

# South Korea fires up anti-piracy patrol with kimchi

## 南韓海軍靠泡菜提振士氣、抵抗海盜

South Korea has come up with a new weapon against Somali pirates — a ton of kimchi to boost the **morale** of its naval unit in the region.

This will be enough to feed the 300-member crew of its destroyer for at least a month, according to navy officials quoted by Yonhap news agency.

The crew have been eating kimchi from a local **importer** in the region but it didn't **come up to scratch**.

"The unit has ... complained of high prices and low quality," an official said on condition of anonymity.

"We are guaranteeing that the additional **shipment** we're planning to send later this month will be fresh and genuinely Korean-made."

Navy Chief of Staff Jung Ok-Keun, in a message of thanks to the unit, said he hoped the shipment would help the troops stay the course.

A Lynx helicopter on board the destroyer has four times scared off boats trying to attack ships since deploying last month, Seoul officials say.

Kimchi, which is eaten with almost every meal, is made from various fermented vegetables including cabbage, radishes and cucumbers.

It has its own museum in Seoul and was blasted into space along with the country's first astronaut in 2008. (AFP)



南韓已經找到一種對付索馬利亞海盜的新武器——噸重的泡菜。他們打算以泡菜

激勵防守該海域的南韓海軍士氣。

據韓聯社報導中海軍官員的說法，這樣的份量應足以讓驅逐艦上的三百名官兵吃上至少一個月。

官兵們食用的泡菜一直是由當地某進口商供應，不過其品質卻未達標準。

一名官員匿名表示：「官兵們都抱怨...那泡菜不但貴、品質又不好。」

「我們保證，我們這個月稍晚運補去的絕對是新鮮、正宗的韓國泡菜。」

海軍參謀長鄭玉根向該艦隊致意時說，他希望這些泡菜能幫助部隊堅持到底。

首爾的官員表示，部署在該軍艦上的「山貓號」直昇機自從上個月開始出任務以來，已四度驅逐試圖發動攻擊的船隻。

泡菜這種韓國人幾乎餐餐必備的食物，是由甘藍菜、蘿蔔和黃瓜等多種蔬菜發酵而成。

除了首爾有泡菜博物館外，去年韓國第一位太空人上太空時也帶著泡菜同行。

(法新社/翻譯：袁星塵)

South Korea's Yakult Company workers make Kimchi, a traditional Korean side-dish, in front of the Seoul City Hall in South Korea, Nov. 20, 2008. The annual event is held to help needy neighbors. PHOTOS: EPA

二〇〇八年十一月二十日，南韓養樂多公司員工在首爾市政府門口製作韓國傳統小菜「泡菜」。這項年度活動是為了幫助有需要的街坊而舉辦。照片：歐通社

### TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

#### 1. morale /m ræ/ n.

士氣 (shì4 qì4)

例：Morale within the team has been low ever since the coach quit.

(自從教練辭職後，隊上的士氣一直很低落。)

#### 2. importer /m port/ n.

進口商 (jìn4 kǒu3 shāng1)

例：A local importer has agreed to help us with the transaction.

(一個當地進口商已經答應要幫我們進貨。)

#### 3. shipment /pm nt/ n.

運載的貨物 (yùn4 zài3 de5 huò4 wù4)

例：The shipment of Christmas trees arrived ahead of schedule.

(這批聖誕樹提前運抵了。)

### OUT LOUD 對話練習

Jonathan: How did you do in your exams?

Delores: Not very well. I might have to re-sit the entire year.

Jonathan: That's too bad. I thought you studied hard.

Delores: I did, but the teaching **wasn't up to scratch**.

Jonathan: What was wrong with it?

Delores: The lecturers were late, and they sometimes forgot their notes.

Jonathan: I'm sorry to hear that. I hope you do better next time.

Delores: Thanks, so do I.

強納森：妳考得如何？

黛羅瑞絲：不太理想。我可能得補考。

強納森：太慘了，我以為妳很用功。

黛羅瑞絲：我是啊，但老師教得不夠好。

強納森：怎麼說？

黛羅瑞絲：講師老是遲到，而且有時還會忘記他們的稿子。

強納森：很遺憾聽到妳這樣，希望妳下次會表現得更好。

黛羅瑞絲：謝啦，我也希望。

### IDIOM POINT 重要片語

#### not up to scratch 未達水準

Something that is **not up to scratch** is inadequate. In the article, the locally imported kimchi was not good enough for the crew.

Examples: "Robin's grades **haven't been up to scratch** this semester, so he might get kicked out of school if he doesn't improve," or "The service at the restaurant **wasn't up to scratch**."

說某事「not up to scratch」，就表示它未達標準。文章中說，當地進口的泡菜對船員來說不夠好。

例如：「羅賓這學期的成績不合格，如果他不改進的話可能會被退學」，或是「這間餐廳的服務未達水準」。