

# Nuclear, Missile & Space Digest

Volume 14, Number 18

A Fortnightly Newsletter from the Indian Pugwash Society

October 31, 2022

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- Western sanctions hurting Russia's ability to replenish military supplies, intelligence analysis shows
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- US considering responses to possible Russian escalation in Ukraine, including its potential use of tactical nuclear weapons
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- Biden warned of a nuclear Armageddon. How likely is a nuclear conflict with Russia?
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- Biden promises Ukraine ‘advanced air defense systems’ after Russian missile strikes
- US State Department says Iran nuclear deal ‘not our focus right now’
- Biden’s National Security Strategy Focuses on China, Russia and Democracy at Home
- Biden will examine all aspects of US-Saudi relationship, including arms sales, national security adviser says
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- North Korea trumpets training for ‘tactical’ nuclear strikes
- North Korea says missile launches were nuclear attack simulation on South
- Japan warns that North Korea may have completed nuclear test preparations
- Japan considers extending nuclear plants’ life beyond 60 years - Nikkei
- Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Japan utilities to develop new nuclear reactor

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- North Korea says missile tests simulate striking South Korea with nuclear weapons
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- Germany says regrettable that Iran has yet to accept nuclear offer

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- As Ukraine pushes southern offensive, it also hits Russia in the northeast
- Ukraine military chief says 'limited' nuclear war cannot be ruled out
- US military working on analysis to shape and support Ukraine's military in long term
- Ukraine's top general warns of Russian nuclear strike risk
- Zelenskiy says next year's budget will be a war budget, focus on defence
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- Ukraine's battlefield wins encourage the West but could make the war more dangerous
- Ukrainian army sustains serious losses near Soledar, Artyomovsk – Akhmat unit commander

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- Navy commander: Iran, Pakistan, Oman to set up maritime security center
- Iranian artillery bombards villages in Erbil again
- Are Iranian suicide drones performing poorly in Russia-Ukraine war?
- Iran provides "no weaponry" to parties fighting in Ukraine

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- 23 PKK militants killed in Turkish air strikes in northern Iraq
- Iran targets opposition sites in Iraq using artillery and drones
- Iraq's representative calls on security council to condemn Iran's bombing
- Iraqi Parliament to investigate Iranian bombing of Kurdistan
- Iran bombards Kurdistan region for the 12th day
- Missile attack targets Turkish military base in Nineveh
- Revolutionary Guards announces cessation of Kurdistan bombing
- Iraqi PM emphasizes military cooperation between Iraq and Lebanon
- Missile attack targets gas field in northern Iraq
- IRGC launches fresh round of anti-terror military operation in Iraq

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- Iron Beam, Israel's laser air defense system, could be ready in 2-3 years
- IDF downs quadcopter drone flown by Hamas near Gaza border
- Israel said providing Kyiv with intel on Iranian suicide drones
- With the help of Israel, Morocco is the first African country to enter the drone manufacturers club

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- Türkiye's Bayraktar TB2 drones join offensive against al-Shabab
- Türkiye conducts joint military exercise with five countries
- Türkiye neutralizes three PKK terrorists in northern Iraq
- Türkiye defense ministry says it 'neutralized' 30 PKK members in Iraq, Syria
- Turkish warplanes 'neutralises' 23 Kurdish militants in Iraq
- Türkiye 'neutralizes' 18 PKK terrorists in northern Iraq



## A. India

### India scuttles China's attempt to pass anti-AUKUS resolution at IAEA meet

*WION, October 1, 2022*

India has scuttled China's bid to pass an anti-AUKUS resolution at the International Atomic Energy Agency meet in Vienna. The AUKUS pact was signed between Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States last year under which Canberra gets nuclear-powered submarines. China has been miffed with the development and has been terming it a violation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). It even criticised the role of the IAEA for its stance on the issue.

Sources close to the matter said, "India's deft and impactful diplomacy was deeply appreciated by IAEA member states, particularly the AUKUS partners."

<https://www.wionews.com/world/india-scuttles-chinas-bid-to-pass-anti-aucus-resolution-at-iaea-521329>

### Is the South Caucasus a new battleground for India and Pakistan?

*Middle East Monitor, October 3, 2022*

The South Caucasus is no stranger to outside powers competing for influence and advancing their own interests. During the Cold War, for example, the region was on the front line of the ideological conflict between the West and the former Soviet Union. Due to the region's close proximity to the wider Middle East, the Soviet Union sought to use the Caucasus to exert its influence there, particularly in Iran and Turkiye. Today, these two regional hegemony are also vying for influence following the 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh war and ongoing border clashes between Armenia and Azerbaijan. With Russia evidently resolute about maintaining its post-Soviet sphere of influence across peripheral states, the South Caucasus has found itself yet again a theatre for proxy conflicts. The

2020 war, which ended in Azerbaijan's favour, was seen widely as a stand-off of sorts between Turkiye and Russia.

<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20221003-is-the-south-caucasus-a-new-battleground-for-india-and-pakistan/>

### Putin Unlikely To Use Nuclear Weapons As It Will Be 'unacceptable' To India: UK Def Min

*Republic World, October 3, 2022*

Russian President Vladimir Putin is "highly unlikely" to use nuclear weapons in Ukraine as it would be unacceptable to Moscow's allies India and China, UK's Defense Secretary Ben Wallace claimed on Sunday. However, he warned that the head of the Russian Federation has not been acting in a "rational" way and chances are high that the situation might steer for worse. Putin, during a state television address, had threatened to use "all the means at our disposal" to protect Russian Federation. His speech was laden with signs that he could use tactical nuclear weapons in response to attacks on the four territories of Ukraine that Moscow recently annexed. During a fringe meeting at the Tory party conference, Wallace stressed that he did not believe that Putin may launch nukes despite the use of nuclear weapons being incorporated in the Russian military doctrine.

<https://www.republicworld.com/world-news/europe/putin-unlikely-to-use-nuclear-weapons-as-it-will-be-unacceptable-to-india-uk-def-min-articleshow.html>

### After 8 years of service, Indian space agency ISRO declares Mars mission non-recoverable

*WION, October 3, 2022*

Clearing the mystery over the health of the country's nine-year-old Mars mission, the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) declared the 'Mangalyaan' Mars orbiting spacecraft non-recoverable. This confirmation from ISRO comes after there

were reports of the spacecraft having lost communication with the ground station and run out of fuel. ISRO launched Mangalyaan or Mars Orbiter Mission (MoM) on November 3, 2013, and the spacecraft entered the Martian orbit on September 24, 2014, after a 300-days-long interplanetary journey. Designed for a six-month operational life in Martian orbit, the MoM spacecraft worked for almost eight years and generated ample quantities of scientific data about the red planet.

<https://www.wionews.com/india-news/after-8-years-of-service-indian-space-agency-isro-declares-mars-mission-non-recoverable-522127>

### **All eyes on India as Quad allies US, Japan, Australia call out China, Russia at Hawaii meet**

*The Print, October 3, 2022*

The US, Japan and Australia made some strong statements against China and Russia over the weekend in Hawaii that may well set the tone for the next meeting of Quad, but India – a neighbour of Beijing and a strategic partner of Moscow – has always avoided calling them out publicly in such multilateral forums. US Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin hosted Australia's Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Richard Marles, and Japanese Defense Minister Yasukazu Hamada at the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command headquarters in Hawaii Saturday, as part of the Trilateral Defense Ministers' Meeting (TDMM). According to strategic and diplomatic sources, as the TDMM gathers more steam, it is inevitable that the alliance will begin to dominate the agenda in Quad, pushing India to call out China and Russia more openly and publicly.

<https://theprint.in/diplomacy/all-eyes-on-india-as-quad-allies-us-japan-australia-call-out-china-russia-at-hawaii-meet/1149256/>

### **Modi talks to Zelensky, offers help with peace**

*Hindustan Times, October 5, 2022*

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday told President Volodymyr Zelensky that

there can be no military solution to the war in Ukraine, and India is ready to contribute to any peace efforts. During a phone conversation with Zelensky, Modi reiterated his call for the immediate cessation of hostilities and a return to the path of diplomacy and dialogue. The remarks came a little more than two weeks after Modi told Russian President Vladimir Putin that "today's era is not of war". During the conversation, Modi reiterated the importance of respecting the UN Charter, international law, and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all states. Modi emphasised the importance India attaches to the safety and security of nuclear installations, including in Ukraine. He underlined that endangerment of nuclear facilities could have far-reaching and catastrophic consequences for public health and the environment.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/modi-talks-to-zelensky-offers-help-with-peace-101664907946348.html>

### **Endangerment of nuclear facilities may have catastrophic consequences: PM Modi to Zelenskyy**

*Mathrubhumi, October 5, 2022*

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a phone call with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Tuesday and said that the endangerment of nuclear facilities amid the Russia-Ukraine war could lead to catastrophic consequences for the environment. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has reiterated its deep concern about landmine explosions close to Ukraine's Zaporizhzhya Nuclear Power Plant (ZNPP). IAEA is also continuing its consultations and other efforts to agree and implement a nuclear safety and security zone around the ZNPP as soon as possible.

During the phone call, the Prime Minister expressed his firm conviction that there can be no military solution to the conflict and conveyed India's readiness to contribute to any peace efforts. He again called for



the cessation of hostilities and the need to pursue the path of diplomacy.

<https://english.mathrubhumi.com/news/world/ endangerment-of-nuclear-facilities-may-have-catastrophic-consequences-pm-modi-to-zelenskyy-1.7930512>

### **Why Modi-Zelenskyy call is an inflection point: India is rethinking its way forward as Putin's nuclear threat changes the Ukraine crisis**

*The Times of India, October 5, 2022*

Putin is doing what we used to think the generals in Pakistan, beaten by India's conventional arms superiority, might do one day – resorting to nuclear threats when faced with military reverses. We have to treat this threat as real. Could India's famed "neutrality" in this war – a space that has sometimes been tough to defend – come in handy to end the war? Europe and the US are all too invested for them to make a beginning.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/globespotting/why-modi-zelenskyy-call-is-an-inflection-point-india-is-rethinking-its-way-forward-as-putins-nuclear-threat-changes-the-ukraine-crisis/>

### **Power Grid arm seeks early decision on allocation of power from KKNPP units**

*The Hindu, October 5, 2022*

Central Transmission Utility of India Ltd (CTUIL), a wholly-owned arm of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited has sought for early decision on the allocation of power to the southern States from the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KKNPP) Units III and IV (1,000 MW each), to plan the transmission system accordingly. Unit III is expected to be commissioned by May 2025 and Unit-IV is expected to be commissioned by December 2025. Tamil Nadu being the home State for the KKNPP, has sought for 100% allocation from Unit 3 and 4. Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Telangana have sought for tariff details to finalise their requirements. Puducherry has sought 50 MW, while Kerala has said it does

not need any allocation. CTUIL said it is considering two options one with full allocation to Tangedco and other with allocation to beneficiaries in the Southern Region.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/power-grid-arm-seeks-early-decision-on-allocation-of-power-from-kknpp-units/article65971700.ece>

### **India got a request to press the Russians...which we did: S Jaishankar on Ukraine war**

*India Today, October 6, 2022*

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Thursday said that India, acting on a "request", pressed Russia on the safety of a nuclear power plant which was near the fighting zone during the country's ongoing war with Ukraine. Jaishankar, who is on his first visit to New Zealand, said India is willing to do whatever it can to facilitate a solution to the Ukraine crisis. "When I was in the United Nations, the big concern at that time was the safety of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant because there was some fighting going on in the very proximity to it," said Jaishankar at an event with business leaders in Auckland.

<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/jaishankar-russia-ukraine-war-nuclear-power-plant-2009038-2022-10-06>

### **India, US condemns North Korea's missile launch, calls it regional threat**

*Business Standard, October 7, 2022*

India has joined the US in condemning North Korea's missile launches as a threat to the international community and warned that they could be in pursuit of its leader Kim Jong-un's threat of pre-emptive nuclear strikes. India's Permanent Representative Ruchira Kamboj joined US Permanent Representative Linda Thomas-Greenfield on Wednesday to issue a joint statement, along with nine other countries, to "strongly condemn North Korea's long-range ballistic missile launch which

overflowed Japan on October 4 and its seven other ballistic missile launches conducted since September 25". "North Korea made its intentions clear in April and September when its leader signalled an effort to accelerate North Korea's nuclear and ballistic missile programs and even alluded to pre-emptive use of nuclear forces," the statement said referring to the country by the initials of its formal name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

[https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/india-us-condemns-north-korea-s-missile-launch-calls-it-regional-threat-122100701141\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/india-us-condemns-north-korea-s-missile-launch-calls-it-regional-threat-122100701141_1.html)

### **L&T set to build yet another nuclear facility for NPCIL**

*Economic Times, October 7, 2022*

Engineering and construction major Larsen & Toubro has emerged as the lowest bidder for an engineering-procurement and construction (EPC) order from the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) for the Nuclear Island electro-mechanical works of the Gorakhpur Haryana Anu Vidyut Pariyojana - 1&2 (GHAVP 1&2), according to sources aware of the development. The contract is worth upto Rs 2500 crore. L&T's scope of work will include engineering, procurement, construction and commissioning of nuclear equipment, valves, nuclear ventilation, plant water package and piping for all the core nuclear systems in Nuclear Island of GHAVP1&2. The project is scheduled to be completed in 48 months.

[https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/indl-goods/svs/engineering/lt-set-to-build-yet-another-nuclear-facility-for-ncpil/articleshow/94706334.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/indl-goods/svs/engineering/lt-set-to-build-yet-another-nuclear-facility-for-ncpil/articleshow/94706334.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

### **India raises at UNSC Pakistan's nuclear proliferation linkage with North Korea**

*Deccan Herald, October 7, 2022*

India has drawn the attention of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) on the proliferation of nuclear and defence

technologies from North Korea to Pakistan.

"India would like to reiterate the importance of addressing the proliferation of nuclear and missile technologies related to DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea or North Korea) in our region," New Delhi's envoy to the United Nations, Ruchira Kamboj, said at the Security Council. "These linkages have an adverse impact on peace and security in the region, including on India." Kamboj was presenting the statement on behalf of the Government of India during a meeting of the UNSC on North Korea, which had recently fired an intermediate-range ballistic missile that had flown over Japan.

<https://www.deccanherald.com/national/india-raises-at-unsc-pakistans-nuclear-proliferation-linkage-with-north-korea-1151328.html>

### **India's space economy to be reach \$13 bn by 2025: Report**

*Livemint, October 10, 2022*

India's space economy is likely to be worth nearly \$13 billion by 2025, with the satellite launch services segment set to witness the fastest growth due to increasing private participation, according to a report released on Monday. The growing demand for smaller satellites is set to boost satellite manufacturing in the country. It will attract global start-ups in the sector to help incubate space tech companies here, said the report released by the Indian Space Association (ISpA) and Ernst and Young. India's space economy was pegged at \$9.6 billion in 2020 and is expected to touch \$12.8 billion by 2025, according to the report titled 'Developing the Space Ecosystem in India: Focusing on Inclusive Growth'. In dollar terms, the satellite services and applications segment would be the largest with a turnover of \$4.6 billion by 2025, followed by ground segment at \$4 billion. The satellite manufacturing stands at \$3.2 billion and launch services at \$1 billion.

