

October 31, 2024

SYLLOGE ON CHINA

Focus: Nuclear, Space, Missiles and other Security Issues

**An Initiative by the Nuclear and Arms Control Centre,
MP-IDSA**



Build 'bridges of the heart' between China, LAC

Global Times, October 21, 2024

President Xi Jinping put forward the initiative of building of a community with a shared future between China and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) for the first time in Brazil in 2014, setting the direction for the development of China-LAC relations in the new era. LAC nations responded positively and widely to his proposal. Over the past decade, thanks to the joint efforts of both sides, the construction of the China-LAC community with a shared future has continuously yielded new achievements, ushering China-LAC relations into a new era characterized by equality, mutual benefit, innovation, openness and shared prosperity.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202410/1321603.shtml>

India says deal reached with China on patrols at disputed border

John Reed, and Edward White

Financial Times, October 21, 2024

India and China have reached an agreement on patrolling arrangements along their disputed border, a senior Indian official has said, paving the way for an easing of tensions between the two nuclear-armed neighbours that have overshadowed their diplomatic and trading relations. Vikram Misri, India's foreign secretary, announced the understanding on the eve of a summit of leaders of Brics countries in Kazan, Russia, which the Indian and Chinese leaders — Narendra Modi and Xi Jinping — are both due to attend. India and China refer to their frontier as the Line of Actual Control, and clashes between the two sides in eastern Ladakh in 2020 left at least 24 troops, mostly Indians, dead.

<https://www.ft.com/content/e2929860-9f34-451b-98b9-c525562778ee>

Myanmar military plays catch-up in drone war with insurgents

Dominic Faulder

Nikkei Asia, October 22, 2024

In mid-September, Admiral Dong Jun, China's defence minister, opened the 11th Beijing Xiangshan Forum, an increasingly important Asia-Pacific security gathering. It was attended by over 1,800 delegates, including 22 deputy prime ministers. The latter included Myanmar's Gen. Tin Aung San, who also serves as minister of defence. He was received by Gen. He Weidong, vice chairman of the Central Military Commission. The two sides discussed increased cooperation in military technology and the "dispatch of trainees," according to local media reports.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Myanmar-Crisis/Myanmar-military-plays-catch-up-in-drone-war-with-insurgents>

'Moon bricks' to be sent to space station

Zhao Lei

China Daily, October 22, 2024

Chinese scientists have made some bricks using simulated lunar soil and plan to send them to the nation's Tiangong space station for experiments, according to China Central Television. The State broadcaster quoted Professor Zhou Cheng from Huazhong University of Science and Technology, where the bricks were made, as saying that the interlocking blocks were made inside a vacuum hot-pressing furnace that heated the materials, which simulated the composition of real lunar soil, up to about 1,000 C to be sintered. Each brick is more than three times stronger than a standard red brick or concrete brick, which means each square centimeter is able to support more than 1 metric ton of weight, he said. The composition of lunar soil varies in different locations on the moon, Zhou said, noting that there is one composition of the brick that simulates the soil at the landing site of China's Chang'e 5 probe, which is mainly basalt.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202410/22/WS67170291a310f1265a1c8d82.html>

Xi Jinping tightens stranglehold on China's academia

Joe Leahy, Sun Yu and Kana Inagaki

Financial Times, October 23, 2024

A Chinese scholar who was one of the most prominent critics of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine has been forced into early retirement, becoming the latest victim of a crackdown by Beijing on academics. Hu Wei, a top government adviser, sparked fierce online debate in China at the outbreak of the war in 2022 by calling for Beijing to "cut off as soon as possible" its ties with Vladimir Putin, a position that ran directly against Chinese leader Xi Jinping's policy of closely courting the Russian president.

