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SYLLOGE ON CHINA

Focus: Nuclear, Space, Missiles and other Security Issues

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INDIAN PUGWASH SOCIETY

Wariness of China-Russia Nuclear Cooperation: China May Accelerate Its Nuclear Arms Expansion

Yuki Kobayashi

Sasakawa Peace Foundation, May 31, 2023

Russia's providing China with a significant amount of highly enriched uranium has created a stir in the international community, with the U.S. Congress demanding that the Biden administration take countermeasures. This is because this may help China accelerate its nuclear arms expansion.

<https://www.spf.org/japan-us-alliance-study/en/article/document-detail005.html>

Shangri-La Dialogue: why the US and Chinese defence ministers should meet – and what stands in their way

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, June 1, 2023

When the Shangri-La Dialogue gets under way in Singapore on Friday it will bring a much needed opportunity for the military top brass of both China and the US to shake hands and add some personal warmth to their frosty relations. But that opportunity – or even just a chance encounter in the corridors of the plush Shangri-La Hotel – could be lost as the two sides still fail to see eye to eye on almost every issue in their strained relationship.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3222445/shangri-la-dialogue-why-us-and-chinese-defence-ministers-should-meet-and-what-stands-their-way>

Chinese defense minister begins Singapore visit by enhancing ASEAN-China defense cooperation

Li Aixin, Guo Yuandan and Chen Qingqing

Global Times, June 1, 2023

Chinese State Councillor and Minister of National Defence Li Shangfu began his visit to Singapore and met Singapore Defence Minister Ng Eng Hen ahead of the 20th IISS Shangri-La Dialogue, laying the groundwork for setting up a hotline between the two countries with the aim of strengthening mutual understanding and trust while enhancing the ASEAN-China defence cooperation.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202306/1291796.shtml>

The Unknowns About China's Nuclear Modernization Program

Fiona S. Cunningham

Arms Control Association, June 1, 2023

Policymakers and scholars outside of China do not know why Beijing is rapidly modernizing its nuclear arsenal. This uncertainty makes it more difficult for the United States and allied governments in the Indo-Pacific region and Europe to make informed choices about deterring China from the use of conventional or nuclear force and avoiding policies that exacerbate nuclear dangers.

<https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2023-06/features/unknowns-about-chinas-nuclear-modernization-program>

Musk concludes 44-hour intensive visit to China

Qi Xijia

Global Times, June 1, 2023

Tesla CEO Elon Musk departed from Shanghai, wrapping up a 44-hour intensive trip to China that included meetings with senior Chinese officials and business representatives, and a tour of the Shanghai factory. Musk's trip to China showed US businesses' firm confidence in the Chinese market despite "decoupling" noises from some Western politicians.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202306/1291795.shtml>

US defence chief warns incidents with China's military could 'spiral out of control'

Kana Inagaki and Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, June 1, 2023

US defence secretary Lloyd Austin has called on Beijing to resume bilateral security talks, warning that incidents could "spiral out of control" if China's military continues to take provocative action in international waters and airspace. At a news conference in Tokyo, Austin said it was "unfortunate" that Beijing declined the Pentagon's request for him to meet China's defence minister Li Shangfu at a security forum in Singapore this week.

<https://www.ft.com/content/c1a6f1fb-13f0-4104-9f43-156c4e31abea>

China defence chief's hard line on Taiwan 'a message for the region'

Jack Lau and Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, June 2, 2023

China's defence chief General Li Shangfu has told his Singaporean counterpart the PLA will "absolutely not" renounce the use of force on Taiwan, in what experts said was a warning not only to Washington but also to regional powers. In a meeting with Singapore's defence chief Ng Eng Hen, Li said Beijing would not tolerate the self-ruled island's Democratic Progressive Party seeking support from other countries for Taiwanese independence, according to Chinese defence ministry spokesman Senior Colonel Tan Kefei.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3222659/chinese-defence-minister-says-beijing-will-absolutely-not-renounce-use-force-against-taiwan>

Can a nuclear war start with the unease felt by China?

