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# SYLLOGE ON CHINA

Focus: Nuclear, Space, Missiles and other Security Issues

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## **Mars probe begins science operations**

China Daily, July 29, 2020

China's Tianwen 1 Mars probe has begun to conduct scientific operations, according to designers of one of its scientific payloads. The Mars Energetic Particle Analyzer, mounted on the spacecraft's orbiter, was activated late Friday night and has transmitted data back to ground control, according to a statement from the Lanzhou Institute of Physics of the China Academy of Space Technology and the Institute of Modern Physics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

It is the first of 13 scientific apparatuses on the probe to start operating and will be the longest working device during the spacecraft's seven-month journey toward Mars' gravitational field, the statement said. The instrument is tasked with measuring the spatial radiation environment of Mars and along the Earth-Mars transfer trajectory, as well as investigating a variety of topics including the energy spectrum and changing pattern of energetic particles in the spatial environment. Its first mission is studying the spatial radiation environment along the Earth-Mars transfer trajectory, according to designers.

<http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202007/29/WS5f20dc19a31083481725cc8a.html>

## **As China 'will definitely retaliate' military provocation, experts warn US not to escalate tensions**

Yang Sheng and Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, July 28, 2020

The increasing tensions between China and the US, the worsening COVID-19 epidemic situation, as well as the declining approval ratings of US President Donald Trump have raised concerns, among strategists and experts, of a military conflict between the two nuclear-armed powers caused by the dangerous US attempts. Chinese experts said on Tuesday that China could be restrained on retaliating to new US provocations on politics, diplomacy or economy, because Chinese policymakers will not let the Trump administration use them for his reelection, and will wait for the presidential election result to decide how to respond.

However, if Washington launches military provocations to challenge the bottom line of China's national security and sovereignty, China will make immediate and effective retaliations. Experts said whether or not the two major powers can avoid military conflict in the next three months depends on the White House, and China needs to make its deterrence "more visible" to warn the US about how dangerous a war could be. Jin Canrong, associate dean of Renmin University of China's School of International Studies in Beijing, told the Global Times on Tuesday that apart from the upcoming presidential election and failed handling of the domestic epidemic situation, "the collective hostility against China among US elites and policymakers, which we didn't expect, will also make the US more aggressive."

<http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1195968.shtml>

## **AG600 seaplane's test flight marks milestone**

Zhao Lei And Xie Chuanjiao

China Daily, July 27, 2020

China's AG600 seaplane conducted its first sea-based test flight on Sunday morning, marking a new milestone in the program. The amphibious aircraft sailed on the waters and then took off at 10:18 am to fly back to Shanzihe Airport. It completed a number of test assignments during the operation, according to Aviation Industry Corp of China, the State-owned conglomerate that designed and built the seaplane. The AG600 is China's second amphibious aircraft, after the SH-5, which was developed in the 1970s for military purposes and has been retired for a long time. With a length of 37 meters and a wingspan of 38.8 meters, the AG600 is roughly the size of a Boeing 737.

Powered by four domestically designed WJ-6 turboprop engines, it has a maximum takeoff weight of 53.5 metric tons. These specifications make it the world's biggest amphibious aircraft, surpassing Japan's ShinMaywa US-2 and Russia's Beriev Be-200. Once in service, it will put an end to the absence of a large rescue aircraft in China and will be very useful in the national emergency rescue and disaster relief systems, said Chen Yuanxian, deputy general manager of AVIC. The amphibious plane is one of three large-size aircraft to emerge from the nation's efforts to become a top-tier player in the global aviation sector, joining the Y-20 strategic transport plane – delivery of which began in July 2016 to the Chinese Air Force – and the C919 narrow-body jetliner, which is being flight-tested.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202007/27/WS5f1e1143a31083481725c19d.html>

### **China needs to expand nuclear arsenal as US presses closer: GT chief editor**

Global Times, July 26, 2020

China must be prepared to deal with the next more extreme adventures by the US, Hu wrote in his Sina Weibo account Sunday. "Hurry up and build more nuclear missiles to deter the US lunatics," reads the post. "China having more powerful nuclear arsenal is the most important leverage to keep American arrogance below a safety line. Nothing else is very effective." In the post, Hu stressed that China will not give up its efforts to resolve various issues through consultation with the US, "however, it is not up to us. With the US suppressing further, we cannot rule out the possibility that clashes break out between China and the US in the South China Sea and the Taiwan Straits. There will be a contest of wills between China and the US, and sufficient nuclear weapons are an indispensable pillar of China's will," Hu wrote.