<https://www.ft.com/content/ec275362-792d-4880-b53f-229040a4f0b4>

Drones, robot dogs debut in radiation accident emergency drill

Global Times, October 23, 2024

Advanced equipment including drones with radiation sensors, source-seeking robot dogs, and radiation disposal robots were exhibited at the Hu'an-2024 emergency exercise in East China's Shanghai. These advanced devices provide a reliable guarantee for quickly finding out-of-control radioactive sources and avoiding high-dose radiation exposure to emergency responders. The exercise deployed nearly 200 sets of the latest domestic radiation emergency equipment, including radiation emergency vehicles, drone-based source-seeking system, radiation source

disposal robots, radiation source search robot dogs, and decontamination vehicles, according to The Paper.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202410/1321666.shtml>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on Taiwan's Defence Ministry saying that it is monitoring a Chinese aircraft carrier passing through the Taiwan Strait

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, October 23, 2024

Taiwan is a province of China. There is no so-called "defence ministry" or "defence minister" of Taiwan. What you asked about is not about foreign affairs either. Taiwan is part of China's territory. It is just normal for China's aircraft carrier to carry out relevant activities. Whatever the Taiwan authorities say or do, they cannot change the fact that both sides of the Taiwan Strait belong to one and the same China. Nor can they change the trend that the two sides of the Strait will and must be reunified.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202410/t20241023_11513371.html

MSS unveils spy activities intended to steal national secrets from space

Fan Anqi and Shen Sheng

Global Times, October 23, 2024

Foreign intelligence agencies have been conducting remote sensing detection on China through high-precision satellites, with the intention of observing and stealing secrets from space in recent years, China's Ministry of State Security (MSS) revealed. "Space security represents a frontier in the expansion of national security from traditional domains to emerging fields in the new era. It is a crucial aspect of safeguarding national strategic interests and demonstrating national security capabilities," the MSS said in an article published on its official WeChat account. It stressed that space security holds significant and far-reaching strategic and overall importance for defending the country's sovereignty, safety and development interests.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202410/1321714.shtml>

Xi reaffirms China-Russia ties in 'chaotic' world as BRICS summit opens

Pak Yiu

Nikkei Asia, October 23, 2024

China and Russia have made groundbreaking achievements and will expand cooperation to revitalize and modernize the two countries, Chinese President Xi Jinping said in a meeting with

Russian President Vladimir Putin. Putin, during their meeting in Kazan, Russia, said cooperation by the two countries on global affairs has been a main stabilizing factor in the world.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/International-relations/Xi-reaffirms-China-Russia-ties-in-chaotic-world-as-BRICS-summit-opens>

China struggles to break US chip design ‘chokehold’

Christian Davies, Michael Acton and Eleanor Olcott

Financial Times, October 24, 2024

Chinese companies are struggling to close the gap on US-based rivals in a crucial corner of the global semiconductor market. The global EDA sector is dominated by three US-based companies — Synopsys, Cadence and Siemens EDA — which between them produce almost all of the software required to design, produce and test the most sophisticated chips. The trio account for close to 80 per cent of China’s EDA market, according to Shanghai-based consultancy ICWise Research, despite Chinese efforts to produce homegrown cutting-edge chips. China is pushing for its companies to take a bigger share as it races to establish a bigger domestic chip industry in the face of sweeping US export controls.

<https://www.ft.com/content/d3cd1f85-652c-4613-85c6-9cae033d8042>

US' predicament in seeking lunar soil samples from China a self-inflicted problem

Global Times, October 24, 2024

The lunar soil samples collected by China's Chang'e-5 spacecraft have drawn significant attention from the US. According to Reuters, NASA Administrator Bill Nelson stated that NASA and Chinese officials are engaged in talks to let American scientists analyze the samples, expressing that the talks will end "positively." However, the report also reveals that some US officials are hesitant about a potential agreement thinking it could weaken the US posture of toughness toward China. This highlights the distorted mind-set underlying the desire for US involvement in studying the Chinese samples while not giving up its zero-sum approach in its relationship with China.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202410/1321793.shtml>

China’s 1st reusable satellite payloads returned

The State Council, the People’s Republic of China, October 25, 2024

Scientific payloads returned from the maiden flight of China's first reusable satellite were delivered to their owners. At a handover ceremony held by the China National Space Administration at its

