<u>Flight attendant who fell from plane</u> stable

A flight attendant who fractured a bone in her chest after falling from a stationary aircraft in Henan province is expected to be discharged from the hospital within a week, her employer, Xiamen Airlines, said on Saturday.

The accident occurred as workers were restocking a Boeing 737 during a stop at Zhengzhou Xinzheng International Airport on Friday afternoon. A video clip shared widely on Sina Weibo shows the flight attendant falling through a gap between the aircraft's tail door and a movable platform.

The flight made the stop in Zhengzhou en route from Fuzhou, Fujian province, to Lanzhou, Gansu province.

The injured woman was sent to the hospital and underwent surgery on Friday night. According to the airline, she is in stable condition and did not sustain any permanent damage.

The airline and airport are cooperating with civil aviation authorities to investigate the accident, the company said.

A similar incident occurred in late October involving a flight from Shenzhen, Guangdong province, to Tengchong, Yunnan province. A flight attendant fell from the tail door of an airliner as it was being prepared for takeoff at the Shenzhen airport. She suffered broken bones and bruises.

Evidence of Unit 731 atrocities found in US

Researchers at the Harbin Academy of Social Sciences in Heilongjiang province say they uncovered fresh evidence of germ warfare atrocities committed by Japan's Unit 731 in documents they found in the United States.

Four members of the International Center for Unit 731 Research found more than 2,300 pages of files about the notorious Japanese chemical warfare unit at the US National Archives, the Library of Congress and the Hoover Institution at Stanford University in September.

"The files, including medical theses, laboratory reports and Japanese soldiers' accounts, have great significance in filling in the blanks in the germ war archives," Liu Rujia, one of the team members, said on Friday. "They have both historical and academic value."

Unit 731 was a top-secret biological and chemical warfare research base set up in 1935 in Harbin by the Japanese military. It was the nerve center of Japan's biological warfare in China and Southeast Asia during World War II.

Among the files, a key part of a research report on epidemic prevention by Japan's military medical academy was discovered by the Chinese researchers.

The report comprises eight volumes, with 700 articles numbered 101 to 800. Some of its authors were core members of Unit 731.

"The report includes a great amount of research on Unit 731 in the field of germ warfare and is direct evidence proving that Unit 731 had an intimate relationship with the military medical academy," Liu said.

The pages include many handwritten notes in English, "but we have no idea who wrote them or what the notes were for", Liu said, adding that the notes will be explored further.

The group also had a parallel information-gathering operation looking at reports detailing experiments on live humans using biological organisms — anthrax, plague and glanders (an infectious disease that occurs mostly in horses but can affect humans and other animals).

In addition, they found magazines recording Japanese soldiers' activities in the Pingfang district of Harbin shortly before and during the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression (1931-45).

"The vivid words and photos in the magazines also provide powerful evidence," Liu said.

Liu said she and her colleagues spent seven years going through archives in the US to collect scattered wartime files left by Japanese forces.

"There are a large number of complex historical documents in the US about the germ warfare that await further research," Liu said. "In recent years, more experts on the subject have emerged and provided valuable academic insight."

The researchers photographed the documents they found and brought the pictures to China. After translating the documents, they will continue their research and raise public awareness, Liu said.

During the war, Unit 731 is known to have conducted experiments on living people to test the effectiveness of chemical and germ-releasing bombs.

Many civilians and prisoners of war from China, the Soviet Union, the Korean Peninsula and Mongolia perished at the hands of Japanese scientists. Some of the victims were children.

At least 3,000 people were used as human guinea pigs by Unit 731, and more than 300,000 people across China were killed by Japan's biological weapons, according to the Museum of Evidence of War Crimes by Japanese Army Unit 731 in Harbin.

East China hosts more German companies

A China-Germany new businesses cooperation zone in east China's Jiangsu Province is expected to be home to 100 German enterprises by 2020, local authorities said Sunday.

The government of Kunshan City said that the number of European and American companies in the zone will reach 200 (including German companies) with an annual output of 30 billion yuan (4.5 billion U.S. dollars) by then.

The China-Germany (Kunshan) small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) cooperation zone was approved by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology in May.

In neighboring Taicang City, an increasing number of German companies have come to the city since first German company settled there in 1993. They cover a wide range of fields, including high-end equipment manufacturing, auto parts and services.

There are more than 280 German companies in Taicang with an annual output value of more than 40 billion yuan, according to Shen Mi, Party chief of the city.

Around 20 new companies from Germany have come to the city every year.

Taicang has platforms to promote development of German SMEs there, including a cooperation and innovation park and a China-Germany international education park.

Beijing ranked China's most attractive city

Beijing ranks first among the most attractive cities in China on a list released by Baidu Map on Nov. 8.

Using location and traffic data, the research report reviews the attractiveness of 60 Chinese major cities from the perspectives of urban vitality and traffic congestions.

For the first time, Beijing ranks first in terms of attractiveness, possibly due to the capital's abundant resources in education, the report says.

Beijing's Olympic Forest Park also ranks first among the top 10 most popular parks in China for jogging on a list co-produced by Baidu Map and the fitness app Keep.

Specifically in Beijing, eight of its 10 most popular parks for joggers are locate in Chaoyang District. At the Olympic Forest Park, most of the joggers are between 18 to 34 years old, and the daily peak hour is at 9 p.m.

In terms of urban traffic congestions, the fall season saw congestion in first- and second-tier cities rise by 2.31 percent over the summer, largely contributed by the start of the new school year, large-scale urban constructions, and tourism during the peak holiday season in October.

<u>China strengthens protection of</u> <u>wetlands along Yangtze</u>

China will strengthen protection of wetlands along the Yangtze River economic belt to address pollution and reclamation challenges, said a senior forestry official on Saturday.

The State Forestry Administration will give more support in wetland restoration and construction of national wetland parks to provinces along the belt, said Wang Zhigao, head of the wetland protection and management center under the administration at an ecological forum in Wuhan, capital of Hubei Province.

China has about 53.6 million hectares of wetlands, or 4 percent of the world's total. The area of wetlands along the Yangtze accounts for one fifth of the country's total.

However, shrinking and degradation of wetlands pose a threat to the environment.

Since 2011, the central government has accumulatively invested more than 9 billion yuan (1.4 billion U.S. dollars) in wetland restoration and protection projects.

As a result, the country saw an increase of two million hectares of protected wetlands and 160,000 hectares of restored wetlands.