Kazi Anwarul Masud

Indian Defence Review, June 2, 2023

By contrast, China favors a more West phalian conception of order, one where state sovereignty and non-interference are paramount and liberal notions of individual rights are downplayed if not entirely dismissed. This vision is no less "rules-based" than the United States. China is also a vocal defender of multilateralism, even if its actual behavior sometimes violates existing multilateral norms.

<http://www.indiandefencereview.com/can-a-nuclear-war-start-with-the-unease-felt-by-china/>

WSJ report on China's peace plan completely false, aimed at disrupting China-Ukraine ties: special envoy

Fan Anqi

Global Times, June 2, 2023

Refuting a Wall Street Journal report claiming that China's peace plan carries the message that Beijing recognizes Russia's possession of parts of Ukraine, China's Special Representative for Eurasian Affairs Li Hui slammed the report as not only completely contradicting the facts, but also appearing to be aimed at disrupting China-Ukraine relations.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202306/1291856.shtml>

Fearing 3-way arms race, U.S. seeks nuclear talks with Russia and China

TIME, June 2, 2023

In an overture designed to reverse years of stalled diplomacy, the Biden Administration sought to rekindle nuclear arms-control negotiations with Russia and China without preconditions. White House National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan said the U.S. wants to establish a framework for nuclear arms reduction before the last remaining arms-control treaty between the U.S. and Russia expires.

<https://time.com/6284556/nuclear-weapons-talks-us-russia-china/>

China has tamed the world's most powerful explosive, military scientists say

Stephen Chen

South China Morning Post, June 2, 2023

A Chinese research team said they have significantly improved the safety of the world's most powerful explosive by engineering a five-fold boost to its shock resistance capacity. The breakthrough could speed up the large-scale application of the explosive in battle, making Chinese weapons far superior in terms of destructive power, according to the scientists. CL-20 is the most deadly non-nuclear explosive in existence. When detonated, it can produce destructive shock waves with blast pressures many times higher than other common explosives like TNT and RDX.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3222649/china-has-tamed-worlds-most-powerful-explosive-military-scientists-say>

'One of a kind' mainland-Macao satellite a result of intl collaboration: chief scientist

Fan Anqi

Global Times, June 2, 2023

The "Macao Science 1" satellite that the Chinese mainland and Macao co-developed was "one of a kind" featuring great uniqueness and innovation. It is a result of international collaboration by leading scientists from around the world and has in turn attracted many Western institutes to join the work, Zhang Keke, chief scientist of the "Macao Science 1" satellite, told the Global Times in an exclusive interview.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202306/1291822.shtml>

CIA chief made secret trip to China in bid to thaw relations

Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, June 2, 2023

CIA director Bill Burns travelled to China last month, a clandestine visit by one of President Joe Biden's most trusted officials that signals how concerned the White House had become about deteriorating relations between Beijing and Washington. Five people familiar with the situation said Burns, a former top diplomat who is frequently entrusted with delicate overseas missions, travelled to China for talks with officials. Another person stressed that Burns did not have any diplomatic engagements, and only met intelligence officials.

<https://www.ft.com/content/5fdfed4f-7270-455f-ac33-fedbef887423>

Chinese defense minister to meet Japanese counterpart in Singapore

Ken Moriyasu

Nikkei Asia, June 2, 2023

Japanese Defense Minister Yasukazu Hamada will hold a meeting with Chinese counterpart Li Shangfu in Singapore, Tokyo announced. This will be the first time for Li, who became minister in March, to meet Hamada. Li declined a meeting with U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin during the Singapore event. His decision to meet Hamada signals a different approach to Japan.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Defense/Chinese-defense-minister-to-meet-Japanese-counterpart-in-Singapore>

Chinese computer maker Powerleader says its CPU was developed 'with the support of Intel'

Lilian Zhang

South China Morning Post, June 2, 2023

Shenzhen-based computer maker Powerleader, which was suspected by hardware testing websites of rebadging one of Intel's older microprocessors as its own, said its central processing unit (CPU) was developed "with the support of Intel".

