

Weekly Current Events: Posted: 2.6.23

[Miller, et al., "US Downs Chinese Balloon," Associated Press, 2.5.23.](#)

1. When did the U.S. government first spot the Chinese balloon? When did it shoot it down?
2. What was President Biden's immediate reaction to the balloon? When did he want it shot down?
3. What was the military's response? Why did they wait to shoot down the balloon?
4. What additional precautions did the federal government take in this matter?
5. How has China reacted to the incident?
6. What's China's official statement on the balloon?
7. How has the incident affected Secretary of State Tony Blinken's trip to China?

[Gangitano, "5 Things Biden will and Won't say in SOTU," The Hill, 2.5.23.](#)

1. What economic condition will Biden call for?
2. What will Tyre Nichols shooting cause Biden to say?
3. What foreign policy concerns or issue(s) will he point out?
4. What are two things Biden will avoid and why?
5. What tone does the author suggest Biden will strike with his SOTU message?

[Abcarian, Rep. Omar \(D-MN\) . . . "Payback and Prejudice," LA Times, 2.5.23.](#)

1. Who is Ilhan Omar, and why is she in the news?
2. What happened to her a couple years ago regarding congressional committees? Why?
3. What happened the other day?
4. What is the Republicans' line as to why she should not serve on the Foreign Affairs Committee?
5. Why was Democrat Adam Schiff kept off committee?
6. What was Republican Marjorie Taylor Greene's recent history and committee positions?
7. How does the author characterize her new relationship with Speaker McCarthy?
8. Does the Democratic party seem to be behind Representative Omar?
9. What do you think, overall, of this story and of this Op-Ed? Why?