



UNIVERSITAT ROVIRA I VIRGILI

Cartoon Analysis

Ba Xiaoyan

2020-01-10

Cartoon Analysis

1. 打嘴仗



美伊战鼓擂得响，推特却成主战场。（来源：中国日报 蔡贻 英文《中国日报》2020年1月10日8版）

1. Lash out verbally

1.1. Translation: While the war drums are beating intensely in US and Iran, Twitter turns out to be the main battleground.

Source: China Daily 10th Jan, 2020, Edition 8th




1.2. Background: Under the decision of the US President, Donald Trump, US military made an assassination of a top Iranian commander, **Qassem Soleimani**, the head of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps-Quds Force, in January 3, 2020.





This assassination immediately caused a chain of consequences. The relationship between US and Iran turned into frozen and intense. A war seems about to start...

1.3. Relative internet information:




Cartoon Analysis





1. Lash out verbally

 **Donald J. Trump**  @realDonaldTrump · Jan 3 
....of PROTESTERS killed in Iran itself. While Iran will never be able to properly admit it, Soleimani was both hated and feared within the country. They are not nearly as saddened as the leaders will let the outside world believe. He should have been taken out many years ago!

 10.8K  30.6K  143.4K 


[Show this thread](#)

 **Donald J. Trump**  @realDonaldTrump · Jan 3 
General Qassem Soleimani has killed or badly wounded thousands of Americans over an extended period of time, and was plotting to kill many more...but got caught! He was directly and indirectly responsible for the death of millions of people, including the recent large number....

 26.5K  55K  246.4K 

[Show this thread](#)




 **Donald J. Trump**  @realDonaldTrump · Jan 3 
Iran never won a war, but never lost a negotiation!





 41.5K  65K  331K 

 **Donald J. Trump**  @realDonaldTrump · Jan 4 
....targeted 52 Iranian sites (representing the 52 American hostages taken by Iran many years ago), some at a very high level & important to Iran & the Iranian culture, and those targets, and Iran itself, WILL BE HIT VERY FAST AND VERY HARD. The USA wants no more threats!




 63.1K  64.1K  273.7K 





[Show this thread](#)

 **Donald J. Trump**  @realDonaldTrump · Jan 4 
....hundreds of Iranian protesters. He was already attacking our Embassy, and preparing for additional hits in other locations. Iran has been nothing but problems for many years. Let this serve as a WARNING that if Iran strikes any Americans, or American assets, we have....

 8.3K  41.5K  194.5K 



[Show this thread](#)

 **Donald J. Trump**  @realDonaldTrump · Jan 4 
Iran is talking very boldly about targeting certain USA assets as revenge for our ridding the world of their terrorist leader who had just killed an American, & badly wounded many others, not to mention all of the people he had killed over his lifetime, including recently....

 35.5K  66.3K  296.7K 



Cartoon Analysis

1. Lash out verbally

 **Donald J. Trump**  @realDonaldTrump · Jan 5



These Media Posts will serve as notification to the United States Congress that should Iran strike any U.S. person or target, the United States will quickly & fully strike back, & perhaps in a disproportionate manner. Such legal notice is not required, but is given nevertheless!

102.3K 85.1K 382.1K

 **Donald J. Trump**  @realDonaldTrump · Jan 5

The United States just spent Two Trillion Dollars on Military Equipment. We are the biggest and by far the BEST in the World! If Iran attacks an American Base, or any American, we will be sending some of that brand new beautiful equipment their way...and without hesitation!

120.2K 147.6K 687.1K



 **Donald J. Trump**  @realDonaldTrump · Jan 5

They attacked us, & we hit back. If they attack again, which I would strongly advise them not to do, we will hit them harder than they have ever been hit before!



 **Donald J. Trump**  @realDonaldTrump · Jan 6

IRAN WILL NEVER HAVE A NUCLEAR WEAPON!



81.2K 88.3K 474.9K

 **Donald J. Trump**  @realDonaldTrump · Jan 8

All is well! Missiles launched from Iran at two military bases located in Iraq. Assessment of casualties & damages taking place now. So far, so good! We have the most powerful and well equipped military anywhere in the world, by far! I will be making a statement tomorrow morning.



 **Donald J. Trump**  @realDonaldTrump · 20h

To the brave, long-suffering people of Iran: I've stood with you since the beginning of my Presidency, and my Administration will continue to stand with you. We are following your protests closely, and are inspired by your courage.

