



German kids 'bound for Africa' spark police search 德國小童「逃向非洲」 警方動員搜索

Three young schoolchildren **sparked** a panicked search when they slipped out of their kindergarten to flee wintry Germany and "fly to Africa," authorities announced. "The rogue youngsters aged five and six took advantage of an unobserved moment to break out of their class" in the southern city of Nuremberg, police said in a statement.

"Their teachers called the police immediately and took part in the search" which included federal officers, the fire brigade and a police helicopter.

About two hours later, they were found **safe and sound** and said they had aimed to catch a plane to Africa.

"On the way they wanted to make a '**stopover**' at a toy store on Trier Street," police said.

Last January, two childhood sweethearts, aged six and

seven, tried to elope from northern Germany and tie the knot under the African sun.

The pair, who had taken along the five-year-old sister of the "bride" as a "**witness**," were picked up by police and returned to their relieved parents. (AFP)

德國有關單位證實，三名幼稚園學童偷溜，打算逃離冷颼颼的德國「飛奔到非洲」，讓大人驚慌展開搜索。

警方在一份聲明中表示，德國南部紐倫堡市「這三個五、六歲的調皮鬼趁沒人注意時，從課堂上逃跑。」

「他們的老師立刻打電話報警，並加入聯邦官員、消防隊及一架警用直昇機所組成的搜索行列。」

約莫兩個鐘頭後，這三名孩童被平安找回，並說他們原本打算搭飛機去非洲。

警方表示：「前往機場的途中，他們想先在特里爾街上的一間玩具店逗留。」

去年一月，德國北部一對兩小無猜的六歲和七歲孩童試圖私奔到非洲，並在非洲的驕陽下成婚。

這對小戀人還帶著「新娘」五歲大的妹妹當「見證人」，警方後來找到他們，並將他們送回如釋重負的父母身邊。

(法新社/翻譯：袁星塵)

Two children wave as the container ship Colombo Express leaves the port of Hamburg, northern Germany on May 2, 2005. PHOTO: AFP

二〇〇五年五月二日在德國北部漢堡港，兩個小男孩揮手目送「可倫坡快遞」貨櫃船離港。
照片：法新社

TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. **spark** /spark/ v.

引發 (yin3 fa1)

例: The TV show sparked a heated debate about climate change. (那個電視節目引發一場關於氣候變遷的激辯。)

2. **stopover** /'stɒp,ovə/ n.

中途停留 (zhong1 tu2 ting2 liu2)

例: Our flight made an unscheduled stopover in Amsterdam. (我們的飛機臨時飛到阿姆斯特丹中途停留。)

3. **witness** /'wɪtnəs/ n.

見證人 (jian4 zheng4 ren2)

例: No witnesses have come forward despite a big appeal. (儘管大力疾呼，還是沒有證人出面指證。)

LANGUAGE POINT 重要片語

safe and sound 安然無恙

If you are **safe and sound**, you are unharmed after being in a dangerous situation. In the article, the children were **safe and sound** after absconding from their kindergarten.

Example: "The roads were icy, but everyone arrived **safe and sound**."

如果說你「**safe and sound**」，就表示你歷經危險後仍毫髮無傷。上文中提到，這幾個小朋友從幼稚園逃跑之後被平安找回。

例如：「雖然路面結冰，但大家還是平安抵達了」。