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# SYLLOGE ON CHINA

**Focus: Nuclear, Space, Missiles and other Security Issues**

**An Initiative by Indian Pugwash Society and Centre for Nuclear Issues and Arms Control (MP - IDSA)**



INDIAN PUGWASH SOCIETY

## **NASA chief's 'cliché' accusations against China 'reflect lack of confidence and narrow mindset'**

Global Times, December 11, 2022

In an interview, the US' NASA chief once again smeared China's space missions and vowed to beat China in the "moon race." The latest barrage of attacks was slammed by Chinese experts as a reflection of a lack of confidence and a dangerous, narrow Cold War mentality in the US. NASA Administrator Bill Nelson accused China of being "one of the very few nations" that would not be partners with the US and that it is being "very secretive" in terms of space programs in an interview with Nikkei Asia published. In the meantime, Nelson stated that he believes the US will beat China in terms of sending a manned spacecraft to the moon.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202212/1281617.shtml>

## **Why US calls for China to act over North Korean missiles may test limits of Beijing's influence**

Jack Lau and Kawala Xie

South China Morning Post, December 11, 2022

North Korea's latest missile tests have prompted the United States and South Korea to renew their efforts to get China to rein in its ally, but according to Chinese analysts, there are limits to what Beijing can do. North Korea this year launched more missiles than ever before but China has said little beyond its boilerplate calls for dialogue and a "political solution", even after North Korea launched the new Hwasong-17 intercontinental ballistic missile last month, which Japan said could reach the continental United States. It was the 63rd ballistic missile launch this year. Despite Chinese President Xi Jinping telling North Korean leader Kim Jong-un that he was willing to work together for regional peace, Pyongyang still fired more than a hundred rounds of artillery into the sea near its border last week in response to the South's military drills with the US.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3202840/why-us-calls-china-act-over-north-korean-missiles-may-test-limits-beijings-influence>

## **PLA submarines uses adversary forces in South China Sea as practice partners**

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, December 11, 2022

Submarines of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy are using adversary forces operating in the South China Sea as practice partners, a move analysts said is a pragmatic approach that can not only enhance the boats' combat capabilities under real conditions, but also deter those hostile forces from making

provocative moves on China's doorsteps. A submarine detachment affiliated with the PLA Southern Theater Command Navy was holding an exercise in the South China Sea when an adversary warship was spotted in vicinity, and the Chinese submarine quickly switched from training mode to combat mode, China Central Television (CCTV) reported.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202212/1281609.shtml>

## **Japan's joint fighter plan with Britain and Italy 'highlights Tokyo's Taiwan concerns'**

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, December 11, 2022

Japan's partnership with Britain and Italy in building a next-generation fighter plane reflects Japan's efforts to move beyond its reliance on US defence technology and its growing concerns over Taiwan, defence analysts have said. The announcement came a few days after Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida ordered a sharp rise in defence spending to 2 per cent of gross domestic product by 2027. The country had long capped its annual defence budget at around 1 per cent of GDP. The collaboration, which Japan's defence ministry said would "contribute to global peace and stability", will merge Japan's F-X project to develop a new fighter with a similar British project. The plan is to bring the sixth-generation fighter into service by 2035.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3202838/japans-joint-fighter-plan-britain-and-italy-highlights-tokyos-taiwan-concerns>

## **New US B-21 stealth bomber heightens strike gap with China – but missiles may help close it**

Kristin Huang

South China Morning Post, December 11, 2022

America's newest stealth bomber, the B-21 Raider, will pose a challenge for China's air defence systems but the country's long-range missiles may help close the strike gap, according to analysts. America unveiled its first strategic bomber in more than three decades at an air force base in California earlier this month, after years of secret development. Seen as part of the answer to rising concerns over a possible future conflict with China, the bomber "is proof of the [defence] department's long-term commitment to building advanced capabilities that will fortify America's ability to deter aggression, today and into the future", according to US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3202714/new-us-b-21-stealth-bomber-heightens-strike-gap-china-missiles-may-help-close-it>