Beijing headquarters, the CNSA delivered payloads to governmental departments and officials, including authorities from the provinces of Hainan and Anhui and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs. It also handed over payloads to foreign officials from countries such as Thailand and Pakistan. Meanwhile, China Aerospace Science and Technology Corp, the nation's leading space contractor and the satellite's maker, delivered commercial goods to domestic enterprises. The articles delivered, arrived after a 13.5-day flight with Shijian 19, the first Chinese recoverable satellite that can be reused. Previously, China had launched nearly 30 recoverable satellites, but none of them could be reused.

https://english.www.gov.cn/news/202410/25/content_WS671b0cbfc6d0868f4e8ec491.html#:~:text=The%20articles%20delivered%20on%20Thursday,of%20them%20could%20be%20reused

MOFA welcomes European Parliament resolution on PRC's misinterpretation of UNGA Resolution 2758 and continuous military provocations against Taiwan

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of China (Taiwan), October 25, 2024

The European Parliament (EP) on October 24 adopted a resolution concerning the misinterpretation of United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 2758 by the People's Republic of China and its continuous military provocations around Taiwan by an overwhelming majority of 432 votes in favor and 60 against. The EP resolution strongly opposes the PRC distorting UNGA Resolution 2758 to block Taiwan's international participation and calls on the European Union and its member states to support Taiwan's meaningful participation in relevant international organizations. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) strongly affirms and sincerely appreciates this support.

https://en.mofa.gov.tw/News_Content.aspx?n=1328&s=118344

China lodges solemn representation after EP passes Taiwan island-related resolution that violates one-China principle

Global Times, October 25, 2024

China expresses strong indignation and resolute opposition to the erroneous act that violates the one-China principle and interferes in China's internal affairs, and has lodged a solemn representation to the European side, said a spokesperson from the Chinese Mission to the European Union, in response to the European Parliament (EP) unilaterally passing a resolution related to China's Taiwan region. The EP, disregarding China's strong opposition, maliciously distorted United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 2758. This is a distortion of facts, a violation of international law, and a blatant provocation against the post-war international order and established norms of international relations, said the spokesperson, according to the Chinese Mission to the EU.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202410/1321852.shtml>

Chinese space tourism set for 2027 take-off with aerospace firm offering US\$210,000 seats

Meredith Chen

South China Morning Post, October 25, 2024

The countdown has begun for the launch of Chinese space tourism, with a private space firm selling two tickets – at 1.5 million yuan (US\$210,000) each – for seats on a rocket ride in 2027. Tech start-up Deep Blue Aerospace, which is based in eastern Jiangsu province, said its first passengers would be sent on a journey of around 12 minutes during which they could experience at least five minutes of weightlessness in outer space before heading back to Earth.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3283890/chinese-space-tourism-set-2027-take-aerospace-firm-offering-us210000-seats>

China expands DF-26 launcher inventory

Christopher Biggers

Janes, October 25, 2024

Umbra synthetic aperture radar (SAR) imagery captured at 1045L on September 9, 2024 shows that 59 DF-26 intermediate-range ballistic missile (IRBM) transporter-erector-launchers (TELs) remain parked in a new staging area at the Beijing Xinghang Electromechanical Equipment Factory. Commercial imagery throughout 2023–24 suggests the factory has assembled at least 72 DF-26 TELs since the last batch was delivered to the People's Liberation Army Rocket Force (PLARF) in 2020–21. The number of TELs identified in 2024 could constitute up to two full 36 TEL brigades. The US Department of Defense (DoD) 2023 China Military Power Report, which was published in October covering developments to the end of 2022, noted that China has continued to increase its DF-26 inventory, estimating that the PLARF had reached 250 IRBM launchers.

<https://www.janes.com/osint-insights/defence-news/defence/china-expands-df-26-launcher-inventory>

TSMC suspended shipments to China firm after chip found on Huawei processor, sources say

Karen Freifeld and Fanny Potkin

US News, October 26, 2024

Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company suspended shipments to China-based chip designer Sophgo after a chip it made was found on a Huawei AI processor, according to two

people familiar with the matter. Sophgo had ordered chips from TSMC that matched the one found on Huawei's Ascend 910B, the people said. Huawei is restricted from buying the technology to protect U.S. national security. Reuters could not determine how the chip ended up on the Huawei product. Sophgo said in a statement on its website on Sunday that it was in compliance with all laws and had never engaged in any business relationship with Huawei. Sophgo, which is affiliated with cryptocurrency mining equipment company Bitmain, said it had provided a detailed investigation report to TSMC to prove that it was not related to Huawei.

