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



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NAVAL DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY



USA-SINGAPORE | 02 OCT | THE STRAITS TIMES

Singapore and US navies conduct live-firing at sea as part of bilateral exercise Pacific Griffin

Off the coast of Guam in the western Pacific Ocean, Singapore frigate RSS Formidable fired a surface-to-air missile to intercept a high-speed aerial target flying at a distance that was hard to observe on radar. The Aster missile was fired for the first time in Exercise Pacific Griffin, a bilateral exercise between the Singapore and US navies. [...] First conducted in 2017, Exercise Pacific Griffin highlights the strong navy-to-navy relations between Singapore and the US, as well as the excellent and longstanding bilateral defence relations between both countries, said [Singapore Ministry of Defence].

Full report

INDIA | 01 OCT | NAVAL NEWS

India's naval LCA prototype completes launch and recovery in a single sortie

The event took place at the Shore Based Test Facility INS Hansa, Goa). While both these activities had been achieved individually earlier, this was the first occasion when the complete cycle of launch and recovery necessary for aircraft carrier operations was accomplished in a single sortie.

Full report

THAILAND | 02 OCT | NAVAL TODAY

Royal Thai Navy commissions second Krabi-class OPV

The Royal Thai Navy commissioned its second Krabi-

class offshore patrol vessel in a ceremony in Sattahip, Chonburi, on September 27.

Full report

DPRK | 03 OCT | REUTERS

North Korea says it successfully tested new submarine-launched ballistic missile

North Korea said on Thursday it had successfully testfired a new submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) from the sea to contain external threats and bolster self-defense, ahead of fresh nuclear talks with

the United States. The launch on Wednesday was the most provocative by North Korea since it resumed dialogue with the United States in 2018 and a reminder by Pyongyang of the weapons capability it has been aggressively developing, including

intercontinental ballistic missiles, analysts said.

Full report

SOUTH KOREA | 11 OCT | THE STRAITS TIMES

South Korean Navy considering acquiring nuclear submarines

South Korea's navy said in a surprise announcement yesterday that it is considering acquiring nuclear-powered submarines, a move that would change the balance of power in North-east Asia and likely upset several of its neighbours.

Full report

UNITED KINGDOM | 14 OCT | NAVAL NEWS

First British F-35B land onboard HMS Queen Elizabeth

Flown by Royal Navy and Royal Air Force pilots, the Lightning jets are embarking in the 65,000 tonne carrier to conduct operational trials off the East Coast of the USA. This follows successful developmental trials last year with US Lightning jets, where forces conducted 500 take offs and landings over their 11-week period at sea.

Full report

INDIA | 18 OCT | THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Indian Navy committed to enhance cooperation with like-minded navies: Admiral Singh

Navy Chief Admiral Karambir Singh elucidated Navy's commitment to maritime cooperation through constructive engagement, collaborative effort, capacity building, capability enhancement.

Full report

MALAYSIA | 18 OCT | THE STRAITS TIMES

Malaysia needs a naval 'boost to deal with possible S. China Sea conflict'

Malaysia needs to boost its naval capabilities to prepare for possible conflict in the South China Sea, its foreign minister said yesterday, even as South-east Asia's third-largest economy pursues non-militarisation of the disputed waterway.

Full report

JAPAN-CHINA | 24 OCT | THE JAPAN TIMES

Japan's MSDF and Chinese Navy hold first joint military drills in eight years

The Maritime Self-Defense Force has conducted "goodwill exercises" with the Chinese Navy for the first time in eight years, the MSDF has said in a statement.

Full report

RUSSIA | 24 OCT | DEFENCE NEWS

Russian nuclear subs launch ICBMs in military drill

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Oct. 17 oversaw sweeping war games intended to test the readiness of the nation's strategic forces for a nuclear conflict.

Full report

FRANCE | 25 OCT | DEFENCE NEWS

Naval Group starts construction of France's Newest frigate

The first steel cut has been made for the new French FDI (defense and intervention) frigate, the Admiral Ronarc'h-class, which will be known on the export market as the Belh@arra.

Full report

UNITED STATES | 29 OCT | NAVAL NEWS

Newport News Shipbuilding delivers final block III Virginia-class submarine to U.S. Navy

Huntington Ingalls Industries' (HII) Newport News Shipbuilding division on Friday October 25 delivered the newest fast-attack submarine to the U.S. Navy.

Full report



UNITED STATES | 30 OCT | NAVAL NEWS

HII floods dry dock in preparation for christening of aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy (CVN 79)

Huntington Ingalls Industries (HII) began flooding the dry dock at its Newport News Shipbuilding division on October 29, where the keel of aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy (CVN 79) was laid in 2015.

Full report

MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY



IRAN-SAUDI ARABIA | 11 OCT | TIME

Iran says oil tanker damaged by missiles off the Saudi Coast

Two missiles struck an Iranian tanker traveling through the Red Sea off the coast of Saudi Arabia on Friday, Iranian officials said, the latest incident in the region amid months of heightened tensions between Tehran and the U.S.

