

China accuses U.S. of blocking its tech development

By JOE MCDONALD
Associated Press

BEIJING — China's government on Monday accused the United States of trying to block the country's industrial development by alleging that Chinese mobile network gear poses a cybersecurity threat to countries rolling out new internet systems.

And in a potential blow to the U.S.'s effort to rally its allies on the issue, British media reported that U.K. intelligence agencies found it's possible to limit the security risks of using Chinese equipment in so-called 5G networks.

The U.S. argues that Beijing might use Chinese tech companies to gather intelligence about foreign countries. The Trump administration has pressured allies to shun networks supplied by Huawei Technologies, threatening the company's access to markets for next-generation wireless gear.

Huawei, the biggest global maker of switching gear for phone and internet companies, denies accusations it facilitates Chinese spying and said it would reject any government demands to disclose confidential information about foreign customers.

The U.S. government is trying to "fabricate an excuse for suppressing the legitimate development" of Chinese enterprises, said the spokesman for the Chinese foreign ministry, Geng Shuang. He accused the United States of using



AP Photo/Andy Wong, File

In this Dec. 11, 2018, file photo, a woman browses her smartphone as she walks by a Huawei store at a shopping mall in Beijing.

"political means" to interfere in economic activity, "which is hypocritical, immoral and unfair bullying."

U.S. Vice President Mike Pence, speaking last weekend in Germany, urged European allies to take seriously "the threat" he said was posed by Huawei as they look for partners to build the new 5G mobile networks.

The 5G technology is meant

to vastly expand the reach of networks to support internet-linked medical equipment, factory machines, self-driving cars and other devices. That makes it more politically sensitive and raises the potential cost of security failures.

Pence said Huawei and other Chinese telecom equipment makers provide Beijing with "access to any data that touches their network or equipment." He appealed to

European governments to "reject any enterprise that would compromise the integrity of our communications technology or our national security systems."

In what could amount to a turning point for the U.S. effort to isolate Huawei, Britain's National Cyber Security Centre has found that the risk of using its networks is manageable, according to the *Financial Times* and several other

British media outlets.

The reports cited anonymous sources as saying that there are ways to limit cybersecurity risks, and that the U.K.'s decision would carry weight with European allies who are also evaluating the safety of their networks.

The British government is to finish a review of its policies on the safety of 5G in March or April. The office of British Prime Minister Theresa May said Monday that "no decisions have been taken."

If eventually confirmed, "such a decision by the U.K. would be a strong message and could be influential in the medium term," said Lukasz Olejnik, a research associate at Oxford University's Center for Technology and Global Affairs.

The British review "could inevitably serve as an input or a reference point in other countries' risk assessments," he added.

European officials, including a vice president of the European Union, have expressed concern about Chinese regulations issued last year that require companies to cooperate with intelligence agencies. No country in Europe, however, has issued a blanket veto on using Huawei technology in the way the U.S. has urged.

The U.S. Justice Department last month unsealed charges against Huawei, its chief financial officer — who had been arrested in Canada — and several of the companies' subsidiaries, alleging not only violation of trade sanctions but also the theft of trade secrets.

Protests slam Trump's emergency declaration for border wall

NEW YORK (AP) — Protesters converged in cities around the country on Monday to decry President Donald Trump's declaration of a national emergency to fund his planned U.S.-Mexico border wall.

Organized by the liberal group MoveOn and others, the demonstrations took the occasion of Presidents Day to assail Trump's proclamation as undemocratic and anti-immigrant.

"Trump is the national emergency!" chanted a group of hundreds lined up at the White House fence, where some held up large letters spelling out "stop power grab."

In downtown Fort Worth, Texas, a small group carried signs with messages including "no wall! #FakeTrumpEmergency."

In Newark, New Jersey, Kelly Quirk told a gathering of dozens that "democracy demands" saying "no more" to Trump.

"There are plenty of real emergencies to invest our tax dollars in," said Quirk, part of a local progressive group called Soma Action.

There were some counter-protesters, including in Washington, where there was a brief scuffle in the crowd.

Trump's declaration Friday shifts billions of dollars from military construction to the border. The move came after Congress didn't approve as much as Trump wanted for the



AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster

Cat McKay of Alexandria, Va., holds a sign during a protest on Monday at Lafayette Square near the White House in Washington, to protest that President Donald Trump declared a national emergency along the southern border.

wall, which the Republican considers a national security necessity.

His emergency proclamation calls the border "a major entry point for criminals, gang members, and illicit narcotics."

Illegal border crossings have declined from a high of 1.6 million in 2000.

Trump's declaration is facing legal challenges, and critics have argued he undercut his own rationale for the emergency declaration by saying he

"didn't need to do this" but wanted to get the wall built faster than he otherwise could.

"President Trump declared a national emergency in order to spend billions of taxpayer dollars on his border wall obsession," Manar Waheed of the American Civil Liberties Union told protesters rallying in a Washington park before heading to the nearby White House fence. The ACLU has announced its intention to sue Trump over the issue.

EU warns of reduced imports if Trump puts tariffs on cars

By RAF CASERT
Associated Press

BRUSSELS — The European Union warned U.S. President Donald Trump on Monday that the bloc will step back from a commitment to buy more American soybeans and liquid gas if European cars are hit with punitive tariffs.