## **Decoupling spells an end to corporate opacity**

Rana Foroohar

Financial Times, December 12, 2022

Decoupling is everywhere. In the past week or so, we've seen multiple announcements on this front, including Apple's move to diversify production away from China's "iPhone city", a Foxconn factory town within Zhengzhou that once made 85 per cent of the company's Pro line of phones. Then there was TSMC's tripling of its investment in US domestic chipmaking, Brussels' announcement that it would offer its own subsidies to speed up local production of clean technology and the spike in Indian stocks as multinational investors looked for cheap new production sites — anywhere but China. The reasons for these shifts ranged from anti-government protests and factory disruptions in China, to national security and domestic labour concerns, to the cost of fuel or the emissions from a long transport route.

<https://www.ft.com/content/a7bccbb8-45df-4571-9798-337f8c0ebfaa>

## **Seoul, Beijing agree to seek summit in South Korea**

Jung Min-ho

The Korea Times, December 12, 2022

The foreign ministers of South Korea and China agreed to strengthen bilateral diplomatic ties, Monday, as the two countries seek to hold high-level exchanges, including a summit in Seoul, "in the new era of cooperation." According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Minister Park Jin and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi held a virtual meeting and agreed to "maintain exchange momentum" for President Yoon Suk-yeol and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping following their first summit in Bali, Indonesia, last month. The top diplomats said they will work together to honor what was agreed upon during the previous summit and to possibly hold a second one in South Korea, but did not elaborate.

[http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2022/12/113\\_341600.html](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2022/12/113_341600.html)

## **China-Arab ties open a new chapter; influence profound**

Yu Jincui, Xing Xiaojing in Riyadh and Chen Qingqing

Global Times, December 12, 2022

Chinese President Xi Jinping concluded his Saudi Arabia trip, his first to the Middle East region after the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, which was also an unprecedented diplomatic event with the Arab world. The trip has not only yielded fruitful results in economic and trade sense, but also demonstrated that in addition to continuing to play the role of a contributor to regional development, China will also increasingly contribute to peace in the strategically important Middle East, experts noted. Xi departed Riyadh after attending the first China-Arab States Summit and the China-Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Summit and paying a state visit to Saudi Arabia from December 7 to 10.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202212/1281635.shtml>

## **China looks to hypersonic ski-jump technology for space travel**

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, December 12, 2022

Chinese researchers say they have repurposed the traditional ski-jump method of launching a plane at sea for the hypersonic age, aiming to develop it for easier, safer space travel. Wang Yunpeng, an associate professor with the Chinese Academy of Sciences' Institute of Mechanics in Beijing, and his team used scaled-down versions of an orbital plane – similar to the space shuttle – and a hypersonic carrier to test the method at seven times the speed of sound. In a paper published in peer-reviewed journal *Acta Aeronautica et Astronautica Sinica* on December 8, the researchers said the results proved ski-jump technology – regarded as obsolete in modern aircraft carriers – could be adapted for orbital launches from near space.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3202975/china-develops-hypersonic-ski-jump-technology-space-travel>

## **China denounces senior Japanese official's Taiwan visit; 'irrational move to undermine stability in Straits'**

Leng Shumei

Global Times, December 12, 2022

China expressed strong dissatisfaction and firm opposition to the visit of a senior official of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to Taiwan island and his irresponsible remarks on China during the visit, which came amid Japan's recent actions to expand its military, citing the so-called China threat as an excuse. Disregarding China's solemn stance, a senior official of Japan's ruling party insisted on visiting Taiwan island of China, meeting with local leader Tsai Ing-wen and the Democratic Progressive Party authorities, and publicly made negative remarks related to China, falsely claiming that "any contingency concerning Taiwan would also be an emergency for Japan," a spokesperson of the Chinese Embassy in Japan said in a statement.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202212/1281719.shtml>

