

## Trump's 'Modus Operandi' Is Ultimatums & Threats but China's Xi Jinping 'Didn't Fall for The Bait'

BEIJING - US President Donald Trump brought tough talk and threats to hammer out concessions in the trade war with Beijing, but Chinese leader Xi Jinping refused to play by his rules, an analyst told RT. "Trump's modus operandi is to issue ultimatums, insults, and even threats to put his adversary in negotiations off their game psychologically," Jack Rasmus, professor of political economy at Saint Mary's College of California, told RT. It's also his way of gaining control of the bargaining agenda from the start. The opponent responds to the hyperbole and Trump negotiates from there. He plans to accept something less but



starts from the extreme. When the US president manages to get some concessions from foreign partners, he "lies and exaggerates what was achieved" in order to impress voters at home, the economist said, add-

ing that Trump wants to demonstrate that he is "tough" on foreign governments. "That's the essence of his economic nationalism." In fact, President Trump's stance on foreign

policy is shaped by "the neocons and hardliners" on his team, like National Security Advisor John Bolton and US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, who "put the idea in his ear," Rasmus said. The president tried to employ his usual tough talk in the ongoing trade war, but China is not playing by his rules. China's President Xi Jinping thus far has not fallen for the 'bait', as they say. Were he to respond in kind, Trump would only intensify his demands and ultimatums. The US and China have been locked in a trade war after President Trump

### Russian MoD Shares COCKPIT VIDEO of Su-27 'Escorting' US & Swedish Spy Planes



MOSCOW - Moscow scrambled a Su-27 fighter jet to closely tail US and Swedish reconnaissance aircraft as they headed towards Russian airspace above the Baltic Sea. The MoD also shared the 'pilot's

view' of the escort. The Russian jet was scrambled on Monday in response to the aircraft approaching the nation's airspace above the Baltic Sea. The incoming planes

ISTANBUL - Turkey said on Tuesday a U.S. House of Representatives' resolution condemning Ankara's purchase of Russian defense systems and urging potential sanctions was unacceptably threatening. Relations between the two NATO members have been strained on several fronts including Ankara's plans to buy Russia's S-400 air defense systems, the detention of U.S. consular staff in Turkey, and conflicting strategy over Syria and Iran.

### Turkey Chafes at U.S. Pressure Over Russian Defenses

The standoff threatens to bring U.S. sanctions, which would hurt Turkey's already recession-hit economy, and raise questions over its role in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The resolution, introduced in May and entitled "Expressing concern for the United States-Turkey alliance", was agreed in the House on Monday. It urges Turkey to cancel the S-400 purchase and calls for sanctions if it accepts their delivery, which may come as



soon as July. That, the resolution said, would undermine the U.S.-led transatlantic defense alliance. In response, Turkey's

Foreign Ministry said in a statement that its foreign policy and judicial system were being maligned by "unfair" ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

### Thai Junta Chief Proclaimed Second-Time Prime Minister



BANGKOK - Thailand's junta leader was officially proclaimed prime minister on Tuesday after the king endorsed Parliament's

vote for him to serve another term. Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha knelt before a portrait of King Maha Vajiralongkorn and performed

three elaborate bows during a ceremony at his government office to confirm his appointment. Prayuth has served as prime minister since he led a military coup that toppled an elected government in 2014. The junta will cease power once a new Cabinet is inaugurated. In a brief live televised speech after the ceremony, he pledged to "dedicate myself to public service with honesty and integrity in pursuit of the greater good of

the country and the people of Thailand." The military government had enacted new election laws that gave Prayuth an advantage in a general election held in March. The new laws authorized a 250-member Senate, appointed by the junta, to take part in the parliamentary vote for prime minister along with an elected 500-member House of Representatives. Prayuth did not contest the election but won last week's joint ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

### Italy's Coalition to Work to Avert EU Disciplinary Action over Budget: PM's Office

ROME - Italy's coalition leaders have agreed to work together to avert European Union disciplinary action over Rome's worsening public finances after a late-night meeting with Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte on Monday, the prime minister's office said. In a statement published overnight, Conte said he and his two deputies - League leader Matteo Salvini and 5-Star Movement head Luigi Di Maio - would meet with Economy

