

WORLD: EU-U.S. FREE TRADE AREA **P.18** | **NATION:** PARTY CLEANS UP **P.22**

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VIGILANT PROTECTOR

Enhanced security rooting out
terrorist cells in Xinjiang

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EDITOR

The Only Option

The Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, a vast frontier territory in northwest China, has found no peace in the past several months. On April 23, 15 people, including police officers and community workers, lost their lives during an encounter with a local mob in Bachu County. Then, on June 26 and 28, violent riots broke out respectively in Shanshan County and Hotan, killing 35 people and injuring 21.

During the past couple of years, the autonomous region has been plagued by persistent unrest ranging from kidnappings and hijackings to arson and bombings. The most appalling incident occurred in the regional capital of Urumqi on July 5, 2009, when a string of crimes were committed almost simultaneously—shops were looted, buildings and vehicles were set ablaze, and innocent civilians of both Han and minority ethnicities alike were viciously attacked. The turmoil left nearly 200 dead and more than 1,600 injured, as well as huge economic losses and damage to both public and private property.

One must ask why these criminal acts befell upon Xinjiang in such a rapid sequence. Growing evidence suggests the involvement of religious extremist forces inside and outside the country, including the World Uygur Congress and the East Turkestan National Congress, whose ulterior motives comprise fomenting social unrest in Xinjiang and sowing dissent among ethnic groups in order to divide the country.

With a total area of 1.66 million square km, Xinjiang is located in the central part of the Eurasian continent. Its population of 21.8 million consists of 47 ethnic groups, including Uygur, Han, Kazak, Kirgiz, as well as Hui, another Muslim ethnic group. Naturally, it has been a great challenge for authorities to govern the expansive and relatively less-developed land with such complexity and diversity. However, Xinjiang has made remarkable progress over the decades, and maintaining harmony among all ethnic groups and pursuing common prosperity in the region have always been the fundamental goals of the Chinese Government.

To this end, China has been determined to resolutely fight terrorism with a firm hand. This is the only option, one that any country facing a similar situation would adopt in order to secure national unity, and ensure peaceful development and life for the people. ■

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Available on App Store



JOINING THE JUBILEE

A dragon dance performance is held during a carnival celebrating the 16th anniversary of Hong Kong's return to the motherland in Hong Kong on July 1.

Emergency Flight

Medical workers participate in a first aid drill of the Beijing Red Cross Emergency Rescue Center in a mountainous area on the outskirts of Beijing on July 3.

Adding helicopter services in 2011, the rescue center has built five special landing points and is planning to increase the number to 20 before the end of this year. It also plans cooperation with insurers to cover the rapid medical evacuation service, which costs 30,000 yuan (\$4,893) per flight.



LINJINGANG

Transparent Justice

In a bid to improve judicial transparency, China's top court has posted judgments online for the first time, the Judicial Management Office of the Supreme People's Court (SPC) said on July 2.

All of the judgments made by the SPC will continue to be publicized on its official website, www.court.gov.cn/zgcpwsw, except those concerning national secrets, trade secrets or personal privacy.

The office said in order to protect people's legitimate rights,

personal information related to the cases, including names, home addresses and ID card numbers, will be redacted before the judgments are posted.

Nuclear Safety

The State Council, China's cabinet, recently approved the release of a revised version of the national nuclear emergency plan.

Drawing on the global response to nuclear accidents, including Japan's Fukushima disaster in 2011, the plan specifies how national and

provincial authorities and power stations should respond in the event of a nuclear accident.

The plan, amended from its 2005 version, requires relevant parties to disclose information in a timely manner to guide public response, according to the National Nuclear Emergency Response Office.

China has lifted a ban on approvals of new nuclear power stations, which was imposed in 2012, following Japan's 2011 Fukushima disaster. The country now requires new stations be built according to the world's highest safety standards.

China currently has 17 nuclear power reactors in operation, with a

combined generating capacity of 14.76 million kw, and another 28 nuclear plants are currently being built.

Elite Pilots

China's first group of five carrier-borne jet pilots and landing signal officers received their certifications in the latest sea trials of the *Liaoning*, the country's first aircraft carrier, Xinhua News Agency reported on July 4.

