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A Monthly Maritime Bulletin and Perspectives of the Maritime Security Programme at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies



Naval Development and Policy:

U.S. Navy Destroyer, Coast Guard Cutter Transit Taiwan Strait
— p. 4

Maritime Safety and Security:

Malaysia, Singapore agree on 5-point measures to address maritime issues — p. 6

Shipping, Ports, and the Maritime Economy:

As Italy joins China's Belt and Road, fear rises in EU — p. 8

Table of Contents

NAVAL DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY	4
U.S. Navy Destroyer, Coast Guard Cutter Transit Taiwan Strait	4
Navy Issues Draft RFP for FFG(X) Next-Generation Frigate	4
Pakistan Navy detects Indian submarine, foils intrusion	4
India and Russia ink \$3 billion deal for lease of third nuclear submarine	4
MBDA France bags contract for frigates' surface-to-air missiles	5
China to deploy 4 AG600 large amphibious aircraft in test flight: AVIC	5
S. Korea to conduct seabed exploration near Dokdo	5
FY 2020 Budget: Navy Cuts Ship, Aircraft Procurement; Vows High-End Weapons Procurement	5
Sea Shield 2019: Combined Fleet Exercise-Sea Shield 2019 Conducted	5
Troops practice island-seizing in the Pacific amid US-China tensions	5
Vanuatu protests and raises disappointment with French President	5
Japanese jets intercept Chinese anti-submarine aircraft, says Tokyo	5
Russia's Pacific Fleet to get six Project 636.3 submarines by 2025	5
MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY	6
Malaysia, Singapore agree on 5-point measures to address maritime issues	6
Court junks PCG members' bid vs. trial for Taiwanese fisherman slay	6
Japan proposes UN working group to tackle microplastics pollution	6
PHL Coast Guard to open 21 radar stations across the country	6
Navy Chief Admiral Sunil Lanba warns of terrorists planning attack through sea	6
Illegal Oil Transshipments to N. Korea Doubled Last Year	7
Navy enacts almost all changes recommended after fatal USS Fitzgerald, USS McCain collisions	7
Golden Triangle behind P1.8B shabu seized at Manila port, says PDEA	7
Indian vessel docks in Sihanoukville on SE Asia 'goodwill' visit	7
PM: Malaysian maritime enforcement a fragmented affair; needs	7
Guangdong firm to build China's first 10,000 ton maritime patrol vessel	7
S. Korean, U.S. Coast Guards Hold Joint Exercise	7
Boeing official says Vietnam military drone deal almost done	7
SHIPPING, PORTS, AND THE MARITIME ECONOMY	8
As Italy joins China's Belt and Road, fear rises in EU	8
Parliament: Singapore to launch pilot for digitising shipping documents	8
Debt-equity swap planned for HHIC	8
Crusie industry creates over 12,500 jobs in the Baltic region	8
The Artic becomes free from commercial fishing for 16 years Philippines' new marine protected area includes community-led monitoring program	8 9
China debt trap fears shake the Philippines	9
Fisheries sector forced to restructure as declining demand decimates earnings	9
Eyeing Southeast Asia, India builds port in Indonesia	9
Competition Body Moves To Crush Dpw Challenge	9
World Shipping Council slams ITF's Merk as block exemption debate gets bitter	9
Indonesia: Fisheries Regulation and Sustainability Urgently Needed	9
Chinese Shipping Giant to Explore Blockchain for Upstream Supply Chain Financing	9

NOTES

Please click on the links for the full report. All links and news reports are correct at the time of publication. Through this bulletin, you will be linked to external websites. We have no control over the nature, content, and availability of those sites. The inclusion of any links does not necessarily imply a recommendation or endorsement of the views expressed within them.

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NAVAL DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY



UNITED STATES | 25 MARCH | USNI NEWS

U.S. Navy Destroyer, Coast Guard Cutter Transit Taiwan Strait

A U.S. Navy Arleigh Burke guided-missile destroyer and a Coast Guard National Security Cutter completed a transit of the Taiwan strait early Monday, the fifth such transit in six months. The move was immediately decried by Chinese officials.

Full Report

UNITED STATES | 2 MARCH | USNI NEWS

Navy Issues Draft RFP for FFG(X) Next-Generation Frigate

The Navy has issued a draft request for proposal to design and build its planned class of 20 next-generation guided-missile frigates (FFG(X)).

