



中文基本功

第一次世界大戰未有奧地利 俄國十月革命成功未有蘇聯

十月十六日，聽香港電台《古今風雲人物》講列寧，覺得主持人講得雜亂無章，毫無系統，而且有不少錯處：講第一次世界大戰，提到巴爾幹小國，居然有奧地利，此其一錯；講十月革命即提到蘇聯，此其二錯；第一次世界大戰究竟是哪一方對哪一方，從無清晰交代，由此而衍生出某些錯誤，此其三錯。這都是錯得比較嚴重；其餘小錯也就不提了。

首先，第一次世界大戰期間，歐洲並無「奧地利」這個「巴爾幹」的小國。其時，奧地利是「同盟國」奧匈帝國的一部分，尚未分離為一個獨立國；即使後來獨立了，位置也不在巴爾幹半島。僅此一點，顯出主持人對歐洲近代史及地理的認識水準如何。

其次，十月革命成功，向未有所謂「蘇聯」。儘管俄國經過這次革命，各地陸續建立蘇維埃政權，仍然是俄國，稱為蘇維埃俄國，簡稱蘇俄，不是當時尚未存在的「蘇聯」。待五年後，俄國和其他三個也建立蘇維埃政權的國家組成蘇維埃社

會主義共和國聯盟，才簡稱蘇聯。《古今風雲人物》主持人之所以把「蘇俄」和「蘇聯」兩個名詞混淆，可能受西方或受台灣影響。西方國家，一直認為蘇聯完全組成後，其領土範圍，跟舊日帝制時代的俄國一樣，所以把蘇聯稱為蘇俄。蔣介石退往台灣後，著有《蘇俄在中國》一書（執筆人為陶希聖），所指「蘇俄」，實即「蘇聯」。

最後要談到第一次世界大戰了。這場大戰，戰場在歐洲，本該叫歐洲大戰；由於影響到非、亞乃至美洲，所以叫世界大戰。這次大戰，因奧匈帝國皇太子斐迪南在薩拉熱窩被刺殺而觸發，組成「同盟國」的德意志帝國、奧匈帝國和土耳其帝國，與組成「協約國」的俄羅斯帝國、英吉利王國（今稱大不列顛及北愛爾蘭聯合王國）與法蘭西共和國，兩陣對圓大殺三方。這種戰時態勢，《古今風雲人物》主持人沒有交代，看來對此認識模糊，才會把當時未存在的奧地利共和國當作巴爾幹小國。

容若



Washington's China policy will become rational again

The slogan "Change!", that had enabled Barack Obama to enter and host the White House, now seems to have lost its momentum and attraction to Obama and his Democratic Party. Nevertheless "Change" has been witnessed in the mid-term election of the US Congress. The mid-term election, that has been raising a big fuss, now comes to an end at last. The results are well within expectations. The ruling Democratic Party suffered a big setback in the election, losing its control of the House and just managed to keep a marginal majority in the Senate. The reality of a split Congress not only deals a heavy blow to the Democratic Party but also serves a bad omen for the Obama's attempt for re-election as US president.

As for the Chinese people, they are more concerned with the impact of the results of the mid-term election on the complicated and often puzzling Sino-US relations. In quite a long period of time during the mid-term election, some American politicians had consistently held China responsible for economic problems in their own country, blaming China's exports and the exchange rate of renminbi (RMB) for the huge deficit and constantly high unemployment rate in the US. In this way they attempted to divert public attention so as to ride out their mid-term election predicament. This has intensified trade friction between China and the United States, resulting in upheavals in their relations.

In the run-up to the election, many analyses had already pointed out that the results of the election - whatever they might be - could hardly bring any big change to Sino-US relations. For, Sino-US relations are built on the basis of mutual benefits and interests, and the process of the development of Sino-US relations in fact is one in which their interests are being adjusted and tested. Determined by such a nature, Sino-US relations will hardly undertake any big change due to the struggle between the Democratic Donkey and Republic Elephant. Nor will there be a qualitative adjustment in Sino-US relations because of the results of the mid-term election. With the mid-term election coming to an end, the "hot topic of China" as election rhetoric will gradually cool down, and Sino-US relations will tend to become more rational and practical.

Right now, the US economy has yet to walk out of the shadow of the economic and financial crisis. The steps of its economic recovery are heavy and Washington has to continue launching the quantitative easing (QE) monetary policy one around after another. In Asia, China is leading the way to economic recovery. Such a big contrast is evidence that China is indispensable for the United States.

Needless to say, China and the United State have common interests not only in economy but also in international relations. However, for a long period of time, Sino-US relations have had to make advancement through hardships and difficulties out of conflicts and frictions. In recent times, in particular, the US is speeding up its "comeback to Asia" in an attempt to become the leader of Asia. It has been making a fuss over the incident of the sinking of The Cheonan (a South Korean navy ship), the South China Sea issue and, lately, the dispute between China and Japan over the sovereignty of the Daiyou Islands, in an attempt to contain China and to impede China's rise. All this has further complicated the development of relations between the two countries.

