US imposes new sanctions on DPRK

The U.S. Department of Treasury on Wednesday issued new sanctions on entities and individuals allegedly related to the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK). In a statement that it slapped sanctions on nine entities, 16 individuals and six vessels in response to the DPRK’s alleged ongoing development of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and continued violations of United Nations Security Council resolutions (UNSCRs)." Tensions on the Korean Peninsula were kept intense over the past year, as the crisis has been worsened by the exchange of personal insults and confrontational rhetoric between the leaders of the United States and the DPRK.

Bullet train catches fire in Anhui

A TOTAL of 14 trains halted operations along the Beijing-Shanghai high-speed railway Thursday after a high-speed train caught fire at Dingyuan Station, Anhui Province.

All the affected trains were running from Beijing to Shanghai: G399, G393, G397, G395, G599, G593, G597, G595, G593, G597 and G595.

Passengers who bought tickets for these trains can get a full refund.

At a Glance

Illegal structures
BEIJING plans to demolish more than 40 million square meters of illegal structures this year, 40 percent of which will be converted to public green space.

Double-deck bridge
A DOUBLE-DECK railroad bridge opened to traffic in Southwest China’s Chongqing municipality Thursday while delivering a Glanttab bridge opened to traffic in Southwest China’s Chongqing municipality Thursday. The line cuts travel time between the two cities from the current 10 hours to 2 hours and shortens travel time between Chengdu, capital of Sichuan Province, and Guiyang to 3.5 hours.

Train derailing kills 2, injures 10 in Italy

At least two people were killed and 10 others seriously injured in a train derailing in northern Italy early Thursday, the Ansa news agency reported.

A commuter regional train derailed between Pioltello and Segrate on the outskirts of Milan, Lombardy, at around 7:31 a.m., said the Italian Fire Corp at the scene.

At least two passengers were killed in the accident, while other people were seriously injured. Ansa reports also quoted emergency staff as saying that an additional 100 people had light injuries.

Hours after the accident, rescue personnel were still working to free several passengers trapped in the wreckage, according to reports.

The accident happened about one and a half hours after the commuter train belonging to FerrovieNord Company left Cremona for Milan, with hundreds of passengers on board.

Pictures from the scene showed at least two carriages in the train’s central section turned over and were badly damaged.

Some regional trains operating on the same line were suspended.

Aircraft AG600 completes second flight

CHINA’s first domestically-built large amphibious aircraft, the AG600, completed its second trial flight in Guangdong Province Thursday.

The aircraft AG600, code-named “Kunlong,” successfully finished all tests during the 73-minute flight Wednesday morning, according to China Aviation Industry General Aircraft Co. Ltd.

For the next step, researchers will continue to test and optimize the aircraft’s performances during trial flights.

Trump: would love to face Mueller questions

THE U.S. President Donald Trump said he would be willing to sit down with special counsel Robert Mueller under oath regarding the ongoing Justice Department investigation into his presidential campaign’s ties with the Russian Government, multiple media outlets reported on Wednesday.

When asked about the possible future reunification of the Korean Peninsula, Cui said that China will support it as long as it is peaceful, independent, and by the will of the Korean people.

“I think it’s up to the Korean people, whether they are divided or unified, to adopt an agreement with the policy of their own,” Cui noted, adding that “They know where their best interests lie.”

China wants a denuclearization of the entire Korean Peninsula, and a peaceful and stable peninsula without armed conflicts and chaos, Cui said.

GD to add 20,000 robots

GUANGDONG Province, an economic powerhouse in southern China, plans to put another 20,000 industrial robots into use this year, as the province is encouraging its edge in manufacturing.

Guangdong governor Ma Xingrui announced the plan during a government work report at the local parliamentary session.

“The province will try to efforts to digitalize the manufacturing sector and make the industry smarter and greener,” Ma said.

Guangdong’s development will focus on the real economy, with manufacturing as the foundation,” he said.

The robot industry has been listed as a key development area under the "Made in China 2025” strategy, as the country is the biggest market for industrial robots in the world.

The output of China’s industrial robots exceeded 100,000 in the first 10 months of 2017, up 70 percent year on year, Xinhua News Service reported.

New railway links major SW China cities

A forward-looking ethnic Miao costume Thursday showed up on a bullet train connecting Chongqing and Guiyang, capital of Guizhou Province. The railway connecting the two major cities in Southwest China started operation Thursday. The line cuts travel time between the two cities from the current 10 hours to 2 hours and shortens travel time travel between Chengdu, capital of Sichuan Province, and Guiyang to 3.5 hours.

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