The Chinese company's Powerstar P3-01105 CPUs were found to be identical to Intel's Core i3-10105 Comet Lake CPU, according to a recent report published by online tech news site Tom's Hardware, citing results of a CPU benchmark test conducted by Geekbench on May 26.

https://www.scmp.com/tech/tech-trends/article/3222742/chinese-computer-maker-powerleader-says-its-cpu-was-developed-support-intel?module=perpetual_scroll_0&pgtype=article&campaign=3222742

US and China in the same room but worlds apart on Taiwan, South China Sea

Minnie Chan and Jack Lau

South China Morning Post, June 3, 2023

Beijing and Washington seemed as far apart as ever as US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin renewed his country's commitment to defend the Taiwan Strait against "bullying and coercion" while a senior Chinese official accused Austin of making "false accusations". The terse exchanges at the Shangri-La Dialogue all but eliminated any hopes of a meeting between Austin and his Chinese counterpart, Li Shangfu, who had bilateral talks with his counterparts from Malaysia, Germany, Britain, Australia, Japan and South Korea on the sidelines of the forum.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3222854/shangri-la-dialogue-us-and-china-same-room-worlds-apart-taiwan-south-china-sea>

China's security vision much anticipated at key defence summit

Li Aixin

Global Times, June 3, 2023

Amid the hustle and bustle, the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) delegation has attracted much attention, especially with the debut attendance of Chinese State Councilor and Minister of National Defense Li Shangfu at the Shangri-La Dialogue. Li's attendance at the Shangri-La Dialogue will be vital to expound China's vision on global and regional stability. China-proposed Global Security Initiative (GSI) for common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security is crucial to addressing regional and global security challenges aggravated by unilateralism and confrontations, experts said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202306/1291865.shtml>

U.S. Vows to Continue Patrols Near China and Urges Nuclear Talks

Chris Buckley, Damien Cave and David Pierson

The New York Times, June 3, 2023

The United States pressed Beijing on two fronts this weekend, warning both of the near-term risks of military mishaps and of the looming dangers of a nuclear arms rivalry, prompting a vehement accusation from a Chinese general that Washington was stoking confrontation. In speeches from President Biden's national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, and Defense Secretary Lloyd J. Austin III in Singapore, the Biden administration sought to draw China toward talks on the rising military perils.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/06/03/world/asia/china-us-tensions-singapore.html>

Shangri-La Dialogue: India no threat to China's military, PLA delegation says

Minnie Chan and Jack Lau

South China Morning Post, June 4, 2023

India will not pose a security threat to China because it is still incapable of challenging Beijing in defence manufacturing and modernisation of its military, said Chinese military delegates to Asia's premier security forum. Speaking to media on the sidelines of the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore, the People's Liberation Army (PLA) delegates said India was still a long way from catching up to China's military, especially in the defence industry.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3222917/shangri-la-dialogue-india-no-threat-chinas-military-pla-delegation-says>

China rebukes west over military moves after close call in Taiwan Strait

Kathrin Hille and Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, June 4, 2023

China has warned western militaries to stay out of waters and airspace near its borders if they want to avoid dangerous run-ins with the People's Liberation Army, highlighting the growing risk of unintended conflict in Asia as geopolitical competition grows. The blunt message from General Li Shangfu, China's new defence minister, followed a near-collision between a Chinese warship and a US destroyer in international waters.

<https://www.ft.com/content/d0309449-553c-4a01-9a82-92a8db22f86a>

Chinese scientists finish development of hypervelocity wind tunnel

Global Times, June 4, 2023

China's world-leading hypervelocity wind tunnel, which is expected to significantly contribute to the country's development of aerospace transport systems and hypersonic aircraft, recently passed an acceptance check, marking the success of the project. The National Natural Science Foundation of China organized an acceptance check meeting about the JF-22 hypervelocity wind tunnel at the Institute of Mechanics of the Chinese Academy of Science in Beijing, the institute said in a press release.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202306/1291903.shtml>

