

DRAWING FIRE: THE POLITICAL CARTOONS OF REBEL PEPPER

為什麼不承認我?



**REBEL
PEPPER**
RADIO FREE ASIA

Get out! who wants to be next?

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LIBBY LIU

President of Radio Free Asia

FOREWORD

Political cartoonists serve up satire, caricatures and dark humor that can be controversial, if not subversive, even in free societies with long histories of unfettered media and open debate. In countries where independent thought is repressed and even criminalized, the resonance of visual commentary can be a lifeline.

Wang Liming , also known as Rebel Pepper, honed his craft in his native China, where the government is more famous for censorship than for a sense of humor, and where often grim political and human rights topics do not lend themselves easily to light treatment. His success in giving expression to the thoughts of his thousands of followers on both taboo subjects and everyday experiences drew the wrath of the mighty Chinese Communist Party.

Forced to leave his homeland in 2014, Rebel Pepper first found haven in Japan before settling in Washington, DC. Throughout his journey he continued to hone his craft, challenging Chinese state-controlled narratives and expanding his graphic editorials for Radio Free Asia, where there is no room for censorship.

Like all great cartoonists, Rebel Pepper masters the art of making big statements with few to no words. He is able to use humor, irony, imagery and caricature to create cartoons that are meaningful to audiences of diverse cultural and political backgrounds and sensibilities.

This collection of 50 cartoons shows Rebel Pepper not only applying his insightful wit to hot topics in his native China, but also expanding the scope of his work to tackle issues from North Korean nuclear provocations to Cambodian political machinations to the Rohingya humanitarian crisis. In each instance he renders nuanced geopolitical complexities into sharp, digestible, and relatable pieces of visual art.

China's loss here has been a gain for Radio Free Asia and the world. It is with great pride that we present his work to you.

President Libby Liu



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

WANG LIMING

is a renowned political cartoonist who works under the pen name of Rebel Pepper. His work focuses on political, cultural and societal developments across Asia.

EDITED BY

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Executive Editor, Radio Free Asia

Bay Fang supervises RFA coverage across all of Asia. She has more than 20 years of journalism experience, including stints in China, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Washington, DC. She also served as a Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, overseeing public diplomacy and public affairs for Europe and Eurasia.



Rebel Pepper
06.29.

YANMAR



DESCENDANTS OF THE DRAGON

Xi Jinping told visiting U.S. President Donald Trump that the Chinese are descendants of the dragon, putting a unique Chinese spin on the story of the first humans.

2017-11-10



CHINESE PRESIDENT XI JINPING CONSOLIDATES POWER

He has no designated successor in the Communist Party's all-powerful Politburo Standing Committee.

2017-11-04



XI JINPING TAKES TOP COMMUNIST PARTY LEADERS BACK TO WHERE THE CCP WAS LAUNCHED

In his first public appearance since Xi was elevated to a status comparable to Mao Zedong, he took the Politburo Standing Committee to the brick house in Shanghai's French Concession where Chinese Communist Party (CCP) was started in 1921.

2017-10-31



CHINESE PRESIDENT XI JINPING ENHANCES POWER AT COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS

Xi revealed a new leadership lineup on Oct. 25, with no obvious successor in the all-powerful Politburo Standing Committee.

2017-10-25



NORTH KOREA SECRETLY MAKES CLOTHING IN KAESONG INDUSTRIAL PARK, USING SOUTH'S EQUIPMENT

The zone was once a symbol of cooperation between the two halves of the divided Korean peninsula, but it was shuttered last year as Pyongyang ramped up its missile and nuclear programs.

2017-10-16



CHINA TIGHTENS SECURITY AMONG UYGHURS

Uyghur Muslims in northwest China's Xinjiang region have to register when they buy kitchen knives.

2017-10-10



CHINA TIGHTENS CONTROLS ON TIBET

The move comes ahead of major meetings of China's ruling Communist Party later this month.

2017-10-02



UYGHUR STUDENTS IN EGYPT DETAINED, SENT BACK TO CHINA

Egypt's secret police began detaining Uyghur and ethnic minority Kazakh Muslims from China en masse on July 4, in an operation activists said was requested by Beijing.

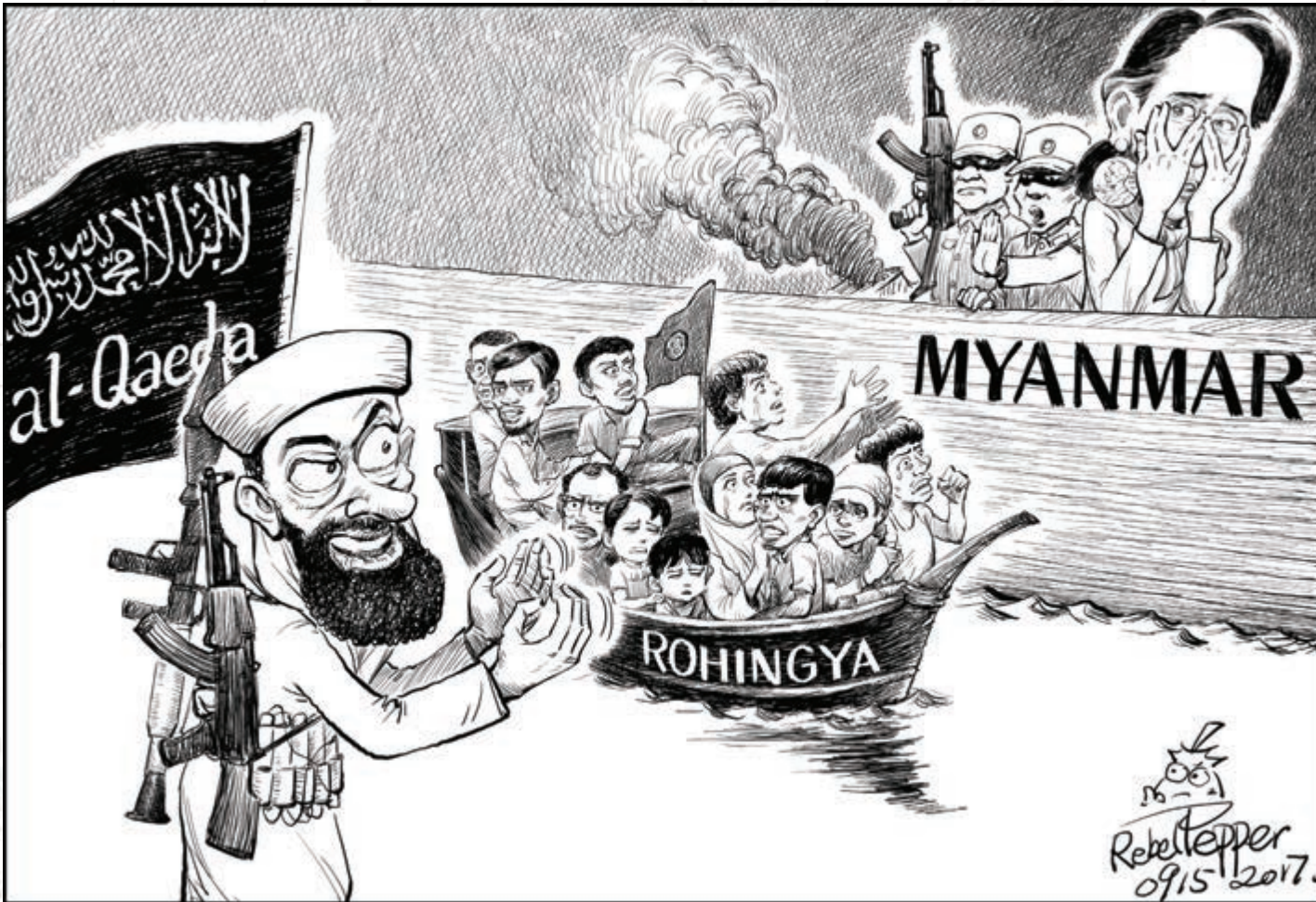
2017-09-25



EVERYBODY SUFFERS WHEN THE COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS IS HELD

To ensure security for the 19th Communist Party Congress in October 2017, large numbers of shops were forced to close, windows of houses along the street were ordered shut, and security checks on subways were extremely strict.

2017-10-13



TERRORIST GROUP VOWS TO DEFEND ROHINGYA

Hundreds of thousands of Rohingya Muslims have fled violence and destruction in Myanmar.

2017-09-15



CHINA ISSUES NEW RULES GOVERNING WECHAT AND OTHER INSTANT MESSAGING GROUPS

Creators of online groups are now responsible for managing information posted to their sites – a move that some believe will encourage self-censorship.

2017-09-12



CHINA TRIES TO SILENCE CRITICS AT UN BODY

Human Rights Watch says the United Nations plays down the issues raised by critics to placate China.

2017-09-11



NORTH KOREA EMBARRASSES PATRON CHINA

As China hosts the BRICS summit of major emerging economies, Pyongyang ignores Beijing's concerns and continues military provocations.