 **Donald J. Trump**  @realDonaldTrump · 19h

The government of Iran must allow human rights groups to monitor and report facts from the ground on the ongoing protests by the Iranian people. There can not be another massacre of peaceful protesters, nor an internet shutdown. The world is watching.

15.7K 43K 181.2K

 **Donald J. Trump**  @realDonaldTrump · 4h

To the leaders of Iran - DO NOT KILL YOUR PROTESTERS. Thousands have already been killed or imprisoned by you, and the World is watching. More importantly, the USA is watching. Turn your internet back on and let reporters roam free! Stop the killing of your great Iranian people!

15.8K 41.8K 178.5K

Cartoon Analysis

1. Lash out verbally

Hassan Rouhani ✓

@HassanRouhani

President of the Islamic Republic of Iran 🇮🇷



Hassan Rouhani ✓ @HassanRouhani · Jan 3

The flag of General Soleimani in defense of the country's territorial integrity and the fight against terrorism and extremism in the region will be raised, and the path of resistance to US excesses will continue. The great nation of Iran will take revenge for this heinous crime.

8.9K 14.8K 42.9K



Hassan Rouhani ✓ @HassanRouhani · Jan 6

Those who refer to the number 52 should also remember the number 290. #IR655
Never threaten the Iranian nation.

5.7K 6.8K 29.5K



Hassan Rouhani ✓ @HassanRouhani · Jan 8

General Soleimani fought heroically against ISIS, Al Nusra, Al Qaeda et al. If it weren't for his war on terror, European capitals would be in great danger now.
Our final answer to his assassination will be to kick all US forces out of the region.

3.4K 9.2K 34.9K

52 American hostages refers to: those 52 Americans were taken hostage for about 444 days by Iran at the United States Embassy from 1979 to 1981.

The number **290** refers to: 290 people killed on Iran Air flight IR655 in 1988, which was a schedule passenger flight from Tehran to Dubai, was shot down by a guided missile cruiser of US Navy. There were 66 children among these 290 passengers.

1. Lash out verbally

1.4. Personal analysis:

Why: Nowadays a real war is not easy to start. No country, no party, no politic, no people is really intend to start a real war. More is about economic war, economic sanctions. No matter Trump or Iran president, they both know their country do not allow them easily start the real war. But on this intense assassination, Iran government should have some reaction at least in front of angry Iranian public. As far Trump, he's talkative everyday on twitter. There is no surprise he was arguing or threatening there.

Recently, Trump got lots of impeachments from US. He made this big distraction to the public, to face the coming election. It could be a smart move to Trump himself.

And from Iran side, firstly I doubt the top government really wants to fight with US. Second, if they do, they must be really careful, Iran VS US, the battle would be very tough.

So no one or country made any furious or severe action, but on twitter.

Lashing out on twitter verbally is the lowest cost, and all public could see it.

Cartoon Analysis

2. 儿戏



美国视国际规则为儿戏，其鲁莽行为恐将世界拖向战争的深渊。（来源：中国日报 罗杰 英文《中国日报》2020年1月9日8版）

2. Game

2.1. Translation: The United States trifles with international rules, and its reckless behavior may drag the world into war.

Source: China Daily 9th Jan, 2020, Edition 8th

2.2. Background: Under the decision of the US President, Donald Trump, US military made an assassination of a top Iranian commander, **Qassem Soleimani**, the head of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps-Quds Force, in January 3, 2020 by air striking in Iraq.

2.3. Analysis: Trump is playing golf in this cartoon with a happy face, while the ball is an egg in a nest. And the bird mother is very angry, and trying to protect its baby egg by biting Trump's hat. However, Trump doesn't notice this and about to swing. And the hole is very big, deep and dark. And the bird seems very helpless and weak. It shows US is very aggressive, bossy, no empathy and no mercy, treating other's life and future as an entertaining game.

Cartoon Analysis

3. 呐喊



塑料垃圾灾害让人类恐慌。(来源: 中国日报 Angel Boligan 英文《中国日报》2020年1月8日8版)

