

August 10, 2022

SYLLOGE ON CHINA

Focus: Nuclear, Space, Missiles and other Security Issues

An Initiative by Indian Pugwash Society and Centre for Nuclear Issues and Arms Control (MP - IDSA)



INDIAN PUGWASH SOCIETY

Xi attends reception celebrating 95th founding anniversary of PLA

China Military Online, August 01, 2022

Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, attended a reception to celebrate the 95th founding anniversary of the People's Liberation Army (PLA), which falls on August 1. The reception was held at the Great Hall of the People by the Ministry of National Defense. Xi, also Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC), was joined by other senior leaders of the Party and the state, including Li Keqiang, Li Zhanshu, Wang Yang, Wang Huning, Zhao Leji, Han Zheng and Wang Qishan. Entrusted by Xi, CMC member, State Councilor, and Defense Minister Wei Fenghe extended festive greetings to all the officers and personnel of the PLA, members of the armed police, and others on behalf of the CPC Central Committee, the State Council, and the CMC.

http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-08/01/content_10174971.htm

Satellite photos show China's new nuclear test site in Xinjiang

Nikkei Asia, August 01, 2022

China is expanding its nuclear test facilities in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, an analysis of satellite photographs obtained by Nikkei suggests. Beijing halted explosive tests in the area a quarter of a century ago. Nikkei has viewed satellite photographs with a number of experts that appear to confirm China is strengthening its nuclear testing capability. Extensive coverings have been erected on a mountainside in this arid region, and broken rocks piled up nearby are believed to be evidence of excavation of a new "sixth tunnel" for testing hidden beneath. Power transmission cables and a facility that could be used for storing high-explosives have recently been installed, while unpaved white roads lead from a command post in various directions.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/The-age-of-Great-China/Satellite-photos-show-China-s-new-nuclear-test-site-in-Xinjiang>

China plans to view the universe's dark past using a fleet of telescopes orbiting the moon

Ling Xin

South China Morning Post, August 02, 2022

A team of Chinese scientists have proposed sending a fleet of telescopes to orbit the moon and peek into the most mysterious era of the universe's past. The Discovering the Sky at the Longest Wavelength (DSL) mission, if officially approved in the coming weeks, would shed light on the so-called cosmic dark ages, a time when the infant universe was nothing but a sea of darkness. Astronomers believe the first stars appeared when the universe was about 200 million years old. Before that, the world was a rather obscure and empty place: no suns, no planets – only the hydrogen atoms forged from the Big Bang.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3187409/china-plans-view-universes-dark-past-using-fleet-telescopes>

Chinese FM reiterates strong opposition against Japan's dumping of nuclear-contaminated water ahead of facility construction

Global Times, August 03, 2022

The Chinese Foreign Ministry reiterated its strong concern and opposition on the one-sided decision made by the Japanese government on releasing nuclear-contaminated water from the Fukushima nuclear power plant into the sea as the construction of dumping facilities are reported to begin. According to Kyodo News, Tokyo Electric Power Company said that it will start to build undersea tunnels and other facilities to discharge treated water from the Fukushima nuclear plant into the ocean. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying restated China's criticism of Japan's extremely irresponsible act of arbitrarily dumping nuclear-contaminated water when asked to comment on Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida's remarks at the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202208/1272148.shtml>

PLA drills involving missiles, J-20 stealth fighters surround Taiwan as Pelosi lands on island

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, August 03, 2022

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) started to commence joint military exercises surrounding the island of Taiwan, featuring J-20 stealth fighter jets and test firing of conventional missiles that analysts said could fly over the island, right after US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi landed on the island, with additional important drills announced for days to come. The drills, likely to be larger in scale than the one in the 1996 crisis, serve not only as warnings to the US and "Taiwan independence" secessionists, but also as rehearsals for the PLA to reunify the island by force, experts said. Immediately after Pelosi's plane landed in Taipei, the PLA Eastern Theater Command announced it will start a series of joint military operations around the island of Taiwan.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202208/1272077.shtml>

