

August 31, 2023

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

US trying to politicize nuclear non-proliferation

China Military Online, August 21, 2023

In yet another blow to the already souring bilateral relations, the Joe Biden administration has tightened controls on the export of materials and components for nuclear power plants to China on the spurious grounds that it would help prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons. The Bureau of Industry and Security, an arm of the US Commerce Department, requires exporters to obtain specific licenses to export certain generators, containers and software intended for use in nuclear plants in China. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the federal agency responsible for nuclear energy safety, also requires exporters to get specific licenses to export special nuclear material and source material.

http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/WORLD_209198/WorldMilitaryAnalysis/16246621.html

China launches new satellite for Earth observation

Xinhua, August 21, 2023

China sent a new Earth observation satellite into space from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China. It will be used in a variety of fields, including land surveys, urban planning, road network design, crop yield estimation and disaster relief. The launch marks the 484th flight mission of the Long March series carrier rockets.

<https://english.news.cn/20230821/6233c6396fcd4b9a9440557b8162ee82/c.html>

China lodges solemn representations with relevant parties in Camp David summit on Taiwan question and South China Sea issue: FM

Global Times, August 21, 2023

China expresses strong dissatisfaction and has lodged solemn representations with relevant parties after the leaders of the US, Japan and South Korea smeared and attacked China on the Taiwan question and South China Sea issue during the Camp David summit, which seriously violated the basic norms governing international relations, the Chinese Foreign Ministry responded. Yet, the leaders in their joint summit concluding statement alleged China's "dangerous and aggressive" action in the South China Sea and reaffirmed the "importance of peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait."

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202308/1296681.shtml>

China says it is investigating citizen for alleged CIA spying

Gloria Li

Financial Times, August 21, 2023

Beijing is investigating a Chinese citizen accused of spying for the CIA, the country's state security ministry said. The 39-year-old suspect, surnamed Hao, is a former cadre at a national department and became acquainted with US officials during his studies in Japan, according to a post on the security ministry's social media account. After returning to China, Hao offered intelligence to the CIA in exchange for cash. The Financial Times was not able to verify these details. The US State Department did not immediately reply to a request for comment. The notice came less than two weeks after the state ministry said it was prosecuting a Chinese national cultivated by a CIA operative in Italy.

<https://www.ft.com/content/3c459fa6-dfdd-40f7-ab3e-47d8a6838cbf#post-8cfd17dc-6476-472a-bb51-ebca20ec58cb>

Taiwan is building up an anti-invasion naval force in its arms race against China

Kyle Mizokami

Popular Mechanics, August 22, 2023

One of the most dangerous places in the world right now is the Taiwan Strait. Free, democratic Taiwan stands just over 100 miles off the coast of authoritarian China, with the latter openly building up the military strength necessary to take the island by force. Today's Republic of China military has one job: defend Taiwan from invasion. Everything else is a distant second. China's refusal to rule out reuniting the two Chinas by force, and its persistent military buildup over the last three decades—with particular emphasis on forces useful in a cross-strait invasion—make defending the island its overwhelming, and arguably only, priority.

<https://www.popularmechanics.com/military/weapons/a44788001/taiwans-weapons-to-defend-against-china/>

China's Taiwan invasion: Battle for the Strait will be a colossal missile duel

David Axe

The Telegraph, August 22, 2023

In the run-up to Taiwan's 1996 presidential election, China mobilised troops and fired missiles into the waters surrounding the Republic of China, attempting to frighten Taiwanese voters into supporting the pro-

Beijing candidate. It was a clear threat to the island country, then transitioning to democratic government. After 50 years of relentless expansion, the People's Liberation Army Navy has around 355 front-line warships. The US Navy by contrast has just 297 front-line ships. But American ships on average are much bigger and heavily-armed than Chinese ships. The People's Republic of China decided years ago that land-based missiles were the cheap and easy way to close that firepower gap.