Minister Giovanni Tria and his staff to draw up a strategy to avoid an infringement procedure. Officials from the 28 EU states will meet on June 11-12 and are expected to say an EU disciplinary procedure against Italy over its 2.3 trillion euro (\$2.6 trillion) debt is warranted. "All's well, it was a good meeting. Our shared goal is to avoid the infringement while safeguarding economic growth, employment, as ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

### UK PM Candidate Harper: I Want a New Brexit Deal

LONDON - Mark Harper, one of the candidates vying to succeed British Prime Minister Theresa May, said he would seek a new Brexit deal and could not promise the exit would happen by Oct. 31. "My preference is to get a new deal. However, no deal must not be ruled out, should we be faced with a choice between no deal and no Brexit," Harper said, according to excerpts distributed by his office. "This is my plan - one that can be delivered. One thing I'm not promising, as much as I'd like, is that we will leave deal or no deal come October 31st. Why? It's because I'm being straight with you and it just isn't possible." *(Reuters)*

### Japan's Former Empress Has Heart Problem but Fine to Travel

TOKYO - Japan's 84-year-old former Empress Michiko has left for a three-day trip to the city of Kyoto, with her doctors saying she has a heart problem but is fine as long as her condition is checked regularly. Palace officials say Michiko accompanied her husband, Akihito, to the ancient capital of Kyoto on Tuesday as part of rituals related to his recent abdication. The couple is to visit tombs of Akihito's great-grandfather Emperor Meiji and great-great-grandfather Komei, both in Kyoto. Akihito abdicated April 30 and now holds the title of emperor emeritus. His elder son, Naruhito, acceded to the Chrysanthemum Throne on May 1. Palace officials said doctors on Saturday found Michiko has heart valve abnormalities and an irregular pulse after regular health checks last week showed an increase in cardiac hormones. *(Fox News)*

### India Discusses with U.S. on Volatility in Crude Oil Prices

NEW DELHI - Indian Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan discussed volatility in crude oil prices and its impact on Indian consumers with U.S. Secretary of Energy Rick Perry, the ministry sources said. In a telephonic conversation on Monday the two leaders discussed crude oil price volatility and Pradhan emphasized the impact of price volatility on Indian consumers, the Petroleum Ministry said in a statement. The Indian minister



highlighted the important role that the U.S. plays in maintaining global price stability, it said. The emergence of the U.S. as a source for oil and gas for India was

also mentioned during the conversation and they agreed to work closely to improve the overall engagement between the countries in the energy sector. *(Xinhua)*

### New Zealand to Invest Multi-Billion Fund in Defence Capability

WELLINGTON - New Zealand government announced on Tuesday a 20-billion-dollar defense capability investment plan for the next decade. The Defence Capability Plan 2019, which was released by Defense Minister Ron Mark on Tuesday, sets out the government's indicative planned investments in the New Zealand Defence Force. It covers all capability investments out to 2030, and signals investments following 2030 that will be assessed through the next Defence White Paper in 2022. "This plan maintains the envelope

of New Zealand dollar 20 billion of investment in the Defence Force out to 2030, with 5.8 billion dollars having already been committed since 2014. However, we have significantly recalibrated the plan to provide the capabilities necessary to meet the challenges identified in the Strategic Defence Policy Statement 2018", said Ron Mark. He also stated the new Capability Plan as a humanitarian plan, reiterating that the plan also identifies priority investments to support the Coalition ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

### As Investors Watch Trade Wars, Other Problems Percolate

NEW YORK - Once this trade-war cloud gets lifted, investors should have little to worry about, right? Monday's market action makes it seem that way: Stocks around the world climbed after President Donald Trump withdrew a threat to impose tariffs on Mexico, at least for now. That leaves investors hoping for a deal to soothe the more contentious and complex trade dispute with China, which helped sink stocks last month. But there are other concerns that shouldn't be overlooked. Economic trends were already signaling trouble before the latest round of tariff-induced fear. Friday's surprisingly weak jobs report, where employers added far fewer jobs than economists expected, gave extra pause. Corporate profits are also under pressure. "If the administration fixes the problem it created, I'm sure there will be a short-term pop in the stock market," said Rich Weiss, senior portfolio manager at American Century Investments. "However, I believe it's only short-term because ultimately that will not remedy the underlying fundamentals, which are just not strong." Of course, many along Wall Street are still forecasting gains for stocks this year. Much of the optimism rides on analyst forecasts for profit growth to accelerate later this year. Plus, stock prices are looking like better values following their tumble in ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