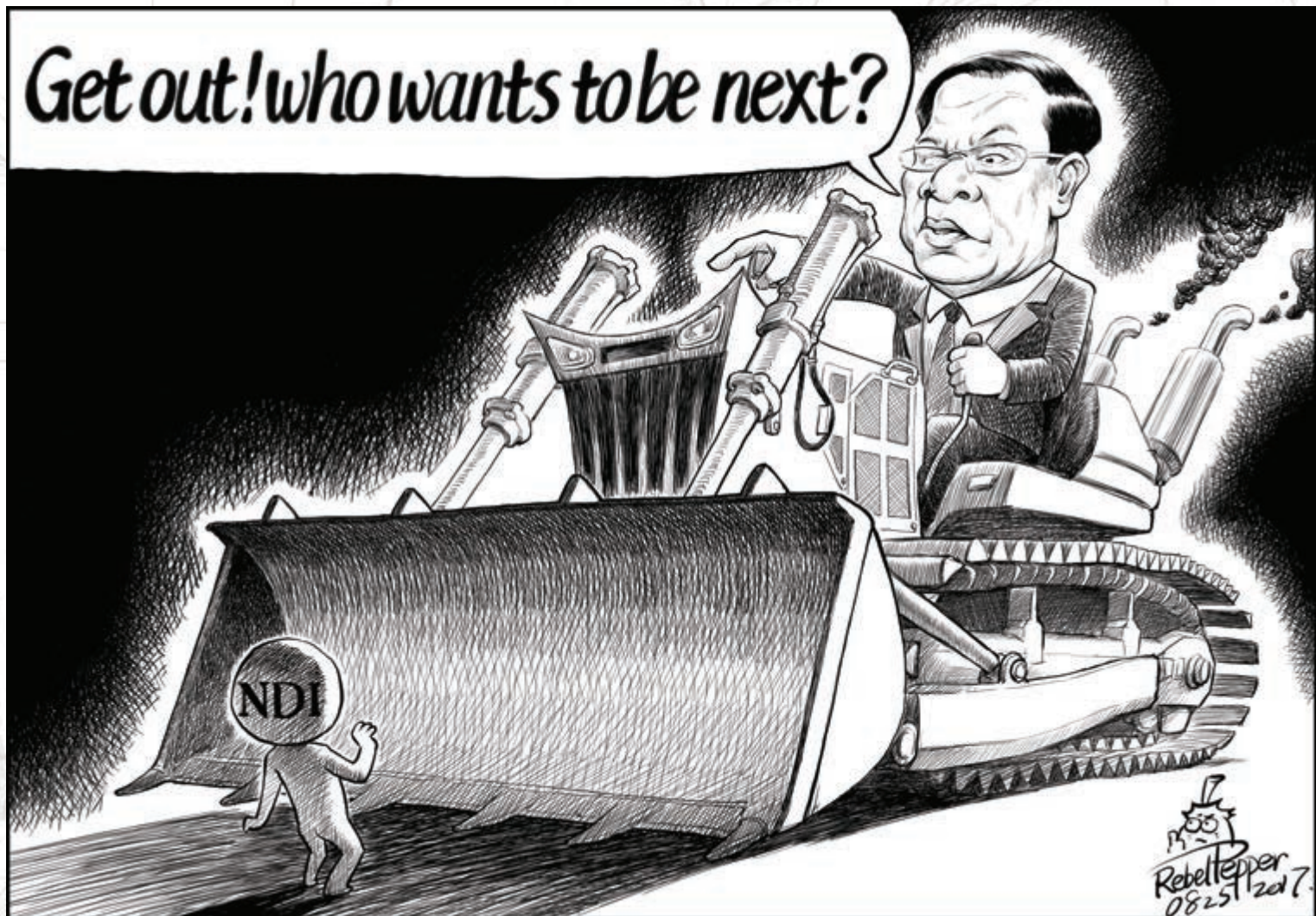
2017-09-05



VIDEO OF SHANGHAI POLICE BODY SLAMMING WOMAN AND CHILD GOES VIRAL

China's Communist Party has expanded local police forces across the country in recent years, and complaints of police abuse have increased.

2017-09-01



CAMBODIA EXPELS US NGO

Observers say the move is part of a wider clampdown ahead of general elections next year.

2017-08-25



HONG KONG ECLIPSE

Hong Kong jails three young leaders for their roles in massive 2014 pro-democracy rallies, known as the 'Umbrella Movement.' Their sentences are a fresh blow to the campaign for political reform in the Chinese city.

2017-08-21



“UMBRELLA MOVEMENT” LEADERS JAILED

A Hong Kong court jails former leaders of massive ‘Umbrella Movement’ protests that swept the Chinese city in 2014.

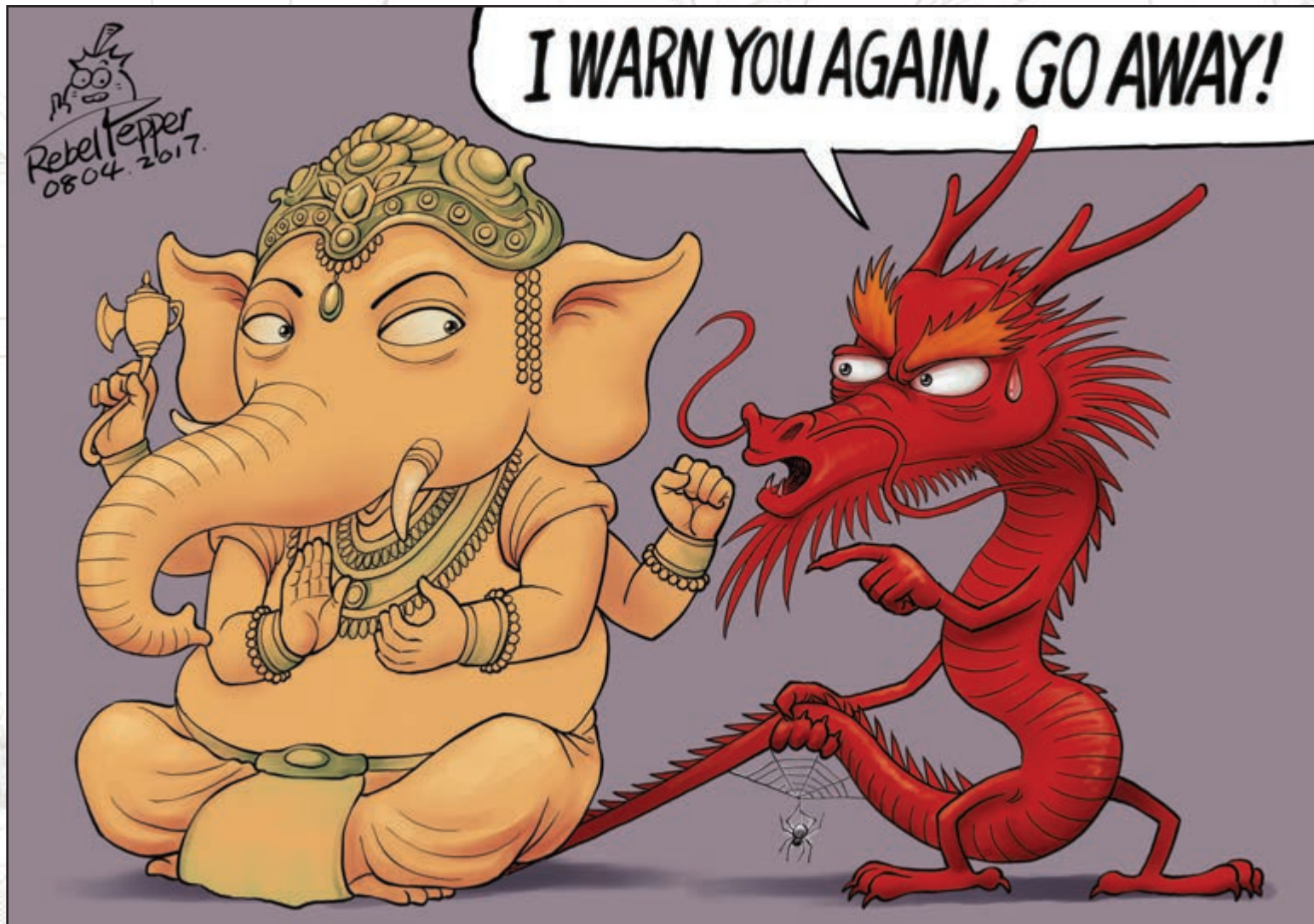
2017-08-17



CAMBODIA PREPARES FOR NATIONAL ELECTIONS

Prime Minister Hun Sen and other top officials in the ruling Cambodian People's Party have warned of violence and war if elections don't go their way.

