

# Press Briefing

## *General Briefing*

As members of the press you are to carry out your profession as journalists. For some of you that may mean being the best state media you can be, and for others it means upholding the Journalist's Creed. Whatever the case, you will both publish stories you ferret out, and publish press releases that governments come to you with.

### **Government Press Releases**

Governments publish press releases and statements through the press. At least one news agency must publish each release or statement. For press releases or statements you can either publish them verbatim or publish them with your own commentary. Either way you may not alter the text of the press release or statement. It will probably be to your advantage to build a working relationship by publishing certain countries releases and statements consistently and by establishing points of contact in governments to interview or get leaks from.

## *News Agency Briefings*

### **Xinhua**

Xinhua is an official press agency of the People's Republic of China (being directly part of the government) and focuses on mainland China news. It takes a highly favorable view of the government, almost never covers any stories of dissent, and whitewashes bad news even when such issues are well known within China, and often gets exclusive interviews with high level government officials (including Xi Jinping himself). It is highly critical of the US, India, and other non-Chinese influence in the Pacific.

### **Associated Press**

Associated Press (often known simply as AP) is a highly regarded non-profit American news agency. They are known for extremely unbiased reporting and are the publishers of the AP Stylebook, the definitive stylebook for American journalists. They cover the full range of topics both inside and outside the US, and are known to be a reliable, trustworthy news source.

### **BBC**

The British Broadcasting Corporation is the national broadcaster of the UK. It is generally seen as the world's leading source on non-American English language news. It covers UK, Commonwealth, and foreign topics in a large range of languages and is well respected across the world.

### **SCMP**

The South China Morning Post is the premier newspaper of Hong-Kong. While long viewed as unbiased and trustworthy, it has begun to tow the Chinese Communist Party line more frequently and has begun to take a more favorable view towards China. This process began in the mid 2010's but accelerated after China's takeover of Hong Kong. Still, it is well regarded for non-political news and analysis of Asia, and its English-language online articles are popular.

### **Wen Wei Po**

Wen Wei Po is a Chinese mouthpiece, owned and fully subsidized by the CCP. As such it is very pro-China and is often given to eloquent (if somewhat long winded) articles that take the side of the Government. While poorly viewed by the locals its place in Hong Kong is useful for disseminating government policy both to domestic and international audiences alike.