



Ambassador Terry Branstad: Yunnan impresses Me

Communication

"Thank you for a wonderful tour of Kunming Municipal Museum. The exhibition is a great tribute to the Flying Tigers," wrote Terry Branstad, the US ambassador to China, on June 5 during his first trip to Yunnan.

The ambassador stood at the Flying Tigers exhibition area of the museum, listening attentively to the stories of how General Chenault and his fellow pilots helped the Chinese against the Japanese invaders. He read the pilots' manual and Chinese language textbook used by the pilots and highly appraised the cooperative spirit and professionalism of the air forces of the two countries during those days of crisis.

"I hope more Americans would learn about the history of the Flying Tigers, how these American pilots helped the Chinese against invaders and the Chinese people helped the wounded pilots. Such great friendship was formed in those



Terry Branstad visits Flying Tiger Exposition in Kunming Municipal Museum (Photo by Liu Ranyang)

days. Today, we need to continue and further that friendship between the two countries." Mr. Branstad also said that China and the US are two major economies of today's world and their partnership will bring a better future of the entire world.

Although it was his first visit to Yunnan, Mr. Branstad was greatly impressed. "Before I come, people told me that Yunnan is the most beautiful place in China. I was eager to explore the place and customs here as I saw the mighty mountains and

lakes between the clouds before we landed." He also said jokingly that the pleasant weather in Kunming posed a huge contrast with the scorching summer in Beijing.

Talking about Yunnan's initiative to build three world-class industries, namely green energy, green food and healthy lifestyle destination, Mr. Branstad was excited to told that green energy and green food were also strengths of his hometown Iowa. As the former governor of Iowa, he introduced that Iowa is a main agricultural production area of the United States which is also making efforts to develop new energy sources such as wind energy and ethanol. Yunnan and the United States have great room for cooperation in the fields of green industry and tourism. "Many Americans are interested in the great changes of China after 40-year's reform and opening-up. A modern, beautiful and green China is the

Further reading:

The American Volunteer Group (AVG) of the Chinese Air Force, nicknamed the Flying Tigers, was composed of pilots from the United States Army Air Corps (USAAC), Navy (USN), and Marine Corps (USMC), recruited under presidential authority and commanded by Claire Lee Chennault. They had fought against the Japanese air force in China and Myanmar during WWII. It was formed at a critical time when the Chinese Air Force was exhausted and the Soviet Union's aid to China was withdrawn. In the face of the skies almost open to the Japanese invaders, the Flying Tigers, though unable to support a reliable air defense for China, proved the existence of anti-aggression forces with their utmost strength.

dream tourist destination for American tourists." Mr. Branstad concluded: "I'm so impressed by Yunnan that I wish to have the opportunity to visit more cities here and learn more ethnic cultures. I hope I can visit all the provinces of China."

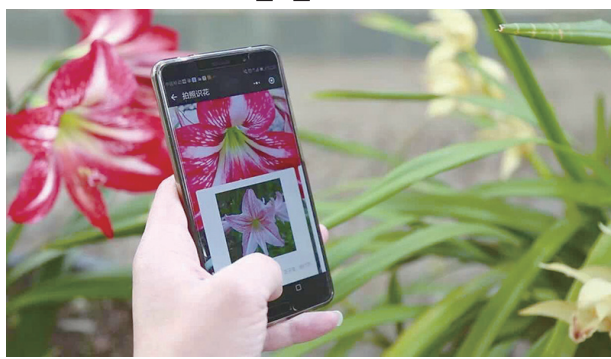
(Wang Huan)

Trail version of 'Travel in Yunnan' App launched

Spotlight

The trial version of "Travel in Yunnan" App was launched on June 1. It aims to provide better services for tourists traveling in the Yunnan, a world-renowned travel destination.

