

August 31, 2024

SYLLOGE ON CHINA

Focus: Nuclear, Space, Missiles and other Security Issues

**An Initiative by the Nuclear and Arms Control Centre,
MP-IDSA**



Chinese Foreign Ministry on the US' highly classified nuclear strategic plan

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The People's Republic of China, August 21, 2024

China is gravely concerned over the report. As we have seen over the past few years, the US has called China a “nuclear threat” and used it as a convenient pretext to shirk its obligation of nuclear disarmament, expand its own nuclear arsenal, and seek absolute strategic predominance. The size of China's nuclear arsenal is by no means on the same level with the US. China follows a policy of “no first use” of nuclear weapons and a nuclear strategy that focuses on self-defense, and always keeps its nuclear capabilities at the minimum level required by national security. We have no intention to engage in any form of arms race with other countries.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202408/t20240821_11477550.html

Chinese Foreign Ministry on the United Nations Group of Governmental Experts on Further Practical Measures for the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space (PAROS)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The People's Republic of China, August 21, 2024

The UN Group of Governmental Experts on Further Practical Measures for the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, whose launch was partly initiated by China, had a session in Geneva recently. Experts with government authorization from more than 20 countries including China, Russia, the US, the UK and France had in-depth discussions over two weeks and formed a report by consensus. The report put forward a series of suggestions for addressing the threats and challenges to outer space security. This important consensus-based report on “PAROS” reached under the framework of the UN is conducive to advancing global governance on outer space security.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202408/t20240821_11477550.html

Tim Walz's long history with China shaped by horrors of Tiananmen

Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, August 21, 2024

Years before Kamala Harris chose Minnesota governor Tim Walz as her running mate, the former high school geography teacher had a story that he liked to tell visitors from China. Walz, then a member of the US House of Representatives, would lecture his Chinese guests about the Wounded Knee Massacre, an 1890 slaughter of hundreds of Native Americans at the hands of US army soldiers at the Lakota people's Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota. But Walz would not retell

the tale as a lesson in American history. He used it as a way to compare the event to the June 4 1989 massacre of peaceful protesters at Tiananmen Square in Beijing.

<https://www.ft.com/content/1527d949-8298-40c1-9292-c3d0e6adb395>

US crying wolf over China's 'nuclear threat' while expanding nuclear arsenal

Global Times, August 22, 2024

With over 5,000 nuclear warheads, the US possesses the world's largest and most advanced nuclear arsenal. So why does it repeatedly target China in its nuclear threat rhetoric? This can be traced back to a dilemma faced by the US Department of Defense - how to justify maintaining such a massive nuclear arsenal in the post-Cold War world. To secure more defense budgets for the domestic military-industrial complex, the US chooses to constantly manufacture or exaggerate baseless "nuclear threats." And China has become the best excuse.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202408/1318466.shtml>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General on Myanmar Julie Bishop's visit to China

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The People's Republic of China, August 22, 2024

At the invitation of the Chinese side, Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General on Myanmar Julie Bishop visited China on August 20 and 21. Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Foreign Minister Wang Yi, and Special Envoy for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Deng Xijun met with her respectively. They had in-depth exchange of views on the Myanmar issue. China respects Myanmar's sovereignty, independence, national unity and territorial integrity, and stays committed to non-interference in Myanmar's internal affairs and the Myanmar-owned and Myanmar-led peace process. China supports ASEAN's role as the main channel and hopes that ASEAN's five-point consensus on Myanmar and Myanmar's new five-point roadmap will create good momentum for each other and be effectively implemented.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202408/t20240822_11478124.html

If a China and America war went nuclear, who would win?

The Economist, August 22, 2024

It is bad enough to contemplate a war in Asia. It is grimmer still to think through a nuclear one. But somebody has to. And so Andrew Metrick, Philip Sheers and Stacie Pettyjohn, all of the Centre for a New American Security (CNAS), a think-tank in Washington, recently gathered a group of

experts to play a tabletop exercise—a type of wargame—to explore how a Sino-American nuclear war could break out. The results were not encouraging.