<https://www.livemint.com/news/india/indias-space-economy-to-be-reach-13-bn-by-2025-report-11665393929628.html>

## **Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh says, Indian StartUps will soon launch Space satellites as well as satellite constellations and try their rockets**

*PIB, October 10, 2022*

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Ministry of Science and Technology, MoS PMO, Space and Atomic Energy, Dr Jitendra Singh said today that Indian StartUps will soon launch Space satellites as well as satellite constellations and try their rockets. The Minister also informed that five PSLVs are being domestically produced by L&T and HAL, while OneWeb is all set to launch their satellites through ISRO and NSIL. Speaking at the India Space Conclave in Delhi on the occasion of first anniversary of the Indian Space Association, ISpA, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the revolutionary and out of box decision of PM Modi to unlock the Space sector for Private Industry in June, 2020 changed the very nature of Space ecosystem of the country.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1866478>

## **Indian Naval Ship Tarkash Reaches South Africa For Ibsamar VII**

*PIB, October 12, 2022*

INS Tarkash reached Port Gqeberha (also known as Port Elizabeth), South Africa to participate in the seventh edition of IBSAMAR, a joint multinational maritime exercise among Indian, Brazilian and South African Navies from 10 - 12 Oct 22. The previous edition of IBSAMAR (IBSAMAR VI) was conducted off Simons Town, South Africa from 01 to 13 Oct 18. The Indian Navy is represented by the Teg class guided missile frigate, INS Tarkash, a Chetak helicopter and the personnel from the Marine Commando Force (MARCOS). The harbour phase of IBSAMAR VII includes professional exchanges such as damage control and fire-fighting drills, VBSS/cross boarding lectures and interaction among special forces. The Joint Maritime Exercise will strengthen maritime security, joint operational training, sharing of best

practices and building interoperability to address common maritime threats.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1867069>

## **DRDO to display 430 strategic & tactical weapon systems, defence equipment & technologies in DefExpo2022**

*PIB, October 14, 2022*

Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) will display a wide range of 430 products encompassing the strategic and tactical weapon systems, defence equipment and technologies developed in DefExpo 2022 being held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat from October 18 - 22, 2022. The major theme for this year's DRDO participation is based on 3D (DRDO, Designed and Developed) ecosphere which will highlight its strong linkages with both Industry as well as Academia. Further, it will showcase the advancements in technologies made by its laboratories as well as its partnerships with the industry, in recent years while representing a high level of indigenouslyness in advanced and futuristic defence products & technologies that contribute towards Aatmanirbharta in Defence.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1867747>

## **INS Arihant carries out successful launch of Submarine Launched Ballistic Missile**

*PIB, October 14, 2022*

INS Arihant carried out a successful launch of a Submarine Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM) on October 14, 2022. The missile was tested to a predetermined range and impacted the target area in the Bay of Bengal with very high accuracy. All operational and technological parameters of the weapon system have been validated. The successful user training launch of the SLBM by INS Arihant is significant to prove crew competency and validate the SSBN programme, a key element of India's



nuclear deterrence capability. A robust, survivable and assured retaliatory capability is in keeping with India's policy to have 'Credible Minimum Deterrence' that underpins its 'No First Use' commitment.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1867778>

### **Bangladesh youths to get insight in India's advancement in space and information technology**

*India Today, October 15, 2022*

India is hosting a delegation of 100 young people from Bangladesh in an effort to strengthen comprehensive and multi-dimensional bilateral ties between both nations. The nine-day visit of the Bangladeshi youngsters, which kick-started on Wednesday, takes place a month after Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina visited at the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. According to sources, India wants to show these youngsters what India has to offer in space, business education, information technology, broadcasting, digitalization and more. The idea is to help the future leaders of Bangladesh to look towards India and its expertise in these areas and how it can be replicated in their country. The Ministry of Youth Affairs, which is hosting the delegate, will showcase to these youths India's advancement in space technology - ISRO - and the country's Information Technology powerhouse - Infosys.

<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/india-hosting-bangladesh-youth-indias-space-tech-isro-2285684-2022-10-15>

## **B. Russia**

### **Russia's Small Nuclear Arms: A Risky Option for Putin and Ukraine Alike**

*New York Times, October 03, 2022*

For all his threats to fire tactical nuclear arms at Ukrainian targets, President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia is now discovering what the United States itself concluded years ago, American officials suspect: Small nuclear

weapons are hard to use, harder to control and a far better weapon of terror and intimidation than a weapon of war. Analysts inside and outside the government who have tried to game out Mr. Putin's threats have come to doubt how useful such arms - delivered in an artillery shell or thrown in the back of a truck - would be in advancing his objectives.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/03/us/politics/russia-tactical-nuclear-weapons.html?searchResultPosition=93>

### **'We Cannot Win': Russia's Military Veterans Opposing The Ukraine War**

*The Moscow Times, October 03, 2022*

After retiring from the Russian Air Force at the rank of lieutenant-colonel, Vitaly Votanovsky got involved in political activism in the southern Russian city of Krasnodar. Now, he is a vociferous opponent of the invasion of Ukraine and has been repeatedly detained for photographing the graves of dead soldiers. "Putin destroyed the country's military mobilization resources with his own hands and now this idiot has gotten himself into the war with the entire world," Votanovsky told The Moscow Times. "He created circumstances in which we cannot win." One of a handful of military veterans who have been publicly critical of Russia's attack on Ukraine and the Kremlin's mobilizing of military reserves, Votanovsky and others like him have been targeted by wartime censorship laws and on the receiving end of anger from former comrades.

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2022/10/03/we-cannot-win-russias-military-veterans-opposing-the-ukraine-war-a78876>

### **Russian airstrike kills 13 militants in Syria, prevents terrorist attacks**

*TASS, October 04, 2022*

The Russian Aerospace Forces destroyed terrorist sites in Syria's Idlib de-escalation zone, preventing terrorist attacks on

facilities belonging to the Russian Armed Forces and Syrian government troops, Deputy Head of Russia's Center for Reconciliation of the Opposing Sides in Syria Major General Oleg Yegorov said at a briefing on Monday. "Russia's Aerospace Forces destroyed facilities of the Jabhat al-Nusra terrorist group (outlawed in Russia - TASS) in the Idlib de-escalation zone, which posed a security threat to service members from the Russian contingent and the government forces of the Syrian Arab Republic," Yegorov said. According to the major general, Russian aircraft targeted underground shelters of illegal armed units near the Ruayha and Msibin settlements.

<https://tass.com/defense/1517299>

### **Russian An-26 military plane has to dodge US strike drones above Syria – military**

*TASS, October 04, 2022*

An An-26 military transport plane of Russia's Aerospace Forces had to dodge two US combat drones in Syria's north while performing a resupply mission for Russian troops deployed in the country, a senior Russian military official said on Tuesday. "The US-led, so-called international anti-terrorist coalition keeps sending unmanned aerial vehicles, fitted with combat gear, to perform unauthorized flights in the airspace of the Syrian Arab Republic," Deputy Head of Russia's Center for Reconciliation of the Opposing Sides in Syria Major General Oleg Yegorov told reporters.

<https://tass.com/defense/1517753>

### **Ukraine is hitting Russia hard in the regions Moscow is trying to seize**

*CNN, October 04, 2022*

As Vladimir Putin lost more of the Ukrainian territory he is seeking to annex, his government on Tuesday sought to finalize the formalities of its claim to four Ukrainian regions, none of which are fully controlled by Russia anymore. The upper house of Russia's rubber-stamp legislature, the Federation Council, on Tuesday unanimously approved the decision to

annex the Ukrainian regions of Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia in defiance of international law and a day after the lower chamber had done the same. President Putin was expected to sign the legislation later in the day, his spokesman said.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/04/europe/russia-ukraine-annexation-intl/index.html>

### **Crowdfunding Spotlights Russian Military's Supply Problems in Ukraine**

*The Moscow Times, October 05, 2022*

Yevgenia Kuzevanova has been raising money to buy everything from first aid kits to instant noodles for Russian forces in Ukraine. Her online group Help for Soldiers, which is based in Russia's Sverdlovsk region near the Ural mountains, is one of many civilian movements frantically gathering basic equipment for an under-equipped Russian army. "This is our personal desire, this is our duty!" Kuzevanova said in an exchange on messaging service WhatsApp. "We are patriots of our country."

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2022/10/05/crowdfunding-spotlights-russian-militarys-supply-problems-in-ukraine-a78969>

### **Militants tried to break out of Al-Tanf zone shelling Syrian army post – Defense Ministry**

*TASS, October 06, 2022*

A group of terrorists travelling in a pickup truck has made an attempt to break out of the US-occupied Al-Tanf zone by opening fire from a large-caliber machine gun on a stronghold of the Syrian army, Major General Oleg Yegorov, deputy chief of the Russian Center for Reconciliation of the Opposing Parties in Syria, said on Wednesday. The incident took place on October 4 at 18.30 Moscow time on the border of the US-occupied Al-Tanf zone in Homs province. "A group of terrorists travelling in a pickup truck tried to break out of the area while firing a large-caliber



machine gun at a stronghold of the Syrian Arab Army,” Yegorov said.

<https://tass.com/defense/1518411>

## **Nuclear Threats in the Russia-Ukraine War**

*New York Times, October 06, 2022*

President Vladimir Putin of Russia, now backed into a corner by Ukraine’s battlefield successes and perhaps emotionally unstable, has threatened to use nuclear weapons to protect illegally annexed portions of eastern Ukraine, as well as to deter direct Western military intervention. The death and destruction from any such use would be widespread and indiscriminate, and might escalate into all-out nuclear war. The threats seem to have worked. Otherwise, the U.S. and its NATO allies might have come to Ukraine’s aid with conventional military forces to repel the Russian aggression. Thus, the very existence of nuclear weapons has extended the war in Ukraine indefinitely.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/06/opinion/letters/russia-ukraine-nuclear-threats.html?searchResultPosition=72>

## **Its Army in Retreat, Russia Strikes Multiple Ukrainian Cities**

*New York Times, October 07, 2022*

As Russia’s forces lose ground in Ukraine, they continued to rain destruction and death on Ukrainian civilian targets, using artillery and missiles on Thursday and Friday to strike multiple cities and towns, often far from any combat. Ukrainian officials and some military analysts say that as the Russian military retreats in the east and the south, it is growing more determined to destroy infrastructure and more indiscriminate about causing civilian casualties, using its advantage in long-range munitions as if to punish Ukraine for Moscow’s losses.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/07/world/europe/russia-strikes-ukraine.html?searchResultPosition=53>

## **A Marine who hated Muslims went to a mosque to plant a bomb. His**

## **intended victims ended up saving his life**

*CNN, October 08, 2022*

As soon as some members of the Islamic Center of Muncie saw the man coming toward them, they knew he was trouble. He was a big guy with broad shoulders, marching toward their mosque with his head down and his face flushed red from what looked like anger. It was Friday at Muncie Islamic Center in Muncie, Indiana, and the mosque was filling with people who had come for afternoon prayers. As an outsider with a USMC tattoo on his right forearm and a skull tattoo on his left hand, he stood out.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/08/us/marine-mosque-islam-blake-cec/index.html>

## **Russian shelling has again forced the Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant offline, Ukrainian officials say.**

*New York Times, October 08, 2022*

Russian shelling in the early hours of Saturday morning damaged the last line connecting the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant to Ukrainian energy systems, according to Ukrainian energy officials, cutting the facility off from the power grid that is used to cool its reactors. The plant has been disconnected from external power at least twice before, forcing it to rely on diesel generators to power safety equipment. The availability of fuel to power the generators has long been a concern.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/08/world/europe/zaporizhzhia-nuclear-power-plant-offline.html?searchResultPosition=50>

## **Russia’s Aerospace Forces down MiG-29 warplane in Ukraine operation - top brass**

*TASS, October 08, 2022*

Fighter aircraft of Russia’s Aerospace Forces shot down a MiG-29 fighter of the Ukrainian Air Force in the Zaporozhye Region in the special military operation in Ukraine, Defense Ministry Spokesman

Lieutenant-General Igor Konashenkov reported on Saturday. "Fighter aircraft of the Russian Aerospace Forces shot down a MiG-29 near the settlement of Chapayevka in the Zaporozhye Region," the spokesman said. From September 23 to September 27, the DPR and the LPR as well as the Kherson and the Zaporozhye Regions held referendums where the majority of voters opted to join Russia.

<https://tass.com/defense/1519737>

### **Russian air defenses destroy six combat drones in Ukraine operation, top brass reports**

*TASS, October 09, 2022*

Russian air defense forces destroyed six Ukrainian unmanned aerial vehicles and shot down nine HIMARS, Uragan and Olkha rockets in the past day in their special military operation in Ukraine, Defense Ministry Spokesman Lieutenant-General Igor Konashenkov reported on Sunday. "In the past 24 hours, air defense capabilities destroyed six unmanned aerial vehicles, including a Bayraktar TB2, in the areas of the settlements of Snegiryovka in the Nikolayev Region, Novomikhailovka, Novomayorskoye and Blagoveshchenka in the Donetsk People's Republic and Ustinovka in the Kharkov Region," the spokesman said.

<https://tass.com/defense/1520035>

### **Ukraine wants a long-range American missile. The U.S. is holding it back.**

*New York Times, October 09, 2022*

Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Pentagon officials have sent the Ukrainian military an array of equipment totaling billions of dollars. But one powerful weapon, called the Army Tactical Missile System, has become part of a debate about the limits of U.S. support for its ally. The long-range missile – known as ATACMS and pronounced like "attack 'ems" – can strike targets 190 miles away with a warhead containing about 375 pounds of explosives. It can be fired from the HIMARS mobile launchers

that the United States has provided Ukraine, as well as from older M270 launchers sent from Britain and Germany.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/09/world/europe/ukraine-wants-a-long-range-american-missile-the-us-is-holding-it-back.html?searchResultPosition=109>

### **Russian divers to check damage to blast-hit Crimea bridge**

*CNBC, October 09, 2022*

Russian divers were to examine on Sunday the damage from a powerful blast on a road-and-rail bridge to Crimea that is an imposing symbol of Moscow's annexation of the peninsula and a key supply route to its forces battling in southern Ukraine. Saturday's explosion on the bridge over the Kerch Strait prompted gleeful messages from Ukrainian officials but no claim of responsibility. Russia did not immediately assign blame for the blast, which images showed blew away half of a section of the bridge's roadway, with the other half still attached. Russian Deputy Prime Minister Marat Khusnullin said the divers would start work in the morning, with a more detailed survey above the waterline expected to be complete by day's end, domestic news agencies reported.

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/10/09/russian-divers-to-check-damage-to-blast-hit-crimea-bridge.html?searchterm=nuclear>

### **Russian strikes kill 17 in Ukraine following bridge attack**

*CNBC, October 10, 2022*

A Russian barrage pounded apartment buildings and other targets in the Ukrainian city of Zaporizhzhia, killing at least 17 people and wounding dozens, officials said Sunday. The blasts in the city, which remains under Ukrainian control but sits in a region Moscow has claimed as its own, blew out windows in adjacent buildings and left at least one high-rise apartment building partially collapsed. The multiple strikes came after an explosion Saturday caused the partial collapse of a bridge linking the Crimean Peninsula with Russia. The Kerch Bridge attack damaged

an important supply route for the Kremlin's faltering war effort in southern Ukraine, an artery that also is a towering symbol of Russia's power in the region.

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/10/09/russian-strikes-kill-17-in-ukraine-following-bridge-attack.html?&qsearchterm=nuclear>

### **Chisinau says Russian missiles violate Moldova's airspace**

*TASS, October 10, 2022*

Russian cruise missiles violated Moldova's airspace, the Moldovan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration said in a statement on Telegram on Monday. "Three cruise missiles fired from Russian warships in the Black Sea flew above our country in the area of the Kolbasna settlement (located in the unrecognized Republic of Transnistria - TASS) and the city of Soroki," the statement reads. "The violation of our national airspace is completely unacceptable," the ministry added.

