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Chinese military ‘ready for any external provocation’ during Winter Olympics

Amber Wang

South China Morning Post, January 28, 2022

China’s navy has embarked on a series of military exercises in its waters this week, saying it is prepared for any kind of provocation during the Winter Olympics. Defense ministry spokesman Wu Qian said that China would ensure the Games were safe and “splendid”, and the People’s Liberation Army stood ready for any situation. “The Chinese military is also fully prepared for any external provocation and contingency,” Wu said.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3165141/chinese-military-ready-any-external-provocation-during-winter>

Lunar research station to be inked by China and Russia this year, operational by 2035: CNSA

Deng Xiaoci

Global Times, January 28, 2022

China released further details surrounding the construction of the International Lunar Research Station (ILRS), saying that the open and inclusive project jointly proposed by China and Russia is expected to become operational by 2035, China National Space Administration (CNSA) deputy head Wu Yanhua told. Wu made the remarks when speaking at a press conference for the release of China's fifth white paper on space activities, officially titled China's Space Program: A 2021 Perspective, commenting on inquiries by the Global Times on the project's status.

At all stages, at all levels of construction, and in terms of sharing of research data and space-ground support system, we have set no limits, and welcome the world to join in its construction, Wu said. Just like the Antarctic and Arctic research stations, we are inclined to build such a facility at the lunar south pole, and construct a scientific laboratory facility on the moon's surface as well as in lunar orbit, in order to conduct multi-discipline research work.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202201/1250142.shtml>

China details future space ambition in white paper, calls for formulating UN-centered space rules

Deng Xiaoci

Global Times, January 28, 2022

With 207 orbital launches in the past five years, China's space industry has expanded to new horizons in the starry ocean of the vast cosmos, a newly released white paper on the country's space plans showed. It is the fifth of its kind following those issued in 2000, 2006, 2011 and

2016. In the next five years, China will start a new journey toward building a space power. The space industry will contribute more to China's development, to global consensus and common efforts in outer space exploration and utilization, and to human progress, its preface noted.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202201/1250171.shtml>

How US Weaponizes NATO to Maintain Its Own Space Dominance & Deter Russia and China

Global Times, January 26, 2022

NATO released its "overarching" space policy on 17 January, stipulating that any space-based attack on an ally could trigger the alliance's collective defense policy under the bloc's Article 5. What's behind the renewed US focus on space and expansion of NATO activities there? NATO's newly released space doctrine expands on the alliance's 2019 Space Policy - which recognised space as a new "operational domain", alongside air, land, sea, and cyberspace - and vows to help make its members' space capabilities compatible and interoperable.

According to NATO, space is becoming more "crowded and competitive" with satellites being vulnerable to interference from certain countries, including Russia, China, Iran, and North Korea, which have developed and tested a wide range of counter-space and anti-satellite technologies (ASAT). The alliance proclaims that attacks in space against its members could lead to the invocation of NATO's Article 5, but falls short of defining what exactly constitutes an "attack". Instead, the doctrine says that decisions about this will be made on a "case-by-case" basis.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202201/1246939.shtml>

Beijing, Moscow obliged to step up green energy cooperation

Guo Xiaoqiong

Global Times, January 26, 2022

The 2022 Beijing Winter Olympic Games will commence on February 4. Based on the concept of "green Olympics," all of the 26 venues for the Games will be powered with 100 percent renewable energy. The idea of "green Olympics" provides Chinese wisdom on how to deal with the relationship between development and conservation. In order to meet the serious challenge of global warming, both China and Russia have set the strategic goal of low carbon and green gas emissions reduction, which puts forward new requirements for energy transformation in both countries, while creating new opportunities for green energy cooperation between Beijing and Moscow.

China and Russia also have a good foundation for nuclear energy cooperation. Russia has gathered rich experiences in the field of nuclear energy development, and China and Russia have been engaging in nuclear energy cooperation for many years. Tianwan and Xudapu nuclear power plants of China are two successful examples. Apart from deepening cooperation

in traditional fields such as nuclear power, nuclear fuel and fast neutron reactors, China and Russia should actively explore the potential for cooperation in new fields such as nuclear medicine, nuclear environmental protection, and digitalization of renewable energy development. Moreover, both countries need to explore various cooperation models, such as joint research and development, construction, as well as implementation and transformation of scientific and technological achievements.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202201/1246959.shtml>

Pandemic delays start up of Fangchenggang Hualong One units

World Nuclear News, January 26, 2022

Operation of the two demonstration Hualong One (HPR1000) reactors under construction at the Fangchenggang site in China's Guangxi Autonomous Region has been put back due to delays caused by COVID-19. Unit 3 will start up later in this year than previously planned and unit 4 will now not begin operating until 2024, China General Nuclear (CGN) said.

