

BREAKING NEWS

Nancy Pelosi arrived in Taiwan and plans to meet its president, despite China’s warnings. She’s the highest-level U.S. official to visit in 25 years.

LIVE COVERAGE

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Latest News on Nancy Pelosi's Visit to Taiwan



House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s closely watched Asia tour has raised tensions between China and the U.S. NAZRI RAPAAI/HANDOUT/SHUTTERSTOCK

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi landed in Taiwan on Tuesday, defying stern warnings from Beijing against a visit that China’s Communist Party regards as a challenge to its sovereignty.

Mrs. Pelosi, the highest-ranking U.S. official in a quarter-century to visit the island, which Beijing claims as part of its territory, is set to meet Wednesday with Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen and legislators in the self-ruled democracy.

Chinese officials, including leader Xi Jinping [in a phone call](#) last week with President Biden, have warned of unspecified countermeasures should [Mrs. Pelosi’s Taiwan visit](#) proceed.

Follow along here with The Wall Street Journal for live updates on her visit.

9 min ago ★

Nancy Pelosi Arrives in Taiwan



ABOUT THIS PAGE

Nancy Pelosi Arrives in Taiwan as China-U.S. Tensions Escalate: Live Updates

Last Updated: Aug 2, 2022 at 10:59 am ET

Full coverage of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s visit to Taiwan.

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The Taipei 101 building lit up with a message reading Speaker Pelosi as a welcome sign. LAM YIK FEI/BLOOMBERG NEWS

U.S. House Speaker [Nancy Pelosi](#) has arrived in Taiwan for meetings with President Tsai Ing-wen and local legislators in the self-ruled island, as Beijing bristled over what it said was interference with its core interests.

Mrs. Pelosi and other members of a Congressional delegation will spend a night in Taipei on Tuesday, people familiar with the plans said.

The closely watched Asia tour [has raised tensions](#) between China and the U.S., with Beijing's diplomats and the People's Liberation Army repeatedly threatening responses should Mrs. Pelosi go through with the visit to Taiwan, which China regards as its territory.

35 min ago ★

China Suspends Imports of Hundreds of Taiwan Products

By [Joyu Wang](#)



Beijing previously banned Taiwanese pineapples, among other products. SAM YEH/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

TAIPEI—China temporarily halted imports of hundreds of Taiwanese food products, a move that came just ahead of a controversial [visit to the self-governing island](#) by U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

The website of China's General Administration of Customs listed a few hundred Taiwanese products as "import suspended." Some were associated with local major

<https://www.wsj.com/livecoverage/nancy-pelosi-taiwan-visit-china-us-tensions>

Taiwanese products as import suspended. Some were associated with local major food manufacturers, pastry makers and dairy farms.

An official at Taiwan's Council of Agriculture said the council's initial assessment is that the restrictions hit hardest aquatic products, tea and honey, and that it is still in the process of contacting relevant companies to learn the full scope, the person said.

The Fisheries Agency, also under the Council of Agriculture, said it found some businesses failed to complete Chinese registration by late June, partly as a result of cumbersome paperwork. The government is helping those wishing to export their products to China to refile by the end of August.

The Chinese suspensions didn't constitute a comprehensive ban, but there were so many of them that Taiwan hopes they can be resolved soon, the official said.

Taiwan's Ministry of Economic Affairs said that it is aware of the situation and that relevant government agencies will assist the affected companies to handle their response properly.

Among the affected products were sauces and seasonings produced by Wei Chuan Foods Corp., one of Taiwan's biggest food manufacturers. A spokeswoman for Wei Chuan said it is working with the government to understand the situation and formulate a solution.

China in June imposed an export ban on Taiwanese grouper, an industry that is highly dependent on Chinese buyers. Beijing previously banned Taiwanese pineapples, wax apples and sugar apples.

According to data provided by the Council of Agriculture, China has been the top buyer of Taiwanese grouper for decades. Though exports to China in recent years have been cut in half—to \$54.8 million in 2021 from \$108.8 million in 2018—China buys for more than 90% of Taiwan's total exports of the fish.

1 hour ago ★

Cyberattacks Bring Down Taiwan Government Websites

By [Sha Hua](#)



A billboard welcoming Nancy Pelosi in Taipei, whose planned Taiwan trip triggered China's threats of repercussions. CHIANG YING-YING/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taiwan said the website of its presidential office was hit by an overseas cyberattack on Tuesday, taking it out of commission on a day when China, angered by a planned [visit by U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi](#), had threatened [unspecified countermeasures](#)

The denial-of-service attack, in which hackers send an overwhelming flood of requests to the computers to impair normal users accessing a site, sent 200 times the average volume of traffic compared with a normal day, said Chang Tun-Han, a spokesman for the presidential office. He said that the website resumed normal operation within 20 minutes of the attack, which took place at around 5:15 p.m. local time.

Mr. Chang didn't name a suspect for the attack but said Taiwan's government would continue to monitor the situation and try to maintain the stable operation of critical infrastructure "in the face of ongoing complex information warfare by foreign forces."