Countries with largest nuclear arsenals should reduce warheads first: Chinese official

Xinhua, August 03, 2022

The countries with the largest nuclear arsenals should further conduct a significant and substantive reduction in their nuclear arsenals in a verifiable, irreversible and legally binding manner, said a Chinese disarmament official. The principles of "maintaining global strategic stability" and "undiminished security for all" should be followed in the practices of nuclear disarmament, Fu Cong told the 10th Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. The countries with the largest nuclear arsenals taking the lead in reduction will create conditions for other nuclear-weapon states to join the nuclear disarmament process, he said.

<https://english.news.cn/20220803/726d9e64aa34452bb0f93e83fbc517ca/c.html>

PLA launches long-range rocket artillery, conventional missiles in drills around Taiwan

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, August 04, 2022

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) launched large-scale military exercises surrounding the island of Taiwan, starting with live-fire shooting of long-range rocket artillery into the designated areas in the eastern part of Taiwan Straits and test launches of conventional missiles to designated waters in the east of Taiwan island. After the drills kicked off, the PLA Eastern Theater Command announced in a press release that the Army conducted long-range artillery live-fire shooting drills in the Taiwan Straits, accurately striking specific targets in the eastern side of the Straits, and obtaining the expected outcome.\

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202208/1272190.shtml>

PLA aircraft carrier group with nuclear-powered submarine joins drills around Taiwan: expert

Guo Yuandan and Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, August 04, 2022

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) has sent an aircraft carrier group featuring at least one nuclear-powered submarine to the ongoing drills around the island of Taiwan for its first carrier deterrence exercise, said an expert affiliated with the PLA. Zhang Junshe, a senior research fellow at the Naval Research Academy of the PLA, told the Global Times on that the PLA's drills from Thursday to Sunday around the island of Taiwan will feature the PLA's first aircraft carrier group deterrence exercise, which will establish a maritime multidimensional combat system. "Normally, a nuclear-powered submarine will accompany an aircraft carrier group in its mission," Zhang said. The expert confirmed with the Global Times that at least one nuclear-powered submarine has been deployed. While the drills are organized by the PLA Eastern Theater Command, forces from other theater commands also participated in the drills, Zhang said. "This reflects the high interoperability between PLA's various theater commands," he said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202208/1272193.shtml>

Chinese space station's new robotic arm flexes muscles during in-orbit tests

Ling Xin

South China Morning Post, August 04, 2022

A seven-jointed robotic arm on China's Tiangong space station has completed in-orbit tests, allowing for more agility and precision in tasks such as moving supplies and repairing equipment. The arm, which is 5 metres (16.4 feet) long and mounted on the recently launched Wentian lab module, performed a series of actions including disengaging from its base and crawling on the surface of the space station, according to a video released by the China Manned Space Agency. While crawling, it docked with and undocked from four adaptors on the space station's surface to make sure they were working. The arm also checked the space station's solar arrays and external mounting points, the agency said.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3187748/chinese-space-stations-new-robotic-arm-flexes-muscles-during>

Chinese Foreign Ministry announces countermeasures in response to Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taiwan

China Military Online, August 05, 2022

In disregard of China's strong opposition and serious representations, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi visited China's Taiwan region. Chinese Foreign Ministry on Friday announced the following countermeasures in response:

1. Canceling China-U.S. Theater Commanders Talk.
2. Canceling China-U.S. Defense Policy Coordination Talks (DPCT).
3. Canceling China-U.S. Military Maritime Consultative Agreement (MMCA) meetings.
4. Suspending China-U.S. cooperation on the repatriation of illegal immigrants.
5. Suspending China-U.S. cooperation on legal assistance in criminal matters.
6. Suspending China-U.S. cooperation against transnational crimes.
7. Suspending China-U.S. counternarcotics cooperation.
8. Suspending China-U.S. talks on climate change.