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2023/08/22/china-taiwan-war-invasion-missile-naval-battle/>

PLA navy's 'sharks' get stealthier, China on verge of producing 'world-class' nuclear submarines: Report

The Times of India, August 23, 2023

China's nuclear-powered submarines, nicknamed 'Sharks' by the PLA navy, are becoming stealthier and more capable, according to a recent report by the US Naval War College. The report claims that China is on the verge of producing "world-class" nuclear submarines that can rival the Russian Akula-I class SSN in terms of propulsion, quieting, sensors and weapons. The People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) is rapidly modernizing its submarine fleet, with a focus on stealth. The PLAN's new submarines are becoming increasingly difficult to detect, posing a growing threat to US and allied forces in the Indo-Pacific region. One of the key areas of focus for the PLAN is the development of quieter submarines. Noise is one of the biggest challenges for submarine designers, as it can easily give away a submarine's position.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/china/pla-navys-sharks-get-stealthier-china-on-verge-of-producing-world-class-nuclear-submarines-report/articleshow/102982747.cms?from=mdr>

China powering ahead in nuclear sector

Zheng Xin

China Daily, August 23, 2023

China has made significant strides and achieved substantial breakthroughs in the field of nuclear science and technology over the past five years, a top company executive said. The country, which is becoming a notable player in the global nuclear landscape, has been actively developing nuclear power capacity, which is contributing to a more diversified energy mix that will help meet its growing energy needs while also reducing greenhouse gas emissions, said Yu Jianfeng, chairman of China National Nuclear Corp.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202308/23/WS64e552b5a31035260b81daea.html>

China slams US call to ban anti-satellite missile tests as ‘fake arms control’

Liu Zhen

South China Morning Post, August 23, 2023

Beijing accused a US proposal to ban anti-satellite weapons testing in space of promoting “fake arms control” and “real military expansion”. The US proposal is opposed by China and Russia – both permanent members of the UN Security Council. The US, China, Russia and India have conducted the type of weapons tests that the proposal seeks to ban. Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said that the US commitment was deceptive since it “sets no substantial limit to US military forces in outer space”, and Washington had already carried out enough direct-ascent missile tests and developed other types of anti-satellite weapons.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3232073/china-slams-us-call-ban-anti-satellite-missile-tests-fake-arms-control>

Let’s call China’s bluff on nukes and plutonium

Henry Sokolski

The Hill, August 23, 2023

Beijing is busy expanding its own nuclear arsenal with a renewed plutonium production effort. Nonetheless, it has repeatedly demanded Washington withdraw its forward-deployed nuclear weapons at Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) review sessions, the most recent of which concluded Aug. 11. Chinese diplomats insist the NPT should prevent states from placing nuclear weapons on other nations’ soil. Beijing even protested Vladimir Putin’s redeployment of nuclear weapons to Belarus last March.

<https://thehill.com/opinion/national-security/4164909-lets-call-chinas-bluff-on-nukes-and-plutonium/>

BRICS to welcome six new members, a ‘historical milestone’

Xie Wenting and Chen Qingqing

Global Times, August 24, 2023

The BRICS countries welcomed six new members from three different continents, marking a historic milestone that underscored the solidarity of BRICS and developing countries and determination to work together for a better future, officials and experts said. Chinese President Xi Jinping said at the briefing that

the BRICS expansion is historic and a new starting point for BRICS cooperation. It demonstrates the determination of the BRICS countries to unite and cooperate with other developing countries, meets the expectations of the international community, and serves the common interests of emerging markets and developing countries.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202308/1296926.shtml>

US agrees to sell military aircraft tracking system to Taiwan

Kathrin Hille

Financial Times, August 24, 2023

The US has agreed to sell to Taiwan a system with which its F-16 fighters can search and track enemy aircraft through infrared technology, a rare move by the administration of President Joe Biden to help Taipei push back against ongoing Chinese military pressure near the island. The \$500mn infrared search and track (IRST) system “allows us to more effectively deter Chinese air activity”, Taiwan’s deputy defence minister Po Horng-huei said. “It will help to target the J-20 stealth fighter over the Taiwan Strait in the future.”