The cyberattacks appear to be continuing, according to checks by The Wall Street Journal. At around 7:30 p.m. local time, some Taiwanese government websites, including the one belonging to the President's Office, were down again for around half an hour, displaying error messages or saying the website couldn't be found. After a brief resumption of operation, some of the websites were knocked out once more at around 9:10 p.m. local time.

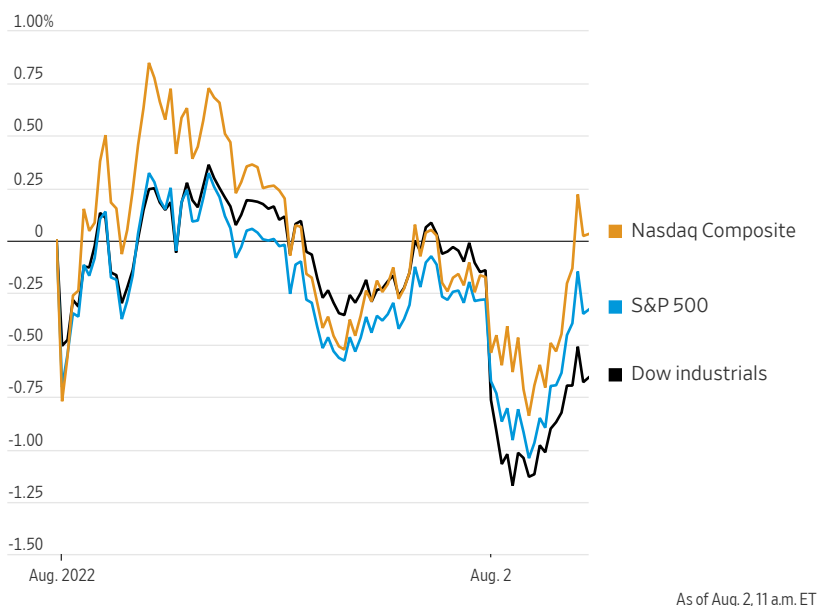
At a daily news briefing on Tuesday afternoon, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying had warned of strong countermeasures by China without providing details of what they would be.

Cyberattacks aren't uncommon around times of high international political tension. On the eve of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, a distributed denial-of-service attack also briefly brought down major Ukrainian government's and financial institutions' websites.

Updated 1 hour ago ★

Stock Indexes Open Lower Ahead of Pelosi's Taiwan Visit

Index performance



Source: FactSet

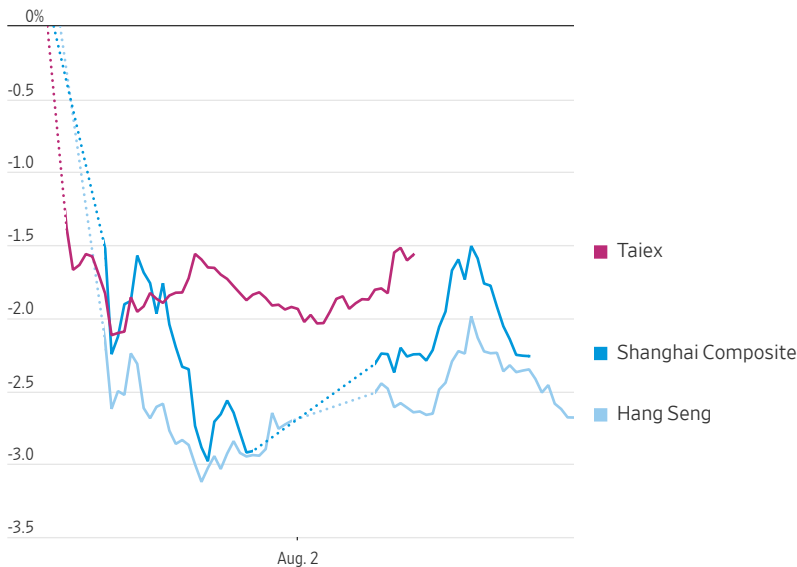
U.S. stock indexes and global stocks slipped Tuesday on fears that U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's planned visit to Taiwan could heighten tensions between Beijing and Washington and add geopolitical risk to investors' already muted outlook.

The [S&P 500](#) fell 0.4% at the opening, a day after the broad index ended its first

trading day of the new month slightly lower. The Dow Jones Industrial Average slipped 0.5% Tuesday while the technology-heavy Nasdaq Composite lost 0.6%.

Mrs. Pelosi is [scheduled to arrive](#) in Taiwan on Tuesday evening local time and meet with Taiwanese government officials, in what would be the first visit by a House speaker to the democratically governed island since 1997. Beijing, which claims Taiwan as part of its territory, has warned Mrs. Pelosi not to do so. Chinese officials have threatened [unspecified countermeasures](#) should her visit proceed.

Tuesday performance



Note: in Eastern time
Source: FactSet

In China, the benchmark Shanghai Composite dropped 2.3%, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index fell 2.4%.

Shares of some Chinese national defense companies surged more than 15%, making them some of the best-performing stocks in the region. Shenzhen-listed Xi'an Tian He Defense Technology, a manufacturer of military equipment and smart security systems, jumped 20%.