The U.S. Commerce Department is expected to issue its guidance on whether auto imports endanger U.S. national security enough to justify import taxes, giving Trump 90 days to decide whether to impose them.

EU Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker said that during a summit in Washington last summer, Trump promised not to damage trans-Atlantic trade with such measures.

"Trump has given me his word that there will be no car tariffs for the time being," Juncker told the German newspaper *Stuttgarter Zeitung*.

"I believe him," Juncker said. "However, should he renege on that commitment, we will no longer feel bound by our commitments to buy more U.S. soy and liquid gas."

European Union spokesman Margaritis Schinas said that if the U.S. goes ahead with "actions detrimental to European exports, the European Commission would react in a swift and adequate manner."

The EU and the United States have been trying to work out a trade deal but progress has been slow.

Over the weekend, German Chancellor Angela Merkel said U.S. authorities appeared to have already concluded that European cars were a national security threat.

She noted that German automaker BMW's biggest plant is in South Carolina.

Merkel said if the cars produced there "are suddenly a threat to the United States' national security, that startles us."

Since the summer summit, when Juncker made a commitment to buy more U.S. soybeans, exports to Europe have soared largely because of market conditions.

Sex abuse survivors to meet with Vatican summit organizers

By NICOLE WINFIELD
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — The organizers of Pope Francis' summit on preventing clergy sex abuse will meet this week with a dozen abuse victims who have descended on Rome to protest the Catholic Church's response to the crisis and demand an end to decades of cover-up by church leaders, officials said Monday.

These abuse survivors will not be addressing the summit of church leaders itself. Rather, they will meet Wednesday with the four-member organizing committee to convey their complaints.

The larger summit of some 190 presidents of bishops' conferences from around the world, plus key Vatican officials, begins Thursday.

At a press conference on Monday, organizers called the summit a "turning point" in the church's approach to clergy sex abuse. The Catholic Church has long been criticized for its failure to hold bishops accountable when they covered up for priests who raped and molested children.

They said the summit would focus on three key aspects of dealing with the crisis: making bishops aware of their own responsibilities to protect their flocks, the consequences of shirking those responsibilities, and the need for transparency.

Archbishop Charles Scicluna, the Vatican's leading sex crimes investigator and an organizer of the meeting, said transparency was key, since the church's knee-jerk response of denial and silence in the past had only exacerbated the problem.

"Whether it's criminal or malicious complicity and a code of silence, or whether it's denial or trauma in its very primitive state, we need to get away from that," he told reporters. "We have to face the facts."

Chilean abuse victim Juan Carlos Cruz, who is coordinating the survivor meeting, told The Associated Press he hopes for a "constructive and open dialogue" and for summit members to convey survivors' demand that bishops stop pleading ignorance about abuse.

"Raping a child or a vulnerable person and abusing them has been wrong since the 1st century, the Middle Ages, and now," he said.

Francis called the summit in September after he himself discredited Cruz and other Chilean victims of a notorious predator priest.

Francis was subsequently implicated in the cover-up of Theodore McCarrick, the onetime powerful American cardinal who just last week was defrocked for sexually abusing minors as well as adults.

Francis has urged participants to meet with abuse victims before they came to Rome, to both familiarize themselves with victims' pain and trauma and debunk the widely held idea that clergy sex abuse only happens in some parts of the world.

Survivors will be represented at the summit itself, but only in a few key moments of prayer.

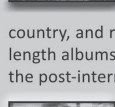
Summit moderator the Rev. Federico Lombardi said he would gladly receive any written messages from other survivors, expressing an openness to hear from a broad cross-section of victims.

EASTERN OREGON FORUM Presents

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH, 2019 AT 7:00 P.M.
BLUE MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE (BMCC), 2411 NW CARDEN, PENDLETON, OR.
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY BUILDING, ROOM ST-200
OUR MUSIC FEATURING: JD KINDLE AND FRIENDS



J.D. Kindle is the middle of his fourth season as the Executive Director of the Oregon East Symphony (Pendleton, OR). He was born and raised in Pendleton to two parents who were both nurses (his father being the first male nurse at St. Anthony Hospital's ER). He graduated from Pendleton High School in 2001 and received his Associate of Arts from Blue Mountain Community College in 2003. Prior to OES, J.D. has worked as a software developer, GIS technician, agricultural laborer, and taxi driver.



Outside of his work with OES J.D. is a highly active singer-songwriter-performer in the folk, country, and rock genres. With his longtime backing band The Eastern Oregon Playboys he has released four full length albums. He is also a contributing arts and culture columnist for the East Oregonian newspaper and directs the post-internet publication project Honey Mushroom.

Fred Hill Sr. is a member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and works as the Cultural Historian at Nixya'awii Community School. He is a Umatilla Language Speaker and frequent pow wow MC.

THE COST FOR THIS SERIES OF 4 FORUMS IS \$15 PER PERSON, \$25 PER COUPLE OR \$5 PER FORUM AT THE DOOR - STUDENTS ARE FREE

For more information about the EO Forum, please contact: Karen Parker at 541-966-3177.

The EO Forum is a collaborative effort among leaders from Blue Mountain Community College, InterMountain Education Service District, the East Oregonian, American Association of University Women, and Harriet Isom, a former United States ambassador who also serves on the committee. This EO Forum program is offered as part of Blue Mountain Community College's annual Arts and Culture Festival. For more information on the festival go to www.blueecc.edu.