http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-08/05/content_10176281.htm

PLA's 'Taiwan lockdown' drills stun secessionists, external forces as precision strike, area denial capabilities proved

Global Times, August 05, 2022

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) commenced the second phase of its large-scale military exercises that completely locked down the island of Taiwan, and began to use live fire following the first phase of preparations when US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi visited the island, seriously violating China's sovereignty. Surrounding Taiwan island with six large maritime areas and its airspace in its north, northeast, east, south, southwest and northwest, the unprecedented drills featured advanced weapons, including long-range rocket artillery, anti-ship ballistic missiles, stealth fighter jets and an aircraft carrier group with a nuclear-powered submarine, as well as realistic tactics that simulated a real reunification-by-force operation, demonstrating and honing the PLA's capabilities to not only take over the island, but also prevent any external interference including from the US, experts said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202208/1272273.shtml>

Pelosi says U.S. will not let China isolate Taiwan

Ken Moriyasu

Nikkei Asia, August 05, 2022

The U.S. will not allow China to isolate Taiwan, U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said in Tokyo, capping a weeklong trip that saw her visit Hawaii, Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, South Korea and Japan. Speaking at a news conference at the U.S. Embassy, the speaker said, "The Chinese have tried to isolate Taiwan, keeping them most recently from the World Health Organization," pointing to the pressure Beijing applied to block Taiwan from attending the WHO's annual assembly in May. "They may try to keep Taiwan from visiting or participating in other places, but they will not isolate Taiwan by preventing us to travel there,"

she said. Responding to a question asking if the visit was more about burnishing her credentials than benefiting Taiwan, Pelosi called the suggestion "ridiculous."

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/US-China-tensions/Pelosi-says-U.S.-will-not-let-China-isolate-Taiwan>

China missile drills around Taiwan a threat to regional security, says Japan PM

Justin McCurry

The Guardian, August 05, 2022

Japan's prime minister, Fumio Kishida, has condemned Chinese military drills near Taiwan as a "grave problem" and a threat to regional peace and security, after five ballistic missiles landed in Japan's exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Speaking after a meeting with the US House speaker, Nancy Pelosi, in Tokyo on Friday, Kishida said China's live-fire exercises near the self-governed island must "stop immediately". Beijing announced four days of drills that are expected to finish on August 7. The drills are a "serious problem that impacts our national security and the safety of our citizens", Kishida told reporters.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/aug/05/china-missile-drills-around-taiwan-a-threat-to-regional-security-says-japan-pm>

China launches reusable spacecraft, new step to support peaceful use of space

Leng Shumei

Global Times, August 05, 2022

China successfully launched a reusable experimental spacecraft using a Long March-2F carrier rocket from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in the northwest of the country, the Xinhua News Agency reported, which experts called a new step forward for China's aerospace industry. After a period of in-orbit operation, the spacecraft will return to its planned landing site in China. It will test reusable technologies and in-orbit service technologies during its mission, providing technological support for the peaceful use of space, Xinhua said. The launch was the 18th mission of the Long March-2F carrier rockets, according to Xinhua. Reusable spacecraft represent a trend in the industry, so it is necessary for China to carry out research and development (R&D) of such spacecraft, Song Zhongping, an expert and TV commentator on military and aerospace issues, told the Global Times.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202208/1272312.shtml>

Opposition calls for Australia to develop missiles, warning 'lucky country' era is over

Paul Karp

The Guardian, August 07, 2022

The shadow defence minister, Andrew Hastie, has called for Australia to develop and operate its own missiles, warning the era of the "lucky country" is over. On August 7, Hastie argued Australia needs greater

deterrents given the “very bleak” strategic outlook, with a “rising China” displaying “revisionist and expansionist ambitions”. The comments come after the foreign minister, Penny Wong, expressed deep concern about China’s launch of ballistic missiles into waters around Taiwan’s coastline, and the climate change minister, Chris Bowen, said Australia would not shy away from calling China out.