<https://www.economist.com/asia/2024/08/22/if-a-china-and-america-war-went-nuclear-who-would-win>

Taiwan's top security officials make secret trip to US for talks

Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, August 22, 2024

Taiwan's top foreign policy officials have made a secret trip to the greater Washington area for talks with the US, the first such visit since President Lai Ching-te took office in May. Foreign minister Lin Chia-lung and Joseph Wu, Taiwan's national security adviser, have been in the Washington area this week for the talks that are known as the "special channel", according to several people familiar with the visit. The US and Taiwan have held the "special channel" talks for years, but their existence was first disclosed by the Financial Times in 2021 when the two sides, including Wu who was then foreign minister, met in Annapolis, Maryland. The channel is seen as a rare opportunity for a larger group of senior officials from both sides to hold detailed talks.

<https://www.ft.com/content/c4c5f7b3-9506-422b-a892-7b89e90a1631>

China launches new communications satellite

CGTN, August 23, 2024

China sent a new communications satellite into orbit at 2025 hrs Beijing Time on August 23. The ChinaSat 4A satellite was launched atop a modified Long March-7 carrier rocket from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site in the southern Hainan Province. The satellite will provide voice, data, radio and television transmission services. The launch was the 532nd flight mission of the Long March series of rockets.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2024-08-23/China-launches-new-communications-satellite-1wigfDYrrW0/p.html>

China sets a new record in South China Sea submarine communication test

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, August 23, 2024

A milestone for underwater communication has been achieved following testing of new technology that features a powerful method of data encoding, according to scientists involved in

the project. The 92150 unit of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) in collaboration with Xiamen University recently conducted tests on the new underwater data transmission technology at an undisclosed location in the South China Sea, with a water depth of 3,000 metres (9,842 feet), far from the Chinese mainland. Scientists deployed a small hydrophone 1,000 metres below the surface and successfully received signals transmitted from a ship that was 30km (18.6 miles) away, achieving a data transmission speed of 4,000 bits per second (bps).

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3275418/huaweis-polar-code-beats-nato-protocol-south-china-sea-submarine-communication-test>

Australia offers U.S. a vast new military launchpad in China conflict

Michael E. Miller

The Washington Post, August 24, 2024

Deep in the outback, a flurry of construction by Australia and the United States is transforming this once quiet military installation into a potential launchpad in case of conflict with China. Runways are being expanded and strengthened to accommodate the allies' biggest airplanes, including American B-52 bombers. A pair of massive fuel depots is rising side by side to supply U.S. and Australian fighter jets. And two earth-covered bunkers have been built for U.S. munitions. But the activity at RAAF Tindal, less than 2,000 miles from the emerging flash points of the South China Sea, isn't unique. Across Australia, decades-old facilities — many built by the United States during World War II — are being dusted off or upgraded amid growing fears of another global conflict.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/08/24/us-military-base-australia-china/>

China to prioritize discussion on Taiwan question, China's development rights and strategic security during Sullivan's visit: FM

Global Times, August 25, 2024

China will focus on raising serious concerns regarding the Taiwan question, addressing development rights and strategic security in discussions with the US during National Security Advisor Jack Sullivan's upcoming visit to Beijing, China's Foreign Ministry said. China-US relations are still at a critical juncture of stabilizing ties and preventing it from declining, according to the foreign ministry. Under such context, Wang will have an in-depth exchange of views with Sullivan on China-US relations, sensitive subjects and major international and regional hot topics.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202408/1318602.shtml>

The inside story of the secret backchannel between the US and China

Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, August 25, 2024

Three months after a Chinese spy balloon flew over the US, sending relations with Beijing to their lowest point since diplomatic ties were established in 1979, Jake Sullivan embarked on his own stealth mission. The US national security adviser flew to Vienna on May 10 2023 for a highly consequential meeting — one that would be held in the kind of clandestine fashion in keeping with the Austrian capital’s historic reputation. Sullivan was in Vienna to meet Wang Yi, a veteran Chinese diplomat who had become his country’s top foreign policy official in January.

