

SILVER LINING. This undated photo released by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) shows a Northern Brown kiwi in New Zealand. The global conservation group's recent update mostly included news of grave threats to many species, much of it caused by loss of habitat and unsustainable farming and fisheries practices. However, IUCN said it has upgraded the Okarito kiwi and the Northern Brown kiwi from endangered to vulnerable thanks to progress in controlling predators like weasel-like stoats and cats. (Neil Robert Hutton via AP)

## Two kiwi birds are a rare bright spot in grim extinction report

By Elaine Kurtenbach

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Two types of New Zealand kiwi birds are rare bright spots in a mostly grim assessment of global species at risk of extinction.

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature upgraded the Okarito kiwi and the Northern Brown kiwi from endangered to vulnerable thanks to New Zealand's progress in controlling predators like stoats and cats.

But the conservation group's latest update mostly detailed grave threats to animals and plants due to loss of habitat and unsustainable farming and fisheries practices.

It said three reptile species are now considered extinct in the wild. The whiptail-skink, the blue-tailed skink, and Lister's gecko from Australia's Christmas Island all have mysteriously disappeared. The group said a disease or the arrival of an invasive species, the yellow crazy ant, might be to blame.

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**Instructions**: Fill in the grid so that the digits 1 through 9 appear one time each in every row, column, and 3x3 box.

Solution last i pu

Difficulty level: Hard

Puzzle #814

All solutions <www.sud

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## China marks Nanking Massacre's 80th anniversary

NANJING, China (AP) — Chinese officials struck a tempered tone on the 80th anniversary of the Nanking Massacre, saying China would "look forward" and deepen friendship with its neighbor Japan despite historical

Chinese President Xi Jinping led a citywide minute of silence but did not speak as Yu Zhengsheng, the head of China's parliamentary advisory body, urged China and Japan to draw lessons from history and look forward to the future.

The remarks were a departure from China's frequent criticism of Japan for not showing sufficient contrition for the brutality of its expansionist campaign that swept across Asia during the first half of the 20th century. China's ruling Communist Party has often allowed anti-Japanese sentiment to build domestically, but relations have improved in recent months.

China's government and a 1946 international postwar tribunal say at least 200,000 civilians were killed by Japanese troops in a weeks-long frenzy of murder, rape, and arson after Nanking — China's capital at the time — fell on December 13, 1937. after bitter street fighting in Shanghai.

right-wing Some Japanese politicians, including Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, have downplayed the death toll or denied outright that the Nanking atrocity happened.

Wearing a white flower on his lapel, Xi watched somberly as Chinese soldiers bearing large funeral wreaths marched slowly past a memorial showing the figure 300,000 — the number of massacre victims, according to official Chinese estimates.

Denial by conservative Japanese quarters of the country's wartime history has frequently incensed neighbors that bore the brunt of its militarism and colonial rule,



**NANKING MASSACRE.** Chinese paramilitary policemen stand at attention near a Chinese flag flown at half-mast to mark the 80th anniversary of the Nanking Massacre, held at the Memorial Hall of the Victims in Nanjing. Chinese officials struck a tempered tone on the 80th anniversary of the massacre, saying China would "look forward" and deepen friendship with its neighbor Japan

despite historical misgivings. (Chinatopix via AP) including China, South Korea, and the Philippines, and it continues to fuel debate in contemporary Japan.

A Japanese hotel chain attracted condemnation in January when it distributed a book questioning Japan's use of forced sex workers and calling the Nanking Massacre a fake. Nanking, an ancient Chinese capital 200 miles west of Shanghai, is now commonly known as Nanjing.

Relations between Xi and Abe, both known for their nationalist bent, have warmed in recent months, with the two leaders posing together with smiles and pledging to seek a "fresh start" at a November summit in Vietnam.

Yu, a former member of the Communist Party's top leadership circle, did not touch on the historical controversies, but said China and Japan share a long, rich history and should promote friendship for generations to come.

China has raised alarms in Asia with its more assertive military and diplomatic posture in recent years, particularly over territorial disputes in the South China Sea.

would "never be hegemonic or expansionist."

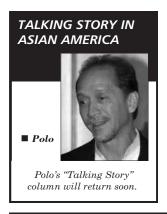
"It will never impose the tragic experience that it experienced on other peoples," he said.

In an op-ed in the Financial Times Chinese edition, the French and German ambassadors to China said their countries' experience as opponents in the war's European theater showed that "perpetrators need to recognize their crimes, and victims need to forgive" to achieve a measure of reconciliation.

Reflecting the occasion, the Nanking memorial was far more low-kev than China's celebration of the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, which unfurled as a propaganda showpiece with a massive military parade observed by Xi and Russian President Vladimir Putin from atop Tiananmen

China similarly pressured foreign ambassadors in Beijing to attend the Nanking memorial — but many did not, according to a Beijing-based diplomat.

"They fear being instrumentalized Yu said in his address that Beijing by propaganda," the diplomat said.





### Mark your calendar!

The Year of the Dog begins February 16, 2018.

The Asian Reporter's Lunar New Year special issue in honor of the Year of the Dog will be published on Monday, February 5,

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### German intelligence warns of more Chinese cyberspying

Continued from page 3

named Global View Strategic Consulting.

Messages seeking comment from the organizations weren't immediately

Maassen warned that Chinese cybergroups also were using so-called "supply-chain attacks" to get around companies' online defenses.

Such attacks target IT workers and others who work for trusted service providers to send malicious software into the networks organizations attackers are interested in.

"The infections difficult to detect, since network connections between service providers and their customers aren't suspicious." BfV said. "This gives the attacker an even better disguise than before."

> Frank Jordans contributed to this report.