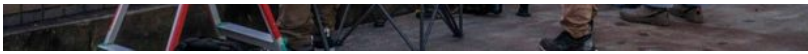
[Read the full article.](#)

Updated 1 hour ago ★

Where's Pelosi? Congresswoman's Trip Sparks Flight-Tracking Frenzy

By [Rachel Liang](#)





Members of media monitoring Nancy Pelosi's planned arrival in Taipei on Tuesday. LAM YIK
FEI/BLOOMBERG NEWS

The game of the day in Asia has been "Where is Nancy Pelosi's plane?" with thousands of people glued to flight-tracking websites to monitor her trip and to see for themselves if she would indeed head to Taiwan.

Such systems collect data from signals that are automatically sent from operating aircraft to identify their real-time locations. The U.S. Air Force plane presumed to be carrying the House speaker—designated SPAR19—was being watched on flight-tracking website Flightradar24 by more than 300,000 people at one point on late Tuesday afternoon, a number that had shot higher as it moved through the countries on her itinerary and as more viewers gathered through the day.

Among them was Global Times, a state-owned Chinese publication. "According to Flightradar24, a Boeing C-40C with the call sign SPAR19 has departed from Paya Lebar Air Base this morning," Global Times wrote at one point, referring to a military air base in Singapore, Mrs. Pelosi's first stop.

China [has strongly objected to the idea](#) that Mrs. Pelosi, who is second in line for the U.S. presidency, would visit Taiwan, a self-governing island it considers part of its territory. She announced the itinerary for her Asia trip Sunday without ruling Taiwan in or out. Publications including The Wall Street Journal reported she would indeed make the stop.

The media and others followed the flight track as it left Singapore for a short stay in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. SPAR19 took off again at 3:42 p.m. Malaysian time. In a twist, it appeared to head east toward Indonesia, well out of the way for a trip to Taiwan, setting off rounds of speculation on Twitter, including whether it might be avoiding traveling over the South China Sea, where China has been conducting military drills and has militarized a number of artificial islands. Followers of the flight soared from 20,000 to past 300,000, making it the most tracked flight of the day.

Flight-tracking planes that might be carrying government officials or celebrities has become a popular sport. But one thing the technology can't do is tell whether someone actually got on the plane.

Flightradar24

@flightradar24 · Follow

Because of unprecedented sustained tracking interest in SPAR19, Flightradar24 services are under extremely heavy load. Some users may currently experience issues accessing the site, our teams are working on restoring full functionality to all users as quickly as possible.

9:21 AM · Aug 2, 2022

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1 hour ago ★

Nobody Has Interest in Escalating Tensions With China, Says U.S. National Security Adviser

By [Alex Leary](#)

Police officers lined up outside a hotel ahead of Nancy Pelosi's planned arrival in Taipei on Tuesday. I-HWA CHENG/BLOOMBERG NEWS

China should think very carefully about escalating tensions over House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taiwan, White House national security adviser Jake Sullivan said Tuesday.

Mr. Sullivan, appearing on [NBC's "Today" morning show](#), said there is nothing unusual about a U.S. lawmaker visiting the island, omitting context that [it has been decades](#) since someone as high-level as Mrs. Pelosi made the trip.

"A speaker of the House has traveled to Taiwan before and members of Congress travel there all the time, including several who have already traveled there this year," Mr. Sullivan said.

"So for China to try to turn what is in the historical norm into a crisis or to try to use it as a pretext for aggressive action around Taiwan, that's on them and they would be the ones who'd be escalating. The United States has no interest in escalation," he added.

The last time the speaker of the House visited Taiwan was in 1997. China has grown to regret tolerating that visit by Republican Newt Gingrich.

Mr. Sullivan affirmed that U.S. policy toward Taiwan hasn't changed, a point President Biden made to Chinese leader Xi Jinping in a phone call last week. "Nobody has an interest in escalation in this situation," he repeated. "And China should think very carefully about that as they consider their next steps," he said.

A White House statement last week quoted Mr. Biden as saying that "the United States strongly opposes unilateral efforts to change the status quo or undermine peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait."

Mr. Sullivan said the U.S. will "continue to assert our right to help support Taiwan self defense, no matter what happens in the coming days."

2 hours ago ★

Taiwan Tensions Highlight Risks for Global Chip Supplies

By [Yang Jie](#)

Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing makes the majority of the world's most sophisticated chips. TYRONE SIU/REUTERS

Rising tensions between China and the U.S. over Taiwan throw a spotlight on the precarious dependence the world has on the island's cutting-edge semiconductor industry.

Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. makes the majority of the world's most sophisticated chips, used in billions of electronics products, including smartphones, personal computers and cars.

In an undated interview broadcast by CNN this week, TSMC Chairman Mark Liu warned that conflict over Taiwan would hurt the chip champion. Military force or invasion would render TSMC factories nonoperable, he said. Such sophisticated manufacturing facilities "depend on real-time connection with the outside world, with Europe, with Japan, with the U.S.," Mr. Liu added.

TSMC confirmed the chairman's comments but said they were made earlier and didn't refer to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's planned trip.

The world's largest contract chip maker last month raised its full-year revenue forecast, citing [strong demand for chips](#) used in products including high-performance computers—and going against the industrial tide of [a slowing chip boom](#).