The *Liaoning* finished its 25-day test and training mission on July 3. Using the J-15, China's first-generation multi-purpose carrier-borne fighter jet, pilots finished China's first training mission stationed aboard the carrier as well as the first 105-meter short-distance ski-jump takeoff exercises.

Pilots and landing signal officers were tested on a range of skills. They passed the certification process following expert reviews and a flight data assessment.

Zhang Yongyi, Commander in Chief of the aircraft carrier tests and sea trials, said that China has successfully established a training system for carrier-borne jet pilots.



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SWEATY VACATION

Students from Sixian No.3 Middle School in Anhui Province take part in Outward Bound outdoor recreation training on July 3, as part of summer vacation activities



FOLK FASHION SHOW

A model struts in a Mongol costume at the opening ceremony of the Grassland Folk Culture Festival on June 28 in Xilin Gol League, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region



Radio for Emergency

China is constructing a special emergency radio system to spread rescue and relief information in disaster-affected areas.

The State General Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television, China National Radio and other departments are jointly building the broadcast network, according to a statement released after a symposium on the construction of national emergency radio services on July 2

China currently has no special system for releasing warnings or essential relief information to people in disaster-affected regions. The network is expected to be put into operation by the end of 2015, the statement said.

New Filial Law

An amended law that requires children to regularly visit their aging parents came into effect on July 1.

According to the law, family members should care about the psychological needs of their older relatives, and should visit them or send greetings on a regular basis.

The law was enacted to protect the lawful rights and interests of parents aged 60 and older, and to carry on the Chinese virtue of filial piety.

The law also states that China will cope with an aging population as part of its long-term national strategy, and will improve social security for old people.

The number of people aged 60 or older in China reached 185 million at the end of 2011, accounting for 13.7 percent of the population. It will exceed 200 million this year, according to the Ministry of Civil Affairs. That age group will number 480 million in 2050.

Mobile Malware

A total of 162,981 examples of malware circulating on mobile Internet devices have been detected by the National Computer Network Emergency Response Technical Team/Coordination Center of China (CNCERT/CC) or reported by Internet security companies, with 82.5 percent of the malware targeting phones using the Android operating system, the center said on July 4. The figure is 25 times more than that in 2011.

Most mobile Internet malware spreads through smartphone application stores, forums and sites offering other downloadable content, according to Zhou Yonglin, a department head at CNCERT/CC.

China has the world's largest online population, as well as the most mobile Internet users.

In 2012, over 16,000 websites had been tampered with in China, up 6.1 percent from 2011, according to the center.

A total of 52,324 websites were found to be harboring malicious software last year, among which 3,016 were government websites, the center added.

Animal Show Ban

Animal performances will be strictly banned in zoos in China, according to a guideline on the development of zoos released on July 2.

The guideline, formulated by the Chinese Association of Zoological Gardens and released by the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, also requires all zoos to improve emergency mechanisms to ensure safety in case dangerous animals escape.

Problems still exist in zoo development in China, and a prominent one is that some zoos irregularly utilize animals for profit, such as organizing animal performances or selling wild animal products, according to the ministry.

Oceanaut Recruitment

China's manned submersible, the *Jiaolong*, is hoisted by its support ship for a deep-sea dive on July 3 to conduct geological sampling on complex terrain in the South China Sea.

China has kicked off a five-month recruitment process for oceanauts to serve on the submersible.

Four men and two women will be selected to train as oceanauts for the *Jiaolong's* future missions, said a National Deep Sea Center statement.



Honey Melon, Sweeter Life

Farmers load honeydew melons at Nanhu Village in Hami, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

Honeydew melons from the village are in high demand both at home and abroad. A total of over 30,000 tons of melons are expected to ship out from the village.



Price Probe

Several infant milk formula producers, mainly foreign, are under anti-trust investigation by the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) for allegedly fixing prices.

Baby formula companies under investigation include Nestle SA, Abbott Laboratories, Mead Johnson Nutrition Co., Danone's Dumex and Wyeth Nutrition, as well as a local company Biosime International Holdings Ltd.