The App is specially taken care of jointly by Yunnan provincial government and Tencent, a leading provider of internet services in China. Covering all of tourism resources in the 16 cities (autonomous prefectures) and 129 counties and districts in Yunnan, it can provide better services for tourists before, during and after their journeys in Yunnan. For example, tourists can view scenery of a tour destination in advance and use e-guide services in scenic spots on the App. Of course, tourists can shop and find locations



"Travel in Yunnan" App enables people to scan the plants and recognize their name (Online Photo)

of restrooms immediately via the App, not to mention other functions like trip planning, hotel and ticket booking, reserving parking areas, plants recognition and so on.

As a booster for improving credibility of Yunnan tourism industry, the App is also equipped with complaint functions. Tourists

can complain via "Travel in Yunnan" anytime and anywhere by online contact, telephone and voice mail. Currently, more than 3,500 hotels, 4,000 restaurants, 690 travel agencies and 4,300 tour guides have passed evaluations and have uploaded their information on the app.

(Compilation)

China-South Asia Expo more open and international

Expo

"The China-South Asia Expo (CSA) will be more open and more international this year," Liu Qilin, director of the Yunnan International Expo Affairs Bureau, said on May 22. According to Liu, the 5th CSA Expo, the biggest ever. It will provide 19 pavilions, about 8,500 standard booths and 190,000 square metres of exhibition space. It will also include 16 international events and attract more than 3,000 exhibitors. In addition to the two image pavilions for the country of honour, Afghanistan, and the featured guest country, Myanmar, there will be seven overseas pavilions, with foreign exhibitors accounting for more than 40 percent of the total exhibition space.

As confirmed, the 5th CSA Expo will see the participation of companies from 52 countries and regions, 31 mainland Chinese provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions, as well as China's Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan. "We will do our utmost to set up bilateral and multilateral platforms for exchanges

and cooperation among all parties in terms of commodities, capital, technology, information and other resources. We are going to make fresh contributions to the country by actively serving and integrating into China's Belt and Road Initiative," said Liu.

What is the best way to present an innovative CSA Expo? Liu said that while adhering to the entire market model that covers the trade in commodities, services and investments, this year's CSA Expo will be big, comprehensive and professional. Professional pavilions will account for more than half of the 19 pavilions, and will be arranged to further promote the flow of commodities, capital and human resources.

Liu believes that the CSA Expo will become an increasingly strong brand year by year, and will have more wonderful stories to tell in the future.

(Han Chengyuan)

Diqing intangible cultural heritage shines with the light of history

Explore Shangri-La

Diqing Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture of Yunnan Province is a rich land for intangible cultural heritage dominated with Tibetan culture.

Intangible heritage is a cultural icon of an ethnic group with the highest value of a culture. It carries the course of cultural development and shows the gems of wisdom of various nationalities for thousands of years. Protected by different government levels and saved and carried by intangible culture heritage organizations, the cultural heritage of different ethnic groups in Diqing Prefecture such as language and written characters, oral lit-

erature, dance, music, drama, festival celebrations, costumes, painting, wood carvings, craftsmanship, ethnic medicine science, house building skills, eating customs, wedding and giving birth customs, and funerals and so on, are actively carried on in big or small folk yards.

Thirty kilometers away from Shangri-la County in Yunnan Province, there is a small village called Tangduicun village. It belongs to Nixi Township of Diqing Prefecture, and used to be a must-pass of the Tea-Horse Ancient Road. In the village, the black pottery-making process is a heritage of more than

2000 years. Nixi Black Pottery is a national intangible culture heritage. It is made of the mixture of red and white earth which is unique from the Tutao Mountain of Tangduicun Village of Nixi Township. Through the process of material preparing, shaping, carving, drying and firing, the unique pottery products are formed in total darkness, smooth and fine.

Nixi Black Pottery products are popular articles of daily use for Tibetan people.

Hybrid cattle helps to propel poverty alleviation

Eradicating Poverty and Achieving Common Prosperity

After 31 years' research by agricultural scientists in southwest China's Yunnan Province, 'Yunling cattle', the first species of tri-cross breed cattle, has become the new economic driver for local poverty-stricken villages and farmers.