TSMC, which [is constructing a new plant in Arizona](#), is also expected to be among the main beneficiaries of the recent \$280 billion bill passed by U.S. lawmakers that includes incentives for chip makers to build facilities in the U.S., part of an effort to boost American semiconductor manufacturing and competitiveness with China.

TSMC shares fell 2.38% on Tuesday, more than the 1.6% drop on Taiwan's stock benchmark, the Taixex, part of [a global stock selloff](#) ahead of Mrs. Pelosi's planned visit.

Some business leaders expressed concern Tuesday over the heightening tensions. Cheng Yi Lai, founder of a Taiwanese real-estate developer who has favored closer economic ties with China, criticized Mrs. Pelosi's decision to make the trip, saying it risked pushing Taiwan to the front line of the superpowers' rivalry.

The business community is worried that any conflict would destroy Taiwan's economy that took decades to build, said Mr. Lai, the founder of Shining Building Business Co. and chairman of the island's General Chamber of Commerce. He added

business co. and chairman of the island's General Chamber of Commerce. He added that he hoped the visit "would not lead to misinterpretation by the outside world and escalate what was originally a war of words into a true war with real bullets."

3 hours ago ★

China Cancels Flights as Pelosi Heads to Taiwan. Then Again, It Always Does.

By [Karen Hao](#) and [Rachel Liang](#)

The cancellation of thousands of flights in mainland China on Tuesday as U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi [prepared to visit Taiwan](#) fueled speculation on social media that Beijing might be clearing airspace for military activity.

The answer might be more banal.

Xiamen Airlines said it had adjusted some flights "affected by traffic control" in its home province of Fujian, which faces Taiwan. News of Xiamen Airlines' announcement went viral on China's Twitter-like Weibo platform, with one post from the state-media outlet People's Daily receiving more than 75,000 likes.

"If Pelosi doesn't come, it won't be forgivable in light of this welcome," read the top comment on the post, which received more than 11,500 likes.

True, China has been running military exercises ahead of Mrs. Pelosi's possible visit to the self-governing island. On the other hand, summers in China often bring rashers of flight cancellations and delays because of thunderstorms and routine military exercises that have nothing to do with the travel plans of senior U.S. politicians.

Flight cancellations at Fujian's main airports are high but not that far out of line with their pre-Pelosi levels, according to data from the Chinese real-time flight-tracking app Flight Master. Fuzhou's airport on Tuesday reported a 40% flight cancellation rate for the day as of 9:00 a.m., roughly in line with the 36% average cancellation rate over the previous 14 days. Xiamen reported a 26% cancellation rate, lower than the 28% average cancellation rate over the previous 14 days. Quanzhou's 52% cancellation rate on Tuesday was higher than the 14-day average of 43%.

Speculation that airports based in military regions might be experiencing more flight cancellations appeared to be equally unfounded.

The international airport in the northwestern mainland Chinese city of Lanzhou, home to several air-force bases, reported an 84% cancellation rate on Tuesday, in line with its 81% average over the previous two weeks. An international airport in the southwestern mainland Chinese city of Chengdu, which houses additional air-force bases, saw one of the highest increases in flight cancellations on Tuesday among airports in military regions—45%, versus a 35% average over the previous 14 days.

3 hours ago ★

China Tolerated Visit to Taiwan 25 Years Ago. It Now Sees That as Mistake.

By [Wenxin Fan](#)





Newt Gingrich met with then-Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui in Taipei during his 1997 trip. EDDIE SHIH/ASSOCIATED PRESS

China's representative to the United Nations called a 1997 trip to Taiwan by then-House Speaker Newt Gingrich a mistake as he sought to dispel comparisons to a planned visit to the island by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

"A previous mistake does not make the following mistake legitimate," said Ambassador Zhang Jun, who currently holds the rotating presidency of the United Nations Security Council, in a press briefing Monday in New York.

In Mr. Gingrich's case, his Taiwan visit was combined with a trip to mainland China. Chinese leaders initially objected to the Taiwan stop but eventually tolerated it after Mr. Gingrich threatened to otherwise skip Beijing on his itinerary, he said in a recent interview with Voice of America.

Mr. Gingrich said Beijing had one precondition for him—that he wouldn't fly directly to Taiwan from the Chinese mainland. After he wrapped up meetings in Beijing and Shanghai, including with senior Chinese leaders, Mr. Gingrich flew to Tokyo and then to Taipei.

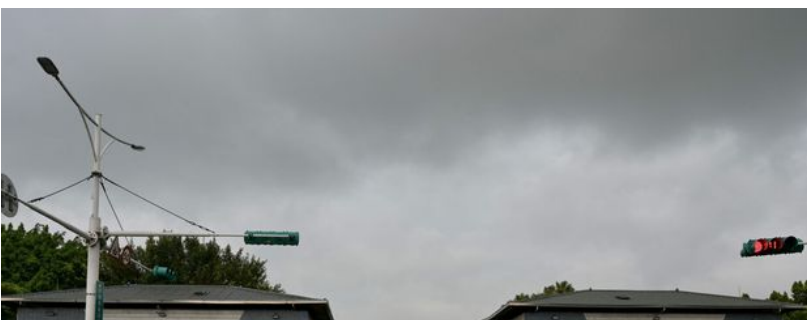
In recent days, Mr. Gingrich has said Mrs. Pelosi should proceed with her plans to visit Taiwan. In response, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian last week [condemned Mr. Gingrich's record on Taiwan-related affairs](#), citing the former House speaker as an example of "how some U.S. politicians would stoke tensions in China-U.S. relations, turmoil across the Taiwan Strait and instability in the world only to benefit themselves."