## **Indian, Chinese troops injured in Arunachal Pradesh border clash**

Nikkei Asia, December 12, 2022

Indian troops prevented their Chinese counterparts from entering Indian territory on December 9 during a border scuffle that led to injuries on both sides, India's defense minister, Rajnath Singh, told parliament. The latest faceoff occurred in the Tawang sector of India's northeastern Himalayan state of Arunachal Pradesh, which borders China's south. Indian troops suffered no fatality or serious injuries, Singh said. "PLA troops attempted to unilaterally change the status quo by encroaching on the Line of Actual Control, in the Yangtse area of Tawang sector," Singh said, referring to the People's Liberation Army.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/Indian-Chinese-troops-injured-in-Arunachal-Pradesh-border-clash>

## **South Korea urges China to support dialogue with North Korea - S.Korea ministry**

Reuters, December 12, 2022

South Korea's foreign minister told his Chinese counterpart on Monday the country expects China to actively support South Korea's efforts for dialogue with North Korea, South Korea's foreign ministry said. China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi told South Korean Foreign Minister Park Jin in a video conference call that China will play a constructive role in the Korean peninsula issue, a ministry statement said. During the call, Park expressed concern about North Korea's actions including a record number of ballistic missile launches this year, adding North Korea must refrain from further provocations such as potential nuclear tests and engage in dialogue, the ministry added.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/south-korea-urges-china-support-dialogue-with-north-korea-skorea-ministry-2022-12-12/>

## **US succeeds in hypersonic missile test launch, technology China has long mastered**

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, December 13, 2022

After a series of failures, the US Air Force announced that it has finally succeeded in the test launch of its air-launched hypersonic missile, a technology China has long mastered and even put on public display at a recent air show. The US' scheme is to use the hypersonic missile and the recently revealed B-21 stealth bomber to penetrate China's air defense, but the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) has what it takes to defend the country, experts said. A full prototype of the Air-launched Rapid Response Weapon, also known as the AGM-183A missile, was launched from a B-52 bomber off the coast of California, and all of the objectives of the test were met, CNN reported, citing a statement from the US Air Force.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202212/1281763.shtml>

## **China hits back at US chip sanctions with WTO dispute**

Edward White, Demetri Sevastopulo and Eleanor Olcott

Financial Times, December 13, 2022

China has hit back against sweeping US export controls on chips, filing a dispute with the World Trade Organization and escalating the tech war between the two countries. China's commerce ministry said on Monday its WTO complaint was a legal and necessary measure to defend its "legitimate rights and interests", after the US Department of Commerce introduced the restrictions in early October to make it harder for China to buy or develop advanced semiconductors. "At a minimum, the case is about China pushing back on how it's perceived as an unfair actor in the global trading world," said Ben Kostrzewa, an expert on US-China trade relations at Hogan Lovells.

<https://www.ft.com/content/4eaedee4-5267-4e3a-b9da-5d2bb6f356ee>

## **China urges India to restrain frontline troops, work together to maintain border peace**

Global Times, December 13, 2022

Chinese border troops were on a routine patrol on the Chinese side of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) on an eastern section of the China-India border when Indian troops illegally crossed the line and blocked the Chinese forces, the spokesperson of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Western Theater Command announced. Faced with the trespass, the PLA dealt with the situation with professional, standard and powerful measures and stabilized the situation, said Senior Colonel Long Shaohua, spokesperson of the PLA Western Theater Command, in a statement released on its official WeChat.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202212/1281761.shtml>

## **China's BeiDou outpaces GPS to become top navigation service provider**

Global Times, December 14, 2022

China's BeiDou Navigation Satellite System (BDS) has become the top guidance service provider for domestic Gaode Map, according to a statement released by the Beijing Institute of Space Science and Technology Information. Based on the average number of satellites called by domestic navigation apps for each positioning, BeiDou satellites have been called the most, 30 percent more than the second-ranked GPS, the China Media Group (CMG) reported. Gaode Map has used BeiDou satellites to make more than 210 billion positioning calls each day. The combination of BDS and map navigation is providing better services to the public, read the statement. Map apps users can check the number of BeiDou satellites currently offering service in real time during navigation, including each one's code, azimuth angle, height angle, frequency, signal strength and other factors.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202212/1281885.shtml>

