



**S. RAJARATNAM SCHOOL
OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**
A Graduate School of Nanyang Technological University

Broader Horizons

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

Featured *MSP Perspective*:



Significance of the October 2013 Australian Navy Fleet Review – p. 1

By Geoffrey Till

MSP Perspectives:

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Naval Development & Policy:

U.S., Japan agree to bolster defences – p. 2

Maritime Safety & Security:

Piracy at sea falls to lowest level in seven years, reports IMB – p. 6

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MSP Perspectives

Significance of the October 2013 Australian Navy Fleet Review

By Geoffrey Till

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China's unprecedented public display of its [Xia-class nuclear ballistic submarine](#) is a good reminder of the extent to which navies offer observers a window into the nations they defend and the nature of the world they inhabit. Navies both reflect and affect their own countries and the state of the international system. Few things illustrate this better than an old-fashioned fleet review. Once, these were occasional, formal occasions in which the Sovereign inspected his fleet in order to assess its current capability. As such, they were a form of quality control. But fleet reviews soon took on other characteristics and justifications too. Whether put on to commemorate a significant event or just for the sake of it, they became a means of showing the public what the Government is spending their taxes on, and of eliciting their support for further such efforts. They were also designed to convey strategic messages to the outside world, most often as a display of military might (and technological prowess) intended to encourage respect from other powers. In the Indo-Pacific and perhaps starting with the Indian Navy's 'Bridges of Friendship' fleet review off Mumbai in 2001, such naval gatherings were also intended to illustrate the benign aspects of naval power by providing a practical display of *international* togetherness. "Look," they seem to say, "at how cooperative we are, and how much we contribute together to humanitarian operations, to keeping shipping safe and to preserving your peace and prosperity."

Of course, fleet reviews are not the only way of doing that. This is the aim of the many bilateral and multi-lateral exercises, like the annual U.S.-run RIMPAC exercise that navies engage in routinely, day after day - but so far as most ordinary people are concerned, and indeed much of the wider world too, these are "out of sight, out of mind." Fleet reviews, on the other hand, are very public events. They provide opportunities for interested observers, (and participating navies too) to find out what is actually going on. *Aficionados* of naval reviews can spot who's in and who's out, can compare technologies, can speculate about the priorities of the organizer and deduce the domestic and international reaction.

The Australian Fleet Review of 5th October was a splendid example of the type. Held to commemorate the arrival, exactly one hundred years earlier, of the so-called British-built (but in large measure Australian paid-for) 'Fleet unit' which more or less started the Royal Australian Navy, it involved 19 Australian ships and another 18 from other countries. There was an inspecting sail-past for the Governor-General (and Prince Harry), fireworks, several days of ship-visits, much conviviality, a dramatic *son et lumiere* show in Sydney harbour, a grand march-past of the participating naval contingents, a big naval arms fair and several international conferences. Huge excitement (and, of course some, opposition) all round.

So what was the gossip on this occasion? One topic obviously was who was there and who wasn't. People noticed that the Russian contingent pulled out at the last minute, perhaps because of their current focus on Syria-related deployments; they noted that the Chinese ship's company were not allowed ashore; they sympathized with the Canadians whose two ships collided with each other on the way and had to withdraw. They got the significance of the presence of the Spanish navy's replenishment oiler *Cantabria* currently part of the *Australian* fleet (Spain has a central part in Australia's ambitious fleet construction programme). Naval technologists and warship 'spotters' drifting around the arms fair could hardly have failed to note Britain's HMS *Daring*, a modernistic cruiser masquerading as a destroyer, clearly a different generation to everything else in the review, and symbolising the "naval renaissance" that the current First Sea Lord is talking about.

But no-one could have missed the pride of the Australian navy in its past and confidence in its future. It has a very ambitious building programme, and, significantly, at one of the connected conferences, the Chief of Army (a position not normally associated with navalistic thinking) went out of his way to endorse Australia's adoption of a thoroughly 'maritime' strategy in the wake of Iraq and Afghanistan. It is difficult of course to see what, if anything will be the consequence of all this. Will the money needed to support such aspirations actually be forthcoming? How will future international events and/or changes in personnel affect things? Only time will tell, but to judge by this review at least, we can be pretty clear about current intentions!