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2022/aug/07/opposition-calls-for-australia-to-develop-missiles-warning-lucky-country-era-is-over>

Root of the grave, urgent nuclear proliferation situation lies in US

Global Times, August 07, 2022

With the 10th Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) being held at the United Nations headquarters in New York from August 1 to 26, the issue of nuclear non-proliferation has once again become the focus of global attention. Washington today doesn't let go of any occasion that can be exploited to smear and contain China. A US representative at the NPT Review Conference baselessly criticized China for accelerating the expansion of its nuclear arsenal. And the US side also accused China of not engaging in talks on new arms control framework. China has lashed out at the rhetoric. "By making such groundless accusations, Washington wants to deflect blame, distract attention and shun US' due responsibility in securing global nuclear safety. Washington hopes this way can constrain the improvement of its main competitor's nuclear capabilities," Su Hao, founding director of the Center for Strategic and Peace Studies at the China Foreign Affairs University, told the Global Times.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202208/1272415.shtml>

Chinese envoy blasts US for its negative moves on disarmament

Global Times, August 07, 2022

Chinese Ambassador for Disarmament Affairs Li Song blasted the United States for its negative moves on disarmament. Driven by the Cold War mentality, the United States has been obsessed with major-power strategic competition and has sought absolute strategic advantage, strengthened military alliances, stirred up bloc confrontation on the eastern and western sides of the Eurasia continent, and pressed ahead with the forward deployment of nuclear missiles and other strategic forces, Li told a committee meeting of the 10th Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). "These negative moves have seriously undermined the mutual trust among major powers, disrupted global strategic balance and stability, hindered international nuclear disarmament efforts, and increased the risk of nuclear arms race and conflicts," he said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202208/1272349.shtml>

China receives data from newly launched ecosystem monitoring satellite

CGTN, August 07, 2022

China has received data from its newly launched terrestrial ecosystem carbon monitoring satellite, according to the scientists in charge of receiving the satellite data. The satellite was carried into space on

August 4 by a Long March-4B rocket from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in north China's Shanxi Province. Since the night of August 4, ground stations located in Beijing and Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region have tracked and received the data from the satellite in three tasks, which lasted 25 minutes with a total size of 306 GB, said the Aerospace Information Research Institute under the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2022-08-07/China-receives-data-from-newly-launched-ecosystem-monitoring-satellite-1ciqBrYuCrK/index.html>

Sherman visits South Pacific to 'sabotage' region's growing ties with China

Global Times, August 07, 2022

US Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman continued her visit to South Pacific countries and met with Solomon Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare in Honiara, in what Chinese experts call a sinister attempt to sabotage China's growing ties with Pacific island countries as part of Washington's broad containment strategy against China. The US' attempt to stir up tension in the Asia-Pacific region, including the South Pacific, in an attempt to contain China's rise will not be endorsed by the South Pacific countries, as the countries will try to avoid being reduced to chess pieces in the game between the great powers, Chinese experts noted. During the meeting, the two sides discussed bilateral cooperation including provision of COVID-19 vaccines and poverty reduction. They also discussed "developments affecting regional and global security," according to US official statement.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202208/1272422.shtml>

PLA extends 'Taiwan encirclement' exercises with anti-submarine warfare, showcases unrivaled area denial capability; 'drills will not stop until reunification'

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, August 08, 2022

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) continued military exercises and training activities surrounding the island of Taiwan, marking an extension from the previously announced schedule. Drills like these will not stop and are expected to become routine until reunification, as the Chinese mainland shows its determination to push forward the reunification process after US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's provocative visit to the island that seriously violated China's sovereignty and territorial integrity, experts said. The drills not only lock the island from inside out, but also from the outside in, telling external forces that the PLA has powerful area denial capabilities in the region that even the US cannot rival, analysts said. The PLA Eastern Theater Command continued realistic combat-oriented joint exercises in sea and air space around the island of Taiwan, focusing on joint anti-submarine warfare and sea assault operations, the PLA Eastern Theater Command said in a statement.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202208/1272446.shtml>