<https://www.ft.com/content/365518c2-440b-4f63-9874-617cb6a9caf5>

Russia-North Korea-China: Reactivation of the Strategic Triangle

Vitaly Sovin

Valdai Club, August 24, 2023

The prerequisites for the resumption of strategic cooperation between Moscow, Pyongyang and Beijing were brewing against the background of the tightening of Washington's policy towards North Korea under the Biden administration, as well as NATO's military deployment in the Indo-Pacific region. In this regard, the visit to Pyongyang by high-ranking officials from Russia and China is as much moral support as it is a clear sign of the revival of the Russian-Chinese-North Korean coalition, designed to effectively counter the escalation of tension on the Korean Peninsula and in the Indo-Pacific region as a whole. The Americans created the prerequisites for the revival of the coalition of Russia and China with the DPRK - a state that has been under the strict pressure of the UN Security Council sanctions for a long time.

<https://valdaiclub.com/a/highlights/russia-north-korea-china-reactivation/>

China, India has vast room for cooperation in lunar exploration under BRICS, SCO mechanisms

Fan Anqi

Global Times, August 24, 2023

The fourth to join the lunar-landing club and the first to land near the moon's south pole, India's Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft notched a historic milestone as it softly touched down on the lunar surface, drawing enthusiastic applause from stargazers across the world. Chinese experts hailed the feat as representing the growing significance of developing countries in space and called for India to abandon involving geopolitical schemes in the pursuit of scientific advancement, as the spirit of science transcends national boundaries and should be pursued in collaboration with players worldwide.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202308/1296936.shtml>

Pentagon tackling nuclear modernization with proactive, integrated approach

Joseph Clark

U.S. Department of Defence, August 25, 2023

Deborah G. Rosenblum, assistant secretary of defense for nuclear, chemical and biological defense programs and executive secretary of the Nuclear Weapons Council said her top priority is ensuring the entire DOD is aligned and proactive as it executes its nuclear modernization efforts. Rosenblum said the 2022 National Defense Strategy makes clear that national security landscape is becoming increasingly challenging as evidenced by Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine and the increased competition with China, which senior leaders have identified as the United States' pacing challenge. In approaching those challenges, nuclear deterrence remains "our number one priority," she said.

<https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/3505989/pentagon-tackling-nuclear-modernization-with-proactive-integrated-approach/>

China bans seafood from Japan after the Fukushima nuclear plant begins its wastewater release

Mari Yamaguchi

Associated Press, August 25, 2023

In response, Chinese customs authorities banned seafood from Japan, customs authorities said. The ban started immediately and will affect all imports of "aquatic products" including seafood, according to the

notice. Authorities said they will “dynamically adjust relevant regulatory measures as appropriate to prevent the risks of nuclear-contaminated water discharge to the health and food safety of our country.” Shortly after China’s announcement, Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings President Tomoaki Kobayakawa said the utility was preparing to compensate Japanese business owners appropriately for damages suffered by export bans from “the foreign government.” He said China is a key trading partner and he will do his utmost to provide scientific explanations of the release so the ban will be dropped as soon as possible.

<https://apnews.com/article/japan-fukushima-nuclear-radioactive-water-release-04d2423accd508e57afcd9e1eb6714ab>

Saudi Arabia eyes Chinese bid for nuclear plant

Summer Said, Sha Hua, and Dion Nissenbaum

The Wall Street Journal, August 25, 2023

Saudi Arabia is weighing a Chinese bid to build a nuclear-power plant in the kingdom, Saudi officials familiar with the matter said, in a move designed to pressure the Biden administration to compromise on its conditions for U.S. help in the kingdom’s quest for nuclear power. The U.S. has said American nuclear aid is contingent on the Saudis agreeing to not enrich their own uranium or mine their own uranium deposits in the kingdom—nonproliferation conditions not sought by China, which has been seeking to strengthen its influence in the Middle East, to the consternation of Washington.