<https://www.ft.com/content/c62ca855-c70b-4814-aa47-96d2a0020c16>

China opposes US sanctions on firms over alleged ties to Russia's war efforts

The Washington Post, August 25, 2024

China expressed its opposition to the latest U.S. sanctions on Chinese companies over their alleged ties to Russia’s war in Ukraine, saying it will adopt necessary measures to safeguard the rights and interests of the country’s businesses. The U.S. announced sweeping sanctions on hundreds of firms in Russia and across Europe, Asia and the Middle East, accusing them of providing products and services that enable Russia’s war effort and aiding its ability to evade sanctions. The U.S. Department of State said it was concerned by “the magnitude of dual-use goods exports” from China to Russia.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2024/08/25/china-us-sanctions-russia-ukraine-war/e708edfe-62b1-11ef-ae22-cef4d8785d67_story.html

Chinese Foreign Ministry on China-Philippines clashes near Sabina Shoal in South China Sea

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The People’s Republic of China, August 26, 2024

Xianbin Jiao is part of China’s Nansha Qundao. On August 25, an official vessel of the Philippines’ Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, ignoring China’s firm opposition and repeated dissuasion, intruded into the adjacent waters of Xianbin Jiao of China’s Nansha Qundao, and acted dangerously by deliberately ramming the China Coast Guard vessel that was carrying out law enforcement operation. The responsibility of causing the collision fully lies with the Philippines. China Coast Guard took necessary measures in accordance with domestic and international law. Its maneuvers at the scene were professional, restrained and appropriate.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202408/t20240826_11479647.html

Cooperation potential outweighs nuclear competition between China and France

Hu Weijia

Global Times, August 26, 2024

Following approvals for new nuclear power plants in China, the country's development of nuclear energy has attracted fresh attention. Some French media outlets weighed in, focusing attention on why China's nuclear power units have a cost advantage over those made in France. China and France have their own advantages in nuclear power. So, it seems collaboration is the best choice for them, and, in reality, cooperation has indeed been the main theme of the nuclear energy development of the two countries.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202408/1318687.shtml>

China's tech giants splash out on AI despite US restrictions

Ryan McMorrow and Eleanor Olcott

Financial Times, August 26, 2024

China's tech giants have doubled capital spending this year as they splurge on artificial intelligence infrastructure, despite US sanctions designed to limit the country's progress in the crucial technology. Alibaba, Tencent and Baidu had combined capital expenditure of Rmb50bn (\$7bn) in the first half, compared with Rmb23bn a year earlier. The groups said the focus was on buying processors and infrastructure related to powering the training of large language models for AI, both their own models and those of others.

<https://www.ft.com/content/31bffc48-2ca7-472b-9d53-3deaad2d86ce>

A glimpse of the new 'Great Game' between the U.S. and China

Ishaan Tharoor

The Washington Post, August 26, 2024

The burgeoning competition between the United States and China has sprawled across continents, with geopolitical and economic flash points in various corners of Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and Latin America. It has led to a kind of tunnel vision among certain circles in Washington, where policy elites increasingly focus their lens on a far-flung region simply to scope out the size of Beijing's footprint.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/08/26/china-us-great-game-influence-global/>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on blasts in Pakistan's Balochistan

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The People's Republic of China, August 27, 2024

China stands firm against all forms of terrorism. We will continue giving staunch support to Pakistan in their effort to advance counterterrorism operations, uphold social solidarity and stability, and protect the safety of the people. China stands ready to further enhance counterterrorism and security cooperation with Pakistan and jointly safeguard peace and security in the region.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202408/t20240827_11480108.html

China's export curbs on semiconductor materials stoke chip output fears

Harry Dempsey and Edward White

Financial Times, August 27, 2024

Chinese export controls on crucial semiconductor materials are hitting supply chains and stoking fears of shortfalls in western production of advanced chips and military optical hardware. Beijing's curbs on shipments of germanium and gallium, which are used for semiconductor applications and military and communications equipment components, have led to an almost twofold increase in the minerals' prices in Europe over the past year. China introduced the restrictions, which it says safeguard its "national security and interests", last year in response to US-led controls on sales of advanced chips and chipmaking equipment.