The NDRC has evidence that

these companies charged higher prices in the Chinese market, with price increases of about 30 percent since 2008, said a report from *People's Daily*.

Concerns about the safety of domestic milk powder, especially after a melamine-tainted milk powder scandal in 2008, have fueled Chinese demand for foreign infant formula. Media reports say that foreign brands now account for about half the sales of baby formula in China.

"Boosted by increasing market demand, foreign baby formula

companies have raised their prices every year," said Wang Dingmian, executive council member of the Dairy Association of China. "Now, the consensus is that China is home to the most expensive infant milk in the world."

Financing Support

The People's Bank of China, the country's central bank, said on July 1 that it has arranged a 12-billion-yuan (\$1.94-billion) re-lending quota to boost financial support for small and micro-businesses and rural areas.

Re-lending is a monetary tool used by the central bank to increase the liquidity of financial institutions and guide credit flows.

The central bank requires that funds from the quota be credited to

small and micro-businesses, as well as the agricultural sector, rural areas and farmers.

About 162 billion yuan (\$26.44 billion) has been accumulated in the re-lending quota to date, and 45 percent has gone to small and micro-businesses and 27 percent to rural areas.

Trading HK Stocks

China's planned qualified domestic individual investor program, known as QDII-2, may allow investors to buy securities products in the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Ltd. (HKEx), according to a *Shanghai Securities News* report on June 28.

China's central bank has decided to set up the QDII-2 pilot program in south China's Guangdong Province, and is waiting for final approval from the State Council.

The investment scheme will first target HKEx and then expand to other financial products in the Hong Kong market, and gradually to products in other parts of the world.

Qualified domestic individual investors should have three years of experience in stock investment and financial assets equivalent to no less than 1.5 million yuan (\$244,000).



GAME COMES TRUE

A theme park featuring characters of the famous mobilephone app Angry Bird is under construction in Haining, Zhejiang Province, on July 2. The park is expected to open in October



INTERCITY HIGH-SPEED

The CRH6F, an intercity high-speed train with speed reaching 160 km/h, is on a test run in Qingdao, Shandong Province on July 3



UZHENG

The lower and upper limits of a single individual investor for overseas investment are set at 500,000 yuan (\$81,600) and 20 million yuan (\$3.26 million) respectively.

To control risks, QDII-2 funds should circulate in a special account. It cannot be transferred into elsewhere, said the document.

Currently, only institutional investors in China can invest in overseas capital markets, via the qualified domestic institutional investor program, or QDII-1.

City Aid Plan

Central Government spending on transfer payments given to resource-exhausted cities will amount to 16.8 billion yuan (\$2.72 billion) in 2013, an increase of 5 percent, said the Ministry of Finance on July 3.

Northeast China's Heilongjiang, Liaoning and Jilin provinces are the top three beneficiaries, with 2.04 billion yuan (\$332.7 million) going to Heilongjiang, 1.64 billion yuan (\$267.5 million) to Liaoning and 1.53

billion yuan (\$249.5 million) to Jilin.

The arrangement depends mainly on the conditions of resource exhaustion, the local non-agricultural population, a province's fiscal power and a city's financial situation, according to the ministry.

The money will flow to local ecological management programs, municipal infrastructure construction and social security sectors.

The transfer payment was initiated in 2007 by the Central Government to advance city transformations nationwide. A total of 69 cities have been brought into its scope since then.

Free Trade Zone

The State Council approved Shanghai's free trade zone project

on July 3, which will catapult the city to the forefront of global logistics centers.

The project, mapped out at the start of this year, is the first of its kind in China.