The Chinese diplomat's comments suggest that Beijing's response to a visit by Mrs. Pelosi would be different from Mr. Gingrich's 25 years ago. Ambassador Zhang blamed unnamed "external forces" for changing the situation around Taiwan for the worse. Without prompt containment measures against them, he said, the situation risked getting out of control. He said a Taiwan visit by Mrs. Pelosi would be "dangerous and provocative," and would undermine China-U.S. relations.

4 hours ago ★

Taiwan Airport Receives Bomb Threat Directed at Pelosi's Arrival

By [Joyu Wang](#)





Taipei Songshan Airport, where Nancy Pelosi is expected to land, also hosts an air-force base. SAM YEH/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

TAIPEI—Police said they have stepped up patrols at Taoyuan International Airport, Taiwan's busiest, in response to a bomb threat directed at the planned arrival of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi on the island.

A threat was sent Tuesday to Taoyuan Airport, which is located just outside the Taiwanese capital of Taipei, through a form on the airport's website, according to the island's Aviation Police Bureau. The message claimed that three explosive devices would be placed inside the airport to prevent Mrs. Pelosi from visiting Taiwan, the Aviation Police Bureau said. Taoyuan International Airport confirmed having received the threat but declined to comment further, citing a continuing investigation.

No explosions or damage have been reported. Chen Pei-shu, deputy commander of the Aviation Police Bureau, said in a video statement that the agency is probing the case alongside criminal investigators and a cybercrime task force.

While fake bomb threats have been reported at the airport in the past, Mr. Chen, who handles criminal matters, said the preflight inspections have been strengthened to ensure airport security as they are taking the threat case seriously.

Mrs. Pelosi's office has yet to officially confirm that she will travel to Taiwan, though people who are set to meet with her in Taiwan have been informed of her imminent arrival, according to people familiar with the matter.

Though Tuesday's bomb threat was directed at Taoyuan, the main international airport serving Taipei, Mrs. Pelosi is actually set to arrive at Taipei Songshan Airport, one of the people said. Taipei Songshan, though a regional airport that serves fewer flights than Taoyuan, has one obvious advantage—it hosts an air force base.

One wrinkle for Mrs. Pelosi: the weather in Taipei was so rainy for parts of Tuesday that the capital issued an alert and the military had to cancel a planned afternoon flight from Songshan Airport. As of early evening Tuesday, however, those rains had largely subsided.

4 hours ago ★

Pelosi Wraps Up Short Visit to Malaysia

By [Chun Han Wong](#)





Nancy Pelosi with Malaysian officials before a meeting at the Parliament House in Kuala Lumpur Tuesday. NAZRI RAPAAI/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi wrapped up a brief stopover in Malaysia Tuesday ahead of her expected arrival in Taiwan.

Mrs. Pelosi met with Malaysian Prime Minister Ismail Sabri Yaakob, as well as the country's foreign minister and parliamentary speaker, among others, [according to a statement issued by her office](#).

The U.S. military aircraft that brought Mrs. Pelosi and her U.S. congressional delegation to Malaysia earlier Tuesday departed the country at about 3:42 p.m. local time, [according to Flightradar24](#), a flight-tracking service.

It couldn't be determined if Mrs. Pelosi and her delegation were aboard the plane and Flightradar24 data didn't indicate a destination for the flight.

People familiar with Mrs. Pelosi's itinerary have said that she was scheduled to travel to Taiwan after her Malaysia stop.

During the U.S. delegation's meeting with Mr. Ismail and Malaysian Foreign Minister Saifuddin Abdullah, the two sides "engaged in wide-ranging discussion on advancing our shared goals for a free and secure Indo-Pacific," Mrs. Pelosi said in her statement.

The American delegation also met Malaysian parliamentary counterparts, discussing security, economic and governance issues, she said.

Mrs. Pelosi didn't mention in her statement whether she discussed Taiwan in her meetings with Malaysian officials.

Malaysian officials said Mrs. Pelosi's trip marked the first time a U.S. House speaker visited the Southeast Asian country since Washington established diplomatic relations in 1957 with what was then the newly independent Federation of Malaya.

5 hours ago ★

China Warns of 'Disastrous Consequences' Ahead of Pelosi's Taiwan Trip

By [Brian Spegele](#)



Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying reiterated on Tuesday China's opposition to

Nancy Pelosi's visiting Taiwan. THOMAS PETER/REUTERS

China's Foreign Ministry warned the U.S. about potentially "disastrous consequences" if it mishandles the situation between China and Taiwan ahead of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's expected arrival in Taiwan.

