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# Southern DAILY

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Southern Daily News is published by Southern News Group Daily

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Saturday, September 21, 2019 | [www.today-america.com](http://www.today-america.com) | Southern News Group

## U.S. building coalition after Saudi oil attack, Iran warns against war

DUBAI (Reuters) - The United States said on Thursday it was building a coalition to deter Iranian threats following a weekend attack on Saudi Arabian oil facilities.

Iran has warned U.S. President Donald Trump against being dragged into a war in the Middle East and said it would meet any offensive action with a crushing response.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said that Trump, who has ordered more sanctions on Iran, wants a peaceful solution to the crisis.

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He was speaking after talks with Saudi and Emirati leaders over the strike that Washington and Riyadh have blamed on Tehran.

Iran denies involvement in the Sept. 14 attack that initially halved Saudi oil output and which Pompeo earlier called an act of war against the world's largest oil exporter. Pompeo appeared to soften his tone on Thursday after talks with Abu Dhabi's crown prince, the de facto ruler of the United Arab Emirates, which is Riyadh's main Arab ally.

"We are here to build out a coalition aimed at achieving peace and a peaceful resolution. That's my mission, that's what President Trump certainly wants me to work to achieve and I hope that the Islamic Republic of Iran sees it that way," Pompeo told reporters.

He did not provide details about the coalition. The United States has however been trying to create a global maritime security alliance since attacks on oil tankers in Gulf waters, which Washington also blamed on Iran.

Pompeo described his proposed coalition as "an act of diplomacy while the foreign minister of Iran is threatening all out war".

Iran's foreign minister, Mohammed Javad Zarif, told CNN that the Islamic Republic "won't blink" if it has to defend itself against any U.S. or Saudi military strike, which he said would lead to "all-out war".

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and U.S. special representative on Iran Brian Hook arrive at al-Bateen Air Base in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates September 19, 2019. Mandel Ngan/Pool via REUTERS 'B TEAM'

Zarif mocked Pompeo, saying he was part of a so-called "B-team", along with Saudi Arabia's crown prince, which is trying to dupe Trump into opting for war.

Pompeo on Wednesday met Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, who has called the assault on oil plants a "test of global will". Riyadh has displayed what it described as remnants of 25 Iranian drones



U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and U.S. special representative on Iran Brian Hook arrive at al-Bateen Air Base in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates September 19, 2019. Mandel Ngan/Pool via REUTERS

and missiles used in the strike, saying it was undeniable evidence of Iranian aggression.

Pompeo earlier welcomed an announcement by the UAE that it was joining the maritime coalition, a day after Riyadh said it would too.

Britain and Bahrain previously said they are participating but most European countries have been reluctant to sign up for fear of stoking regional tensions. Iraq said it would not join the mission, and also rejected any Israeli role in it.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov urged all countries in the Gulf to sit down for talks to defuse tensions and said groundless accusations against Iran over the attacks were inflaming tensions, Interfax news agency reported.

Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthi movement, which is battling a Saudi-led military coalition, claimed responsibility for the assault on two Saudi oil plants, including the world's largest processing facility. U.S. and Saudi officials rejected the claim, saying the attack had not come from the south.

Kuwait, which said earlier this week it was investigating the detection of a drone over its territory, has put its oil sector on high alert and raised security to the highest level as a precautionary measure.

Oil prices, which soared following the attack, steadied after Saudi Arabia pledged to restore full oil production

by the end of September.

### U.N. MEETING IN FOCUS

Proof of Iranian responsibility, and evidence that the attack was launched from Iranian territory, could pressure Riyadh and Washington, which want to curb Iranian influence in the region, into a response.

Pompeo said the attacks would be a major focus of next week's annual U.N. General Assembly meeting and suggested Riyadh could make its case there.

Iran's Zarif accused Pompeo of trying to "dodge a U.S. obligation" to issue visas for Iran's U.N. delegates.

Tehran says the U.S. accusations are part of Washington's "maximum pressure" policy on Iran to force it to renegotiate a 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, which Trump exited last year, re-imposing sanctions to choke off Iran's oil exports.

Tehran, which has gradually scaled back its nuclear commitments, has rejected any talks unless sanctions are lifted.

"The United States is now using oil as a weapon; oil is not a weapon," Iranian Oil Minister Bijan Zangeneh said.