## **Chinese envoy blames Korean media for China-bashing**

Jung Min-ho

The Korea Times, December 14, 2022

Chinese Ambassador to Korea Xing Haiming blamed the Korean media for creating anti-China sentiment among the Korean public, claiming that some media outlets are using China coverage as click bait. The Chinese envoy's remarks show that there is a striking gap between Korea and China in their perceptions of the reason behind the growing anti-China sentiment in Korea as Koreans believe Beijing's retaliatory measures following the deployment of the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense system (THAAD) has been at the center of Koreans' negative perceptions of China.

[http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2022/12/113\\_341737.html](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2022/12/113_341737.html)

## **Chang'e-5 samples suggest exploitable water resources on the moon**

Global Times, December 14, 2022

By studying lunar samples retrieved by the Chang'e-5 mission, Chinese scientists found that lunar soil grains retain more solar wind-implanted water at the middle latitude region than previously thought. Based on this finding, the scientists predict that there is a large amount of water resources available for utilization at the high latitude region of the moon. Scientists had previously discovered the presence of surficial water on the moon. They believed that solar wind implantation, volcanic outgassing, and asteroid/comet impacts are likely to be important sources of surficial water on the moon.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202212/1281807.shtml>

## **Export controls hit China's access to Arm's leading-edge chip designs**

Qianer Liu, Anna Gross and Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, December 14, 2022

Alibaba, the Chinese tech giant, cannot buy some of the most advanced chip designs after Arm determined that the US and UK would not approve licences to export the technology to China. The British company concluded that the US and UK would not approve the sale of its latest Neoverse V series because the performance was too high, according to people with knowledge of the sales process. The move impacts Alibaba's T-Head chip unit and other Chinese groups. It is the first known time that Arm, owned by Japanese tech investor SoftBank, has decided it could not export its most cutting-edge designs to China. Neoverse V falls under Wassenaar — a multilateral arrangement involving 42 nations designed to stop dual-use technology from being diverted for military use — but Arm would need US and UK export licences to sell the technology.

<https://www.ft.com/content/257b39c4-f146-41ae-af75-dfea955ff462>

## **India-China border skirmish signals volatile 'new normal'**

Kiran Sharma

Nikkei Asia, December 14, 2022

The latest clash between Indian and Chinese troops along their disputed Himalayan border underscores the precarious nature of efforts to de-escalate tensions between the nuclear-armed Asian giants, analysts say, warning of the danger of more flare-ups. Troops from the two sides faced off in Tawang, in India's northeastern state of Arunachal Pradesh, which China claims as part of Tibet despite strong objections from New Delhi. It was the first known major clash along the 3,500-kilometer LAC since hand-to-hand combat erupted in mid-2020 in the Galwan Valley in eastern Ladakh. That confrontation left 20 Indian and four Chinese soldiers dead, making it the first deadly battle between the neighbors in 45 years. They had fought a war in 1962 over the undemarcated boundary.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/India-China-border-skirmish-signals-volatile-new-normal>



## **China ‘deeply shocked’ at Kabul hotel attack injuring five Chinese nationals, firmly opposes any terrorism**

Global Times, December 14, 2022

China felt deeply shocked about the attack on a hotel in Afghanistan’s capital Kabul that wounded five Chinese nationals, and expressed strong opposition against any forms of terrorism. China has asked the Afghan authorities to make all-out efforts to search for and rescue Chinese nationals and punish the perpetrators, Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Wang Wenbin said at press briefing, after the extremist militant group Islamic State (IS) claimed responsibility for the terror attack.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202212/1281784.shtml>