<https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Pandemic-delays-start-up-of-Fangchenggang-Hualong>

PLA warplanes tie noose around neck of 'Taiwan secessionists': Global Times editorial

Global Times, January 25, 2022

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) sent warplanes near the island of Taiwan on January 21 and January 22. On January 21, 39 aircraft flew, the largest daily number this year. The Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) authority appeared very nervous and upset. They should be. It has become normal for PLA warplanes to fly around Taiwan and approach the island for patrols. A sword of Damocles is hung over the head of "Taiwan secessionists," and at the same time, it concretizes and materializes the warning and deterrence of the Chinese mainland.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202201/1246812.shtml>

China, Russia hold joint anti-piracy drills in Arabian Sea

Global Times, January 25, 2022

The navies of China and Russia on January 22 conducted joint anti-piracy drills in the northern part of the Arabian Sea with the aim of enhancing the capabilities of the two countries' militaries in safeguarding strategic maritime routes, the Chinese Defense Ministry stated. A total of five warships plus vessel-based helicopters and marines took part in the exercise, China's Ministry of National Defense stated. During the drills, the Chinese-Russian flotilla practiced training courses including joint manoeuvre, saving hijacked vessels and transporting injured personnel with helicopters in a mock joint anti-piracy operation, the Chinese Defense Ministry said.

The drills further enriched the meaning of the China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era and gathered beneficial experiences for the two sides to conduct anti-piracy missions together. It also enhanced the two militaries' capabilities in dealing with maritime threats and safeguarding the security of strategic maritime routes, the press release said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202201/1246883.shtml>

F-35C's crash on carrier in S.China Sea exposes US exhaustion in containing China: experts

Liu Xuanzun and Guo Yuandan
Global Times, January 25, 2022

A day after a US dual aircraft carrier group entered the South China Sea attempting to flex its muscles against China, an F-35C stealth fighter jet had a landing mishap on one of the carriers during flight operations, with analysts saying that the accident exposed the exhaustion of the US military, which has been flaunting its prowess against China at the cost of the physical and mental health of its troops and high technical risks. An F-35C stealth fighter jet had a landing mishap on the deck while the USS Carl Vinson was conducting routine flight operations in the South China Sea, the US Navy announced in a statement.

The pilot safely ejected from the aircraft and was recovered by a US military helicopter and is in stable condition, the statement said, noting that seven sailors were injured, three of them required evacuation to a medical treatment facility in Manila, Philippines, while the other four were treated by on-board medical personnel. These operations put US military personnel under high tension and exhaust them physically and mentally, Zhang said. "Accidents would be unavoidable under this situation." The US military should stop its trouble-stirring, stop violating other countries' sovereignty and security, or more accidents are bound to happen, Zhang warned.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202201/1246898.shtml>

China's J-16D: a sign in the sky of a new electronic attack warplane threat to Taiwan?

Lawrence Chung and Amber Wang
South China Morning Post, January 25, 2022

The appearance of two PLA electronic warfare jets in a Taiwan air defense fly-by on January 24 signals a new possible threat to the island – an aircraft capable of launching direct strikes and interfering with radar systems at short-range, observers said. The island's defense ministry reported that 13 PLA warplanes entered the southwest of Taiwan's air defense identification zone (ADIZ). The aircraft included eight J-16 fighter jets, two H-6 bombers and a Y-8 anti-submarine aircraft. But there were also two J-16Ds, the electronic warfare version of the J-16 multirole strike fighter developed by Shenyang Aircraft Corp.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3164678/chinas-j-16d-sign-sky-new-electronic-attack-warplane-threat>

US-Japan alliance restricting vital tech exports to China risks ‘major impact’ on trade, supply chains

Amanda Lee

South China Morning Post, January 25, 2022

An alliance between the United States and Japan to ban exports of sensitive technology to China risks upending trade ties between Beijing and Tokyo and would be “complex” to implement, analysts say, as the global battle for tech supremacy intensifies. Japan and the US are mulling the establishment of a multilateral framework to regulate the trade of advanced technology, which includes semiconductor manufacturing equipment, quantum cryptography and artificial intelligence, according to a report by Japan’s Yomiuri newspaper earlier this month, citing unidentified sources. The two countries are also planning to work with allies in Europe on the issue amid heightened concern about Beijing’s military-civil fusion strategy.