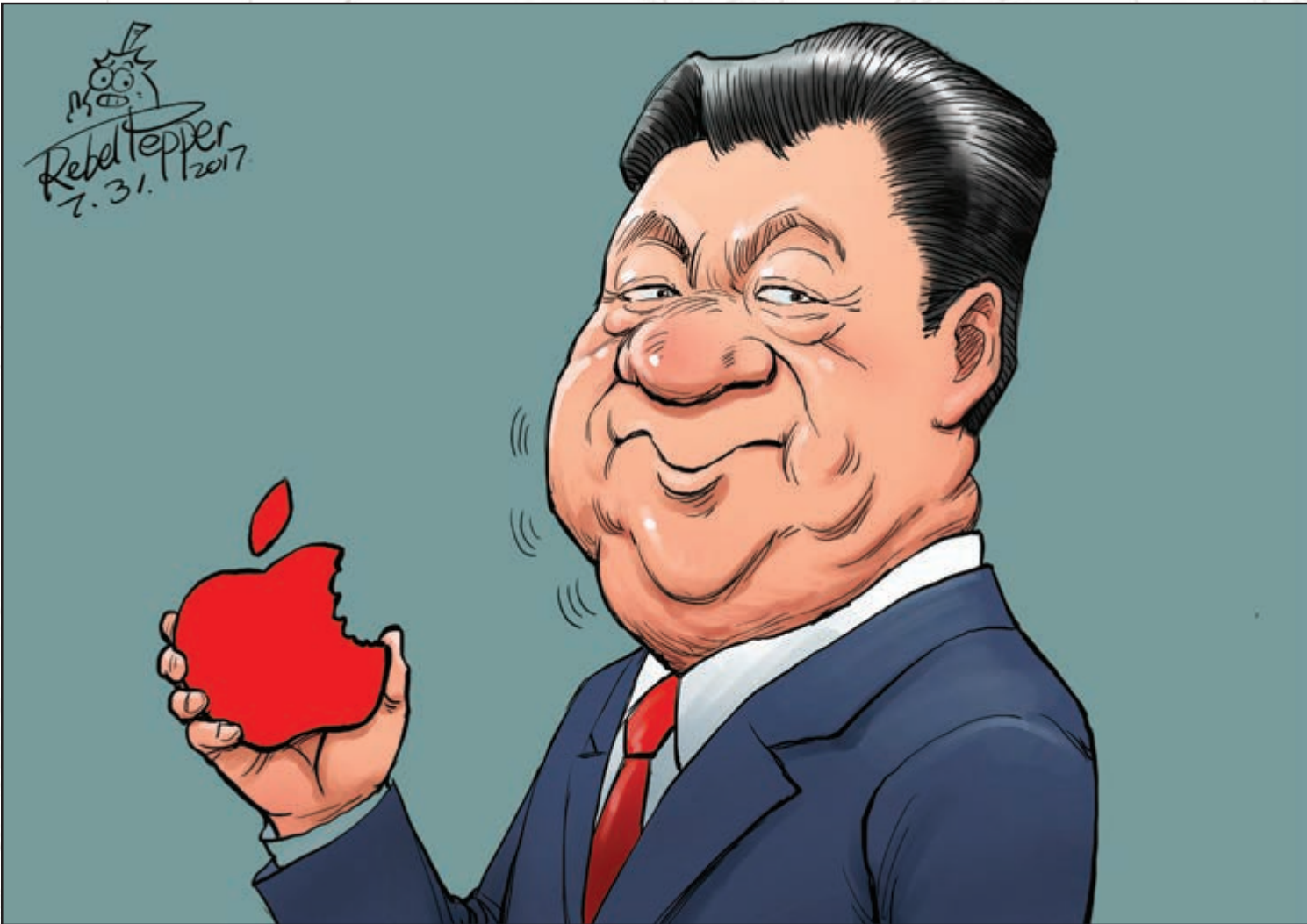
2017-08-11



TENSIONS ALONG THE CHINA-INDIA BORDER

Chinese and Indian forces have been playing a game of oneupsmanship along their disputed border in the Himalayas.

2017-08-04



APPLE TAKES DOWN APPS USED BY CHINESE TO SCALE “GREAT FIREWALL”

The move has sparked criticism from users and service providers, who called it “disappointing.”

2017-07-31



TRIAL OF CHINESE RIGHTS LAWYER JIANG TIANYONG

The trial of Jiang Tianyong on subversion charges in Hunan's provincial capital Changsha is marred by allegations of torture.

2017-08-23



HEAVY-HANDED CHINESE RULE IN HONG KONG

China's more muscular leadership under President Xi Jinping rams a tank through aspects of the One Country, Two Systems concept, which was carefully crafted by predecessor Deng Xiaoping as part of the plan to absorb the former British colony of Hong Kong.

2017-07-03



CHINESE DISSIDENT, NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER LIU XIAOBO DIES OF CANCER

At the time of his death, Liu had been serving an 11-year jail term for "incitement to subvert state power."

2017-07-13

**“I have no enemies
and no hatred.”**

Liu Xiaobo

1955— 2017



Radio Free Asia



NOBEL LAUREATE LIU XIAOBO DIES IN A CHINESE PRISON HOSPITAL

The grim reaper of Chinese Communism refutes Liu Xiaobo's famous assertion that “I have no enemies” by taking his life.

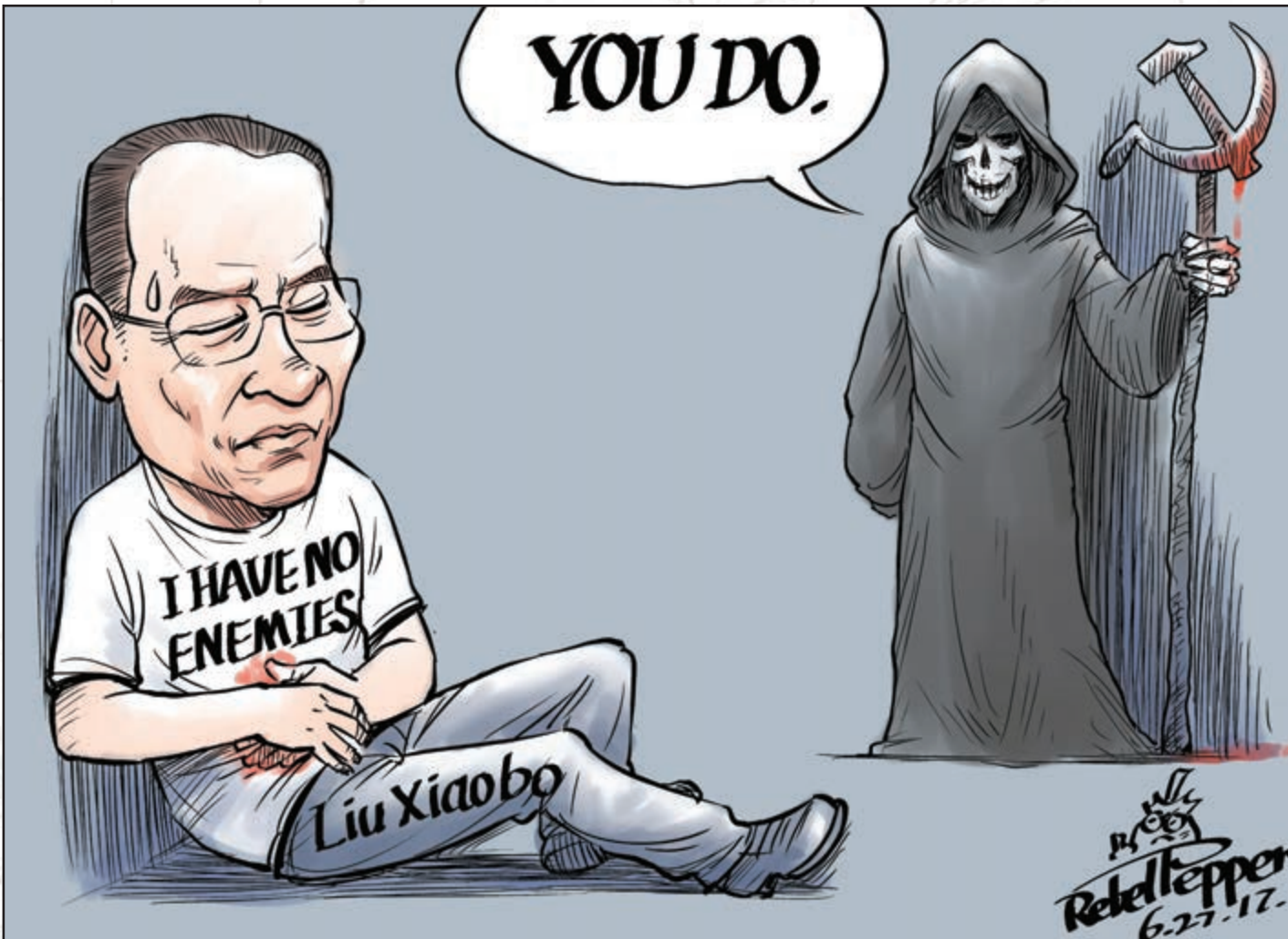
2017-07-13



AILING POLITICAL PRISONER HAUNTS PRESIDENT XI JINPING'S HONG KONG VISIT

Chinese President Xi Jinping, visiting Hong Kong to mark 20 years of rule by China, was met on arrival in the former British colony with calls to release writer and democracy activist Liu Xiaobo. Liu, 61, is being treated at a hospital in northeastern China, following a diagnosis of late-stage liver cancer. Liu was already in jail when he was awarded the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize "for his long and non-violent struggle for fundamental human rights in China" in a decision that infuriated Beijing, which put his wife under strict house arrest.

2017-06-29



NOBEL LAUREATE LIU XIAOBO HOSPITALIZED WITH TERMINAL LIVER CANCER

Chinese writer and democracy activist Liu is currently being treated at a hospital in Liaoning's provincial capital Shenyang. Liu was awarded the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize "for his long and non-violent struggle for fundamental human rights in China" in a decision that infuriated Beijing, which says he has broken Chinese law.

2017-06-27



CALLS IN HONG KONG FOR UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE ARE MET BY CHINESE REFUSAL

The visit to Hong Kong of the Chinese aircraft carrier, the Liaoning, underscores the limits to political reform in the former British colony, ruled by authoritarian Beijing since 1997.

