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Pompeo pushes back on U.S. House impeachment inquiry into Trump



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Weak U.S. retail sales cast shadow over slowing economy

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - U.S. retail sales fell for the first time in seven months in September, suggesting that manufacturing-led weakness could be spreading to the broader economy, keeping the door open for the Federal Reserve to cut interest rates again later this month.

The downbeat report from the Commerce Department on Wednesday came on the heels of data this month showing a moderation in job growth and services sector activity in September. Signs of cracks in the economy's main pillar of support, ahead of the holiday season, could further stoke financial market fears of a sharper slowdown in economic growth.

The economy is being hamstrung by a 15-month trade war between the United States and China, which has soured business sentiment, leading to a decline in capital expenditure and a recession in manufacturing.

"This morning's report solidifies concerns of the consumer's inability to perpetually support the economy alone," said Lindsey Piegza, chief economist at Stifel in Chicago. "With business investment declining and manufacturing activity deteriorating, many investors brushed off fears of a slowdown because the consumer was still spending."

Retail sales dropped 0.3% last month as households cut back spending on motor vehicles, building materials, hobbies and online purchases. That was the first drop since February. Data for August was revised up to show retail sales rising 0.6% instead of 0.4% as previously reported. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast retail sales would climb 0.3% in September. Compared to September last year, retail sales increased 4.1%.

Excluding automobiles, gasoline, building materials and food services, retail sales were unchanged last month after advancing by an unrevised 0.3% in August. These so-called core retail sales correspond most closely with the consumer spending component of gross domestic product.

Last month's drop and August's unrevised gain in core retail sales prompted economists to cut their third-quarter consumer spending growth estimates to around a 2.5% annualized rate from a 3.0% pace. Consumer spending, which accounts for more than two-thirds of the economy, increased at a 4.6% rate in the second quarter, the most in 1-1/2 years.

That, together with another report from the Commerce Department showing business inventories were unchanged in August, led economists to lower their GDP forecasts for the third quarter to a range between 1.2% pace and 1.9% rate.

Slowing growth was also underscored by a third report from the Fed describing the economy as expanding "at a slight to modest pace," based on anecdotal information on business activity collected from the U.S. central bank's contacts nationwide on or before Oct. 7.



FILE PHOTO: Shoppers walk through the King of Prussia Mall, United States' largest retail shopping space, in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, U.S., December 8, 2018. REUTERS/Mark Makela

The economy grew at a 2.0% pace in the April-June quarter, slowing from the first quarter's brisk 3.1% rate. The government will publish its snapshot of third-quarter GDP later this month.

Some economists speculated the cooling in hiring, marked by the smallest three-month average gain in private employment in seven years in September, was probably making Americans more cautious about spending.

Others believed a strike by about 48,000 General Motors (GM.N) workers was a factor. GM and the United Auto Workers union reached a tentative deal on Wednesday to end the month-long strike.

The National Retail Federation blamed trade tensions and difficulties stripping seasonal fluctuations from the data at the end of summer and the start of the new school year. Retailers also said an early Labor Day holiday could have pulled into August some purchases which normally take place in September.

The dollar .DXY fell to a four-week low against a basket of currencies, while U.S. Treasury prices rose. Stocks on Wall Street traded lower.

FILE PHOTO: Shoppers walk through the King of Prussia Mall, United States' largest retail shopping space, in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, U.S., December 8, 2018. REUTERS/Mark Makela

FURTHER DECELERATION EXPECTED

Though President Donald Trump announced a truce in the trade war with China last Friday, which delayed additional tariffs that were due this month, economists say the longest economic expansion on record remained in danger without all import duties being rolled back. Trump on Wednesday said he was unlikely to sign any trade deal with Beijing until he met with Chinese President Xi Jinping at next month's APEC forum in Chile.

The International Monetary Fund warned on Tuesday that the U.S.-China trade war would cut 2019 global growth to its slowest pace since the 2008-2009 financial crisis, and expressed caution over Trump's so-called Phase 1 trade deal, saying more details were needed.

Growth is also being restricted by the fading stimulus from last year's \$1.5 trillion tax cut package.

"The outlook is for further deceleration in household spending," said Joel Naroff, chief economist at Naroff Economic Advisors in Holland, Pennsylvania. "With job growth, wage gains and hours worked easing back, the gains in income needed to sustain strong consumption are just not there."

With consumer spending slowing, a full trade deal still elusive and details of Britain's exit from the European Union unclear, many economists expect the Fed to cut interest rates at its Oct. 29-30 policy meeting to keep the expansion, now in its 11th year, on track.