<https://www.scmp.com/economy/china-economy/article/3164537/us-japan-alliance-restricting-vital-tech-exports-china-risks>

Taiwan scrambles jets after Beijing sends 52 aircraft to island’s air defense zone in two days

Lawrence Chung

South China Morning Post, January 25, 2022

The People’s Liberation Army has sent 52 warplanes into Taiwan’s air defense zone in the past two days, prompting the island’s air force to scramble jets and aim missiles to disperse them. According to Taiwan’s defense ministry, 13 warplanes – 10 J-16 fighter jets, two H-6 bombers and a Y-8 anti-submarine aircraft – entered the southwest of the island’s air defense identification zone (ADIZ) on January 24. The sorties followed 39 PLA warplanes – 34 fighter jets, four electronic warfare planes and a bomber – that flew into the island’s ADIZ on January 23.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3164494/beijing-sends-39-aircraft-taiwan-air-defence-zone-pushing>

As PLA threat grows, Taiwan’s bid to boost defense ‘may lead to conflict’

Kristin Huang

South China Morning Post, January 25, 2022

Taiwan is boosting defense in the face of growing pressure from Beijing, a move mainland Chinese analysts say could worsen tensions across the strait. The self-ruled island lives with

the threat of invasion by Beijing, which claims Taiwan as its own territory to be taken back – by force if necessary. It has stepped up military intimidation of Taiwan, sending a record number of People’s Liberation Army fighter jets and bombers into the island’s air defense zone last year – and doing so on an almost daily basis.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3164304/pla-threat-grows-taiwans-bid-boost-defence-may-lead-conflict>

Exclusive: Pakistan Navy inducts 1st Type 054A/P frigate developed by China

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, January 24, 2022

The Pakistan Navy on January 24 inducted the PNS Tughril, the first of four Type 054A/P frigates developed by China, in the Pakistan Navy Fleet, with the president of Pakistan hailing the friendship between the two countries and announcing that the Type 054A/Ps will serve to safeguard the sea routes of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The induction ceremony of the PNS Tughril multi-role frigate was held at the Pakistan Navy Dockyard in Karachi, according to a press release the Pakistan Navy sent to the Global Times on the day. President of Pakistan Dr Arif Alvi said at the ceremony that the Type 054A/P project is yet another manifestation of the deep friendship with China, and the collaboration shows a time-tested brotherly fraternity that is emerging between the two countries and continues to get stronger and stronger every day, which is focused on promoting security, stability and peace.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202201/1246789.shtml>

China's first project applying E-beam irradiation to combat COVID-19 on cold-chain food ready for implementation

Global Times, January 24, 2022

A Chinese nuclear company has finished research of the country's first installation used for disinfecting cold-chain food's outer package and is working on the project's implementation, the company's board secretary disclosed in response to an inquiry from investors. The company, namely the CGN Nuclear Technology Development Co (CGNNT), a subsidiary of China's state-owned nuclear power giant China General Nuclear Power Corp (CGN), said that the company's project, which applies electron beam (E-beam) irradiation technology to fight against coronavirus on the outer package of cold-chain food has passed the review of expert group in March, 2021.

The company is currently pushing for the landing of this pilot project, the person said. According to information sent by CGN, the project has carried out 11 batches of experiments on 190 samples, and found that 5-10 KGy E-beams are enough to kill live coronavirus viruses on the surface of filter paper, and the results won't turn positive after three generations of blind transmission.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202201/1246724.shtml>

US lambasted for double standards on nonproliferation

Leng Shumei and Yu Xi

Global Times, January 22, 2022

Chinese Foreign Ministry slammed the US' recent "missile proliferation" sanctions on three Chinese military enterprises, saying it is a typical "bullying behavior" aimed to contain Chinese enterprises out of political motives, and reflects US double standards. Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian urged the US to revoke the sanctions and stop suppressing and smearing China and Chinese enterprises, noting that China will reserve the right to take further action. A spokesperson for China's Ministry of Commerce said on January 22 that China firmly opposes US' sanctions on Chinese companies, which are totally groundless, and urged the US to correct its wrongdoings.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202201/1246593.shtml>

China, Iran, Russia carry out joint naval drills amid rising US headwinds

Amber Wang

South China Morning Post, January 21, 2022

China, Iran and Russia have carried out three days of joint naval drills in the Gulf of Oman, their second such exercise since 2019. "China sent the guided-missile destroyer Urumqi, the comprehensive supply ship Taihu, ship-borne helicopters and 40 members of the Marine Corps of the PLA Navy to take part in the drills," the defense ministry in Beijing announced. The exercise, held from January 18 to January 20, aimed to demonstrate the capability of the three nations to "jointly safeguard maritime security" and promote regional peace and stability, the ministry said in a statement on its website.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3164278/china-iran-russia-carry-out-joint-naval-drills-amid-rising-us>