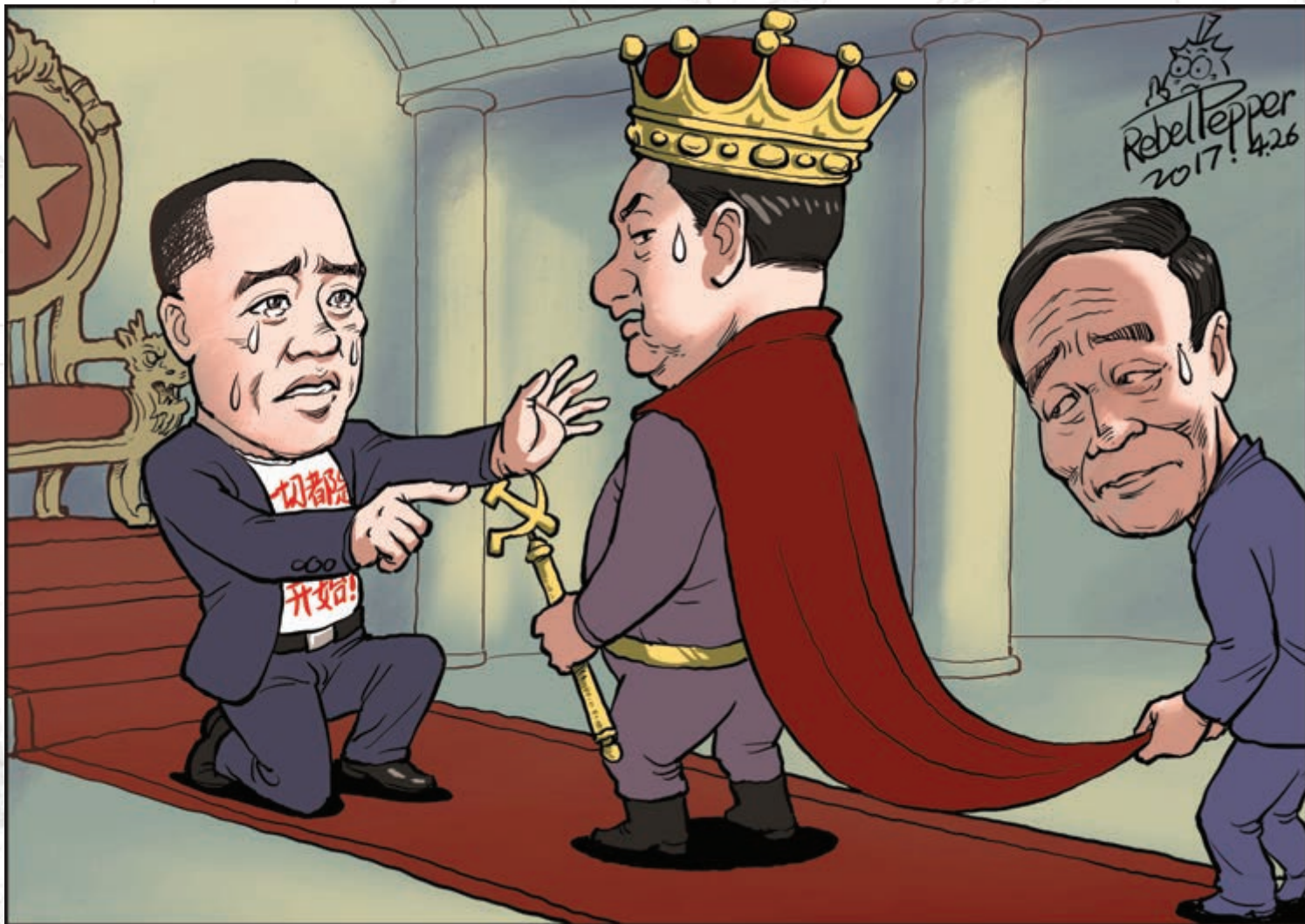
2017-06-29



DEATH OF U.S. STUDENT JAILED IN NORTH KOREA “UNFORTUNATE”

U.S. student Otto Warmbier died days after he was sent home in a coma from prison in North Korea. In a posting on Twitter, U.S. President Donald Trump thanked China for attempting to resolve tensions with North Korea, but declared that Beijing’s “efforts” had failed. China is North Korea’s closest ally.

2017-06-20



EXILED BILLIONAIRE AS SUPPLICANT

Exiled Chinese billionaire Guo Wengui, also known as Miles Kwok, grew a massive Twitter following with lurid revelations of high-level corruption. But his declaration that he will not oppose the Communist Party and will support President Xi Jinping have cast his motives in doubt.

2017-04-26



TAIWAN PRESIDENT TSAI YINGWEN PUNTS A RIGHTS CASE

In April 2017, Zhang Xiangzhong, a dissident from China, was visiting Taiwan with a tour group when he announced he was seeking political asylum. Despite concerns that Zhang had been subjected to political persecution in China and faced the risk of retaliation if he went home, he was “voluntarily” repatriated.

2017-04-20



CHINA UNDER FIRE FOR SHELTERING NORTH KOREA FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF ITS NUCLEAR AND MISSILE TESTS

Beijing fears collateral damage as an impatient Donald Trump takes aim at its ally North Korea after serial nuclear and missile provocations.

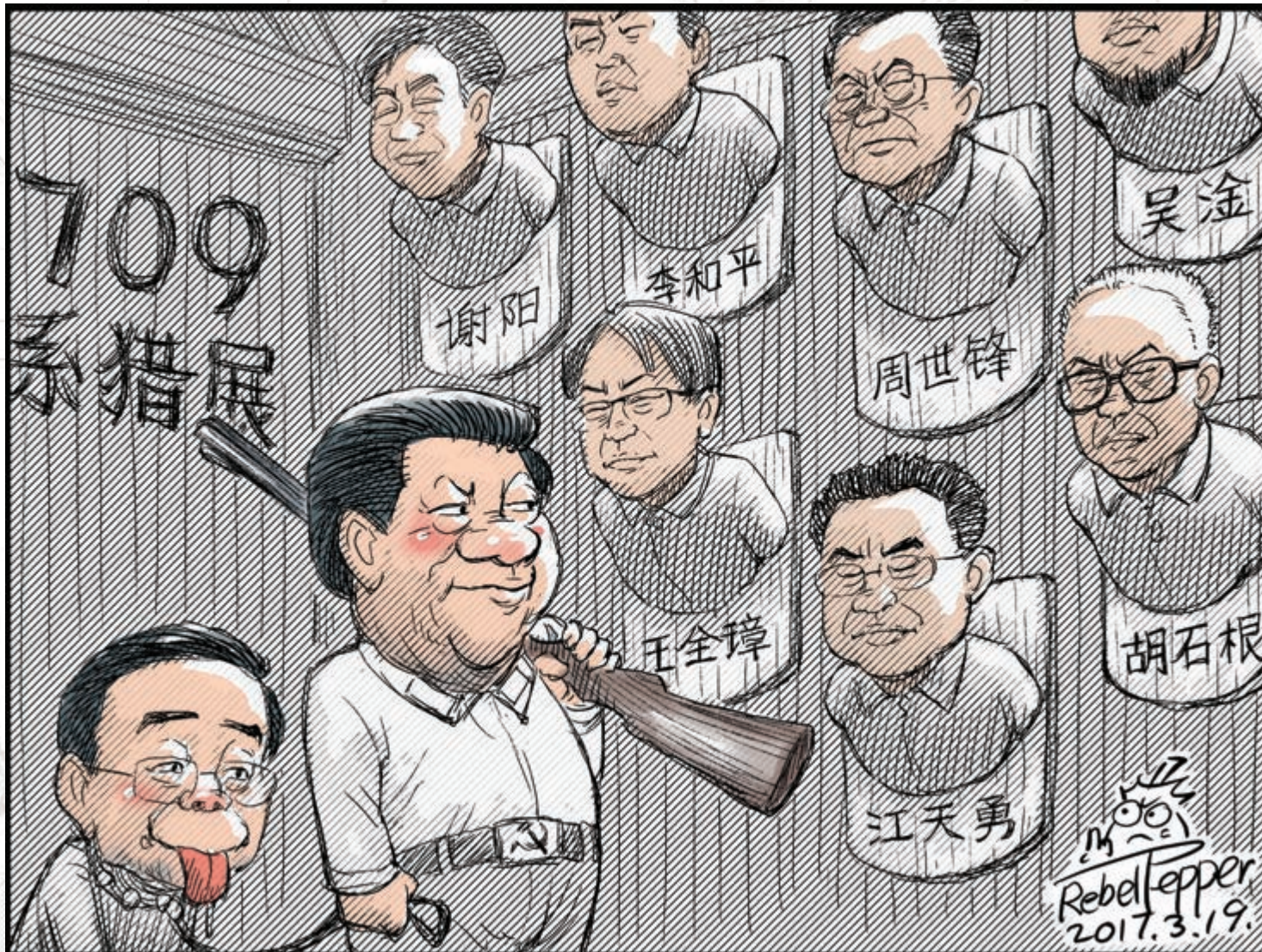
2017-04-13



CHINESE PRESIDENT XI JINPING CONSOLIDATES POWER WITHIN RULING COMMUNIST PARTY

He has no designated successor
in China's all-powerful Politburo
Standing Committee.

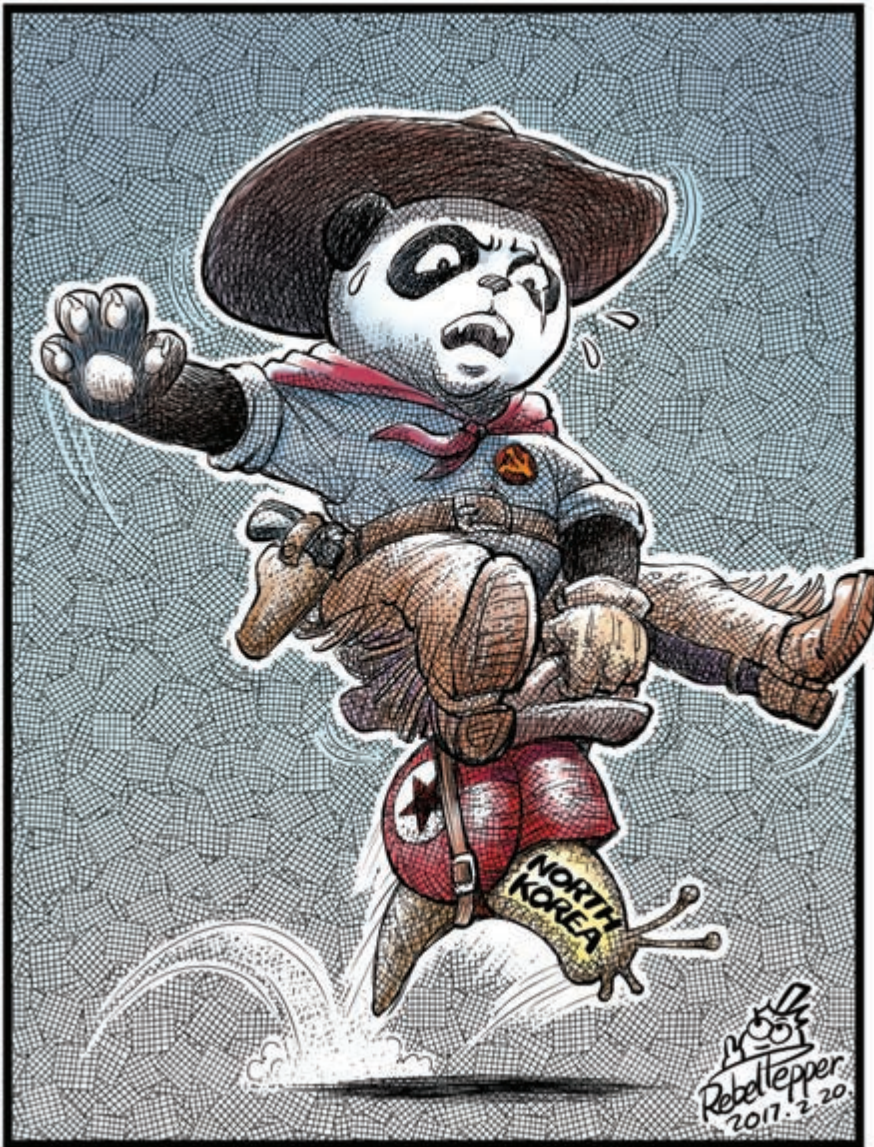
2017-11-04



CHINA'S SWEEPING CRACKDOWN ON HUMAN RIGHTS LAWYERS

Since July, 2015, Chinese authorities have rounded up scores of leading human rights lawyers. Many have not been heard from since.