At a time when the US is pressing closer, China's national security is facing unprecedented challenges, reads the post, "China was forced to increase its nuclear arsenal, which many people in the world can understand. China must not tie its own hands and make a big mistake."

<http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1195708.shtml>

### **China launches new high-resolution mapping satellite**

CGTN, July 25, 2020

China sent a new high-resolution mapping satellite into space on Saturday from Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in the northern province of Shanxi. The Ziyuan III 03 satellite was launched by a Long March-4B carrier rocket at 11:13 a.m. Beijing time, according to the center. It was the 341st flight mission by the Long March rocket series. Also on board were two satellites used for dark matter detection and commercial data acquisition respectively, which were developed by the Shanghai ASES Spaceflight Technology Co. Ltd. All three satellites have entered preset orbits, Taiyuan center sources said.

The Ziyuan III 03, developed by the China Academy of Space Technology, will join its predecessor the Ziyuan III 02 to form a network and capture high-definition 3D images and multispectral data. It will provide data for the country's land resource investigations, natural disaster prevention, agriculture development, water resource management, environmental survey and urban planning.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2020-07-25/China-launches-new-high-resolution-mapping-satellite-SpIDGxEtz2/index.html>

### **Chinese military to hold live-fire exercise in western waters of Leizhou Peninsula**

China Military Online, July 24, 2020

Unit 95180, a troop unit of Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA), issued a no-sail notice on July 23, saying that the troop is going to hold live-fire shooting exercise in the west sea waters of China's Leizhou Peninsula from July 25 to August 2. The notice reads that the live-fire shooting exercise will take place during the following time periods and cover the following sea areas: From July 25 to July 27, in waters marked yellow as shown in the above picture; From July 28 to August 2, in waters marked green. According to the notice, during the above periods, all maritime navigation and fishery operations in the corresponding sea areas will be prohibited; vessels must stay in the harbors and not go out to sea. Anyone who goes out to sea without authorization shall bear the consequences.

The notice also added that the coverage of this live-fire shooting exercise is extensive and the ammunition is powerful. So, there is a great risk of haphazard injury by accidental bombing when going to sea without authorization. It is truly hoped that the general public in local area will be responsible for the safety of their own lives and property, and do not go to sea without authorization.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-07/24/content\\_9860335.htm](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-07/24/content_9860335.htm)

### **China urges US to stop vicious attack on its military-civilian integrated policy**

China Military Online, July 24, 2020

Spokesperson of China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs Wang Wenbin said at a regular press conference on July 23rd that China's military-civilian integrated development policy is aimed at effectively integrating military and civilian resources and is above board and blameless. The US should immediately stop deliberate provocations and vicious attacks against China. When being asked about a recent tweet of the US Department of State, alleging that China is seeking to build the military by so-called exploiting American research institutions, academia, and private firms for their key technologies, Wang Wenbin pointed out, "China has stated its position on this issue repeatedly. Lately the US has been keen on misrepresenting and smearing China's military-civilian integration policy, employing moral hijack, political pressure and even threat of sanctions against Chinese and American businesses and researchers. China deplores and rejects this. "

He expressed that it is a customary international practice to promote integrated military and civilian development. It is no exception for the US, which began such practices dating back to before WWI and has been pursuing all-dimension and all-sector integration at an even faster pace in recent years. The US allegation against China is typical double standards by forbidding others to do what it is doing itself. Its true purpose is to create excuses to justify a high-tech blockage against China.

The root of this is the Cold War mentality the US still clings to as it attempts to contain China's development. It goes against the spirit of international cooperation and the trend of the times and will eventually damage the interests of China, the US and the whole world, he added. At last, he reiterated that China's military-civilian integration policy is aimed at effectively mobilizing military and civilian resources, coordinating socioeconomic growth and national defense development, and benefiting the public with scientific and technological progress. China's scientific progress is achieved with the Chinese people's industry and innovation. US should immediately stop deliberate provocations and malicious denigration against China, and return to the right track of win-win cooperation.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-07/24/content\\_9860014.htm](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-07/24/content_9860014.htm)

### **90 CAS nuclear scientists who resigned were allegedly 'poached'**

Global Times, July 16, 2020

More than 90 nuclear safety scientists with an institute under the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) resigned enmasse according to media reports, with the unusual high number of resignation drawing public attention, considering the essential service the scientists provide. An employee at the Institute of Nuclear Energy Safety Technology (INEST) under The Hefei Institutes of Physical Science (CASHIPS) of CAS said the more than 90 researchers who voluntarily left their jobs were "poached" and the resignations were part of "normal staff turnover," the Shanghai-based news website thepaper.cn reported Thursday. The employee didn't identify which company or institute may have recruited the researchers. INEST, located in Hefei, capital of Central China's Anhui Province, a hub of China's scientists, has about 600 members and 80 percent of researchers have PhD degrees, according to the institute's website.

