

SYLLOGE ON CHINA

Focus: Nuclear, Space, Missiles and other Security Issues

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Chinese FM elaborates on China-proposed Global Security Initiative, stresses nation will always be the backbone of guarding world peace

Global Times, 24 April 2022

As Chinese President Xi Jinping proposed for the first time a Global Security Initiative at the opening ceremony of the Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2022, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi gave a detailed elaboration on the initiative in an article published on People's Daily on Sunday, answering to the question: "What kind of security concept does the world need and how can countries achieve common security?" "The initiative contributes Chinese wisdom to make up for the present peace deficit," Wang said in the article, in which he stressed that China will never claim hegemony, seek expansion or spheres of influence, nor engage in an arms race. Responding to the urgent need of the international community to maintain world peace and prevent conflict and war, the initiative is proposed at a time when mankind faces the pandemic haze, the rising tensions in Ukraine and various traditional and non-traditional security threats.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202204/1260149.shtml

China greenlights 6 new nuclear reactors in shift away from coal

Shunsuke Tabeta

Nikkei Asia, 22 April 2022

The Chinese government has approved the construction of six reactors as part of a plan to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by more than doubling nuclear power capacity this decade. Three nuclear power plants in coastal provinces will each receive two new reactors, according to local media. Construction costs are estimated at 120 billion yuan (\$18.7 billion) for all six reactors combined, Chinese media report. China ranks third in the world in terms of installed nuclear power capacity after the U.S. and France. But nuclear energy accounts for only a little over 2% of the nation's power generating capacity, and just 5% of overall electricity output last year.

https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Energy/China-greenlights-6-new-nuclear-reactors-in-shiftaway-from-coal

Japan warned of worsening regional, global security as FM promises a stronger military in visit to US carrier

Xu Keyue and Zhang Changyue

Global Times, 24 April 2022

Japanese media reported that Japanese Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi and US Ambassador to Japan Rahm Emanuel inspected the US nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln on Saturday. A strike group led by the vessel held joint drills with Japan's Maritime Self-Defense

Force in waters near the country earlier this month. Hayashi said Japan will continue to closely work with the US to further enhance their alliance's deterrence and response capability. He added Japan will also comprehensively strengthen its defense capability, media reported. According to analysts, Japan is fractious in closely working with the US to strengthen their alliance's deterrence in the Asia-Pacific region, which has sparked deep concern among its neighbors as the US-Japan aggressive military cooperation would worsen the security environment in the region.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202204/1260214.shtml

IAEA chief expects deepened cooperation with China on nuclear law

Xinhua, 27 April 2022

Rafael Grossi, director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), spoke highly of China's nuclear law system, saying he expects the "constructive and permanent conversation" with China on nuclear energy to further deepen in the future. In an exclusive interview with Xinhua on the sidelines of the agency's first International Conference on Nuclear Law: The Global Debate, Grossi said he appreciates the "emphasis on safety" in China's nuclear law system, which covers relevant standards in production, transportation, waste and radiological protection, among others. He noted that all these aspects are also covered in the atomic energy law that China is currently formulating. The IAEA has maintained an "extremely constructive dialogue with China" and has kept in permanent contact with the Chinese nuclear regulator and major Chinese nuclear energy companies, the chief of the United Nations nuclear watchdog said.

https://english.news.cn/20220427/dbc07f282a2c42ff901aef147b0c6b45/c.html

Japan outlines neighbors' threats in annual diplomatic report as China 'needs to be on guard'

Wang Qi

Global Times, 23 April 2022

The Japanese Foreign Ministry said in its Diplomatic Bluebook presented to a Cabinet meeting on Friday that the world has shifted to an era of full-scale competition among countries, notably between China and the US. Chinese experts said on Saturday that despite the tough stance against Russia and relatively restrained China stance in the bluebook regarding the 50th anniversary of bilateral ties in 2022, it does not mean that China is not a main target of Japan, which is increasingly dominated by right-leaning conservative politicians, using every opportunity to justify its expansion ambitions. The bluebook basically maintained the view on China from the 2021 edition, expressing Japan's concerns on China's "unilateral attempt to change the status quo" in waters near China's Diaoyu Islands. However, it also called on efforts to build constructive and stable relations.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202204/1260115.shtml