2017-03-19



NORTH KOREA GIVES MAIN ALLY CHINA BUMPY RIDE

Tiny, poor North Korea, while highly dependent on China for food and energy, rarely listens to Beijing as it challenges neighbors and the U.S. with its nuclear weapons program.

2017-02-20



US, CHINA SPAR OVER TAIWAN POLICY

U.S. President-elect Donald Trump ruffled feathers in China when he took a phone call from Taiwan President Tsai Yingwen.

2017-02-13



NOBODY IS SAFE FROM XI'S CRACKDOWN

Social media accounts focusing on entertainment gossip were shuttered in June 2017, long after sites discussing law and politics were shut down. No topic appears safe from Xi Jinping's war on free speech.

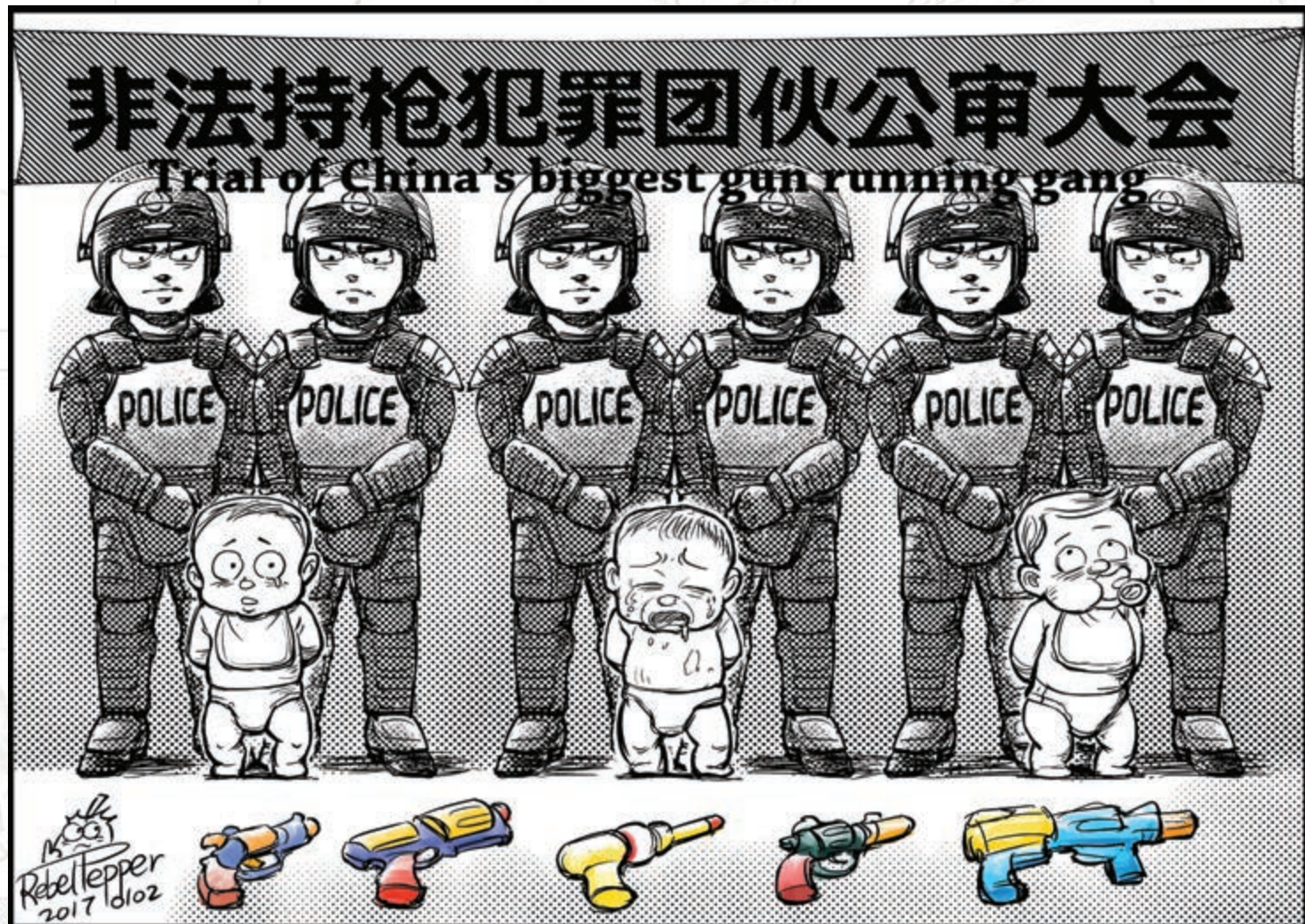
2017-07-01



CHINA PUNCHES A HOLE IN THE ONE-COUNTRY, TWO-SYSTEMS FORMULA FOR HONG KONG

Wealthy mainland businessman Xiao Jianhua, who had close ties to powerful Communist Party officials, was kidnapped by security agents from his Hong Kong residence and taken to China, raising fears about rule of law in Hong Kong.