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U.S. tells Chinese diplomats to give notice of meetings

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Chinese diplomats in the United States must now give advance notice of any meetings with state, local and municipal officials, as well as at educational and research institutions, senior State Department officials said on Wednesday.

The officials told reporters the move was an effort to "add reciprocity" to the way U.S. diplomats are treated in China.

It has been in the works for some time, they said, and not directly linked to any other part of the U.S.-China relationship, which has been strained by a trade war under President Donald Trump.

"This action is a response to what the PRC (People's Republic of China) government does to limit the interaction our diplomats can have in China with Chinese stakeholders," a State Department official said.

American diplomats in China must not only notify the government there of meetings it plans to hold with Chinese people and officials, they must get permission first, the official said. "What we're trying to accomplish here is ... get closer to a reciprocal situation, hopefully with the desired end effect of having the Chinese government provide greater access to our diplomats in China," the official said.

The onus will be on the Chinese to notify the State Department of their meetings, the officials said.

They would not discuss the consequences for any Chinese official who does not comply with the new requirement, which went into effect on Wednesday.



FILE PHOTO: 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

Still work to do on China trade deal, Mnuchin says

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - U.S. and Chinese trade negotiators still have work to do on a "phase one" trade agreement ahead of a targeted signing by U.S. President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping next month, U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said on Wednesday.

Mnuchin told reporters there had been no invitation from China for U.S. officials to travel to Beijing for

more talks about the agreement, but he and U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer were prepared to travel if necessary.

He also said the Trump administration has made no decision on how to address planned tariffs on \$156 billion of Chinese goods due to take effect on Dec. 15.



U.S. Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin speaks about sanctions against Turkey at a news briefing at the White House in Washington, U.S., October 11, 2019. REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque

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Editor's Choice



Members of the Circus perform during the weekly general audience at the Vatican, October 16, 2019. REUTERS/Remo Casilli TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam delivers her annual policy address



Democratic presidential candidate and former Vice President Joe Biden shoots a selfie with the crowd at the conclusion of the fourth U.S. Democratic presidential candidates 2020 election debate in Westerville, Ohio



Police officers stand guard near a protester carrying a U.S. flag, ahead of Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam's annual policy address, at the Legislative Council in Hong Kong



Democratic presidential candidates Biden and Warren pose together at the start of the fourth U.S. Democratic presidential candidates 2020 election debate at Otterbein University in Westerville, Ohio U.S.



Democratic presidential candidate and former Vice President Joe Biden points during the fourth U.S. Democratic presidential candidates 2020 election debate in Westerville, Ohio



Officers carry a coffin of Alexei Leonov, the first man to conduct a space walk in 1965, during his funeral in Mytishchi, outside Moscow



A U.S. Border Patrol agent seizes a rope ladder found rigged onto a levee wall after apprehending a group of undocumented migrants who illegally crossed the Rio Grande near Penitas

A Government Toxicology Report Found Links Between High Levels Of Nonstick Compounds In People's Blood That Caused Health Problems

FDA: Sampling Finds Toxic Nonstick Compounds In Food



Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Andrew Wheeler speaks at the National Press Club in Washington, Monday, June 3, 2019. The Food and Drug Administration's first broad testing of food for a worrisome class of nonstick, stain-resistant industrial compounds found high levels in some grocery store meats and seafood and in off-the-shelf chocolate cake. (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)

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

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Food and Drug Administration found substantial levels of a worrisome class of nonstick, stain-resistant industrial compounds in some grocery store meats and seafood and in off-the-shelf chocolate cake, according to FDA researchers.

The FDA's food-test results are likely to heighten complaints by states and public health groups that President Donald Trump's administration is not acting fast enough or firmly enough to start regulating the manmade compounds.

A federal toxicology report last year cited links between high levels of the compounds in people's blood and health problems, but said it was not certain the nonstick compounds were the cause.

The levels in nearly half of the meat and fish tested were two or more times over the only currently existing federal advisory level for any kind of the widely used manmade com-

pounds, which are called per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS.



Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Andrew Wheeler speaks at the National Press Club in Washington, Monday, June 3, 2019. The Food and Drug Administration's first broad testing of food for a worrisome class of nonstick, stain-resistant industrial compounds found high levels in some grocery store meats and seafood and in off-the-shelf chocolate cake. (AP Photo/ Andrew Harnik)

The level in the chocolate cake was higher: more than 250 times the only federal guidelines, which are for some PFAS in drinking water.