Type 055 destroyers carry out combat training

China Military Online, 22 April 2022

Three Type 055 destroyers that have entered service since last year, Lhasa, Anshan and Wuxi, took part in a combat training exercise organized by a warship training center of the PLA Navy. The exercise involved nighttime anti-sea main gun shooting, nighttime anti-air secondary gun shooting, and joint search and rescue by ships and aircraft.

http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-04/22/content_10150135.htm

China's first amphibious assault ship ready for amphibious operations

China Military Online, 26 April 2022

The Type-075 amphibious assault ship Hainan, China's first independently-built landing helicopter dock ship, has preliminarily formed the ability to perform amphibious operations. Commissioned on April 23, 2021, it has undergone training courses such as underway replenishment-at-sea, hovercraft docking and undocking, ship-borne helicopter take-off and landing, live-fire shooting, and multi-dimensional force delivery.

http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-04/26/content_10150571.htm

Defense minister stresses China's resolve, warns against US provocations in 'late' first phone talk with Austin

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, 20 April 2022

Chinese State Councilor and Defense Minister Wei Fenghe had a phone call with US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin on Wednesday at the latter's request, with Wei stressing the importance of the Taiwan question, while demanding the US to stop its military provocations at sea, and not to throw mud or threaten China with the Ukraine issue. The dialogue, the first since Austin became US Defense Secretary in January 2021, will hopefully provide stability to the two countries' military-to-military ties and avoid and reduce misjudgments by letting the US better understand China's bottom line and core interests at a very challenging time in the China-US relations, analysts said. Wei said that China and the US should implement the consensus reached by the two countries' top leaders in earnest, pledge mutual respect, coexist peacefully and avoid confrontation. The US should fulfill its promise of not seeking a new Cold War with China, should not aim to change China's system, the revitalization of its alliances should not target China, that the US does not support "Taiwan independence," and that it has no intention to seek a conflict with China.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202204/1259868.shtml

China's next space goal: to target a dangerous asteroid and nudge it off course

Echo Xie

South China Morning Post, 24 April 2022

China plans to hit an asteroid and change its orbit in the next few years in another bold step for the nation's space programme, according to the China National Space Administration (CNSA). CNSA vice administrator Wu Yanhua said the country had started building a defence system against near-Earth asteroids that risked hitting the planet. He said China aimed to conduct close observation of a threatening asteroid and "implement an asteroid impact" to change its orbit "at the end of the 14th five-year plan (2021-2025), or 2025, 2026". "We will start to improve land- and space-based monitoring and early warning systems for asteroids. To do this, we will need to compile a list and, crucially, analyse which are of the greatest risk," Wu said.

https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3175362/chinas-next-space-goal-targetdangerous-asteroid-and-nudge-it

Foreign media reports on China's ship-launched, air-launched anti-ship ballistic missiles 'merely speculative'

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, 21 April 2022

After commissioning the road-mobile DF-21D and DF-26 anti-ship ballistic missiles, the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) also has ship- and air-launched variants of such hypersonic weapons in its arsenal that can keep US carrier strike groups at a distance, foreign media recently reported. These reports are merely speculative, Chinese military experts said, noting if China does have such weapons, they are defensive in nature and would provide greater deterrence and deeper maritime defense against hostile warships, and only those with evil intentions would fear them. The hype by foreign media reflected their prejudice on China's normal national defense development. China upholds a national defense strategy that is defensive in nature, and if the US does not make military provocations against China, including over the Taiwan question, it does not need to worry about the missiles, analysts said.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202204/1259992.shtml

12 chief commanders and designers of China's missiles make their public debut after retirement

Fan Wei

Global Times, 25 April 2022

Twelve chief commanders and designers of China's missiles who remained undisclosed made their public debut for the first time after retiring and ending a period of secrecy. The life stories of the

12 experts are recorded in the book Missile Life, which was first released by the Second Academy of China Aerospace Science and Industry Corporation (CASIC) at the Space Day. The 12 commanders and designers have been responsible for China's first-generation surface-to-air missiles, HQ-1, HQ-2, JL-1, HQ-7 and HHQ-7, as well as China's third-generation air defense weapon system. Many of them have made outstanding contributions to several areas of military science, especially missiles in various generations.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202204/1260215.shtml