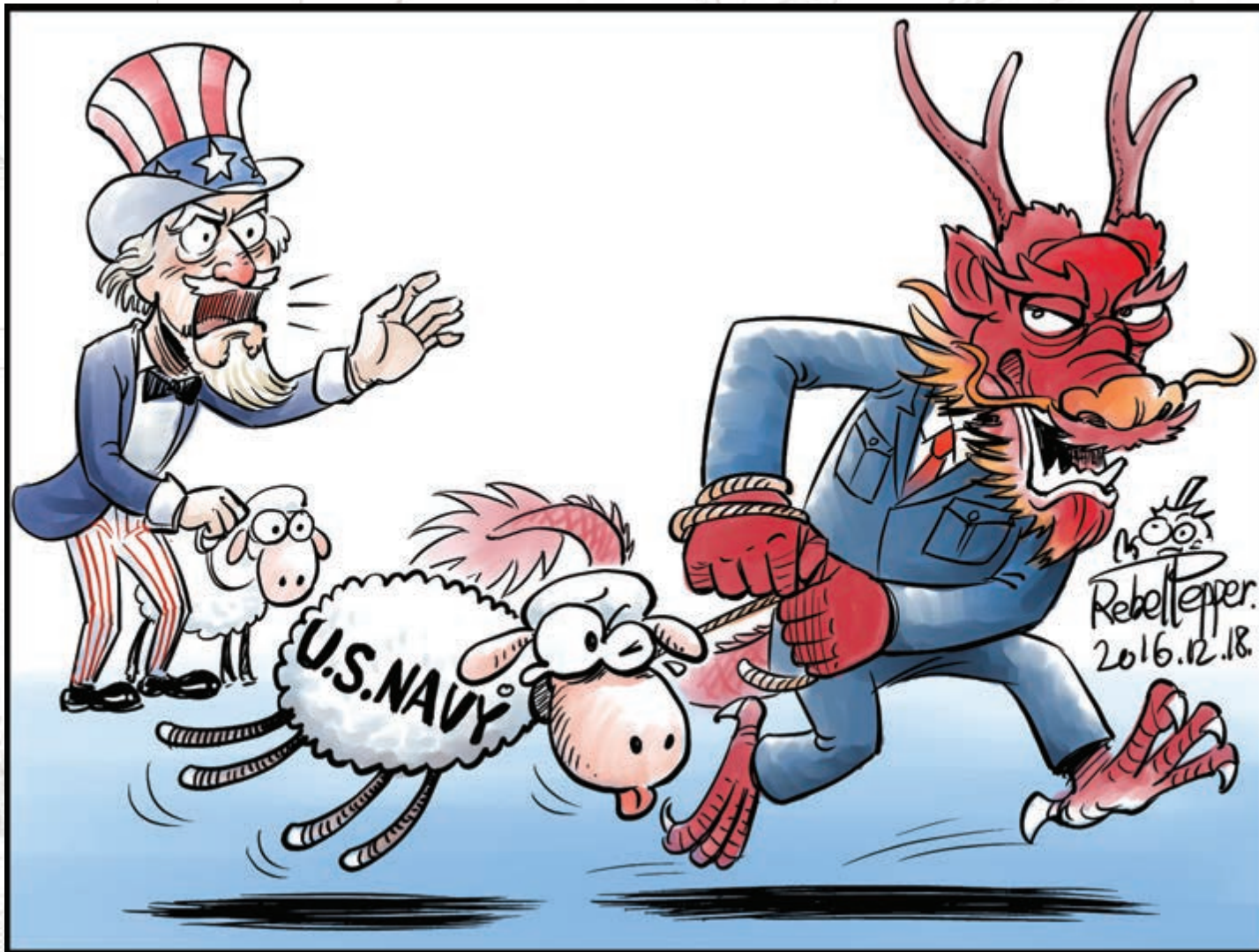
2017-02-02



CHINA PUTS GUNRUNNERS ON TRIAL

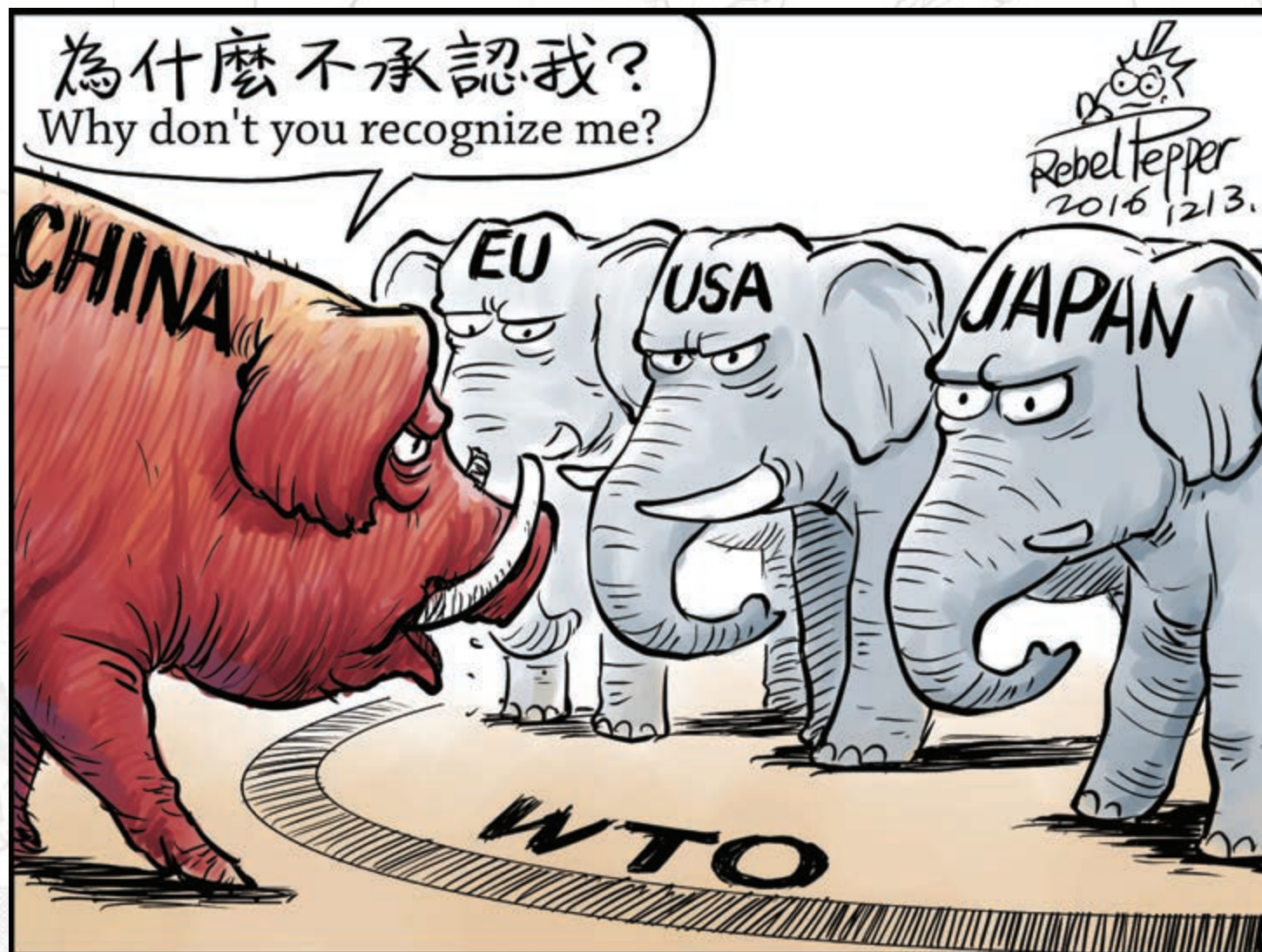
In late 2016, a woman in the northern city of Tianjin was jailed for 3.5 years for illegal possession of firearms. The guns in question were toy air rifles the woman used in a balloon shooting booth for children.

2017-01-02



CHINA SNATCHES A US NAVY DRONE IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

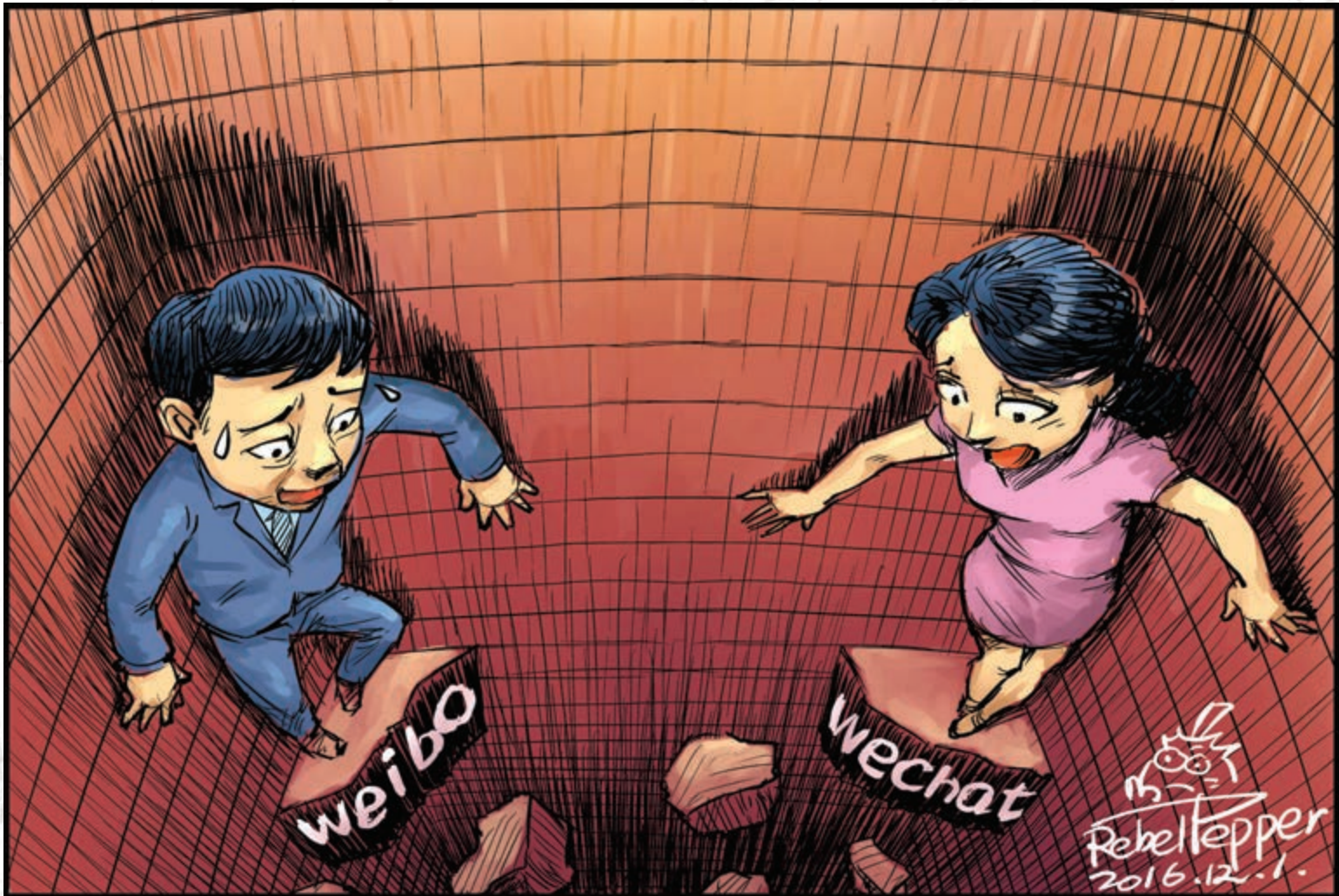
In an incident on December 15, 2016, China's navy snatched a US Navy underwater drone during operations in international waters in the South China Sea -- a move seen by some as lawless but lauded by nationalistic media in China.



CHINA CHAFES AT WTO PARTNERS

The U.S., EU, and Japan – key players in the World Trade Organization – remain unwilling to describe China as a market economy.

