

-(SCMP 19/3) [Beijing plans 'strategic service and logistics base' on Woody Island, two islets in SCS](#) : It came after US challenge in the region and criticism of 'China's illegal island-building in international waterways'.

-(Washington Post 19/3) [The U.S. quietly made a big splash about the SCS](#) : Mike Pompeo just reaffirmed Washington has Manila's back.



-(New York Times 18/3) [US Navy Won't Alter Sail-Bys at Sea Despite China Maneuver](#) : Vice Adm. Phillip Sawyer, commander of the U.S. 7th Fleet, told that Washington protested that "unprofessional behavior" by the Chinese ship.

-(Nikkei 16/3) [Xi's SCS 'Fishermen' Risk Hooking U.S. Into Conflict](#) : Chinese friction with Philippines and Vietnam raises odds of miscalculation.