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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

China unveils 'drone killer' laser weapon at Airshow China, can shoot down target at low cost

Cao Siqi, Liu Xuanzun and Fan Wei in Zhuhai

Global Times, November 11, 2022

A laser weapon used against drones attracted wide attention at this year's Airshow China. Dubbed the killer of UAVs, the weapon can launch effective strikes on low, slow and small (LSS) targets, which refer to those that fly below an altitude of one kilometer, at speeds of around 200 kilometers per hour and have a radar cross-section smaller than one square meter. The weapon also reminded many military fans of a similar weapon that Saudi Arabia announced at the first Arab World Defense Exhibition on March 6 it had purchased from China: the "Silent Hunter" laser air defense system. The vehicle-based laser weapon, called the LW-30 laser defense weapon system, was unveiled by the China Space Sanjiang Group under the China Aerospace Science and Industry Corporation (CASIC), one of China's largest missile manufacturers.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1279311.shtml>

High hopes of China's H-20 stealth bomber launch as PLA top brass vow weapon system upgrades

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, November 11, 2022

The People's Liberation Army will continue to upgrade its weapon systems to meet President Xi Jinping's call to build a "strong system of strategic deterrence", air force top brass pledged at China's biggest air show. This comes as all eyes are on the PLA's plans to launch its H-20 new generation stealth bomber, seen as China's answer to the B-21 Raider – the US military's most advanced strategic bomber expected to roll out next month. In response to media queries on a possible timeline for the H-20, PLA Air Force deputy commander Lieutenant General Jia Zhigang said: "The air force should beef up its combat capabilities in both defensive and offensive air space operations ... in response to the goal of establishing a strong system of strategic deterrence as presented in the 20th party congress report [delivered by Xi]."

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3199354/high-hopes-chinas-h-20-stealth-bomber-launch-pla-top-brass-vow-weapon-system-upgrades>

U.S. nuclear bombers find home in Australia as China tensions rise

JJ Rose

Nikkei Asia, November 12, 2022

A small airfield in northern Australia is slated to permanently host a fleet of U.S. B-52 bombers as part of an agreement between Washington and Canberra to prepare for the possibility of war

over Taiwan. The deal will see a deployment of up to six nuclear-capable aircraft, putting them within striking distance of a Pacific theater should war with China break out. A \$1 billion upgrade of the Royal Australian Air Force's Tindal base south of Darwin is already underway. The imminent arrival of the aircraft was revealed in an investigation aired on Australian state TV before either government could formally announce it. U.S. tender documents obtained by the Four Corners television program reveal plans to construct "an aircraft parking apron to accommodate six B-52s" at the base. A U.S. Air Force "squadron operations facility" is also planned, along with fuel storage tanks and an ordnance bunker.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/Indo-Pacific/U.S.-nuclear-bombers-find-home-in-Australia-as-China-tensions-rise>

China's cargo craft Tianzhou-5 docks with space station combination

Global Times, November 12, 2022

China's cargo spacecraft Tianzhou-5, delivering supplies for the space station, successfully completed its status setting and docked with the combination of the country's space station on Saturday, according to the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA). At 12:10 pm (Beijing Time), Tianzhou-5 conducted a fast automated rendezvous and docking at the rear docking port of the space station's core module Tianhe, the CMSA said. This is the first time that Chinese astronauts witness the arrival of a cargo craft in the country's space station.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1279339.shtml>

Chinese test pilots pave way for development of latest PLA warplanes

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, November 12, 2022

People's Liberation Army Air Force pilots showed off China's aviation superiority muscle at the Zhuhai air show in Guangdong province this week, with demonstration flights by the J-20 Mighty Dragon stealth jet fighter, Y-20 heavy lifter, Z-20 helicopter, H-6K strategic bomber and J-16D electronic warfare plane. Defence experts said the development of such aircraft would not have been possible without input from the air force's death-defying test pilots, and a decision made nearly two decades ago to adopt an experimental flight test training system pioneered by the United States. China's aircraft development programme reached a milestone in 1998 when state-owned Chengdu Aircraft Industry Group launched the J-10, its domestically developed fourth-generation jet fighter.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3199109/chinese-test-pilots-pave-way-development-latest-pla-warplanes>

US chipmakers reel from sharp boom to bust

Richard Waters

Financial Times, November 13, 2022

If Wall Street had any doubts about the speed with which the chip industry's boom has turned to bust, unexpectedly gloomy financial forecasts from companies like mobile chipmaker Qualcomm should have put them to rest. "It's kind of an unprecedented change over a short period of time," Akash Palkhiwala, the company's chief financial officer told analysts this month. "We went from a period of supply shortages to demand declines." Qualcomm has sliced 25 per cent from its revenue guidance for the current quarter as weaker consumer spending hit smartphone sales. The forecast came as some of the leading chipmakers issued surprisingly weak sales and profit projections and signalled a round of job cuts ahead.