3. Yell

3.1. Translation: The disaster of plastic waste disaster scares human beings.

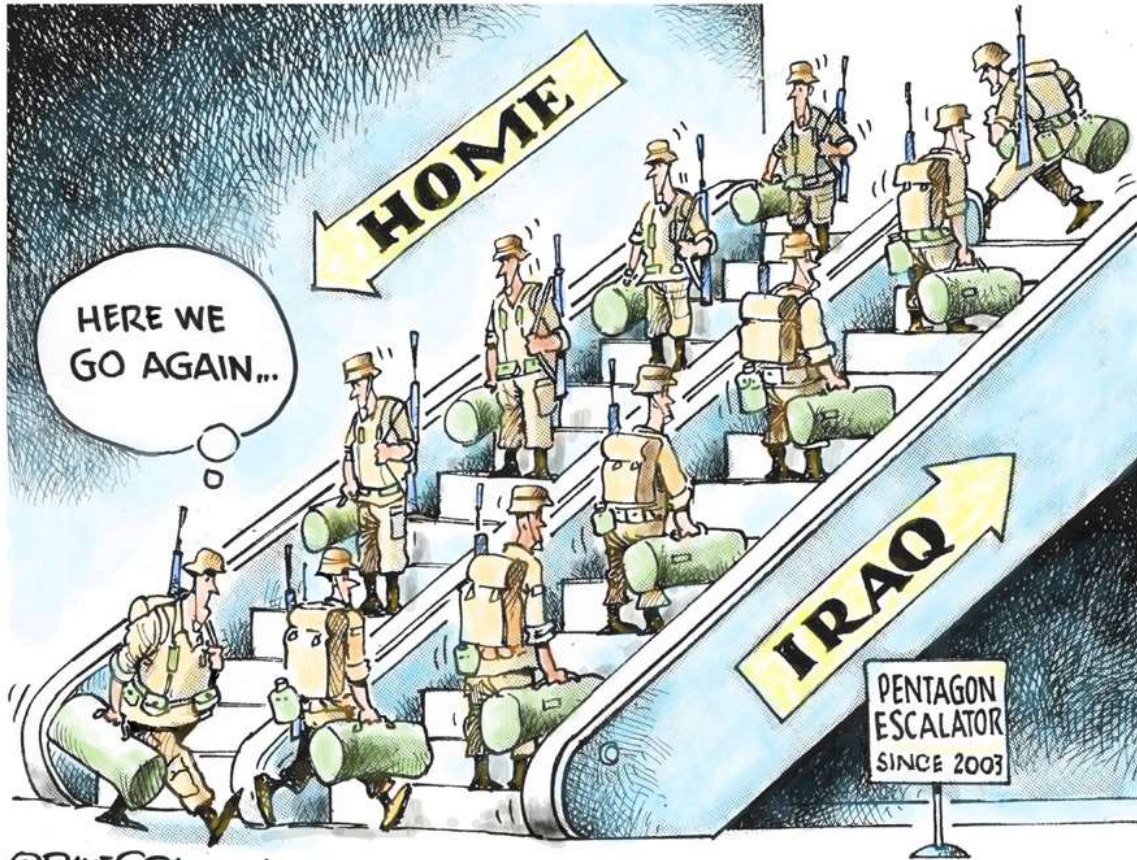
Source: China Daily 8th Jan, 2020, Edition 8th

3.2. Background: Nowadays people all over the world are consuming lots of plastic products, especial convenient plastic bags, which have badly influence on the earth as well as our health.

3.3. Analysis: Plastic products, esp. plastic bags are very hard to degraded when discarded carelessly and exposed in our environment. With time, there are more and more plastic bags. Some even are found in remote oceans, in bodies of deep ocean fishes. What's worse, tiny plastic bits are into blood of many animals, even our human beings. Globalization accelerates the world development to some degree, at the same time causes severe environment problem. All of us should pay attention to and act from ourselves, like reducing the use of plastics.

Cartoon Analysis

4. 循环



美国又向伊拉克派兵，不断搅动中东局势。（来源：中国日报 Dave Granlund 英文《中国日报》2020年1月6日8版）

4. Recycle

4.1. Translation: The United States sent troops again to Iraq, constantly stirring up the situation in the Middle East.

Source: China Daily 6th Jan, 2020, Edition 8th

4.2. In this cartoon, US soldiers are just back from the airport or the battle ground, but haven't even home, back to Iraq again. They look tired and skinny.

4.3. Relative News: US deployed 750 troops to Middle East after embassy attack in Iraq, and planed to deploy about another 3,000 troops to this regions.

4.4. Analysis: Although 750 are not so many, but it has more meanings than the number. US is putting the world on edge, making the mid east situation intense again. And from the view of those soldiers, their situation is very miserable. Endless war or intense situation just make their life hard. While seems US government doesn't pay attention to this.