Full Report

IRAN | 1 OCT | OIL PRICE

Iran Builds \$1.8B Oil Pipeline To Bypass Strait Of Hormuz

Iran is building an onshore oil pipeline worth US\$1.8 billion to a terminal just outside the Strait of Hormuz, the most critical oil chokepoint in the world, Iran's Oil Minister Bijan Zangeneh said.

Full Report

GLOBAL | 14 OCT | INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Maritime piracy incidents down in Q3, yet Gulf of Guinea remains a hot spot

The International Chamber of Commerce International Maritime Bureau's (IMB) report for the third quarter of 2019 demonstrates fewer incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships than the first nine months of 2018.

Full Report

PHILIPPINES | 15 OCT | BENAR NEWS

Philippines Conducts Maritime Exercises with US, Japan and Australia

The Philippines launched large-scale maritime drills on Wednesday with allies the United States and Japan near disputed areas in the South China Sea, military officials said Tuesday, amid heightened concern about Beijing's military influence in the region.

Full Report

SINGAPORE | 15 OCT | THE STRAITS TIMES

Defence chiefs from FPDA members meet in Singapore to discuss regional security concerns

Defence chiefs from five countries met on Tuesday (Oct 15) to discuss ways to tackle new security threats in the region, even as they looked forward to the jubilee of their security pact in 2021.

Full Report

Maritime Rescue Coordinating Centre to be developed by India State-owned defence company

Bharat Electronics Ltd., an Indian State-owned aerospace and defence company, has won Cabinet approval to set up a Maritime Rescue Coordinating Centre in Sri Lanka as part of the Government's policy of developing the country as a maritime hub.

<u>Full Report</u>

US-CHINA | 16 OCT | REUTERS

U.S. 'deeply concerned' about untrackable China ships carrying Iran oil: officials

The White House is warning Chinese shipping companies against turning off their ships' transponders to hide Iranian oil shipments in violation of U.S. sanctions, two senior administration officials said.

Full Report

PHILIPPINE-INDIA | 18 OCT | RAPPLER

PH, India sign maritime security deal during Kovind visit

An agreement to cooperate in enhancing maritime security was signed by the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) and Indian Navy during the state visit of Indian President Ram Nath Kovind to the Philippines.

Full Report

JAPAN | 20 OCT | THE JAPAN TIMES

Japan considers assigning two SDF vessels to new Middle East mission

Japan may assign two Self-Defense Force vessels to help protect Middle East waterways as part of a dispatch plan under consideration, according to a government source .

Full Report

SINGAPORE | 21 OCT | THE STRAITS TIMES

Private operators join maritime drills for first time

Exercise Highcrest, which was first held in 2013, is coordinated by the Singapore Maritime Crisis Centre based in RSS Singapura-Changi Naval Base.

Full Report

AUSTRALIA | 21 OCT | AIR FORCE TECHNOLOGY

RAAF deploys P-8A Poseidon to Middle East for maritime security

The Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) has deployed a P-8A Poseidon aircraft to the Middle East in support of a US-led internal maritime security coalition.

UNITED STATES | 22 OCT | USNI

U.S. Coast Guard Mulling More Operations in Oceania

The U.S. Coast Guard is looking at longer deployments to the Western Pacific region following the successful execution of the Operation Aiga deployment to Samoa and American Samoa, commandant Adm. Karl Schultz told reporters on Monday.

Full Report

INDONESIA | 23 OCT | ANTARA NEWS

Policy on sinking illegal fishing boats to continue

Indonesia will continue the policy of sinking boats found to be illegally fishing in its waters, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Minister Edhy Prabowo said. The effort was intended to maintain the sovereignty of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia (NKRI).

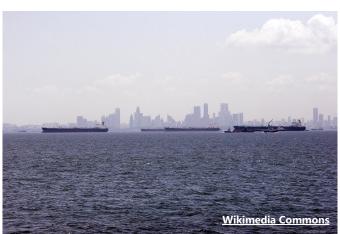
Full Report

SINGAPORE STRAIT | 23 OCT | SEATRADE MARITIME NEWS

Three piracy incidences reported within 20 days in Singapore Strait

Three incidences of piracy have been reported in close proximity to each other in the Singapore Strait within a period of 20 days up until 19 October, according to a latest update by ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC).

Full Report



CHINA-VIETNAM | 24 OCT | SCMP

Chinese oil survey ship finally leaves Vietnamcontrolled waters after months-long stand-off

A Chinese oil survey vessel that has been embroiled in a tense stand-off with Vietnamese vessels in the South China Sea left Vietnamese-controlled waters on Thursday after more than three months, marine data showed.

Full Report

SHIPPING, PORTS, AND THE MARITIME ECONOMY



CHINA | 26 OCTOBER | NIKKEI ASIAN REVIEW

Top Chinese shipbuilders CSSC and CSIC win approval for merger

The two largest shipbuilders in China will merge, forming a commercial and military contractor expected to hold a global market share of nearly one-fifth, after the government on Friday approved their planned union.