Full Report

INDIA-PAKISTAN | 5 MARCH | THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL

Pakistan Navy detects Indian submarine, foils intrusion

Days after Pakistan shot down two Indian aircraft in a tit-for-tat response for violation of its airspace, the

Pakistan Navy has foiled Indian Navy's attempt to intrude into its waters.

Full Report

INDIA | 7 MARCH | THE PRINT

India and Russia ink \$3 billion deal for lease of third nuclear submarine

India and Russia Thursday signed a US\$3 billion deal for the lease of a third nuclear-powered attack submarine (SSN) — Chakra III — which is likely to be in Indian waters by 2025 at the earliest.

Full Report

THE PHILIPPINES | 8 MARCH | PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY

Continue on page 5

MBDA France bags contract for frigates' surface-to -air missiles

A European firm bagged the contract to supply surface -to-air missiles for the two frigates currently being constructed by South Korean shipbuilder, Hyundai Heavy Industries (HHI).

Full Report

CHINA | 8 MARCH | XINHUA

China to deploy 4 AG600 large amphibious aircraft in test flight: AVIC

Four AG600 large amphibious airplanes will conduct flight tests to facilitate its certification schedule, said its developer the Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC) Friday.

Full Report

SOUTH KOREA | 10 MARCH | YONHAP

S. Korea to conduct seabed exploration near Dokdo

South Korea plans to carry out an exploration of the ocean floor near its eastern island of Ulleung around July and August, an official said, in an apparent effort to better understand its easternmost territory, Dokdo.

Full Report

UNITED STATES | 12 MARCH | USNI NEWS

FY 2020 Budget: Navy Cuts Ship, Aircraft Procurement; Vows High-End Weapons Procurement

The Pentagon requested a Fiscal Year 2020 budget that advocates changes in the way the Navy does business – pushing for lethal but "attritable" unmanned systems, artificial intelligence and hypersonics to give the Navy and Marine Corps an edge against high-end adversaries.

Full Report

MYANMAR | 19 MARCH | MYANMAR TV

Sea Shield 2019: Combined Fleet Exercise-Sea Shield 2019 Conducted

Tatmadaw (Navy) conducted a Combined Fleet Exercise-Sea Shield 2019 on 18th March in the Bay of Bengal and the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspected the exercise.

Full Report

UNITED STATES | 22 MARCH | STAR AND STRIPES

Troops practice island-seizing in the Pacific amid US-China tensions

Marines, airmen and soldiers recently practiced seizing a small Japanese island in an exercise that honed skills some experts say may be necessary in a face-off against China.

Full Report

FRANCE-VANUATU | 25 MARCH | DAILY POST

Vanuatu protests and raises disappointment with French President

The Office of Prime Minister Charlot Salwai, has made it known that a letter was sent to French President, Emmanuel Macron, to express Vanuatu's disappointment and protest against the France for sending its warship to Matthew and Hunter.

Full Report

CHINA-JAPAN | 26 MARCH | DEFENSE NEWS

Japanese jets intercept Chinese anti-submarine aircraft, says Tokyo

Japanese fighter jets intercepted Chinese antisubmarine aircraft over the East China Sea last week, marking the first known occasion that this type of Chinese aircraft has been encountered.

Full Report



RUSSIA FEDERATION | 28 MARCH | TASS

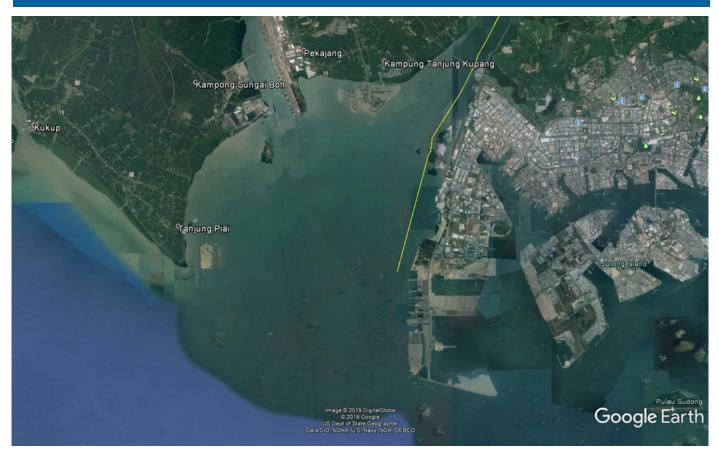
Russia's Pacific Fleet to get six Project 636.3 submarines by 2025

Russia's Pacific Fleet will get six Project 636.3 'Varshavyanka' diesel-electric submarines by 2025, Russian Navy Deputy Commander-in-Chief Igor Mukhametshin said on Thursday.