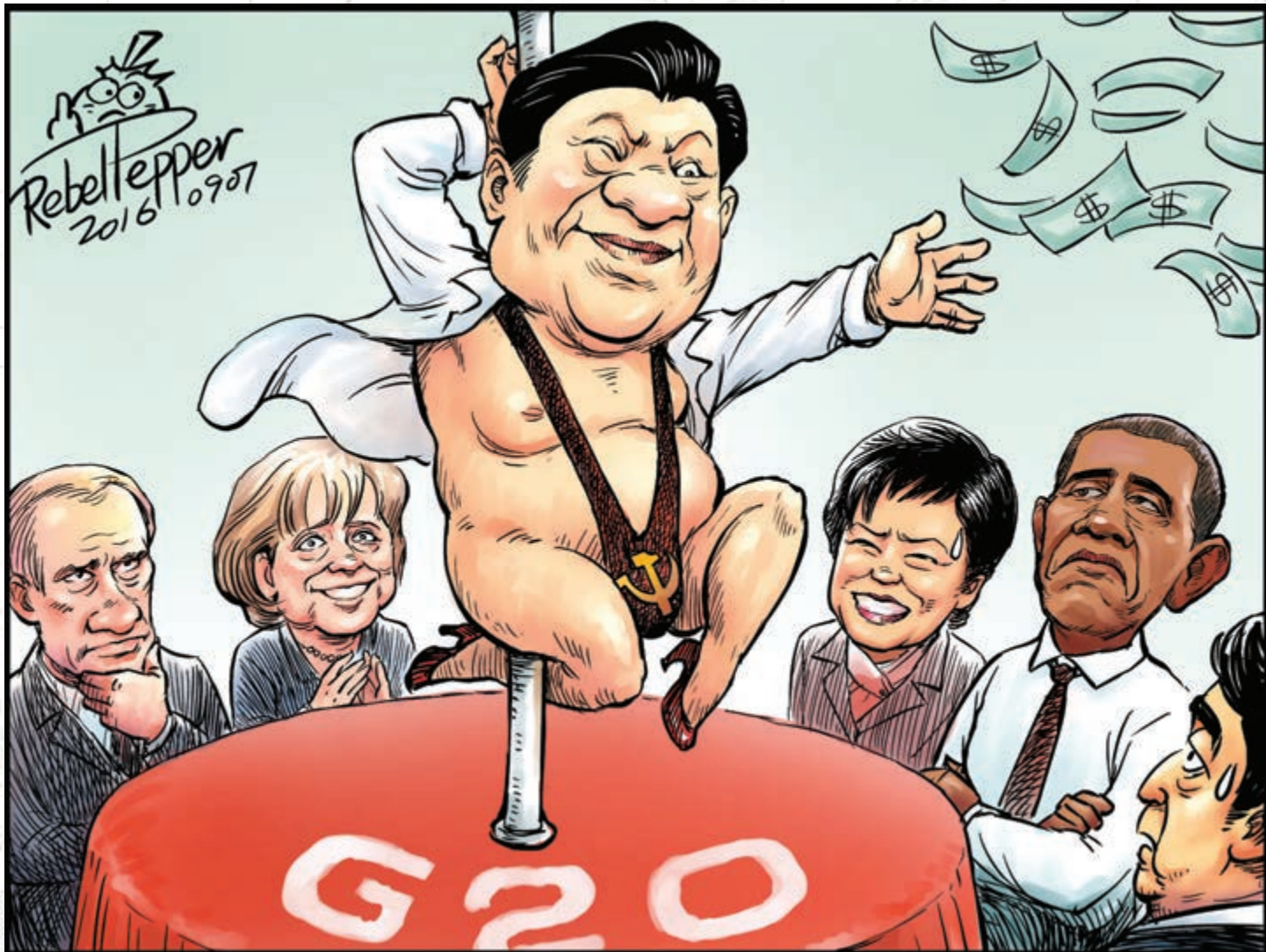
2016-12-13



CHINA'S CRACKDOWN ON POPULAR MESSAGING AND BLOGGING APPS PUTS THEM IN A DIFFICULT PLACE

Draconian policies that censor content on China's most popular messaging apps make life difficult for the tech firms and their users.

2016-12-01



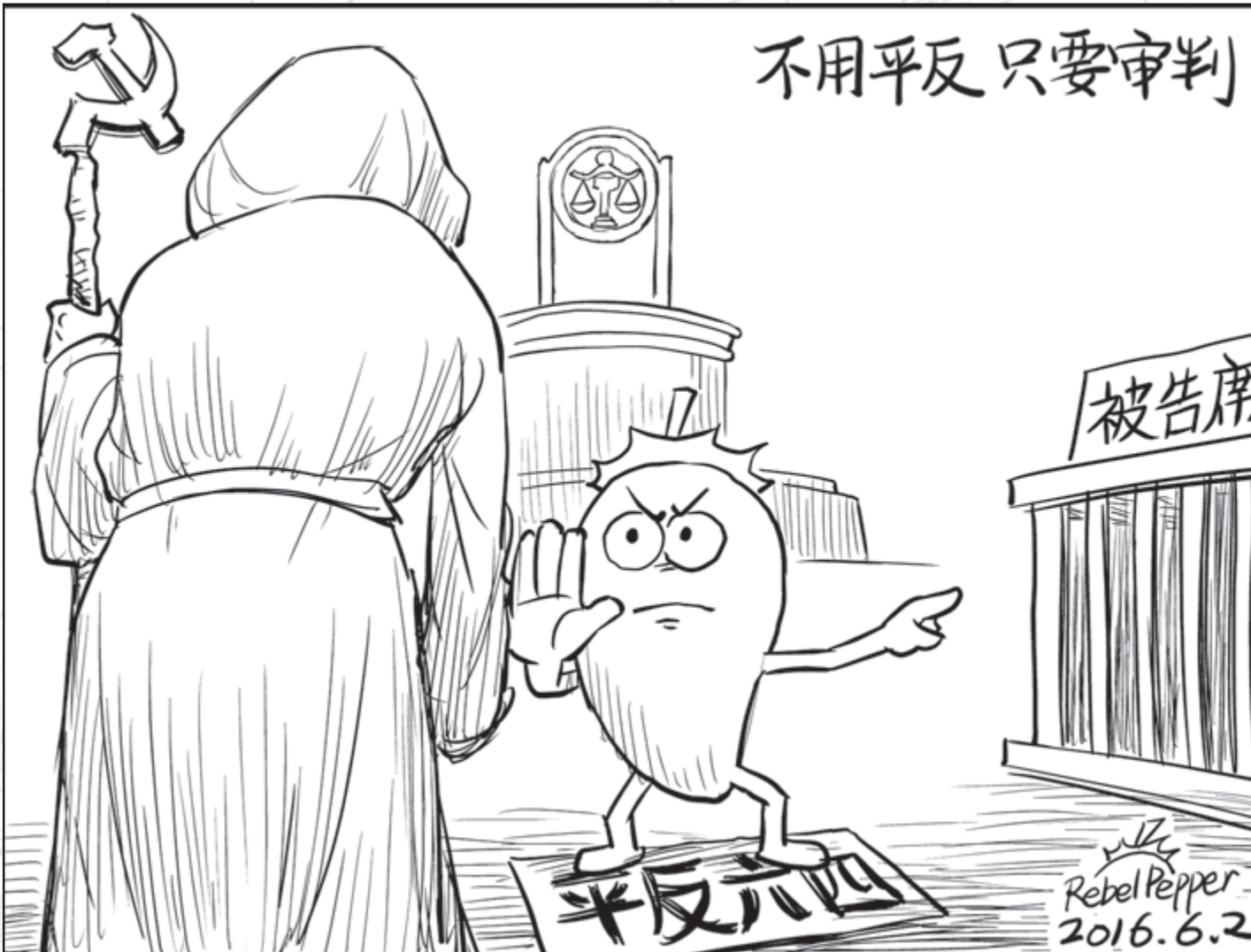
MIXED REVIEWS FOR CHINESE PRESIDENT XI JINPING ON THE WORLD STAGE

As China's global clout expands, some world leaders (South Korea and Germany) are impressed, some (Japan) are scared, and others (U.S., Russia) appear unimpressed.



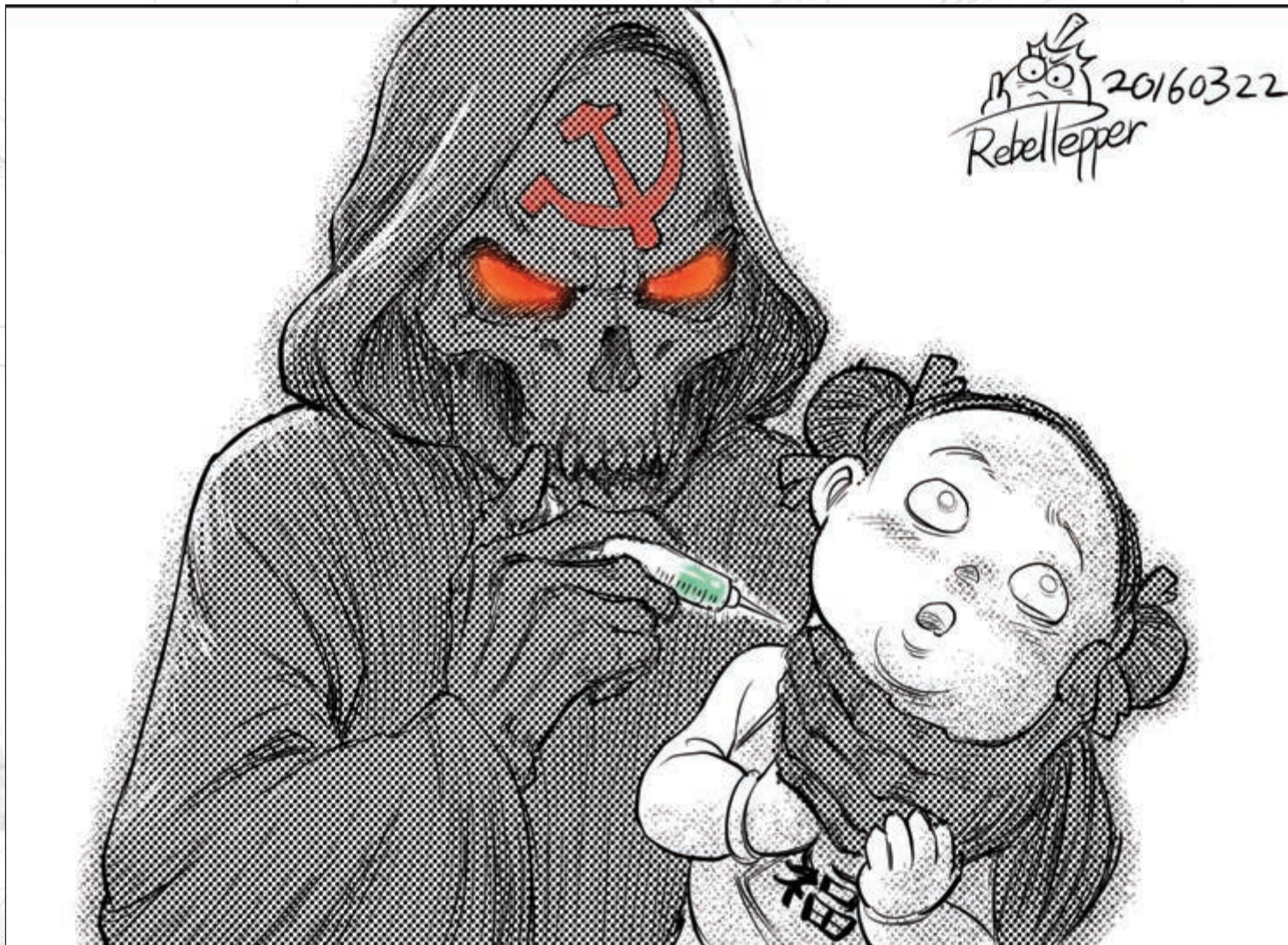
LAWYERS MAKE SELF-INCRIMINATING FORCED CONFESSIONS

Lawyer Wang Yu, one of the most prominent human rights defenders caught up in a crackdown launched on July 9, 2015, was forced to appear on state television and confess to crimes.



CALLS TO REEVALUATE THE COMMUNIST PARTY VERDICT ON JUNE 4, 1989 ARE REPEATED EVERY JUNE

Instead of reviewing the tragic Tiananmen Massacre and the verdict that it was a counter-revolutionary rebellion, China cracks down on those who call for accountability for the hundreds or more deaths.