Naval Development & Policy

JAPAN—UNITED STATES | 3 OCTOBER | VOICE OF AMERICA

U.S., Japan agree to bolster defences

SEOUL — The United States and Japan have agreed to boost regional military surveillance amid territorial tensions with China and nuclear and missile threats from North Korea. After security talks in Tokyo, U.S. defense officials also welcomed Japan playing a larger role in its own national defense. For the first time, the Pentagon will rotate long-distance surveillance drones to Japan and deploy its new P-8 maritime patrol aircraft.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA—JAPAN | 2 OCTOBER | ASAHI SHIMBUN

Defence ministry working on protocol to shoot down encroaching drones

The Defence Ministry is planning a new protocol to deal with foreign unmanned aircraft that approach Japan's airspace, like the Chinese military drone that ventured near the disputed Senkaku Islands last month. The protocol will include provisions for "necessary measures," or shooting down a drone, if it continues to violate Japan's airspace and poses a serious and immediate danger to the lives and property of the Japanese public, sources said.

[Full Report](#)

INDONESIA | 4 OCTOBER | NAVAL-TECHNOLOGY

Indonesian navy receives first CN-235 maritime patrol aircraft from PTDI

The Indonesian Ministry of Defence has taken delivery of its first CN-235 maritime patrol aircraft (MPA) from PT Dirgantara Indonesia (PTDI), on schedule and on budget. In 2009, the company was awarded a contract by the Indonesian Ministry of Defence to manufacture and deliver a total of three CN-235 aircraft for use by the Indonesian Navy.

[Full Report](#)

FRANCE—RUSSIA | 4 OCTOBER | RIA NOVOSTI

Russia to receive first Mistral warship in November 2014

MOSCOW, October 4 (RIA Novosti) — The Russian Navy will receive its first Mistral-class helicopter carrier from France on November 1, 2014, a high-ranking defense industry official told RIA Novosti on Friday. The Vladivostok, which is being built at the DCNS shipyard in Saint-Nazaire, is scheduled to be floated out on October 15.

[Full Report](#)

AUSTRALIA | 8 OCTOBER | 9NEWS

Australia needs foreign built navy ships: ASC

Building Australian Navy ships overseas is key part of keeping the local naval manufacturing industry alive, a major shipbuilder says. ASC Ltd, formerly the Australian Submarine Corporation, hopes to win government tenders to replace two Navy supply ships, HMAS Success and HMAS Sirius. The Adelaide-based company wants to replace the two ships with vessels built in Korea and a third manufactured in Australia.

[Full Report](#)

JAPAN—SOUTH KOREA—UNITED STATES | 10 OCTOBER | YONHAP NEWS

S. Korea, U.S., Japan hold joint naval drill

SEOUL, Oct. 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korea, the United States and Japan began a two-day drill in waters off the Korean Peninsula, Seoul's defence ministry said Thursday, amid heightened tensions with North Korea, which angrily responded to the trilateral joint exercise involving an American aircraft carrier. The drill, which was delayed for a few days due to a typhoon, started in waters off the peninsula's southern coast as part of routine trainings, mobilizing the nuclear-powered, 97,000-ton carrier USS George Washington as well as Aegis destroyers of South Korea and Japan.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 12 OCTOBER | XINHUA

PLA medical vessel returns after international mission

ZHOUSHAN, Zhejiang, Oct. 12 (Xinhua) -- The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy's "Peace Ark", a medical vessel, returned Saturday to a military port in Zhoushan in east China's Zhejiang Province after visits to eight Asian countries and the Gulf of Aden. The journey lasted 125 days, covered 21,000 nautical miles and completed the PLA Navy's "Mission-Harmony-2013."

[Full Report](#)

PHILIPPINE—SOUTH KOREA | 17 OCTOBER | DEFENSE NEWS

S. Korea to export light attack jets to Philippines

SEOUL — South Korea is set to export its light combat aircraft to the Philippines, as the leaders of both countries agreed to bolster cooperation in the defense industry. President Park Geun-hye and her Philippine counterpart Benigno Aquino III signed a memorandum of understanding that calls for greater cooperation in the arms industry as part of efforts to further cement economic ties between the two nations.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 19 OCTOBER | XINHUA

PLA navy begins West Pacific exercise

BEIJING, Oct. 19 (Xinhua) -- The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy has started a combat drill in the open sea of the West Pacific Ocean, according to the Saturday edition of the PLA Daily. The exercise, which began Friday and will last until the beginning of November, is expected to improve high sea combat abilities and hone strategies for utilizing information technologies, the newspaper reported.