Full Report

5

MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY



MALAYSIA-SINGAPORE | 14 MARCH | NEW STRAITS TIMES

Malaysia, Singapore agree on 5-point measures to address maritime issues

Malaysia and Singapore have agreed to carry out five recommendations relating to the maritime issues surrounding the overlapping Johor Baru Port Limits off Tanjung Piai and Singapore Port Limits off Tuas.

Full Report

THE PHILIPPINES-TAIWAN | 1 MARCH | GMA NEWS

Court junks PCG members' bid vs. trial for Taiwanese fisherman slay

A Manila court has rejected the challenge of Philippine Coast Guard members to an earlier order for their trial to continue in connection with the killing of a Taiwanese fisherman off Batanes in 2013.

Full Report

JAPAN | 2 MARCH | THE MAINICHI

Japan proposes UN working group to tackle microplastics pollution

Japan has submitted to the United Nations a draft resolution to establish a working group for coordinating efforts toward combating ocean microplastics pollution, people close to the matter said Saturday.

Full Report

THE PHILIPPINES | 3 MARCH | GMA NEWS

PHL Coast Guard to open 21 radar stations across the country

Amid the series of recoveries of cocaine left afloating in the eastern seaboard of the country, the Philippine Coast Guard said it will open 21 radar stations nationwide to beef up its monitoring operations.

Full Report

INDIA | 5 MARCH | THE PRINT

Navy Chief Admiral Sunil Lanba warns of terrorists planning attack through sea

Continue on page 7

Weeks after the Pulwama attack, Navy Chief Admiral Sunil Lanba on Tuesday warned that there are reports about terrorists being trained to carry out operations through the sea.

Full Report

NORTH KOREA | 20 MARCH | CHOSUN ILBO

Illegal Oil Transshipments to N. Korea Doubled Last Year

Illegal ship-to-ship transfers of oil products to North Korea have more than doubled over the past year, South Korean military data suggest.

Full Report

UNITED STATES | 20 MARCH | STAR AND STRIPES

Navy enacts almost all changes recommended after fatal USS Fitzgerald, USS McCain collisions

The Navy has enacted nearly all the changes recommended in two 2017 reports it ordered after two fatal collisions at sea involving U.S. warships, the vice chief of naval operations recently told Congress.

Full Report

THE PHILIPPINES | 23 MARCH | GMA NEWS

Golden Triangle behind P1.8B shabu seized at Manila port, says PDEA

A notorious Southeast Asian drug syndicate was tagged to be behind the almost 300 kilos of suspected shabu worth P1.8 billion seized at the Manila North Harbor on Friday, the chief of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) said on Saturday.

Full Report

CAMBODIA-INDIA | 26 MARCH | THE PHNOM PENH POST

Indian vessel docks in Sihanoukville on SE Asia 'goodwill' visit

Indian coastguard ship INS Vijit is making a port call in Sihanoukville from Monday to Friday as part of the unit's ongoing "goodwill visit to Southeast Asia", the Indian embassy said in a press release on Monday.

Full Report

MALAYSIA | 27 MARCH | NEW STRAITS TIMES

PM: Malaysian maritime enforcement a fragmented affair; needs more coordination

Enforcing the various maritime laws in Malaysia is a fragmented affair, cutting across more than 10 ministries and 31 maritime-related agencies, said Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Full Report

CHINA | 27 MARCH | GLOBAL TIMES

Guangdong firm to build China's first 10,000 ton maritime patrol vessel

The Guangdong Maritime Safety Administration signed a contract for China's first 10,000 ton-class maritime patrol vessel on Tuesday, which experts said could sail the high seas and provide assistance to Chinese and foreign ships in need.

Full Report

SOUTH KOREA-UNITED STATES | 29 MARCH | CHOSUN ILBO

S. Korean, U.S. Coast Guards Hold Joint Exercise

Korea Coast Guard conducted a first-ever joint drill with its U.S. counterpart off the south coast of Jeju Island on Thursday.

