

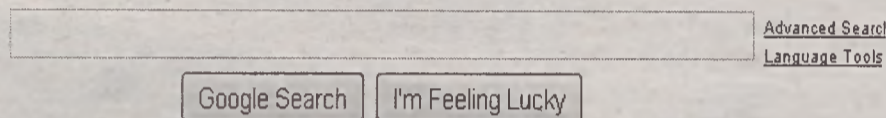
INTERNATIONAL

Google vs China

Mengjie Zhang, Staff Writer

At beginning of 2010, Google announced that it might quit providing service in China unless Chinese web censorship ends. The announcement came after an attack on Gmail accounts. Google suspected that this attack was led by the Chinese government to get information about the activities of human rights activists.

This announcement has led to great discussion amongst technology experts, politicians, and citizens. Some people support Google's decision because they also believe that China's web censorship is wrong. Others argue that Google wants to quit operating in China because it cannot compete with Baidu—a popular search engine in China. A third point of view argues that Google's decision came from higher up, as a request from the U.S. government to pressure China into changing its censorship. Besides Google, Microsoft and Yahoo also operate in China. Yahoo supports Google's back-out, but Microsoft has stated that they will continue all their operations in China and follow all laws and rules imposed by the Chinese government. Secretary of State Hilary Clinton made a statement that she hoped China would investigate the



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Screen shot of Google.com

attack on Google and start allowing free, uncensored use of the internet for citizens. However, China argued that the United States is rather hypocritical because the US government forbids the spread of violence and pornography online; and, under the Patriot Act, the US claims the right to monitor phone conversations, internet use, and

emails if necessary. Regardless of these statements, however, both China and the United State remain on good terms, and Google is left to fight this battle without official government support.

News at a Glance

gathered by Mengjie Zhang

- The 2010 Winter Olympics opened with a beautiful ceremony on February 12th night in Canada, but have since been clouded by the death of Georgian luger Nodar Kumaritashvili.
- Top British fashion designer Alexander McQueen, 40, was found dead at London home on February 11, 2010.
- According to articles from *New York Times* on February 2, 2010, Google is dealing with major issues concerning business and user privacy, copyright protection, and the dominance of Google's Internet search engine in Europe.
- US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton warns Iran not to "build their bomb" during speech given at the US-Islamic World forum in Qatar.
- After a summit held in Brussels last Thursday (Feb. 11th 2010), EU leaders promised to help Greece with its debts. However, no details have been provided that explain how this will be done.



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