



Christian Goebel @Chri5tianGoebel Tue Jan 04 17:04:40 +0000 2022

The current situation in Xi'an #Xian illustrates how important it is to "disaggregate China", at least when trying to understand what caused the difficulties that are reported these days. A thread. 1/ <https://t.co/u1x4WcPa71>



When I looked at lockdown coverage on Chinese social media, I made out four broad types of posts:

1) government propaganda on the logistics of delivering food to 13 million people (sometimes reposted with satirical undertones, sometimes with commenters mocking the content); 2/ <https://t.co/BoMJyBshnR>

1月1日 17:11 来自 iPhone 7 Plus(亮黑色)

真棒，看了三遍，数了三遍！一包菜，千里迢迢经27人之手（电梯中有隐隐有1人，源头抛下当有1人）送菜上门，西安市民有福了！——封城第十天，超市可以捐出一些手推车别让志愿者太累了！

#西安抗疫日记# 政府派送的免费菜来了，感谢可爱的逆行者们！

西安封城第九天，2021年的最后一天，一切都会好起来的。❤️via.慧子#跨年#

□ 西安直播的微博视频



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499

2640

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按时间

雷 V 📸: 真棒，看了三遍，数了三遍！一包菜，千里迢迢经27人之手（电梯中有隐隐有1人，源头抛下当有1人）送菜上门，西安市民有福了！——封城第十天，超市可以捐出一些手推车别让志愿者太累了！

1月1日 17:11

回复 | 130

平平淡淡才是真_5376 铁粉：主要是别给摄影师累了，他最累走的最远😊

1月1日 17:54

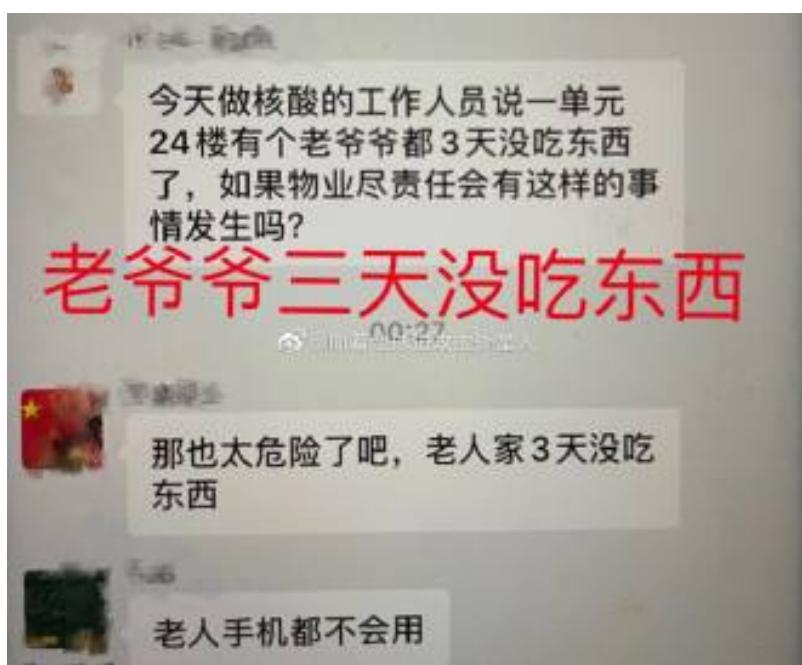
回复 | 53

逆境里叶变换：可能不到200米，配置了这么多人力。请问全西安应该配置多少人力？

1月1日 20:06

回复 | 35

2) an increasing number of complaints by residents who say they have run out or are running out of food; 3/ <https://t.co/VT0KJykdYv>



3) comments by users who says they're also from Xi'an but have received food, and on that grounds challenge the second group; 4/ <https://t.co/LyV2BfVgld>

12:23

4G

<返回

所有评论 ✓

设置



谢老板的牛肉担担面

9分钟前 来自iPhone 11

回复

住高新，根本不缺物质好吧。现实中没听人说要饿肚子了，微博上特么一片要饿死了的。要别人把饭给你喂嘴边才行是吧



@弗虑弗为

→_→//@youer~: #西安已到了与病毒殊死较量的关键时期# 说实话本地人抱怨就行了，我们生...