<https://www.ft.com/content/9cd56880-4360-4e11-8c22-e810d3787e88>

India's intense scrutiny of Chinese warship operation is just an extension of 'China threat' theory, experts say

Li Yawei

Global Times, August 27, 2024

Chinese and Indian warships both docked in Sri Lanka, triggering intense concerns among the Indian media, which Chinese experts described as morbid, calling this mentality an extension of the "China threat" theory. "Given the relatively frequent military interactions between India and Sri Lanka, I think that the simultaneous docking of Chinese and Indian warships in Sri Lanka is a coincidence," Qian said. However, he noted, that it is evident from the hype in the Indian media that there is always a group in India who are over sensitive to China's normal exchanges with Sri Lanka, even if it's just a simple warship stopover.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202408/1318728.shtml>

A top White House official says US and China are working to avoid conflict at talks in Beijing

Ken Moritsugu

The Washington Post, August 27, 2024

The United States and China are working to ensure the competition between them does not veer into conflict, a top White House official said as the two sides started talks on a relationship that has been severely tested during President Joe Biden's term in office. Jake Sullivan, the U.S. national security adviser, is meeting over two days with Wang Yi, a senior foreign policy official for Chinese leader Xi Jinping, in a scenic lake area on the northern outskirts of Beijing. "President Biden has been very clear in his conversations with President Xi that he is committed to managing this important relationship responsibly," Sullivan told Wang before the talks got underway.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/08/27/china-us-sullivan-national-security-adviser/63c5fedc-6437-11ef-a399-4245aabdb0ed_story.html

China's views on AI safety are changing—Quickly

Matt Sheehan

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, August 27, 2024

Over the past two years, China's artificial intelligence (AI) ecosystem has undergone a significant shift in how it views and discusses AI safety. For many years, some of the leading AI scientists in Western countries have been warning that future AI systems could become powerful enough to pose catastrophic risks to humanity. Concern over these risks—often grouped under the umbrella term "AI safety"—has sparked new fields of technical research and led to the creation of governmental AI safety institutes in the United States, the United Kingdom, and elsewhere. But for most of the past five years, it was unclear whether these concerns about extreme risks were shared by Chinese scientists or policymakers.

<https://carnegieendowment.org/research/2024/08/china-artificial-intelligence-ai-safety-regulation?lang=en>

'Two bowls of poison': China weighs a Donald Trump vs a Kamala Harris presidency

Joe Leahy, Wenjie Ding and Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, August 27, 2024

Kamala Harris's keynote address to US Democrats had an audience far from the convention hall in Chicago: policymakers in Beijing. For China's leaders, who were preparing for what they saw

as an unpalatable choice between two known hawks in incumbent Joe Biden and his Republican rival Donald Trump, Harris's sudden elevation last month added more uncertainty to what was already a crucial election for US-China relations. President Xi Jinping's administration will be parsing the vice-president's statements and record for clues of what a Harris administration's stance would be towards relations with Beijing — and whether it would be preferable to a second Trump term.

<https://www.ft.com/content/99d3a277-3d62-4de4-a471-968fa41cfab9>

Chinese government hackers penetrate U.S. internet providers to spy

Joseph Menn

The Washington Post, August 27, 2024

Chinese government-backed hackers have penetrated deep into U.S. internet service providers in recent months to spy on their users, according to people familiar with the ongoing American response and private security researchers. The unusually aggressive and sophisticated attacks include access to at least two major U.S. providers with millions of customers as well as to several smaller providers, people familiar with the separate campaigns said.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2024/08/27/chinese-government-hackers-penetrate-us-internet-providers-spy/>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on the comments of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on Xinjiang

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The People's Republic of China, August 28, 2024

Xinjiang today enjoys social stability and economic growth and the people there live a happy life. It is at its best in history where people of all ethnic groups are working together for a better life. China stands ready to have constructive exchange and cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) on the basis of mutual respect. We believe that the OHCHR needs to fulfill its mandate in a just and objective manner, respect countries' sovereignty, respect facts, conduct constructive dialogue and cooperation with countries, reject acts that politicize human rights or stoke division and confrontation, and refrain from being used by political forces aiming at containing and vilifying China.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202408/t20240828_11480481.html