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Photo above shows new biometric scanning technology at Terminal F in Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport in Atlanta, Georgia. (Photo/Delta Air Lines).

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It's more secure Using the system is totally optional. Passengers who don't feel comfortable using it can opt to go through traditional ID verification using their passports. Privacy groups say they're worried facial recognition databases are subject to limited accountability and vulnerable to government abuse or lack of oversight.

Experts and authorities believe biometric ID technology will make airports and air travel safer in an era when aviation is targeted by criminals and terrorists.

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Your face can be your passport In a nutshell, here's how it works: If you're unfamiliar, facial recognition technology uses a complex algorithm that recognizes each person's unique facial characteristics -- including shapes of eyes, noses, mouths, proportional relationships and other factors.



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conditions, for example. "If you do get rejected, all you do is present your passport and your boarding pass."

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Wagner says the technology will be continually improved with a goal of 100% effectiveness.

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Privacy questions When authorities have your facial image in a database, you're giving up control over how the government can use it, said Jeramie Scott at the Electronic Privacy Information Center, a Washington-based organization aimed at protecting privacy. The CBP says facial images of US citizens scanned at airports are deleted from their database shortly after confirmation. Facial images of non-citizens who arrive in the US are stored for 75 years, the CBP website says, and departure photos of non-citizens are deleted after 14 days.



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Full implementation is "a number of years away," Cornelius said. Wagner said the CBP hopes to have facial recognition boarding at all US airports serving international flights within 3 or 4 years.

Right now, airports' main concern is getting these systems up to speed, Cornelius said.

If all goes as planned, airports believe facial recognition can reduce those annoying bottlenecks at security lines and make air travel safer for all of us. (Courtesy cnn.com)

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截稿日期9/30

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U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, Chinese Vice Premier Liu He and U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin take their position for a family photo at the Xijiao Conference Center in Shanghai



FILE PHOTO: The Levi Strauss & Co. logo is seen on display ahead of IPO on floor of New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) in New York



A U.S. flag on an embassy car is seen outside a hotel in Shanghai, China, July 31, 2019. REUTERS/Aly Song



US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin in China



A car with a U.S. flag arrives at the Fairmont Peace Hotel on The Bund in Shanghai, China July 30, 2019. REUTERS/Aly Song



Chinese and U.S. flags flutter near The Bund, before U.S. trade delegation meet their Chinese counterparts for talks in Shanghai, China July 30, 2019. REUTERS/Aly Song



FILE PHOTO: Models take a selfie during a promotional event of Northwest Cherries in Shenzhen



FILE PHOTO: Bottles of the Chinese spirit baijiu are on display at a bar in Beijing, China June 22, 2017. REUTERS/Thomas Peter/File Photo

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Scores of Americans are in an up-roar since Food Safety News revealed the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will soon allow U.S. chickens to be sent to China for processing before being shipped back to the states for human consumption.

This arrangement is especially disturbing given China's subpar food safety record and the fact that there are no plans to station on-site USDA inspectors at Chinese plants.

Also, American consumers won't know which brands of chicken are processed in China because there's no requirement to label it as such.

It's Already Done With Your Seafood To ease concerns, lobbyists and chicken industry proponents argue no U.S. company will ever ship chicken to China for processing because it wouldn't work economically.



"Economically, it doesn't make much sense," said Tom Super, spokesman for the National Chicken Council, in a recent interview with the Houston Chronicle. "Think about it: A Chinese company would have to purchase frozen chicken in the U.S., pay to ship it 7,000 miles, unload it, transport it to a processing plant, unpack it, cut it up, process/cook it, freeze it, repack it, transport it back to a port, then ship it another 7,000 miles. I don't know how anyone could make a profit doing that."

According to the Seattle Times, domestically caught Pacific salmon and Dungeness crab are being processed in China and shipped back to the U.S. because of significant cost savings.

