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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:

Singapore Navy Commissions Final Three Littoral Mission Vessels

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Maritime Safety and Security:

Indonesia Sends More Warships, Submarine To Natuna As China Backs Down

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Shipping, Ports, and the Maritime Economy:

Coronavirus: Chinese Ports Grind To a Halt While Yards Declare Force Majeure

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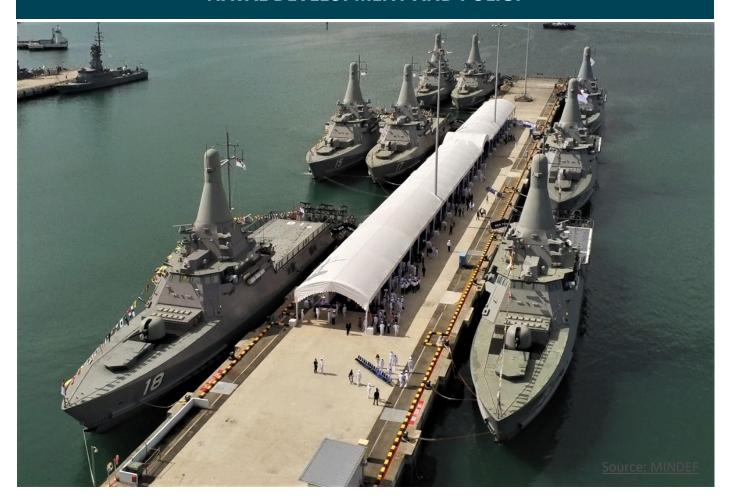
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NAVAL DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY



SINGAPORE | 31 JAN | MINDEF SINGAPORE

Singapore Navy Commissions Final Three Littoral Mission Vessels

The commissioning of the final three LMVs marks a significant milestone for the RSN as all eight LMVs are operationalised, strengthening the Navy's capabilities to safeguard Singapore's waters, protect its Sea Lines of Communication and contribute to regional peace and security.

Full report

INDIA | 20 JAN | THE ECONOMIC TIMES

Sukhoi 30-MKI Fighter Aircraft Equipped With BrahMos To Be Deployed In Northern Sector As Per Threat Analysis, Says Air Force Chief

Sukhoi-30MKI fighter aircraft, equipped with 'BrahMos supersonic cruise missile, was inducted at Thanjavur airbase on Monday. The missile can hit targets at around 300 kilometers with precision. Bhadauria said that the decision to deploy the Su-30 MKI at Thanjavur was taken due to its strategic location.

Full report

CHINA | 13 JAN | JANE'S

Chinese Navy's First Type 055-Class Destroyer Enters Service

China's first Type 055 (Renhai)-class destroyer entered service with the People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) on 12 January: an occasion marked by a long-anticipated commissioning ceremony held at the Xiaokouzi naval base south of Qingdao.

Full report

GLOBAL | 17 JAN | IISS

Navies Seek To Boost Auxiliary Power

As the logistics and auxiliary requirements of sustaining operations

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in a more contested naval domain are on the rise, global navies are refocusing on what is increasingly being seen as a valuable asset.

Full report

INDIA | 19 JAN | THE PRINT

India Test Fires K-4, a 3,500 km Nuclear-Capable Missile Meant For Arihant Submarine

K-4 is the most potent missile that India can fire from a submarine, giving the country unprecedented second-strike capability and huge deterrence power.

Full report

USA | 27 JAN | USNI NEWS

Navy's First MQ-4C Triton Unmanned Aircraft Deploy To Guam

About a year later than initially expected, the first two MQ-4C Triton unmanned aircraft arrived in Guam over the weekend, marking a significant step toward increasing the Navy's Western Pacific reconnaissance and surveillance capability.

Full report

FRANCE | 22 JAN | NAVAL NEWS

French Carrier Strike Group Begins 'Foch' Deployment

The French Navy (Marine Nationale) Carrier Strike Group set sail yesterday for a long operational deployment named "Foch". Aircraft Carrier Charles de Gaulle and its escort set course to the Eastern Mediterranean before sailing for the Northern Atlantic area.

Full report

INDIA | 13 JAN | NAVAL TECHNOLOGY

LCA Naval Version Lands On-Board Vikramaditya Aircraft Carrier

The naval version of the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) has completed its maiden arrested landing on the INS Vikramaditya aircraft carrier. The development comes after the LCA Navy completed extensive trials on the Shore Based Test Facility (SBTF). Developed by India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), the fighter LCA Navy made its maiden flight in April 2012.

PHILIPPINES | 29 JAN | MANILA BULLETIN

PH Navy Retires Two 'Legacy' Ships, New Ones To Arrive Later This Year

The Philippine Navy decommissioned on Wednesday two ships that have served the country for several decades as it sets its sights on training its personnel to operate new and upcoming assets.