Food and Drug Administration spokeswoman Tara Rabin said Monday that the agency thought the contamination was "not likely to be a human health concern," even though the tests exceeded the sole existing federal PFAS recommendations for drinking water. As a handful of PFAS contaminations of food emerge around the country, authorities have deemed some a health concern but not others. The agency considers each discovery of the compound in food case by case, including the kind of food, levels of contamination, frequency of consumption and latest scientific information, Rabin said. There are nearly 5,000 varieties of PFAS, which DuPont created in 1938 and first put into use for nonstick cookware. Industries use them in countless consumer items — food packaging, carpets and couches, dental floss and outdoor gear — to repel grease, water and stains.

The chemicals also are found in firefighting foam, which the Defense department calls irreplaceable in suppressing jet-fuel fires. Especially around military bases and PFAS facilities, decades of use have built up levels in water, soil and some treated sewage sludge used to fertilize non-organic food crops and feed for livestock.

They've been a topic of congressional hearings, state legislation and intense federal and state scrutiny over the past two years.



Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Andrew Wheeler responds to a question from the audience at the National Press Club in Washington, Monday, June 3, 2019. The Food and Drug Administration's first broad testing of food for a worrisome class of nonstick, stain-resistant industrial compounds found high levels in some grocery store

meats and seafood and in off-the-shelf chocolate cake. (AP Photo/Andrew Harnik)

Last year's federal toxicology review concluded the compounds are more dangerous than previously thought, saying consistent studies of exposed people "suggest associations" with some kinds of cancers, liver problems, low birth weight and other issues. The compounds have been dubbed "forever chemicals" because they take thousands of years to degrade, and because some accumulate in people's bodies.

The Environmental Protection Agency earlier established a nonbinding health threshold of 70 parts per trillion for two-phased out forms of the contaminant in drinking water.

The EPA has said it would consider setting mandatory limits instead after the toxicology report and after federally mandated PFAS testing of water systems found contamination. The administration has called dealing with PFAS a "potential public relations nightmare" and a "national priority." "I know there are people who would like us to move faster" on PFAS, EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler said Monday at the National Press Club. "We are addressing this much faster than the agency has ever done for a chemical like this."

Impatient for federal action, several states have moved to regulate the chemicals on their own, including setting standards for groundwater or drinking water.

The FDA study sampled market-basket items bought in three, undisclosed mid-Atlantic cities in 2017, testing for PFAS.

PFOS — already phased out of production in the U.S. as a health concern — turned up at levels ranging from 134 parts per trillion to 865 parts per trillion in tilapia, chicken, turkey, beef, cod, salmon, shrimp, lamb, catfish and hot dogs. Chocolate cake tested at 17,640 parts per trillion of a kind of PFAS called PFPeA.



FILE - This Thursday, Aug. 2, 2018, file photo shows the U.S. Food and Drug Administration building behind FDA logos at a bus stop on the agency's campus in Silver Spring, Md. The Food and Drug Administration's first broad testing of food for a worrisome class of nonstick, stain-resistant industrial compounds found high levels in some grocery store meats and seafood and in off-the-shelf chocolate cake, according to unreleased findings FDA researchers presented at a scientific conference in Europe. (AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin, File)

The FDA presentation also disclosed PFAS findings — one spiking over 1,000 parts per trillion — in leafy green vegetables grown within 10 miles (16 kilometers) of an unspecified eastern U.S. PFAS plant and sold at a farmer's market.

And it previewed test levels for a previously reported instance of PFAS contamination of the food supply in the feed and milk at a dairy near an Air Force base in New Mexico. The FDA called the milk contamination a health concern.

FDA researchers discussed the results at a conference by the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry last week in Finland. The Environmental Defense Fund and the Environmental Working Group obtained the FDA presentation and provided it to The Associated Press.

"What this calls for is additional research to determine how widespread this contamination is and how high the levels are," said Linda Birnbaum, director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, in an interview. "We have to look at total human exposure — not just what's in the water or what's in the food ... or not just dust. We need to look at the sum totals of what the exposures are."

