

May 10, 2024

SYLLOGE ON CHINA

Focus: Nuclear, Space, Missiles and other Security Issues

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



Space sample on Shenzhou-17 manned spaceship delivered to scientists in search of new breakthroughs

Li Yuche

Global Times, May 1, 2024

Weighing a total of 31.5 kilograms, the sixth batch of scientific samples that was returned to Earth by China's Shenzhou-17 manned spaceship has been delivered to scientists in Beijing. A day prior to that, the Shenzhou-17 manned spaceship touched down at the Dongfeng landing site in North China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. The new batch of space samples include 32 types of life experimental specimens like human osteoblasts, a major substance for bone formation, protein crystals and organic molecules.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1311546.shtml>

Engaging China and Russia on Arms Control: An interview with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Mallory Stewart

Arms Control Association, May 1, 2024

The Biden-Harris administration has talked a lot about our desire for preventing unintentional escalation, misunderstanding, and miscalculation—the classic desires and end goals that we strive for in the arms control arena. We made very clear we would like to engage with [China] again, but we need to engage in a context in which we can both share concerns and take steps to substantively address those concerns. We also need participation in this conversation that reflects the best expertise to address the concerns of both sides.

<https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2024-05/interviews/engaging-china-and-russia-arms-control-interview-us-assistant-secretary>

China enlists Tencent, Weibo and Douyin to protect state secrets

Yukio Tajima

Nikkei Asia, May 1, 2024

China implemented a revised State Secrets Law, requiring internet companies such as Tencent and Weibo to delete leaked information and cooperate with government investigations, further underscoring President Xi Jinping's focus on national security. Protecting and curbing the spread of state secrets online, in an increasingly digitally focused society, is a central element of the extensive revisions to the law, which has been updated for the first time since 2010.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/China-enlists-Tencent-Weibo-and-Douyin-to-protect-state-secrets>

China's aircraft carrier Fujian sets out for maiden sea trials

Xinhua, May 1, 2024

China's third aircraft carrier, the Fujian, set out for maiden sea trials. Since its launch in June 2022, the Fujian has completed its mooring trials, outfitting work and equipment adjustments. It has met the technical requirements for sea trials. In the coming months, the carrier will conduct several sessions of sea trials and test more complicated operational components, including electromagnetic compatibility, weapons systems, as well as takeoffs and landing of aircraft.

<https://english.news.cn/20240501/03a17846048d49fc9260459140e0f73f/c.html>

China's H-6K bomber seen firing air-launched ballistic missile for first time

Thomas Newdick

The Warzone, May 1, 2024

Footage has been published, apparently for the first time, showing a Chinese H-6 bomber dropping one of the shadowy ballistic missiles and has in the past been widely understood to be a ship-killing weapon designed for use as part of the country's fast-evolving anti-access/area-denial (A2/AD) strategy. However, many questions remain about the role of the weapon and its capabilities. The brief clip in question appears as part of an official People's Liberation Army video showing the work of the H-6K — one of the more modern versions of the H-6, which is derived from the Soviet-era Tu-16 Badger that was first flown as long ago as 1952.

<https://www.twz.com/air/chinas-h-6k-bomber-seen-firing-air-launched-ballistic-missile-for-first-time>

US official urges China, Russia to declare only humans, not AI, control nuclear weapons

Greg Torode

Reuters, May 2, 2024

A senior U.S. official urged China and Russia to match declarations by the United States and others that only humans, and never artificial intelligence, would make decisions on deploying nuclear weapons. State Department arms control official Paul Dean told an online briefing that Washington had made a "clear and strong commitment" that humans had total control over nuclear weapons, adding that France and Britain had done the same.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/us-official-urges-china-russia-declare-only-humans-not-ai-control-nuclear-2024-05-02/>

U.S. officials wary of Chinese plans for floating nuclear plants

Ellen Nakashima, Vic Chiang and Joby Warrick

The Washington Post, May 2, 2024

China is pursuing plans to develop floating nuclear reactors that could power military facilities it has built in contested areas of the South China Sea, according to the top U.S. military commander in the Pacific and State Department officials, a prospect they warn would undermine regional security and stability. After more than a decade of research and development and Chinese regulators' safety concerns, China appears to be moving forward with its plans — at a time when the international community has not yet crafted standards governing floating reactors' safe use, U.S. officials said.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2024/05/02/china-floating-nuclear-reactor-military/>