<https://www.usnews.com/news/top-news/articles/2024-10-26/tsmc-suspended-shipments-to-china-firm-after-chip-found-on-huawei-processor-sources-say>

China tightens its hold on minerals needed to make computer chips

Deccan Herald, October 26, 2024

In a series of steps made in recent weeks, the Chinese government has made it considerably harder for foreign companies, particularly semiconductor manufacturers, to purchase the many rare earth metals and other minerals mined and refined mainly in China. Already, China produces almost all the world's supply of these materials. The new restrictions solidify that market dominance. As of October 1, exporters must provide authorities with detailed, step-by-step tracings of how shipments of rare earth metals are used in Western supply chains. That has given China greater authority over which overseas companies receive scarce supplies.

<https://www.deccanherald.com/world/china-tightens-its-hold-on-minerals-needed-to-make-computer-chips-3250553>

China vows to take ‘countermeasures’ over US and Taiwan \$2bn arms deal

The Guardian, October 27, 2024

China will take “countermeasures” to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity, the government said, lambasting a \$2bn arms sale package by the United States to Taiwan. The Pentagon said the United States had approved a potential \$2bn arms sale package to Taiwan, including the delivery for the first time to the island of an advanced air defence missile system battle-tested in Ukraine, including advanced surface-to-air missile systems and radar. The deal awaits approval by Congress. In a statement, China’s foreign ministry said it strongly condemned and firmly opposed the sales and had lodged “solemn representations” with the US.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/oct/27/us-taiwan-arms-deal-china-vows-countermeasures-nasams>

Chinese hackers said to have collected audio of American calls

Ellen Nakashima and Josh Dawsey

The Washington Post, October 27, 2024

Chinese state-affiliated hackers have collected audio from the phone calls of U.S. political figures, according to three people familiar with the matter. Those whose calls have been intercepted include an unnamed Trump campaign adviser, said one of the people. The hackers are said to be part of a Chinese government-affiliated group that American researchers have dubbed Salt Typhoon. They were able to collect audio on a number of calls as part of a wide-ranging espionage operation that began months ago, according to the people, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because a federal investigation is underway. The government is still seeking to determine how much audio the hackers have, one of the people said.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2024/10/27/chinese-hackers-cellphones-trump/>

China remains an anchor of stability for global security

Hua Gesheng

China Daily, October 28, 2024

This year is the first since the proposal of the Global Security Initiative (GSI). In July 2024, the China Institute of International Studies (CIIS) and the Center for Global Security Initiative Studies launched a progress report, chronicling China's efforts to promote cooperation under the GSI framework and the Initiative's early harvests. Both proven track record and public opinion show that China remains a provider of much-needed stability and certainty amid turbulence and turmoil.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202410/28/WS671f2388a310f1265a1c9fd9.html>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on spying allegations by the US

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, October 28, 2024

For some time, a very few Western media outlets have been peddling disinformation on so-called espionage activities by China, but they presented no facts or evidence apart from some assumptions and speculations. The CIA recently posted on social media instructions in Chinese on how to contact it online, in an attempt to lure Chinese personnel to be their informant. This seriously infringes on China's national interest. China strongly protests this. We will resolutely crack down on infiltration and sabotage activities by anti-China forces outside China and defend national sovereignty, security and development interest. The CIA has long been using all kinds of despicable methods to steal other countries' secrets, interfere in their internal affairs and commit

subversion. The US has never stopped its espionage activities against China. It has also long been conducting massive surveillance and secret theft against its allies. The US on the one hand blatantly carries out spying activities worldwide, yet on the other makes unwarranted accusation of spying threat against other countries.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202410/t20241028_11517200.html

As ties with the U.S. worsen, China asks: Who's the new Kissinger?