"Drinking one glass of contaminated water is unlikely to be associated with health risks, as is eating one slice of contaminated chocolate cake," said Jamie DeWitt, a toxicologist at East Carolina University who studies PFAS. "Individually, each item is unlikely to be a huge problem, but collectively and over a lifetime, that may be a different story." (Courtesy apnews.com)



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Uber Elevate, An Aerial Ride-Sharing Service, Will Launch In The Dallas-Fort Worth Market

SPECIAL REPORT

Uber's One-Stop Plan For Transportation Control



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

In 10 short years, Uber's ride-hailing service has become so well-known that people use "uber" now as a verb. For its next act, Uber wants to manage everything about how you get around, whether on the roads or sidewalks, underground or in the air. Like Amazon, which started selling books online and now delivers almost everything right to your door, Uber aims to leverage its digital expertise from ride-hailing to become a one-stop shop for transportation.

•Here's how CEO Dara Khosrowshahi described the grand vision last week at the Uber Elevate Summit: "We don't just want to be the Amazon of transportation, but also the Google of transportation."

In Uber's multi-modal view of the future, you'd use the Uber app to punch in your destination — JFK Airport, for example — and you'd be offered multiple options for your journey, each with an estimated time of arrival and different price point.

•You could get an inexpensive Uber Pool or

Uber X, the app might say — but with current traffic, expect it to take up to 2 hours.

•Or you could hail an Uber car to a downtown skyport and then board an air taxi that will zip you over the congested freeway to JFK, saving time but doubling your fare.

•You'd select the option that suits your schedule or budget, and it would all be stitched together into a one-click transaction.

Starting with scooters and e-bikes, the pieces of that personal mobility vision are beginning to come together.

•Next month, Uber will launch piloted helicopter service between lower Manhattan

and JFK for around \$200, about the cost of a premium Uber Black car ride.

•It's a precursor to Uber Air, the name for its planned flying taxi network that is set to start trials next year in Dallas, Los Angeles, and Melbourne, Australia. Commercial passenger service is targeted for 2023.

•Last week, Uber and Volvo introduced their latest autonomous vehicle prototype, which could one day drive itself — at least on simple routes.

•In Boston and Denver, Uber has integrated real-time public transit information into its app, with the goal of allowing people to purchase bus or train tickets through Uber. **Business transportation is another growth opportunity**, like restaurants that deliver meals using Uber Eats, or health care agencies that hire Uber Health to provide rides for patients so they don't miss their appointments.

•Uber Freight aims to make logistics more efficient by matching shippers with carriers the way it pairs ride-hailing customers with drivers.

•Uber's expertise in matching supply and demand, and the cloud-based digital platform it built for ride-hailing, make it easier to build out that broader transportation ecosystem.

•"We want to be your everyday use case when you wake up and you go to work, or you go out to eat or you go see a friend, we want to be there," says Khosrowshahi.

The bottom line: There's definitely an advantage to having one transportation app, with one-click payment, anywhere in the world — as long as you don't mind Uber following you around. (Courtesy *axios.com*)

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•"We want to be your everyday use case when you wake up and you go to work, or you go out to eat or you go see a friend, we want to be there," says Khosrowshahi.

The bottom line: There's definitely an advantage to having one transportation app, with one-click payment, anywhere in the world — as long as you don't mind Uber following you around. (Courtesy *axios.com*)

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Uber Wants To Look To The 'Cities Of

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•Last week, Uber and Volvo introduced their

“入伍换身份”黄了 美国华人士兵进退两难



政府变卦 留学生夫妇被戴电子脚环

2018年，8月9日，纽约邮报在一篇报道中写道：“从上个月开始，熊州张（译音）加入陆军成为美国人的梦想开始逐渐消失。作为一名中国移民和硕士研究生，因具备五角大楼所需要的‘讲中国大陆普通话’等技能，张先生于2016年签约加入陆军，得到的承诺是获得快速入籍通路。但是，在7月16日早晨，大约10名移民局执法人员进入到张先生家中。当时，他和妻子以及20个月大的儿子都在家中，夫妻两人都被迫戴上电子脚环。原因是他们的合法居留期已过，他们已面临被驱逐出境的尴尬境地……”

被戴上脚环意味着夫妻俩人已进入递解出境程序。在等待出庭的期间内，不允许“到处乱走”，行动受监控。遭到如此不公平的待遇，虽是众多合同被取消、身份已过期、面临遣送出境的MAVNI 移民士兵中的一个极端特例，但是，确实有相当一批华人士兵身份被“悬挂”，进退两难，人生命途突变。他们中的一些案例，时不时出现在英文媒体上、法庭文件中……

虽然有不少英文媒体批评 MAVNI 移民士兵遭到不公正待遇与特朗普移民政策有关，但是根据一些律师提交的法庭文件描述，MAVNI 移民士兵遭到不公平待遇，始于特朗普政府执政前的2016年9月国防部发布的一份备忘录。

