

Chinese State-Run Outlet Continues Paying US Newspapers Millions to Publish Its Propaganda

By Li Hai

November 23, 2020 Updated: November 24, 2020



A *China Daily* newspaper box in Midtown Manhattan, New York City, on Dec. 6, 2017. *China Daily* is a Chinese state-run newspaper published in the English language. (Benjamin Chasteen/The Epoch Times)

China Daily, the Chinese regime's propaganda outlet, has spent millions for the past six months on U.S. publications, according to its statement (pdf) filed last week with the Department of Justice under the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA).

According to the statement, China Daily's overall expenses from May 1 to Oct. 31 this year were above

\$4.4 million, in which around \$3.1 million was spent on printing, advertising, and distribution, and about \$1.3 million for payrolls and other operating expenses. The Wall Street Journal, Los Angeles Times, Foreign Policy, the Seattle Times are some of the notable receivers.

Los Angeles Times received \$340,000 for advertisements and \$111,501 for printing newspapers in the past six months.

Received by NSD/FARA Registration Unit 11/18/2020 12:30:15 PM

Attachment if Applicable to Item 15 (a) DISBURSEMENTS-MONEY
For Period 05/01/2020-10/31/2020

Cost of Goods Sold		Ending 05/31/2020	Ending 06/30/2020	Ending 07/31/2020	Ending 08/31/2020	Ending 09/30/2020	Ending 10/31/2020	Total
In Whom	Purpose							
Los Angeles Times	Printing Newspaper- Los Angeles	21,246.25	59,796.46	19,849.00	15,603.00	15,603.00	19,500.00	111,501.71
Bay Area Production Services, LLC	Printing Newspaper- San Francisco	35,122.67	37,435.69	38,308.04	47,885.05	38,308.04	38,520.87	235,806.31
The Seattle Times	Printing Newspaper- Seattle	12,728.85	5,767.09	12,716.25	10,167.56	13,158.94	3,629.37	68,168.06
Chicago Tribune	Printing Newspaper- Chicago	6,665.00	5,118.00	6,580.00	5,272.00	5,264.00	6,575.00	35,484.00
Walton Press, Inc.	Printing Newspaper- Atlanta	6,298.99	6,518.51	8,649.28	6,819.04	6,819.04	8,648.80	43,973.66
F&F Printing & Publishing	Printing Newspaper- Washington DC	21,075.80	26,555.85	25,839.57	21,980.00	21,508.80	24,288.51	145,348.61
Stellar Printing, Inc.	Printing Newspaper- New York City	21,235.00	22,424.00	28,300.00	22,640.00	27,327.00	20,803.00	142,729.00
The Houston Chronicle	Printing Newspaper- Houston	12,100.00	13,680.00	17,100.00	13,680.00	13,680.00	17,100.00	92,340.00
The Boston Globe	Printing Newspaper- Boston	11,669.67	11,751.86	14,675.12	11,742.75	11,744.22	14,667.75	76,412.87
Hawaii Hohe LLC	Printing Newspaper- Hawaii	6,117.95	6,941.97	6,431.95	5,151.96	5,151.96	6,439.95	32,841.74
Metroland Media	Printing Newspaper- Toronto	8,312.99	8,695.81	8,816.57	9,047.31	8,976.81	11,220.78	55,057.06
Empress Folha da Manhã S.A	Printing Newspaper- Sao Paulo Brazil	13,800.00	10,720.00	13,800.00	10,720.00	10,720.00	13,800.00	72,360.00
Sun Sentinel Company	Printing Newspaper Miami	5,470.30	6,817.95	6,817.95	9,432.02	6,817.95	6,817.95	42,654.18
	Total Cost of Goods Sold	186,762.91	182,718.31	207,543.88	192,427.72	191,386.94	191,641.84	1,158,886.18