According to Huang Bizhi, the dean of the Yunnan Provincial Academe of Grassland and Animal Science, 'Yunling cattle' is one of the most prominent achievement in animal husbandry under the cooperation between China and Australia since China's opening up.

'Yunnan Livestock and Pasture Development Project' was launched in 1983 with the strong support of Australian and Chinese governments. The hybrid cattle has half descent from Australian Brahman, 1/4 of Murray grey cattle and another 1/4 origins from Yunnan yellow cattle.

In early 1990s, when Yunnan scientists were amazed by the previous generation of hybrid cattle, the problems also came up that many of them



Hybrid cattle in Yunnan (Photo provided by Huang Bizhi)

were not immune to popular diseases and dead.

There is no easy way but to persist. Huang Bizhi and his teammates have experimented thousands of times. Selecting, adjusting and improving the methods of cattle crossbreeding, they finally developed 'Yunling cattle' in 2014.

Each microchip in the ear of 'Yunling cattle' tracks the diet information and logistic paths. At present, 'Yunling cattle' has been promoted to 33 counties in Yunnan. It has increased the income of relevant farmers by 200 million yuan.

(Yunnan Gateway)

Yunnan air golden bridge connects the world

40 years on



Image Designed by Yunnan Daily

On an early summer morning, clouds raised in Jingmai Mountains and bursts of laughter could be heard from the hostel named "Jing Mai Ren Jia". Guests from all over the world gathered around the fireplace in the courtyard talking and laughing.

Ms. Huang from Beijing said, "Ten years ago, I fell in love with it when I first came to Jingmai Mountain. In the past, due to traffic inconvenience and high time cost, I was not able to come often. Last year, when I learned that there were flight to Jing-

mai Mountain, I flew over that month. This is my third trip this year."

Located in the southwest border of China, the traffic inconvenience has been the largest short plate of Yunnan Province that hinders its development. In recent years, based on its unique resource endowment and geographical advantages, Yunnan Province has made solid progress in building its civil aviation to make it a strong province. The three-kilometer airport runway set up an air bridge of connecting outside for Yunnan.

In 2012, Kunming Changshui Airport was put into operation successfully and that broke the long-term constraints on the development of civil aviation infrastructure in Yunnan. From 2015, Lugu Airport, Cangyuan Airport, Lincang Airport has opened to traffic one after another. Yunnan Airport Group set a new record by opening one new airport each year and created a "Yunnan miracle" in developing civil aviation in China.

Tengchong Airport was opened to traffic in 2009 and it is a typical example to promote the integrated development of aviation tourism in Yunnan Province. Since the opening of the airline, driven by the convenient traffic advantage of the airport, Tengchong tourism industry has achieved rapid growth and strongly supported the economic and social development of the city. Last year, the city's social fixed asset investment reached 20.115 billion yuan and its fiscal revenue reached 2.398 billion yuan, increased by 7 times and

3.6 times respectively than in 2009, when the airline was first opened. Its tourism income increased to 15.11 billion yuan in 2017 from 1.62 billion yuan back in 2009, an average annual increase of 15%.

In the course of in-depth reform and exploration, Yunnan civil aviation has achieved fruitful results in its development, and its comprehensive strength has been leading the country for a long time. Yunnan province has built 15 airports and are all under operation now. Yunnan is a province with a large number of airports and a high level of aviation resources with integrated airport management. By the first quarter of this year, the province had opened 424 air routes, including 353 domestic, 67 international and 4 local routes. The number of flights from Kunming airport to South and Southeast Asia amounts to 235 per week with 32 destinations, which is the largest airport in China connecting South and Southeast Asia. (Hu Xiaorong)

Editor's note:

This year is the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening-up. The 40 years' great practice has fully proved that reform and opening-up are the key choices that change the destiny of contemporary China. It is also the source of vitality for development and progress of contemporary China. This column will be a panoramic display of Yunnan's brilliant achievements and valuable experience accumulated from its reform and opening-up.