<https://www.wsj.com/world/middle-east/saudi-arabia-eyes-chinese-bid-for-nuclear-plant-e4a56f>

US’ restrictions on tech exports in focus during Raimondo’s high-stakes visit to China

Global Times, August 26, 2023

As US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo is due to arrive in China for a high-stakes visit, Chinese experts said that whether or not the two sides can reach some constructive outcomes for ever-growing US restrictions on tech exports to China, which are overseen by Raimondo's agency, will be a test for the US' sincerity in pursuing dialogue with China. Raimondo will visit China from Sunday to Wednesday, China's Ministry of Commerce announced this week. The trip is widely seen as another positive signal that China and the US remain committed to dialogue even as bilateral relations are still at the lowest ebb in decades.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202308/1297013.shtml>

How US agencies tracked China's nuclear programme

Vappala Balachandran

Outlook India, August 26, 2023

US archives indicated that the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi had reported to Beijing that its first nuclear test on 16 October 1964 at Lop Nor had given India's "anti-China policy a head-on blow and sent shock waves in India. Shastri (Prime Minister) tried to get various countries to censure us, but the Asian and African countries did not go along with him". We still do not know whether our agencies were aware of this. George Washington University's National Security Archive (GWU NSA) revealed that the first American intelligence estimate on the Chinese test to President Lyndon Johnson was on April 17, 1964.

https://www.outlookindia.com/international/how-us-agencies-tracked-china-nuclear-programme-weekender_story-313578

West ignores nuclear contamination, but focuses on anti-China stance

Global Times, August 27, 2023

In recent years, some in the West have lost their basic rationality and become more and more hysterical in their anti-China actions. When it comes to Japan's dumping, they do not have the scientific attitude and do not even bother to analyze it seriously, instead, they have adopted an attitude of supporting what China opposes and opposing what China supports, to show their political stance toward China. Some Western media outlets, such as Reuters and the VOA, have been either keen to endorse Japan's dumping or argue that China's ban is based on political considerations rather than health risks.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202308/1297077.shtml>

Japan reports wave of Chinese phone harassment after Fukushima discharge

Voice of America, August 27, 2023

Tokyo has urged Beijing to "ensure the safety of Japanese residents in China" after a wave of telephone harassment targeting businesses in Japan sparked by the controversial discharge of Fukushima wastewater. Calls from China began flooding Japanese businesses from Thursday, when operator TEPCO started releasing water used to cool the stricken nuclear reactors at Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant. Similar incidents have also occurred in China against Japanese facilities, Namazu told Chinese Embassy officials,

according to the statement. "We strongly urge the Chinese government to take appropriate measures, such as calling on its citizens to act calmly, and to take all possible measures to ensure the safety of Japanese residents in China and Japanese diplomatic missions in China."

<https://www.voanews.com/a/japan-reports-wave-of-chinese-phone-harassment-after-fukushima-discharge-/7242955.html>

Raimondo maintains red lines on national security in Beijing visit

Joe Leahy

Financial Times, August 28, 2023

US commerce secretary Gina Raimondo began a tour of China on Monday with a warning that Washington would not bend on national security, while adding that she saw opportunities in the majority of bilateral trade that did not touch on sensitive issues. Raimondo's four-day visit to Beijing, the fourth by a cabinet-level US official this year, is part of efforts by Washington to put the bilateral relationship with China on a firmer footing. China is incensed at efforts by US president Joe Biden to continue tightening restrictions on technology-related exports and investments in China, including curbs announced this month designed to stop US funding from flowing to the Chinese military.

<https://www.ft.com/content/86a43671-211e-4599-99b2-40507aef4e68>

Nuclear discharge leading tourists to rethink travel plans

Wang Xiaoyu

China Daily, August 28, 2023

Japan's move to discharge nuclear-contaminated water from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the ocean has prompted some Chinese tourists and tourism agencies to reconsider their travel plans to the country. Japan is among the third batch of countries that are allowed group tourism from China following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions as announced by Chinese authorities on Aug 8. But growing enthusiasm for visiting Japan could be dampened by the wastewater release.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202308/28/WS64ebe54ea31035260b81e760.html>

China's security ministry lashes out against US Intelligence Strategy by exposing four US dangerous modes of thinking

Global Times, August 28, 2023

China's security ministry lashed out against a new US Intelligence Strategy by exposing four dangerous, ill-suited and parasitic modes of thinking emerging from the US intelligence community – Cold War mentality of targeting China, zero-sum thinking, hegemonic thinking and confrontational thinking. The Ministry of State Security (MSS) said in a statement that the policy orientation set by the US National Intelligence Strategy is aimed at deterring China and is merely a new iteration of the “China threat theory,” also a clear declaration of the US intelligence community to open an era of “targeting China.”