Ties with Japan are not all about islands: China's defense minister

Tsubasa Suruga

Nikkei Asia, June 4, 2023

Japanese and Chinese defense ministers met on the sidelines of the Shangri-La Dialogue security summit in Singapore, where both sides aligned on the importance of maintaining "frank discussions" despite regional challenges in the East and South China seas between the two countries.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Defense/Ties-with-Japan-are-not-all-about-islands-China-s-defense-minister>

Japan's new semiconductor tool export restrictions throw a major spanner in works of China's chip plans

Che Pan

South China Morning Post, June 4, 2023

Japan's new export restrictions on 23 types of chip-related equipment and materials, which will come into effect in July, are set to disrupt China's semiconductor self-sufficiency plan as the specific items are highly selective and targeted, according to industry insiders. The measures require specific permission for the export of 23 types of items to any country not on a list of 42 "friendly" markets, according to the insiders and a list seen by the Post. For China, it would be a de facto ban, similar to US export curbs announced in October 2022, dealing a heavy blow to Beijing's push for greater self-sufficiency in chips.

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/tech-war/article/3222814/tech-war-japans-new-semiconductor-tool-export-restrictions-throw-major-spanner-works-chinas-chip>

Shenzhou-15 crew safely returns to Earth

Global Times, June 4, 2023

Having spent six months living and working in the China Space Station, setting a new record for China's manned space program with four spacewalks by a single crew, the three Shenzhou-15 taikonauts, known as the "dream crew," safely returned to the Dongfeng landing site in the Gobi Desert, North China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region and then arrived at Beijing.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202306/1291886.shtml>

From ‘decouple’ to ‘de-risk’ – is there any difference in the US’ China strategy?

Kawala Xie

South China Morning Post, June 4, 2023

The word started gaining currency in March when European Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen used it to address the EU’s long-standing concerns over national security and trade with China. Now the United States appears to have adopted it, with Washington and its allies opting for it in a show of unity on their China strategy at the Group of Seven summit in Japan last month. “De-risking” – rather than “decoupling” – is now the preferred US word for its approach to relations with China, a seemingly milder concept that could suggest softening in efforts to curb Beijing’s hi-tech development.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3222885/decouple-de-risk-there-any-difference-us-china-strategy>

China defence chief Li Shangfu made strong debut at Shangri-La Dialogue but one key meeting got away, analysts say

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, June 5, 2023

Chinese Defence Minister General Li Shangfu first came to international attention in 2018, when he was sanctioned by Washington for his alleged role in the transfer of Russian Su-35 fighter jets and S-400 air defence missile systems to China. But the world did not hear him speak publicly until his debut speech to Asia’s premier security forum, the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3222956/china-defence-chiefs-strong-debut-shangri-la-dialogue-needed-serious-us-meet-analysts>

Why China Supports the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone

Hoang Thi Ha

ISEAS Yusof Ishak institute, June 5, 2023

Since 1999, China has expressed its readiness to sign the Protocol and is the only NWS willing to do so without reservations, though on the condition that the Treaty and Protocol shall not affect its territories and relevant maritime zones. China adopts a favourable approach towards SEANWFZ because the Treaty fits

in with its national security strategy and self-defensive nuclear doctrine, which includes the unconditional No First Use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon states.

<https://www.iseas.edu.sg/articles-commentaries/iseas-perspective/2023-45-why-china-supports-the-southeast-asia-nuclear-weapon-free-zone-by-hoang-thi-ha/>

Kazatomprom completes second China shipment, announces management changes

World Nuclear News, June 5, 2023

The heads of Kazatomprom and CGNPC-URC said the companies plan to further develop and strengthen their partnership as they marked the completion of the second delivery of fuel assemblies manufactured by the Kazakh-Chinese Ulba-FA enterprise to a nuclear power plant in China. Separately, Kazatomprom has announced the latest in a series of changes in its senior management.

<https://world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Kazatomprom-completes-second-China-shipment,-annou>

Nvidia chief Huang returns to US after Taiwan trip, avoiding mainland China despite reports that trip was planned

Lilian Zhang

South China Morning Post, June 5, 2023

Nvidia's billionaire founder and chief executive Jensen Huang Jen-hsun has left Taiwan to return to the United States, skipping a reported planned trip to mainland China, according to media reports. Nvidia, the world's most valuable chip maker, has never confirmed or published any information about Huang's planned trip to mainland China. The company did not immediately respond to a request for comment by the Post.

