

## IN THE NEWS

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### World News

One of the consequences of China's new trade wealth is the ability to conduct original science. For instance, China has plans to develop a prototype supercomputer capable of a billion, billion calculations per second [1]. Science also finds its way into weapon systems. Case in point, China's second aircraft carrier is expected to be completed during the first half of 2017 with operational deployment in 2019 [2]. This comes as China continues to expand its Navy. For instance, the People's Liberation Army Navy commissioned its 31<sup>st</sup> stealth corvette and the ship will operate in the East China Sea [3]. China also warned the US not to defend the Japanese claimed Senkaku islands [4]. Meanwhile, China tested the new DF-5C missile, using 10 multiple independently targetable reentry vehicles [5].

As we try to determine China's goals, we should not forget Mao was its communist founder. Consider the Philippines has been fighting Maoist communists Since 1968 [6]. In India, people are frequently killed by Maoist communists [7].

For a long time, the threat of drone aircraft has been mostly confined to the military. However, it appears the Islamic State has converted commercial drones into precision bomb delivering weapons [8]. Elsewhere, Iran violated a UN agreement and test fired a ballistic missile that traveled 600 miles before exploding [9].

1. AFP, *China to develop prototype super, super computer in 2017*, January 17, 2017.
2. Times of India, *China may deploy 2nd aircraft carrier near South China Sea*, February 1, 2017.
3. The Hindu, *China commissions 31st stealth warship*, January 22, 2017.

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### Security

The rush to fix security holes continues. Oracle released patches to correct 270 holes [1]. Additionally, Apple released a significant set of patches [2].

In addition to fixing bugs, another security control is monitoring vulnerable systems. One piece suggests a hacker syndicate may have used Google's malware monitoring service to help it identify vulnerable targets [3].

Whenever we are told of another computer glitch, security comes to mind. For instance, the cause of a 2.5 hour ground stop for United Airlines flights was described as a computer glitch [4]. Then Delta experienced a computer glitch that cancelled 280 flights, thereby stranding thousands of passengers [5]. A question here is, what is the likelihood of two glitches impacting separate airlines in such as short period of

time?

In Washington DC, ransomware infected 123 of 187 network video recorders, rendering the surveillance cameras unable to record [5].

1. Barth, Bradley, SC Magazine, *Oracle patches 270 vulnerabilities, including 121 in E-Business Suite*, January 19, 2017.
2. Olenick, Doug, SC

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#### Special points of interest:

- DJIA closes above 20,000
- Second bank shuttered this year

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- Magazine, *Apple issues updates for almost all its products*, January 24, 2017.
3. Ashok, India, *International Business Times*, *Hacker group that pulled off billion dollar bank job using*

## Security

- Google services for malware monitoring*, January 19, 2017.
4. Bacon, John, *USA Today*, *Thousands stranded as Delta cancels 280 flights - and maybe more*, January 30, 2017.
5. AP, *Ground stop lifted, United Airlines flights set to resume*, January 22, 2017.
6. Williams, Clarence, *Washington Post*, *Hackers hit D.C. police closed-circuit camera network, city officials disclose*, January 27, 2017.

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*Extreme remedies are very appropriate for extreme diseases~Hippocrates*

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## World News

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4. AP/Los Angeles Times, *China lashes out at remarks by U.S. Defense Secretary James Mattis on the East China Sea islands*, February 4, 2017.
5. Gertz, Bill, *Washington Free Beacon*, *China Tests Missile With 10 Warheads*, January 31, 2017.
6. AFP, *Philippines' Duterte ends peace talks with Maoist rebels*, February 4, 2017.
7. Bangkok Post/Kyoto News, *36 dead, Maoists suspected in India train wreck*, January 23, 2017.
8. Scarborough, Rowan, *Washington Times*, *ISIS drone dropping precision bombs alarms U.S. military*, January 24, 2017.
9. Johnson, Natalie, *Washington Free Beacon*, *Report: Iran Conducts Ballistic Missile Test in Violation of UN Resolution*, January 30, 2017.

## Terrorism

In Libya, an airstrike by two US B-2 bombers killed an estimated 80 Islamic State (IS) fighters [1]. Then a US B-52 bombed an Al Qaeda training camp in Syria, killing approximately 100 fighters [2].