Full report

INDONESIA | 23 JAN | NAVY RECOGNITION

Indonesia's First Domestic Submarine Undergoing Sea Trials

Indonesian state-owned shipbuilder PT PAL launched the first diesel-electric submarine built in Indonesia on April 11, 2019, in Surabaya. The Alugoro (405) is the third of the Nagapasa-class submarine (also known as the DSME 1400 design or Improved Chang Bogo-class) for the Indonesian Navy.

Full report



VIETNAM | 02 JAN | THE DIPLOMAT

First Landing Ship Tank Ship Puts Vietnam's Naval Capabilities Into Focus

The keel was reportedly laid down for a new landing tank ship for Vietnam. The development highlighted one aspect of Hanoi's broader, ongoing effort to develop its military capabilities.

Full report

MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY



INDONESIA | 09 JAN | JANE'S

Indonesia Sends More Warships, Submarine To Natuna As China Backs Down

The Indonesian Navy has deployed more vessels to the Natuna Islands in the South China Sea, even as Beijing appears to have backed down from a nearly two-week stand-off over disputed maritime territory in the area. These deployments are in addition to the two Kapitan Pattimura (Parchim I) anti-submarine corvettes, KRI *Teuku Umar* (385) and KRI *Tjiptadi* (381), both of which have been put on heightened operational alertness at Great Natuna Island since early January 2020.

Full report

INDONESIA-CHINA | 2 JAN | SCMP

How Indonesia's South China Sea Dispute With Beijing Could Lead To Tough ASEAN Stance On Code Of Conduct

Indonesia's latest protest against Chinese activities in its territorial waters close to the disputed South China Sea was rebuffed by Beijing on Thursday.

Full Report

ASEAN | 9 JAN | NEW STRAITS TIMES

South China Sea Issue To Feature In ASEAN Talks

Vietnam is expected to ensure all ASEAN

meetings touch on the South China Sea issue to enable the regional grouping to be better prepared in dealing with China.

Full Report

JAPAN | 11 JAN | JAPAN TIMES

Two SDF Planes Embark On Pioneer Intelligence-Gathering Mission In Middle East

Two Japanese patrol planes left Okinawa for the Middle East on Saturday in what will be the Self-Defense Forces' first long-term intelligence-gathering mission abroad.

Full Report

Philippine Navy Deploys Two Ships To Middle East To Repatriate Filipinos

The Philippine Navy has deployed two ships to help repatriate Filipinos in the Middle East as tensions in the region are rising.

Full report

SINGAPORE STRAIT | 15 JAN | THE STRAITS TIMES

Military Leaders From Four Littoral States Meet To Tackle Spike In Robberies In Singapore Strait

Senior military leaders from Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia will meet on Wednesday (Jan 15) to discuss ways to combat the recent spike in sea robberies in the Singapore Strait.

Full Report

GULF OF GUINEA | 15 JAN | AFRICA TIMES

Global Piracy Down, But Gulf Of Guinea Sees A Spike

There were 121 crew members kidnapped on ships attacked in the Gulf of Guinea in 2019, representing a more than 50 percent increase despite global trends that saw a decline in overall piracy incidents.

Full Report

MALACCA STRAIT | 16 JAN | MALAYSIAKINI

Malacca Straits Patrol Meeting To See Signing Of Revised Procedures

The signing of the revised Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) is expected to take place at the conclusion of the 14th Malacca Straits Patrol (MSP) Joint Coordinating Committee meeting today.

Full Report

SOUTH KOREA | 21 JAN | YONHAP NEWS

S. Korea's Decision For 'Independent' Naval Ops In Hormuz Strait Seeks Delicate Balance Between U.S., Iran

South Korea's decision to send troops to the tense Strait of Hormuz for "independent" naval operations drove home its desire to cement alliance cooperation with the United States and avoid straining ties with its trade partner, Iran.

INDIA-SRI LANA | 18 JAN | COLOMBO PAGE

India Pledges US\$ 50 Million Assistance To Sri Lanka To Buy Security Equipment

India has pledged a US\$ 50 million assistance to Sri Lanka to help the country purchase equipment for its security forces, when National Security Advisor of India Ajit Doval called on Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa on Saturday.

Full Report

UNITED STATES | 28 JAN | USNI NEWS

USS Montgomery Conducts First 2020 FONOP in South China Sea

Over the weekend, Littoral Combat Ship USS Montgomery (LCS-8) conducted a freedom of navigation operation through waters near the Spratly Islands claimed by China, Taiwan and Vietnam, the Navy said.