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202308/1297097.shtml>

China makes breakthrough in controllable nuclear fusion technology for new-generation 'artificial sun'

CGTN, August 28, 2023

China made a breakthrough in controllable nuclear fusion technology. Huanliu-3 (HL-3), the country's new-generation "artificial sun," realized high-confinement mode operation with a plasma current of one million amperes for the first time, according to the China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC). The breakthrough puts the operational level of China's magnetic confinement nuclear fusion device at the forefront of the world, marking an important milestone in the country's development of nuclear fusion energy.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2023-08-27/China-makes-breakthrough-in-controllable-nuclear-fusion-tech-1mBx4sW4gtW/index.html>

Hicks underscores U.S. innovation in unveiling strategy to counter China's military buildup

Joseph Clark

U.S. Department of Defence, August 28, 2023

Hicks said as China focuses on the sheer mass of its military, the U.S. will "out-match adversaries by out-thinking, out-strategizing and out-manoeuvring them." Under the strategy, coined by Hicks as the replicator initiative, the Defence Department will field thousands of autonomous systems across multiple domains

within the next 18 to 24 months. Hicks revealed the strategy during her remarks at the National Defence Industrial Association's Emerging Technologies for Defence conference in Washington. "Replicator is meant to help us overcome the PRC's biggest advantage, which is mass," she said. "More ships. More missiles. More people." In doing so, Hicks said, the U.S. will counter the PRC's buildup, with "mass of our own," that will be more difficult for adversaries to plan for and beat.

<https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/3507514/hicks-underscores-us-innovation-in-unveiling-strategy-to-counter-chinas-militar/>

China has launched bigger, faster version of 054A guided missile frigate, online photos suggest

Minnie Chan

South China Morning Post, August 28, 2023

China appears to have launched its first Type 054B guided missile frigate – a bigger, more advanced version of the Type 054A warship now in service. Photos from a state-owned Shanghai naval shipbuilder circulating on Chinese social media platforms suggested that the next-generation vessel had not only adopted the advanced phased radar systems of the last Type 054A batch but also the stealth mast of the Type 055 destroyer – China's most powerful ship of its kind.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/military/article/3232599/china-has-launched-bigger-faster-version-054a-guided-missile-frigate-online-photos-suggest>

China's Nuclear Forces

Michelle Kurilla

Council on Foreign Relations, August 29, 2023

China is building up its nuclear arsenal. China long maintained a minimum deterrent strategy. Whereas the Soviet Union and the United States accumulated tens of thousands of warheads during the Cold War, China built only a few hundred. Beijing was content to have just enough weapons to deter other powers. Just as important, China kept its warheads separate from their delivery systems during peacetime, a situation known as de-mating. China's hypersonic missile technology poses a challenge for the United States.

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/presidents-inbox-recap-chinas-nuclear-forces>

China space station experiment facilities complete testing, ready to support large-scale research projects

Deng Xiaoci

Global Times, August 29, 2023

Basic in-orbit testing of the science experiment facilities aboard China's Tiangong space station were completed recently, demonstrating they are operating in a stable and reliable fashion and are capable of supporting large-scale space scientific research, the Global Times learned from the Technology and Engineering Center for Space Utilization under the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). Chinese manned space authorities and space watchers hailed the results as they marked the fact the Tiangong space station has moved into the development and application stage after completing construction at the end of 2022.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202308/1297194.shtml>

Carrier strike groups should be ready to go dark in conflict

Nick Danby

War on the Rocks, August 29, 2023

China's diverse suite of sensors likely provides its military with a reliable common operating picture to strike adversary targets. Surface ships, unmanned surface vessels, maritime militia units, or over-the-horizon radar sites can tip and cue unmanned aerial vehicles, special mission aircraft, and China's distributed, redundant imaging and signals intelligence satellites to build and maintain a quality target track for anti-ship cruise and ballistic missiles to engage. And when the carrier strike group moves — as ships do — these missiles' advanced homing systems close the area of uncertainty and strike.

