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Top eye doctor loves to help his Chinese mainland peers

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yuan (\$10.4 billion) and abusing his post to benefit himself, according to a live report the court released on its social media account.

The funds, raised by ignoring capital limits set by regulators to oversell insurance products worth 724 billion yuan to 10.6 million investors, were transferred to companies he personally controlled for overseas investment, debt repayment and "personal squandering", according to the report.

Wu was also charged with embezzling 10 billion yuan in premiums paid by policyholders, a violation of insurance regulations, to ensure the cash flow of his other companies.

Bronze thought to be looted goes on auction

A rare Chinese bronze water vessel, thought to have been taken during the looting of Beijing's Summer Palace in 1860, has been discovered in Kent, southeast England.

The relic will go on sale at The Canterbury Auction Galleries on April 11 at an estimated price of 120,000 to 200,000 British pounds (\$170,000 to \$285,000).

According to the auction house, only six similar vessels, known as *ying*, are said to exist, and five of them are in museums.

China's State Administration of Cultural Heritage said in a statement that it is looking into the auction, adding that it opposes the sale and purchase of stolen cultural relics.

The vessel dates to the Western Zhou Dynasty (c.11th century-771 BC). It is called the Tiger Ying because the spout and lid are both cast with models of the creature.

Beijing warns against 'Taiwan independence'

Beijing will not allow any "Taiwan independence" secessionist to split China, An Fengshan, spokesman for the State Council's Taiwan Affairs Office, said on March 28.

The comment came against the backdrop of recent visits to Taiwan by two officials from the United States after US President Donald Trump signed a bill called the Taiwan Travel Act, which encourages reciprocal visits between Taiwan and the US by officials at all levels.

Alex Wong, deputy assistant secretary of the US State Depart-



Primary school students serve as traffic police officers in Nanjing, in East China's Jiangsu province, on March 26. The Nanjing police gave badges and uniforms to 20 students to help with maintaining traffic order near their school. March 26 was National Day for Safety Education for Primary and Middle School Students. YANG BO/CHINA NEWS SERVICE

ment's Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, visited Taiwan from March 20 to 22. Another US official, Ed Royce, the House Foreign Affairs Committee chairman and a Republican, visited the island after Wong. The visits increased friction in cross-Straits relations.

Beijing opposes the travel act and has urged the US to adhere to the one-China policy.

Shanghai to help firms hire foreign lawyers

Shanghai is drafting guidelines that will allow local law firms to employ foreign attorneys, as the eastern metropolis aims to boost legal services for overseas investors, it was announced on March 28.

The city's Justice Bureau, which is drawing up the rules, said it is ironing out procedures for recruiting legal professionals from overseas and their qualification requirements.

"As an incentive, we may also provide policy support to assist expat lawyers in obtaining residence permits in Shanghai as well as receiving social welfare and social security," said Lu Weidong,

director of the bureau.

Another approach to provide legal services of higher quality to foreign businesses and individuals is to promote joint ventures between local and foreign law firms, he said.

"Such operations have been allowed in the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone since 2013 and have achieved desirable results in enabling mutual learning between the two sides," Lu said.

Former vice-mayor gets death penalty for graft

The former vice-mayor of a northern Chinese city has become the first corrupt official to be given the death penalty since the launch of a widespread anti-graft crackdown in 2012.

Zhang Zhongsheng was sentenced on March 28 in Linfen, in North China's Shanxi province, after being convicted of accepting 1.04 billion yuan (\$165 million) in bribes.

Between 1997 and 2013, he accepted massive kickbacks to help others land lucrative contracts — including in the coal mining sector

— while serving as a county head and then vice-mayor of Lyuliang, according to Linfen People's Intermediate Court.

"When the amount of corruption is particularly large and the circumstances are particularly serious and have a severe social influence, the defendant can be sentenced to death under the law," the court said in a statement.

Elite bombers conduct large training drill

An elite bomber unit of the People's Liberation Army Air Force sent 12 H-6K bombers on March 26 on a long-range combat training mission that is believed to be the Air Force's largest deployment of bombers in a single operation in recent years.

The unidentified bomber division, based in Northwest China's Shaanxi province, conducted the training to hone its strategic strike capability, a statement published by the Air Force on March 27 said without elaborating.

Photographs released by the Air Force showed the bombers flying above what appeared to be bodies of water and islands.

Sources close to the Air Force told *China Daily* that it was the largest deployment of bombers in a single mission in at least a decade.

Pakistan fighter jets to get radar upgrade

China will upgrade Pakistan Air Force JF-17 fighter jets with a world-class radar system that will substantially improve the combat capability of the aircraft, a top Chinese radar researcher said.

Hu Mingchun, head of the Nanjing Research Institute of Electronics Technology in East China's Jiangsu province, said the KLJ-7A active phased array radar will give the JF-17 many advantages in aerial combat.

"Our product will tremendously extend the fighter jet's detection range, giving it a much longer sight that will help it detect the enemy's aircraft before they do, and this is very important because in real combat if you see first, you fire first," he said.

"The radar is capable of tracking dozens of targets and engaging several of them simultaneously. It also has a good jamming-resistant capacity that keeps the plane away from the enemy's electronic interference."

Waste imports to face stronger oversight

China's environmental watchdog has approved two action plans, vowing to further crack down on the smuggling of overseas garbage while maintaining a tough stance against pollution caused by processing of imported waste.

The 2018-20 action plan for implementation of the country's reform plan to ban waste imports and the 2018 action plan for inspections on pollution caused by processing imported waste were approved on March 26 by the first executive meeting of the newly established Ministry of Ecology and Environment.

"The ban on foreign garbage imports is a landmark measure for the country's construction of an ecological civilization and should be implemented unswervingly and effectively," the ministry said in an online statement.

It also said a long-term working procedure featuring information sharing and coordinated law enforcement will be established.

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