Full Report

GLOBAL | 1 OCTOBER | SHIP INSIGHT

BIMCO SUBMITS SLOW STEAMING PROPOSAL TO IMO

Copenhagen-based shipping body BIMCO has submitted a proposal to the IMO to regulate propulsion power of ships in order to sustain the GHG savings already achieved through slower steaming.

Full Report

SINGAPORE | 4 OCTOBER | THE STRAITS TIMES

Tuas Port set to be world's largest fully automated terminal

The new Tuas Port will use automated technology to carry out its key operations, as Singapore sets out to reinvigorate and re-imagine the maritime industry which employs 170,000 people here.

Full Report

VIETNAM | 7 OCTOBER | JOC

Vietnam plans mega-port as Da Nang congestion builds

Vietnam is planning a major new port facility to alleviate congestion at the Da Nang Port complex, the country's third-largest port system, which is located in its central region.

Full Report

INDIA | 8 OCTOBER | THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

India looks to privatize its biggest shipping company

The Indian government is again looking to sell its majority stake in the country's biggest shipping company, but may face the same headwinds that have blocked past privatization efforts.

Full Report

SOUTH KOREA | 12 OCTOBER | HELLENIC SHIPPING NEWS

Korea Expected to Spearhead Establishment of International Standards on LPG-Fueled Ships

South Korea is expected to lead a move to set up international standards on building ships fueled by LPG.

Full Report

GREECE-CHINA | 14 OCTOBER | THE NATIONAL HERALD

China's COSCO Gets OK for \$670M Piraeus Overhaul

Blocked by the former ruling Radical Left SYRIZA from renovating the port of Piraeus it operates, China's COSCO got approval from the new New Democracy for a modified \$670 million scheme that won't include a mall as planned after

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local businesses complained about competition.

Full Report

EUROPE | 15 OCTOBER | FISH INFORMATION AND SERVICES

Conservation NGOs angry at EU for setting Baltic TACs above sustainable levels

Following news that the EU Agriculture and Fisheries Council (AGRIFISH) has today set five out of ten fishing limits for fish caught in the Baltic Sea, far above the EU fisheries legal requirements for sustainable fishing levels in 2020, conservation NGOs have expressed their outrage, accusing EU governments of acting with no regard to the law, and ignoring the ongoing overfishing and devastation of the Baltic Sea's ecosystem.

Full Report

RUSSIA | 21 OCTOBER | THE MOSCOW TIMES

Russia Plans to Lure Shippers From Suez to the Arctic With Payments

Russia wants to make its Arctic waters more attractive to shippers than the Suez Canal and could be willing to compensate for potential risks to make that happen.

Full Report



INDIA | 22 OCTOBER | JOC

India mulls port structure overhaul to boost efficiency

The Indian government is accelerating its port development efforts as global transport giants continue to see the country as a promising freight spot.

Full Report

THAILAND | 23 OCTOBER | SEAFOOD SOURCE

Despite pressure from domestic fishing groups, Thailand pledges to continue reforms on IUU fishing, forced labor

Thailand Deputy Prime Minister General Prawit Wongsuwan has confirmed his country will continue to reform its seafood industry, despite mounting pressure from domestic fishing groups

Full Report

TANZANIA-CHINA | 23 OCTOBER | GLOBAL CONSTRUCTION REVIEW

Tanzania issues ultimatum to China Merchant Holdings over \$11bn Bagamoyo project

The government of Tanzania has issued an ultimatum to China Merchants Holdings International (CMHI), one of the main investors in the \$11bn Bagamoyo megaport.

Full Report

EUROPE | 25 OCTOBER | GOVERNMENT EUROPA

Sustainable blue economy strategy to release €2.5bn in EIB investment

The European Investment Bank (EIB) has launched its Blue Sustainable Ocean Strategy, pledging €2.5bn for building a sustainable blue economy.

Full Report

THE PHILIPPINES | 26 OCTOBER | SUN STAR

DENR maps out plans for protected areas

Around a hundred marine protected area managers, ecosystem management specialists, and development management officers of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in four regions converged recently in a bid to strengthen the protection of marine protected areas (MPA) in the country.

Full Report

GLOBAL | 30 OCTOBER | UNCTAD

Global maritime trade suffers as US-China trade tensions and uncertainty take toll

The Review of Maritime Transport 2019, released today, shows a dip in maritime trade growth. Trade policy crosscurrents, geopolitics and sanctions, environmental concerns, fuel economics and tensions involving the Strait of Hormuz – a strategic maritime chokepoint – all contributed to decelerated growth in merchandise trade.

Full Report

SINGAPORE | 30 OCTOBER | THE BUSINESS TIMES

New digital shopfront for Singapore terminal, marine services to boost port efficiency

The harnessing of technology is crucial for propelling the maritime sector forward, said Deputy Prime Minister Heng Swee Keat on Wednesday as he launched the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore's (MPA) new digital platform for providing one-stop clearance for vessel-related transactions.

Full Report

EUROPE | 31 OCTOBER | THE MEDI TELEGRAPH

ECSA launches strategic priorities for EU shipping

The European Community Shipowners' Association has published its new strategic priorities for 2019-2024.

<u>Full Report</u>