China is having a 'Strategic Breakout' in space too, USSF intel boss warns

Greg Hadley

Air and Space Forces Magazine, May 2, 2024

A little less than three years after then-U.S. Strategic Command boss Adm. Charles Richard warned of China's nuclear forces experiencing a "strategic breakout," the Space Force's top intelligence officer says the People's Liberation Army have done the same in space. "The PLA has rapidly advanced in space in a way that few people can really appreciate," Maj. Gen. Gregory J. Gagnon said May 2 at the Mitchell Institute for Aerospace Studies. "I tried to think about historical analogies, about rapid buildups. I haven't seen a rapid build-up like this. I was thinking about World War II, but even as I was looking more broadly, an adversary arming this fast is profoundly concerning."

<https://www.airandspaceforces.com/china-strategic-breakout-nuclear-space/>

US spies see China, Russia militaries working closer on Taiwan

Daniel Flatley

Bloomsberg, May 2, 2024

US intelligence officials assess that Russia and China are working more closely together on military issues, including a potential invasion of Taiwan, prompting new planning across the government to counter a potential scenario in which the countries fight in coordination. "We see China and Russia, for the first time, exercising together in relation to Taiwan and recognizing

that this is a place where China definitely wants Russia to be working with them, and we see no reason why they wouldn't," Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines said in testimony to Congress.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2024-05-02/us-spies-see-china-russia-militaries-working-closer-on-taiwan>

The real motives for China's nuclear expansion

Tong Zhao

Foreign Affairs, May 3, 2024

China is rapidly expanding its nuclear arsenal. Under Chinese President Xi Jinping, Beijing is on track to amass 1,000 nuclear warheads by 2030, up from around 200 in 2019, according to Pentagon estimates. This nuclear buildup, combined with China's broader investments in modernizing its armed forces, has caused deep concern in Washington. In 2023, the Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States insisted that China's nuclear expansion should prompt U.S. policymakers to "re-evaluate the size and composition of the U.S. nuclear force."

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/china/real-motives-chinas-nuclear-expansion>

China launches Chang'e-6 to retrieve samples from moon's far side

Xinhua, May 3, 2024

China launched the Chang'e-6 spacecraft to collect and return samples from the moon's mysterious far side -- the first endeavor of its kind in the history of human lunar exploration. After it reaches the moon, it will make a soft landing on the far side. Within 48 hours after landing, a robotic arm will be extended to scoop rocks and soil from the lunar surface, and a drill will bore into the ground. Scientific detection work will be carried out simultaneously.

<https://english.news.cn/20240503/c7b29e5d8e6a499b896b6cbe4f99222a/c.html>

The death of a treaty could be a lifesaver for Taiwan

John Ismay

The New York Times, May 3, 2024

Pentagon officials believed that deterring China would not require a missile like the newest Tomahawk, which can attack ships with the equivalent of about a half-ton of TNT, nor even one

like Ukraine's Neptune, which carries a warhead about a third of that size. Instead, positioning even smaller missiles to disable Chinese frigates, destroyers and amphibious craft could be enough, U.S. officials came to think, given their belief that Mr. Xi would try to invade only if he believed he would succeed in a relatively bloodless operation before American troops responded.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/05/03/us/politics/china-taiwan-inf-treaty.html>

The underwhelming defence ties between Indonesia and China

Evan A. Laksmana

International Institute for Strategic Studies, May 3, 2024

China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi visited Jakarta in mid-April to meet with Indonesian President Joko Widodo and his foreign minister, Retno Marsudi. Wang Yi also had a closed-door meeting with the current defence minister and president-elect, General (Retd) Prabowo Subianto, on 18 April. Prabowo noted that they discussed bilateral defence ties, primarily around education and training cooperation, joint exercises and defence-industrial collaboration. The defence minister also discussed these issues with his counterpart, Admiral Dong Jun, during his first overseas visit as president-elect in late March. He also met with Chinese President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Qiang on this trip.