4) comments about the lack of government efficiency and the danger of repression when speaking out. 5/
<https://t.co/fzm8F0SKtV>



@瓜友茶馆

Especially interesting is the tension between 2) and 3), which can probably be explained by the two groups living in different parts of the city (and not necessarily by group 3 being CCP fanboys and -girls). 6/

Going through Weibo, it becomes apparent that by far the most complaints about lacking food come from Yanta district. There are also quite a few complaints from Weiyang (and, to a lesser degree, the other inner-city districts). 7/

Yanta is Xi'an's most wealthy and developed, put also most populated district. It is also where by far the most Covid-19 cases were recorded. 8/

As is well known, Xi'an imposed a city-wide lockdown on December 23. Less well-known is that, because of the rapid increase of incidences, a lockdown for parts of Yanta was announced already on December 17. 9/

<https://t.co/BBR2WPjsg8>



西部网

21-12-17 16:58 来自微博 weibo.com 已编辑

+关注

【12月18日0时起 #西安雁塔多个区域隔离管控#】#西安多个小区实施封控管理# 记者12月17日晚从西安雁塔区了解到，即日起，雁塔区以下区域采取管控措施：包括朱雀大街以东、丈八东路以南、长安南路以西、南三环以北的区域。#来返西安须持48小时内核酸检测证明#

西部网、陕西头条记者了解到，此次封闭区域包括紫郡长安北区、恒瑞家园、华城万象二期、长丰园小区、西安市第八医院等。隔离管控时间从12月17日24:00起，解除时间另行通知。12月18日0时起 西安雁塔区这个区域隔离管控



Shortly after, however, the government opened the up again, much to the bewilderment of some residents. 10/ <https://t.co/vwBJ9npqZ9>



21-12-18 18:01 来自 Note 9 Pro 一亿像素

#西安市雁塔区采取区域隔离管控#不知道干了个啥，晚上8点多说雁塔区要封控，一下班我急急地把电脑收拾好，准备居家办公。还怕出租车不去我们小区呢。到家后没歇一口气，又和室友一起跑了好远想囤点东西。超市被抢的没啥东西了，买了一堆泡面(两人能吃一周)回家。刚到家美滋滋歇口气。结果看到消息说不封了，无语至极。啥也不是，明早打工去 加油吧😊

Apparently, to contain the spread, the authorities imposed the lockdown without first obtaining permission from higher-level authorities. It seems, however, that those authorities were not pleased. Yanta's leaders had to apologise and open up again. 11/ <https://t.co/rPHOILVA1G>



22-1-2 14:08 来自 小米8周年旗舰手机

#西安雁塔区委书记被免职#十二月十八日雁塔区封闭就好了，是谁让封八点封路，十点放行，雁塔区出来道歉，不同意十八日封闭雁塔区的这个人更应该下台谢罪！

转发

8

59

This illustrates a shortcoming of China's hierarchy-cum-competition approach to local governance: higher levels delegate a lot of responsibilities, but often without also delegating the requisite rights (and finances) to meet these responsibilities, leaving localities 12/

to fending for themselves. If it works out, the centre takes the credit, if it doesn't, local officials are blamed and given the boot. 13/

On the one hand, local officials cannot single-handedly lock down a district, but on the other, they are required to organise food delivery to more than a million residents at short notice. 14/

The bigger a district, the higher the coordination costs. I don't know how many employees there are in Yanta's District government, but I doubt that the numbers are proportionate to its size when compared with other districts. 15/

Two days ago, the party secretary and vice party secretary of the district were fired because their pandemic prevention work was allegedly insufficient. I'm not sure if this refers to the increase of infected, the food problem or both. 16/ <https://t.co/j3vt6beDVc>



央视新闻

1月2日 20:06 来自 微博 weibo.com

+关注

【#西安雁塔区委书记被免#】为进一步加强西安市雁塔区疫情防控工作力量，经陕西省委同意，西安市副市长杨建强兼任雁塔区委书记，免去王斌同志雁塔区委书记职务，免去崔诗越同志雁塔区委副书记、区政府党组书记职务。（总台记者李志）

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Notably, the leaders of other inner-city districts with food delivery problems are still in office (unless I missed something). 17/

The whole episode illustrates what always happens in emergency situations like these: the centre blames local officials for problems that are really systemic in nature. There is some local blowback against the sacking, some say the higher levels are to blame. 18/ <https://t.co/uFUuWQaFQd>

22-1-2 14:13 来自 HUAWEI Mate 40 Pro

#西安雁塔区委书记被免职#

18号雁塔区要封，网上被刷屏骂，说防疫过度，没多久就道歉不封了。跪得这么快也不知道是哪方面做的决定，想想同一个病毒来源的东莞大朗当时都封了多久了，还不封想啥呢？结果就是多了整整五天的社区传播时间，当时要求撤回封区决定的人总也要负点责任吧？

转发

19

76

It would be worthwhile to compare the Wuhan and Xi'an lockdowns by zooming in on the district-, street office and neighbourhood levels. 19/19