Defense Ministry Spokesperson Wu Qian's answers to press question on China's cancellation of three China-U.S. military communication activities and U.S. hyping-up

China Military Online, August 08, 2022

The current tensions across the Taiwan Strait has been a result of provocative acts single-handedly created by the US side, for which the US side must be held accountable and bear full responsibility for the serious consequences of it. China has stated its solemn position on the relationship between the two countries and the two militaries, as well as the Taiwan question; particularly, the Chinese side has repeatedly lodged stern representations and strong protests over the US House of Representatives Speaker Pelosi's visit to Taiwan. However, the US side has said one thing and done another, conniving and supporting Pelosi's rogue visit, deliberately creating tensions across the Taiwan Strait.

http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-08/08/content_10176735.htm

More than 30 new types of robots to debut at 2022 Beijing Robot Show

Gong Zhe

CGTN, August 08, 2022

More than 30 new types of robots will debut at the 2022 World Robot Conference, the organizers said at a press meeting in Beijing. The conference, also known as the Beijing Robot Show, will be held from August 18 to 21 in the Beijing Etrong International Exhibition and Convention Center, with more than 130 enterprises showcasing hundreds of types of robots. "Live demos will be performed during new product launches," said Chen Ying, secretary-general of the Chinese Institute of Electronics. "This is the largest and highest-level event in the robot world," said Peng Xuehai, deputy head of the Beijing Municipal Bureau of Economy and IT. "We will bring you once again a world-level, professional and international fest."

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2022-08-08/More-than-30-new-types-of-robots-to-debut-at-2022-Beijing-Robot-Show-1ckZHKRDkti/index.html>

Japan's unilateral decision of dumping nuclear-contaminated water into ocean not responsible: Chinese ambassador for disarmament affairs

Global Times, August 09, 2022

Japan's dumping of Fukushima nuclear-contaminated water into the ocean will have influence on the ocean environment, security of food and people's health, and Japan made such unilateral decision without having full negotiation with neighboring countries or international organizations, which is irresponsible and immoral, Li Song, Chinese ambassador for disarmament affairs, said at the Tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, expressing strong concerns over the related issues. Japan's unilateral decision to dump Fukushima nuclear-contaminated water into the ocean is made purely out of concerns for its own economic cost, and it has neither resorted to all possible ways to handle it, nor had full negotiations with neighboring countries. Such selfish move is to transfer the risk to

the international community. People in Japan, China, South Korea, Russia and Pacific island countries all expressed their concerns, Li said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202208/1272548.shtml>

China's second lab module Mengtian for space station moved to launch site

CGTN, August 09, 2022

China's Mengtian lab module, one of the two such modules destined for the China Space Station, has recently been moved to Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in south China's Hainan Province, China Manned Space Agency revealed. Assembly and relevant testing will follow as planned, the agency said, without disclosing a timeline. All equipment at the launch site are standing by and all systems for testing are being prepared. The Mengtian lab module, the final component of the space station, is slated to be launched in October. By that time, China's space station will be expanded from the basic foundational core module into a T-shaped three-module structure, with the core module Tianhe in the center and the two lab modules, Wentian and Mengtian, on either side. A maximum of six people can stay in the station.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2022-08-09/China-s-Mengtian-lab-module-moved-to-launch-site-1c1FL26vkyc/index.html>

Chinese space telescope team hopes to join race to find Earth-like planets – and maybe signs of life

Ling Xin

South China Morning Post, August 09, 2022

Researchers in China have completed the concept study for a 6-metre (20-foot) space telescope to examine the atmosphere of nearby Earth-like planets and search for signs of life with unprecedented precision. If selected to enter the design phase, the HABitable Terrestrial planetary ATmospheric Surveyor – or Habitats – will join the global race to find a twin of planet Earth. With a potential price tag of over 10 billion yuan (US\$1.48 billion), it will also be the most ambitious and expensive space science project China has ever funded. Thanks to telescopes such as Kepler and TESS surveying the sky for planets outside the solar system, humanity has discovered more than 5,000 exoplanets and edged ever closer to answering the question “are we alone in the universe?”

