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WITH TRUMP WIN, CHINA LOOKS TO SEIZE ASIA FREE TRADE LEADERSHIP

November 17, 2016 reuters.com reported: "China will position itself as free trade's new champion at an Asia-Pacific summit this weekend, with the Communist government seeking to project economic leadership as a U.S.-led Pacific Rim trade pact languishes under President-elect Donald Trump. Beijing aims to capitalize on the Trump-induced coma of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), with President Xi Jinping selling alternate visions for regional trade at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting this weekend in Peru.

"If the U.S. gives up its leadership here, of course China will take the role," said Tu Xinquan, a trade expert at Beijing's University of International Business and Economics, who has advised China's government on trade issues.

On the campaign trail, Trump labeled the TPP, championed by President Barack Obama, a "disaster". Obama last week abandoned efforts to win congressional approval for the TPP before Trump takes office, saying its fate was up to the President-elect and Republican lawmakers.

The China-backed Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), a rival pact that excludes the United States, has become the front-runner for new free trade deals in the region... Obama had argued that the TPP would allow the United States and not China to write the rules of trade for the region."..."

CHINA'S FIRST AIRCRAFT CARRIER 'COMBAT READY'

November 17, 2016 spacewar.com reported: "The People's Liberation Army Navy's first aircraft carrier is ready to meet threats on the battlefield, Chinese media reports. The vessel, named after the Chinese province of Liaoning after being purchased from Ukraine, was deemed combat-ready after years of refitting and sea trials. Initially laid down as an Admiral Kuznetsov-class carrier for the Soviet Navy in the 1980s, the ship has primarily been used by China for training missions, according to IHS Janes.



While Chinese military officials concede there is still a technological gap between the Liaoning and the carriers used by the United States, they are confident their modernization efforts have been effective.

'As a military force, we are always combat ready and our combat capacity also needs to be tested by war,' PLAN Senior Captain Dongyou Li told the Global Times, a Chinese daily newspaper. 'At this moment, we are doing our best to promote our strength and use it to prevent war. But we are preparing for actual combat at any time.'..."

DAWN OF EU PENTAGON: BRUSSELS TO BUILD DEFENCE AGENCY RUN BY POLITICIANS PLAYING SOLDIERS

November 16, 2016 express.co.uk reported: "An obscure defence agency could play a key role in greater military cooperation as the European Union pushes on with plans for an EU army. But there have been suggestions the EDA could become the European equivalent of the Pentagon - the headquarters of the United States Department of Defence.

While EU officials raised its military budget from £26.2 to £26.6 million on Tuesday, the sum pales in comparison to the Pentagon's £464.5 million. But the increase is the first for the agency since 2010, and comes as the EU pushes forward with other efforts to ramp up military spending - including establishing an EU defence fund.

And with the push for more military cooperation, the EDA is expected to gain new relevance new importance and most importantly new powers. Plans drawn up by Federica Mogherini, the EU's foreign policy chief, will give it a central role in boosting efficiency and increasing the capability of European defence systems. A spokesperson said: "The European Commission is ready to play an active role in fostering European defence cooperation.

"Europe's soft power is not enough in the long run without at least some integrated defence capacities."

Overall military spending in Europe hit £171 billion last year, but only four out of the 28 EU nations met the NATO spending target of 2 per cent of economic output."..."

CHRISTIANS BEING KILLED FOR ORGAN HARVESTING

November 16, 2016 World Net Daily reported: "New evidence suggests China is engaged in large-scale forced organ harvesting, killing prisoners of conscience, including many Christians, and selling their organs on the lucrative international market.

Just as the establishment politicians and media in the U.S. tried to cover up and hide the Planned Parenthood trade in baby body parts after it was exposed by undercover journalists, the Chinese government and media have also denied any such trade exists in China.

But two investigators who have spent 10 years researching evidence of forced organ harvesting from prisoners of conscience in China told the Canadian Parliament's human rights subcommittee that the practice of killing for profit-driven transplants continues unabated in China, the Epoch Times reports.

International human-rights lawyer David Matas and former Crown attorney and cabinet minister David Kilgour presented the findings of their latest report, released in June, at a House of Commons hearing on Nov. 3.

Based on an analysis of more than 700 organ transplantation centers in China, the report indicated that Chinese hospitals have performed an estimated 60,000 to 100,000 organ transplants a year since the year 2000, and most of the organs were sourced from innocent prisoners of conscience — Uyghurs, Tibetans, home-church Christians and practitioners of Falun Gong meditation..."

NEW ZEALAND: AT LEAST 2 DEAD IN SERIES OF POWERFUL EARTHQUAKES

November 13, 2016 cnn.com reported: "A series of powerful earthquakes jolted New Zealand's South Island Monday, triggering a tsunami and sending aftershocks across the country that left at least two dead, officials said.

The first event, a 7.8-magnitude quake, struck just after midnight Monday near the coastal community of Kaikoura, some 93 kilometers (55 miles) northeast of the city of Christchurch, the US Geological Survey reported.

It triggered waves of 2.49 meters (8 feet) above usual tide levels, the highest New Zealand had seen in at least 38 years, Philip Duncan of Weather Watch New Zealand said.

