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Press briefing on the latest development of a Chinese company's oil platform operations to the south of the Zhongjian Island of the Xisha Islands

Yi Xianliang, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Boundary and Ocean Affairs of the Foreign Ministry, made the remarks at a media briefing on the latest development of a Chinese company's oil platform operations to the south of the Zhongjian Island of the Xisha Islands. The following is part of his speech.

“Up till 12 o'clock, 13th June, 51 Vietnamese boats were still at the site. Since the confrontation started more than one month ago, Vietnamese vessels have rammed Chinese ships 1,547 times.”

“since May 2, China has conducted over 30 communications with Vietnam at various levels almost on a daily base. The illegal disruption of the Vietnamese side is still continuing and it spread plentiful of rumors which are inconsistent with facts, attempting to create new territory disputes.”

“The Xisha Islands are inherent territory of China and fall within Chinese government's effective jurisdiction. There is no dispute with any other country. There exist disputes over a relatively large area in the South China Sea between China and Vietnam. These disputes are centered around the territorial disputes over some islands of the Nansha Islands and the overlapping assertion of maritime rights and interests in part of the South China Sea, with the disputes over islands and reefs in the Nansha Islands being the core. What leads to the disputes is that Vietnam illegally occupied 29 islands and reefs of China's Nansha islands. China always opposes Vietnam's illegal occupation and urges Vietnam to pull out all personnel and facilities from the aforementioned Chinese islands and reefs it has taken. China has unflinching resolve to safeguard the sovereignty of the Nansha Islands. China hopes for sound development of

China-Vietnam relationship, but that does not mean giving up principles. We demand the Vietnamese side to respect China's sovereignty, sovereign rights and jurisdiction, immediately stop all forms of disruptions of the operations of the Chinese side, withdraw all its vessels and personnel, and restore tranquility to the sea. At the same time, China urges the Vietnamese side to stop bending facts and making stories that do not exist. The Vietnamese side should stop saying or doing anything about the so-called 'Xisha disputes'. The Channels for communication between China and Vietnam are open and smooth. China will continue to communicate with the Vietnamese side and do its best to handle the current situation properly.”

Then Yi showed a series of pictures and four clips of videos. He also answered several questions from journalists home and aboard.

http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_chn/zyxw_602251/t1165600.shtml;

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/14/c_133406056.htm

EVENTS

The Fourth Summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia held on 21 May 2014 in Shanghai, China.

http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1160961.shtml

2014 Ocean Science Conference 10th Cross-Strait Ocean Sciences Conference held from 27 April 2014 to 1 May in Taipei, China.

http://oceansc.oc.ntu.edu.tw/?page_id=228

IFFO Members' Meeting held on 1-3 May 2014 in London, UK.

<http://www.iffonet.net/node/597>

The 10th Asia-Pacific Marine Biotechnology Conference held on 4-8 May 2014 in Taipei, China.

<http://algaesia.com/2014/05/the-10th-asia-pacific-marine-biotechnology-conference-successfully-concluded-the-second-day-of-the-five/>

2014 Marine Mammal Commission Annual Meeting held on 6-8 May 2014 in Washington D.C., America.

<http://www.mmc.gov/>

International Oil Spill Conference 2014 held on 5-8 May 2014 in Savannah, Georgia, America.

<http://www.ipieca.org/news/20140515/ipieca-international-oil-spill-conference-2014>

2014 Seminar on Cross-Strait Fishery Resources Enhancement and Release held on 13-14 May 2014 in Taipei, China.

http://www.taiwan.cn/tsfwzx/jctj/201405/t20140513_6152177.html

The 38th Session of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean held on 19-24 May 2014 at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy.

<http://www.gfcm.org/gfcm/en>

2014 Chinese Fishery Economic Experts Workshop held on 20 May 2014 at Zhejiang Ocean University, Hangzhou, China.

<http://news.zjou.edu.cn/bencandy.php?fid=64&id=9896>

Society of Maritime Industries Annual Conference 2014 held on 20-21 May 2014 in Bristol, UK.