[Full Report](#)

UNITED STATES | 25 OCTOBER | DOD BUZZ

U.S. navy leaders warn of submarine shortfall

There are not enough fast-attack and guided-missile submarines in the Navy's arsenal to meet the needs of combatant commanders around the globe, senior service officials said at the 2013 Naval Submarine League symposium, Falls Church, Va. "Combatant commander demand for these ships far exceeds what we can supply," said Vice Adm. Mike Connor, Commander, Submarine Forces, speaking to audience members at the symposium.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 28 OCTOBER | FINANCIAL TIMES

China nuclear subs 'gallop to depths of ocean'

China has revealed that its first fleet of nuclear submarines has started sea patrols, in the latest sign of its military's growing confidence which has raised concerns in the region. Xinhua, the official news agency, released photographs of what appeared to be Xia-class vessels – China's first generation of nuclear-armed submarines, which are several decades old – saying they were being "declassified" for the first time.

Full Report Available Upon Request

INDIA | 29 OCTOBER | TIMES OF INDIA

Indian navy holds mega coastal drill

NEW DELHI: With both conventional and unconventional threats on the west coast figuring high on India's radar screen, the Navy is undertaking a major coastal defence exercise on the western seaboard. Called the 'Defence of Gujarat Exercise', the wargames are being conducted under the aegis of the Mumbai-based Western Naval Command (WNC), with over 20 destroyers, frigates, corvettes, minesweepers and submarines, as also maritime fighters, aircraft and helicopters.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA—MALAYSIA | 30 OCTOBER | AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

China, Malaysia to hold joint military drills

KUALA LUMPUR — China and Malaysia will hold their first-ever joint military exercises next year, the Southeast Asian nation's defense minister said Wednesday, despite their rival claims to the tense South China Sea. The announcement by Hishammuddin Hussein, who is in Beijing to meet Chinese military leaders, follows a visit to Kuala Lumpur earlier this month by China's President Xi Jinping, in which the two countries pledged closer ties.

[Full Report](#)

SRI LANKA | 30 OCTOBER | DEFENSE NEWS

Watchdog slams Sri Lanka navy chief heading ship firm

COLOMBO — An anti-corruption watchdog Wednesday criticized the appointment of Sri Lanka's navy chief as head of the country's shipping company, calling it a further sign of the military's growing influence. Vice Adm. Jayanath Colombage took over as chairman of the state-run Ceylon Shipping Corporation (CSC) on Tuesday, which he will run along with the navy, the navy said in a statement.

[Full Report](#)

Taiwan displays 1st long-range sub-hunting aircraft

PINGTUNG, TAIWAN — Taiwan Thursday displayed its first long-range submarine-hunting aircraft, days after Beijing showed off its nuclear-powered submarine fleet in yet another sign of China's fast expanding military might. Taiwan's military introduced the Lockheed P-3C Orion at a ceremony presided over by President Ma Ying-jeou at an air base in the southern county of Pingtung.

[Full Report](#)

Maritime Safety and Security



GLOBAL | 17 OCTOBER | ICC COMMERCIAL CRIME SERVICES

Piracy at sea falls to lowest level in seven years, reports IMB

The International Chamber of Commerce's International Maritime Bureau (IMB) has revealed that piracy on the world's seas is at its lowest third-quarter level since 2006, but warns of the threat of continuing violent attacks off the East and West coasts of Africa. The latest IMB Piracy Report, published today, shows 188 piracy incidents in the first nine months of 2013, down from 233 for the same period last year.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 2 OCTOBER | CHANNEL NEWSASIA

Hong Kong marks anniversary of ferry disaster

HONG KONG: Hong Kong held small but solemn ceremonies on Tuesday to mark the first anniversary of a sea collision which claimed 39 lives, the city's worst maritime disaster for over 40 years. The government has cancelled a harbour fireworks display to celebrate China's national day as a mark of respect to the victims, who had been travelling by boat to watch last year's display when disaster struck.

[Full Report](#)

UNITED STATES—PHILIPPINES | 10 OCTOBER | WASHINGTON POST

Typhoon fears prompt Kerry to cancel visit to Philippines

Oct 10 (Reuters) - U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry gave tacit backing to the Philippines' stance in a tense maritime dispute with China on Thursday, saying that all countries had a right to seek arbitration to resolve competing territorial claims. The Philippines, a U.S. ally, has angered China by launching an arbitration case with the United Nations to challenge the legal validity of Beijing's sweeping claims over the resource-rich South China Sea.