The employee said the 90-plus researchers submitted their resignations in June. A China Business Journal report on Wednesday quoted a middle-level official in CASHIPS as saying that the scientists left because "the institute could not secure big research projects... without funding, talent leave. The INEST has the highest rate of resignation in the CASHIPS." He noted that INEST had 500 members at its peak, but much of the talent has left in recent years. Last year there were only 200 researchers, and now there will likely be around 100. Many of the employees at the INEST graduated from the University of Science and Technology of China, and their average age is 31 and their salary is about 10,000 some yuan (\$1,430) a month, the official said. The institute is running normally, the China Business Journal reported, quoting a person in charge of INEST. Earlier media reports show the resignations were triggered by a conflict with new security staff hired in mid-June at INEST.

<http://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1194812.shtml>

### **Air force missile brigade gets zero non-combat attrition rate in days of flood fight**

Zhang Mimi, Fu Gan and Lin Wengui

China Military Online, July 21, 2020

Troops of a ground-based missile brigade of the air force under the PLA Eastern Theater Command have been fighting the flood in south China for nearly half a month. Up to now, no service members got ill and the non-combat attrition rate is zero, in spite of the troops' long time flood-fighting efforts in high temperature and high humidity. "I was so deeply moved by the thoughtful preparations made by our logistic support troops," said Private Tu Chao. It was the first time for

him to participate in an anti-flood mission. He was distributed with rain boots, moisture-proof mattresses and other items before setting-off. And on the first day of the mission, when he returned from the embankment at 9 p.m., he saw the heat stroke prevention drugs, sunscreen cream, and sun-protective sleeves on the bed at the first sight.

Zhu Zhengyou, head of the logistic support department of the brigade, introduced that they had make thorough plan and preparation based on their experience of previous anti-flood missions, and fully predicted the difficulties that might be encountered by officers and soldiers this time. Based on this, they came out with this sunburn-protection package before the departure. Besides, the brigade prepared extra camouflage uniforms, shoes and T-shirts to each service member, to ensure that they could put on dry clothes when returning from the flooding site. Inside the temporary warehouse, there are piles of mineral water, canned porridge, milk, bread and other food. "The warehouse is open 24 hours a day, and these foods are available at any time," said Yang Tao, head of the supply section of the logistic support department. To facilitate service members to grab water or food at intervals of short break, they also got food and drinking water stored in those shuttle vehicles.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-07/21/content\\_9857974.htm](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-07/21/content_9857974.htm)

### **Chinese military firmly opposes U.S. arms sales to Taiwan**

China Military Online, July 16, 2020

The Chinese military Wednesday voiced strong dissatisfaction and firm opposition to US plan of selling Patriot Advanced Capability-3 missiles to Taiwan. "This move by the US side seriously jeopardizes China's national sovereignty and security," said Senior Colonel Wu Qian, spokesperson for China's Ministry of National Defense (MND). According to a statement released by Defense Security Cooperation Agency of the US Department of Defense, the US State Department approved on July 9, American local time, the recertification of selling Patriot Advanced Capability-3 missiles worth 620 million US dollars to China's Taiwan region.

"The US move is a flagrant violation of the one-China principle and the three China-US joint communiqués, it also grossly interferes in China's internal affairs and seriously impairs China's national sovereignty and security, China is strongly dissatisfied with and firmly opposed to it," said Wu in an address on the US State Department's approval of the recertification of selling weapons to China's Taiwan region. Taiwan is an integral part of China and China's position on Taiwan question is consistent and clear, Wu said, adding that China will not allow anyone, any organization or any country to take any means to separate Taiwan from the motherland. All attempts to create "one China, one Taiwan" and split China are going against the historical trend and will be firmly opposed by all Chinese people both at home and abroad, Wu said.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-07/16/content\\_9854129.htm](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-07/16/content_9854129.htm)

### **Lockheed Martin faces China's sanctions over Taiwan deal**

Global Times, July 16, 2020

China will impose sanctions on US-based arms producer Lockheed Martin, the main contractor of the recertification of its Patriot Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) air defense missiles of the island of Taiwan. The sanctions will likely feature the cut-off of material supply including rare earths, which are crucial to advanced weapons production, and business restrictions on Lockheed Martin's suppliers that have business in the Chinese mainland, Chinese aviation industry experts said on