An initial tsunami warning was lifted but temblors continued Monday afternoon. A 6.2-magnitude quake struck around 1:30 p.m. 39 kilometers west-southwest of Kaikoura, further north of Christchurch.

New Zealand is a South Pacific nation of islands, the two largest being the North and South islands, which are home to most of the population. Aftershocks from South Island reverberated all the way to Wellington, the country's capital on the North Island, where residents were told to stay indoors Monday.”...”

6.2-MAGNITUDE QUAKE SHAKES NORTHWESTERN ARGENTINA

November 13, 2016 AFP reported: “A strong 6.2-magnitude earthquake hit northwestern Argentina Sunday, the US Geological Survey said, but there were no immediate reports of damage or injuries. The quake, at a depth of 62 miles (100 kilometers), struck shortly after 1400 GMT about 16 miles north of the city Chilecito in the South American nation's La Rioja province.

Villagers reported that the movement was felt in the neighboring provinces of Catamarca, Tucuman and Cordoba. The country's seismic authority also reported three smaller earthquakes Sunday.

The quake near the border with Chile follows a 6.4-magnitude earthquake of "great intensity" earlier this month in central Chile. That earthquake shook buildings in the capital Santiago, causing panic among residents, whose frantic phone calls clogged cellular networks and land lines, AFP correspondents said.”...”

CANADA BANS ISLAMOPHOBIA ... AND THAT'S JUST THE START

November 13, 2016 WND.com reported: “A new report on lawmakers in Canada endorsing a ban on ‘Islamophobia’ warns that it is just a stepping stone to what Islamic supremacists ultimately want. And how is that known? The Islamists themselves said so.

At the Gatestone Institute, Judith Bergman, a writer, lawyer, columnist and political analyst, cited the recent action in Canada’s Parliament. There, lawmakers approved an anti-Islamophobia motion that states: ‘Recently an infinitesimally small number of extremist individuals have conducted terrorist activities while claiming to speak for the religion of Islam. Their actions have been used as a pretext for a notable rise of anti-Muslim sentiments in Canada; and these violent individuals do not reflect in any way the values or the teachings of the religion of Islam. In fact, they misrepresent the religion. We categorically reject all their activities. They in no way represent the religion, the beliefs and the desire of Muslims to co-exist in peace with all peoples of the world. We, the undersigned, Citizens and residents of Canada, call upon the House of Commons to join us in recognizing that extremist individuals do not represent the religion of Islam, and in condemning all forms of Islamophobia.’

The proposal came from Samer Majzoub, the president of the Canadian Muslim Forum, Bergman reported.

‘While a motion will have no legal effect unless it is passed as a bill, the symbolic effect of the Canadian parliament unanimously condemning ‘all forms of Islamophobia,’ without making the slightest attempt at defining what is meant by ‘Islamophobia,’ can only be described, at best, as alarming,’ she wrote.

‘What exactly are they condemning? Criticism of Islam? Criticism of Muslims? Debating Mohammed? Depicting Mohammed? Discussing whether ISIS is a true manifestation of Islam? Is any Canadian who now writes critically of Islam or disagrees with the petitioners that ISIS ‘does not reflect in any way the values or the teachings of the religion of Islam’ now to be considered an ‘Islamophobe’?’...”

CHEMISTS DEVELOP WORLD'S FIRST LIGHT-SEEKING SYNTHETIC NANOROBOT

November 9, 2016 spacedaily.com reported: “A team of researchers led by Dr Jinyao Tang of the Department of Chemistry, the University of Hong Kong, has developed the world's first light-seeking synthetic Nano robot. With size comparable to a blood cell, those tiny robots have the potential to be injected into patients' bodies, helping surgeons to remove tumors and enabling more precise engineering of targeted medications. The findings have been published in October earlier in leading scientific journal Nature Nanotechnology.

It has been a dream in science fiction for decades that tiny robots can fundamentally change our daily life. The famous science fiction movie "Fantastic Voyage" is a very good example, with a group of scientists driving their miniaturized Nano-submarine inside human body to repair a damaged brain.”...”

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2016 was awarded to three scientists for "the design and synthesis of molecular machines". They developed a set of mechanical components at molecular scale which may be assembled into more complicated Nano machines to manipulate single molecule such as DNA or proteins in the future.

The development of tiny nanoscale machines for biomedical applications has been a major trend of scientific research in recent years. Any breakthroughs will potentially open the door to new knowledge and treatments of diseases and development of new drugs.

One difficulty in Nanorobot design is to make these nanostructures sense and respond to the environment. Given each Nanorobot is only a few micrometers in size which is ~50 times smaller than the diameter of a human hair, it is very difficult to squeeze normal electronic sensors and circuits into Nanorobots with reasonable price. Currently, the only method to remotely control Nanorobots is to incorporate tiny magnetic inside the Nanorobot and guide the motion via external magnetic field.

The Nanorobot developed by Dr Tang's team use light as the propelling force, and is the first research team globally to explore the light-guided Nanorobot and demonstrate its feasibility and effectiveness.”...”



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