Chinese agents use drones to spy on UK nuclear bases, defence chiefs warn

Sean Rayment

Mirror, 23 April 2022

Chinese agents are using drones to spy on our nuclear bases, defence chiefs warn. They believe Beijing spooks are behind 18 drone sightings above military sites and power stations in just two years. The disclosure follows warnings by intelligence chiefs that China is intent on stealing our most sensitive secrets. One of the sites was the nuclear sub base in Faslane, Scotland – the most sensitive military establishment in the UK. It is home to Trident submarines and nuclear weapons are stored at the Royal Naval Armament Depot on the same base. The Atomic Weapons Establishment in Aldermaston, Berks, where nuclear warheads are designed and made, is also said to have been targeted.

https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/chinese-spies-use-drones-spy-26781649

Russia's Sarmat and China's YJ-21: What the missile tests mean

Alex Gatopoulos

Al Jazeera, 22 April 2022

One day before the Russian Sarmat was tested, China launched its brand new hypersonic missile from a heavy Type 055 cruiser. The YJ-21, ultra-fast with an unpredictable flight pattern, is part of a family of Chinese missiles designed to be 'carrier killers'. Long aware of the potency of American aircraft carrier groups and their ability to roam the world's oceans, destroying both naval targets and those on land, Chinese scientists have worked hard to ensure they have the means to defeat these heavily-defended mobile airfields. With a range of up to 1,500km (930 miles), the YJ-21 can deliver a large warhead, moving so fast it punches straight through the flight deck of an aircraft carrier, destroying it instantly. Normally air-launched from a bomber, this launch is significant as it blasted off from the type of cruiser that would normally be used to defend Chinese aircraft carrier strike groups. It is significant that the missile's range is greater than the combat range of the US's new carrier-borne stealth fighter, the F-35C. This will now force American

carrier groups to sail closer in so the F-35s can reach their targets, meaning the carrier groups will be vulnerable to attack.

https://www.aljazeera.com/features/2022/4/22/russias-sarmat-and-chinas-yj-21-what-the-missile-tests-mean

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https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202204/1260149.shtml

U.S., Japan slammed for "China space threat" propaganda

Xinhua, 28 April 2022

A Chinese defense ministry spokesperson on Thursday accused the United States and Japan of ignoring facts and fabricating the so-called "China space threat." The propaganda is merely an excuse for the two countries to expand their militaries and seek predominance in the space, said Tan Kefei, a spokesperson for China's Ministry of National Defense. The United States has continued to promote the process of space militarization with a Cold War mentality, establishing a space command, and developing and deploying offensive space weapons, Tan said. As the country with the greatest number of satellites, the United States has long been stonewalling space arms control, he said. Noting that Japan has also been progressive in its military construction in space, Tan said that the moves of the two countries have raised the risk of weaponization and an arms race in outer space, and negatively affected global strategic stability. China is committed to the peaceful use of outer space, Tan said, and ready to strengthen international space cooperation.

https://english.news.cn/20220428/a15aeed4f6bc475385716eeb44cafb11/c.html

China to build asteroid monitoring & defence system, to conduct tests as early as 2025

Fan Anqi

Global Times, 24 April 2022

China is planning on building an asteroid monitoring and defense system, and plans to carry out a technical experiment as early as 2025 on a threatening asteroid by closely tracking and attacking it to change its orbit, China National Space Administration (CNSA) deputy head Wu Yanhua disclosed on this year's Space Day of China. Experts noted that China's asteroid defence system could be an important supplement in addressing the threats of asteroids hitting Earth, and it is another practical solution that China proposes to build a community with a shared future for mankind. China will proceed to set up a near-Earth asteroid monitoring and defence system to deal with the threat of asteroid impacting on spacecraft, and contribute to protect the safety of the Earth and mankind, Wu said during an interview with the China Central Television.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202204/1260181.shtml