## **U.S. blacklists China chipmaker YMTC, AI champion Cambricon, others**

Cheng Ting-Fang

Nikkei Asia, December 15, 2022

Yangtze Memory Technologies Co. is among 36 Chinese companies and research organizations added to a U.S. trade blacklist, a move that ratchets up tension over tech competition between the Biden administration and Beijing. The U.S. Commerce Department's decision to expand the so-called Entity List effective December 16 further curbs China's access to American technologies and components. Some top Chinese companies such as Huawei and its top chipmaker Semiconductor Manufacturing International Co. were already on the trade blacklist. In addition to YMTC -- China's top memory chip producer -- new additions to the list include Shanghai Micro Electronics Equipment (Group) Co., which represents the country's effort to build a local version of leading lithography chipmaking equipment maker ASML of the Netherlands.

<https://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:wBm8NA5aFf4J:https://asia.nikkei.com/Economy/Trade-war/U.S.-blacklists-China-chipmaker-YMTC-AI-champion-Cambricon-others&cd=3&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=in>

## **Stronger Taiwan air force hangars seen to be no match for Chinese military’s new ballistic missiles**

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, December 15, 2022

Taiwan’s plans to build stronger hangars for its fighter jets may be in vain, as the Chinese military has developed short-range guided missiles capable of piercing any reinforced aircraft base, experts said. “[Mainland] China’s ballistic missiles and multiple launch rocket system (MLRS) now use the BeiDou satellite navigation and terminal infrared image guidance systems, enabling them to hit any reinforced aircraft hangar and penetrate it precisely,” said Andrei Chang, editor-in-chief of Canada-based military

magazine Kanwa Asian Defence. Chang cited a promotional video for the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) export version M20, also called the DF-12 surface-to-surface short-range tactical missile, to explain his point. He said the four-tonne (8,820 pounds) Dongfeng (DF) missile could be armed with "fuel-air warheads", which use oxygen from the surrounding air to generate a high-temperature explosion to completely destroy targets.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3203323/stronger-taiwan-air-force-hangars-seen-be-no-match-chinese-militarys-new-ballistic-missiles>

## **China enlists European satellite for information campaign in Africa**

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, December 15, 2022

China plans to buy the services of a European satellite to directly broadcast content from its state-owned television network to Africa, according to engineers involved in the project. The intention is to send high-definition TV signals from a ground station in China's western Xinjiang region to E7C, a US-made communications satellite owned by Paris-based company Eutelsat. These will be relayed to tens of millions of users in sub-Saharan Africa, according to a paper published by Chinese journal Radio and Television Information on December 6

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3203398/china-enlists-european-satellite-information-campaign-africa>

## **Type 055 large destroyer leads PLA warships in island chain-breaking voyage**

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, December 15, 2022

Led by a 10,000 ton-class large destroyer, a group of warships of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy reportedly sailed beyond the first island chain via two strategically important straits near Japan, a routine exercise experts said, sent a signal amid Japan's recent militaristic moves, including updates to its national security strategies with the plan to increase military spending and referring to China as a "strategic challenge." Japan's Maritime Self-Defense Force spotted a PLA Navy flotilla consisting of the Type 055 large destroyer Lhasa, the Type 052D destroyer Kaifeng and the Type 903A replenishment ship Taihu sailing from the East China Sea through the Osumi Strait into the West Pacific and a PLA Navy electronic reconnaissance vessel with hull number 796 sailing from the East China Sea through the Miyako Strait into the West Pacific, Japan's Ministry of Defense Joint Staff said in two press releases.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202212/1281942.shtml>

## **US to add Chinese chipmaker to trade blacklist**

Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, December 15, 2022

The Biden administration is set to put chipmaker Yangtze Memory Technologies on a trade blacklist, in the latest US effort to target Chinese technology companies that it believes threaten its security. The US commerce department will place YMTC and other Chinese companies on its "entity list" as early as this week, according to three people familiar with the plan. US groups are barred from selling technology to companies on the list unless they have a hard-to-obtain export licence. The move comes two months after the US unveiled harsh export controls that made it more difficult for China to acquire and produce cutting-edge semiconductors.