Full Report



UNITED STATES-VIETNAM | 29 MARCH | VNEXPRESS

Boeing official says Vietnam military drone deal almost done

Boeing is close to sealing a deal to sell unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) to Vietnam, an official from the U.S. company revealed.

Full Report

SHIPPING, PORTS, AND THE MARITIME ECONOMY



CHINA-ITALY | 24 MARCH | THE STRAITS TIMES

As Italy joins China's Belt and Road, fear rises in EU

Mr Xi and Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte yesterday signed a memorandum of understanding in which Italy will officially join the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

Full Report

SINGAPORE | 4 MARCH | THE STRAITS TIMES

Parliament: Singapore to launch pilot for digitising shipping documents

A pilot project is starting later this year to turn paperbased bills of lading into electronic ones to reduce delays when container ships, especially those carrying perishable goods, dock and unload here.

Full Report

SOUTH KOREA | 7 MARCH | KOREA JOONGANG DAILY

Debt-equity swap planned for HHIC

The Korea Development Bank (KDB) announced Wednesday that creditors including Filipino banks have decided to normalize the management of Hanjin Heavy Industries and Construction (HHIC) through a debt-equity swap.

Full Report

BALTIC | 7 MARCH | MARITIME EXECUTIVE

Crusie industry creates over 12,500 jobs in the **Baltic region**

The cruise industry supports over 12,500 jobs in the region, according to a new study.,

Full Report

EUROPEAN UNION | 11 **MARCH CFISH** INFORMATION AND SERVICES

The Artic becomes free from commercial fishing for 16 years

Continue on page 9

Continued from page 8

The Council of the UE agreed to join the international agreement signed in October 2018 by the fives States on the coast of the Artic Ocean to prevent unregulated fishing in that area.

Full Report



THE PHILIPPINES | 11 MARCH | ECO-BUSINESS

Philippines' new marine protected area includes community-led monitoring program

A new marine protected area (MPA) has been founded in the Philippines within what are considered some of the most biologically diverse waters on Earth.

Full Report

CHINA-PHILIPPINES | 28 MARCH | ASIA TIMES

China debt trap fears shake the Philippines

Exposed terms of a Chinese infrastructure loan to Manila controversially allow for the confiscation of national assets in case of default.

Full Report

MYANMAR | 15 MARCH | FISH INFORMATION AND SERVICES

Fisheries sector forced to restructure as declining demand decimates earnings

Myanmar fisheries and marine product exports have been declining over the past year after big buyers like Saudi Arabia and the US stopped importing from the sector last year.

Full Report

INDONESIA-INDIA | 20 MARCH | THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Eyeing Southeast Asia, India builds port in Indonesia

India is developing its maiden deep-sea port in

Indonesia's Sabang close to Andaman and Nicobar Islands making its maiden foray in the southeast Asian amid China's slew of connectivity plans for ASEAN under BRI.

Full Report

INDIA | 22 MARCH | HELLENIC SHIPPING NEWS

Competition Body Moves To Crush Dpw Challenge

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has said in a court filing that a DP World challenge to a probe into its alleged anti-competitive practices at India's Jawaharlal Nehru Port (JNP) constitutes an attempt to stop or push back potential adverse findings against the operator.

Full Report

EUROPE | 26 MARCH | SPLASH 24/7

World Shipping Council slams ITF's Merk as block exemption debate gets bitter

The debate over whether or not the European Commission should extend container shipping's clock exemption regulation (BER) next year has got personal with liner lobbying group World Shipping Council yesterday attacking the regulations most vocal opponent.

Full Report

INDONESIA | 28 MARCH | ASIA MEDIA INTERNATIONAL

Indonesia: Fisheries Regulation and Sustainability Urgently Needed

Fisheries, or rather the poor management of fisheries, has generated a multitude of problems, ranging from environmental to economic to health. For Indonesia, a coastal country heavily reliant on the fishing industry, this issue must be addressed with urgency.

Full Report

CHINA | 30 MARCH | COIN TELEGRAPH

Chinese Shipping Giant to Explore Blockchain for Upstream Supply Chain Financing

China Shipbuilding Industry Company Limited (CSICL) is going to explore how it can apply blockchain to financing its upstream suppliers, reports official Chinese newspaper People's Daily on March 27.

Full Report