<https://www.ft.com/content/1f310389-781b-4ffa-9393-e841cb0e8450>

Shenzhou-14 crew enters Tianzhou-5; cargo mission sets new world record for fastest rendezvous and docking operation

Deng Xiaoci

Global Times, November 13, 2022

The Shenzhou-14 crew entered the Tianzhou-5 cargo spacecraft, after they completed environment testing of the newly launched and docked spacecraft, the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) said. The taikonauts will transfer the cargo according to schedule, the Global Times learned from the CMSA. China has just set the new world record of fastest rendezvous and docking operations between two spacecraft with its Tianzhou-5 cargo supply mission to the country's Tiangong Space Station. It was a great achievement marking that China has mastered autonomous orbit determination capability with even higher precision and improved adaptability, and signaling that the country's space rendezvous and docking technology has increasingly matured, mission insiders said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1279366.shtml>

US-Japan-S.Korea leaders meeting won't ease situation, but to escalate tensions on Korean Peninsula: experts

Chen Qingqing

Global Times, November 13, 2022

The leaders of the US, Japan and South Korea met on Sunday to further coordinate their positions on the North Korea missile testing activity on the sidelines of the East Asia Summit in Cambodia, while also seeking input on managing China's influence in the Pacific region. Chinese experts

believe that while the US has stepped up efforts in aligning its allies to serve its own strategic purposes, it will only escalate tensions on the Korean Peninsula and there will be growing divergences between Japan and South Korea in terms of confronting China for Washington's interests.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1279397.shtml>

China's chip equipment makers struggle to profit at home from US export controls

Qianer Liu and Kathrin Hille

Financial Times, November 14, 2022

As US export controls bite, Chinese manufacturers of equipment needed to make semiconductors are expected to benefit from a rush of domestic orders, though executives and analysts warn the boost could be shortlived. Since Washington introduced sweeping restrictions on October 7 to limit Chinese companies' ability to obtain or manufacture advanced computer chips, Yangtze Memory Technology, China's largest memory chip maker, has issued at least 20 tenders for a broad range of chipmaking equipment. "The current strategy is that if there is workable domestic semiconductor production equipment, even though [the suppliers] need help, we will buy from Chinese companies. If not, we shop from non-US vendors, mostly Japanese," said a senior YMTC engineer.

<https://www.ft.com/content/01bd6d72-1be7-4406-8867-17dff6cf7146>

China open to role in Bangladesh river project under India's nose

Syful Islam

Nikkei Asia, November 14, 2022

A billion-dollar project to restore and manage a crucial river in Bangladesh is back on the table, with China showing a willingness to fund the endeavor, though even the Chinese ambassador has hinted at potential concerns over how regional rival India might react. The project centers on the Teesta River, which originates in the eastern Himalayas and flows through the Indian states of Sikkim and West Bengal before entering Bangladesh. The waterway has long been a source of friction between India and Bangladesh: Dam construction in India means farmers in northern Bangladesh lack water in the dry season and face inundation in the wet season.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/China-open-to-role-in-Bangladesh-river-project-under-India-s-nose>

US tries to enlist allies in assault on China's chip industry

Demetri Sevastopulo and Kana Inagaki

Financial Times, November 14, 2022

In his first public remarks after the US targeted China's chip industry with harsh unilateral export controls, a commerce department official said America hoped to strike a deal with allies on more controls in "the near term". Speaking at the Center for a New American Security think-tank three weeks after the introduction of the October 7 measures, Alan Estevez, under-secretary of commerce for industry and security, cited talks with the Netherlands and Japan on the imposition of restrictions on the export of chipmaking tools to China. The Biden administration has been trying to reach a trilateral deal with its allies for well over a year, as part of its strategy to make it much harder for China to develop advanced semiconductors needed for military purposes.