<https://tass.com/world/1520223>

### **LPR says Ukraine's superior forces keep trying to pierce allied defense**

*TASS, October 10, 2022*

Andrey Marochko, an officer of the People's Militia of the Lugansk People's Republic, on Monday said the Ukrainian army keeps trying to pierce the defense lines of the allied forces in the region. "The situation is serious. I won't engage in flippant optimism and say everything is nice and easy. The enemy keeps trying to pierce our defense lines in some places, using their sheer numbers," he said on Solovyov Live television. Marochko said the allied forces command has deployed its forces and is holding defense.

<https://tass.com/defense/1520457>

### **About 600 Russian troops to take part in post-Soviet security bloc's drills in Tajikistan**

*TASS, October 11, 2022*

About 600 Russian troops will participate in the Rubezh 2022 (Frontier 2022) drills of

the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) in Tajikistan, the CSTO drills joint press office reported on Tuesday. "About 600 Russian servicemen will take part in the Rubezh 2022 joint exercise of the Collective Rapid Reaction Forces of the Central Asian region in Tajikistan. The Russian contingent is mostly comprised of servicemen of the 201st military base of the Central Military District and over 150 items of armament, special and military hardware will be involved," the statement reads.

<https://tass.com/defense/1520741>

### **G-7 leaders renew support for Ukraine as Russia continues missile strikes**

*CNBC, October 11, 2022*

Vladimir Putin will face "severe consequences" if Russia uses chemical, biological, or nuclear weapons in Ukraine. That's the warning today from President Biden and other G-7 leaders at a virtual emergency summit. CNBC's Kayla Tausche joins "The News with Shepard Smith" to report on the emergency meeting.

<https://www.cnn.com/video/2022/10/11/g-7-leaders-renew-support-for-ukraine-as-russia-continues-missile-strikes.html?&qsearchterm=nuclear>

### **Russian Armed Forces Continue Massive Strikes on Ukraine Energy System & Military Command - MoD**

*Sputnik International, October 11, 2022*

The Russian military began large-scale precision missile strikes on Ukrainian infrastructure, military communications and command posts on Monday, in retaliation to Saturday's terror attack against the Crimean Bridge and other acts of terror attributed to Kiev. Russia is continuing its campaign of precision missile strikes on Ukraine, the Ministry of Defense has indicated.

<https://sputniknews.com/20221011/russian-armed-forces-continue-massive-strikes-on-ukraine-energy-system-military-command-mod-1101715300.html>



## Here's what Russia's attacks may indicate about its weapons stockpile.

*New York Times, October 11, 2022*

The Russian missile and drone attacks that killed at least 19 people across Ukraine on Monday were traumatic and wide-ranging, but they were not as deadly as they could have been, in the context of a war that has included widespread civilian killing. That has renewed questions over the quality of Russia's weapons and about the capacity of its forces to carry out President Vladimir V. Putin's military designs.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/11/world/europe/russia-missiles-weapons-stockpile.html?searchResultPosition=29>

## Biden says he thinks Putin won't use nuclear weapons, but threatening to do so is 'irresponsible'

*CNBC, October 12, 2022*

U.S. President Joe Biden said he doesn't think Russian President Vladimir Putin will use nuclear weapons despite repeated threats to do so – even as the Russian leader continues to press on in the war in Ukraine. “Well, I don't think he will,” Biden said in an interview with CNN's Jake Tapper that was aired Tuesday. “But I think that it's irresponsible for him to talk about it.” Putin has indirectly threatened to use nuclear weapons. In a televised speech in September, he announced a partial military mobilization and said he would “certainly use all the means at our disposal to protect Russia and our people.” He added that he was not bluffing.

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/10/12/biden-says-he-doesnt-think-putin-will-use-nuclear-weapons-in-ukraine-war.html?&qsearchterm=nuclear>

## Russian air defenses repel Ukrainian army's rocket strike on Kherson

*TASS, October 12, 2022*

Russian air defenses repelled a Ukrainian rocket strike on Kherson on Wednesday morning, Kirill Stremousov, deputy head of the regional military-civilian administration,

told TASS. “Everything is normal and everything is under control. The air defenses are at work and everything is all right. There are constant attempts [by the Ukrainian military to deliver rocket strikes] but the air defenses do their work and everything explodes in the air,” Stremousov said.

<https://tass.com/defense/1521311>

## Russian air defenses down Su-27 fighter in Ukraine operation – top brass

*TASS, October 13, 2022*

Russian air defense forces shot down a Ukrainian Su-27 fighter jet in the Poltava Region, intercepted 16 HIMARS and Olkha rockets and 10 American HARM anti-radar missiles in their special military operation in Ukraine, Defense Ministry Spokesman Lieutenant-General Igor Konashenkov reported on Thursday. “Russian air defense capabilities shot down a Su-27 plane of the Ukrainian Air Force near the settlement of Porskalevka in the Poltava Region. In addition, they intercepted 16 rockets of American HIMARS multiple launch rocket systems and also Ukrainian Olkha rocket launchers in the areas of the communities of Troitskoye in the Lugansk People's Republic, Chernobayevka, Korsunka, Novoraisk, Kakhovka, Antonovka and Novaya Kakhovka in the Kherson Region. In the areas of the settlements of Guselskoye in the Donetsk People's Republic and Novaya Kakhovka in the Kherson Region, 10 American HARM anti-radar missiles were shot down,” the spokesman said.

<https://tass.com/defense/1522343>

## Russia's anti-radar missile demonstrates effectiveness of over 98% in Ukraine – source

*TASS, October 13, 2022*

A Russian anti-radar missile produced by the Russian Tactical Missiles Corporation (KTRV) demonstrated the effectiveness of over 98% during the special military

operation in Ukraine, a defense industry source told TASS. "A few dozens of air-to-radar missiles produced by KTRV were used to strike targets of the Ukrainian armed forces. Practically all of them successfully hit the designated targets," the source said, without naming the missile. According to KTRV's product catalog, the missile could be the high-speed Kh-31PD anti-radar missile, designed to strike radars of air defense systems. According to the catalog, the missile has the range of 250 kilometers. It can be launched from an aircraft at the altitude of up to 15 km, at the speed of 1.5 Mach (about 1,700 kmph), round the clock and in all weather conditions.

<https://tass.com/defense/1522577>

### **Drone strikes hit critical infrastructure facilities in Kyiv region**

*CNBC, October 13, 2022*

Critical infrastructure facilities were hit by drone strikes early on Thursday, Kyrylo Tymoshenko, the deputy head of the Volodymyr Zelenskiy's presidential office said on Thursday. "Another attack by kamikaze drones on critical infrastructure facilities," Tymoshenko said on the Telegram messaging app. Ukraine has reported a spate of Russian attacks with Iranian-made Shahed-136 drones in recent weeks. Iran denies supplying the drones to Russia, while the Kremlin has not commented.

<https://www.cnbcm.com/2022/10/13/drone-strikes-hit-critical-infrastructure-facilities-in-kyiv-region-zelenskiys-office.html?&qsearchterm=military>

### **A strike outside Kyiv adds to concerns over Russia's use of 'kamikaze' drones.**

*New York Times, October 13, 2022*

The Kyiv region of Ukraine was hit by an airstrike early Thursday that is believed to have been delivered by so-called kamikaze drones, a regional official said, adding to concerns about Russia's increasing use of the self-destructing weapons. There were no

injuries, according to the region's governor, Oleksiy Kuleba, who did not specify the locations that were hit, citing security concerns. But the use of such weapons has left many people on edge in an area of Ukraine that until this week had largely been spared since the early months of Russia's full-scale invasion in February.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/13/world/europe/ukraine-kyiv-kamikaze-drone-strike.html?searchResultPosition=31>

### **Russian Army Will Be 'Annihilated' if Putin Nukes Ukraine: Borrell**

*Kyiv Post, October 13, 2022*

EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell warned Moscow on Thursday, Oct.13, that its forces would be "annihilated" by the West's military response if President Vladimir Putin uses nuclear weapons against Ukraine. "Putin is saying he is not bluffing. Well, he cannot afford bluffing, and it has to be clear that the people supporting Ukraine and the European Union and the Member States, and the United States and NATO are not bluffing neither," Borrell said at the opening of a Diplomatic Academy in Brussels. "Any nuclear attack against Ukraine will create an answer, not a nuclear answer but such a powerful answer from the military side that the Russian Army will be annihilated."

<https://www.kyivpost.com/russias-war/russian-army-will-be-annihilated-if-putin-nukes-ukraine-borrell.html>

### **Russian top brass posts clip of frigate's missile strike on Western arms arsenal near Lvov**

*TASS, October 14, 2022*

The Russian Defense Ministry uploaded video clips showing a frigate's missile strike against a Western arms arsenal of the Ukrainian army in the Lvov Region. The video shows a salvo launch of five Kalibr precision cruise missiles from a frigate. Russian Defense Ministry Spokesman Lieutenant-General Igor Konashenkov



reported earlier in Friday that long-range sea-based precision weapons wiped out a Ukrainian army arsenal in the settlement of Brody in the Lvov Region that stored substantial stockpiles of armaments, military hardware and ammunition delivered by Western countries.

<https://tass.com/defense/1522993>

### **Western nations rush defensive systems to Ukraine to counter Russian missiles.**

*New York Times, October 14, 2022*

In just two days this week, Russian forces fired more than 100 cruise missiles and dozens of exploding drones at cities across Ukraine, far more than the nation's aging air defenses were ever expected to encounter. And yet fewer than half made it to their targets, Ukrainian officials say. Ukraine's success in knocking down those projectiles, and the death and destruction caused wherever missiles slipped through, has reinvigorated calls by officials in Kyiv for Western countries to provide more sophisticated defensive weapons systems. At a meeting at NATO headquarters in Brussels on Wednesday, the United States and other allies readily agreed, pledging to rapidly provide the weaponry.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/14/world/europe/western-nations-rush-defensive-systems-to-ukraine-to-counter-russian-missiles.html?searchResultPosition=18>

### **Putin defends his military call-up and says 16,000 draftees are already 'fulfilling combat tasks.'**

*New York Times, October 14, 2022*

With criticism from pro-war bloggers over the reported deaths of new recruits fighting in Ukraine intensifying, President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia on Friday defended his recent draft, saying that he had no regrets about the war in Ukraine. His remarks came as prominent military bloggers have accused the Kremlin's defense officials of throwing unprepared recruits into battle. The draft has also run into resistance across Russia as

villagers, activists and even some elected officials have asked why the conscription drive has appeared to hit minority groups and rural areas harder than the big cities. In late September, anger with the call-up spilled over into street protests.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/14/world/europe/putin-military-draft-russia.html?searchResultPosition=11>

### **Despite Its Barrage of Missiles, Russia Still Loses Ground in Ukraine**

*New York Times, October 14, 2022*

They exploded with dull thuds on the outskirts of towns and detonated in the center of cities with deafening booms. Strikes in Kyiv, Ukraine's capital, left cars burning and splatters of blood on the sidewalks. Throughout this week, the Russian military fired its most intensive barrage of missiles at Ukraine since the start of the war in February, killing three dozen civilians, knocking out electricity and overwhelming air defenses. One thing the missiles did not do was change the course of the ground war.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/14/world/europe/ukraine-russia-missiles.html?searchResultPosition=3>

### **Western sanctions hurting Russia's ability to replenish military supplies, intelligence analysis shows**

*CNN, October 14, 2022*

Western sanctions have sharply curtailed Russia's ability to replenish the munitions it is using in Ukraine, according to a new analysis from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, forcing Moscow to task its intelligence services with finding ways to evade restrictions and procure the critical technology and parts to sustain its war effort. Russia has lost more than 6,000 pieces of equipment since the war began nearly eight months ago, the analysis obtained by CNN shows, with the country's military struggling to

acquire the microchips, engines and thermal imaging technology required to make new weapons.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/14/politics/treasury-department-sanctions-russia/index.html>

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<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/14/politics/treasury-department-sanctions-russia/index.html>

### **Putin has 'no regrets' over missile barrage in Ukraine, but says no need for more 'massive' strikes for now**

*CNN, October 14, 2022*

Russian President Vladimir Putin said Friday he had "no regrets" over his deadly missile attacks on civilian targets across Ukraine earlier this week, but said there was no need for more "massive" strikes for now. The wave of missile attacks on cities across Ukraine began on Monday in response to a blast on a strategically vital bridge connecting the annexed Crimean Peninsula to Russia over the weekend. It's unclear what caused the explosion, but Putin on Monday blamed it on Kyiv and called it a "terrorist attack" that could not be left unanswered.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/14/europe/russia-putin-ukraine-intl/index.html>

### **Outrage as Russian Military Recruiters Resort to Rounding Up Conscripts**

*The Moscow Times, October 14, 2022*

Russian military recruiters appear to be employing new and increasingly desperate methods to round up men for the Kremlin's "partial" mobilization drive. Military and law enforcement officials in Moscow and St. Petersburg on Friday were seen inspecting the identity papers of passers-by around the entrance to metro stations and handing out draft notices to eligible men in the hallways of apartment buildings, according to local media and eyewitness accounts. In St. Petersburg officials holding stacks of draft papers were apprehending people inside an apartment complex in the city's northern Kalininsky district from 7:30 a.m., according to a video posted by one resident. The reports were later confirmed by local authorities who said that both the police and Defense Ministry employees were being dispatched in teams created to "inform citizens about the need to report" to enlistment offices, according to information obtained by RBC Daily.

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2022/10/14/outrage-as-russian-military-recruiters-resort-to-rounding-up-conscripts-a79092>

### **Russia Sends 'Signal to West' With Nuclear Maneuvers**

*The Moscow Times, October 14, 2022*

The Russian military's movements of nuclear-capable assets appear to be intended to send a "signal" to the West amid its losses in Ukraine, analysts said this week. The Pentagon said last week it has not seen any changes in Russia's movements of its nuclear forces that would cause the United States to adjust its own nuclear posture. NATO relayed intelligence to allied commands on the recent movements of Russia's special mission Belgorod submarine, Italy's La Repubblica daily reported Sunday. The Belgorod, the world's longest submarine launched in July, has been modified to carry the new nuclear-

powered, nuclear-armed drone called the Poseidon. Western intelligence believes the Belgorod is in waters near the Arctic for “a series of secret tests,” according to La Repubblica’s report.