## Neighbor News

### Japanese PM Visits Iran amid Rising Tensions Between Washington, Tehran

TOKYO - Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will visit Iran for a two-day trip from Wednesday amid rising tensions in the Gulf between Washington and Tehran over an international nuclear agreement. Prior to his visit, Abe held telephone talks with U.S. President Donald Trump on Tuesday to discuss the current Gulf situation. According to Japan's top government spokesperson Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga, the two leaders discussed a number of issues, including the situation regarding Iran. Abe, during Tuesday's talks, is believed to have discussed with Trump his plans to meet with Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and President Hassan Rouhani and his intentions to try and urge Iran to stick to an inter-

national nuclear accord inked in 2015 between Iran and six other countries. Trump, however, has since pulled the U.S. out of the international nuclear deal and restored sanctions against Tehran that were scrapped under the 2015 deal. Japan's top government spokesperson also said that in light of the escalating tensions in the region, Japan will seek to use the summit-level talks to try and urge Iran to exercise restraint and engage in dialogue. Analysts noted that the vast majority of Japan's oil imports come from the Middle East, thus a military conflict in the region would have a major impact on Japan's energy supplies. Local media reported that during Trump's visit to Japan in late May, Abe had informed him of his intention to visit Iran. ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

### Pakistan Sees 2020 Budget Deficit at 7.1% Of GDP

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan is forecasting a budget deficit equivalent to 7.1 percent of gross domestic product in its budget for the fiscal year to June 2020, Revenue Minister Hammad Azhar announced in parliament

on Tuesday. He set a planned spending target of 7.02 trillion Pakistani rupees (\$46.49 billion), compared with targeted tax revenues of 5.55 trillion rupees. (\$1 = 151.0100 Pakistani rupees) *(Reuters)*

### Uzbekistan: Release Retired Diplomat

TASHKENT - Uzbek authorities should immediately release a retired Uzbek diplomat charged with treason who has been ill-treated since he was detained in December 2018, Human Rights Watch said today. The retired diplomat, Kadyr Yusupov, left the Foreign Ministry 10 years ago, and is currently in a pretrial detention facility attached to Uzbekistan's State Security Services in Tashkent. Yusupov should be released for his trial, which is set to begin June 17. Authorities should also ensure a prompt, thorough, impartial, and transparent investigation into his ill-treatment, including torture. "Uzbekistan's government is pursuing reform in some areas, including by issuing a decree to ban the use of torture," said Steve

Swerdlow, Central Asia researcher at Human Rights Watch. "But no amount of progress on paper can be successful when the rule of law is blatantly disregarded, and people are in practice subject to torture." During his 20-year diplomatic career, Kadyr Yusupov, 67, served as the country's head of mission to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), among other positions. Since his retirement in 2009, he has published analysis on Uzbekistan's foreign and domestic policy. On December 10, 2018, Uzbekistan's State Security Services detained Yusupov from a hospital bed in Tashkent's Republican Scientific Center for Emergency Medicine on charges later announced as treason (article 157 of ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

### Turkmen Foreign Policy Initiatives in Action: Diplomacy of Peace & Progress

ASHGABAT - Large-scale tasks of the international community are mainly conditioned by the high responsibility of world leaders for the fate of the modern world and the future of humanity. Large-scale ideas and initiatives on topical areas of the world and regional politics consistently put forward by Turkmen President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov clearly demonstrate the dynamic nature of the implementation of the foreign policy strategy of the state in international arena. This is evidenced by the fact that large-scale initiatives of Turkmenistan that have global and transcontinental

significance are being put into practice as part of multilateral interaction within the UN and other major international structures. Turkmen foreign policy aimed at ensuring the national interests of the country is now more than ever closely linked to the global and regional objectives of ensuring international peace and security, consolidating efforts to combat the threats and challenges of modern humanity, creating favorable conditions for trade and economic relations, the formation and functioning of transcontinental transport and communication corridors, expansion of cultural and humanitarian ties. *(Trend)*