正式启动于2009年的MAVNI 计划始于小布什政府，其中一个关键的人物是一位共和党人，叫 STOCK。她不仅是这一计划的创建者，也是如今计划受创后，积极协助移民士兵争取合法权益的律师。她认为 MAVNI 计划对于军队的多样性很有裨益，且 MAVNI 士兵大多很优秀。

然而，到2016年9月，出于一些原因，包括国家安全、发现入伍移民士兵持有假学历等，国防部发出备忘录，提出将 MAVNI 计划延长至2017年，同时，声明之前的文件、“通过”都就此不算，必须重新经过一项新的、更加严格

的背景调查 (Single Scope Background Investigation, SSBI)。这项调查被后期起诉国防部的律师们这样解释：SSBI 通常针对涉及高度机密的人员，仅能介入低级或一般机密的人员不需要进行此项调查……

调查非常耗时且详尽，至少涉及被调查者近10年的财务、教育、专业活动等，以及近7年的个人信息，比如参考亲属、社会关系等。而加入 MAVNI 计划的移民士兵，并不需要这样的高级调查，且2016年9月之前，也未曾有这样要求。

SSBI 项目的导入，简单概括起来就是漫长且渺茫，移民加入 MAVNI 计划，成为美国军人，入籍或

者入籍后得到平等的机会都很难了。而且因要重新调查，时间拉长，很多入籍手续已在办理中的移民士兵们，被拖延至身份过期，处于被遣返的困境。更糟糕的是，等待再查结果，就是陆陆续续上千 MAVNI 士兵、即三分之一的人调查不通过、被解雇。这其中，不通过调查的华裔占比之大，令华裔士兵非常不满。

“我们华裔半数以上都难过调查”。讽刺的是，在这期间，以“安全”为由重新考察 MAVNI 士兵的有关部门又出安全纰漏，“无意”间泄露了部分士兵的身份，引起舆论哗然，认为有关部门正在把一批已经宣誓效忠美国的士兵们推向危险的边缘……

一系列的事件引发严重不满，国防部、国土安全局均被告上法庭，与此同时，也有移民士兵不得不开始寻求政治庇护，以备万一掉转官司，被遣送出境。

假学历、真间谍……华人士兵困扰纷纭

参与人数多、出现假学历、真间谍

2009年，小布什政府启动了一个鼓励合法居留美国且拥有“特定才能”的外国人参军后入籍的计划。这个计划有个很好听的名字，叫做“招募对国家利益至关重要者入伍” (Military Accessions Vital to the National Interest)，即 MAVNI 计划。在此计划下，先后有万名左右移民士兵入伍。然而，2016年9月之后，一批先前被认定为“对国家利益至关重要的人”遭到“遗弃”，陷入进退两难的境地。而其中，因为种种原因，华人士兵成为最大的受害群体之一。

之后加入 MAVNI。这一事件被英文媒体发现，进行了详尽报道。虽然报道称这名华裔士兵当时并不知情，最终还是“戴着手铐离开了军队”。至于有多少士兵拥有这样的假学历，无法得知，只是在美联社披露的国防部重新考虑 MAVNI 计划的备忘录中指出，士兵中出现过假学历，有必要对之前的签约者进行更加广泛且严格的背景调查。

对于华裔士兵来说，祸不单行。2018年9月25日，联邦司法部发文公布，有一名华裔 MAVNI 士兵被发现曾经做间谍。“他是参加 MAVNI 之前做的间谍。

有华裔士兵曾经说，“不过，毕竟是间谍。估計我们其它华人都受无辜牵连了，对我们失去信任。”

而大背景也不如人意，2018年3月，中美贸易冲突升级……种种因素使得华裔 MAVNI 计划签约者成为最大受害群体之一。不少年轻人的人生规划被粉碎，进退维谷 等待法庭宣判

签约 MAVNI 计划后被拒绝入伍入籍的华裔士兵中，很多是留学生，年轻且学业表现不俗，多为硕士及硕士以上学历。

之前提到的家住纽约的被戴电子脚环的中国留学生，年仅29岁。另一位被采访到的中国留学生会讲普通话、英语和阿拉伯语，正在攻读博士学位期间加入了 MAVNI 计划，在等待办理入籍手续时，程序被终止，导致身份过期；还有签约的中国留学生被发现已经在美墨边境服役，而身份办理程序也被终止。