At a daily press briefing on Tuesday, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying reiterated China's opposition to Mrs. Pelosi's visiting Taiwan. She warned of strong countermeasures by China, but—as her colleagues have done in recent days—she declined to detail what those measures would be.

"No matter for what reason Pelosi goes to Taiwan, it will be a stupid, dangerous and unnecessary gamble," Ms. Hua said. "It is difficult to imagine a more reckless and provocative action."

Ms. Hua declined to say whether China's military was mobilizing troops in response to Mrs. Pelosi's movements, referring those questions to China's Ministry of National Defense. In recent days, the Chinese military has announced a series of exercises in the waters off northeastern and southeastern China, including near Taiwan.

Ms. Hua appeared to distance China's leadership from calls on social-media platforms for Beijing to block Mrs. Pelosi's plane from landing in Taiwan, describing them as the personal opinions of internet users.

Mrs. Hua said Beijing has been in close contact with U.S. officials in Beijing and Washington to stress China's forceful opposition to any visit by Mrs. Pelosi to Taiwan.

"If the U.S. side misjudges or mishandles the cross-strait situation, it will have disastrous consequences for the security, prosperity and order of the Taiwan region and even the world," she said.

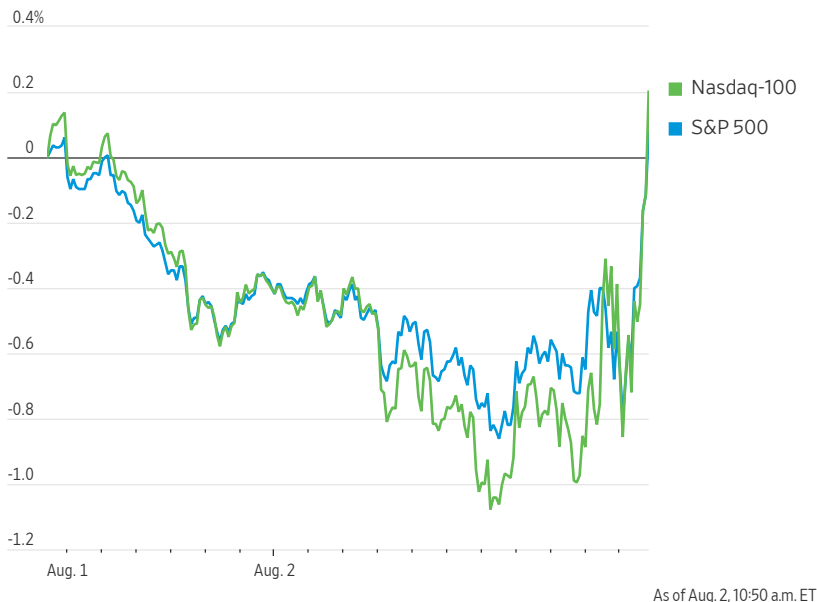
—Qianwei Zhang contributed to this article.

7 hours ago ★

Global Markets Fall

By [Rebecca Feng](#)

U.S. stock-index futures



Source: FactSet

Global stocks fell, led by declines in Chinese stocks, ahead of U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's planned visit to Taiwan amid heightened tensions between Beijing

<https://www.wsj.com/livecoverage/nancy-pelosi-taiwan-visit-china-us-tensions>

and Washington.

The Shanghai Composite index was down 2.1% in Tuesday afternoon trading, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng fell 2.3%. Both benchmarks tumbled more than 3% in early trading before recouping some losses.

U.S. equity futures were also lower, indicating that American stocks could come under pressure when U.S. markets open. In afternoon trading in Hong Kong on Tuesday, e-mini futures tied to the S&P 500 and Nasdaq 100 were about 0.5% lower.

[Read the full article.](#)

7 hours ago ★

Pelosi Arrives in Malaysia for Brief Visit

By Ying Xian Wong and [Chun Han Wong](#)



Nancy Pelosi met with Malaysian Parliament Speaker Azhar Azizan Harun in Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday. ASSOCIATED PRESS

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi is meeting Malaysia's leader and other officials during a brief visit to the country on Tuesday as part of her Asian tour this week.

Mrs. Pelosi landed at the Royal Malaysian Air Force base near the capital, Kuala Lumpur, Tuesday morning local time, according to a report in state media Bernama. Her visit includes lunch with Malaysian Prime Minister Ismail Sabri Yaakob and a meeting with the speaker of the Malaysian parliament's lower house, Azhar Azizan Harun, Bernama reported.

Mrs. Pelosi's visit to Malaysia is expected to last less than 12 hours, two people briefed on the matter said. Before arriving in Kuala Lumpur, she spent a day in Singapore meeting the city-state's leaders and attending a private business event.

A spokesman for the Malaysian prime minister's office couldn't immediately be reached for comment.

The 82-year-old Democrat is in the region for a series of meetings with major American partners and allies, with South Korea and Japan also on the itinerary.

9 hours ago ★

Pelosi's Taiwan Visit Dominates Chinese Social Media





An advertisement to mark the 95th anniversary of the People's Liberation Army is displayed in Beijing. MARK R CRISTINO/SHUTTERSTOCK

News of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's planned visit to Taiwan this week dominated Chinese social media on Tuesday, as internet users pledged support for Chinese military actions and called for Beijing to seize control over Taiwan.