[Full Report](#)

INDONESIA | 11 OCTOBER | JAKARTA POST

Indonesia initiates cooperation on oceanic issues

Indonesia has taken the lead in establishing cooperation on ocean-related issues, proposing a concrete work plan during the recently concluded APEC forum. The work plan is expected to be a reference for each APEC economy to develop their oceans and fisheries in the region. In relation to the mainstream ocean-related issues, there were three areas of cooperation described in the work plan, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Minister Sharif Cicip Sutardjo said recently.

[Full Report](#)

THAILAND | 11 OCTOBER | BANGKOK POST

Asean vows to ease spat with China

Southeast Asian leaders have made a pledge with China to avoid escalating tensions in the South China Sea as they work toward a code of conduct over the disputed waters rich in oil, gas and fish. "We remain committed to resolving disputes peacefully in accordance with international law without resorting to the threat or use of force," they said after their meeting with China in Brunei on Wednesday.

[Full Report](#)

VIETNAM—CHINA | 14 OCTOBER | SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST

China, Vietnam to set up group to explore disputed South China Sea

China and Vietnam have agreed to set up a working group to jointly explore their disputed waters in the South China Sea as the two nations vowed to move beyond the territorial row and enhance bilateral ties. The agreement was announced after Premier Li Keqiang held talks with his Vietnamese counterpart, Nguyen Tan Dung, yesterday after arriving in Hanoi for a three-day visit, the last leg of a Southeast Asian tour.

Full Report Available Upon Request

JAPAN—AUSTRALIA | 15 OCTOBER | KYODO NEWS

Japan, Australia to confirm maritime security cooperation

Japan and Australia are expected to confirm cooperation in maritime security among the two countries and the United States on Tuesday amid a number of territorial disputes between China, and Japan and some Southeast Asian nations. Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida and his Australian counterpart Julie Bishop met in Tokyo to discuss cooperation in maritime security and other areas, including the ongoing talks for a Pacific-rim free trade agreement known as the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

Full Report Available Upon Request

SINGAPORE—MALAYSIA | 17 OCTOBER | SHIP & BUNKER

Tanker feared hijacked after departing Singapore laden with MGO

A tanker, along with its 15 crew, has gone missing off the coast of Malaysia a day after departing Singapore laden with marine gas oil, according to an alert by the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP)'s Information Sharing Centre (ISC). "It should be noted that Danai 4 may have been renamed, repainted, and changed of its IMO number (8613530)," ReCAAP ISC said in the alert. According to the alert, the owner of Thailand-registered Danai 4 last had contact with the vessel on Thursday, October 10, 2013 around 2000 hours, when it was approximately 17.78 nautical miles northeast of Tanjung Penawar, Malaysia.

[Full Report](#)

SOUTH KOREA—CHINA | 17 OCTOBER | WALL STREET JOURNAL

Chinese fisherman dies in clash with South Korea coast guard

SEOUL—South Korea detained 23 Chinese fishermen Wednesday following the death of a member of the crew a day earlier, in the latest of a series of violent clashes between the South Korean coast guard and Chinese fishing fleets seeking catches in disputed waters in the Yellow Sea. The 44-year-old Chinese

fisherman died after being hit by a rubber bullet while resisting the seizure of his boat, coast guard officials said.

[Full Report](#)

INDIA | 18 OCTOBER | TIMES OF INDIA

Piracy spawns a boom, armed flotilla business worth \$6bn

Business is booming on the high seas. Piracy attacks on ships have spawned a new industry, maritime security services, which is reportedly worth \$6 billion. Almost every ship passing through high-risk or piracy infested sea lanes like the Gulf of Aden, the Indian Ocean and more recently the Gulf of Guinea near Nigeria in West Africa, are arming themselves with trained guards and arms and ammunition.

[Full Report](#)

INDIA—UNITED STATES | 19 OCTOBER | IRISH INDEPENDENT

International tensions heighten as India charge 33 aboard U.S. “anti-piracy” ship

India has charged 33 men aboard an armed ship operated by a U.S. maritime security firm for failing to produce papers authorising it to carry weapons in Indian waters. The captain and the chief engineer were not among those arrested in Friday's action. The crew have been charged with illegal procurement of diesel and possession of arms and ammunitions without required documentation.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 22 OCTOBER | CHINA DAILY

Beijing needs to be ‘more active’ in global security

China needs to play a more active role in global security issues to maintain its expanding economic ties with other countries, especially with key energy partners, analysts said. They made the remarks against the backdrop of China recently surpassing the United States to become the world's largest oil importer, driven by the demand to fuel the development of the world's second-largest economy and largest population.