<https://www.ft.com/content/4a060f86-db19-474b-945b-313951f7a499>

China gives 1st close-up glimpse of cutting-edge stealth fighter

Yuri Momoi

Nikkei Asia, November 14, 2022

China's cutting-edge stealth fighter jet made its first-ever on-the-ground appearance after a demonstration flight at an air show. The Chengdu J-20 fighter jet had been shown in demonstration flights a few times before, but the appearance on the apron at the China International Aviation & Aerospace Exhibition in Zhuhai was its public debut on the ground. Nikkei recorded a video of the J-20 as its canard wings and tail units were tested before takeoff, as it taxied down the runway and while it was in flight. The J-20, a fifth-generation fighter often compared to the U.S.'s F-22 Raptor and Russia's Su-57, is capable of being refueled midair. It is believed to be capable of launching long-range cruise missiles. The fighter was first recognized in flight in 2011, with its deployment coming by 2017.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Aerospace-Defense/China-gives-1st-close-up-glimpse-of-cutting-edge-stealth-fighter>

China Premier Li emphasised 'irresponsibility' of nuclear threats at Asia summit -U.S. official

Simon Lewis

Reuters, November 14, 2022

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang emphasised the "irresponsibility" of nuclear threats during a summit in Cambodia, suggesting Beijing is uncomfortable with strategic partner Russia's nuclear rhetoric, a senior U.S. official said. Li participated in the East Asia Summit on Sunday along with U.S. President Joe Biden. The Chinese premier "spoke rather extensively about China's policy towards

Ukraine," said a senior U.S. administration official, who briefed reporters ahead of a summit between Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/china/china-premier-li-emphasised-irresponsibility-nuclear-threats-asia-summit-us-2022-11-14/>

China launches Yaogan-34 03 remote sensing satellite

CGTN, November 15, 2022

China sent a new remote sensing satellite of the Yaogan-34 series into space atop a Long March-4C carrier rocket from Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China. The Yaogan-34 03 satellite has successfully entered its planned orbit, according to China Media Group (CMG). This satellite will be used in land resources survey, urban planning, crop yield estimation, and disaster prevention and control, among other areas. It was the 450th flight mission of the Long March carrier rocket series.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2022-11-15/China-launches-Yaogan-34-remote-sensing-satellite-1eYuk14sTok/index.html>

China's Xi: Nuclear wars cannot be fought in Ukraine -China foreign minister

Reuters, November 15, 2022

Chinese President Xi Jinping, discussing Ukraine with U.S. President Joe Biden during their meeting on Monday in Indonesia, said nuclear weapons cannot be used and nuclear wars cannot be fought, according to a statement by the Chinese foreign minister.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/chinas-xi-nuclear-wars-cannot-be-fought-ukraine-china-foreign-minister-2022-11-15/>

China showcases latest Hongqi missile defence systems at Zhuhai air show

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, November 15, 2022

The Chinese military put its latest air defence equipment on display at the country's leading air show over the weekend. Two Hongqi, or Red Flag, weapons systems designed to shoot down missiles, aircraft and drones were on show at the biannual Airshow China in Zhuhai, which finished. Military analysts said the two systems were low-cost equivalents to the American Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD) anti-missile shield and were designed for export. The first defence system, the HQ-11, was put on display by the People's Liberation Army Air

Force, one of the key sponsors of the air show. The other system, the HQ-16FE operated by the PLA's ground force, has an operational range up to 160km (100 miles).

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3199586/china-showcases-latest-hongqi-missile-defence-systems-zhuhai-air-show>

Xi-Biden meeting reaches expected goal, draws redlines and points out direction for China-US ties: Chinese FM

Global Times, November 15, 2022

The meeting between Chinese President Xi Jinping and US President Joe Biden achieved the expected goals of in-depth communication, drawing the redlines, preventing conflict, pointing out a clear direction for China-US relations and discussing cooperation, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi told media after the meeting of the two leaders. Xi met Biden in Bali, Indonesia, marking the first face-to-face meeting between the leaders of the world's two biggest economies since Biden took office. Wang also said that the meeting helps launching a procedure to implement the consensus of the two leaders, manage and stabilize the China-US relations.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1279546.shtml>