China's rise and the US's efforts to safeguard its status as the "Big Brother" of

the world do not irreconcilably contradict each other. The two countries can absolutely find some way for coexistence. China's rise does not threaten the US and its allies. Instead, because of the foreseeable good tendency of China's economic development and the elevation of China's international status, China's rise can surely make a dramatic impact on and stimulate the US economy and the world economy, and make greater contributions to peace in the world and the region. This also provides a foundation of common interests for Sino-US relations.

The setback of the Democratic Party in the mid-term election is a manifestation of US public's urgent demands for economic recovery and improvement of people's livelihood. The US absolutely cannot overlook the importance of Sino-US relations, as China is its important trade partner and the holder of the largest amount of US treasury bonds. Sino-US cooperation is not a zero-sum game. Instead the development of Sino-US relations is an inevitable trend. How to improve and advance Sino-US relations is a problem the Obama administration must deal with seriously after the mid-term election. China and the United States must foster sincere cooperation and pull together to promote the construction of an overall cooperative relationship in the 21st century. This is in favour of the development of both countries, and in favour of the development of the world as well.

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WORDS AND USAGE :

- 1 Fuss (noun) - A show of excitement, annoyance, anxiety or dissatisfaction, usually one which is greater than the situation deserves. (喧鬧, 大驚小怪)
Examples: 1. It is all a fuss about nothing. (小題大做, 無事生非) 2. She made such a big fuss when Tom spilt a drop of wine on her dress.
2 Ride sth out (phrasal verb) - To manage to survive a difficult period or situation. (安然渡過 (難關))
Examples: 1. Do you think we can ride out this latest crisis? 2. Many companies did not manage to ride out the recession.
3 Result in sth (phrasal verb) - To make something happen. (造成, 導致)
Examples: 1. The accident resulted in three deaths. 2. The experiment resulted in the discovery of a cure for cancer.
4 Lead the way (idiom) - Be the first to do or develop something. (領先, 引領)
Examples: 1. That research group leads the way in developing new software. 2. The company has been leading the way in networking applications for several years.
5 Pull together (phrasal verb) - To work hard as a team in order to achieve something. (齊心協力)
Examples: 1. We don't have much time but if we pull together we should be able to get the job done. 2. If we pull together, success is certain.

觸景立畫

題目：怪物

怪物聽來總令小朋友感到恐怖，作者卻別出心裁將其塑造成精靈般的存在。姿態活潑、神情豐富的怪物們與左下角的小女孩一起暢遊在五彩繽紛的空間裡，背景以水墨畫獨有的暈染手法完成，再點綴上大大小小的眼睛，極富夢幻色彩。



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Soho Diary



Walking in Nature (I)

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I once joined a fundraising event of Oxfam HK: the Trail Walk (香港樂施會毅行者). It is an annual occasion which is so popular that a 'lucky draw' system is introduced to decide who can participate officially for the 100 km journey.

I found many unregistered participants, like me, taking advantage of the company of the hundreds of walkers and the facilities, like water, offered by the organiser.

I started at noon. At about 8 pm, I was exhausted and decided to drop out. I walked for an hour through a country park to take a minibus back to the city. For about 45 minutes, I walked alone in the dark, with a small torch.

I remembered the first time I got to know Nature: in a work camp in 1990, in the former East Germany while renovating an old house in a forest. It was a work camp after the political transformation. It created an opportunity for young people to gather together and think about their history.

Participants of the work camp stayed in a youth hostel near the forest. One Sunday, we were offered a party at the home of the camp leader in a nearby city. At about 8pm I was too tired to party on: physical work in the forest was nice but demanding.

The camp leader told me how to get a bus back to the hostel. I had been travelling alone in Eastern and Western Europe for nearly a year and thought it alright to go by myself. East Germany at that time appeared to be safe enough.

What I overlooked was Nature. Getting off the bus, there was no light and I was alone in the wilderness.

The hostel was about 20 minutes' walk from the main road and the path was enchanting during the day. Standing still for a while, I tried to rely on my sense. To my surprise, my legs carried me to the hostel.

In 1996, I took a trip to Northwest Greenland, the territory beyond the Arctic Circle (北極圈), alone for three months. I was in a way encouraged by my 1997 logic: no one knew what would happen after the handover, so one should do whatever one desired.

There was a strong desire in me to stay in a place where time would go slowly. Somehow some senses in me had got lost and needed to be found. That could be something primitive, even mysterious. Eventually I took the trip to Greenland and rediscovered Nature.