Inside China's race to lead the world in nuclear fusion

Gemma Conroy

Nature, August 28, 2024

At the same time, China is fast pouring resources into its fusion efforts. The Chinese government's current five-year plan makes comprehensive research facilities for crucial fusion projects a major priority for the country's national science and technology infrastructure. As a rough estimate, China could now be spending \$1.5 billion each year on fusion — almost double what the US government allocated this year for this research, says Jean Paul Allain, associate director of the US Department of Energy's Office of Fusion Energy Sciences in Washington DC. "Even more important than the total value is the speed at which they're doing it," says Allain.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-024-02759-x>

The nuclear option: China study urges more weapons R&D to save Earth from asteroid strike

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, August 28, 2024

The best option to minimise the chance that an asteroid someday smashes into the Earth — possibly wiping out life — is through the use of nuclear weapons, according to scientists at China's deep space exploration programme. The researchers said their analysis had found that in some situations, only nuclear weapons could prevent an asteroid from hitting the Earth, adding that they were fully aware of international laws against the use or deployment of nuclear weapons in space, and that nuclear fallout could also cause interstellar pollution

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3275996/nuclear-option-china-study-urges-more-weapons-rd-save-earth-asteroid-strike>

India's second nuclear missile submarine should be used responsibly: experts

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, August 29, 2024

India is reportedly scheduled to launch its second nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine on Thursday. Chinese experts said that India should wield this power responsibly and contribute to peace and stability, rather than use it to flex muscles. With more nuclear-powered ballistic

missile submarines, India's nuclear deterrence force has increased, but along comes its responsibility in wielding such power, a Beijing-based military expert who requested anonymity told the Global Times.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202408/1318865.shtml>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on the strategic communication between Director Wang Yi and Advisor Jake Sullivan

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The People's Republic of China, August 29, 2024

On the strategic communication between Director Wang Yi and Advisor Jake Sullivan, China has issued a detailed readout. In the communication, Director Wang Yi said that for China-US relations to develop in the right direction, the key is that the two countries keep to the strategic guidance of the two heads of state. For China and the US to prevent conflict and confrontation, the key lies in abiding by the three China-US joint communiqués. For the two sides to have sound interactions, the key lies in equality. For China-US relations to achieve steady and sustained development, the key lies in consolidating public support. For the two countries to peacefully coexist, the key lies in having right perception of each other. I'd refer you to the readout for more specifics.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202408/t20240829_11481241.html

Zhang Youxia stresses China-US military stability in meeting with Sullivan

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, August 29, 2024

Vice chairman of the Central Military Commission Zhang Youxia stressed the importance of China and the US to maintain stability in military and security fields in meeting with US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan in Beijing. The meeting is seen as a step toward reducing communication barriers and preventing conflicts between the two countries, Chinese experts said. Calling the two sides to implement the consensus reached by the two countries' top leaders, Zhang said at the meeting that maintaining stability military and security fields not only aligns with the common interests of both countries, but also the expectation of the international community, according to a press release by China's Ministry of National Defence.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202408/1318866.shtml>

China's nuclear weapons a growing concern for US

Wesley Rahn

DW, August 29, 2024

US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan was in Beijing this week for talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, and high-level military officials, as the US and China try and maintain guardrails on their growing strategic rivalry. Sullivan's talks with General Zhang Youxian, vice chairman of China's Central Military Commission, included arrangements to improve communication between both militaries, including between high-ranking commanders. The White House said in a statement that the first trip by a US national security advisor to China since 2016 was part of ongoing efforts to "maintain channels of communication to responsibly manage the relationship."

<https://www.dw.com/en/chinas-nuclear-weapons-a-growing-concern-for-us/a-70081696>

China approves four Westinghouse reactors for nuclear power plants

Reuters, August 29, 2024

U.S. nuclear firm Westinghouse said China has given it approval to supply four nuclear reactors for two separate Chinese power projects. The company said China's State Council has greenlit building two AP1000 reactors for the Bailong nuclear power project, owned by the country's State Power Investment Corp, in the Guangxi province. The other two Westinghouse-designed AP1000 reactors were approved for China General Nuclear Power Corp's Lufeng Nuclear Power Plant in the Guangdong province. China's nuclear power industry has benefited from sustained state support and localization strategies. It has helped the country advance in sectors such as renewable energy and electric vehicles.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/china/china-approves-four-westinghouse-reactors-nuclear-power-plants-2024-08-29/>