Tuesday. The US on Thursday announced the approval of an arms deal to Taiwan involving the recertification of PAC-3 air defense missiles at an estimated cost of \$620 million.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said at a regular press conference on Tuesday that China had decided to take necessary measures to impose sanctions on the US company. Zhao did not elaborate on the details of the sanctions. Lockheed Martin is an arms producer focused on advanced weapons and equipment, and China does not have many direct business with the company, Wang Ya'nan, a Chinese aviation industry expert and chief editor of Aerospace Knowledge magazine, told the Global Times on Tuesday.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-07/14/content\\_9853306.htm](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-07/14/content_9853306.htm)

### **PLA's upgraded Type 052D destroyer makes training debut in E.China Sea amid tensions in Taiwan Straits**

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, July 7, 2020

Amid rising tensions across the Taiwan Straits with the US military's increasingly frequent operations in the region, the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy recently held drills in the East China Sea, with the latest, more powerful, anti-stealth aircraft-capable version of the Type 052D destroyer making its first public appearance, according to military reports over the weekend. In early July, a destroyer flotilla affiliated with the PLA Eastern Theater Command Navy conducted training exercises at an undisclosed location in the East China Sea. The training subjects included air and missile defenses, attacks on surface vessels, and joint anti-submarine operations, the PLA Daily reported on Sunday.

According to more details released in a statement and photos posted by the PLA East China Sea Fleet on Friday, the drills featured the guided missile destroyer Zibo, which has the hull number 156, among several other warships. Having entered military service on January 12, the Zibo is the PLA Navy's first ship of the improved version of the Type 052D destroyer, which is dubbed the Type 052DL, reads an article on the website of the government of Zibo, the city in East China's Shandong Province the destroyer is named after. This is the first time the Zibo was seen in action according to a publicly available report, observers noted.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-07/12/content\\_9851732.htm](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-07/12/content_9851732.htm)

### **Chinese military training in South China Sea for capability elevation and regional stability protection**

China Military Online, July 10, 2020

China is firmly opposed to United States' groundless accusation about China's military training in South China Sea, Senior Colonel Ren Guoqiang, spokesperson of China's Ministry of National Defense said on Thursday. Ren made the remarks when asked by reporters for comments on U.S. Defense Department's news release on July 2 which alleged that China's actions will destabilize the situation in the South China Sea. Recently, the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) conducted military training in waters off China's Xisha Islands, and the Chinese side released news about the training on June 27, Ren said, adding that the training is a routine arrangement within the PLA's annual training plan for the purpose of effectively enhancing the Chinese military's maritime defense capability so as to safeguard national sovereignty and security and protect regional peace and stability.

The training was not targeting any specific country and object, said Ren. By ignoring the facts and calling white black, the U.S. Defense Department is sowing discord among countries in the region and attempts to make benefits from it, we are strongly dissatisfied with and firmly opposed to the behavior of the U.S. side, Ren said. Thanks to joint efforts of China and ASEAN countries, the current situation in South China Sea is generally stable, Ren said. However the U.S. has been flexing its muscles and making provocations by dispatching its advanced military planes and vessels to the South China Sea, where the U.S. military conducted ‘navigation hegemony’ operations for many times, which threatens regional security and stability, Ren said.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-07/10/content\\_9850666.htm](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-07/10/content_9850666.htm)

### **China's two first-generation ocean-going landing ships decommissioned**

China Military Online, July 7, 2020

Two first-generation homemade ocean-going tank landing ships, namely the Yuntaishan and Zijinshan, were officially decommissioned from the PLA Navy on July 7. A combat support ship flotilla attached to the navy under the PLA Southern Theater Command held a grand decommissioning ceremony at a military port in Zhanjiang City of China’s Guangdong Province. The navy ensigns were dropped from the two landing ships in the background of resounding military song. With the equipment advancement of PLA Navy, the first-generation homemade vessels have been retreating from public view gradually.

The landing ship Yuntaishan (Hull 927) was commissioned in 1979 and has served for 41 years, being reputed as the “No.1 landing ship in China”, while the landing ship Zijinshan (Hull 929) was commissioned in 1982 and has served 38 years, being known as the “fluttering flag on the South China Sea”. Both ships were the first-generation ocean-going tank landing ships independently designed and built by China in the 1970s. They were manufactured by the Shanghai-based Zhonghua Shipyard with the capability of beaching, landing and cargo carrying.

[http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-07/10/content\\_9850796.htm](http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2020-07/10/content_9850796.htm)