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3188300/chinese-space-telescope-team-hopes-join-race-find-earth-planets>

China upgrades nuke test site with an eye on Taiwan

Gabriel Honrada

Asia Times, August 09, 2022

Satellite photos obtained by Nikkei last week show that China is rapidly expanding its nuclear test facilities in western Xinjiang, sparking fears of a renewed nuclear arms race with the US as tensions boil over

Taiwan. The Nikkei report states that a satellite hovering at 450 kilometers detected extensive construction at the Lop Nur test site, a dried salt lakebed in the arid and restive Xinjiang region that borders Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. The report said that China may be building a sixth tunnel for underground testing, evidenced by broken rocks piled nearby and extensive coverings erected on a nearby mountainside. The satellite photos also show power cables, possible storage facilities for high explosives and unpaved roads from command centers.

<https://asiatimes.com/2022/08/china-upgrades-nuke-test-site-with-an-eye-on-taiwan/>

China wary of South Korea's US-centered policy

Kang Seung-woo

The Korea Times, August 09, 2022

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi pressed South Korea, to act independently as the United States ramps up pressure on Seoul to side with Washington amid an intensifying U.S.-Sino rivalry. Foreign Minister Park Jin and Wang held the talks during his first trip to China since taking office in May and the meeting was widely seen as being crucial to setting the tone for Seoul-Beijing relations under the conservative Yoon Suk-yeol administration. "While the two countries head toward the 30th anniversary of the establishment of South Korea-China diplomatic ties, both sides should maintain independence without being affected by the outside," Wang said, adding that the two countries should consider each other's interests. "We have to adhere to a win-win to ensure a stable and smooth supply chain," he added.

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2022/08/113_334169.html

Top Chinese, South Korean diplomats pledge closer ties

AP, August 10, 2022

The top South Korean and Chinese diplomats pledged Tuesday to develop closer relations and maintain stable industrial supply chains at a time of deepening rivalry between Beijing and Washington. South Korea, a longtime U.S. ally, is struggling to strike a balance between Washington and the increasingly assertive foreign policy of Chinese President Xi Jinping's government. U.S.-Chinese conflict over Taiwan has added to complications for governments that want amicable ties with both sides. Yoon, who took office in May, wants to strengthen security cooperation with Washington and Japan in response to North Korean nuclear threats. China, North Korea's main ally, sees Japan as a strategic rival but also is South Korea's biggest export market. South Korea's pursuit of closer ties with Washington could possibly complicate relations with China. South Korea is weighing whether to participate in a U.S.-led semiconductor alliance involving Taiwan and Japan, which China sees as an economic threat.

<https://apnews.com/article/taiwan-beijing-xi-jinping-foreign-policy-south-korea-dc64653d52edc0cbbceb7c85529be24a>

'Potentially catastrophic' China sparks Taiwan panic over fears Xi will 'use nuclear card'

Jacob Paul

Express, August 10, 2022

Beijing has put the world on red alert after conducting a series of military drills surrounding the east Asian island it claims sovereignty over. While it now claims it has completed the drills, in which it “effectively tested the integrated joint combat capabilities of the troops”, US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s visit sparked fears that this was China’s preparation for an invasion. In an interview with Jacobin magazine, Lyle J. Goldstein, an associate professor at the Strategic Research Department at the US Naval War College (NWC), said: “If I were to blame Pelosi for anything, it’s that, in the nuclear age, this kind of posturing is ridiculous and should be condemned widely.” He added that “in the field of US-China military studies, we don’t talk a lot about tactical nuclear weapons, but Chinese strategists talk about this a lot these days, especially because they were a feature of the US-Soviet rivalry”.