Cartoon Analysis

5. 操纵



金钱政治暴露“美式民主”的虚伪面目。（来源：中国日报 蔡贻《中国日报》2019年12月30日8版）

5. Puppet or Manipulate

5.1. Translation: Money politics exposes the hypocrisy of "American democracy".

Source: China Daily 30th Dec, 2019, Edition 8th

5.2. In this cartoon, the Statue of Liberty is just like a puppet, manipulated by several people in black suits behind it. These people are with different style ties, like red with USD patterns, black, blue or bow tie. In their pockets, there are full with US dollar and a cigar in hand. The eyes of the statue are open big but with a close mouth, helpless and in pain.

5.3. Analysis: There needs lots of money on the American Presidential Election. Normally the winner spends the most. While where are these money from? These money or support is from powerful forces. They may be powerful political forces, or social enterprises, or other organizations. Why they support the candidate or make him to be to a winner? Obviously, there are deals behind it. So during the election, the candidate presents what voters like to hear, to win their votes. After being the winner, he needs to perform the contract, to pay back the debt. So when being the governor, he has to be like a puppet, and may disobey what he has promised to his voters. The liberty is not free and the democracy is not what they talked democracy.

6.一派胡言



西方媒体对中国新疆事务的报道全凭想当然。(来源:中国日报 罗杰 英文《中国日报》2019年12月27日8版)

6. Nonsense

6.1. Translation: Coverages from western media about China's affairs in Xinjiang are nonsense.

Source: *China Daily* 27th Dec, 2019, Edition 8th

6.2. Background: there are lots of reports from

Cartoon Analysis

western media about Xinjiang “counter-extremism training centers” and “education and transformation training centers” built by China government for “reeducating” Uyghur Muslims purposes. In this cartoon, it thinks all these coverages are nonsense. And all western media is just like a Pinocchio with a very long nose, just making us some reports in front of computer with prejudices.

6.3. Analysis: From my point of view, I knew there were conflicts in Xinjiang area for a long time, which is at China's border. It seems a historical issue for years. As I knew, conflicts are easily came up at the border area of a country. And most Chinese people don't have a religion, just following the governing of China Communist Party. While the Uyghur Muslims are different, they have a very strong religion believe, and following which more than China's governing. So this may bring up with some disobey of the governing, which may cause some government involvement. Also as I knew, this area is quite poor and under developed. The government may try to help them to get more education and make their life better. Friends have traveled to this area, said people here are very nice and this area is very peaceful. But I haven't been there before. So I can not just say these news are right or wrong. I would like to check it by myself one day.

7. 双赢



中国崛起对美国更多不是威胁而是机会。（来源：中国日报 马雪晶《中国日报》2020年1月13日8版）

Cartoon Analysis

7. Win-win

7.1. Translation: China's rise is more of an opportunity than a threat to America.

Source: China Daily 13th Jan, 2020, Edition 8th

7.2. Description: In this cartoon, for survival, US and China have to be in a balanced relationship and making efforts simultaneously to move forward, otherwise, there will be disaster for both sides. While the China side is focusing on keeping balance and trying to move forward. The US side is making efforts to move forward too, but with boxing gloves and in a fighting position toward the China side. The China side is with a complete surprising look.

7.3. Analysis: It's controversial topic for a long time of "China Threat" or a "Peaceful Rise of China". From the western, esp. US, it seems definitely China's rise is a threat. And the US try hart to block China's rise. And China has been in the position as a developing country for a long time. It's only focusing to develop its economy. At least, Chinese people love peace. And according to Chinese tradition, being threatening or offensive is not our characteristics. All we want to is to be a nice neighbor, and a good-behaved member in a community.

Cartoon Analysis

8. 山火无情



澳大利亚森林大火蔓延，考拉等物种濒临灭绝。
(来源：中国日报 蔡贻《中国日报》2020年1月11日8版)

8. Bushfire with no mercy

8.1. Translation: Koalas and other species are on the brink of extinction as Australia's bushfires spread.

Source: China Daily 11th Jan, 2020, Edition 8th

8.2. Analysis: Till now, Australian bushfires have been burning for more than 4 months. Not just the damage of the bush and forest, the biggest disaster is burning almost all living animals there, esp. koalas and kangaroos. Even some are lucky to survive the fire. But there is no food and water for them. They will still die with burnt wounds. It's really a miserable disaster. It's our human beings' loss, and a loss of our whole world. Because of climate change, the average temperature of Australia and the whole world has increased, which cause the bush area is very dry, when there is some lightings, it's easily to start a fire. Even the fire is happening in Australia, far from our city, but we all should be alert and make actions, to provide our help and most important is we should alert with the climate change.