[Full Report](#)

TAIWAN—PHILIPPINES | 23 OCTOBER | CHINA POST

Taipei and Manila set up fishery hotline in bilateral talks: MOFA

TAIPEI, Taiwan -- Taiwan and the Philippines have officially established a hotline to facilitate two-way communication in the event of future fishing incidents as both sides concluded a fresh round of bilateral fishery talks in Taipei yesterday, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) said. Taiwan and Philippine officials signed off on meeting minutes of the bilateral fishery talks, in which both sides agreed to establish a hotline and disavowed the use of force in patrols within overlapping fishing zones, MOFA said in a released statement.

[Full Report](#)

PHILIPPINES—CHINA | 24 OCTOBER | FINANCIAL TIMES

Philippines retracts China claims over contested reef

The Philippines has retracted claims that China was preparing to start construction on a contested reef in the South China Sea, in an embarrassing U-turn by Manila. President Benigno “Noy Noy” Aquino said previous

accusations that Chinese ships had brought concrete blocks to the Scarborough Shoal – which China calls Huangyan Island – for construction were wrong. He said that the blocks had been there for a long time and were “not a new phenomenon”.

Full Report Available Upon Request

AUSTRALIA—MALAYISA | 25 OCTOBER | CHANNEL NEWSASIA

Australia strikes deal with Malaysia on asylum-seekers

SYDNEY: Australia said Friday it has struck a deal with Malaysia to disrupt the transit of asylum-seekers through the Southeast Asian nation to Indonesia, where they board boats heading for Australian waters. The arrival of thousands of boatpeople has for years proved a major political headache in Canberra and Immigration Minister Scott Morrison estimated that more than half of those who reach Australia come through Malaysia.

[Full Report](#)

Shipping, Ports, and the Maritime Economy

CHINA | 18 OCTOBER | SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST

China's 'maritime silk road' linking Southeast Asia faces a rocky birth

Armed with a plethora of trade deals and investment funds, Beijing's vision of reviving the "maritime silk road" with Southeast Asia has caught the imagination of policymakers and observers in the region. Experts say China's neighbours welcomes closer economic ties. But doubts about Beijing's intentions - and whether strings may be attached to the project - appear to be making some reluctant to embrace the vision of political and security co-operation with China over maritime issues.

[Full Report](#)

SINGAPORE | 2 OCTOBER | MARITIME PORTS AUTHORITY

Singapore hosts the inaugural Regional Forum on Vessel Traffic Services

The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) hosted the inaugural Regional Forum on Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) from 1 to 4 October 2013. This Forum was jointly organized by the Maritime Ports Authority (MPA), the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the Singapore Cooperation Program (SCP), and the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities World-Wide Academy (IALA WWA) under the Singapore-IMO Third Country Training Program.

[Full Report](#)

MALAYSIA | 5 OCTOBER | ASSOCIATED FREE PRESS

Petronas to build \$35bn LNG plant in Canada

Petronas will embark on a \$35 billion liquid natural gas (LNG) project in Canada following the reversal of Ottawa's decision to block the Malaysian national oil company's purchase of Canadian gas producer Progress Energy Resources. At a joint press conference Sunday with his Canadian counterpart, Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak said this followed from the "approval principally" given for the state energy firm's \$5.5 billion purchase.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 7 OCTOBER | ICIS CHEMICAL BUSINESS

New Asia ports to boost China trade

New port projects in northeast and south Asia are expected to help the regions boost trade with China, but establishing these commercial links may be hampered by concerns over supply chain management and efficiency, sources from the shipping and petrochemical industries said. Higher volumes of intra-regional

trade underscoring China's greater role in the commodities market necessitate the development of new ports in Asia, according to charterers and shipbrokers.

Full Report Available On Request

SINGAPORE | 10 OCTOBER | BUSINESS TIMES

3.8M passengers seen for Asian cruises by 2020

The US\$2-billion cruise tourism market in Asia is poised to see an unprecedented 14 per cent growth annually to 3.8 million passengers by 2020, with almost half of that market coming from China. Projections suggest a potential Asian source market of 3.8 million by 2020, representing a compounded annual growth of 14.3 per cent and a total market penetration of 0.12 per cent, according to an industry report released yesterday.