<http://www.maritimeindustries.org/annual-conference-2014>

The 8th Port Engineering Technology Conference as well as the 9th Seminar on Engineering Drainage and Reinforcement Technology held on 24-25 May 2014 in Lianyungang, China.

http://www.lygport.com.cn/html/news_detail.aspx?ID=23037

Upcoming Events

2014 Chinese Marine Engineering Equipment Forum to be held during 11th to 12th June 2014 in Tianjin China.
<http://www.31huiyi.com/event/221357/>

Devport International Conference For Ports, Maritime Transport and Regional Development to be held during 12th to 13th June 2014 in Le Havre, France.
<http://www.projet-devport.fr/en/conference>

The 20th ASAA(Asian Studies Association of Australia)Biennial Conference to be held on 8-10 July 2014 at the University of Western Australia, Perth.
<http://www.asaa2014.com/>

International Meeting on Marine Research 2014 to be held during 10th and 11th July at sunny Penuche, Portugal.
<http://www.immr.ipleiria.pt/>

Securing Asia and Africa 2014 to be held from 14th to 15th July 2014 in London, United Kingdom.
<http://www.securingasia.com/>

The 2014 International Conference on Maritime and Naval Science and Engineering to be held from 19th and 21st July in Santorini Island Greece.
<http://www.europment.org/conferences/2014/santorini/manase.htm>

The 2nd International Conference on Oceanography to be held from 21st to 23rd July 2014 in Las Vegas, USA.
<http://www.oceanographyconference.com/cfa.php>

SMM2014 to be held from 9th and 12th September 2014 in Hamburg Germany.
<http://www.31huiyi.com/event/222393/>

The Thirty Symposium On Naval Hydrodynamics to be held during 2nd to November 7, 2014 in Hobart, Australia.
<http://www.30navalhydrodynamics.com/>

Border and Development International Conference 2014 to be held during 5th to 7th November 2014 in West Kalimantan, Indonesia.
<http://www.conferencealerts.com/show-event?id=131942>

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Vietnam protesters attack China over sea dispute

BBC news, 11 May 2014

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-27362939>

China Lodges Solemn Protest over Serious Violent Attacks against Chinese Enterprises in Vietnam

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PRC, 15 May 2014

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China blames Vietnam for sea collisions, but calls for talks

Reuters, 8 May 2014

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Vietnam riots: China ships to evacuate workers

BBC News, 18 May 2014

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State Councilor Yang Jiechi Holds Telephone Talks with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Pham Binh Minh of Vietnam at Request

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PRC, 6 May 2014

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China says Vietnam efforts to rope in others on spat will fail

Reuters, 12 May 2014

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/05/12/us-china-vietnam-idUSBREA4B0S620140512#comments>

China tells PH: Free fishermen

Inquire.net, 14 May 2014

<http://globalnation.inquirer.net/104278/china-reiterates-call-on-philippines-to-release-9-of-11-chinese-poachers>

China blames U.S. for stoking tensions in South China Sea

Reuters, 9 May 2014

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/05/09/us-china-usa-idUSBREA4804Z20140509>

China-Vietnam tensions: Beijing vows to continue drilling

BBC News, 16 May 2014

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South China Sea issue not problem between China, ASEAN, says FM spokeswoman

China Daily, 11 May 2014

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2014-05/11/content_17498855.htm

China demands ASEAN neutrality over South China Sea

China Daily, 19 May 2014

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China tells Indonesia it urged Vietnam to calm down, respect its sovereignty

Reuters, 14 May 2014

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Obama's Asia rebalance needs "rebalancing": Chinese ambassador

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Beidou to help safeguard fishermen on high seas

China Daily, 26 May 2014

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Taiwan building US\$100mil port in South China Sea, no protest from China

The Star, 26 May 2014

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Philippines formulates defense program in South China Sea to contain China's "occupation" of reefs

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China Daily, 8 May 2014

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ASEAN's concerned about the South China Sea situation

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Vnexpress 8 May, 2014

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Vnexpress 10 May, 2014

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