China's defence minister tipped to lead talks with US military, but sanctions on likely successor may pose early challenge

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, November 15, 2022

China is expected to send the outgoing defence minister Wei Fenghe to represent it in the first talks with the United States military since Nancy Pelosi's trip to Taiwan earlier this year prompted Beijing to freeze dialogue with the Americans. One major issue China wants to resolve in the talks with Wei's US counterpart Lloyd Austin is the sanctions imposed in 2018 on Wei's probable successor, Li Shangfu. Li, a general who was promoted to the Central Military Commission last month, is in line to succeed Wei in March next year. However, Li was sanctioned over China's purchase of Russian Su-35 combat jets and S-400 air defence missile systems when he was director of China's Equipment Development Department.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3199720/chinas-defence-minister-tipped-lead-resumption-talks-us-military-sanctions-likely-successor-likely>

China's Tianzhou-4 cargo craft re-enters atmosphere

Global Times, November 15, 2022

China's Tianzhou-4 cargo craft, tasked with supporting the Shenzhou-14 crewed mission, re-entered the atmosphere, according to the China Manned Space Agency. The spacecraft re-entered

the atmosphere in a controlled manner at 7:21 a.m. (Beijing Time). Most of the spacecraft burned up during the re-entry and a small amount of debris fell into the planned waters of the South Pacific. The Tianzhou-4 cargo craft was launched on May 10 from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in the southern province of Hainan, transporting about 6-tonne supplies to China's space station.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1279526.shtml>

Joe Biden and Xi Jinping signal desire to improve ties despite Taiwan tensions

Mercedes Ruehl, Tom Mitchell and Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, November 15, 2022

Joe Biden and Xi Jinping used their first in-person meeting as leaders to signal a desire to improve US-China ties after relations between the two powers plunged to a multi-decade low. With Taiwan tensions hanging over the meeting, the leaders agreed that senior officials would “maintain communication” on a range of global issues, including climate change, economic stability and food security, a White House readout of the meeting said. The US president later said that Antony Blinken, secretary of state, would visit China for further talks. At a news conference after the meeting, which lasted three hours, Biden said he told Xi that US policy on Taiwan had not changed “at all” and that Washington remained committed to a peaceful resolution of tensions. But the White House said the president had raised concerns in private with Xi about China’s “increasingly aggressive” actions towards Taiwan.

<https://www.ft.com/content/c94ff50c-b3cf-4f94-a76a-c521d7c9063c>

US nuclear strategy gravely threatens global security

Kong Jun

Global Times, November 16, 2022

The US Department of Defense recently released its 2022 Nuclear Posture Review (NPR), which continues the US' consistent Cold War mentality and hegemonic logic, plays up great power competition and bloc confrontation, and exploits nuclear deterrence as a geopolitical tool. The international community is widely concerned that the US nuclear strategy will severely deteriorate the global strategic security environment. The NPR shows that the incumbent US administration has not adopted a policy of "no first use" of nuclear weapons or the policy that "the sole purpose of our nuclear arsenal weapons is to deter -and, if necessary, retaliate for - a nuclear attack against the United States or its allies" as it promised during the 2020 presidential campaign, but has continued its longstanding policy of reserving the option of launching a preemptive nuclear strike.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1279678.shtml>

Chinese candidates elected judges of UN Appeals Tribunal and Dispute Tribunal for 1st time since establishment

Global Times, November 16, 2022

The United Nations General Assembly elected judges to the United Nations Appeals Tribunal and United Nations Dispute Tribunal. Two Chinese candidates successfully won the election, marking the first time in history since the establishment of the two organs. Gao Xiaoli of China's Supreme People's Court was elected judge to the Appeals Tribunal for a term starting immediately upon appointment and ending on 30 June 2026. To the Dispute Tribunal, Sun Xiangzhuang, also of China's Supreme People's Court, was elected full-time judge in Geneva, for terms beginning on 1 July 2023 and ending on 30 June 2030, according to the UN official website.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1279660.shtml>

China playing 'long game' as it co-opts UK assets, warns MI5 chief

William Wallis

Financial Times, November 16, 2022

The Chinese are playing a “long game” seeking to co-opt and influence not just MPs but also people much earlier in their careers in public life, in what the head of Britain’s domestic security agency said was part of a “game-changing strategic challenge”. Delivering his annual threat assessment, Ken McCallum said MI5 was making “the biggest shifts in a generation” as it faced state adversaries in China, Russia and Iran, who were not “squeamish about the tactics they deploy”. UK security, values and democratic institutions were at stake, he added. The breadth of tactics Beijing used to redesign the international system and apply pressure to those challenging the regime’s perceived core interests presented a “different order of challenge” to the immediate one posed by Moscow.