China space laser zaps competition with data speed record: paper

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, 26 April 2022

A team of engineers in Beijing has developed a small space laser that they say will allow satellites to communicate over long distances at significantly faster speeds than similar technology currently available. The technology is fast enough to send six high-definition films from Seattle to New York in less than a second, according to research team leader Yang Jian, director of advanced communication technology with defence industry contractor the Beijing Institute of Remote Sensing Equipment. Beijing-based team says its technology can connect satellites from a device smaller than a suitcase. Engineers use 'rule-breaking' innovations to achieve transmission speeds of 10 gigabits per second in on-ground testing.

https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3175419/china-space-laser-zaps-competitiondata-speed-record-paper

PLA Navy celebrates 73rd birthday with half dozen new warships, conspicuous hint on third aircraft carrier

Liu Xuanzun and Guo Yuandan

Global Times, 23 April 2022

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy celebrated its 73rd anniversary by announcing, over the past days, the commissioning of half a dozen powerful warships and two types of advanced vessel-based helicopters, which have already started training to form combat

capabilities. These achievements are a reflection of the Navy's rapid, tremendous growth over the recent years, which is enabling the naval force to resolutely safeguard national sovereignty, security and development interests, top officers on some of the country's mightiest warships said in exclusive interviews with the Global Times. An official video introducing China's aircraft carrier program released on Friday also gave a very obvious hint that the country's third aircraft carrier will be officially revealed soon. Media reports revealed before the Navy's birthday that at least six new surface vessels were commissioned, namely a Type 075 amphibious assault ship, three Type 055 large destroyers and two Type 052D destroyers.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202204/1260104.shtml

PLA Air Force holds national aerospace security and development forum

Gao Yujiao and Ye Haisong

China Military Online, 21 April 2022

The Chinese PLA Air Force held a forum on the national aerospace security and development in Beijing. Representatives, experts and scholars from relevant military and civilian units exchanged views on cutting-edge theoretical achievements in the aerospace field, as well as some major practical issues including the air force's preparation for war. This forum focused on topics such as future warfare, war command and capabilities improvement. It aimed to create a new training and combat preparation model that integrates research, exercise and training to accelerate the strategic transformation and improve combat effectiveness of the PLA Air Force. Since its establishment in 2010, the forum has been successfully held six times. It has become an important platform for the PLA Air Force to explore the path of aerospace construction and gather the wisdom of aerospace development.

http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-04/21/content_10149590.htm

No one wants to see a World War: China on Russia's nuclear conflict warning

Business Standard, 26 April 2022

China played down Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's warning of a "serious" possibility of nuclear conflict over the Ukraine war, saying no one wants to see a 3rd World War. "No one wants to see the outbreak of a 3rd World War," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin told a media briefing here reacting to Lavrov's remarks of the real threat of a 3rd World War breaking out following the Russia-Ukraine conflict. "We hope that relevant parties can keep cool-headed and exercise restraint, prevent escalation of tension, realise peace as soon as possible and avoid inflicting a heavier price on Europe and the world," Wang said.

https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/no-one-wants-to-see-a-world-war-chinaon-russia-s-nuclear-conflict-warning-122042601230_1.html

China's Tianzhou-3 cargo spacecraft completes fly-around and automatic docking with Tianhe core module

Deng Xiaoci

Global Times, 20 April 2022

Tianzhou-3 cargo spacecraft detached from China's Tianhe space station core module from the rear port and flew around and successfully conducted automatic rendezvous and docking with the orbiting Tianhe at the front port, which took around 4 hours, the Global Times learned from the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA). Per the CMSA, the combination of Tianhe core module and Tianzhou-3 cargo spacecraft are in good condition and will receive upcoming visits by the Tianzhou-4 cargo spacecraft, Shenzhou-14 manned spacecraft and Wentian laboratory module.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202204/1259791.shtml

New-type remote-controlled vehicle-mounted weapon station in plateau training

China Military Online, 20 April 2022

A combined-arms regiment assigned to the PLA Xinjiang Military Command organized a comprehensive live-fire assessment of a new-type remote-controlled vehicle-mounted weapon station to test the troops' combat capability. This new-type weapon station has exquisite structure design, is fitted with strong and precise firepower, and can annihilate light armored or animate force with a shooter manipulating the fire control system onboard.

http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-04/20/content_10149326.htm