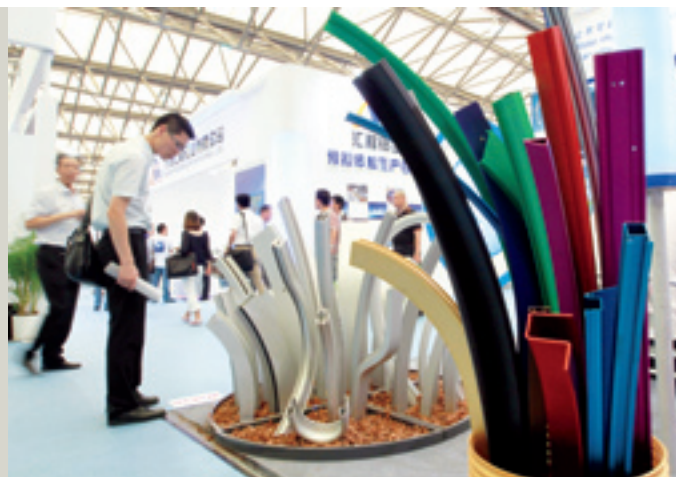
When completed, the Shanghai free trade zone will provide world-class transport and communications facilities and a tax-free environment for domestic and foreign enterprises as a major hub of their supply chains in Asia.

The zone, occupying 28 square km, will take more than 10 years to build. It will center on the Yangshan Deep Water Port and include the Waigaoqiao Free Trade Zone, Yangshan Free Trade Port Area and Pudong Airport Comprehensive Free Trade Zone.

Aluminum Expo

Visitors observe aluminum alloy products at the ninth China International Aluminum Exposition held in Shanghai on July 2.

The expo, showcasing the latest in materials and technology, was attended by 450 aluminum industry players from more than 30 countries.



FANJUN

Numbers

1,620 yuan

New minimum monthly wage in Shanghai, the highest in China

830 tln yuan

Online payment transactions handled by Chinese payment service providers in 2012

96

Number of Chinese banks in the list of Top 1,000 World Banks by British magazine *The Banker*

\$150 bln

China's expected outbound direct investment in 2015

THIS WEEK WORLD



VIET NAM

Students and parents pray at the Temple of Literature in Hanoi on July 2. Students preparing for university entrance exams flock to the temple, believing it will bring them good luck



EGYPT

Adly Mansour (center), head of Egypt's Supreme Constitutional Court, delivers a speech during his swearing-in ceremony as the country's interim president in Cairo on July 4, a day after the military ousted President Mohamed Morsi following days of massive protests



THE UNITED STATES

A dog wearing sunglasses drinks water in a Los Angeles park on June 29. A heat wave swept through the southwest United States, bringing temperatures as high as 52 degrees Celsius in some desert areas





SYGMA/GETTY



FRANCE

Eurocorps soldiers raise the national flag of Croatia in front of the European Parliament building in Strasbourg on July 1, the day the former Yugoslav republic became the 28th member of the EU



CANADA

Performers dance at an event in Montreal celebrating the 146th anniversary of Canada's founding on July 1



VIRAX



day/SHUTTER



GERMANY

Participants react to a colored powder shower at the green zone during a 5-km race in Munich on June 30. Thousands of runners took part in the event, passing through four color zones

“What senior citizens crave most is the love and care of their family. From a legislative point of view, it is necessary to provide legal support to what we see as a great social need.”

Dang Junwu, Deputy Dean at the Institute of China Aging Populations Studies, in response to an amended law put into effect on July 1 that requires grown-up children to regularly visit their aging parents



“Guide dogs are a life necessity for physically challenged people, so prohibiting these dogs from public transportation is depriving the disabled of their rights to travel.”

Niu Qianqian, a 26-year-old Beijing resident, commenting on the draft released on the official website of the Legal Affairs Office of the Beijing Government on June 25 stating that animals may be forbidden from public transport in an attempt to prevent the transmission of animal diseases



“Non-commercial ads encouraging blood donation are Ok, but ads that ask people to donate their sperm might be too much for some people.”

Zhao Bangrong, Director of the Hebei Human Sperm Bank, in response to China's sperm donation shortage, on June 29



“The Internet is amazing. It can answer any question you ask.”

Luosang, a villager from Deten, 30 km from Lhasa of Tibet, talking about the power of the Internet from his perspective. His son secured a job in Lhasa via online recruitment in April

↓ UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT RESIGNS



Fang Binxing, President of Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications, a leading university in the field of telecommunications, said he would resign from his post at the university's graduation ceremony on June 27. He said the dual workload of academic and management responsibilities has exhausted him.