Christian Shepherd and Katrina Northrop

The Washington Post, October 28, 2024

As the U.S. election approaches, China is on the hunt for the “new Henry Kissinger” — someone who is a friend of Beijing but has the ear of the incoming president. Someone who Chinese officials hope can cut through the bipartisan hostility toward China and encourage Washington to engage — as Kissinger did for five decades. In Beijing’s foreign policy circles, the race for the White House is often cast as lose-lose, with former president Donald Trump and Vice President Kamala Harris both signaling they will take a tough line on China, despite differing on policy details. Chinese experts fear Trump’s return would mean a full-blown trade war with blanket tariffs on Chinese goods.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/10/28/china-united-states-relations-kissinger/>

Chinese state-owned nuclear company claims breakthrough with radiation detection chip

Iris Deng

South China Morning Post, October 28, 2024

A Chinese state-owned nuclear company said it has started mass production of the world’s first chip that can detect X-ray and gamma radiation, in the latest sign of China’s unrelenting efforts to seek semiconductor technology breakthroughs. The state-owned China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC) said in a statement on its official WeChat channel that the self-developed chip can measure dose rates of X- and gamma-ray radiation ranging from 100 nanoSievert per hour to 10 milliSievert per hour. The typical dose rate of radiation exposure when flying on a commercial aeroplane, for instance, is around 3,000 nanoSievert per hour, while that of exposure to natural background is around 60 to 200 nanoSievert per hour.

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/big-tech/article/3284168/chinese-state-owned-nuclear-company-claims-breakthrough-radiation-detection-chip>

China's Armed stealthy GJ-11 Sharp Sword Drone operates like "Loyal Wingman" attack

Kris Osborn

Warrior Maven, October 28, 2024

Several years ago, the People's Liberation Army revealed a look at the internal weapons bay on its GJ-11 stealthy attack drone, an armed unmanned platform which first emerged at a Chinese parade in 2019. The drone has likely progressed much since this time and may have been configured with new weapons or networked for manned-unmanned teaming and a "loyal wingman" type of configuration. The GJ-11 a weapon possibly intended to rival or exceed the U.S. stealthy RQ-170 Sentinel drone or armed Reaper.

<https://warrormaven.com/china/does-the-us-have-an-equivalent-to-chinas-armed-stealthy-gj-11-drone>

Chinese Foreign Ministry on arms race in outer space

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, October 28, 2024

China stays committed to the peaceful use of outer space, and opposes arms race in outer space or weaponizing outer space. China has no intention to engage in a race with other countries in space and doesn't seek to gain an edge in space. The US has openly characterized outer space as a "battlefield," kept building up military in outer space, and patched up space military alliances, which attempts to turn outer space into a battlefield, and severely threatens the common security and development rights and interests of other countries in outer space. China once again urges the US to stop spreading irresponsible remarks, stop expanding military build-up in outer space, and make due contribution to upholding the lasting peace and security in outer space.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xw/fyrbt/lxjzh/202410/t20241028_11517200.html

ASEAN needs to reassess its perspective on AUKUS

Veronika S. Saraswati

Global Times, October 29, 2024

The belief that AUKUS aims to protect Southeast Asia from Chinese influence requires re-evaluation. ASEAN should not adhere to a traditional mind-set when assessing regional security politics, especially as it engages with AUKUS - a large corporate entity that will employ any means to gain economic profit from war. The relatively weak military posture of ASEAN, which is

disproportionate in the face of the AUKUS threat, should be a significant factor driving ASEAN to strengthen diplomatic ties with China. China is not only a neighbor and a good friend to ASEAN, but also a trusted and major economic and trade partner.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202410/1322064.shtml>

With dreams of a lunar outpost, China takes new risks in space race with U.S.