Once again, terrorism has found its way into the French part of Canada. An attack on a Quebec City mosque left at least 6 people dead and was described by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau as an act of terrorism [3]. In France, a knife-wielding man shouting "Allahu akbar" was shot and killed by a French soldier near the Louvre museum [4].

The war on terrorism has had some setbacks. For instance, during 2016, the Afghanistan government lost 15% of its territory [5].

The US is not without terrorism problems. Case in point, a radicalized Muslim killed a transit officer in Colorado [6].

1. Watkins, Thomas, AFP, *US stealth bombers kill more than 80 IS fighters in Libya*, January 19, 2017.
2. Gordon, Michael R., and Schmitt, Eric, New York Times, *U.S. Airstrike Kills More Than 100 Qaeda Fighters in Syria*, January 20, 2017.
3. Peters, Maquita, NPR, *6 Dead In Shooting At Quebec City Mosque*, January 29, 2017.
4. McAuley, James, and Schmidt, Samantha, Washington Post, *'Terrorist in nature': Knife attacker shot outside Louvre* in Paris, February 3, 2017.
5. Chalfant, Morgan, Washington Free Beacon, *Afghanistan Government Lost 15% of Its Territory Last Year*, February 2, 2017.
6. Fox News, *Man accused of killing Colorado transit officer reportedly self-described 'radical Muslim'*, February 2, 2017.

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*Canada has always been there to help people who need it.-Justin Trudeau*

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## Economy

For the first time, on January 25, the Dow Jones Industrial Average broke through the 20,000 level [1]. By the end of the day, the Dow closed at 20,068 [2]. On the employment front, GM announced plans to invest \$1 billion in the US, thereby creating 1,000 new jobs [3]. Wal-Mart announced plans to create another 10,000 new jobs [4]. Bayer announced plans to invest \$8 billion and create another 3,000 US jobs [5]. Additionally, Foxconn plans to invest an additional \$7 billion in the US; creating 30,000 – 50,000 jobs [6]. However, not all news is good news. Microsoft plans to lay-off 700 workers [7]. Meanwhile, federal regulators continue closing banks. Case in point, the Seaway Bank of Chicago became the second financial institution closed this year [8]. With the change in Presidents, it's unclear how workforce statistics will be covered. Nevertheless, for the week ending January 14, the number of first time unemployment claims reported by the Labor Department was 234,000 [9]. Then for the week ending January 21, the

number was 259,000 [10]. Finally, for the week ending January 28, the number was 246,000 [11].

1. Holm, Erik, Wall Street Journal, *Dow Hits 20000 for First Time*, January 25, 2017.
2. Merle, Renae, Washington Post, *Dow Jones industrial average reaches new high, tops 20,000 level for first time*, January 25, 2017.
3. Nassauer, Sarah, Wall Street Journal, *Wal-Mart Touts Plan to Create U.S. Jobs, in Nod to Trump*, January 17, 2017.
4. Kamisar, Ben, The Hill, *Trump team touts \$8 billion Bayer investment*, January 17, 2017.
5. Wu, J.R., Reuters, *Foxconn CEO says investment for display plant in U.S. would exceed \$7 billion*, January 22, 2017.
6. Bart, Julia, Business Insider, *About 700 Microsoft employees will be laid off next week, sources say*, January 20, 2017.
7. Colias, Mike, Wall Street Journal, *General Motors Plans at Least \$1 Billion in*

*Fresh U.S. Investment*, January 16, 2017.

8. Wittich, Jacob, Chicago Sun Times, *Seaway Bank closed by FDIC, sold to State Bank of Texas*, January 27, 2017.
9. Reuters, *US weekly jobless claims total 234,000 vs 254,000 estimate*, January 19, 2017.
10. Reuters, *Jobless claims hit 259,000 vs. 245,000 estimate*, January 26, 2017.
11. Leubsdorf, Ben, Wall Street Journal, *U.S. Jobs Claims Fell Last Week to 246,000*, February 2, 2017.

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*It is best for the wise man  
not to seem wise-Aeschylus*

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