美選後對華關係應回歸理性

兩年令奧巴馬進入白宮的「改變」口號，對奧巴馬和他的民主黨似乎已經失去了推動力和吸引力，現在「改變」一詞卻在美國國會的中期選舉中顯現出來。鬧騰的美國中期選舉終於落幕，結果已經揭曉。不出人們所料，執政民主黨在這次選舉中慘敗，失去了對眾議院的控制權，只是勉強保住了參議院的多數黨地位。分裂國會的現實，不僅對執政的民主黨是一記重拳，對奧巴馬尋求連任，也是一個不祥的徵兆。

對於中國的民衆而言，更加關心的自然是選舉對撲朔迷離的中美關係將會產生怎樣的影響。在中期選舉期間，一段較長時間裡，美國的一些政客，總是將美國經濟問題的責任推卸到中國身上，將龐大的貿易赤字和居高不下的失業率，歸咎於中國的貿易出口和人民幣匯率問題，以此轉移民衆的視線，擺脫中期選舉的困境。這造成了中美貿易摩擦加劇，兩國關係出現陰晴多變的局面。

選舉之前，許多分析都表明，無論選舉結果如何，中美關係都不會有大的改變。原因在於，中美兩國的關係是建立在彼此互惠互惠基礎之上的，兩國關係的發展實際上是一個不斷的利益調試的過程。這種性質決定了中美關係並不會因為美國國內的驢象之爭而發生大的變化，不會因為美國國會中期選舉兩黨勢力的改變而有實質的調整。隨着中期選舉落幕，作為選舉語言「中國話題」會逐漸降溫，中美兩國關係將會更加趨於理性化、更加務實。

從目前的情況看，美國國內經濟尚未擺脫經濟金融危機的陰影，經濟復蘇步伐沉重，量化寬鬆的貨幣政策仍在持續地分階段推出。而在亞洲，中國已引領亞洲經濟率先步上復蘇道路。反差之間足見中國對美的不可或缺性。

當然，中美兩國的共同利益不僅存在於經濟上，在國際社會上，同樣有着共同的利益。然而長期以來，中美兩國的關係一直在矛盾和摩擦中艱難前行。尤其是近一段時間以來，美國加速「重返亞洲」，想要成為亞洲的領袖。美國藉「天安艦」事件、南海問題，最近又在中日間的釣魚島主權爭端問題上大做文章，欲圍堵中國，以此阻撓中國的崛起。這使得兩國關係發展更加複雜化。

中國的崛起和美國在世界上維持「大阿哥」地位，並不是一對不可調和的矛盾，兩國完全可以找到共處之路。中國的崛起，不僅不會威脅到美國及其盟國，而且由於中國經濟可以預見的良好發展趨勢，



美國民主黨於中期選舉大敗，對華外交須回歸理性務實以及國際社會地位的提升，完全可以對美國經濟及世界經濟產生巨大的影響和推動作用，為世界和地區和平作出更大貢獻。這也是21世紀中美兩國之間共同利益的基礎。

民主黨在中期選舉中的失利，反映了美國民衆對經濟復蘇和民生改善的要求迫切。中國作為美國重要的貿易夥伴和最大國債持有人，美國絕對不能忽視中美關係的重要性。中美合作不是零和遊戲，是必然的趨勢。改善並加快推進中美關係應該是奧巴馬政府在中期選舉後必須認真思考的問題。中美之間只有真誠地合作，「同舟共濟」，持續地推進建設21世紀積極合作全面的關係，才會對兩國未來的發展有利，對世界的發展有利。

2010/11/04 大公報社評

美中期選舉 選民倒向共和黨

美國總統選舉每4年舉行一次，國會選舉則每2年舉行一次。其中一次國會選舉與四年一度的大選即總統選舉同時舉行，另一次在兩屆總統選舉之間舉行。在兩次總統選舉之間舉行的國會選舉，通常被稱為中期選舉。美國參議員共100名，每州2人，任期6年，每2年改選約1/3。眾議員共435名，按各州人口比例分配名額選出，任期2年，期滿後全部改選。中期選舉也將改選多名州長。在2010年美國中期選舉中，435名聯邦眾議員將全部改選，另外改選37名聯邦參議員和37名州長。

2010年美國國會中期選舉選情空前激烈，整體支出逼近40

億美元，超過2006年中期選舉的28.5億美元，創下美國非總統選舉史上最高紀錄。

根據美國有線電視新聞網(CNN)11月3日公布的民調顯示，這次中期選舉裡，選民認為對國家未來發展最重要的因素，以經濟最多，佔52%；其次是赤字、教育、健保制度、戰爭和非法移民，各佔8%；恐怖主義和能源則各佔4%。民主黨輸掉眾院主權，主要是在經濟的問題上，加上奧巴馬政府和國會的運作方式令選民感到挫折，使得民主黨的重要支持者，包括婦女、獨立選票和郊區選民，紛紛倒向共和黨。

通識記憶體