Brian Spegele and Clarence Leong

The Wall Street Journal, October 29, 2024

U.S. officials fear that China will employ tactics in space that it has used to advance territorial claims on Earth, including beating out the U.S. in building a crewed outpost on the moon and attempting to lay claim to its resources. “It’s not even an exaggeration to say China will be a global power in space by 2030,” said Ye, who helped run China’s first uncrewed mission to orbit the moon and has advised on several others. China put its ambitions on display as it blasted three astronauts into orbit from a remote desert launch center. The astronauts, two of them in their 30s, will spend roughly six months at China’s space station. Some of their experiments will be intended to help prepare for China’s most difficult mission yet: landing astronauts on the moon by 2030.

<https://www.wsj.com/science/space-astronomy/with-dreams-of-a-lunar-outpost-china-takes-new-risks-in-space-race-with-u-s-e7d485ce>

China unveils design of Haolong space shuttle for low-cost transport missions

Liu Xuanzun

Global Times, October 29, 2024

China unveiled the design of the Haolong space cargo shuttle. It is an independently developed, reusable commercial winged spacecraft for low-cost space station cargo transport missions, the Global Times learned from the spacecraft’s maker. Lin Xiqiang, spokesperson of the China Manned Space Agency, announced the selection progress of China’s development plans for low-cost cargo spacecraft and manned lunar rover at a press conference for the Shenzhou-19 manned spaceflight mission. The Haolong space cargo shuttle, developed by the Chengdu Aircraft Design and Research Institute under the state-owned Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC), was among the winning projects, and was awarded a contract for the engineering flight verification phase.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202410/1322079.shtml>

US-China nuclear talks essential to avoid ‘irreversible’ consequences, report warns

Orange Wang

South China Morning Post, October 29, 2024

China and the United States should discuss “a wide range of strategic stability issues” to build trust and avoid “irreversible consequences”, analysts from both countries have said. The report, from the Beijing-based think tank Grandview Institution, warned that the two sides’ different understandings of “strategic stability” could hinder effective communication, but it said finding common ground is essential if the two nuclear powers are to prevent misunderstandings. “It is imperative for China and the United States to engage in dialogue on a wide range of strategic stability issues in the future,” said the authors in a report published a week before the US presidential election.

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3284372/us-china-talks-essential-avoid-irreversible-consequences-report-warns>

EU presses ahead with tariffs on Chinese electric vehicles

Alice Hancock and Edward White

Financial Times, October 30, 2024

The EU is pushing ahead with tariffs of up to 45 per cent on Chinese electric vehicles, sharply escalating the trade war between the 27-member bloc and Beijing over allegations of unfair industrial subsidies. The tariffs will be imposed for five years, come after the EU rejected China’s claims that it was introducing protectionist measures without evidence that Chinese vehicles were receiving undue state support. The new duties also come on top of an existing 10 per cent tariff on Chinese car imports in the bloc.

<https://www.ft.com/content/c8e27f70-358b-48ea-a23e-3100319af459>

China launches Shenzhou-19 crewed spaceship

Xinhua, October 30, 2024

China launched the Shenzhou-19 crewed spaceship, sending three astronauts -- including the country's first female space engineer -- to its orbiting space station for a six-month mission. The

spaceship, atop a Long March-2F carrier rocket, blasted off from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China. The launch of the Shenzhou-19 crewed spaceship was a complete success, according to the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA). China launched the Shenzhou-19 crewed spaceship, sending three astronauts -- including the country's first female space engineer -- to its orbiting space station for a six-month mission.

<https://english.news.cn/20241030/9e18d13908ba4684a2a9ad87d62d2ff8/c.html>

Philippine side should not tie herself to US war chariot: Defence Spokesperson

Ministry of National Defence of the People's Republic of China, October 31, 2024

“The Philippine government needs to listen to the voices of its people, fully recognise the high sensitivity and grave consequences of this issue, and stop such dangerous behaviour which will hurt others as well as herself,” said Senior Colonel Zhang Xiaogang, spokesperson for China's Ministry of National Defence, at a regular press conference. He pointed that China has repeatedly expressed firm opposition to the US's deployment of mid-range missile system in the Philippines. "The US has withdrawn from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty, developed Typhon mid-range missile system, and used it as a tool to maintain its hegemony," stressed the spokesperson.