"There are 36 pin bones in a salmon and the best way to remove them is by hand," said Charles Bundrant, founder of Trident, which ships about 30 million pounds of its 1.2 billion-pound annual harvest to China for processing. "Some-

### USDA Gives Green Light To Ship Chicken From USA To China For Processing – Then Back To US For Consumption

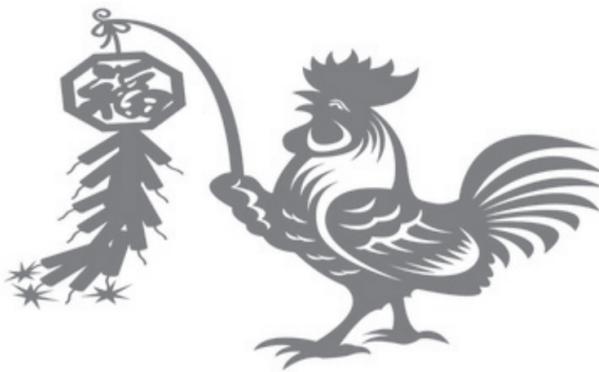
Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

thing that would cost us \$1 per pound labor here, they get it done for 20 cents in China."



Low Pay, Poor Safety Record Bureau of Labor Statistics data estimates that American poultry processors are paid roughly \$11 per hour on average. In China, reports have circulated that the country's chicken workers can earn significantly less—\$1 to 2 per hour—which casts doubt on Super's economic feasibility assessment.

China's food safety system, which is said to be decades behind America's, is highly questionable given some of the more recent food safety scandals that



have surfaced in the country: More than 300,000 Chinese children have suffered illness, and several have died, from melamine-tainted milk powder.

Dangerously high levels of mercury have been found in Chinese baby formula.

More than \$1 million worth of rat and other small mammal meat has been sold to Chinese consumers as lamb. (Courtesy <http://wisemindhealthybody.com/ecowatch/>)

#### Related

#### USDA Gives Green Light To China's Poultry Inspections

Audit released is for processing, not slaughter (Sept. 2017) The "our beef for your chicken deal" hatched by President Donald Trump with the People's Republic of China last May appears to be on track.

CFI called out some of China's "serious food safety events," including:

- Melamine in baby formula
- Toxins in pet treats
- Rat meat sold as lamb
- Smuggling of decades old frozen meat
- Restaurant using discarded cooking oil
- Tainted meats sold at fast food outlets

• Potentially harmful sauces made with rock salt and recycled spices.



Ken Maschhoff, president of the National Pork Producers Council, was one of the few commenting in favor of the new rule. He suggested that USDA add a requirement for inspection of all PRC poultry shipments at U.S. ports of entry "before being released into the marketplace, just as U.S. meat and poultry exports to China now are subject to inspections at that country's port of entry."

Maschhoff said pork producers "want the United States to remain the gold standard in the world for food safety." He said his organization supports the rule because it cannot find scientific grounds on which to oppose it.

FSIS auditors inspected four Chinese poultry facilities, three in the Shandong Province and one in the Anhui Province. Two microbiology laboratories, one each in Shandong and Anhui, were also inspected.

CFI says four establishments is too small of a subset of China's poultry producers to make a favorable decision. It questions whether USDA has the resources to conduct audits "at the frequency needed to ensure the safety of Chinese products."



FSIS plans annual equivalency reviews of China's food safety systems for meat and poultry products. The agency may order so-called "secondary inspections" of meat imports at U.S. ports of entry. (Courtesy <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2017>)



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美南國際電視STV15.3為方便觀眾收看,「電視廣播合為一體」,不需任何付費,觀眾可24小時直接收看及收聽該頻道,行車間也可方便收聽,輕鬆獲取美南電視節目以及各類國際、社區重大資訊。

美南國際電視STV15.3收看 操作指南如下,讓觀眾24小時收看收聽:

1. 掃二維碼(QR code): 觀眾只要掃描報上的二維碼,就可連結到美南國際電視,直接在手機上觀看STV15.3。
2. 今日美南公眾號直播: 觀眾可在「今日美南」公眾號上,點選「美南電視」裡的「美南國際電視直播」,就可輕鬆連接至STV15.3。
3. 下載Apps收看: 可在蘋果商店搜尋「Today America」,下載Apps,除可用手機讀報更方便,也可以在Apps裡收看STV15.3 電視直播
4. Google搜尋: 觀眾只要在Google網站搜尋「Southern TV- STV15.3 Houston」,或輸入該平台網址「<http://media.maqtv.com/?1497381&proc=1>」就可直接連結美南國際電視直播平台。

如需開車時收聽廣播,請連接到車載音響設備(數據線/藍牙設備),效果更佳。

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