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2022/10/04/russia-sends-signal-to-west-with-nuclear-maneuvers-a78963>

### **Belarus Wavers as Putin Presses It to Join Ukraine War**

*New York Times, October 15, 2022*

When huge street protests swept across Belarus two years ago after a fraud-tainted election, the East European nation’s strongman leader, Aleksandr G. Lukashenko, was propped up by the Kremlin, which sent security officers and money to support him. Today, eight months after Russia invaded Ukraine, Mr. Lukashenko’s Russian-enabled grip on power risks slipping as Moscow pressures him to get more involved in the faltering military campaign next door in Ukraine. Russia started its invasion of Ukraine in February with an abortive thrust toward Kyiv, the Ukrainian capital, from Belarusian territory. With his forces now largely bogged down or in retreat, President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia is looking to Mr. Lukashenko for more robust support.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/15/world/europe/belarus-ukraine-war-russia.html?searchResultPosition=1>

### **Russia using rape as ‘military strategy’ in Ukraine: UN envoy**

*CNN, October 15, 2022*

Russia is using rape and sexual violence as part of its “military strategy” in Ukraine, a UN envoy said this week. The claim follows data released by a panel of UN experts recently that verified “more than a hundred cases” of rape or sexual assault incidents reported in Ukraine since February. “When you hear women testify about Russian soldiers equipped with Viagra, it’s clearly a military strategy,” Pramila Patten, UN

Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, said in an interview with AFP on Thursday.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/15/europe/russia-ukraine-rape-sexual-violence-military-intl-hnk/index.html>

### **Defense secretary condemns ‘nuclear saber-rattling’ but says he doesn’t believe Putin has decided to use nuclear weapons**

*CNN, October 15, 2022*

Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin in a new interview condemned “nuclear saber-rattling,” and said while he hasn’t seen anything to suggest Vladimir Putin has decided to use nuclear weapons in the ongoing war on Ukraine, the choice is up to the Russian President. “To be clear, the guy who makes that decision, I mean, it’s one man,” Austin said of Russian threats of nuclear weapons in an interview with CNN’s Fareed Zakaria, set to air in full Sunday on “Fareed Zakaria GPS.” “There are no checks on Mr. Putin. Just as he made the irresponsible decision to invade Ukraine, you know, he could make another decision. But I don’t see anything right now that would lead me to believe that he has made such a decision.”

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/09/30/politics/lloyd-austin-putin-nuclear-saber-rattling-cnnto/index.html>

### **From Mobilization to Death in 10 Days: Russia’s Draftees Killed in Ukraine**

*The Moscow Times, October 15, 2022*

St. Petersburg lawyer Andrei Nikiforov was drafted into the Russian army four days after Russian President Vladimir Putin announced a “partial” mobilization in a bid to solve the military’s manpower problems in the ongoing Ukraine war. Less than two weeks later, Nikiforov became one of the first mobilized men to be killed as Ukraine pushed forward with its successful counteroffensive. “His sister

received the draft paper," Alexander Zelensky, president of the Neva Bar Association of which Nikiforov was a member, told The Moscow Times. "He notified me about it, gathered his belongings the next day and went to the training center."

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2022/10/14/from-mobilization-to-death-in-10-days-russias-draftees-killed-in-ukraine-a79095>

## Russia and US Exchanged Data on Number of Strategic Offensive Weapons

*Sputnik International, October 15, 2022*

Moscow and Washington exchanged notifications in September on the number of strategic offensive weapons under the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START), the Russian Foreign Ministry said on Friday.

<https://sputniknews.com/20221014/russia-and-us-exchanged-data-on-number-of-strategic-offensive-weapons-1101855216.html>

### C. China

## China thwarts AUKUS-related amendment attempts on legitimizing nuclear sub marine deal at IAEA conference

*Global Times, October 1, 2022*

The Chinese mission to the UN in Vienna fully thwarted an amendment advocated by the three countries which form the AUKUS alliance which aimed at legalizing their nuclear-submarine cooperation at the 66th annual International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) General Conference held in Vienna, the Global Times learnt from the Chinese mission to the UN. This is the first time that the IAEA reviewed the cooperation among the US, UK and Australia over nuclear submarine deal at the general conference level, since the Chinese side initiated an intergovernmental review process over the cooperation at the agency's board of governors in November 2021.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202210/1276489.shtml>

## China airs footage of aircraft carrier killer nuclear missiles 'in warning to US'

*South China Morning Post, October 2, 2022*

Chinese state media aired footage of the country's most powerful strategic nuclear-capable weapons, including anti-ship "carrier killers", to mark National Day, a move seen as a warning to the US as tensions escalate between the rival powers. Anti-aircraft carrier DF-21D and DF-26B ballistic missiles as well as new-generation DF-41 intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM) - all part of the Dongfeng series - were on display in the new footage for state-owned China Central Television, as part of an eight-part documentary series.

The two anti-ship missiles would pose a threat to US carriers, while the DF-41 ICBM was capable of carrying multiple nuclear warheads with a range of over 12,000km (7,450 miles) to hit any target on the US mainland, noted defence experts, who see the documentary as aimed at strategic deterrence.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3194806/china-airs-footage-anti-ship-carrier-killer-nuclear-missiles>

## At TDMM, China bashing won't score regional gains

*CGTN, October 3, 2022*

On October 1, the defense ministers of the United States, Japan and Australia gathered for a Trilateral Defense Ministers Meeting (TDMM) in Hawaii. Leaders vowed to work against China, falsely accusing the country of acting with "aggressive and bullying behavior" and issuing an unwarranted condemnation of Beijing's legitimate peace measures in the Taiwan Strait. The three countries appear keen to promote a divisive "Indo-Pacific strategy" by maintaining anti-China posturing at its core. "We are deeply concerned by China's increasingly aggressive and bullying behavior in the



Taiwan Strait, and elsewhere in the region," said U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2022-10-03/At-TDMM-China-bashing-won-t-score-regional-gains-1dPwW70O2wE/index.html>

## US, not China, 'real challenger' to New Delhi's Indian Ocean interests

*South China Morning Post, October 3, 2022*

The United States, not China, is the real challenger to India's rights and interests in the Indian Ocean, according to a Chinese military strategist, who called on the Asian neighbours to better manage their differences and stabilise ties. Zhou Bo, a senior fellow at Tsinghua University's Centre for International Security and Strategy, pointed to last year's sailing of the USS John Paul Jones guided missile destroyer into waters claimed by India as its exclusive economic zone. "The US Navy's Seventh Fleet issued a written statement saying it did so because the US would challenge India's 'excessive maritime claims', which was met with an Indian backlash," said Zhou, a retired senior colonel and former director of the Chinese defence ministry's office for international cooperation.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3194639/us-not-china-real-challenger-new-delhis-indian-ocean-interests>

## China, Russia at odds with US over UN meeting on North Korea

*Korea Times, October 5, 2022*

The United States asked the U.N. Security Council to meet on North Korea after Pyongyang fired a ballistic missile over Japan, but diplomats said China and Russia are opposed to a public discussion by the 15-member body. Nuclear-armed North Korea test-fired a ballistic missile farther than ever before, sending it soaring over Japan for the first time in five years and prompting a warning for residents there to take cover. "We must limit the DPRK's ability to advance its unlawful ballistic missile and weapons of mass destruction programs," U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Linda

Thomas-Greenfield, posted on Twitter, after calling for a public Security Council meeting.

[http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2022/10/103\\_337299.html](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2022/10/103_337299.html)

## U.S. could break Chinese blockade of Taiwan: Navy commander

*Ryo Nakamura*

*Nikkei Asia, October 5, 2022*

If China imposed a maritime blockade of Taiwan, the U.S. and its allies would have the capability to break it, says Adm. Samuel Paparo, commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet. China certainly has "the number of vessels, and the capability at sea to execute a blockade," Paparo told Nikkei and a group of reporters traveling with U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin to Hawaii. "The question that follows is 'Do the allies have the capability to break that blockade?' And the answer to that is a resounding yes." Paparo expressed confidence that Washington could do so even on its own, citing its volume of firepower and "superiority in key domains," likely a reference to nuclear submarines and other undersea forces.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/Taiwan-tensions/U.S.-could-break-Chinese-blockade-of-Taiwan-Navy-commander2>

## Chinese envoy calls for restraint on Korean Peninsula

*CGTN, October 6, 2022*

A Chinese ambassador to the United Nations (UN) urged all related parties to stay calm, exercise restraint and not make any moves that may escalate tensions on the Korean Peninsula. According to Geng Shuang, China's deputy permanent representative to the UN, China has noticed the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (DPRK) recent missile launch activities and that the U.S. and other countries have recently held joint military exercises in the region. "The DPRK's recent launch activities are all before and after military exercises, and they do not



exist in isolation,” said Geng at a UN Security Council (UNSC) meeting on the Korean Peninsula situation.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2022-10-06/Chinese-envoy-calls-for-restraint-on-Korean-Peninsula-1dUHqI9AOGY/index.html>

## **Will North Korea conduct a nuclear test during China’s Congress?**

*Zaheena Rasheed*

*Al Jazeera, October 6, 2022*

When North Korea carried out its last nuclear test on September 3, 2017, China’s President Xi Jinping was preparing to host the leaders of Brazil, Russia, India and South Africa at a summit meant to burnish his image as a global statesperson ahead of a critical Chinese Communist Party (CCP) congress. Analysts in China and the US immediately condemned the atomic test as an “insult” to Beijing, which has long been North Korea’s chief ally and its primary trade partner, as well as a “diplomatic embarrassment” for Xi, who at the time was set to be confirmed for a second term as the Communist Party’s leader. China responded by joining US-led United Nations Security Council sanctions that choked off North Korea’s fuel supplies and ordered the return home of some 100,000 North Korean workers whose labour overseas was funding their government’s weapons programme.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/10/6/would-n-korea-launch-a-nuclear-test-during-china-party-congress>

## **China criticizes strengthening of US military alliance in Asia Pacific, says dialogue is only way to resolve Korean Peninsula issue**

*Global Times, October 6, 2022*

China has reaffirmed that dialogue and consultation are the only way to resolve the Korean Peninsula issue, urging the US side to take action, show sincerity, and create conditions for the resumption of dialogue.

“All parties concerned should focus on the overall situation of peace and stability on the Peninsula and prevent the situation from escalating,” Geng Shuang, China’s deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, said at UN council on the situation of the Peninsula.

The UN members met after North Korea test-fired a ballistic missile. Geng said that China has noticed North Korea’s recent missile launches, and also noticed the joint military drills held by the US and other countries in the region. Geng said the recent strengthening of the US’ military alliance in the Asia-Pacific region heightened the risk of military confrontation, practiced double standards on the nuclear issue, and poisoned the regional security environment. Against this background, the situation on the Peninsula inevitably becomes tense, Geng said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202210/1276592.shtml>

## **US hits China with sweeping tech export controls**

*Demetri Sevastopulo and Kathrin Hille*

*Financial Times, October 7, 2022*

The US has introduced sweeping export controls that will severely complicate efforts by Chinese companies to develop cutting-edge technologies with military applications, in one of the toughest actions President Joe Biden has taken against China. The commerce department announced restrictions that will make it extremely hard for Chinese companies to obtain or manufacture advanced computer chips and will slow their progress in artificial intelligence. The measures are also designed to make it much tougher for China to develop supercomputers with military applications that range from modelling nuclear weapons to developing hypersonic weapons.

<https://www.ft.com/content/6825bee4-52a7-4c86-b1aa-31c100708c3e>

## Chinese series highlights PLA pilots' efforts to protect air defence identification zone

Minnie Chan

*South China Morning Post, October 7, 2022*

The People's Liberation Army has been deploying more advanced aircraft to the South and East China seas and the Taiwan Strait to safeguard China's territorial integrity, experts said following the airing of a documentary series by state broadcaster China Central Television. The PLA Air Force and PLA Navy have been scrambling aircraft to expel foreign aircraft since Beijing announced the establishment of the country's first air defence identification zone in the East China Sea in late November 2013, the series said. "When dealing with provocative foreign military aircraft that regularly fly to the East China Sea, there are only tit-for-tat encounters, as we will not allow any recklessness," Li Zhe, a PLA Navy pilot, told CCTV in the last episode of the eight-part series.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3194999/chinese-series-highlights-pla-pilots-efforts-protect-air>

## U.S. intensifies assault on China chip ambitions

Cheng Ting-Fang

*Nikkei Asia, October 8, 2022*

The U.S. has introduced sweeping export controls aimed at curbing almost every aspect of China's semiconductor development as part of its toughest crackdown yet on Beijing's tech ambitions. The U.S. Commerce Department barred American companies from shipping certain grades of advanced chip equipment to any Chinese client without a license, effective immediately. The same curbs will apply to shipments of American-made electronics parts or other items that China could use to produce its own chipmaking tools and equipment. Under the new rules "U.S. persons" will also be restricted from providing support to the development or production of chips at Chinese

"semiconductor fabrication facilities without a license," starting October 12.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Tech/Semiconductors/U.S.-intensifies-assault-on-China-chip-ambitions>

## Can China De-Escalate a Nuclear Crisis Over Ukraine? Will It?

Cindy Sui

*Voice of America, October 8, 2022*

As concerns grow of a possible nuclear conflict between Russia and the West over Ukraine, there are hopes China could defuse the crisis. But Russia's most influential ally may not have the desire or the ability to help, according to analysts. "If any power has influence over Putin, it is China," said Steve Tsang, director of the SOAS University of London's China Institute. The problem, according to Tsang, is that "foreign policy under [Chinese President] Xi [Jinping] is guided by the China-first – not the world first – principle," meaning Beijing will be weighing the advantages or disadvantages of getting involved. China is the only permanent member of the United Nations Security Council that has pledged to not be the first to use nuclear weapons. It is also Russia's biggest trade partner and arguably the country with the most political influence over Moscow.

<https://www.voanews.com/a/can-china-de-escalate-a-nuclear-crisis-over-ukraine-will-it-/6781363.html>

## China lashes out at latest US export controls on chips

*Korea Times, October 8, 2022*

China criticized the latest U.S. decision to tighten export controls that would make it harder for China to obtain and manufacture advanced computing chips, calling it a violation of international economic and trade rules that will "isolate and backfire" on the U.S. "Out of the need to maintain its sci-tech hegemony, the U.S. abuses export control measures to maliciously block and suppress Chinese

companies," said Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning. "It will not only damage the legitimate rights and interests of Chinese companies, but also affect American companies' interests," she said. Mao also said that the U.S. "weaponization and politicization" of science and technology as well as economic and trade issues will not stop China's progress.

[http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/world/2022/10/501\\_337535.html](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/world/2022/10/501_337535.html)

### **IAEA should not become stage of political manipulation**

*Zhao Xuelinand Wang Ying*

*China Military Online, October 9, 2022*

The nuclear submarine cooperation among the US, the UK and Australia relates to the integrity, validity and authority of NPT, and the related safeguards concern the interests of all IAEA members. This is a matter that must be discussed by all members through intergovernmental arrangements in search of a solution. The international community, including the IAEA, should keep urging the three countries to immediately stop the nuclear proliferation actions caused by their cooperation, and all members should continue to push at the Board of Directors and the General Conference the intergovernmental discussions that have been agreed through four rounds of consultations. They must focus on the nature and truth of the trilateral cooperation and take concrete actions to preserve the international nuclear non-proliferation system and safeguard global peace and security.

[http://www.81.cn/jwywpd/2022-10/09/content\\_10190698.htm](http://www.81.cn/jwywpd/2022-10/09/content_10190698.htm)

### **China's next aircraft carrier: nuclear-power speculation continues**

*Kristin Huang*

*South China Morning Post, October 9, 2022*

China's fourth aircraft carrier will probably be nuclear-powered, analysts have

predicted. China State Shipbuilding Corporation has previously said that it needs to achieve a breakthrough in nuclear-powered technology by 2027. But an article in the Wave of South China Sea, a military affairs social media account, said there had still been no official announcement that the shipyards responsible for building carriers have been given the necessary permission, and it was debatable whether China could acquire the technology to build them. The article also said a diesel-powered vessel would be more suited to China's development.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3195306/chinas-next-aircraft-carrier-nuclear-power-speculation>

### **China used advanced satellite technology to monitor Nord Stream leak**

*Stephen Chen*

*South China Morning Post, October 9, 2022*

China used new satellite technology to obtain the earliest accurate estimate about the damage to the Nord Stream pipeline, according to researchers involved in the project. The Russian-built pipelines supplying natural gas to Europe were hit by a series of explosions on September 26 in a suspected act of sabotage by unknown parties.