Full Report

EUROPE | 31 JAN | NAVALNEWS

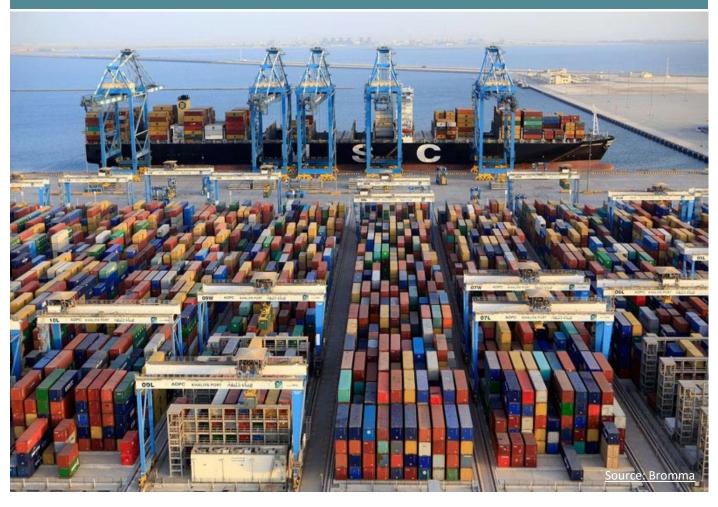
European-Led Coalition In The Straits of Hormuz Begins Operations

The European-led mission in the Strait of Hormuz (EMASOH) is now operational, the French Ministry of Armed Forces stated yesterday. The EMASOH headquarters, composed of Belgian, Danish, Dutch and French officers, is based at the French naval base in Abu Dhabi.

Full report



SHIPPING, PORTS, AND THE MARITIME ECONOMY



CHINA | 31 JAN | SPLASH 24/7

Coronavirus: Chinese Ports Grind To a Halt While Yards Declare Force Majeure

Agents and brokers are reporting operations are slowing down at Chinese ports and shipyards as the coronavirus takes its toll and the Lunar New Year holidays are extended.

Full Report

INDIA | 2 JAN | RIVIERA

India Passes Major Ship Recycling Law

The Recycling of Ships Bill 2019 was passed by the Indian Parliament on 9 December 2019. The bill ratifies the Hong Kong Convention.

Full Report

RUSSIA | 2 JAN | THE MOSCOW TIMES

Moscow Adopts 15-Year Grand Plan For Northern Sea Route

Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev has approved the country's development plan for its Northern Sea Route.

Full Report

CHINA-MYANMAR | 10 JAN | THE IRRAWADDY

Myanmar, China to Sign Agreements on SEZ, Border Economic Cooperation During President Xi's Visit

Myanmar and China are planning to sign at least three memorandums of understanding (MOUs) paving the way for the construction of the Kyaukphyu Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Rakhine State and promoting economic cooperation in border areas, during Chinese President Xi Jinping's two-day visit to Myanmar next week.

Full Report

CHINA | 13 JAN | SEATRADE MARITIME NEWS

CSSC Gets Green Light For Internal Restructuring

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The former southern shipbuilding group CSSC of the newly restructured China State Shipbuilding Corporation has obtained approval from China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) on an internal restructuring plan.

Full Report

GLOBAL | 14 JAN | RIVIERA

Venture Funding In Maritime Technology Leaps To US\$1.14Bn

Around US\$1.14Bn in venture capital was invested in maritime and digital freight forwarding technologies in 2019, a huge leap from just US\$190M in 2018.

Full Report

CHINA-SRI LANKA | 15 JAN | SEATRADE MARITIME NEWS

China And Sri Lanka Wow Promotion Of Shipping And Logistics Sectors

China and Sri Lanka agreed to further promote the development of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the shipping and logistics sectors during the meeting of Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi with Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa.

Full Report



JAPAN | 16 JAN | 4C OFFSHORE

Northern Offshore Group Inks MoU With Japanese Shipping Line

Northern Offshore Group and NYK Line have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to cooperate within the offshore wind industry. It primarily concerns the building and operating of Crew Transfer Vessels (CTVs).

Full Report

US-SOUTH KOREA | 23 JAN | BUSINESS KOREA

South Korea Removed from U.S. List of Potential IUU Fishing Countries in Four Months

The U.S. government removed South Korea from its list of potential illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing countries in four months.

Full Report

GLOBAL | 24 JAN | FISH INFORMATION AND SERVICES

WWF Formally Objects MSC Certification Of Bluefin Tuna Fishery

WWF has formally objected to the first Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification of an Atlantic bluefin tuna fishery, warning that this would provide a dangerous incentive to the market and compromise the long-term recovery of the stock.

Full Report'

GLOBAL | 28 JAN | JOC.COM

IMO To Review Black Carbon Fuel Emissions Concerns

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) next month will review concerns that some blends of the new very low-sulfur fuel oil (VLSFO) emit higher levels of black carbon than the heavy marine oil they are meant to replace.

Full Report

BANGLADESH | 29 JAN | THE LOAD STAR

DP World Unveils \$1bn Bangladesh Logistics Infrastructure Investment Plan

Dubai-based terminal operator DP World wants to invest US\$1bn in Bangladesh's container supply chain infrastructure, including ports, rail network and inland container terminals.

Full Report

GLOBAL | 31 JAN | REUTERS

Credit Suisse, Others Back Initiative To Factor CO2 Cuts Into Shipping Finance

Credit Suisse (CSGN.S), BNP Paribas (BNPP.PA) and French public investment bank Bpifrance are the latest lenders to join an initiative to link provision of shipping finance to cuts in carbon dioxide emissions.

Full Report

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