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/big-tech/article/3223017/nvidia-chief-huang-returns-us-after-taiwan-trip-avoiding-mainland-china-despite-reports-trip-was>

US says recent 'intercepts' show growing aggressiveness by China's military

Felicia Schwartz

Financial Times, June 6, 2023

The US says China has stepped up aggressive behaviour in the Taiwan Strait and South China Sea, including two "dangerous, unsafe, unprofessional intercepts" conducted by Beijing in recent days. The US Navy

released a video of what it described as an “unsafe interaction” in the Taiwan Strait, where a Chinese warship passed in front of a US destroyer. That came several days after the Pentagon accused a Chinese fighter jet of an “unnecessarily aggressive manoeuvre” over the South China Sea.

<https://www.ft.com/content/162b0c78-ee3e-4851-9d53-7fb7ce2550a1#post-ed991097-334b-4fce-be88-283c8625667a>

Chinese FM urges AUKUS, already a concern for ASEAN, not to turn the Pacific into an ocean of storms

Global Times, June 6, 2023

The remarks of Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen reflected the widespread concern of regional countries including the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries over the tripartite AUKUS alliance, which undermines ASEAN's efforts to build a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Southeast Asia and risks turning the Pacific Ocean into an ocean of storms, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202306/1292046.shtml>

US and Chinese diplomats hold ‘candid, constructive, fruitful discussions’

Kawala Xie and Mark Magnie

South China Morning Post, June 6, 2023

Senior American and Chinese diplomats held “candid, constructive and fruitful” discussions in Beijing amid ongoing efforts to keep lines of communication open and build on recent diplomatic overtures between the two countries. Daniel Kritenbrink, assistant US secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs – the most senior American official confirmed to have visited China since an alleged Chinese spy balloon was shot down in US airspace in early February – met executive foreign vice-minister Ma Zhaoxu. Kritenbrink’s week-long trip will also include a stop in New Zealand.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3223048/us-and-chinese-diplomats-held-candid-and-productive-discussions-beijing-state-department>

Current US policies toward China are outrageous: Noam Chomsky

Global Times, June 6, 2023

The current policies towards China are outrageous. Secretary of Commerce, one of the sort of doves in the administration, Gina Raimondo once said that we have to enlist Europe in our campaign to make sure that China doesn't innovate.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202306/1292035.shtml>

China, Russia joint air patrols veer close to South Korean airspace, Seoul says

Kawala Xie

South China Morning Post, June 6, 2023

China and Russia conducted joint air force patrols over the East China Sea and Sea of Japan prompting South Korea to scramble aircraft, just days after a close encounter involving Chinese and US warships in the Taiwan Strait. The joint operation was the sixth under the annual cooperation plan between the two militaries since 2019, Beijing's defence ministry announced.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3223170/china-russia-joint-air-patrols-veer-close-south-korean-airspace-seoul-says>

Chinese envoys criticize Japan's 'extremely irresponsible' act, urging it to safely dispose of Fukushima nuclear-contaminated wastewater

Global Times, June 6, 2023

Speaking on the issue of Japan's discharge of Fukushima nuclear-contaminated wastewater into sea, Zhang Kejian, chairman of China Atomic Energy Authority harshly criticized Japan's "extremely irresponsible" act at an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) board of governors meeting held on Monday in Vienna, the capital of Austria.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202306/1292032.shtml>

US to Cambodia: AUKUS Sub Deal Is Not Nuclear Proliferation; China supports Phnom Penh

Chetra Chap

Voice of America, June 7, 2023

China, which is ASEAN's comprehensive strategic partner while being at odds with ASEAN member nations over territorial claims to the South China Sea, expressed support for Hun Sen's statement on AUKUS and for a nuclear weapon-free Southeast Asia. Wang added that Hun Sen's remarks speak to concerns widely shared by regional countries, including the ASEAN nations, according to China's official Xinhua news outlet.