<https://www.iiss.org/en/online-analysis/online-analysis/2024/05/the-underwhelming-defence-ties-between-indonesia-and-china/>

China has a lot more missiles with US warships and bases in its sights

Chris Panella

Business Insider, May 4, 2024

American warships and bases in the Pacific are within reach of an increasingly worrying threat, a daunting missile force unlike any the US has faced in combat before. China's ever-expanding Rocket Force is armed with thousands of missiles with ominous nicknames such as "carrier killers" and the "Guam Express." US military leaders and officials say these weapons could make a war in the Indo-Pacific devastating for American forces. And that's exactly the message they say Beijing wants to send, that messing with China would be catastrophic.

<https://www.businessinsider.in/defense/news/china-has-a-lot-more-missiles-with-us-warships-and-bases-in-its-sights/articleshow/109837489.cms>

America's war machine runs on rare-earth magnets. China owns that market

Jon Emont

The Wall Street Journal, May 4, 2024

The American war machine depends on tiny bits of metal, some as small as dimes. Rare-earth magnets are needed for F-35 jet fighters, missile-guidance systems, Predator drones and nuclear submarines. The problem: China makes most of the world's rare-earth magnets, with 92% of the global market share. A U.S. law in 2018 restricted the use of made-in-China magnets in American military equipment, shriveling the list of potential suppliers to a small number in Japan and the West. By 2027, the curbs will extend to magnets made anywhere that contain materials mined or processed in China, covering nearly all of the current global supply.

<https://www.wsj.com/business/china-rare-earth-magnets-us-production-782677e5>

The data arms race in China-US technological competition

Sunny Cheung

The Diplomat, May 4, 2024

The People's Republic of China has embarked on a comprehensive campaign to purge foreign influences from its technological sectors. This initiative spans from hardware, such as semiconductors, to software and data management systems. The unveiling of Document 79 illustrates a clear directive: By 2027, all foreign software is to be replaced in vital industries such as finance and energy. This policy, colloquially termed "Delete America," mandates not only the exclusion of American software but also the systematic replacement of U.S.-made microprocessors, such as those from Intel and AMD, with domestic alternatives.

<https://thediplomat.com/2024/05/the-data-arms-race-in-china-us-technological-competition/>

Taiwan pursues homegrown satellite network amid rising tensions with China

Business Standard, May 5, 2024

Amid the persistent tensions with China, Taiwan is forging ahead with an ambitious venture. In an exclusive interview with CNN, Wu Jong-shinn, director-general of the Taiwan Space Agency (TASA), revealed that Taiwan is currently in the experimental stages of constructing indigenous communication satellites. Once operational, this system promises to emulate the functionality of Elon Musk's Starlink satellite constellation, albeit on a smaller scale, according to Wu, who has been at the helm of Taiwan's space initiatives since 2021. Starlink, managed

by Musk's SpaceX, has garnered international attention for its ability to provide internet access to remote areas worldwide.

https://www.business-standard.com/world-news/taiwan-pursues-homegrown-satellite-network-amid-rising-tensions-with-china-124050500309_1.html

China, Djibouti and the Tory MP

The Wall Street Journal, May 5, 2024

The long arm of Chinese political intimidation is getting longer as its global influence spreads. Consider the case of a British lawmaker who sought to visit the African country of Djibouti, which is a long way from Beijing. Mr. Loughton thinks his ill treatment is the result of his criticism of China's mistreatment of Hong Kong, Tibet and Uyghur Muslims. China sanctioned Mr. Loughton and other British lawmakers in 2021, and Chinese hackers have targeted him and other critics of the Communist Party.

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/china-djibouti-and-the-tory-mp-debt-projects-britain-loughton-00f8182e>

China's semiconductor industry continues to thrive amid US regulations

Akash Pandey

NewsBytes, May 5, 2024

Despite the United States' persistent efforts to curb China's technological expansion, recent data from South Korea reveals a concerning trend. The Chinese semiconductor industry is rapidly gaining ground, posing a significant challenge to South Korea's dominance in the Chinese market. Interestingly, US pressure has not significantly impacted China's industrial strength. China has not only fortified its position in the smartphone and display sectors, but is also making significant progress in the vital semiconductor industry.

