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China and World Bank unite in their commitment to helping continent thrive in years ahead

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{By ANDREW MOODY} in Guangzhou \\ and rewmoody@chinadaily.com.cn \end{tabular}$

somewhat rainy Guangzhou, a city with historic trading ties to Africa, was the venue for a major conference on investment in the emerging continent.

Leaders and representatives from 38 African countries, including South African President Jacob Zuma, Chinese Vice-Premier Ma Kai, World Bank executives and academics, descended on the city's White Swan Hotel for the 2nd Investing in Africa Forum.

The two-day meeting — as with the first forum in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, last year — was seen by many as another key staging post in the evolution of China's relationship with Africa.

As China's trade with the continent has increased from \$10 billion in 2000, on course for \$400 billion by 2020,

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"China is one of the biggest trading partners and one of the biggest investors in Africa, as well as a major aid provider."

LI MIN / CHINA DAILY

Haleh Bridi

director of partnerships and external communications for the Africa region at the World Bank

Remarkable woman's memory lives on

By YANG YANG

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At midnight on April 30, 1937, a beautiful, 30-year-old American woman secretly climbed out the window of her room on the first floor of the Xijing Hotel in Xi'an, Shaanxi province.

Once on the ground, she moved to the base of a wall facing the window. She stood on a pile of garbage and looked over it. A Kuomintang police patrol was marching toward the hotel.

It would have been impossible at that moment to avoid the patrol, so she changed course and walked to the hotel entrance. She was surprised to find the door unlocked.

Pushing it open, she encountered a policeman leaning against the wall, dozing off.

He mumbled, "Where are you going?" Calmly she answered in Chinese that she was going home and wondered if there was a rickshaw available. Coincidentally, one appeared. She stepped into the rickshaw, and the man pulling it took her quickly away.

Six days had passed since she had arrived in Xi'an, traveling from what was then called Peking. She had been looking for a chance to escape from the city and evade the Kuomintang police but had failed. She was being closely watched on account her husband Edgar Snow, a world-famous journalist and writer, in whom the authorities were especially interested.

Soon after she left the hotel, the rickshaw was narrowly missed by a man on bicycle.

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HELEN SNOW with Zhu De, 1937.