<https://www.voanews.com/a/us-to-cambodia-aukus-sub-deal-is-not-nuclear-proliferation-/7126262.html>

Antony Blinken to visit China this month in sign of easing tensions

Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, June 7, 2023

US secretary of state Antony Blinken will travel to China this month, in the latest sign that Beijing and Washington are beginning to stabilise a turbulent bilateral relationship that had sunk to the lowest point in decades. Blinken is expected to visit within the coming weeks, according to two people familiar with his plans. Blinken had abruptly cancelled a trip in February in response to a suspected Chinese spy balloon's flight over the US, which upended efforts to repair relations.

<https://www.ft.com/content/f2a3cef6-6019-4497-9b9e-0ff08d75455e>

China is building the most powerful warship radar on record: scientists

Bangkok Post, June 7, 2023

Chinese scientists have revealed that construction has begun of a radar system that could shift the balance of naval power in the world's oceans with its ability to detect incoming missiles from thousands of kilometres away. A Chinese military vessel equipped with the radar would be able to detect a ballistic missile from up to 4,500km (2,800 miles) away - about the distance from southern China to northern Australia, according to scientists involved in the project.

<https://www.bangkokpost.com/world/2586945/china-is-building-the-most-powerful-warship-radar-on-record-scientists>

China's largest solid propellant rocket fires 26 satellites into orbit, setting country's new record

Fan Wei and Fan Anqi

Global Times, June 7, 2023

China launched its largest solid propellant rocket Lijian-1, successfully sending 26 satellites into preset orbit and setting the country's new record for launching multiple satellites in one go. The satellites will mainly provide commercial remote sensing information services.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202306/1292154.shtml>

HK to ban seafood from high-risk regions near Fukushima if Japan dumps nuclear-contaminated water into ocean

Global Times, June 8, 2023

Hong Kong will ban seafood from high-risk regions near Fukushima at once if Japan starts to dump nuclear-contaminated water from its crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant into the Pacific Ocean, said Hong Kong's environment chief.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202306/1292233.shtml>

US to link up with Taiwan and Japan drone fleets to share real-time data

Kathrin Hille and Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, June 8, 2023

The US, Taiwan and Japan are to share real-time data from naval reconnaissance drones, according to four people familiar with the project, demonstrating Washington's push to strengthen co-ordination in the event of a Chinese attack on Taiwan. US defence contractor General Atomics is due to deliver four MQ-9B Sea Guardian drones to Taipei beginning in 2025.

<https://www.ft.com/content/bde0db76-a7f8-4ecd-b5d5-03de0b5a8659>

Chinese general signals new strategy with Senkaku remarks

Katsuji Nakazawa

Nikkei Asia, June 8, 2023

When China's military leaders speak at diplomatic events, they usually take a hard line. They typically do not signal a new trend in Beijing's foreign policy. Yet in the context of China-Japan relations, military diplomacy has suddenly grabbed the spotlight. When Gen. Li Shangfu, China's state councilor and defense minister, met Japanese Defense Minister Yasukazu Hamada in Singapore on the sidelines of the Shangri-La Dialogue, he made comments that were hard to miss.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Editor-s-Picks/China-up-close/Analysis-Chinese-general-signals-new-strategy-with-Senkaku-remarks>

NATO office in Tokyo: Provocative and treaty-violating

Jan Oberg

Global Times, June 8, 2023

And although its Treaty mentions no "partners," it can now contemplate, as a most natural step, to establish an office in Tokyo, Japan - as part of leading NATO members' comprehensive military build-up in the Indo-Pacific directed against one of the US dual containment targets, China, while the transatlantic members in Europe target Russia as the other.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202306/1292204.shtml>

China reportedly reaches secret deal with Cuba to host spy base on island

The Guardian, June 8, 2023

China has reached a secret deal with Cuba to establish an electronic eavesdropping facility on the island roughly 100 miles (160km) from Florida, the Wall Street Journal has reported, but the US and Cuban governments cast strong doubt on the report. Such a spy installation would allow Beijing to gather electronic communications from the south-eastern United States, which houses many US military bases, as well as to monitor ship traffic, the newspaper reported.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/jun/08/china-cuba-base-florida-spy-surveillance>

Chinese researchers discover chemical imprint of oldest stars in universe

Global Times, June 8, 2023

Chinese researchers have successfully proven the existence of the very massive first-generation stars, which are the oldest stars in the universe. After years of work, they have discovered the chemical signature of these stars for the first time, a breakthrough that holds significant importance for understanding the origins and evolution of stars.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202306/1292178.shtml>

Countries Buy Defective Chinese Military Equipment. Why?