陆陆续续收到解雇信的华人士兵们报出的、以及法庭文件展示的再调查不

通过理由，基本围绕着海外关系和财产等两项。有的是中国父母或亲人在，或是电话联系频繁等，构成海外关系存在风险；有的是父母曾经资助读书、中国大陆父母有房产，虽然被调查人表示房产日后会归姐姐，自己不会回去继承，但是依然被指出有财务方面的风险。最为奇特的是，曾经出现汽车上贴有美国国旗，表示个性张扬，不适合当兵……

面对种种刁难，华人士兵有的以个人或集体诉讼方式，诉诸司法程序，将国防部、国土安全告上法庭，有的因担心个人信息被泄露而寻求政治庇护。然而，一切还尚无定论。

今年3月20日，在美国哥伦比亚特区地方法院，MAVNI 移民新兵“身份悬挂”集体诉讼案进入关键的庭审时期，虽然法官尚未判断，需要更多资料提供，但是大家多少看到一些希望。

有知情者透露说，“报告是有用的，媒体跟踪造成社会舆论压力大，应该都有一定效果。我们这一批之前收到解雇信的人，据我所知从去年年底到今年年初，陆陆续续都‘回来’了，我们都收到了第一封信。一是，之前签的合同还是保留；二是，需要做出两种选择，放弃入伍或是继续等待消息。等待的消息，第二封信会通知你，告诉你之前被解雇的理由。依据法律，我们还有申诉的机会，可以通过法官来裁决是否可以驳回理由，让我们可以依法参军入伍。”

据士兵们反应，在今年二、三月国防部可能发出了14封第二封信，但因理由都非常笼统，大家找律师统一驳回了，其后再没信。在三月庭审中，被告方代表曾表示会有理由更具体的信发出。“最近开始（4月初），又有人陆陆续续开始收到第二封信，事情早晚会有个结果。”

一位一直在争取移民军人权益的华裔 MAVNI 士兵说，“我可以通过其它方式留在美国，但是我是真的特别想当兵，我还会继续为此斗争下去！”

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迎着晨曦，离开炉霍县城，驶入317国道继续向西北方向行驶，道路平坦宽广，车辆渐多。云雾笼罩着一望无际的辽阔草原，牛羊成群，远处星星点点的藏包飘着袅袅的轻烟，一幅草原牧歌的画卷，充满了诗情画意。其实这样辽阔壮美的自然画面一路随处可见，高远近都映入我的眼中。

川西高原，这一区域不仅是中国地理的急剧变化地带，也是历史上汉、藏、彝等各民族文化的长期碰撞和融汇之所。它是青藏高原东南缘和横断山脉的一部分，地面海拔4000-4500米，分为川西北高原和川西山地两部分。川西高原与成都平原的分界线便是今雅安的邛崃山脉，山脉以西便是川西高原。川西北高原地势由西向东倾斜，分为丘状高原和高平原。丘谷相间，谷宽丘圆，排列稀疏，广布沼泽。川西山地西北高、东南低。根据切割深浅可分为高山原和高山峡谷区。川西高原上群山争雄、江河奔流，长江的源头及主要支流在这里孕育古老与神秘的文明。

317国道平均在海拔四千米以上，这里空气稀薄、人烟稀少、苍茫寂寥，到处都呈现出大自然的原生态。成群的黑牦牛安详地散牧在草原上，它们才是这里的主人。偶见黑色的氆氇帐篷上升起缕缕炊烟与蓝天、白云、远山、绿草浑然一体，让人如痴如醉，如入仙境。

驾车沿317国道一路西行，一会儿绕行于曲曲弯弯的谷底，一会儿又穿行于云雾缥缈的山腰间。妻子指着一条岔道告诉我：“那便是原来的317国道。”

远远望去，那路比一辆卡车宽不了多少，一路紧贴着山崖向上延伸，似羊肠一般。50年代，川藏线筑路大军战胜艰难险阻，才在二郎山修筑了由成都通往西藏的第一条单向通行的盘山公路。由于路窄路险，几十年来一直实行单日进双日出和冬季封山断道的管制。车过雀儿山，驾驶技术再好的司机都会胆颤心惊，稍有不慎，就会发生车毁人亡的惨剧。当地人都叫雀儿山为神山，司机们也敬畏，过山前还要燃香祷告。昔日民谣：“车过雀儿山，像进鬼门关。侥幸不翻车，也要冻三天。”说的是车过雀儿山比登天还要艰难。