<https://www.ft.com/content/2312d203-1324-4768-9d5f-46a1b335e731>

Chinese private satellite firm Galactic Energy sends five satellites into a solar synchronous orbit

Global Times, November 16, 2022

Chinese private aerospace venture Galactic Energy Space Co successfully launched the Ceres 1 (Yao 4) carrier rocket from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in Northwest China's Gansu Province, successfully placing five commercial satellites into a solar synchronous orbit. It was the fourth consecutive successful launch of the firm's Ceres-1 commercial rocket. Galactic Energy Space has maintained a 100 percent success rate, sending 14 satellites for seven clients into orbit, consolidating the record for private commercial rocket launches in China, the company said in a statement sent to the Global Times. It was also the first time for the domestic low-orbit satellites

constellation to use private commercial rockets for launch, promoting the healthy development of the ecosystem of domestic commercial space industry, which is a milestone, the company said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1279679.shtml>

Fumio Kishida and Xi Jinping agree to improve strained ties

Kana Inagaki and Yuan Yang

Financial Times, November 17, 2022

Fumio Kishida and Xi Jinping agreed to try to improve relations between their nations, even as Japan's prime minister expressed "grave concerns" about China's military activities in the region. In their first in-person meeting, a 45-minute encounter late on Thursday in Bangkok, the leaders of Asia's two largest economies agreed to strengthen communication on security issues. Ties between Tokyo and Beijing have been strained by rising tensions over Taiwan and by their territorial dispute over the Senkaku Islands, known as the Diaoyu in China.

<https://www.ft.com/content/3d0cbfd1-cc30-4013-b534-179c8bc8e31e>

Xi Jinping's path to greater power goes through Taiwan

Katsuji Nakazawa

Nikkei Asia, November 17, 2022

President Xi Jinping won a third term as top leader, but the specter of war still lingers. That is because Xi did not clinch his ultimate goal of staying leader for life -- despite stacking the top leadership with his allies and acquiring ultimate power. Foreign companies must now worry if an armed unification of Taiwan will become an option to realize that final goal. Taiwan unification would undoubtedly put Xi on par with Mao Zedong in terms of achievements and allow him to gain a fourth term at the party's next national congress, in 2027. Furthermore, his dream of reviving the post of party chairman -- which Mao held until his death -- might finally come true through a further drastic revision of the party's constitution in five years' time.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Editor-s-Picks/China-up-close/Analysis-Xi-Jinping-s-path-to-greater-power-goes-through-Taiwan>

China calls for strengthening AI ethical governance at Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons

Global Times, November 17, 2022

China attaches great importance to the prevention and control of AI-related risks, and is committed to the international governance of artificial intelligence (AI), Mao Ning, a spokesperson of the Foreign Ministry, said at a press conference. "China will work with the international community

to properly address the risks and challenges posed by the application of AI, and promote formation of international AI governance plans with a broad consensus," Mao said. China submitted a position paper on strengthening the ethical governance of AI to the 2022 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons held in Geneva by the UN.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1279763.shtml>

U.S., China in new space race with Artemis lunar rocket launch

Takeshi Shiraishi, Shunsuke Tabeta and Ryosuke Matsuzoe

Nikkei Asia, November 17, 2022

NASA is also eyeing the growing expertise in the private sector. It has encouraged competition between Elon Musk's SpaceX and Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin, choosing SpaceX in 2021 to develop the human lander to bring astronauts to the lunar surface. The push comes as China pursues its own space ambitions with the help of its state-owned defense industrial complex. It agreed to build a joint lunar base with Russia in 2021, tapping the latter's extensive experience in space to compete with the U.S. The state-owned China Aerospace Science and Technology company in August announced plans to update its Long March rockets, which have already been used to launch unmanned lunar probes, so they have the payload capacity to handle a human mission to the moon. It said it envisioned Chinese boots on the moon around 2030.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Aerospace-Defense/U.S.-China-in-new-space-race-with-Artemis-lunar-rocket-launch>