<https://www.ft.com/content/7aabf066-1cc7-4eee-a963-f863bdbbb08c>

## **China urges UK to stop political manipulation, saying consul general's return 'a normal rotation'**

Global Times, December 15, 2022

China strongly urges the UK to honor its obligations under relevant international laws and bilateral consular agreements, to immediately stop political manipulation, and take credible measures to enable the normal performance of Chinese diplomatic and consular missions in the UK, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Wang Wenbin said. Otherwise, China will respond with resolute, strong and reciprocal countermeasures, Wang said. "What happened at the Chinese Consulate-General on October 16 was very clear. The protesters made provocations first. They deliberately harassed and entered illegally into China's Consulate-General in Manchester, and violently assaulted the consulate staff," Wang said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202212/1281929.shtml>

## **Why is China building 1,500 nuclear warheads by 2035?**

WION, December 15, 2022

In the year 2020, China had an estimated 200 nuclear warheads in its arsenal. But in just the last two years, the dragon is said to have doubled the number of nuclear warheads that it can deploy in the event of a nuclear conflict. But China's nuclear ambitions don't end here. According to the recently released Pentagon report titled: China's Military Power, by 2027 China is expected to scale up its nuclear arsenal to 700 warheads. And by 2035, Beijing will have a minimum of 1500 nuclear warheads that it can deploy. To be clear, even with 1500 nuclear warheads, China will still have only about a third of the nuclear weapons that the United States and Russia currently have in their arsenal.

<https://www.wionews.com/opinions-blogs/why-is-china-building-1500-nuclear-warheads-by-2035-543465>

## **China-India tensions simmer after missile test, troop border brawl**

Kawala Xie

South China Morning Post, December 16, 2022

China is hopeful tensions with India can be eased, but will remain cautious after New Delhi's latest missile test and a troop brawl at a disputed border point, analysts said. India said it successfully conducted another test of its Agni-5 missile, a nuclear-capable intercontinental ballistic missile. It is believed to have a range of more than 5,000km (3,100 miles), which according to Indian reports, puts almost all of China within its reach. The Agni-5 is seen by many as Delhi's attempt to strengthen its nuclear deterrence against China. India's Ministry of Defence said the test built on "credible minimum deterrence" that underpinned the state's commitment to its "no first use" nuclear policy, according to Indian news agency ANI, citing defence sources.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3203621/china-india-tensions-simmer-after-missile-test-troop-border-brawl>

## **U.S. gains full access to audits of Chinese companies in breakthrough**

Nikkei Asia, December 16, 2022

The U.S. Public Company Accounting Oversight Board said it has determined that it has gotten full access to inspect and investigate firms in China for the first time ever. The announcement from the U.S. accounting watchdog removes the risk that around 200 Chinese companies, including Alibaba, could be kicked off U.S. stock exchanges. "For the first time in history, we are able to perform full and thorough inspections and investigations to root out potential problems and hold firms accountable to fix them," said PCAOB Chair Erica Williams.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/US-China-tensions/U.S.-gains-full-access-to-audits-of-Chinese-companies-in-breakthrough>

## **China launches one more space experiment satellite**

Global Times, December 16, 2022

China launched a Long March-11 rocket, placing a satellite in space. The rocket blasted off from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in southwest China and sent the satellite Shiyang-21 into preset orbit. Shiyang means "experiment" in Chinese. The newly launched Shiyang satellite will be used for in-orbit verification of new space technologies. It was the 456th flight mission of the Long March series rockets, said the launch center.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202212/1282027.shtml>

## **China has no interest in being ‘world’s policeman’, ex-PLA colonel tells Europe**

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, December 17, 2022

A retired senior Chinese colonel has sought to ease European concerns over China’s expanding overseas military presence, telling a Chatham House workshop in London that Beijing has no interest in acting as a “world’s policeman”. Nor would China demand that Europe take sides in the fierce competition between Beijing and Washington, said Zhou Bo, now a senior fellow at Tsinghua University’s Centre for International Security and Strategy (CISS). Zhou told experts from the independent international affairs think tank that the PLA’s goal is to build a strong army that would focus on overseas humanitarian operations.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3203570/china-has-no-interest-being-worlds-policeman-ex-pla-colonel-tells-europe>