Born in 1960, Fang is known as the Father of the Chinese National Firewall for his design of the system dubbed the "Great Firewall." He became president of the university in 2007.

↓ FILM ACTRESS HONORED



Chinese actress **Zhang Ziyi** received the Order of Arts and Letters issued by the French Government at the French Embassy in Beijing on June 27. The order was established in 1957 in recognition of significant contributions to the arts and literature.

Zhang gained fame in the West for performances in *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* (2000), *Rush Hour 2* (2001), *House of Flying Daggers* (2004), and *Memoirs of a Geisha* (2005). She has been nominated for three British Academy of Film and Television Arts Awards and a Golden Globe Award.



Management of Temporary Workers

China Newsweek
June 17

On May 31, eight urban management workers in Yan'an, northwest China's Shaanxi Province, had a scuffle with a bicycle shop owner and his employees while they were on duty.

An official statement of the urban management department later said that only two of the eight workers are full-time employees, while the other six are temporary workers. In China, temporary workers in governmental departments have become a tricky phenomenon. Some of them inflict violence when enforcing law.

Although they ease the labor shortage of the governmental departments that hire them, they also put the latter into a dilemma.

If they really are temporary workers, the government goes against the Labor Contract Law in hiring them; if they have signed a contract with the government, then the government should be responsible for their behavior.

Outsourcing public power seems to facilitate management in the short term; however, it may cause bigger management difficulties in the future. In a legalistic society, the government's administrative responsibilities should not be given up or transferred. Hiring temporary workers to enforce the law not only contributes to inefficiency in certain departments, but more importantly reduces the government's authority.

Carpool Policies

Qilu Evening News
July 1

Beijing plans to encourage citizens to commute by carpool as a way of easing the city's heavy traffic pressure, according to reports. The municipal government is now working on a variety of incentives to encourage carpooling.

Beijing has developed a reputation worldwide for its notorious traffic jams. Against this reality, carpooling sounds like a reasonable alternative on paper. However, questions remain over the plan's legality and how to implement fees into the service. Car owners now run the risk of being punished for unlawfully operating their vehicles in a carpool mode. The unresolved fee issue has become a major obstacle in implementing such a program in the city.

The city government is going to release some guidelines on carpooling by the end of this year. Beijing's action not only benefits itself, but also serves as a significant reference for other big cities across the country. With the rapid pace of urban construction, many cities are now faced with the same traffic woes as in Beijing. Municipal governments across China must now consider how to safeguard the rights of both car owners and passengers in order to ensure a lawful carpool practice.

Petition Online

People's Daily
July 1

The State Bureau for Letters and Calls, a Central Government department that handles complaints, opened an online petition system on its official website on July 1. This new channel

of petitioning will help people better file complaints against governmental departments and improve the latter's efficiency in handling citizen concerns.

The official online petition is convenient for both citizens and the government. Petitioners are able to ask higher authorities to help resolve their difficulties on the Internet without traveling hundreds and even thousands of miles to the gate of the governmental department. On the other hand, the new online petition system will allow the government to better track, supervise and respond to complaints, all under the surveillance of the public.

Enhancing the ties between citizens and the government is an important objective of the online petition system. In recent years, citizen petitions have become a hot topic in the country. Facts show that if the government cannot handle petitions well, relations between the government and the people will inevitably suffer. Online petitions are a way for the underprivileged and governments at all levels to connect.

The Central Government has carried out a series of reforms on the petition system in a bid to alter the way government departments engage the public and protect the lawful interests and rights of the people.

Intensive Land Use

Outlook Weekly
June 24

With the rapid development of China's urbanization, the tension between land supply and demand has become increasingly tight. On the one hand, the country's land reserve is nearing the "red line" of 1.8 billion *mu* (120 million hectares); on the other hand, wide roads, large public squares and industrial parks that are incompatible with city size are eating away at the arable land.

If such an extensive method of land use continues, land resources will eventually be exhausted due to fast-paced urbanization and industrialization. The only solution is to transform the land use model into an intensive one.