Cindy Zheng

RAND, June 8, 2023

China's defense industry has exported malfunctioning and defective military equipment in recent years—leaving countries short of what's needed for their security while also draining military budgets. Nigeria's military reported several technical problems with the Chinese-made F-7 aircraft delivered starting in 2009. A handful were lost in crashes or accidents. By 2020, of the nine remaining, seven had to be sent back to China for deep maintenance and repair.

<https://www.rand.org/blog/2023/06/countries-buy-defective-chinese-military-equipment.html>

China's newest quantum computer Wukong is expected to launch in July: report

Global Times, June 8, 2023

China's newest quantum computer Wukong is expected to launch in July, which is now in the final stage of debugging and adjustment by its developer Origin Quantum Computing Technology Co, according to media reports.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202306/1292169.shtml>

China's air force stages new mass incursion near Taiwan

The Times of India, June 8, 2023

Taiwan activated its defence systems after reporting 37 Chinese military aircraft flying into the island's air defence zone, some of which then flew into the western Pacific, in Beijing's latest mass air incursion. China, which views democratically-governed Taiwan as its own territory, has over the past three years regularly flown its air force into the skies near the island, though not into Taiwan's territorial air space.

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/100837738.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

Chinese ambassador in Seoul once asked South Korean lawmaker to include Beijing in US-led chip alliance

Che Pan

South China Morning Post, June 9, 2023

A South Korean lawmaker has revealed that the Chinese ambassador in Seoul once lobbied her to get China included in the Chip 4 alliance, the US-led alliance that includes Japan, South Korea and Taiwan, which has a goal of minimising Beijing's influence in the global semiconductor supply chain.

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/tech-war/article/3223498/tech-war-chinese-ambassador-seoul-once-asked-south-korean-lawmaker-include-beijing-us-led-chip>

China rejects nuclear talks with the U.S. as it looks to strengthen its own arsenal

Jay Solomon

Semafor, June 9, 2023

China and Russia are rejecting a U.S. offer to hold "unconditional" nuclear arms control talks, a move that risks further fueling global proliferation. U.S. National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan warned in a major address that the post-Cold War agreements guarding against global nuclear proliferation were fraying and invited Beijing and Moscow to resume direct discussions on the issue.

<https://www.semafor.com/article/06/08/2023/china-rejects-nuclear-talks-us>

Chinese manufacturers brace for the impact of Japan's semiconductor export curbs

Lilian Zhang

South China Morning Post, June 9, 2023

Chinese companies are scrambling to seek local substitutes to cut reliance on Japanese suppliers as they brace for the impact of Tokyo's export curbs on semiconductor equipment and materials, according to corporate statements and analysts. Under tightened export restrictions unveiled by Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Japanese suppliers of 23 types of semiconductor equipment are required to obtain prior export licenses to sell to China starting from July.

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/tech-war/article/3223419/tech-war-chinese-manufacturers-brace-impact-japans-semiconductor-export-curbs>

Organizational Changes to the PLAN Submarine Force Since 2015

J. Michael Dahm and Alison Zhao

China Maritime Report, US Naval War College, June 10, 2023

“Above-the-neck” reforms in the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) that began in 2015 directed the development of a new joint operational command system that resulted in commensurate changes to PLA Navy submarine force command and control. Additional changes to tactical submarine command and control were driven by the evolution and expansion of PLA Navy surface and airborne capabilities and the introduction of new longer-range submarine weapons.

<https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1027&context=cmsi-maritime-reports>

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

**Nuclear and Arms Control Centre, MP-IDSA
And
Indian Pugwash Society**