul unless the community starts trusting public health workers and participates in identifying contacts of infected people.

Why it matters: The outbreak cannot be stemmed until each contact of an infected person is vaccinated and monitored until they are declared free of the deadly infection — something the World Health Organization has been characterized as challenging. Some worry that the haemorrhagic disease could become endemic in the area, although most say it hasn't reached that point yet.



What's happening: Violent attacks on Ebola Treatment Centers (ETCs) and health-care workers have forced Doctors without Borders to suspend its operations in some hotspots of the disease (although they continue working elsewhere in DRC) and placed incredible pressure on local and international health-care workers struggling to respond to the communities in need.

DRC's Ministry of Health (MOH) continues providing daily updates, which show continued deaths of people who were not known to be infected, illustrating the precariousness of the situation. MOH spokesperson Jessica Ilunga, tells Axios that the disease has spread to another zone over the past 21 days, in Lubero, and it has resumed in other areas where it had been contained already, like Beni. She adds...

“After the attacks of the ETC, we organized community dialogue sessions in some areas to let the community express its concerns regarding the response in a peaceful way. Based on their comments, we started working on ways to adapt some Ebola response activities.” (Courtesy axios.com)

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