PLA expels US warship trespassing Chinese territorial waters in S.China Sea

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, January 20, 2022

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) expelled a US warship that trespassed Chinese territorial waters in the South China Sea, a move experts said displays the PLA's capability to safeguard national sovereignty and territorial integrity amid several other recent US muscle-flexing moves in the region. On January 20, the USS Benfold guided missile destroyer illegally entered the Chinese territorial waters of Xisha Islands without authorization from the Chinese government, Senior Colonel Tian Junli, spokesperson at the PLA Southern Theater Command, said in a statement on the day. The PLA Southern Theater Command organized naval and air forces who tracked, monitored and warned the US warship away, Tian said. This is the first

time a US warship has trespassed Chinese territorial waters in the South China Sea in 2022.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202201/1246499.shtml>

China says it warned off US warship in Paracel Islands. American navy differs

Cyril Ip

South China Morning Post, January 20, 2022

The Chinese and US militaries have exchanged sharp words after an American warship sailed through the Paracel Islands in the disputed South China Sea. China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) said that its air and naval forces had warned off the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Benfold after it entered the chain, known in China as the Xisha Islands and claimed by Beijing, Taipei and Hanoi. However, the US Navy denied that it had been warned off. The PLA said that the American ship had entered China's territorial waters, without providing a precise track of its passage. It issued a statement in which PLA Southern Theatre Command spokesman Tian Junlin called the passage "another piece of ironclad evidence of [the US] pursuit of navigational hegemony and militarisation of the South China Sea".

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3164125/china-says-it-warned-us-warship-paracel-islands-american-navy>

China to start upgrading J-20 fighter engines in bid to close gap with US F-22

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, January 20, 2022

China will start upgrading the engines of its most advanced stealth fighter jet, the J-20, this year to bring its performance closer to the American F-22 Raptor, according to a military source. The performance of the fighter, also known as the Mighty Dragon, had been limited because it has been using a stopgap engine, the WS-10C, the latest model of an engine used in earlier Chinese warplanes.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3163986/china-start-upgrading-j-20-fighter-engines-bid-close-gap-us-f>

UN Security Council has no plan on discussions of sanctions against N.Korea: Chinese FM

Global Times, January 19, 2022

The UN Security Council has no plans to discuss a draft resolution on sanctions against North Korea, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said, calling on members of the

Security Council to focus on advancing the political settlement process of the Peninsula issue. The Biden administration imposed its first sanctions on North Korea on January 12, in response to North Korea's missile tests earlier this month, according to a report from the BBC. On January 17, North Korea fired two short-range missiles into waters off the coast of Japan, the latest in an unusual flurry of tests, the BBC cited South Korea's military as saying. In response, a foreign ministry spokesperson in Pyongyang said that the sanctions launched by the US were "intentionally escalating" the situation, and if "the US adopts such a confrontational stance, the DPRK will be forced to take stronger and certain reaction to it".

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202201/1246401.shtml>

Core catcher casing in place at Xudabao 3 and Tianwan 7

World Nuclear News, January 18, 2022

The core catcher casing has been installed for two Russian-supplied VVER-1200 reactors being constructed in China. The 156-tonne casing is part of the core catcher, which is intended to prevent release of radioactive substances in the event of a severe accident.

<https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Core-catcher-casing-in-place-at-Xudabao-3-and-Tian>

PLA Xinjiang Military Command gets new air defense missiles, artillery, rocket launch systems

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, January 18, 2022

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Xinjiang Military Command recently commissioned a large batch of advanced air defense missiles, artillery and multiple rocket launch systems, which analysts said are expected to enhance the troops' emergency response capabilities under complicated situations. A regiment affiliated with the PLA Xinjiang Military Command recently held a commissioning ceremony for the new additions to its arsenal, including the HQ-17A air defense missile system, the PCL-181 155-millimeter-caliber (155mm) self-propelled howitzer and the PHL-11 122-millimeter-caliber (122mm) modularized multiple rocket launcher systems.

The latest upgraded version of the HQ-17 made its public debut during the National Day military parade in Beijing in 2019. The HQ-17A air defense missile system integrated search radar, guidance radar, air defense radar and command system on a single vehicle, and is characterized by its high mobility, large detection range and high accuracy, eastday.com reported, noting that the vehicle can launch missiles while moving. The PCL-181 155mm self-propelled howitzer also made its first appearance at the military parade in 2019. Since then, it has become a favorite of the PLA mechanized artillery forces thanks to its outstanding performance and high lethality, the report said. Dubbed the "Iron Rain" due to its rapid

firepower, the PHL-11 122mm multiple rocket launcher system has long range, high accuracy, high mobility and is highly intelligent. As a mid-to-long-range suppression weapon, it can pour dozens of rockets on a large area in the hostile position within a dozen seconds, according to the report.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202201/1246301.shtml>