<https://www.newsbytesapp.com/news/science/china-s-semiconductor-industry-challenges-south-korean-dominance/story>

China continues rapid growth of nuclear power capacity

US Energy Information Administration, May 6, 2024

In the past 10 years, more than 34 gigawatts (GW) of nuclear power capacity were added in China, bringing the country's number of operating nuclear reactors to 55 with a total net capacity

of 53.2 GW as of April 2024. An additional 23 reactors are under construction in China. The United States has the largest nuclear fleet, with 94 reactors, but it took nearly 40 years to add the same nuclear power capacity as China added in 10 years. Despite rapid capacity growth in 2022, nuclear power made up only about 5% of China's cumulative power generation that year. Nuclear power accounts for about 18% of the electricity generation mix in the United States.

<https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=61927>

Xi is probing for cracks in the EU and Nato

Gideon Rachman

Financial Times, May 6, 2024

The Xi government was also delighted when Macron, on a flight back from Beijing last year, intimated that Europe had no interest in defending Taiwan from a potential Chinese invasion. Although there was some effort to explain away those remarks, the Chinese have noted, with gratitude, that France later blocked efforts to open a Nato liaison office in Tokyo. Keeping Nato countries out of Asia — and preventing America from linking up its allies in Asia and Europe — is a key goal of Chinese foreign policy.

<https://www.ft.com/content/669cb64e-0707-4298-9968-1bb4550a5d20>

Chinese foreign ministry on the existence of gentlemen's agreement

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, May 6, 2024

China has all along been committed to managing maritime disputes, including the Ren'ai Jiao issue, with the Philippines through dialogue and consultation. The “gentlemen's agreement”, internal understandings and the agreed “new model” all reflect China's effort and sincerity to that end. Let me once again outline the basic facts here. First, at the end of 2021, after intensive communication and consultation, China and the Philippines reached the “gentlemen's agreement.” During the first few months of the current Philippine administration, both sides continued to implement the “gentlemen's agreement” until the Philippines stopped honoring it in February 2023.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/xwfw_665399/s2510_665401/2511_665403/202405/t20240506_11293503.html

China's Long March-6C rocket makes maiden flight, sending four satellites into orbit

CGTN, May 7, 2024

China's Long March-6C carrier rocket made its debut flight The rocket blasted off from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in north China's Shanxi Province, sending Neptune-01, Smart-1C, a broad-band optical satellite, and a high-resolution video satellite into planned orbits. It was the 520th flight mission of the Long March series rockets and marked the introduction of a new member to the series, enriching the category of China's new generation of Long March carrier rockets., placing four satellites in space.

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2024-05-07/China-launches-new-Long-March-6C-puts-4-satellites-into-orbit-1tpcKSLcmXe/p.html>

China signs 18 deals with France to expand economic cooperation, opening up wider for France, Europe

Qi Xijia and Chen Qingrui

Global Times, May 7, 2024

China and France have signed 18 cooperation agreements between government agencies, covering areas such as aviation, agriculture, people-to-people exchanges, green development and SME cooperation during Chinese President Xi Jinping's state visit to France. At the closing ceremony of a key business council meeting in Paris, the Chinese top leader vowed to enrich the economic and trade dimensions of the China-France comprehensive strategic partnership, open the Chinese market wider to create more opportunities for companies from France, Europe and beyond, while urging China and France to jointly oppose attempts to turn business relations into political, ideological or security issues.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1311825.shtml>

Xi Jinping and French President Emmanuel Macron jointly meet the press

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China, May 7, 2024

On the afternoon of May 6, 2024 local time, President Xi Jinping and French President Emmanuel Macron jointly met the press after their talks at the Elysée Palace in Paris. Xi Jinping pointed out that it gave him great pleasure to pay another state visit to France at the invitation of President Macron as the two countries mark 60 years of diplomatic relations. He had a productive meeting with President Macron. They agreed that the China-France relationship has a precious history, unique values and an important mission. The two sides should carry forward the baton of history,

champion the spirit that guided the establishment of diplomatic relations and enrich it with the features of the new era, and embark on a new journey for the next 60 years of China-France relations.

https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/zxxx_662805/202405/t20240507_11300643.html