Operation Expenses		Ending 05/31/2020	Ending 06/30/2020	Ending 07/31/2020	Ending 08/31/2020	Ending 09/30/2020	Ending 10/31/2020	Total
The Wall Street Journal	Advertisement Expenses	58,744.68	25,552.00					84,296.68
Los Angeles Times	Advertisement Expenses	94,000.00	340,000.00	68,000.00	68,000.00	68,000.00	68,000.00	340,000.00
Foreign Policy	Advertisement Expenses	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	100,000.00
Financial Times	Advertisement Expenses	74,570.00						74,570.00
The Globe and Mail	Advertisement Expenses	65,953.38	66,093.03					132,046.41
Various Vendors	Administration Expenses	6,268.18	5,892.51	5,581.99	9,460.96	6,268.18	1,925.21	38,398.03
Government Agencies	Rates Expenses	11,452.00	17,113.65	12,694.65	12,862.02	16,448.00	12,875.78	82,506.15
Various Employees	Payroll Expenses	99,475.00	101,477.56	109,445.06	108,193.97	101,795.26	95,740.73	611,527.58
Various Insurance Companies	Insurance Expenses	18,683.45	12,588.22	19,494.43	21,508.26	18,893.44	19,852.84	110,467.18
Various Landlords	Rent Expenses	53,012.88	52,545.75	52,675.33	53,201.61	52,806.82	53,417.42	318,077.79
Various Employees & Vendors	Travel & Transportation	3,372.94	1,556.84	804.56	1,538.26	1,076.71	1,577.89	9,866.82
Various Telephone & Internet Companies	Telephone & Internet	3,072.81	3,538.68	3,473.77	3,910.15	5,923.58	3,645.28	23,584.32
Various Delivery Vendors	Delivery Expenses	202,457.22	179,075.71	197,725.29	187,020.02	183,616.67	191,960.46	1,230,895.37
Various Utility Companies	Utility Expenses	2,845.52	3,470.88	971.12	1,687.84	3,724.14	4,632.91	10,143.19
Canada Expenses	Overseas Expenses	5,109.03	4,835.00	4,881.07	4,978.03	4,845.86	4,685.71	29,334.70
Various Vendors	Marketing Expenses	4,045.00				8,075.00	8,395.00	21,815.00
	Total Operation Expenses	489,680.23	499,355.84	491,746.05	564,708.70	632,377.28	604,832.73	3,282,495.81

The filing document shows China Daily paid US media outlets million for the past six months. (screenshot/The Epoch Times)

Over the past few years, China Daily has spent millions **running supplements—called “China Watch”—** containing **propaganda disguised as news** in major U.S. media outlets. These supplements are inserted as

advertisements in newspapers or paid programs online. However, scholars researching Chinese influence activities in the United States said in a 2018 report (pdf) that **“it’s hard to tell that China Watch’s material is an ad.”**



A paid insert of China Daily inside the Jan. 17, 2017 edition of the Wall Street Journal. (Benjamin Chasteen/The Epoch Times)

On Feb. 18, China Daily and four other media outlets from China were **designated as Foreign Missions** by the Department of State. On June 22, the Department of State designated another **four news outlets from China as Foreign Missions.**

*“[General Secretary Xi Jinping] said ‘**Party-owned media must. . . embody the party’s will, safeguard the party’s authority ... their actions must be highly consistent with the party,**’ in short, while Western*

media are beholden to the truth, PRC media are beholden to the Chinese Communist Party,” Department Spokesperson Morgan Ortagus said in her statement in June.

China Daily’s previous financial filings (pdf) with the Justice Department showed that **it paid more than \$4.6 million to The Washington Post and nearly \$6 million to the Wall Street Journal** since November 2016. It also showed the outlet paid The New York Times \$50,000 in 2018.

The Washington Post and The New York Times **stopped running the advertising insert early this year.** The Wall Street Journal, Foreign Policy, and the LA Times didn’t immediately respond to requests for comments from The Epoch Times.

According to China Daily’s recent filing, for the past six months, its total subscription and advertisement income was only \$123,700.56. However, **the “Fund from Headquarter Office” was \$4,416,133.35**, accounting for about 97.3 percent of total income.

China Daily is headquartered in Beijing, China. It is owned by the Publicity Department, an internal division of the CCP (China Communist Party).