## **Taiwan to fine Apple supplier Foxconn over China chip investment**

Nikkei Asia, December 18, 2022

Taiwan's government said it would fine Foxconn, the world's largest contract electronics maker, for an unauthorized investment in a Chinese chipmaker even after the Taiwanese company said it would be selling the stake. Taiwan has turned a wary eye on China's ambition to boost its semiconductor industry and is tightening legislation to prevent what it says is China stealing its chip technology. Foxconn, a major Apple supplier and iPhone maker, disclosed in July it was a shareholder of embattled Chinese chip conglomerate Tsinghua Unigroup.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Supply-Chain/Taiwan-to-fine-Apple-supplier-Foxconn-over-China-chip-investment>

## **US-China conflict to watch is the Chip War - which centers on Taiwan**

Trudy Rubin

The Korea Times, December 18, 2022

Most Americans are unaware that the United States is already fighting a war with China that involves Taiwan. This war isn't yet being fought with weapons. Instead, it is a battle to control the world's most critical technology: the design and production of microchips — on which virtually everything in our modern world depends. The United States used to be the global leader in designing and building the fastest chips, but its edge is slipping. China is investing billions in chip production for civilian and military uses in order to surpass us, while the Biden administration is moving to block Beijing's efforts.

[http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2022/12/113\\_341707.html](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2022/12/113_341707.html)

## **Australia eyes B-21 to contain China, but will US sell its most advanced stealth bomber?**

Kristin Huang

South China Morning Post, December 19, 2022

America's newest stealth bomber, the B-21 Raider, was unveiled at an air force base in California this month after years of secret development. While the planes have yet to enter service, defence analysts are already debating whether Australia should – or could – buy the cutting-edge bombers in an attempt to contain China's growing military presence in the Indo-Pacific. Speculation about Australia's B-21 ambitions has grown since Australian Defence Minister Richard Marles acknowledged in August that Canberra was examining the possibility of buying a fleet of the bombers as part of the government's defence strategic review, which will provide recommendations on military spending priorities for the next decade and beyond.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3203773/australia-eyes-b-21-contain-china-will-us-sell-its-most-advanced-stealth-bomber>

## **China-Australia diplomatic thaw accelerates with announcement of Beijing visit**

Nic Fildes

Financial Times, December 19, 2022

The thaw in relations between Australia and China has accelerated after Canberra's foreign minister confirmed she would travel to Beijing to resume bilateral talks that last took place four years ago. Penny Wong, Australia's foreign minister, will visit the Chinese capital after being invited by her counterpart Wang Yi to participate in the sixth Australia–China Foreign and Strategic Dialogue. The last round of talks occurred in 2018 prior to the emergence of geopolitical tension between the two countries that culminated in punitive sanctions being placed on Australian imports, including wine and coal.

<https://www.ft.com/content/d7e1d328-d24a-4cb4-97a1-68b78f3feb8c#post-bda44c54-c368-45d8-91bf-f0744c796b6b>

## **U.S. sees China as economic bully, seeks united front with allies**

Rintaro Tobita

Nikkei Asia, December 19, 2022

The U.S. will align with allies such as Japan and the European Union in seeking ways to counter China as Beijing increasingly flexes its economic muscle against other countries in foreign relations. Against Australia, China has hiked tariffs or restricted imports involving wine, coal and other products after bilateral

relations soured, partly due to Canberra leading calls for an international investigation into the origins of COVID-19. Beijing also restricted imports from Lithuania after the Baltic country bolstered ties with Taiwan. Years ago, China had stopped shipments of rare earth minerals to Japan.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/US-China-tensions/U.S.-sees-China-as-economic-bully-seeks-united-front-with-allies>