After the attack, the Chinese government ordered one of its most advanced Earth observation satellites to find out how much methane - a major greenhouse gas - had escaped into the atmosphere. Most greenhouse gas monitoring satellites can only measure the total emissions over vast areas, but the Chinese scientists say, without providing precise details, they can narrow the area measured significantly.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3195341/china-used-advanced-satellite-technology-monitor-nord-stream>

## China Space Station Mengtian lab module completes propellant fuelling

*Deng Xiaoci*

*Global Times, October 10, 2022*

The Mengtian lab module, the final section of the basic structure of the China Space Station, completed its planned propellant fuelling, the Global Times learned from the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA). According to the CMSA, the Mengtian, after arriving at the Wenchang Space Launch Site in South China's Hainan Province, has completed work including general assembly and testing, and it will carry out a joint examination with the Long March-5B Y4 carrier rocket. Facilities and equipment at the Wenchang spaceport are in good condition, and all systems related to the examination and testing duties are preparing in an orderly manner, the CMSA said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202210/1276839.shtml>

## Could this breakthrough by Chinese scientists put hypersonic weapons on PLA aircraft carriers?

*South China Morning Post, October 11, 2022*

People's Liberation Army researchers say China's aircraft carriers will be able to use hypersonic weapons thanks to a breakthrough in logistics technology that simplifies and speeds up repair and maintenance of the weapons. These weapons are designed to be launched from aircraft, not a carrier. They can go after a wide range of high-value targets in the air or on the surface and can be used as anti-satellite weapons, according to the team led by Xiao Jun, researcher with the China Airborne Missile Academy in Luoyang, Henan province. China's air-launched hypersonic weapons, which have not been revealed to the public, have similarities to Russia's Kinzhal missile, which can reach 10 times the speed of sound over a range of 1,000km (621 miles), the team wrote in a paper published in the domestic peer-reviewed journal *Aero Weaponry* on October 1. They could increase the combat

range of China's carrier fleet to more than 2,500km – about the distance from the east of Taiwan to Guam – with ultra-fast air strikes that could penetrate most air defence systems.

[https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3195524/breakthrough-chinese-scientists-puts-hypersonic-weapons-pla?module=lead\\_hero\\_story&pgtype=homepage](https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3195524/breakthrough-chinese-scientists-puts-hypersonic-weapons-pla?module=lead_hero_story&pgtype=homepage)

## U.K. spy chief says world in 'sliding doors moment' on China tech

*Rhynnon Bartlett-Imadegawa*

*Nikkei Asia, October 11, 2022*

China is "the national security issue that will define our future," Britain's spy chief warned in a London speech, highlighting the urgent need for "like-minded partners" to offer the world an alternative to Chinese technology. Jeremy Fleming, director of GCHQ, Britain's intelligence, cyber and security agency, said Beijing is using "all of the levers it has" to challenge the consensus on economics and technology, with the intention to "rewrite the rules of international security" both at home and abroad. Beijing's political approach to technology is "an increasingly urgent problem we have to acknowledge and we have to address," Fleming told an audience at the Royal United Services Institute's annual security lecture. China's leadership sees science and technology "as a tool to gain advantage through control: of their markets, of those in their sphere of influence and, of course, of their own citizens," he said.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/U.K.-spy-chief-says-world-in-sliding-doors-moment-on-China-tech>

## US will soon need to deter two major nuclear powers for first time, White House says

*Julian Borger*

*The Guardian, October 12, 2022*

The president's new national security strategy (NSS) depicts China as the most



capable long-term competitor, but Russia as the more immediate, disruptive threat, pointing to its nuclear posturing over Ukraine. It warns that threat could grow as Russian forces continue to suffer defeats on the battlefield. Biden describes China, as “the only country with both the intent to reshape the international order and, increasingly, the economic, diplomatic, military and technological power to advance that objective”. The policy document portrays Beijing as “America’s most consequential geopolitical challenge”. “The People’s Republic of China harbors the intention and, increasingly, the capacity to reshape the international order in favor of one that tilts the global playing field to its benefit, even as the United States remains committed to managing the competition between our countries responsibly,” it says.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/oct/12/nuclear-weapons-russia-china-us-national-security-strategy>

## **Biden warns U.S. faces ‘decisive decade’ in rivalry with China**

*Demetri Sevastopulo*

*Financial Times, October 12, 2022*

Joe Biden has warned that the US faces a “decisive decade” in its rivalry with China, as he unveiled a national security strategy that singled out Beijing as having the intent and capability to reshape the world order. In the first such document of his presidency, Biden wrote that his administration was “clear-eyed about the scope and seriousness” of the challenge that China and Russia posed to the international order. “China harbors the intention and, increasingly, the capacity to reshape the international order in favor of one that tilts the global playing field to its benefit,” Biden wrote in an introduction to the 48-page document.

<https://www.ft.com/content/c9011130-a119-40d5-beb9-a09e7faff2e1>

## **China and Russia must take action over North Korea missile launches**

*Nikkei Asia, October 12, 2022*

On October 6, two days after launching its longest-range missile yet, North Korea once again fired two short-range ballistic missiles into the Sea of Japan. North Korean state media reported that the seven ballistic missiles the country has launched since late September were drills by the tactical nuclear weapons operational unit of the Korean People’s Army. Kim Jong Un’s regime has further deepened its reliance on nuclear weapons. While China and Russia are allowed to possess nuclear weapons and enjoy the privilege of veto rights as two of the five permanent members of the Security Council, they show no intention of fulfilling their original responsibilities in this serious situation.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Opinion/The-Nikkei-View/China-and-Russia-must-take-action-over-North-Korea-missile-launches>

## **China is working on ‘invisible’ missile launchers for ‘future combat’**

*Minnie Chan*

*South China Morning Post, October 13, 2022*

China is developing launchers for its Dongfeng series of road-mobile missiles that could evade detection by satellites, radars and drones, according to state broadcaster CCTV. They are part of a push to develop new-generation weapons for future warfare, according to the latest episode in a CCTV series on the modernisation of the People’s Liberation Army. Yang Biwu, a PLA Rocket Force researcher who worked on the launch vehicle for the DF-17 hypersonic missile, said artificial intelligence technology would be used to make the missile launchers more tactical and “invisible”. “I

believe that on the battlefields of the future, our counterparts will not see us or know the whereabouts of our [missile launchers]," he said on the CCTV programme. "The relationship between the missiles and the launching platform is like bullets and a gun ... what we can do is to explore the potential for the platform and provide more options for future combat."

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3195737/china-working-invisible-missile-launchers-future-combat>

### **China's submarines can be quieter, more powerful with new pump-jet: scientists**

*Stephen Chen*

*South China Morning Post, October 14, 2022*

A research team in Shanghai says it has developed a new pump-jet propulsion system that can give submarines a higher thrust while reducing noisy vibrations by more than 90 per cent. Some modern submarines used a shrouded propeller that puts the rotor in a duct to generate a jet of water for propulsion. Between rotor blades and the duct's inner wall there is a clearance, sometimes as small as a millimetre wide, but it can produce a lot of turbulence or bubbles that can slow the submarine and give a hint of its location. In a paper published on October 10 in the Chinese Journal of Ship Research, a peer-reviewed publication run by China's major military ship designer's Institute 701 in Wuhan, the Chinese researchers said they had eliminated the gap.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3195922/chinas-submarines-can-be-quieter-more-powerful-new-pump-jet>

### **China's jet fighter pilots elevated as aircraft carrier fleet grows**

*Minnie Chan*

*South China Morning Post, October 14, 2022*

China's navy has been taking a leaf out of its US counterpart's command structure, with state broadcaster CCTV providing an

insight this week into one of the first jet fighter pilots to serve in a senior role aboard an aircraft carrier. J-15 pilot Xu Ying performed the initial night landing on the deck of Liaoning – China's first aircraft carrier – in 2017, and was promoted to executive officer (XO) of the Shandong – its first domestically built carrier – in 2020, after a year of warship combat and command training. "As a user of ship-borne weapons, I would share my [naval flight experiences] with comrades working in the equipment department and try efforts to improve our operational system, finding a better way to help China's aircraft carrier undertaking," Xu told a documentary on CCTV. Xu, now a naval commodore, continues to lead the J-15 Flying Shark aviation team in routine training, according to CCTV.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3196028/chinas-jet-fighter-pilots-elevated-aircraft-carrier-fleet-grows>

### **China's air force overhauls college training in combat-readiness mission**

*Kristin Huang*

*South China Morning Post, October 15, 2022*

China's air force has overhauled its tertiary training to focus on combat readiness and joint operations, according to state media reports. Military mouthpiece PLA Daily reported on Tuesday that the Air Force Logistics University in the eastern city of Xuzhou had altered its teaching curriculum, cutting classes and content not related directly to the two areas. The report did not say what classes were cut but they were replaced with courses like emergency planning. Another PLA Daily report in 2020 said the university had changed more than 20 courses to skill personnel in dealing with combat conditions, such as being able to spot and fix mechanical failures under fire.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3196044/chinas-air-force-overhauls-college-training-combat-readiness>

### D. Pakistan

#### Pakistani Scientist AQ Khan Led Israel To Syrian Nuclear Sites, Saved From Existential Threat: Ex-Intelligence Chief

*Outlook, October 10, 2022*

A former top Israeli intelligence official has revealed that Israel came very close to having an existential threat because of its misguided approach regarding the then-suspected Syria nuclear program. The Israeli intelligence agency Mossad followed the trail of Pakistani nuclear scientist AQ Khan, whose trail ultimately led them to the Syrian nuclear weapons program, said Dr. Amnon Sofrin, a former head of Mossad's intelligence division, in a recent interview. Khan is known as the Father of Pakistan's Nuclear Program. He went rogue and sold nuclear weapons technology to several countries such as Libya and North Korea. Israelis ultimately found that Syrian nuclear reactors were a copy of North Korea's, said Sofrin. Sofrin told Times of Israel's sister publication Zman Israel that Khan was the "seed of calamity" whose trail had to be "sniffed" around.

<https://www.outlookindia.com/international/pakistani-scientist-aq-khan-led-israel-to-syrian-nuclear-sites-saved-from-existential-threat-ex-intelligence-chief-news-228942>

#### Biden calls Pakistan 'one of the most dangerous nations in the world'

*The Express Tribune, October 15, 2022*

United States President Joe Biden has said that Pakistan may be "one of the most dangerous nations in the world" as the country has "nuclear weapons without any cohesion", it was reported on Saturday. The US president made the comments while addressing a Democratic congressional campaign committee reception on Thursday. "And what I think is maybe one of the most dangerous nations in the world: Pakistan. Nuclear weapons without any cohesion," Biden was quoted as saying in a transcript of the address, published on the White House's website. Biden's remarks were made with

regard to the changing geopolitical situation globally, as he highlighted that the world was changing rapidly, and countries were rethinking their alliances. "And the truth of the matter is – I genuinely believe this – that the world is looking to us. Not a joke. Even our enemies are looking to us to figure out how we figure this out, what we do," he added.

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2381703/biden-calls-pakistan-one-of-the-most-dangerous-nations-in-the-world>

### E. United States of America

#### Electric Boat Wins \$532Bln Design Contract on Virginia Nuclear Submarines - Pentagon

*Sputnik International, October 03, 2022*

General Dynamics Electric Boat Corp. has won a more than \$532 billion US Navy modification contract for Development Studies and Design on Virginia-class nuclear submarines, the US Defense Department said. "General Dynamics Electric Boat Corporation [of] Groton, Connecticut, is awarded a \$532,921,125 cost-plus-fixed-fee modification to [a] previously awarded contract for Lead Yard Support and Development Studies and Design efforts related to Virginia-class submarines," the Defense Department said in a press release on Monday.

<https://sputniknews.com/20221003/electric-boat-wins-532bln-design-contract-on-virginia-nuclear-submarines-pentagon-1101482500.html>

#### US considering responses to possible Russian escalation in Ukraine, including its potential use of tactical nuclear weapons

*CNN, October 03, 2022*

With concerns growing that Vladimir Putin will escalate Russia's war in Ukraine, the US is considering how to respond to a range of potential scenarios, including fears that Russians could use tactical nuclear weapons, according to three sources briefed on the latest



intelligence. The US has since the start of the conflict been developing contingency plans to respond, including to the possibility that Russia's President could escalate via a step just short of a nuclear attack on Ukraine, through what one source described as a "nuclear display," such as a potential military strike on the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant, or the detonation of a nuclear device at high-altitude or away from populated areas.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/03/politics/ukraine-russia-putin-nuclear-weapons-us/index.html>

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<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/03/politics/ukraine-russia-putin-nuclear-weapons-us/index.html>

### **US-backed illegal armed groups beef up activity in Syria – Russian Defense Ministry**

*TASS, October 06, 2022*

The US-controlled illegal armed groups have stepped up their activity in Syria, Oleg Yegorov, deputy chief of the Russian Center for Reconciliation of the Opposing Parties in Syria, said on Wednesday. "We focus attention on the fact that the US-backed

illegal armed formations are boosting their activity. Since August 1, 2022, there have already been eight incidents of shelling of the government forces' positions, which demonstrates the US command's inability to control the situation in the zone occupied by the US Armed Forces," Yegorov said.

<https://tass.com/defense/1518407>

### **US kills two top ISIS leaders in airstrike in Syria**

*CNN, October 06, 2022*

US forces killed two top ISIS leaders in an airstrike in northern Syria on Thursday, according to two defense officials, one day after a US raid killed an ISIS smuggler. The strike killed Abu 'Ala, one of the top five ISIS leaders and the deputy leader of ISIS in Syria, as well as Abu Mu'Ad al-Qahtani, an ISIS official responsible for prisoner affairs, the officials said. The strike was conducted at 6:23pm local time in Syria. No US forces were injured or killed during the operation, and there was no damage or loss to US equipment because of the strike.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/06/politics/us-isis-raid-syria/index.html>

### **Biden calls the 'prospect of Armageddon' the highest since the Cuban missile crisis.**

*New York Times, October 06, 2022*

President Biden delivered a striking warning on Thursday night that recent threats from President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia could devolve into a nuclear conflict, telling supporters at a fund-raiser in New York City that the risk of atomic war had not been so high since the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis. "We have not faced the prospect of Armageddon since Kennedy and the Cuban Missile Crisis," Mr. Biden told a crowd at the second of two fund-raisers he attended on Thursday evening.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/06/world/europe/biden-armageddon-nuclear-war-risk.html?searchResultPosition=64>



## US to host top officials from 30 countries in effort to escalate crackdown on Russian defense supply chains

*CNN, October 07, 2022*

Top officials from 30 countries are scheduled to meet next week with senior US sanctions and intelligence officials as the Biden administration continues to escalate its efforts to strangle Russia's military industrial complex. The meeting will serve as a critical opportunity for senior officials from across the Western sanctions coalition to detail where the effort has effectively blocked or shattered critical supply networks, as well as share intelligence and information about ongoing Russian evasion efforts, the official said.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/07/politics/us-russian-defense-supply-chain-crackdown/index.html>

## Biden finalizes new rules for US drone strikes

*CNN, October 07, 2022*

President Joe Biden has signed a long-awaited classified policy tightening the rules for the CIA and the Pentagon to carry out deadly drone strikes and commando raids conducted outside of traditional war zones, US officials said on Friday. With only Iraq and Syria still considered by the US to be so-called areas of active hostilities – or conventional war zones – the new policy is geared toward countries like Somalia, Yemen and now, Afghanistan, where the US continues to carry out counterterrorism strikes from afar.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/07/politics/drone-strikes-counterterrorism-white-house-biden-new-rules/index.html>

## White House Tightens Rules on Counterterrorism Drone Strikes

*New York Times, October 07, 2022*

President Biden has signed a classified policy limiting counterterrorism drone strikes outside conventional war zones, tightening rules that President Donald J. Trump had

loosened for a 21st-century method of warfare, according to officials. The policy, which the White House sent to the Pentagon and the C.I.A. on Friday, institutionalizes a version of temporary limits that Mr. Biden's team quietly put in place on the day of his inauguration as a stopgap for reducing risks to civilians while the new administration reviewed the counterterrorism policies it had inherited from Mr. Trump.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/07/us/politics/drone-strikes-biden-trump.html?searchResultPosition=138>

## DPRK Defends 'Righteous' Missile Tests as Response to US Threats

*Sputnik International, October 08, 2022*

Tensions on the Korean peninsula have increased dramatically over the past two weeks amid a series of North Korean missile tests conducted in response to large-scale air, sea, land and missile drills being carried out by the United States and its regional allies. Each side has accused the other of stoking tensions. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (DPRK's) latest missile test constituted a "regular and planned self-defensive step for defending the country's security and regional peace from the US's direct military threats that have lasted for more than half a century," a spokesperson from North Korea's National Aviation Administration announced Saturday.