Practices in Zhejiang and Guangdong provinces have both proved that intensively using land improves productivity and injects strong impetus to development. It should also be noted that such a process should guarantee farmers' interests.



COVER STORY

THE FIGHT AGAINST

Chinese authorities vow to crack down on terrorism in cooperation with international



TERROR

communities By Yin Pumin



Xinjiang Basics

Area: 1.66 million square km

Population: 21.81 million

Ethnic Groups: 47 ethnic groups, including **Uygur, Han, Kazak, Kirgiz** and **Hui**

Religions: **Islam, Buddhism, Christianity** and **Shamanism**



FIRM RESOLUTION: Armed police officers attend an anti-terror rally in Urumqi, capital of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on June 29

Local police in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region captured the last of the rioters responsible for a series of terrorist attacks in Lukqun Township in Shanshan County, Turpan Prefecture, on June 26.

Authorities announced the capture of Yiblayan Eli on June 30.

The 17-member gang was led by a man named Ahmatniyaz Sidiq, who had been organizing religious extremist activities since February and listening to audio material that incited violent terrorist activities. Since mid-June, the group had raised funds, purchased knives and gasoline and researched sites to prepare for the attack, the police statement said.

Fearing their plot might be revealed after one of the gangsters was arrested on June 25, on the following morning, 16 rioters attacked the township's police stations, a local government building, a construction site, a private store and a hair salon. They also set fire to police cars.

A total of 24 people, including two police officers, were killed by the knife-wielding rioters. Among the victims, 16 were ethnic Uygurs. Twenty-one police officers and civilians were also injured in the attacks.

The police shot and killed 11 rioters and injured another four. Only Yiblayan Eli had escaped capture on the day of the attacks.

"This is another typical terrorist attack in Xinjiang," said Li Wei, Director of the Institute of Security and Arms Control Studies at the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations. "Such terrorist attacks that happened in Xinjiang are closely related to separatist forces abroad."

The recent attacks show terrorists are becoming more aggressive, as they are targeting police stations and government buildings, said Pan Zhiping, a research fellow at the Xinjiang

Academy of Social Sciences.

Pan said that separatist forces use religious extremism to brainwash people into carrying out terrorist attacks.

Hard strikes

Just two days after the attack in Turpan, more than 100 people riding motorcycles and wielding knives attacked a local police station in Moyu County, Hotan in south Xinjiang, on June 28.

On the same day, some 200 people gathered at a major shopping area in Hotan in an attempt to stir up trouble. Local police brought the situation under control.

Authorities have quickly denounced the attacks as terrorist activities and beefed up security in these areas.

In recent years, Xinjiang, home to about 9 million Uygurs, has witnessed a number of terrorist attacks. The most deadly one was the July 5 riot in the regional capital of Urumqi in 2009, which left 197 people dead and more than 1,600 injured.

On April 23, a clash happened between armed attackers and authorities in Selibuya Township in Bachu County, south Xinjiang's Kashgar Prefecture, located some 1,200 km southwest of Urumqi, in which 15 community workers and police officers and six attackers were killed.

Police said that 25 suspects carried out the attack and were planning a bigger attack in Kashgar in south Xinjiang. They found 20 explosive devices, a large amount of bomb-making equipment, knives, combat-training material and illegal extremist religious pamphlets.

In the wake of recent rising terrorist attacks, authorities have pledged to crack down on terrorism on many occasions.

On June 28, President Xi Jinping presided over a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of

China (CPC) Central Committee to arrange the work of safeguarding social stability in Xinjiang and the interests of people of all ethnic groups.

The next day, Yu Zhengsheng, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, went to Xinjiang to oversee the work.

In a video conference with officials from across Xinjiang on June 29, Yu said that the country will impose severe punishments on those responsible for the crimes and crack down on terrorist groups and extremist organizations.

He also urged the region to ensure stability. Maintaining social stability was the work of grassroots organizations, which would have to be more effective to prevent acts of terror, Yu added.

At an anti-terror rally by armed police in Xinjiang on the same day, State Councilor Meng Jianzhu called for 24-hour patrols to guarantee the safety of local residents.