North Korea fires suspected ICBM into waters off Japan

Christian Davies

Financial Times, November 18, 2022

North Korea fired a suspected intercontinental ballistic missile into waters east of the Korean peninsula on Friday morning, a day after Pyongyang warned the US against bolstering its protection of South Korea and Japan. There is rising concern in Washington, Seoul and Tokyo that Pyongyang is preparing to carry out its seventh nuclear test, and possibly others, before the end of the year. Biden said after a meeting with Xi Jinping on Monday that he had warned the Chinese leader that China had an "obligation" to dissuade North Korea from conducting more nuclear tests, and that failure to do so would mean that the US "would have to take certain actions that would be more defensive on our behalf". "We will do what it needs to defend our capacity, to defend ourselves and our allies — South Korea, as well as Japan," said Biden, noting that it would mean that "we'd be more up in the face of China" as a result.

<https://www.ft.com/content/e6aad9f3-d528-4f15-bee3-298ab20fb2c6>

China tops U.S. to take research crown at global chip conference

Yuki Okoshi

Nikkei Asia, November 18, 2022

China has submitted the most research papers accepted at a prestigious international academic conference focused on semiconductors, underscoring the country's growing presence in the field and bumping the U.S. into second place. This is the first time China has taken the top spot in papers accepted by the International Solid-State Circuits Conference (ISSCC), which is considered the Olympics of the semiconductor sector. The annual event opens in February in San Francisco. Universities and companies in China -- including Hong Kong and Macao -- submitted 59 papers, or 29.8% of all 198 research documents accepted by the ISSCC for the 2023 event. At the previous conference held this February, 29 papers from China were accepted, or 14.5% of the total.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Tech/Semiconductors/China-tops-U.S.-to-take-research-crown-at-global-chip-conference>

China willing to coordinate with New Zealand for stability in Pacific islands region: Xi

Global Times, November 18, 2022

China is willing to coordinate closely with New Zealand to jointly promote peace, stability, development and prosperity in the Pacific island countries region, Chinese President Xi Jinping said during his meeting with New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, while also highly praising Ardern's repeated remarks on the country's adherence to an independent foreign policy. The meeting, which was held on the sidelines of the 29th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting in Bangkok, was the first in-person bilateral meeting between Xi and Ardern since 2019. Analysts said it would lay the foundation for deeper cooperation between China and New Zealand in the post-COVID-19 era, and they also noted that the non-aligned foreign policy fits New Zealand's interests more than closely following the US in hyping the "China threat" narrative or preventing China's cooperation with Pacific island nations.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1279904.shtml>

U.S. must avoid turning China chip war into hot war

Dale Copeland

Nikkei Asia, November 18, 2022

The restrictions imposed by the U.S. last month on the sale to China of high-tech semiconductors and equipment to make them have rocked the world of geopolitics. The U.S., in cooperation with Japan, Taiwan and South Korea, already restricted the sale of leading-edge chips -- with transistors under 15 nanometers in size and involving American technology -- to designated Chinese

companies such as Huawei Technologies. Washington had also convinced Dutch company ASML not to sell machines that would allow Chinese companies to make such chips themselves. But the new rules represent a dramatic step up in the chip war that began near the end of the administration of former U.S. President Donald Trump.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Opinion/U.S.-must-avoid-turning-China-chip-war-into-hot-war>

China militarizes space, U.S. benefits mankind: Japan envoy Emanuel

Natsumi Kawasaki

Nikkei Asia, November 18, 2022

The U.S. is sending astronauts back to the moon. This time, it will go together with allies like Japan. So said the message from U.S. Ambassador to Tokyo Rahm Emanuel, on a day when the U.S. and Japan signed various agreements for space cooperation. The agreements include sending one Japanese astronaut to Gateway, the new lunar-orbiting space station, and Japan providing lunar vehicles to NASA's Artemis 1 lunar exploration mission. "Apollo was a singular American endeavor. This is now an endeavor with Israel, Japan, Germany, Canada: major technological, advanced countries, that are all going to participate," Emanuel told Nikkei in an interview, referring to NASA's human spaceflight program that landed the first humans on the Moon decades ago.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Editor-s-Picks/Interview/China-militarizes-space-U.S.-benefits-mankind-Japan-envoy-Emanuel>