http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/NewsRelease/16348607.html

Two carrier strike groups join same drill for first time

Zhao Lei

China Daily, October 31, 2024

The two carrier strike groups of the People's Liberation Army Navy have recently conducted a joint combat exercise in the South China Sea, according to the Navy. The operation took place in the middle of a long-distance exercise carried out by the CNS Liaoning aircraft carrier and its strike group that sailed across the Yellow, East China and South China seas from September to October, the Navy said in a brief news release. After the Liaoning group arrived in the South China Sea, it was joined by another carrier strike group led by the CNS Shandong.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202411/01/WS6724256ba310f1265a1cac73.html>

Typhon's long-term deployment in the Philippines: a menace to Asia-Pacific stability

Wang Yanhui and Guo Xiaobing

China Military Online, October 31, 2024

Third, the US seeks to use these deployments to solidify its military alliances and raise the cost for potential adversaries to take military action. The Typhon missile system deployed in the northern Philippines has a range that covers the South China Sea and the Taiwan Strait, posing a threat to China's eastern coastal regions. Similarly, the deployment of the Typhon system in Japan threatens the security of China, Russia, and the DPRK. In the event of a future conflict with any of these nations, the US can leverage the Typhon system as a key tool to drag in both the Philippines and Japan.

http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/OPINIONS_209196/Opinions_209197/16348490.html

US reheating 'cold rice' with fabricated spying claims

China Daily, October 31, 2024

The US Department of Justice launched a "China action plan" in 2018, subsequently a number of innocent Chinese experts and scholars were arrested to fabricate a number of "Chinese spy" cases. Yet due to the lack of evidence and strong opposition from the US academic community, the Department of Justice had to announce the termination of this plan in 2022. However, in September this year, the US House of Representatives passed a bill to curb "espionage activities" against US intellectual property and academic institutions, trying to revive the "China action plan".

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202410/31/WS6722b5a8a310f1265a1ca88e.html>

China built a \$50 billion military stronghold in the South China Sea

Ellen Nakashima and Laris Karklis

The Washington Post, October 31, 2024

Hainan, a palm-fringed island known as China's Hawaii, sits in the warm tropical waters of the South China Sea east of Vietnam. It's a popular tourist destination with soft-sand beaches, quaint mountain villages and fancy seaside resorts. But just 500 feet from the lush grounds of the Holiday Inn Resort Yalong Bay is East Yulin Naval Base, home to Chinese destroyers and nuclear-armed submarines. In the past decade, this island roughly the size of Taiwan has become

home to China's most concentrated buildup of modern military power and the launching point for its aggressive forays into the contested waters of the South China Sea.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/interactive/2024/china-built-50-billion-military-stronghold-south-china-sea/>

China's domestic third-generation nuclear project Guohe One connects to power grid

Global Times, October 31, 2024

China's domestic nuclear project Guohe One, with independently developed third-generation nuclear technology, has been connected to the power grid and generated electricity, the National Energy Administration (NEA) announced. The No.1 unit of the large-scale advanced pressurized water reactor Guohe One nuclear power demonstration project, using China's fully independent intellectual property rights, was connected to the power grid and started electricity generation, Dong Wancheng, an official at the NEA, said.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202410/1322238.shtml>

Chinese sanctions hit US drone maker supplying Ukraine

Demetri Sevastopulo, Kathrin Hille and Ryan McMorrow

Financial Times, October 31, 2024

Skydio, the US's largest drone maker and a supplier to Ukraine's military, faces a supply chain crisis after Beijing imposed sanctions on the company, including banning Chinese groups from providing it with critical components. Skydio is rushing to find alternative suppliers after Beijing's move, which also blocks battery supplies from its sole provider, said people familiar with the situation. The drone maker has sought help from the Biden administration. Chief executive Adam Bry last week met US deputy secretary of state Kurt Campbell and held discussions with senior officials at the White House.

<https://www.ft.com/content/b1104594-5da7-4b9a-b635-e7a80ab68fad>

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

Nuclear and Arms Control Centre, MP-IDSA