Meng also asked armed police to take precautionary and preemptive measures to strike at terrorism.

Xinjiang police issued a notice on July 2 offering rewards of 50,000 (\$8,145) yuan to 100,000 yuan (\$16,290) for tips that help solve criminal cases involving violence or terrorism.

It also released a wanted list of 11 suspects,

encouraging residents to provide information. Three of those on the list are accused of making explosives for a foiled plot to attack government buildings and police on May 26.

Two others on the wanted list are suspected of killing two security guards in Hotan as well as several construction workers in June.

Police have also detained more than 20 people for making up and spreading false rumors via text messages and the Internet.

Back in May, a month after the April 23 terrorist attack in Bachu, Zhang Chunxian, Party Secretary of Xinjiang, wrote in an article for *Qiushi*, the Party's flagship magazine, that over the past three years the authorities have foiled more than 96 percent of planned separatist and terrorist attacks.

Stressing stability

On June 29, a commentary published by the CPC's flagship newspaper *People's Daily* said that the violent attacks have become an overt provocation to the safety of people's lives and the country's unity and threats to people's fundamental interests, as well as the stability of Xinjiang.

"The violent terrorist incidents cannot stop the progress of Xinjiang's reform and construction, or sway people's determination and



PAYING TRIBUTE: A memorial service is held on April 29 for 15 community workers and police officers killed six days earlier in a terrorist attack in south Xinjiang's Bachu County

confidence in promoting development and maintaining stability," the commentary reads. "This tragedy will let more people make a clear distinction between right and wrong and unite the people to consolidate Xinjiang's development momentum and social stability."

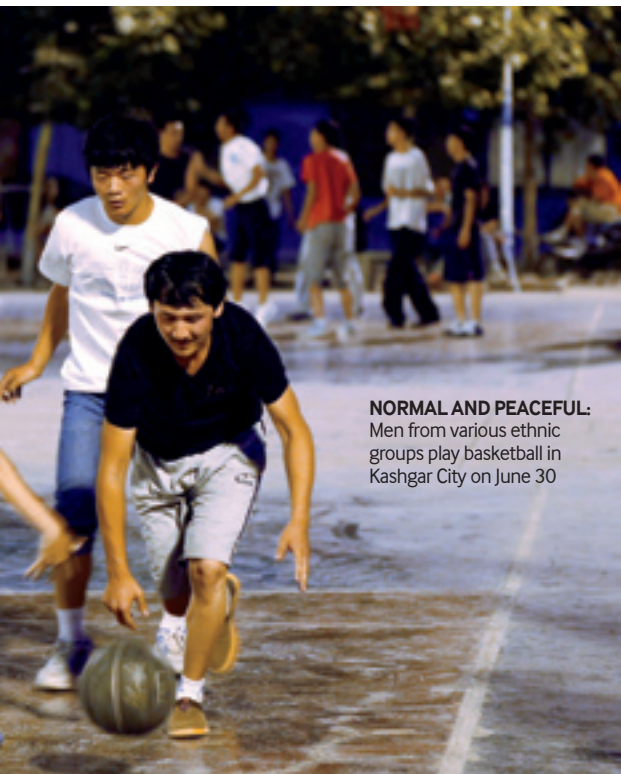
In 2010, China launched a 10-year program to develop its western areas, and major eastern and central cities have stepped up aid to Xinjiang to help it develop economically.

In 2012, Xinjiang's GDP rose to 750 billion yuan (\$120 billion) from 428 billion yuan (\$69 billion) in 2009, according to official statistics.

Kurbanjiang Mehmet, 50, runs a clothing shop at Kashgar's Grand Bazaar. "We really hope more people would come to Kashgar, but the tension in Xinjiang scared away many tourists, who think Xinjiang is a dangerous place," he said. "But it is not the truth."

"We business people definitely hope Xinjiang's image as a peaceful and stable region can recover soon and tourists have more confidence in this wonderful land," Mehmet said.

