

Saved pastor rejoices as psalm book stops bullet

讚美詩本替牧師擋下子彈

An Argentine evangelical pastor was born again when a psalm book he was holding **deflected** a bullet fired at close range, officials in the western province of Mendoza said Thursday.

Mauricio Zanes Condori, 38, was trying to **talk** two thieves **out of** robbing his church, located in the town of Rodeo del Medio, some 1,000km west of Buenos Aires, local judicial authorities reported.

One of the thieves **aimed** his handgun at Zanes Condori's chest and fired at a distance of two meters.

The criminals immediately fled, and churchgoers who were watching the event **unfold** in horror called an ambulance.

The bullet, however, hit the psalm book that Zanes Condori was holding to his chest.

A medic who arrived at the scene said that the book slowed down the bullet and deflected its trajectory, so in the end it only scratched Zanes Condori's chest.

The official report said that a Bible had stopped the bullet, but Zanes Condori later clarified that it was a psalm book.

"That leads me to believe in a God that takes care of me," Zanes Condor told the online **publication** Los Andes. (AFP)



阿根廷南部曼多薩省官員上週四表示，一位福音派牧師遭到近距離開槍，所幸他手上握著的讚美詩本替他擋下子彈，救了他一命。

當地法院人士描述，三十八歲的莫里西歐·單斯·康朵利當時想勸退兩名搶劫教堂的小偷：他的教堂位在布宜諾艾利斯西部約一千公里的羅德歐德爾梅迪歐鎮上。

其中一名小偷把手槍瞄準單斯·康朵利的胸口，並在兩公尺的近距離朝他開槍。

這兩名罪犯開槍後旋即逃跑，而目睹這起事件的教友驚恐地打電話叫救護車。

然而，子彈擊中了單斯·康朵利握在胸前的讚美詩本。

抵達現場的急救醫生說，這本書使得子彈減速，偏轉了彈道，所以子彈只擦過單斯·康朵利的胸口。

官方報告指出，是一本聖經阻擋了子彈，但單斯·康朵利稍後澄清那是一本讚美詩。

單斯·康朵利對《安地斯》新聞網說：「我相信這是上帝的眷顧。」 (法新社/翻譯：袁星塵)

Top: A crow flies past the Papal Cross in Phoenix Park in Dublin on May 20, 2009.

Left: A member of the choir is seen holding a Bible in Chinese script during an early service on Easter Sunday at a Protestant church in Beijing on April 12, 2009.

上圖：五月二十日在都柏林的鳳凰公園中，一隻烏鴉飛過十字架。

左圖：四月十二日在北京某新教會中，一位詩班成員在復活節的禮拜上握著一本中文版聖經。

PHOTO: REUTERS

PHOTO: EPA

照片：路透社

照片：歐新社

TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. deflect /dɪ'flekt/ v.

使轉向 (shì2 zhuān3 xiāng4)

例：The tennis ball deflected off the wall and hit the window.
(那顆網球擊中牆壁後轉而打中窗戶。)

2. aim /em/ v.

瞄準 (miào2 zhūn3)

例：The hunter aimed his gun at the target.
(獵人把槍對準目標。)

3. unfold /ʌn'fɒld/ v.

呈現 (chéng2 xiǎn4)

例：The drama slowly unfolded in front of us.
(這場戲劇性事件慢慢地呈現在我們面前。)

4. publication /ˌpʌblɪ'keɪʃən/ n.

出版物 (chū1 bǎn3 wù4)

例：Rory subscribes to a fishing publication.
(羅利訂了一份釣魚刊物。)

IDIOM POINT 重要片語

talk somebody out of something 勸某人打消念頭

If you **talk somebody out of doing something**, you persuade them not to do it. In the article, the priest tried to persuade the robbers not to rob the church.

Examples: "I spent hours trying to **talk Polly out of sailing to India**, but she didn't heed my advice," or "Can you help me **talk Wilbur out of doing a parachute jump**? I don't think he realizes how dangerous it is."

若你「**talk somebody out of doing something**」，意思就是你說服他們不要去做某事。上文中提到，這位牧師想勸搶匪不要搶劫教堂。

例如：「我花了數小時勸寶麗不要搭船去印度，但她不聽我的建議」，或是「你可以幫我勸勸韋伯不要去跳傘嗎？我覺得他沒搞清楚跳傘有多危險」。

OUT LOUD 對話練習

Mark: Have you seen Daisy recently?

Stuart: Yes, I saw her last night.

Mark: How is she?

Stuart: Not good. She wants to quit her job at the hospital. I think she's mad.

Mark: Right. That's a good job. Why does she want to quit?

Stuart: I have no idea, but I intend to **talk her out of it**.

Mark: Good idea. Let me know if I can help.

Stuart: Sure.

馬克：你最近有見到黛西嗎？

史都華：有，我昨晚才見過她。

馬克：她還好嗎？

史都華：不太好，她想辭掉醫院的工作。我覺得她瘋了。

馬克：沒錯，那是個好工作。她為甚麼想辭職？

史都華：我不知道，但我想勸她打消這個念頭。

馬克：好主意，如果有我可以幫上忙的地方就跟我說一聲吧。

史都華：好。