<https://sputniknews.com/20221008/dprk-defends-righteous-missile-tests-as-response-to-us-threats-1101636526.html>

## Biden turns to lessons from the Cuban Missile Crisis to deal with Putin's nuclear threat.

*New York Times, October 09, 2022*

President Biden's declaration on Thursday night that the world may be facing "the prospect of Armageddon" if President Vladimir V. Putin uses a tactical nuclear weapon in Ukraine included a revealing side note: that Mr. Biden has been looking

to help the Russian president find an “off-ramp” that might avert the worst outcome. His logic came right out of the Cuban Missile Crisis, to which Mr. Biden referred twice in his comments at a Democratic fund-raiser in New York, a good indication of what is on his mind. In that famous case – the closest the world came to a full nuclear exchange, 60 years ago this month – President John F. Kennedy struck a secret bargain with Nikita Khrushchev, the Soviet premier, to remove American missiles from Turkey.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/09/world/europe/biden-turns-to-lessons-from-the-cuban-missile-crisis-to-deal-with-putins-nuclear-threat.html?searchResultPosition=44>

### **Biden warned of a nuclear Armageddon. How likely is a nuclear conflict with Russia?**

*New York Times, October 09, 2022*

When President Biden delivered a blunt warning at a fund-raiser last Thursday that the war in Ukraine could devolve into a nuclear “Armageddon,” he raised a terrifying prospect that many Americans had not worried much about since the end of the Cold War. White House officials did not walk back Mr. Biden’s statement; they knew it reflected a deep concern that has sent Pentagon and intelligence officials gaming out different scenarios, from a test detonation over the Black Sea to the use of a nuclear weapon against, say, a Ukrainian military base. But the White House emphasized on Friday that the United States has seen no signs that Russia is gearing up to use nuclear weapons.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/09/world/europe/russia-putin-nuclear-threat.html?searchResultPosition=1>

### **U.S. Forces Kill Senior ISIS Leaders in Syria, Officials Say**

*New York Times, October 09, 2022*

U.S. Special Operations forces carried out two major strikes against the Islamic State in northern Syria on Thursday, killing three senior figures responsible for arming and

recruiting fighters and plotting attacks, according to American and Syrian Kurdish officials. Taken together, the nighttime assaults dealt the Islamic State its most punishing blow since a risky predawn raid in northwest Syria in early February by American commandos resulted in the death of the terrorist group’s overall leader, Abu Ibrahim al-Hashimi al-Qurayshi.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/06/world/middleeast/isis-leader-syria-us-raid.html?searchResultPosition=168>

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<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/09/world/europe/russia-putin-nuclear-threat.html?searchResultPosition=41>

### **President Biden condemns ‘the utter brutality of Mr. Putin’s illegal war.’**

*New York Times, October 10, 2022*

President Biden on Monday condemned the missile strikes across Ukraine launched by President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia, saying they served no military purpose and again demonstrated “the utter brutality of Mr. Putin’s illegal war on the Ukrainian people.” Mr. Biden did not announce any

new measures from the United States or its allies in response to the attacks. In a short written statement issued by the White House, Mr. Biden reaffirmed his commitment to assist Ukraine in its war with Russia.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/10/world/europe/biden-russia-ukraine-strikes.html?searchResultPosition=91>

### **Biden promises Ukraine ‘advanced air defense systems’ after Russian missile strikes**

*CNN, October 10, 2022*

President Joe Biden spoke with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on Monday after a deluge of Russian missiles targeted cities across Ukraine, condemning the strikes and pledging continued US security assistance “including advanced air defense systems.” During the call, a White House statement said, Biden “expressed his condemnation of Russia’s missile strikes across Ukraine, including in Kyiv, and conveyed his condolences to the loved ones of those killed and injured in these senseless attacks. President Biden pledged to continue providing Ukraine with the support needed to defend itself, including advanced air defense systems.”

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/10/politics/biden-zelensky-advanced-air-defense-systems/index.html>

### **US State Department says Iran nuclear deal ‘not our focus right now’**

*CNN, October 12, 2022*

The Iran nuclear deal is “not our focus right now,” US State Department spokesperson Ned Price said Wednesday, noting the administration was instead focusing on supporting the protesters in Iran as efforts to restore the nuclear deal have hit yet another impasse. “The Iranians have made very clear that this is not a deal that they have been prepared to make, a deal certainly does not appear imminent,” Price said at a department briefing. “Iran’s demands are unrealistic. They go well beyond the scope of the JCPOA,” he said, using the acronym

for the formal name of the deal, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/12/politics/ned-price-iran-comments/index.html>

### **Biden’s National Security Strategy Focuses on China, Russia and Democracy at Home**

*New York Times, October 12, 2022*

President Biden declared on Wednesday that the overwhelming challenge for the United States in the coming years would be “outcompeting China and restraining Russia” while focusing on restoring a damaged democracy at home. In his 48-page national security strategy, which every new administration is required to issue, Mr. Biden made clear that over the long term he was more worried about China’s moves to “layer authoritarian governance with a revisionist foreign policy” than he was about a declining, battered Russia. More than six months after the invasion of Ukraine, the Russian military appears less fearsome than it did when the first drafts of the document circulated in the White House in December.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/12/us/politics/biden-china-russia-national-security.html?searchResultPosition=16>

### **Biden will examine all aspects of US-Saudi relationship, including arms sales, national security adviser says**

*CNN, October 12, 2022*

President Joe Biden will examine all aspects of US ties with Saudi Arabia, including arms sales, as administration officials begin quiet discussions with members of Congress and congressional aides about how the US could impose consequences on the kingdom following the kingdom’s decision to partner with Russia in cutting oil production. “There is a range of interests and values that are implicated in our relationship with that country,” Biden’s national security adviser Jake Sullivan told

reporters Wednesday. "The President will examine all of that. But one question he's going to ask is: Is the nature of the relationship serving the interest and values of the United States and what changes would make it better serve the interests and values?"

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/12/politics/jake-sullivan-saudi-arabia-joe-biden/index.html>

### **NATO nuclear exercises to show Putin it isn't afraid of his saber-rattling: Ex-U.S. defense official**

*CNBC, October 12, 2022*

Jim Townsend of the CNAS Transatlantic Security Program, who served as deputy assistant secretary of defense for Europe and NATO under the Obama administration, says that if NATO doesn't carry out those exercises, the signal to Russian President Vladimir Putin would be one of weakness.

<https://www.cnb.com/video/2022/10/12/jim-townsend-discusses-nato-nuclear-exercises.html?&qsearchterm=nuclear>

### **Biden authorizes an additional \$725 million in military aid to Ukraine.**

*New York Times, October 14, 2022*

President Biden responded on Friday to Russia's latest bombardment of civilian population centers in Ukraine by authorizing another \$725 million in weapons and military equipment for Kyiv, bringing the total of U.S. security assistance to the government of President Volodymyr Zelensky to \$17.6 billion since the war began. The Pentagon said in a statement that the package would include munitions and military vehicles. The State Department said it would also include military education and training.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/14/world/europe/biden-ukraine-military-aid.html?searchResultPosition=2>

### **U.S. grants Philippines \$100 million in foreign military financing**

*Reuters, October 14, 2022*

The United States has made available \$100 million in foreign military financing to the Philippines, its ambassador in Manila said on Friday, part of efforts to boost the Southeast Asian country's defence capabilities and military modernisation. The new military financing underscores improved defence ties between the treaty allies under President Ferdinand Marcos Jr, whose predecessor, Rodrigo Duterte, shifted his country's foreign policy away from the United States to pursue warmer ties with China.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/us-grants-philippines-100-million-foreign-military-financing-2022-10-14/>

### **U.S. General Mark Milley: Ukraine Needs Integrated Anti-Missile Defense System**

*Kyiv Post, October 14, 2022*

General Mark Milley, the chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, suggested that the U.S. and its allies assist Ukraine in developing an integrated air and missile defense system at a NATO meeting in Brussels on Oct. 12, according to CNN, which is exactly what the Ukrainian government is currently requesting. Allies should participate in this process, he said, as they have the necessary weapons. Milley claims that, although not a simple task, it is quite attainable. Milley unveiled a plan in which various air defense systems, including those owned by Germany and Israel, should be transferred to Ukraine. The Ukrainian airspace can then be protected by combining multiple systems into one larger system.

<https://www.kyivpost.com/ukraine-politics/u-s-general-mark-milley-ukraine-needs-integrated-anti-missile-defense-system.html>



## F. East Asia

### North Korea conducts 4th round of missile tests in 1 week

*NPR, October 1, 2022*

North Korea on Saturday test-fired two short-range ballistic missiles, its neighbors said, the fourth round this week of weapons launches that prompted quick, strong condemnation from its rivals. In an unusually strong rebuke of North Korea's weapons programs, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol said North Korea's "obsession" with nuclear weapons is deepening the suffering of its own people, and warned of an "overwhelming response" from South Korean and U.S. militaries should such weapons be used. "North Korea hasn't abandoned its obsession with nukes and missiles despite the persistent international objection in the past 30 years," Yoon said during an Armed Forces Day ceremony at the military headquarters in central South Korea. "The development of nuclear weapons will plunge the lives of North Korean people in further pains."

<https://www.npr.org/2022/10/01/1126381299/north-korea-conducts-missile-tests>

### North Korea fires ballistic missile over Japan

*BBC, October 4, 2022*

North Korea has fired a ballistic missile over Japan, in what appears to be a deliberate escalation to get the attention of Tokyo and Washington. The missile travelled 4,500km (2,800 miles) before falling into the Pacific Ocean - far enough to hit the US island of Guam if it took another trajectory. It is the North's first missile launch over Japan since 2017. Japan issued an alert to some citizens to take cover. The US, Japan and South Korea conducted their own military drills in response. South Korean and US aircraft fired at a mock target on an uninhabited island in the Yellow Sea, while the US and Japan also jointly carried out drills over the Sea of Japan.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-63126534>

### North Korea trumpets training for 'tactical' nuclear strikes

*The Japan Times, October 11, 2022*

North Korea's recent flurry of missile launches – including one of a "new" weapon that overflew Japan – simulated strikes with smaller "tactical" nuclear warheads designed for use on the battlefield, the latest signal that Pyongyang is preparing for its first atomic test since 2017. Leader Kim Jong Un oversaw the military exercises that ran from Sept. 25 through Sunday and involved loading mock nuclear warheads on missiles, the official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported Monday. Seven launches, in which 12 missiles were fired, simulated the targeting of military command sites, striking main ports and hitting airports in the South, with Pyongyang seeking to assess its "war deterrent and nuclear counterattack capability."

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2022/10/11/asia-pacific/north-korea-tactical-nuclear-weapons-drills/>

### North Korea says missile launches were nuclear attack simulation on South

*BBC, October 11, 2022*

North Korea says its recent barrage of missile launches were a "simulation" of a nuclear attack on the South. It comes as intelligence suggests North Korea is preparing to hold its first nuclear weapon test in five years. In recent weeks, Pyongyang has launched seven sets of missiles in response to recent US and South Korea drills. On Monday, state media published extensive reports claiming the missiles were designed to carry tactical nuclear weapons. These are small short-range weapons intended for use on the battlefield. They said the military practised loading the missiles with dummy versions of these miniaturised warheads. They also claimed to have successfully simulated hitting South Korea's military bases, ports and airports, and said the launches were

a warning to US and South Korea. State news agency KNCA ran photos of leader Kim Jong-un overseeing and “guiding” the tests. South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol said North Korea has nothing to gain from using nuclear weapons.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-63196618>

### **Japan warns that North Korea may have completed nuclear test preparations**

*The Japan Times, October 13, 2022*

Defense Minister Yasukazu Hamada warned Thursday that North Korea may have already completed preparations for its seventh nuclear test, all while conducting a spate of test missile launches that began at the start of this year. Hamada also said during a parliamentary session that Pyongyang’s weapons technology has developed “at a rapid pace,” acknowledging it has become “more difficult to intercept” missiles it launches. He expressed wariness that Pyongyang might conduct its first nuclear test since September 2017 in the not-so-distant future, given the progress of repair work at the nation’s only known nuclear test site, in Punggye-ri in the nation’s northeast.

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2022/10/13/national/politics-diplomacy/hamada-nk-nuclear/>

### **Japan considers extending nuclear plants’ life beyond 60 years - Nikkei**

*Reuters, October 14, 2022*

Japan’s government is considering extending its 60-year limit on the operation of nuclear power plants and may submit legislation on new rules next year, as it grapples with tight energy supplies and rising costs, the Nikkei daily reported on Friday. The new regulations under consideration would remove limits on nuclear plant operation, allowing repeated extensions if approved by the Nuclear Regulation Authority, the newspaper said, citing a draft by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/japan-considers-extending-nuclear-plants-life-beyond-60-years-nikkei-2022-10-14/>

### **Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Japan utilities to develop new nuclear reactor**

*Nuclear Engineering International, October 4, 2022*

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd has said it will develop a next-generation nuclear reactor with Kansai Electric Power Co, Hokkaido Electric Power Co, Shikoku Electric Power Co and Kyushu Electric Power Co. All four utilities operate Mitsubishi Heavy reactors at their nuclear plants. The five companies will develop an advanced light-water reactor, a new type of pressurised water reactor (PWR), deemed safer than existing models, and plan to put it into use in the mid-2030s. This follows a Japanese government announced in August that it would promote the construction of next-generation NPPs to ensure a stable electricity, in a major policy reversal from the previous policy of no new nuclear energy.

<https://www.neimagazine.com/news/newmitsubishi-heavy-and-japan-utilities-to-develop-new-nuclear-reactor-10061046>

## **G. South Korea**

### **South Korea’s Reprisal Explodes After North Korean Missile Success**

*The Diplomat, October 5, 2022*

A malfunctioning South Korean ballistic missile blew up as it plowed into the ground Wednesday during a live-fire drill with the United States that was a reprisal for North Korea’s successful launch a day earlier of a weapon that flew over Japan and has the range to strike the U.S. territory of Guam. The explosion and subsequent fire panicked and confused residents of the coastal city of Gangneung, who were already uneasy over the increasingly provocative weapons tests by rival North Korea. Their concern that it could be a North Korean attack only grew as the military and government officials provided no explanation about the explosion for hours. South Korea’s Joint

Chiefs of Staff said no injuries were reported from the explosion, which involved a short-range Hyunmoo-2 missile that crashed inside an air force base on the outskirts of the city.