China's Chang'e-6 lunar probe enters circumlunar orbit after near-moon braking

Global Times, May 8, 2024

China's Chang'e-6 lunar probe has successfully entered its circumlunar orbit after performing a near-moon braking procedure, according to the China National Space Administration (CNSA). The near-moon braking procedure is a key orbital control action for the Chang'e-6 lunar probe during its flight. The probe should begin braking when approaching the moon to maintain a speed lower than the lunar escape velocity so that it could be captured by the moon's gravitational force and realize circumlunar flight.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1311924.shtml>

US revokes licences for supply of chips to China's Huawei

Demetri Sevastopulo

Financial Times, May 8, 2024

The Biden administration has revoked export licences that allow Intel and Qualcomm to supply Huawei with semiconductors as Washington increases the pressure on the Chinese telecoms equipment company. The move by the US Department of Commerce affects the supply of chips for Huawei's laptop computers and mobile phones, according to people familiar with the situation. The commerce department confirmed to the Financial Times that it had "revoked certain licences for exports to Huawei" but did not name which US companies would be affected.

<https://www.ft.com/content/cf965960-b083-49ee-bae1-6ce95fe872a3>

The high cost of failing to contain China

The Washington Post, May 8, 2024

The heart of our position is that the Biden administration's policy of "managing competition" with Beijing is a rehash of the failed "détente" policies that Washington employed in the 1970s to cope with a militarily resurgent Soviet Union. We argue that this is a dangerous policy because

it breeds complacency by the American people and signals weakness to Beijing at a time when Chinese leader Xi Jinping is fostering international chaos and advancing a global vision hostile to democracies.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2024/05/08/contain-china-nuclear-war-climate-change/>

Chinese experts advocate thorough, objective investigation into terror attack killing five Chinese in Pakistan, urge joint counter-terrorism efforts among regional countries

Global Times, May 8, 2024

The ministry of defense of the Afghan Taliban government rejected Pakistan's allegations that Afghans were involved in a terror attack in which five Chinese nationals were killed in Pakistan in March. Chinese analysts called for a thorough investigation into the attack and urged regional countries to strengthen joint counter-terrorism efforts as the anti-terrorism situation in Central and South Asia deteriorates. Chinese analysts emphasize the importance of conducting a comprehensive and impartial investigation into the terrorist attack, with detailed and compelling evidence presented. They underscore that China should refrain from becoming embroiled in the disputes of other countries, and the safety and interests of Chinese citizens and companies must be ensured.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1311926.shtml>

'Small, smart, cheap': How US plans to counter China's PLA in Indo-Pacific

Bhaswar Kumar

Business Standard, May 8, 2024

The United States (US) Department of Defense (DoD) announced by name the first weapon, the Switchblade 600 loitering munition, that will be part of its Replicator programme, which is aimed at overcoming China's quantitative advantage over the US in the military domain. If successful, the Replicator programme, which will see the US operate "thousands" of autonomous platforms to counter China's military, will significantly change how the US military will fight future conflicts. The Replicator programme's first tranche will also see the US military field counter-crewed aerial systems (c-UAS) and crewed surface vehicles (USVs) of various sizes and payloads, defence news portal The War Zone (TWZ) reported, citing the Pentagon's announcement on the Switchblade 600.

https://www.business-standard.com/external-affairs-defence-security/news/small-smart-cheap-how-us-plans-to-counter-china-s-pla-in-indo-pacific-124050701452_1.html

China's aircraft carrier Fujian completes maiden sea trials

Xinhua, May 8, 2024

China's third aircraft carrier, the Fujian, returned to Shanghai Jiangnan Shipyard after completing its maiden sea trials. During the eight-day sea trials, the Fujian tested its propulsion and electrical systems and other equipment, and achieved the expected results. In the next stage, the aircraft carrier will conduct follow-up tests according to established plans.