驾车爬上了一条陡峭的盘山公路，翻过雀儿山，去石渠的路看起来阳光明媚，山顶很柔和，不象之前，所有的山顶一定是怪石林立，雪峰高耸。山谷里雅砻江只不过是一条温和的小河，边上牛马成群，啃草的，睡觉的，各做各的。路两边宽大的山体无穷无尽，路很平，但很弯，也很长。车行驶了很久很久，还是宽大的山体无穷无尽，每翻过一个垭口，都可以看见远方蜿蜒的路没有尽头、仿佛通向天边。

那山路似蛇形状往上延伸，弯道几乎都成了360度，车身的摆动幅度很大，晃得人头昏眼花。外车轮常擦着崖边过去，胆小的妻子不时会尖叫几声。车拐过一个山道，我的眼前突然一亮，在两座峻峭的山峰之间，出现了一片雪山。在初升的阳光照射下，雪山周围云雾升腾，闪着万道金光。“看，雪山”我喊了一声，副驾驶座上的妻子立刻激动说到，“真美啊！”

沿着317川藏公路，一路西行，来到了雀儿山下。走上了马尼干戈北上石渠的道路，一边是耸立威严挺拔的雪山，一边是广袤高远横亘的草原，两边景色均颇具高原特色。和许多人一样，来川西前心里总有一丝畏惧，畏惧高原反应，畏惧随时可能发生的自然灾害，畏惧崎岖坎坷的进藏道路，归结起来就是畏惧大自然。

谨慎的行驶过险峻的海子山顶，开车来到谷底。如果把冰川小溪比作从雪山走来的妩媚羞涩的少女，远看她让人心跳，而近观她则令人震撼。我小心翼翼接近她，生怕惊扰了她。层层叠叠的巨大冰块千姿百态，洁白如玉，晶莹剔透。在暖暖的阳光折射下，闪烁着耀眼的光芒。贴近雪山，隐约能听见叮咚的水流声，似从天际飘来的仙乐。谷底阵阵清风吹过，发出“呜呜”的声响，似有一位沧桑的牧羊人手握斑驳的鹰笛吹奏着一支悠远的岁月之歌。

风很冷，冷到忘记头痛，车上的温度计显示车外温度只有4度。而太阳依然毒辣，路边的玛尼墙就那样在风里，每一块石头上写满了藏文的祝福。莲花生大师，观音，绿度母被绘成彩色的石像放在佛龛里。生者或死者的祝福、挂念，在这高原上绵延着，雪山在远处，山下有藏民的小村子。

翻过雀儿山，去石渠的路看起来阳光明媚，山顶很柔和，不象之前，所有的山顶一定是怪石林立，雪峰高耸。山谷里雅砻江只不过是一条温和的小河，边上牛马成群，啃草的，睡觉的，各做各的。路两边宽大的山体无穷无尽，路很平，但很弯，也很长。车行驶了很久很久，还是宽大的山体无穷无尽，每翻过一个垭口，都可以看见远方蜿蜒的路没有尽头、仿佛通向天边。

在妻子的再三催促下，乐不思蜀的我才踏上归程。通过后视镜我看着远去的雀儿山，虽然带不走一片云彩，带不走一寸草木，但我要将这如诗如画的壮丽山川摄入眼底，将这如梦如幻的浩瀚林海和雪山记在心里。

路过石渠草原正碰上一年一度的传统节日赛马会。马是藏族人民日常生活中最亲密的伙伴，是牧民心中的生命。马与藏族人民的物质追求和精神渴望交织在一起，因此，藏族人民对马的感情是浓烈的，醇醇的，如同鱼儿对大海的渴望，鸟儿对蓝天的向往。爱马是藏族人民的天性，赛马便成了藏族人民娱乐生活的主要内容。因爱马而赛马，以赛马为主题的节日，融合了文艺汇演、物资交流、民间体育、跑马射箭、恋爱相亲……

马是藏族人世世代代的伙伴，这个马背上的民族对马有着强烈的情感。他们把马视为家人和同伴。从不轻贱虐待与他。虽然现代化交通工具完全代替了马的位置，但骁勇的藏民还是会饲养各种马匹来填充历史镌刻在他们骨子里的记忆。