<https://thediplomat.com/2022/10/south-koreas-reprisal-explodes-after-north-korean-missile-success/>

### **South Korea faces growing calls to acquire nuclear weapons**

*The Korea Times, October 6, 2022*

South Korea is facing growing calls to acquire nuclear weapons irrespective of ideological dogma. Such calls are being fueled by North Korea's growing nuclear menace and misgivings about the U.S.' extended deterrence if Pyongyang decides to attack its southern neighbor. "There has been a nuclear taboo – a normative inhibition against the first use of nuclear weapons – but Russia is about to break it in its war against Ukraine, thereby stoking concerns among countries, (including South Korea) that do not have their own nuclear weapons," said Go Myong-hyun, a senior fellow of the Asan Institute for Policy Studies. Go added that, despite Russia's threat to use nuclear weapons against Ukraine, the United States and NATO were poised to respond to it with conventional weapons, with many South Koreans fearful of Washington's possible half-hearted response to North Korea's potential nuclear attack against the South.

[https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2022/11/113\\_337342.html](https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2022/11/113_337342.html)

### **Nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan, South Korean warships start new drills amid tensions**

*The Hindu, October 7, 2022*

The drills are aimed at bolstering the allies' defence capabilities and will involve training to escort the Reagan southeast of South Korea's southern island of Jeju, South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said. The nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan launched a new round of naval drills with South Korean warships on

October 7, a day after North Korea fired more ballistic missiles and flew warplanes in an escalation of tensions with its rivals. The Reagan and its battle group returned to the waters near the Korean Peninsula after North Korea earlier this week launched a nuclear-capable missile over Japan in response to the carrier group's earlier training with South Korean navy ships. North Korea views U.S.-South Korean military exercises as a practice to invade the country. The latest two-day drills, which also involve U.S. and South Korean destroyers and other ships, were taking place in international waters off the peninsula's east coast. The drills are aimed at bolstering the allies' defence capabilities and will involve training to escort the Reagan southeast of South Korea's southern island of Jeju, South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/nuclear-powered-aircraft-carrier-uss-ronald-reagan-south-korean-warships-start-new-drills-amid-tensions/article65979310.ece?homepage=true>

### **North Korea says missile tests simulate striking South Korea with nuclear weapons**

*The Hindu October 10, 2022*

North Korea's recent flurry of missile tests were designed to simulate showering the South with tactical nuclear weapons as a warning after large-scale navy drills by South Korean and U.S. forces, state news agency KCNA said on Monday. North Korea fired two ballistic missiles early on Sunday, officials in Seoul and Tokyo said, making it the seventh such launch since September 25. Leader Kim Jong Un guided exercises by nuclear tactical operation units over the past two weeks, involving ballistic missiles with mock nuclear warheads, KCNA reported, saying it was to deliver a strong message of war deterrence.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/north-korea-says-missile-tests-simulate-striking-south-korea-with-nuclear-weapons/article65991105.ece>



## North Korea says tests a nuclear warning to South Korea, US

*Aljazeera, October 10, 2022*

North Korea has said its recent barrage of missile launches were “tactical nuclear” drills personally overseen by leader Kim Jong Un, and a response to joint United States-South Korea naval exercises. North Korea carried out its seventh launch in two weeks when it fired two ballistic missiles early on Sunday morning. Showing the first pictures from the launches, state broadcaster KCNA reported Kim Jong Un guided the exercises, which involved ballistic missiles with mock nuclear warheads and were led by “tactical nuclear operations units”. The various tests simulated targeting military command facilities, striking main ports, and airports in the South, KCNA added. “The effectiveness and practical combat capability of our nuclear combat force were fully demonstrated as it stands completely ready to hit and destroy targets at any time from any location,” the report said.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/10/10/north-korea-says-tests-a-nuclear-warning-to-south-korea-us>

### H. Miscellaneous

## Major U.N. powers question Pacific islanders’ call for nuclear legacy help

*Reuters, October 6, 2022*

Nuclear powers have criticized an effort led by the Marshall Islands at the United Nations to seek help on dealing with the consequences of nuclear testing, sources following the talks involving countries including the United States, Britain, Russia, India and China told Reuters. Pacific islanders, who are particularly threatened by rising sea levels from climate change, are becoming more vocal in seeking redress from former colonial powers and wealthy countries on environmental and climate issues which they say affect their human rights.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/major-un-powers-question-pacific-islanders-call-nuclear-legacy-help-2022-10-05/>

### I. France

## France’s Macron hopeful of Iran nuclear deal in next few days

*REUTERS, September 01, 2022*

France’s president said on Thursday he hoped a deal to revive the Iran nuclear deal would be concluded in the coming days. “I hope that in the next few days the JCPOA will be concluded,” Emmanuel Macron said, referring to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action as the deal is formally known, in a speech to French ambassadors.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/frances-macron-hopeful-iran-nuclear-deal-next-few-days-2022-09-01/>

### J. Germany

## Wary of Russia, Germany in talks to buy Arrow 3 missile defence from Israel

*REUTERS, September 12, 2022*

Germany is in talks to buy the Arrow 3 missile defence system from Israel as part of Berlin’s efforts to strengthen its armed forces after Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid said on a visit to the German capital on Monday.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/israel-help-bolster-german-air-defence-scholz-lapid-2022-09-12/>

## Germany says regrettable that Iran has yet to accept nuclear offer

*REUTERS, September 12, 2022*

Germany expressed regret on Monday that Tehran had not responded positively to European proposals to revive the 2015 nuclear agreement, underlining the dim prospects for a deal soon, as Israel urged action to stop Iran becoming a nuclear armed state. Two days after European powers said they had “serious doubts” about Iran’s intentions over the deal, Iran said it was ready to continue cooperating with U.N.



nuclear watchdog the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/iran-urges-iaea-not-yield-israels-pressure-says-ready-cooperate-2022-09-12/>

## K. Ukraine

### Why the next few months is crucial for the future of Ukraine's military

*CNN, September 07, 2022*

Armed Services Committee Chairman Adam Smith and CNN's Kate Bolduan discuss US plans to support Ukraine's military long term, the possibility of Russian military aid from North Korea and the Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant.

<https://edition.cnn.com/videos/politics/2022/09/07/us-ukraine-military-future-russia-armed-services-chairman-smith-intv-ath-opx.cnn>

### Ukraine's battlefield wins encourage the West but could make the war more dangerous

*CNN, September 13, 2022*

Ukraine's stunning recapture of vast areas of Russian-held territory is renewing the focus on the most chilling unknown of a war already marked by extreme cruelty – the depths to which a cornered Vladimir Putin might descend. Huge gains made by Ukrainian forces in recent days are a tribute to the bravery of troops fighting for a nation's survival, an ingenious military strategy and yet more evidence of failures among Russia's once vaunted armed forces.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/09/13/world/ukraine-wins-could-make-war-more-dangerous-analysis/index.html>

### As Ukraine pushes southern offensive, it also hits Russia in the northeast

*CNN, September 08, 2022*

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has hailed "good news" from the northeastern Kharkiv region, after an apparent surprise counter-offensive forced

Russian troops onto the back foot and prompted a pro-Kremlin official to call for evacuations. The Russian-installed head of the Kupiansk city administration, Vitaly Ganchev, urged women and children to evacuate the city as Ukrainian forces approached.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/09/08/europe/ukraine-kharkiv-counteroffensive-russia-intl/index.html>

### Ukraine military chief says 'limited' nuclear war cannot be ruled out

*The Washington Post, September 07, 2022*

Ukraine's top military chief warned Wednesday that a "limited" nuclear war between Russia and the West cannot be discounted, a scenario with grave global implications. "There is a direct threat of the use, under certain circumstances, of tactical nuclear weapons by the Russian armed forces," the Ukrainian commander in chief, Gen. Valery Zaluzhny wrote in an article published by Ukrinform, a state-run media outlet. "It is also impossible to completely rule out the possibility of the direct involvement of the world's leading countries in a 'limited' nuclear conflict, in which the prospect of World War III is already directly visible."

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2022/09/07/ukraine-russia-nuclear-attacks-crimea/>

### US military working on analysis to shape and support Ukraine's military in long term

*CNN, September 07, 2022*

The Pentagon is preparing detailed analysis and working out how to support Ukraine's military in the medium and long term, including after the war with Russia has ended, according to three defense officials. The efforts are being led by Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Milley and would build on the billions of dollars in military aid the US has given to Ukraine since Russia invaded in February. The process is at an early

stage and a senior defense official said it is looking at the “future of Ukrainian forces,” aiming to answer key questions about “what makes sense?” and “what do we want Ukraine to start having in the mid and the long term?” in terms of military support. As well as the current conflict, which is expected to be lengthy, the US is looking, at least, at the next five years after the war is over.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/09/07/politics/us-military-ukraine-analysis/index.html>

### **Ukraine’s top general warns of Russian nuclear strike risk**

*REUTERS, September 08, 2022*

In rare public comments Ukraine’s military chief warned on Wednesday of the threat of Russia using nuclear weapons in Ukraine, which would create the risk of a “limited” nuclear conflict with other powers. The war in Ukraine that began with Russia’s invasion on Feb. 24 was likely to rage on into next year, General Valeriy Zaluzhnyi said in an article co-authored by lawmaker Mykhailo Zabrodskyi and published by state news agency Ukrinform.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/ukraine-military-chief-limited-nuclear-war-cannot-be-ruled-out-2022-09-07/>

### **Zelenskiy says next year’s budget will be a war budget, focus on defence**

*REUTERS, September 08, 2022*

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy on Wednesday said next year’s budget would be a war budget, devoting more than a trillion hryvnias (\$27.40 billion) to defence and security spending. In an evening video address, he also said social obligations such as pensions had to be covered in full. Non-critical expenses must be reduced as much as possible, he added. Zelenskiy said he had met earlier in the day with Finance Minister Serhiy Marchenko and other officials.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/zelenskiy-says-next-years-budget-will-be-war-budget-focus-defence-2022-09-07/>

### **Ukraine forces employing Western arms to devastating effect - U.S. top general**

*REUTERS, September 08, 2022*

Ukraine is using its modern Western weapons to devastating effect, striking hundred of Russian targets with the U.S.-supplied HIMARS rocket system alone, General Mark Milley, the Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, said on Thursday. “We are seeing real and measurable gains from Ukraine in the use of these systems. For example, the Ukrainians have struck over 400 targets with the HIMARS and they’ve had devastating effect,” Milley told reporters after a meeting of dozens of defence ministers at Ramstein air base in Germany.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/us-approves-675-million-additional-weapons-ukraine-defense-leaders-meet-2022-09-08/>

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Ukraine’s stunning recapture of vast areas of Russian-held territory is renewing the focus on the most chilling unknown of a war already marked by extreme cruelty – the depths to which a cornered Vladimir Putin might descend. Huge gains made by Ukrainian forces in recent days are a tribute to the bravery of troops fighting for a nation’s survival, an ingenious military strategy and yet more evidence of failures among Russia’s once vaunted armed forces.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/09/13/world/ukraine-wins-could-make-war-more-dangerous-analysis/index.html>

### **Ukrainian army sustains serious losses near Soledar, Artyomovsk – Akhmat unit commander**

*TASS, September 15, 2022*

Ukraine’s army has sustained serious losses near Soledar and Artyomovsk, Secretary of Chechnya’s Security Council and commander of the Akhmat special unit

Apty Alaudinov said on Wednesday. "We see that they are "sensing" our positions along the entire line of the offensive, armed clashes occur every day. Attacks have been repelled along the entire frontline since yesterday. There have been several attacks at our section (Soledar-Artyomovsk - TASS) - many enemy troops and weapons have been neutralized," he said in an interview with Rossiya-1 television channel.

<https://tass.com/defense/1507567>

### **L. United Kingdom**

#### **British army trains with Swedish and Finnish forces**

*BBC, September 04, 2022*

British troops have taken part in a military exercise with Swedish and Finnish armed forces as the war in Ukraine continues. The Ministry of Defence said Exercise Vigilant Knife would help all three nations' forces be effective in battle. Prime Minister Boris Johnson earlier this year signed a mutual security deal with Sweden and Finland. Defence Secretary Ben Wallace also repeated the UK's support for the two nations' bid to join Nato.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-62781489>

### **M. IAEA**

#### **IAEA 'satisfied' with AUKUS engagement on submarine plan, report says**

*REUTERS, September 09, 2022*

The U.N. nuclear watchdog is satisfied with the engagement shown so far by the United States, Britain and Australia on their AUKUS alliance's plan to supply Australia with nuclear submarines, a report by the watchdog seen by Reuters showed. So far no party to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, such as Australia, has a nuclear-powered submarine, other than the five permanent (P5) members of the U.N. Security Council, also known as nuclear-

weapon states: the United States, Russia, China, France and Britain.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/iaea-satisfied-with-aukus-engagement-submarine-plan-report-says-2022-09-09/>

### **West Asia**

#### **N. Iran**

#### **U.S. targets firms over Iranian drone production, shipment to Russia**

*REUTERS, September 08, 2022*

The United States on Thursday imposed sanctions on an Iranian company it accused of coordinating military flights to transport Iranian drones to Russia and three other companies it said were involved in the production of Iranian drones. The United States accuses Iran of supplying drones to Russia for use in its war in Ukraine, which Tehran has denied. The U.S. Treasury Department in a statement said it designated Tehran-based Safiran Airport Services, accusing it of coordinating Russian military flights between Iran and Russia, including those associated with transporting drones, personnel and related equipment.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/us-targets-firms-it-says-produce-iranian-drones-shipment-russia-2022-09-08/>

#### **Chemical weapons a serious threat to international peace and security: ambassador**

*Tehran Times, October 02, 2022*

"As the main victim of the most systematic use of chemical weapons in modern history, the Islamic Republic of Iran once again condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the use of chemical weapons by anyone, anywhere, and under any circumstances. We share this view that the use of such inhumane weapons, which pose a serious threat to international peace

and security, must not be tolerated,” Iravani said. He made the remarks at a UN Security Council meeting on Syria.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/477248/Chemical-weapons-a-serious-threat-to-international-peace-and>

### **Navy commander: Iran, Pakistan, Oman to set up maritime security center**

*Fars News Agency, October 04, 2022*

Commander of the Iranian Army's Navy Rear Admiral Shahram Irani announced that Iran along with Pakistan and Oman will open a joint maritime security center in the near future. Rear Admiral Irani made the announcement in a ceremony held at Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization to mark World Maritime Day. He said that the joint center formed by Iran, Oman and Pakistan will be in contact with all maritime security centers across the world and will focus on the Indian Ocean. The Navy commander, however, did not give a specific time on when the center will open.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010712000427/Navy-Cmmander-Iran-Pakistan-Oman-Se-Up-Mariime-Secriy-Cener>

### **Iranian artillery bombards villages in Erbil again**

*Iraqi News, October 03, 2022*

The Iranian Revolutionary Guards bombarded again on Monday villages of Sidkan area in Erbil governorate in northern Iraq. For the eighth day in a row, the Iranian artillery bombarded villages in Sidkan area in Erbil governorate, and no casualties have been reported, Baghdad Today News mentioned. Last Thursday, the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs summoned the Iranian Ambassador to Iraq, and handed him a strongly worded protest note against the repeated bombing of Kurdistan region.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/iranian-artillery-bombards-villages-in-erbil-again/>

### **Are Iranian suicide drones performing poorly in Russia-Ukraine war?**

*The Jerusalem Post, October 12, 2022*

Some of the Iranian suicide drones used by Russia are unlikely to be fulfilling their purpose as a deep strike munition, with many being destroyed before hitting their target, the United Kingdom's Defense Ministry said in an intelligence update on Wednesday. Around 60% of the 86 Iranian Shahed-136 drones launched by Russia in its bombardment of Ukraine on Monday were reportedly shot down by Ukrainian forces. "These UAVs are slow and fly at low altitudes making lone aircraft easy to target using conventional air defenses," said the UK Defense Ministry, but did note that "There is a realistic possibility that Russia has achieved some success by attacking with several UAVs at the same time."