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/science/1653302/china-taiwan-nuclear-weapons-nancy-pelosi-japan-aukus>

PLA Eastern Theater Command wraps up joint military operations around Taiwan Island, all tasks fulfilled successfully

China Military Online, August 10, 2022

The Eastern Theater Command of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) has recently carried out a series of joint military operations involving troops of multiple services and arms in the waters and airspace off the Taiwan Island, with all tasks accomplished and the troops' combat capabilities in integrated joint operations effectively verified, said Senior Colonel Shi Yi, spokesperson for the Eastern Theater Command of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA), in a written statement released. He also stated that the troops under the PLA Eastern Theater Command will pay close attention to the evolution of situations across the Taiwan Strait, continue to carry out military training for war preparedness, organize normalized combat-readiness security patrol in the Taiwan Strait, resolutely safeguarding China’s national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-08/10/content_10177371.htm

Taiwan authorities should make right choice on cross-strait ties: spokesperson

CGTN, August 10, 2022

Cross-strait relations are again facing a choice between two futures, and the Taiwan authorities must make the right choice as to where the island goes, Tan Kefei, a spokesperson for China's Ministry of National Defense, said. Tan's remarks followed claims in Taiwan that the Chinese People's Liberation Army's recent live-fire joint military exercises and training around the island are the beginning of a process and the strategic space for Taiwan is being compressed. "For the well-being of the Taiwan compatriots, we are willing to strive for the prospect of peaceful reunification with the utmost sincerity and with the utmost

efforts," Tan said. "But the Chinese People's Liberation Army will never leave room for any form of 'Taiwan independence' secessionist acts or interference by external forces."

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2022-08-10/Taiwan-authorities-should-make-right-choice-on-cross-strait-ties-1cnZcEv4p5m/index.html>

China has world's second largest number of nuclear power units: official

Xinhua, August 10, 2022

China has the second largest number of nuclear power units in operation or under construction in the world, Tang Bo, an official with the National Nuclear Safety Administration, said. Speaking at the opening ceremony of the 29th International Conference on Nuclear Engineering (ICONE), Tang said that, as of June this year, China had 54 nuclear power units in operation, and 23 were under construction. The development of nuclear power has helped China ensure an adequate energy supply, improve the environment and move closer to its goal of carbon peaking and carbon neutrality, Tang said. Wang Shoujun, head of the Chinese Nuclear Society, said that the total operational installed capacity of the country's nuclear power is expected to reach roughly 70 million kilowatts by 2025.

<https://english.news.cn/20220810/6adb708ac03a466bb709488f2c9342c8/c.html>

China releases white paper on Taiwan question, reunification in new era

China Military Online, August 10, 2022

The Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council and the State Council Information Office of the People's Republic of China published a white paper titled "The Taiwan Question and China's Reunification in the New Era". The white paper was released to reiterate the fact that Taiwan is part of China, to demonstrate the resolve of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the Chinese people and their commitment to national reunification, and to emphasize the position and policies of the CPC and the Chinese government in the new era. Taiwan has belonged to China since ancient times. This statement has a sound basis in history and jurisprudence, according to the white paper. The UN General Assembly Resolution 2758 is a political document encapsulating the one-China principle whose legal authority leaves no room for doubt and has been acknowledged worldwide, says the white paper.

http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-08/10/content_10177232.htm

*Sylloge on China is compiled by Mr. Niranjana C. Oak with inputs
from Mr. Stephen James and Mr. Kushal Agrawal*

**Nuclear and Arms Control Centre, MP-IDSA
And
Indian Pugwash Society**