If the UK is to understand Beijing, it will have to speak to it

Yuan Yang

Financial Times, November 19, 2022

Faced with a list of concerns over the Chinese Communist party's growing influence abroad, the UK government is targeting the easiest — and most inconsequential. It has promised to ban Confucius Institutes, the 30 Chinese government-funded centres spread across the UK that are attached to universities and teach the Chinese language. An amendment added to the higher education bill will give the secretary of state the power to terminate university collaborations funded with foreign money in England. For disclosure, I, too, have taken Chinese government money. After passing the language test at the LSE's Confucius Institute, I won a Chinese government scholarship to study at Peking University for a year. That exposure to Chinese economics has proved indispensable in my career as a China correspondent. We need more people who can talk to, write about and understand China.

<https://www.ft.com/content/b99b61c2-996b-4fc0-acfc-bf1add36d25c>

Does US have China in mind with F-22 deployment to its bases in Japan?

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, November 19, 2022

The United States has started replacing the antiquated F-15 fighter jets at its bases in Okinawa with the more advanced F-22 Raptor stealth fighters, in a move seen as part of a redeployment of its assets in the region to prepare for a Taiwan contingency. Defence experts said the arrangement – which puts the F-22s on a six-month rotation from Alaska starting this month – could prevent the United States' expensive assets from becoming targets for Chinese missiles because the advanced jets would not be permanently stationed in Okinawa. Others said the move could undermine the Pentagon's efforts to counter China by ending the US Air Force's permanent presence in the region with no clear long-term plan.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3200132/does-us-have-china-mind-f-22-deployment-its-bases-japan>

Fraught AUKUS impedes momentum of better China-Australia ties

Global Times, November 19, 2022

As leaders of major countries in the region and the world met in the Asia-Pacific, AUKUS, the trilateral security pact between the US, UK, and Australia, has suddenly become a hot topic for discussion again. French President Emmanuel Macron criticized Canberra's decision to turn to Washington and London for help building nuclear submarines. He accused the decision made by former Australian Prime Minister (PM) Scott Morrison of "re-entering into nuclear confrontation, making himself completely dependent by deciding to equip themselves [with a] submarine fleet that the Australians are incapable of producing and maintaining in-house." China has consistently voiced its strong opposition to AUKUS. Most recently, Wang Qun, China's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Vienna, emphasized again at a meeting of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that China is opposed to using the organization's budget for safeguard activities related to nuclear submarine cooperation under AUKUS.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1279932.shtml>

China and US defence ministers tipped to cross paths at Asean security talks

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, November 19, 2022

Outgoing Chinese Defence Minister Wei Fenghe is expected to meet his American counterpart Lloyd Austin at an Asean security meeting in Cambodia next week, as Beijing resumes high-level military exchanges in its bid for regional support. The Chinese defence ministry said on Saturday

that Wei would attend the five-day Association of Southeast Asian Nations Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus. He will deliver a speech at the conference and meet his Asean counterparts for talks "on the international and regional situations and potential security cooperation". Wei would also meet Cambodian government and military leaders, the ministry said.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3200257/china-and-us-defence-ministers-tipped-cross-paths-asean-security-talks>

US hypes China's JL-3 submarine-launched ballistic missile deployment 'with ulterior motives'

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, November 20, 2022

The US claimed that China has fielded new, longer-range submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBM) to threaten the US, but Chinese military experts said that China's SLBM development aims to defend itself from nuclear blackmail, and that the US military's speculation has ulterior motives which would see it gain more funds to enhance its capabilities. China has equipped six of its Jin-class (Type 094) submarines with JL-3 intercontinental ballistic missiles, which were built to threaten the US, Admiral Sam Paparo, the head of the US Pacific Fleet, told military reporters at a conference in Washington, Bloomberg reported. This is the first time the US has acknowledged that China has fielded the weapons on its nuclear-powered submarines, allowing it to hit the continental US from much closer to its own shores, Bloomberg said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202211/1279959.shtml>

*Sylloge on China is compiled by Mr. Niranjana C. Oak with inputs
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