Abdoulie Aygul, a silk merchant from Urumqi, attended the Ninth Mid-South Asia Trade Fair in Kashgar on June 28. "Xinjiang is



NORMAL AND PEACEFUL:
Men from various ethnic groups play basketball in Kashgar City on June 30

not as dangerous as many people from other places think," she said. "But I heard some people canceled trips here because of the so-called potential risks. It is unnecessary."

Twenty-eight-year-old Huang Wenfang, an official with the Information Office of the Xinjiang Regional Government, said that tightened security measures in Urumqi make her feel very safe and well-protected. "Terrorists did disrupt Xinjiang's stability, in a way," Huang said. "False rumors spread on the Internet about how terrible the situation is here. This is unfair for Xinjiang."

Int'l cooperation

The so-called "East Turkestan" forces that represent the "three forces" of terrorism, separatism and extremism have resulted in multiple terrorist attacks in Xinjiang in recent years, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying told a news briefing in Beijing on July 1.

The "East Turkestan" forces are linked to other international terrorist organizations, which have posed threats not only to China, but to the peace and stability of other countries in the

region, Hua said.

"East Turkestan" separatists and the East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM), listed by the UN as a terrorist group, have been connected with Al Qaeda since their establishment and share supplies with them.

According to Pan with the Xinjiang Academy of Social Sciences, in addition to terrorist attacks carried out in Xinjiang, "East Turkestan" separatists also joined terrorist acts in Chechnya in Russia, Afghanistan and Syria.

It was reported last October that "East Turkestan" terrorist forces, as represented by the ETIM, had joined the fight in war-torn Syria.

"However, the West has been holding a double standard on the definition of terrorism. If the 'East Turkestan' separatists carry out evil deeds in Xinjiang, some Western opinions whitewash them as seeking 'national self-determination.' Only when their acts threaten their domestic security would Western countries change their attitudes," Pan said.

After the June 26 attack in Xinjiang, EU Ambassador to China Markus Ederer said on July 1 that the EU believes "It is necessary to address the underlying causes of ethnic tensions in order to achieve lasting stability and prosperity."

Earlier, U.S. State Department spokesman Patrick Ventrell also criticized China's ethnic and religious policies, saying that the United States remained "deeply concerned" by the ongoing reports of discrimination and restrictions against Uygurs and Muslims in China.

"Terrorism is not only the enemy of the people of Xinjiang and China, but also the common enemy of human beings," Hua said on July 2.

The spokeswoman warned that it will harm the interests of oneself and others if one takes a double standard or adopts an indulgent policy on the issue.

Any responsible government would never condone such actions, instead, it would take resolute measures to protect the lives and property of its people and safeguard national stability, she said.

Ramesh Chopra, a senior Indian critic of strategic issues, said the terror attacks that

occurred in Xinjiang, similar to those in other countries, were manipulated by international extremist forces.

The international community and every government should not give in to or connive with terrorists, he said, adding that they should strengthen cooperation to crack down on terrorism.

China has conducted anti-terror cooperation and exchanges and launched more than 10 such training sessions and drills with neighboring countries under the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

The SCO, established on June 15, 2001, comprises China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. It originated and grew from the Shanghai Five mechanism, founded in 1996 by China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan with the aim of strengthening confidence, carrying out disarmament in their border areas and promoting regional cooperation.

On June 29, two pacts on anti-terror cooperation among SCO members were ratified at the bimonthly session of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, China's top legislature.

One pact is on the procedures of organizing joint anti-terrorism drills among SCO members. The other is on the procedures of carrying out joint anti-terrorism actions in the territory of SCO members.

The activities of terrorists, separatists and extremists have been active in this region while drug trafficking from Afghanistan has increased and cross-border crimes happened from time to time, Yang Huanning, Vice Minister of Public Security, told lawmakers during the legislative session.

"The attacks in Xinjiang were launched by a tiny faction of extremists and separatists. It is not a religious or ethnic issue and this problem exists in many other countries around the world as well," said La Disheng, a professor at the Party School of Xinjiang Regional Committee of the Communist Party of China. "I believe with the firm hand of the government and cooperation with neighboring countries, this situation will be under control soon." ■

(With Yuan Yuan reporting from Urumqi and Kashgar)



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