Media reports about the planned visit began circulating on Chinese social media late Monday, with users posting screenshots of news articles confirming her visit. Word that Mrs. Pelosi would stop by Taiwan during her Asian tour this week was reported in several Taiwanese and U.S. media outlets, including The Wall Street Journal, many of which are blocked in China by the country's internet censorship apparatus.

Many social-media users posted images of old posters from the Mao Zedong-era calling for the "reunification of the motherland." Taiwan is a democratically-governed island that Beijing claims as part of its territory, and the quest to bring Taiwan under Communist Party control has been [a mission for every party leader](#) since Mao.

"If there's a battle, I would go towards boiling water and tread on fire without hesitation," one social-media user wrote on the Twitter-like Weibo platform, in a comment that received more than 60,000 likes.

The hashtag #Eastern Theater Command# topped the trending topics on Weibo throughout Monday evening in China, garnering more than 1 billion views by early Tuesday. The Eastern Theater Command oversees People's Liberation Army forces positioned closest to Taiwan.

The Command's verified social-media account posted a video early Tuesday of a recent military drill off the coast of southeastern Fujian province, facing Taiwan. The caption on the video read: #Ready to Fight Any Time#.

Hu Xijin, former editor in chief of the state-run Global Times and a widely followed media personality, said a military counterattack need not necessarily refer to a war, and could instead come in the form of an unprecedented show of military pressure. "We need to give up any other illusions and prepare to use the only language that the U.S. and Taiwan understand," Mr. Hu wrote on his verified Weibo account, referring to the language of military action.

Monday marked the 95th anniversary of the People's Liberation Army. In a reception Sunday to commemorate the anniversary, which was attended by leader Xi Jinping, Defense Minister Wei Fenghe [vowed to build a solid national defense](#) and powerful armed forces to help with "the realization of the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation," invoking a favorite phrase of Mr. Xi.

—Liyang Qi contributed to this post.

10 hours ago ★

Some Taiwanese Shrug Off China's Threats...

By [Joyu Wang](#)

A front page story in Taipei on Nancy Pelosi's Asia trip. ANN WANG/REUTERS

Taiwan people share mixed feelings ahead of a possible visit by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to the self-ruled island that China claims as its own territory.

Poyu Tseng, a researcher studying China's influence, said that the visit by Mrs. Pelosi would show Washington's solidarity with Taipei on defending democracy, but that she didn't see Chinese warnings over the consequences of the trip as more threatening than those Beijing had issued in the past.

"Frankly speaking, I've been intimidated for 30 years," said Ms. Tseng, who turned 30 this year. "Every time we make progress, they throw harsh words at us," she added, referring to the verbal threats from Beijing. She also said that with Chinese warplanes buzzing Taiwan aircraft on an almost daily basis, even these more physical threats were no longer big news.

Wen Lii, director of the ruling Democratic Progressive Party's Lienchiang County Chapter on the outlying islands of Matsu, just a dozen miles off the coast of China's Fujian province, said while people are aware of the long-term threat of China's military, most also think there's no immediate danger.

"The people of Taiwan always remain alert to Chinese actions, but people don't panic over media discussions or verbal threats, which have existed for decades," he said.

Janet Hsu, who works in marketing and lives just outside Taipei, said she briefly noticed the news when it came on the TV at a restaurant where she was eating.

While she had some worries over a possible conflict, the 34-year-old said she felt she had no say over the geopolitics and would be better off focusing on social issues where she had more relevance, such as gender equality.

"I think everyday people like us—oh gosh, we're so petty and low—there's no way for us to decide these things," she said. "What I can do is to live every day to the fullest. That's it. Just that simple."

10 hours ago ★

...While Others Warn Against Provoking Beijing

By [Joyu Wang](#)

Rick Chiang, a 40-year-old father of two daughters, said he's preparing for the worst and looking into options for safeguarding his savings.

"Chinese leaders seem to be less rational these days. Just look at the Shanghai lockdown and their push for common prosperity," said Mr. Chiang, who works in the financial industry and lives in Taipei.

He said he supports the idea of Mrs. Pelosi visiting Taiwan, but both Taipei and Washington should avoid making any obvious provocation to Beijing.

Wen-ti Sung, who teaches Taiwan studies at Australian National University, said that any official call for Mrs. Pelosi to visit would "make Taiwan an even bigger target for China."

Taipei has "tried to be as low-key as possible and avoid publicly making comments," he said. Despite that, Mr. Sung said the Taiwanese government will be "clearly very happy" about the speaker's visit.

Alexander Huang, head of the international affairs department of the opposition Nationalist Party, or the Kuomintang, said while he would welcome Mrs. Pelosi, as Taiwan "cannot say no to a friendly American senior politician," he criticized the ruling party for lacking formal lines of communication with Beijing to de-escalate tensions.

"Crisis prevention, escalation control is very important. And we must have communication lines for that," Mr. Huang said, adding that his party would want to make a phone call to Beijing to play down the significance of the visit and assure Chinese leaders that Taiwan won't use it for "unnecessary propaganda."