藏民族被誉为马背上的民族，游牧大地，逐水草而居是传统藏人的基本生活方式。由于宗教信仰的普遍存在，悲悯众生、笃信轮回也成为藏族人民重要的精神元素。

马是整个赛马节的主角，主人会精心为他们梳理和装扮。艳丽的笼头，高贵大气的马鞍。附加着各种彩色的绸缎，将一匹匹野性剽悍的大马装扮的惊艳华贵，为这个绿色的草场增添无穷的魅力。在这里一切都是原始的，房舍，装饰和食品，他们在不经雕饰的状态下，将传统和质朴发挥的淋漓尽致。好客的藏族人会借助这个机会，围坐在宽阔的草地上联络感情，聚会喝酒猜令。他们有着别具一格的嗓音，悠扬，凄婉，清脆。

一股清风吹来，天空上的彩云也渐渐渐远，随风消散，遥远的山顶已经显现，天空霎时像一池湖水湛蓝碧透，不知是天空映在了水里，还是水反射到了天上。草原变得更加明朗辽阔，天地更加和谐，草原显得更加翠绿、青春、葱茏、阳光，川西草原显得更加宽阔和明亮。



石渠草原水草丰美，景色宜人。一条涓涓的溪水四季流淌。清澈甘甜的溪水滋养了这片宽阔的草场，也滋养了世代定居在这里的牧民。

秋日的石渠草原，风和日丽，碧空万里，绿草如茵。距石渠县城不远处，是一望无垠的大草原。放眼看去，一顶顶帐篷镶嵌在草地上，如同在绿色的地毯上绣上了白色的蘑菇，形成了一片蔚为壮观的城市。

如今的赛马会已不再是单纯的赛马

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华美中医院2019年度毕业典礼

本报记者秦鸿钧摄影

图为所有获颁学位同学，与该校梁慎平院长，梁世东校长及所有师长合影于毕业典礼现场。



华美中医院」校长梁世东（右二）
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颁发综合健康管理硕士学位给 Seyed
Emam (右一)。



休城画页
Daily News

伟大出自平凡 英雄来自人民70华诞献礼钜制！ 全北美《中国机长-The Captain》10/18即将献映！



电影《中国机长—THE CAPTAIN》由 WELL GO USA 全北美独家院线发行，刘伟强执导、张涵予、欧豪、杜江、袁泉、张天爱、李沁、雅玫、杨祺如主演，电影《中国机长》将于 2019 年 10 月 18 日上映。

电影《中国机长》由刘伟强指导，也是我们很熟悉的一位导演，之前所指导的作品有《无间道》、《武林怪兽》、《建军大业》等多部电影作品，然而这次《中国机长》更是汇集了影视圈一线大咖加盟主演，其中包括饰演机长的张涵予、杜江、欧豪，女演员：袁泉、李沁、张天爱，毫无疑问这样的阵容绝对是高颜值实力演技派爆表组合。

故事简介：故事叙述“中国民航英雄机组”成员与 119 名乘客遭遇极端险情，在万米高空直面强风、低温、座舱释压的多重考验。该片根据 2018 年 5 月 14 日四川航空 U8633 航班机组成功处置特情真实事件改编。

电影为了呈现真实性，1 比 1 真实还原了飞机仓，甚至还原了驾驶舱，据了解这次的三舱联动是国

，他们还需要安抚乘客情绪，维护全部乘客的安全，可以说是具有勇气和强大的心理承受压力的工作，并且飞航相关专业知识，需要非常扎实与熟练。在电影中张天爱和李沁所饰演的都是乘务员，而他们在电影拍摄中带著伤表演，同样得到导演和全组演员的认可和感动。

电影中袁泉饰演的是座舱长毕男，可能大多数人的传统观念中，飞机乘务员的工作就是端茶送餐，但是所谓的服务就是这些姑娘的基本工作，更多专业的细节动作，都是在保护所有乘客的安全。男演员则是由张涵予为代表饰演机长刘健，然而大家对他更是不陌生，毕竟张涵予给大家的印象，就是型男演技实力派，然后欧豪则饰演一个比较辛苦的角色，在意外发生时，他离爆炸点太近，而直接被吸至窗外，身体紧贴飞机外沿，承受著高压和强风，对于意志和体力都是非常大都承受挑战。

而电影为了呈现真实性，1 比 1 真实还原了飞机仓，甚至还原了驾驶舱，据了解这次的三舱联动是国

内首列，精准度误差不足 0.1，就连滚转这样高难度的动作都能完美呈现，这部电影是下了功夫大制作的。

而除了主演，电影中的客串角色，更是让我们眼睛为之一亮，有影视剧《亲爱的，热爱的》男主李现和朱亚文加盟演出。

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