Full Report Available On Request

SRI LANKA | 10 OCTOBER | DAILY NEWS

Mega container ship Thalassa Hellas makes her maiden Colombo call

Colombo's new deep draft terminal constructed under the Colombo Port Expansion Project (CPEP) received the largest container ship to have ever called at the Port of Colombo on October 08. This 13,808 twenty foot equivalent units (TEU) Ultra Large Container Ship (ULCS) MV Thalassa Hellas is operated by the global ocean career Evergreen Line.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 15 OCTOBER | WARTSILA PRESS RELEASE

Two dual-fuel orders for Chinese LNG Carriers

Wärtsilä, the marine industry's leading solutions and services provider, is to supply its Wärtsilä 50DF dual-fuel engines and propulsion systems for two liquefied natural gas (LNG) carrier vessels under construction in two Chinese shipyards. The two orders are similar in scope of supply but have been issued separately. The first is from the Ningbo Xinle Shipbuilding Group Co., Ltd together with its trading partner, Shanghai CSR Hange Shipping Engineering Co., Ltd.

[Full Report](#)

SINGAPORE | 16 OCTOBER | LLOYDS LIST

Singapore posts box volumes up 4% in September

Singapore's container port, the world's second busiest, saw volumes rise 4% in September to 2.6m teu year on year, but volumes were down 3% from August's figure of 2.8 teu. The September figures, released by Singapore's Maritime and Port Authority on Wednesday, compare favorably to those released by Shanghai earlier this week.

Full Report Available On Request

CHINA | 17 OCTOBER | SINOSHIP NEWS

Hong Kong needs more barge berths

Redolent of the changing trading patterns of cargoes calling at the Special Administrative Region, the territory needs to convert some berths for barge use, according to one of the city's top port executives.

Speaking at the JOC-organised TPM Asia in Shenzhen yesterday, Gerry Yim, CEO, HPH Trust and managing director of Hong Kong International Terminals, said that he was in discussions with the local government about converting some non-mega vessel berths at Kwai Chung into barge berths. He was also adamant that the terminals needed more back up land.

[Full Report](#)

TAIWAN—SOUTH KOREA | 22 OCTOBER | SINOSHIP NEWS

TMT vessel arrested by Hyundai

Car carrier, B LADYBUG, owned by Taiwan-based TMT has been arrested by Korean company Hyundai Heavy Industries and its subsidiary in Malta. The 27,000 dwt B Ladybug was built in 2011 at Hyundai Samho. TMT had succeeded in having a portion of their marine assets placed under Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in Houston, which extends to 17 vessels, including, “A Ladybug” and “C Ladybug”.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 23 OCTOBER | SHIP AND BUNKER

China planning LNG bunkering for 2014

China Gas Holding (China Gas) promises to begin liquefied natural gas (LNG) bunkering on the Yangtze River next year, Chinese shipping news site SinoShip News reports. "There are lots of vessels which will be converted to LNG power, so there is a big potential in the LNG bunkering market," said the companies vice president, Liang Yongchang.

[Full Report](#)

INDIA | 24 OCTOBER | SHIP AND BUNKER

Cochin introduces new bunker barge

A new bunker barge came into service this week at Cochin Port in Kochi, India, a local supplier has told Ship & Bunker. The new barge, MT Rajashree, was commissioned on Tuesday and is the fifth barge now in operation at the port. With a 1500 metric tonne (mt) capacity and a pumping rate of 250 to 300 mt per hour, it also has the largest capacity and fastest pumping rate of the five barges in service at Cochin.

[Full Report](#)

PHILIPPINES | 29 OCTOBER | SEATRADE GLOBAL

Last chance saloon as Philippines awaits EMSA audit results

For the Philippines crewing industry it is a time of waiting after the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) wrapped up its second audit this year of the country's maritime training institutions for compliance with STCW. The audit lasted from 7 – 24 October and Philippine government and crewing industry officials now face an anxious wait for a draft report due to be sent to Manila in mid-November.

[Full Report](#)

MALAYSIA | 29 OCTOBER | SEATRADE GLOBAL

Malaysia to provide \$954m fund for shipping

Struggling Malaysian shipowners received a boost in the country's 2014 budget with MYR3bn (\$954m) allocated for soft loans to the maritime industry. In his budget speech Malaysian Prime Minister and Finance

Minister Najib Tun Razak said the government would allocate MYR3bn in soft loans under the Maritime Development Fund through Bank Pembangunan Malaysia.

[Full Report](#)

SOUTH KOREA | 31 OCTOBER | LLOYDS LIST

HHI sees third quarter profits crash

Hyundai Heavy Industries, the world's largest shipbuilder, has seen its profit plummet in the third quarter on weak margins and non-operating losses. The South Korean shipbuilding giant posted a 96.4% fall in net income to Won25.4bn (\$24m) during the three months, against the year-ago level of Won697.4bn, a company report showed.

Full Report Available On Request