## **China's Liaoning carrier strike group makes show of force in western Pacific**

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, December 19, 2022

China's first aircraft carrier, the Liaoning, is leading the navy's most powerful strike group to the western Pacific Ocean for a major year-end naval drill. Japan's Maritime Self-Defence Force (MSDF) said that the Liaoning was escorted by three of the country's most powerful destroyers and two other vessels. Chinese defence experts said the departure indicated the People's Liberation Army remained combat ready despite a surge in coronavirus cases throughout the country.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3203740/chinas-liaoning-carrier-strike-group-makes-show-force-western-pacific>

## **Chinese vessel sails through territorial strait for international navigation rather than entering Japan's territorial waters: expert**

Global Times, December 19, 2022

A Chinese Navy survey ship sailed through the Tokara Strait, a strait for free international navigation, rather than Japan's territorial waters, the Global Times learned after Japan had accused the Chinese vessel of entering its territorial waters. Japan's Ministry of Defense said that "it was confirmed that a Chinese Navy Shupang-class survey ship sailed through Japan's territorial waters." Japan's Defense Ministry spotted the survey ship's navigation route, saying Japan's Maritime Self-Defense Forces were on high alert and were monitoring the vessel.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202212/1282213.shtml>

## **Is China's W-15 engine to power J-20 stealth fighter jet nearing completion?**

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, December 19, 2022

A top adviser to China's aircraft engine design programme appears to have unwittingly revealed that the WS-15 – specifically designed to support the PLA Air Force's most advanced stealth fighter, the J-20 –

completed its maiden flight this year. It is unclear if the engine was tested on a J-20 Mighty Dragon but defence experts said that while the news hinted the powerful engine was nearing completion, it was too early to predict when it would be put into service.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3203866/chinas-w-15-engine-power-j-20-stealth-fighter-jet-nearing-completion>

## **China should focus on emerging world as US tensions rise, delegate to top Beijing advisory body says**

Kawala Xie

South China Morning Post, December 19, 2022

Beijing should focus on emerging nations as tensions with Washington intensify, a senior expert on US-China relations has advised, while underlining the importance of managing differences between the two rival powers. US-China ties represent the most important bilateral relations in the world, said Huang Ping, a member of China's top political advisory body. However, uncertainty and risks were on the rise with the relationship at its "worst" level in 50 years, he warned, with the US labelling a rising China as a "systemic challenge" to its global dominance.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3203901/china-should-focus-emerging-world-us-tensions-rise-delegate-top-beijing-advisory-body-says>

## **Korea launches probe into China's secret police station**

Jung Min-ho

The Korea Times, December 20, 2022

Korea has launched an investigation into the allegations that the Chinese government is operating a "secret police station" here to monitor and terrorize Chinese nationals as part of Beijing's effort to keep them under its influence. The move comes as several other countries, including the United States, Canada and the Netherlands, are conducting similar investigations after a human rights organization in Spain issued a detailed report accusing the Chinese government of running more than 100 overseas police stations in 53 countries, including Korea. Government sources told reporters that the investigation has begun to establish the full facts.

[https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2022/12/113\\_342094.html](https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2022/12/113_342094.html)



## **China calls on US to lift Iran sanctions to revive nuclear talks**

Laura Zhou

South China Morning Post, December 20, 2022

China has urged the United States to lift sanctions on Iran and stop threatening Tehran to revive stalled negotiations on the 2015 nuclear deal. Geng Shuang, China's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, also told a Security Council session that a new resolution passed by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to press Iran to cooperate would do nothing but "escalate conflict, undermine trust and cast a shadow over the negotiations". "All parties should look at the long-term and overall situation and avoid any move that could escalate the situation and undermine the negotiation process," Geng said, according to China News Service.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3203962/china-calls-us-lift-iran-sanctions-revive-nuclear-talks>

*Sylloge on China is compiled by Mr. Niranjan C. Oak with inputs  
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