Visiting IAEA official hails China's role in advancing safe, peaceful use of nuclear energy

Fan Anqi

Global Times, August 30, 2024

Upon the 40th anniversary of China's accession to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Sophie Boutaud de la Combe, the agency's Director of Office of Public Information and Communication, hailed China's remarkable contribution to the peaceful use of nuclear energy and to the building of an eco-friendly energy structure, particularly in helping other countries develop their own nuclear power plants quickly and cost-efficiently. "China has become a key supporter of

the agency through our collaborations, and we have worked together integrating good practices, international standards and peer reviews, especially for safety in the nuclear sector,” Sophie said at a media event during an ongoing trip to China, noting that they are grateful for Chinese expertise in passing its knowledge to other countries as nuclear safety is an ongoing endeavor around the world.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202408/1318939.shtml>

Chinese scientists find new method to produce massive water with lunar soil

Wu Yuehui

People’s Daily Online, August 30, 2024

A Chinese research team recently developed a new method of massive water production through the reaction between lunar regolith and endogenous hydrogen, according to the Ningbo Institute of Materials Technology and Engineering (NIMTE) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). The study was published in the journal *The Innovation* on August 22, and is expected to provide important design basis for the construction of future lunar scientific research bases and space stations. The research team consists of scientists from the NIMTE and the CAS Institute of Physics.

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2024/0830/c90000-20212251.html>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on the US deployment of Mid-Range Capability missile system in the Philippines

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The People’s Republic of China, August 30, 2024

On the US deployment of Mid-Range Capability missile system in the Philippines, China has made clear our opposition more than once. This move by the US and the Philippines incites geopolitical confrontation, escalates tensions in the region, and harms regional peace and stability. It has aroused high vigilance and concerns of countries in the region. The Philippines needs to have a clear understanding of the real intention of the US, respond to the common concerns of regional countries, avoid acting as the cat’s paw for the US at the expense of its own security interest, and quickly pull out the missile system as publicly pledged.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202408/t20240830_11482129.html

Overcoming China’s dominance in gallium will not be easy

Financial Times, August 31, 2024

Gallium, used in smartphones, radar kit and much in between, punches way above its weight. Selling for pennies above production costs, many producers outside of Asia bowed out of the

metal at the end of the noughties when China began expanding capacity. China now controls 98 per cent of primary low-purity gallium production, according to the US Geological Survey. Buyers in the rest of the world were left reeling when Beijing imposed export controls last year. That has sparked a near-doubling of gallium prices in Europe and constrained access to a key mineral for chips with civil and military applications.

<https://www.ft.com/content/20819d8e-5d2b-4a12-9a50-edbfd07336ef>

Japan lodges formal protest over Chinese survey ship entering its territorial waters

Yuri Kageyama

ABC News, August 31, 2024

Japan lodged a formal protest via China's embassy against what it called an incursion by a Chinese survey ship into its territorial waters Saturday, the Japanese foreign ministry said. The ministry expressed "strong concern" after the ship was spotted near Kagoshima Prefecture, southwestern Japan, early in the morning. Recently, China's increasingly assertive activity around Japanese waters and airspace has caused unease among Japanese defense officials, also concerned about the growing military cooperation between the Chinese and Russian air forces.

<https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/japan-lodges-formal-protest-chinese-survey-ship-entering-113293358>

Pacific leaders' statement scrubbed of Taiwan reference after China protest

Shaun Turton and Rurika Imahashi

Nikkei Asia, August 31, 2024

The Pacific Islands Forum secretariat released an altered joint communique that removed a reference to Taiwan, following comments by China's Pacific envoy that called the section "unacceptable." The joint communique, detailing outcomes from this week's Pacific Island Forum leaders meeting, appeared online with paragraph 66 of the document stating the leaders "reaffirmed the 1992 Leaders decision on relations with Taiwan/Republic of China," a reference to when the body made Taiwan a "development partner" of the group, an arrangement that started the following year.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/Pacific-leaders-statement-scrubbed-of-Taiwan-reference-after-China-protest>

Sylloge on China is compiled by Mr. Niranjan C. Oak

Nuclear and Arms Control Centre, MP-IDSA