<https://warontherocks.com/2023/08/carrier-strike-groups-should-be-ready-to-go-dark-in-conflict/>

PLA holds extensive, nonstop anti-submarine drill in South China Sea

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, August 30, 2023

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) recently conducted an anti-submarine exercise that stretched for more than 40 hours and featured more than a dozen groups of anti-submarine patrol aircraft in the South

China Sea, which is a region experts said is infested with foreign submarine activities that potentially threaten China's national defence. A naval aviation regiment and a submarine detachment affiliated with the PLA Southern Theater Command recently conducted a long-endurance, nonstop exercise on searching and attacking submarines in the South China Sea, the PLA Southern Theatre Command said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202308/1297256.shtml>

US chip sanctions may not be enough to deter China's military ambitions

Christina Knight

East Asia Forum, August 30, 2023

The restrictions attempt to constrain Beijing's emerging technology development in two ways. First, they limit China's access to advanced semiconductors necessary for data-intensive artificial intelligence (AI) models, supercomputers and hypersonic missiles. Second, the measures curtail China's ability to create these cutting-edge chips by preventing China from using US-built semiconductor design and manufacturing equipment, including the electronic design automation (EDA) software required to design advanced semiconductors.

<https://www.eastasiaforum.org/2023/08/30/2099944/>

How China became the king of new nuclear power, and how the U.S. is trying to stage a comeback

Catherine Clifford

CNBC, August 30, 2023

China has 21 nuclear reactors under construction which will have a capacity for generating 21.61 gigawatts of electricity, according to the International Atomic Energy Agency. That is more than two and a half times more nuclear reactors under construction than any other country. China's drive to build nuclear energy is twofold: It has a massive demand for energy to meet, and its reliance on coal to meet its energy demand in recent decades have left it with dirty air. Nuclear is a clean source of electricity.

<https://www.cnbc.com/2023/08/30/how-china-became-king-of-new-nuclear-power-how-us-could-catch-up.html>

How to stop a three-way nuclear arms-race

The Economist, August 31, 2023

Now the world is entering a new nuclear arms-race—one that may be harder to stop. Instability is increasing because of Vladimir Putin's nuclear threats in Ukraine and China's rapid build-up of weapons. And arms control is collapsing. First Russia and later America stopped exchanging information under New start, the last deal limiting their arsenals. The treaty will expire in February 2026, and there is little sign of a replacement. China has never cared for such curbs. America, China and Russia need to start talking now, before another Cuban-style crisis occurs.

<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2023/08/31/how-to-stop-a-three-way-nuclear-arms-race>

Rumours about a Chinese nuclear submarine accident completely false: Defence Spokesperson

China Military Online, August 31, 2023

At a regular press conference, Senior Colonel Wu Qian, spokesperson for China's Ministry of National Defence, denied the rumors spreading on international social media that "one of the Chinese PLA's Type 093 nuclear submarine had suffered a serious accident in waters near the Taiwan Strait". "Relevant information is completely false. We hope that internet users follow authoritative information released by China's official accounts, and do not be misled by ill-minded information," said the spokesperson.

<http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/VOICES/16249182.html>

Japan looks to boost defence budget by 13% and add new missiles

Chieko Tsuneoka

The Wall Street journal, August 31, 2023

Japan's Defence Ministry asked for a \$53 billion budget for next fiscal year, a 13% increase, adding antimissile systems and boosting maintenance for a military that long skimped on basic functions. Tokyo has named China as its biggest strategic challenge, citing issues such as Chinese tests of hypersonic glide weapons that fly on evasive paths and are hard to shoot down. Japan is working with the U.S. on a new type of interceptor aimed at hypersonic glide weapons envisioned to be ready by the 2030s. President Biden and Kishida announced the collaboration on Aug. 18 when they met at the president's Camp David retreat.

<https://www.wsj.com/amp/articles/japan-looks-to-boost-defense-budget-by-13-and-add-new-missiles-fa398f16>

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