<https://www.jpost.com/international/article-719487>

### **Iran provides "no weaponry" to parties fighting in Ukraine**

*Tehran Times, October 15, 2022*

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian reiterates the necessity for a diplomatic resolution to the months-long war in Ukraine while asserting that the Islamic Republic has not sent armaments to either of the groups engaged in the Ukraine conflict. Amir Abdollahian made the remarks in a telephone conversation with his Portuguese counterpart Joo Gomes Cravinho late on Friday. The senior Iranian diplomat said, "The Islamic Republic of Iran has not and will not provide any weapon to be used in the Ukraine war. We believe that arming the either side of the crisis will prolong the war."

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/477622/Iran-provides-no-weaponry-to-parties-fighting-in-Ukraine>



## O. Iraq

### 23 PKK militants killed in Turkish air strikes in northern Iraq

*Iraqi News, October 02, 2022*

The Turkish army announced on Sunday it killed 23 militants belong to Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) in air strikes in northern Iraq, according to a statement issued by the Turkish Ministry of Defense.

The statement mentioned that Turkish air strikes targeted terrorists in Asos area located 140 kilometers from the Turkish-Iraqi border. The statement indicated that the number of militants killed in the operation might increase.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/23-pkk-militants-killed-in-turkish-air-strikes-in-northern-iraq/>

### Iran targets opposition sites in Iraq using artillery and drones

*Iraqi News, October 04, 2022*

The Iranian Revolutionary Guards announced on Tuesday it launched a new attack using artillery and drones against sites of armed opposition in Kurdistan region in northern Iraq. Tasnim News Agency mentioned that the ground force of the Revolutionary Guards resumed on Tuesday the bombing of sites of what it called 'separatist terrorists' in Sidkan area and other mountainous areas in Kurdistan region with artillery, missiles and Qods Mohajer-6 drones. The Revolutionary Guards began launching these attacks on September 24 in response to the movements of these terrorists and their attempt to stir up unrest and chaos in Iran, which is still ongoing, Tasnim News Agency added.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/iran-targets-opposition-sites-in-iraq-using-artillery-and-drones/>

### Iraq's representative calls on security council to condemn Iran's bombing

*Iraqi News, October 04, 2022*

Iraq's representative to the United Nations, Mohamed Bahr Al-Uloom, called on the

Security Council on Tuesday to support his country's sovereignty and condemn the Iranian aggression on Iraq. Bahr Al-Uloom told the Security Council that the Iranian bombing of Kurdistan region led to the killing of Iraqis and terrified the citizens. Bahr Al-Uloom indicated that the Iranian Ambassador to Iraq had been handed a protest note against the repeated bombing of Kurdistan region.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/iraqs-representative-calls-on-security-council-to-condemn-irans-bombing/>

### Iraqi Parliament to investigate Iranian bombing of Kurdistan

*Iraqi News Agency, October 05, 2022*

The Iraqi Parliament announced on Wednesday it opened an investigation into the Iranian bombing of sites in Kurdistan region in northern Iraq. Rapporteur of the Security and Defense Committee in the Iraqi parliament, Sakfan Yusef, said that the committee discussed on Tuesday the Iranian bombing of headquarters of Kurdish opposition parties in Kurdistan region, according to Rudaw News. Yusef added that the committee decided to summon military and security leaders to provide clarification on this issue, Rudaw News added.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/iraqi-parliament-to-investigate-iranian-bombing-of-kurdistan/>

### Iran bombards Kurdistan region for the 12th day

*Iraqi News Agency, October 05, 2022*

The Iranian Revolutionary Guards renewed on Wednesday its shelling of villages in Sidkan area in Erbil governorate in northern Iraq. The bombardment is ongoing for 12 days, it targeted villages in Sidkan area, but the losses have not been identified yet, Kurdistan 24 reported. Last Wednesday, the Iranian Revolutionary Guards, using missiles and drones, bombarded areas in Kurdistan Region, killing 18 people and wounding 58 others, Kurdistan 24 mentioned. Kurdistan Counter-Terrorism Directorate mentioned

in a statement that the Iranian bombing targeted public places such as kindergartens, schools, health centers, hospitals, event halls and civilian homes, Kurdistan 24 added.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/iran-bombards-kurdistan-region-for-the-12th-day/>

### **Missile attack targets Turkish military base in Nineveh**

*Iraqi News, October 09, 2022*

A missile attack targeted on Saturday a base where Turkish soldiers are stationed in Nineveh governorate in northern Iraq, Kurdish media reported. The Counter Terrorism Directorate (CTD) of the Kurdistan Region Security Council (KRSC) mentioned that four missiles were fired towards the Turkish camp located in Bashiqa town, northeast of Mosul city, Kurdish media outlets reported. The CTD indicated that the missiles were launched from the Al-Shallalat area, which is under the control of the federal government, according to Kurdistan 24

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/missile-attack-targets-turkish-military-base-in-nineveh/>

### **Revolutionary Guards announces cessation of Kurdistan bombing**

*Iraqi News, October 09, 2022*

Iranian security sources revealed that the attacks of the Revolutionary Guards on Kurdistan stopped after destroying specific targets, according to Al-Alam channel. The Iranian security sources confirmed that the continuation of the Iranian attacks will depend on the future behavior of the authorities of Kurdistan region. "If the authorities of Kurdistan region took a reasonable decision and stopped the evil behaviors of the separatist and anti-Iranian groups, this cease-fire will continue, and if this does not happen, the Revolutionary Guards will resume their operations against these groups," the security source mentioned.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/revolutionary-guards-announces-cessation-of-kurdistan-bombing/>

### **Iraqi PM emphasizes military cooperation between Iraq and Lebanon**

*Iraqi News, October 12, 2022*

The Iraqi Prime Minister, Mustafa Al-Kadhimi, stressed on Wednesday the importance of developing security and military cooperation between Iraq and Lebanon. A statement issued by the media office of the Prime Minister mentioned that Al-Kadhimi received the commander-in-chief of the Lebanese army, Joseph Aoun, where both sides discussed the bilateral relations between the two countries and ways of enhancing joint cooperation. The statement elaborated that Al-Kadhimi and Aoun also discussed mechanisms for supporting the military institution to improve its performance.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/iraqi-pm-emphasizes-military-cooperation-between-iraq-and-lebanon/>

### **Missile attack targets gas field in northern Iraq**

*Iraqi News, October 13, 2022*

A missile attack targeted Khor Mor gas field in Chamchamal town in Sulaymaniyah governorate in northern Iraq on Wednesday, according to Rudaw News.

Three missiles hit the Khor Mor field in the most recent attack targeting the gas field, Rudaw News mentioned. The attack that did not cause any damages is the second in the three months as the gas field was targeted last July by three Katyusha rockets.

Several missiles landed near Knor Mor gas field and no damage or casualties were reported, according to Kurdistan 24. No party claimed responsibility for the attack, and neither this attack nor the previous ones affected the production operations in the gas field which is the largest in the Kurdistan region and Iraq.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/missile-attack-targets-gas-field-in-northern-iraq/>

## IRGC launches fresh round of anti-terror military operation in Iraq

*Fars News Agency, October 05, 2022*

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) announced that its ground forces have once again targeted strongholds of anti-Iran terrorists in Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdistan region using missiles and drones. The IRGC's Ground Force pounded the positions of terror groups in Sidekan, North of Erbil in Kurdistan region on Tuesday, with multiple rocket launchers, precision-strike weapons and drones. During the attacks, a gathering joined by one of the terrorist groups' commanders was targeted, inflicting heavy losses on them. The IRGC has in recent days launched a series of aerial raids on the positions of Iraqi Kurdistan-based terrorist groups.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010713000085/IRGC-Lanches-Fresh-Rnd-f-Ani-Terrr-Miliary-Operain-in-Ira>

### *P. Israel*

## Iron Beam, Israel's laser air defense system, could be ready in 2-3 years

*Breaking Defense, October 04, 2022*

For years, the joke in defense circles has been that directed energy systems — more commonly known as lasers — are the technology of the future, and always will be. But following a series of successful live-fire tests of its new Iron Beam capability, Israel is moving forward in hopes of putting that joke to rest, potentially within two years' time. Iron Beam is a complimentary capability to the Rafael-built Iron Dome defense system, which uses kinetic interceptors to protect Israel against incoming rockets, mortars, and small drones.

<https://breakingdefense.com/2022/10/iron-beam-israels-laser-air-defense-system-could-be-ready-in-2-3-years/>

## IDF downs quadcopter drone flown by Hamas near Gaza border

*The Times of Israel, October 11, 2022*

Israeli forces on Tuesday brought down a small quadcopter drone launched by the Hamas terror group over the northern Gaza Strip, the military said. According to the Israel Defense Forces, the small off-the-shelf device was monitored during its flight and did not cross Israel's barrier with the coastal enclave. It was brought down while flying near the border fence. The IDF did not specify how the drone was brought down; however, it was believed to have been done using electronic warfare means

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-downs-quadcopter-drone-flown-by-hamas-near-gaza-border/>

## Israel said providing Kyiv with intel on Iranian suicide drones

*The Times of Israel, October 13, 2022*

A senior Ukrainian official has said Israel is providing Ukraine with "basic intelligence" on Iranian suicide drones being deployed by the Russian army, according to a report in The New York Times. Wednesday's report, which cited an anonymous Ukrainian source, also said that a private Israeli security firm was giving the Ukrainians satellite imagery of Russian military positions. Wednesday reportedly saw nine suicide drones shot down by Ukrainian forces, with some 50 shot down throughout the week, with the Ukrainian official adding that the drones have not been as effective as Moscow had hoped because they are "slow" and "easy to target."

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-said-providing-kyiv-with-intel-on-iranian-suicide-drones/>

## With the help of Israel, Morocco is the first African country to enter the drone manufacturers club

*Middle East Monitor, October 15, 2022*

Morocco has entered the club of drone manufacturers by virtue of the recent deal it concluded with Israel, according to which Morocco will manufacture Israeli war drones. The Wall Street Journal reported that the Royal Moroccan Armed Forces would build two factories to produce war drones with Israeli supervision and expertise. This will allow the kingdom to manufacture advanced drones at a low cost compared to those it is currently buying from China and Turkey.

<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20221015-with-the-help-of-israel-morocco-is-the-first-african-country-to-enter-the-drone-manufacturers-club/>

### Q. Qatar

## Amiri air defence forces carry out shield 6 exercise

*Times of Oman, October 14, 2022*

The Amiri Air Defence Forces carried out the Shield 6 (Sky Nex) exercise in Al Qalayel Square of the Armed Forces under the patronage and presence of HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defence Affairs Dr Khalid bin Mohamed al-Attiyah, and in the presence of HE the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Salem bin Hamad al-Nabit.

<https://www.gulf-times.com/story/725936/Amiri-Air-Defence-Forces-carry-out-Shield-6-exercise>

### R. Türkiye

## Türkiye's Bayraktar TB2 drones join offensive against al-Shabab

*Middle East Eye, October 01, 2022*

The much-coveted Turkish Bayraktar TB2 drone has joined Somalia's offensive against the militant group al-Shabab, in an escalation seen by Somali analysts as highly

significant to the war's trajectory. Somalia's federal government last week confirmed reports that the armed drones produced by Turkish company Baykar, which has ties to President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's family, are now active in Somalia, where US drones have been carrying out strikes against al-Shabab for years.

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/somalia-turkey-bayraktar-tb2-drones-join-offensive-against-shabab>

## Türkiye conducts joint military exercise with five countries

*Yeni Safak, October 01, 2022*

Türkiye said Friday it has carried out a joint military exercise with five countries in the capital Ankara. Azerbaijan, Qatar, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan participated in the military drill called Eternal Fraternity-I United Special Forces Military Exercise, the National Defense Ministry said in a statement. "The most distinguished troops of friendly and fraternal countries are together!" the statement read.

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/turkiye-conducts-joint-military-exercise-with-five-countries-3652965>

## Türkiye neutralizes three PKK terrorists in northern Iraq

*Yeni Safak, October 01, 2022*

Turkish security forces "neutralized" three PKK terrorists in northern Iraq, the Turkish National Defense Ministry said on Wednesday. "A total of three PKK terrorists were neutralized, one in Qandil in northern Iraq and two in the Claw 1-2 Operation zone," the ministry said on Twitter. PKK terrorists often hide out in northern Iraq, close to the Turkish border, to plot attacks in Türkiye.

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/turkiye-neutralizes-three-pkk-terrorists-in-northern-iraq-3652964>



## **Türkiye defense ministry says it 'neutralized' 30 PKK members in Iraq, Syria**

*Alarabiya News, October 02, 2022*

Turkey said on Sunday it had "neutralized," the term its defense ministry usually employs for killed, some 30 members of the banned Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) in separate cross-border operations in Iraq and Syria. The defense ministry said the strikes involved 23 PKK members in a air raid in the Asos region, 140 kilometers (90 miles) into northern Iraq, and another seven in northern Syria.

<https://english.alarabiya.net/News/middle-east/2022/10/02/Turkey-defense-ministry-says-it-neutralized-30-PKK-members-in-Iraq-Syria>

## **Turkish warplanes 'neutralises' 23 Kurdish militants in Iraq**

*WION, October 03, 2022*

According to the Turkish Defense Ministry, Turkish warplanes "neutralised" 23 Kurdish militants who were killed during 140 kilometres (90 miles) in Iraq. Whenever a militant is killed, the ministry uses the term "neutralised." It further stated that more casualties are anticipated during the expedition in the Asos region of northern Iraq, which is governed by the independent Kurdistan Regional Government.

<https://www.wionews.com/world/turkish-warplanes-neutralises-23-kurdish-militants-in-iraq-521873>

## **Türkiye 'neutralizes' 18 PKK terrorists in northern Iraq**

*Yeni Safak, October 07, 2022*

Turkish forces "neutralized" 18 YPG/PKK terrorists in northern Syria, the National Defense Ministry said on Friday. The terrorists were targeted in the Operation Euphrates Shield zone, the Turkish ministry said on Twitter. Turkish authorities use the term "neutralized" to imply the terrorists in question surrendered or were killed or captured.

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/turkiye-neutralizes-18-ypgpkk-terrorists-in-northern-syria-3653373>

## Contribute Articles

Indian Pugwash Society welcomes research articles from students, researchers and faculties on Space, Missile, nuclear technology, WMD proliferation, arms control, disarmament, export controls and other related issues. Articles should be crisply written and should address contemporary debates in the policy arena. Manuscripts submitted for the consideration of the Indian Pugwash Society should be original contributions and should not have been submitted for consideration anywhere else. For further assistance, please contact us at : indianpugwashsociety@gmail.com

The Indian Pugwash Society aims to promote the study, discussion, and knowledge of and to stimulate general interest in, and to diffuse knowledge in regards to problems relating on WMD proliferation, arms control, disarmament, space security, export controls, nuclear technology and other related issues. This newsletter is part of the project "Emerging Nuclear Order in Asia: Implications for India" sanctioned to us by Department of Atomic Energy-Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences (DAE-BRNS).

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