Cartoon Analysis

9. 漂



9. Floating

9.1. Translation: Global warming is causing sea level rise.

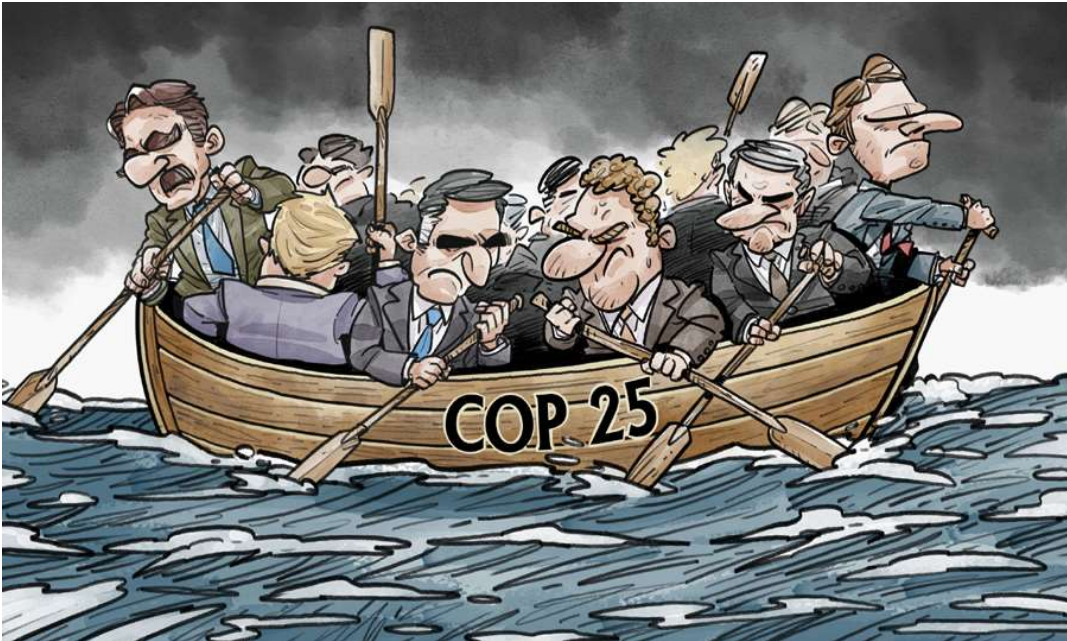
Source: China Daily 19th Aug, 2018, Edition 8th

9.2. Analysis: Our earth is on SOS situation, because of the continuous rising sea level. Drift bottle is a way to express people's hope and wish. In this cartoon, we can easily feel that the author want to show the concerning of our earth. The climate change is very intense now, esp. global warming and sea level rise. After the temperature rising, the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets are rapidly melting. It's he main and direct reason of sea level rise. Hope no matter which country are we from, we all take actions to protect our earth, starting from me, starting from the small matter.

全球变暖导致海平面上升问题严重。（来源：中国日报 Arcadio Esquivel 英文《中国日报》2019年8月19日8版）

Cartoon Analysis

10. 令人失望



10. Disappointing

10.1. Translation: The 2019 United Nations climate change conference ended in Madrid on 15th Dec. Due to serious disagreements among the negotiating parties, the conference failed to reach consensus on the core task of negotiating the implementation rules for article vi of the Paris agreement.

Source: China Daily 19th Dec, 2019, Edition 8th

10.2 Background: On 4 Nov 2016, the Paris Agreement on climate change officially went into effect. It's the world's first comprehensive climate agreement. This historic agreement devotes to decrease global warming by requiring all 196 state parties to take action to limit global temperature rise to well below 2°C, and make efforts to hold the increase to 1.5°C. It also released the so-called 20/20/20 targets, namely the reduction of carbon dioxide(CO₂) emissions by 20%, the increase of renewable energy's market share to 20%, and a 20% increase in energy efficiency.

本届联合国气候变化大会15日在西班牙首都马德里闭幕。因谈判各方分歧严重，大会未就《巴黎协定》第六条实施细则谈判这项核心任务达成共识。（来源：中国日报 蔡贻 英文《中国日报》2019年12月19日8版）

10.3 Analysis: We all know our environment problems are urgent, like climate change, global warming and sea level rise, etc. Everyday large population are suffering from these. And numerous coverages urge us to act. Still some countries or parties do not put this into their top list. Mostly economically backward countries are trying to lag behind on this issue.