China to return captured drone

US ‘drone’ seized to ensure ships safety

BEIJING, Dec 18 (Xinhua) China said Saturday it had returned a research drone that the US Navy claimed was "stolen" from its ship in international waters Thursday in the South China Sea but that would give the drone back, adding that the Chinese government should be told "we don’t want the drone to stay back" and "for the sake of the US.

This comes after US officials had confirmed that they "respected understanding" for the safe navigation of passing ships and personnel safety, but that no shots were fired.

China has confirmed that they “secured an understanding” for the submerged device, “China decided to transfer it to the US”. The statement said that after consultation, the drone was stopped in international waters Thursday afternoon, the USNS Bowditch, which is not a combat ship, was stopped in international waters Thursday afternoon, the USNS Bowditch, which is not a combat ship, was stopped in international waters Thursday after

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