[https://english.news.cn/20240508/7f33dbf293bc4b76bd6ddec14d1dcfba/c.html#:~:text=BEIJING%2C%20May%20%20\(Xinhua\),completing%20its%20maiden%20sea%20trials](https://english.news.cn/20240508/7f33dbf293bc4b76bd6ddec14d1dcfba/c.html#:~:text=BEIJING%2C%20May%20%20(Xinhua),completing%20its%20maiden%20sea%20trials)

'Countries are now forced to confront it': Rise in Chinese espionage arrests alarms Europe

Amy Hawkins

The Guardian, May 8, 2024

As China's president, Xi Jinping, arrived in Serbia for the second leg of his European tour, authorities across the continent were grappling with a wave of allegations about Chinese spying. The UK prime minister, Rishi Sunak, revealed that a "malign actor" had compromised British military payroll records, with reports pointing the finger at China. And in Germany, three German citizens were arrested last month under suspicion of arranging to transfer information about sensitive technology to China, while in another case, a man named as Jian G, who worked for a German far-right member of the European parliament, was arrested under suspicion of espionage. Maximilian Krah, the Alternative for German (AfD) MEP who Jian G worked for, has denied any personal wrongdoing.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/may/08/court-chinese-espionage-europe>

Chinese navy vessels to visit Cambodia, Timor-Leste

China Military Online, May 9, 2024

Chinese navy vessels Qijiguang and Jingtangshan will visit Cambodia and Timor-Leste from early May to mid-June, according to the Ministry of National Defence. The visits will be part of the navy's schedule for a training program in the far seas, during which cadets from Cambodia and other countries will join their Chinese peers to carry out relevant exercises. The mission aims to enhance the naval officer cadets' capabilities of practical operation, and strengthen the Chinese navy's pragmatic cooperation and mutual trust with the navies of the two destination countries to contribute to building a maritime community with a shared future, the ministry said.

http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CHINA_209163/TopStories_209189/16307101.html

Xi Jinping's unproductive European tour

Financial Times, May 9, 2024

When Xi Jinping last visited Europe in 2019, he put on a charm offensive that matched his lofty ambitions. The Chinese president still believed he could bend the west to China's will, and came to Europe's capitals to prove that Beijing's ascendancy would result in shared prosperity. He signed commercial deals in Paris, celebrated Rome's participation in the Belt and Road Initiative, and made bold promises of economic co-operation to Athens. Xi's European tour this week has taken place under radically different circumstances. In his five-year absence from the continent, China's economic growth has slowed and Beijing has drawn the west's ire by tacitly supporting Russia in its war in Ukraine.

<https://www.ft.com/content/e37e7e49-1f1b-4285-9566-efa9215a37bc>

PLA monitors US ship's passage through Taiwan Strait

Jiang Chenglong

China Daily, May 9, 2024

The People's Liberation Army tracked and monitored a United States warship that transited the Taiwan Strait, a military spokesperson said. Li Xi, a spokesman for the PLA's Eastern Theatre Command, said in a statement that the guided-missile destroyer USS Halsey sailed through the Taiwan Strait and publicly hyped the action. The theatre command organised sea and air forces to track and monitor the entire passage of the US warship, handling it in accordance with the law and regulations, he said. The theatre command's forces are maintaining a high level of readiness at all times and are determined to safeguard national sovereignty, security, and regional peace and stability, he added.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/09/WS663ba2ada31082fc043c5fea.html>

More efforts needed for SK semiconductor sector to resist US coercion

Hu Weijia

Global Times, May 9, 2024

Recent media reports said some South Korean chip companies would sell their stakes in subsidiaries based in China. Against the backdrop of US restrictions on chip supplies, these reports led to speculation among investors as to whether South Korean chipmakers will scale back their operations in China. We hope the answer is negative. China is an important production base and sales market for South Korean chip enterprises. If Seoul is unable to protect these companies' interests and further exposes them to US economic coercion and bullying, which may prompt these

enterprises to reduce their presence in China, South Korea's semiconductor industry will suffer heavy losses.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1311982.shtml>

Experimental communication satellites placed into orbit

Zhao Lei

China Daily, May 9, 2024

China launched a Long March 3B carrier rocket to place two experimental communication satellites into space. The academy said in a news release that the satellites were built for Tsing Shen Technology in Shanghai, which aims to establish a space-based broadband internet network consisting of several satellites in medium-Earth orbit. The two satellites carry multiple mission payloads such as a multi-beam high-speed microwave link and a two-way inter-satellite laser link. They are tasked with demonstrating technologies needed by the network, it noted.