DEADLY VACCINE SCANDAL

A massive six-year scandal involving sales of out-dated vaccines originating in Shandong Province sickened children and angered parents in more than 20 provinces and cities.

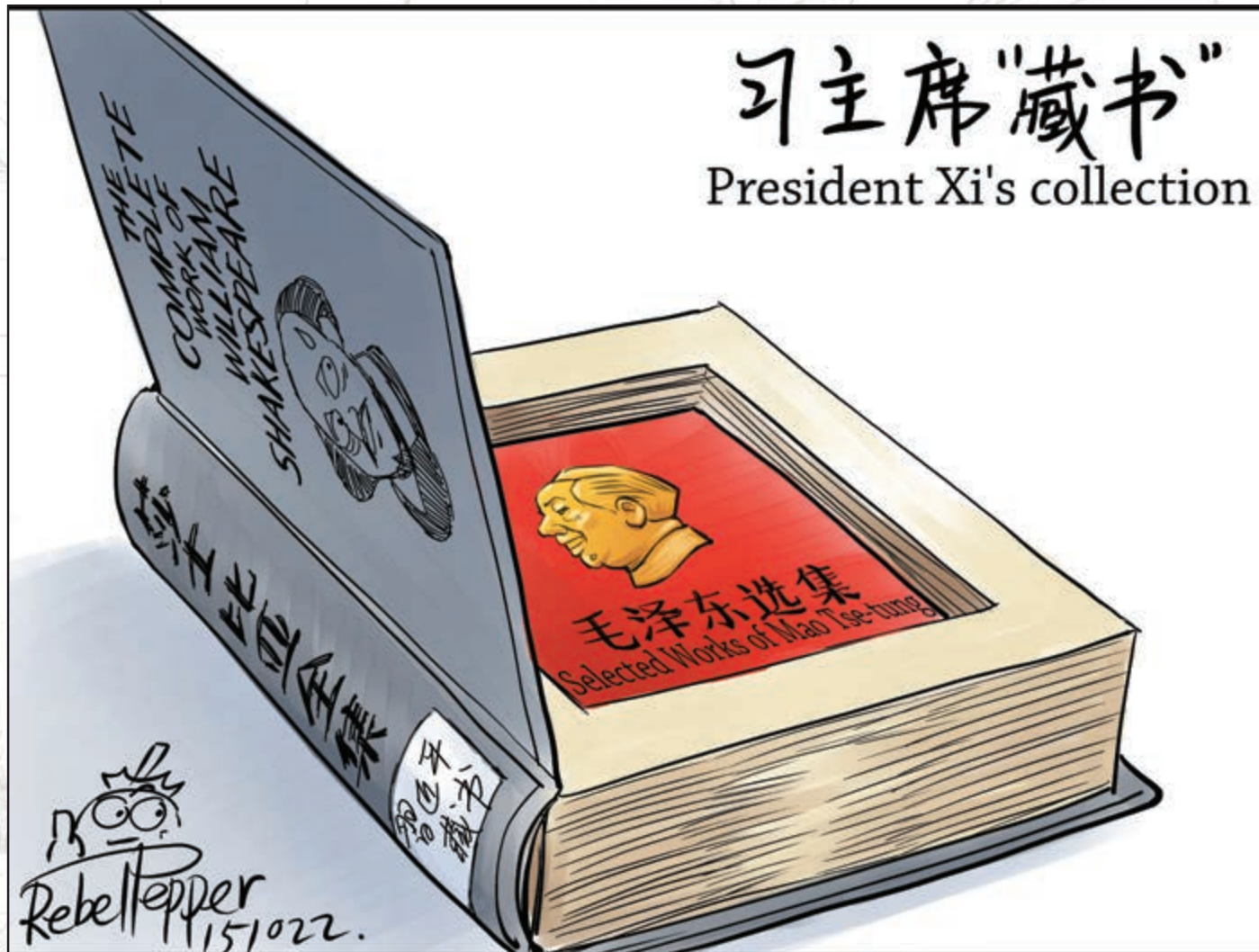
2016-03-22



NAGGING SMOG UNDERCUTS CHINA'S HIGH-PROFILE CLIMATE CHANGE PLEDGES

The horrific air quality that often plagues China's cities makes it hard to take Beijing's pledges to lead on climate change seriously.

2015-12-02



XI JINPING'S HOLLOW BOOKISHNESS

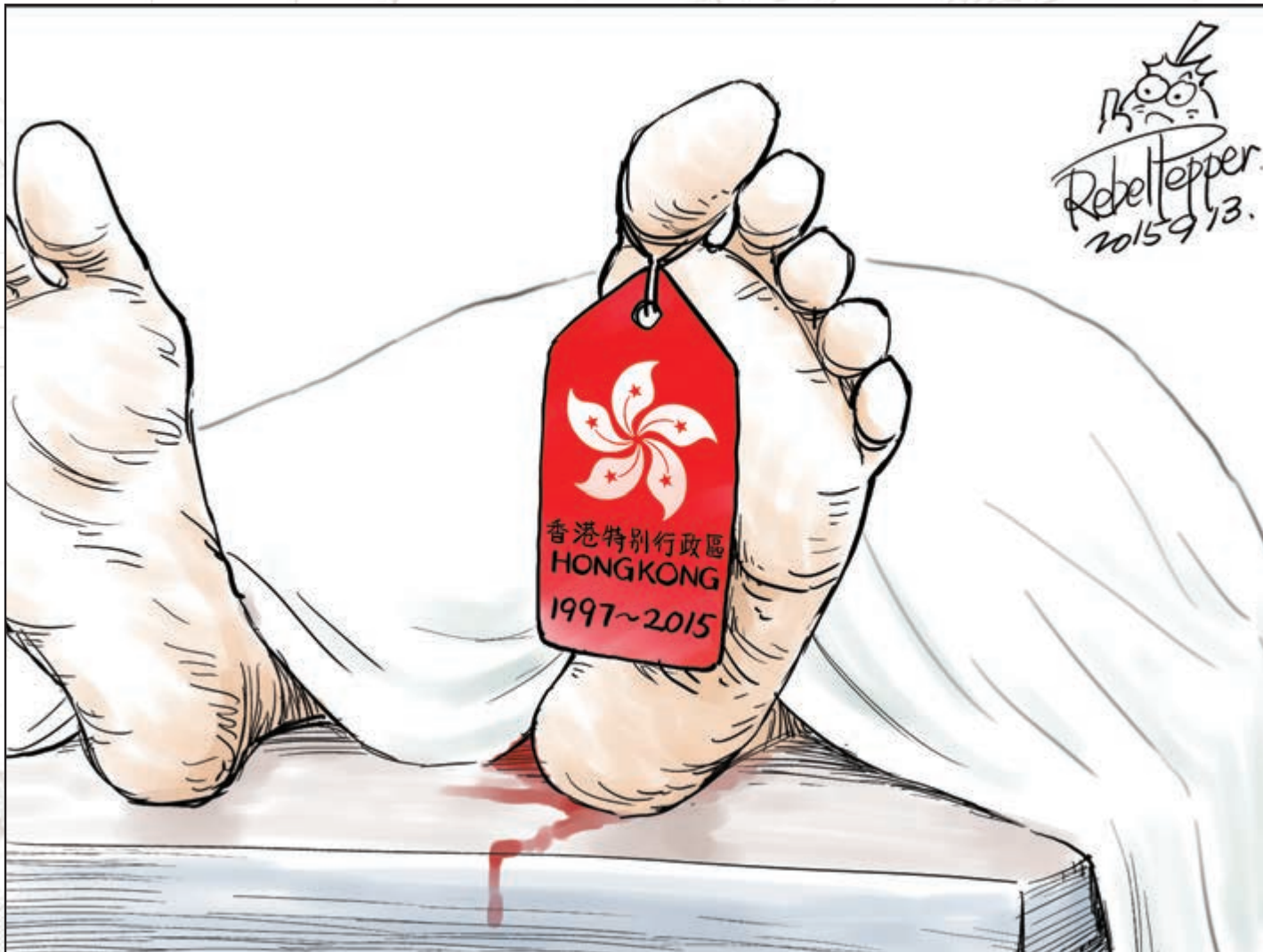
When traveling to foreign countries, Chinese President Xi Jinping makes it a point to drop the names of his hosts' most famous authors. His authoritarian policies, however, suggest that he may not have read Western classics and instead draws inspiration from Mao Zedong's Little Red Book.



CHINA'S EXTRATERRITORIAL PURSUIT OF DISSENTERS

In the summer of 2015, China illegally snatched publishers of books critical of the Communist Party and its leaders from Hong Kong and Thailand, raising fears in the exile community.

2015-10-11



THE HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY PROMISED HONG KONG IS SLOWLY TAKEN AWAY

Political interference from Beijing has repeatedly infringed on the self-rule the Hong Kong Special Autonomous Region was promised when the former British colony came under Chinese rule in 1997.

2015-09-13



CHINA'S GROWING MILITARY MIGHT RAISES CONCERNS

The image of China's military remains indelibly connected to the Tiananmen Square crackdown of June 1989.

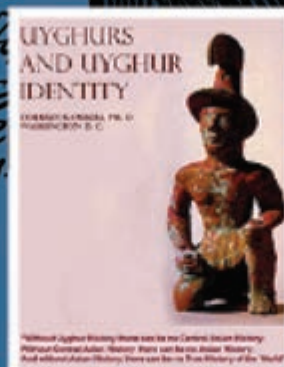
2015-09-02



CHINA STRUGGLES WITH A STOCK MARKET SLIDE

A plunging stock market fails to respond to a host of interventions by China to stop the slide.

2015-07-04



Donald J. Trump, Jr.
Donald J. Trump, Jr.



For more Information and ebooks:
<http://www.rfa.org/english/bookshelf>



**REBEL
PEPPER**
RADIO FREE ASIA

Rebel Pepper
06.29.17.

我煙真普選

為什麼

CHINA

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