11 hours ago ★

Chinese Stocks Drop Ahead of Pelosi's Arrival in Taiwan

By [Rebecca Feng](#)



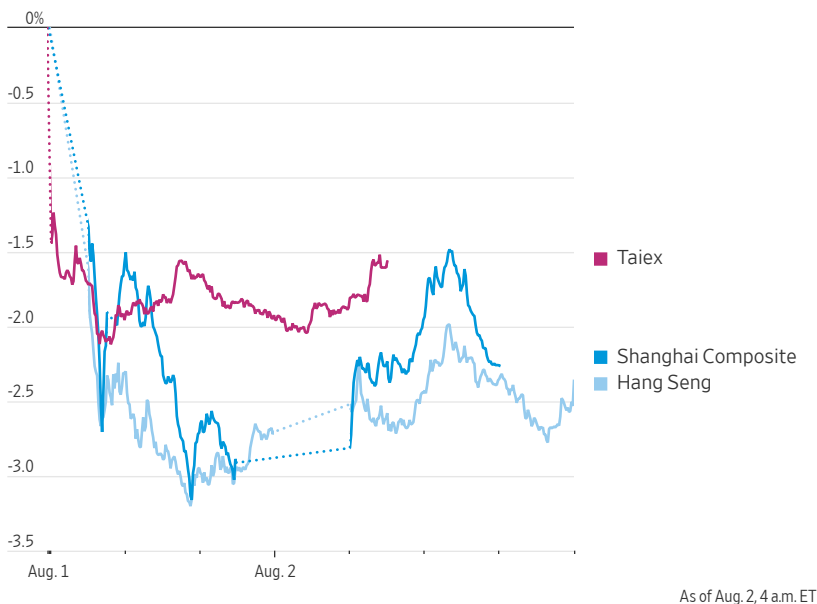
Tensions between Beijing and Washington have risen over Nancy Pelosi's planned trip. MARK R CRISTINO/SHUTTERSTOCK

Chinese stocks tumbled on Tuesday ahead of U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's planned visit to Taiwan, as investors fretted over the tensions between Beijing and Washington surrounding her trip.

The benchmark Shanghai Composite dropped as much as 3.2%, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index also fell more than 3%, led by declines in tech stocks and shares of other companies from China.

Taiwan's Taixex index was down 1.9% in early trading before recouping some losses. Mrs. Pelosi's visit to Taiwan would heighten geopolitical tensions, presenting another risk for global investors, warned OCBC Research in a note this week.

Tuesday performance



11 hours ago ★

China Stages Military Drills as Pelosi Plans Taiwan Visit

By [Chun Han Wong](#)



Members of a Chinese military honor guard exercise outside their barracks in Beijing earlier this year. NG HAN GUAN/ASSOCIATED PRESS

China said it was conducting military exercises in the waters off its southern and northeastern coasts this week, as U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi prepares to travel to Taiwan for a visit that Beijing has vehemently opposed.

Live firing will take place in the Bohai Sea, a stretch of water off China's northeastern coast, from Monday to Thursday, according to a notice issued Monday by Chinese maritime-safety authorities. Officials also disclosed in a separate notice Monday that the Chinese military would be conducting another set of exercises from Tuesday to Saturday in waters just east of the southern island province of

Hainan.

The announcements come in the run-up to a planned Taiwan stopover by Mrs. Pelosi, who embarked on an Asian tour over the weekend and arrived first in Singapore for Monday meetings with local leaders. She is due to visit Malaysia Tuesday, with South Korea and Japan also on the itinerary.

The Chinese notices, meant as warnings to civilian ships to avoid waters where the drills were taking place, didn't provide further details on the exercises. Over the weekend, officials had also announced military drills in nearby waters off the northeastern port city of Dalian, scheduled to last from Sunday until Aug. 14.

On Monday, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman renewed warnings that the People's Liberation Army "will not sit idly by" if Mrs. Pelosi goes to Taiwan, a democratically self-ruled island that Beijing claims as its territory.

The PLA's Eastern Theater Command, which oversees military forces positioned closest to Taiwan, published a roughly 2½-minute video on social media Monday evening that depicted Chinese air, sea and land forces conducting training and firing missiles. "Ready and waiting, doing battle on command," the social-media post said. "Bury all incoming enemies."

U.S. officials have said that Beijing appeared to be positioning itself to make responses to the visit, including staging military drills, firing missiles into the Taiwan Strait or near the island or sending more aircraft and naval vessels into areas closer to Taiwan where they haven't operated.

11 hours ago ★

Pelosi Plans Taiwan Trip Despite Beijing's Objections

By [Joyu Wang](#), [Wenxin Fan](#) and [Alex Leary](#)



U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi was in Singapore on Monday at the start of a closely watched tour of Asia. ROSLAN RAHMAN/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE/GETTY IMAGES

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi is planning to visit Taiwan and meet with government officials, defying warnings from Beijing not to do so and setting up the potential for increased tensions between the U.S. and China.

People whom Mrs. Pelosi is planning to see in Taiwan have been informed of her imminent arrival, a person familiar with the matter said, though some details remain in flux. Some meetings are scheduled for Tuesday evening, but most are set for Wednesday, the person said, saying that they include Taiwanese government officials.

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