<https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202405/09/WS663c3b03a31082fc043c624f.html>

China hands over data collected from Pakistan's first satellite mission on Chang'e-6 lunar probe

Fan Anqi and Deng Xiaoci

Global Times, May 10, 2024

China handed over the data collected from Pakistan's first satellite mission on the Chang'e-6 lunar probe to the Pakistan side, and together they unveiled the first image captured by the CubeSat, the Global Times learned from the China National Space Administration (CNSA). China has carried four international projects with the Chang'e-6 probe, including the European Space Agency's lunar surface ion analyzer, France's radon detection instrument, Italy's laser corner reflector, and the first ever CubeSat from Pakistan, the CNSA previously revealed.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1312051.shtml>

Chinese companies hit with US trade restrictions over spy balloon incident

Alexandra Alper and Karen Freifeld

Reuters, May 10, 2024

The Biden administration added 37 Chinese entities to a trade restriction list on Thursday, including some for allegedly supporting the spy balloon that flew over the United States last year,

heightening tensions between Beijing and Washington. The Commerce Department also said it was adding some units of China Electronics Technology Group to the list for allegedly trying to obtain American technology to support China's quantum technology capabilities, "which has serious ramifications for U.S. national security" due to their military applications.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/us/biden-administration-adds-37-chinese-entities-trade-restriction-list-2024-05-09/>

Chinese ambassador arrives in India to assume office

Xinhua, May 10, 2024

The newly appointed Chinese Ambassador to India Xu Feihong arrived in New Delhi to assume office, according to the website of the Chinese Embassy in India. Xu, the 17th Chinese ambassador to India, said in an interview earlier that his priorities are deepening understanding and friendship between the two peoples, expanding exchanges and cooperation in various fields, and improving and advancing the bilateral relationship.

<https://english.news.cn/20240510/de0d7db507824748860fc087c84989f5/c.html>

China opposes US army deployment of Typhon missile system

Pamir Consulting LLC, May 10, 2024

China's increasingly assertive behavior in the South China Sea prompted the US to deploy more advanced weapons systems to the Philippines and conduct high-profile military exercises with Indo-Pacific allies and partners. Pamir expects geopolitical tensions to persist as regional stakeholders show no sign of modulating their military postures. In April, for the first time, the US Army deployed its Mid-Range Capability (MRC) ground-based missile system, also known as the Typhon system, to the Northern Luzon area of the Philippines. The northern tip of Luzon is less than 200 miles south of the southern tip of Taiwan.

<https://pamirllc.com/blog/china-opposes-us-army-deployment-of-typhon-missile-system>

Trilateral summit a litmus test for SK's diplomatic course correction: Global Times editorial

Global Times, May 10, 2024

Foreign Minister of the Republic of Korea (ROK) Cho Tae-yul will visit China from May 13 to 14, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian announced. According to Yonhap News Agency, in addition to discussions on the development direction of bilateral relations, supply chain cooperation, Korean Peninsula nuclear issue and other topics, the two sides will also discuss and

coordinate on the specifics of the upcoming trilateral summit between China, Japan, and South Korea. South Korean officials have previously stated that the ninth China-Japan-South Korea leaders' meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held in Seoul from May 26 to 27, with preparations being actively coordinated among the three parties.

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202405/1312055.shtml>

Chinese chip makers, rocket developers form alliance to boost commercial space industry

Coco Feng

South China Morning Post, May 10, 2024

The Commercial Space Industry Technology Alliance has been formed in China by universities, rocket makers and semiconductor companies in a bid to develop one of the key sectors deemed “a new growth engine” by Beijing. The alliance, initiated by the Harbin Institute of Technology (HIT), the first Chinese college to have established a dedicated astronautics faculty in 1987, consists of more than 100 members, according to a statement published on HIT’s website. Members include fabless chip designer Loongson Technology and Beijing Tasson Technology, an optical and semiconductor manufacturer visited by Premier Li Qiang last year, as well as rocket developers LandSpace and Beijing Interstellar Glory Space Technology, better known as iSpace.

<https://www.scmp.com/tech/tech-trends/article/3262198/chinese-chip-makers-rocket-developers-form-alliance-boost-commercial-space-industry>

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