

Naval Development and Policy:

Frigate combat system upgrade testing highlights Indonesia's maritime capabilities
— p. 4

Maritime Safety and Security:

Beijing may step up drills in South China Sea amid rising tensions with US military, analysts say
— p. 6

Shipping, Ports, and the Maritime Economy:

Maritime sector to get added support
— p. 8

Table of Contents

NAVAL DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY	4
Frigate combat system upgrade testing highlights Indonesia's maritime capabilities	4
Japan to develop and deploy supersonic glide weapons that can target ships	4
Japan commissions first Soryu-class submarine equipped with lithium-ion batteries	4
The Philippine Navy needs more than new ships	4
Destroyers left behind: US Navy cancels plans to extend service lives of its workhorse DDGs	4
Australian submarine docks in Brunei	5
US supercarrier and assault ship team up for joint operation	5
Navy Secretary commission Future Carrier 2020 Task Force	5
Germany plans to send a warship to the Indian Ocean	5
Marines building dozens of missiles to sink Chinese ships	5
Japan commissions first Maya-class Aegis destroyer JS Maya	5
Russia designs fifth-generation nuclear submarines	5
New Chief of Navy in Singapore	5
China lays keel of Pakistan navy's 2 nd Type 054A/P frigate	5
MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY	6
Beijing may step up drills in South China Sea amid rising tensions with US military, analysts say	6
NIMASA Set to Tackle Piracy with Multi-million Dollar Vessels	6
311 Vietnamese Fishing Vessels Intruding into the Waters of Chinese Mainland and Hainan Island in February	6
Did Vietnam's Maritime Militia Really Swarm a China Military Base ?	6
Sea robbery attempt in Singapore Strait foiled by Singapore and Indonesian navies	7
In a first, India, France conduct joint patrols from Reunion Island	7
With world busy fighting coronavirus, China quietly builds installations on Philippine-claimed reefs	7
America, ESG 31st MEU Complete Exercise Cobra Gold 2020	7
China conducts second methane hydrate test in the South China Sea - CCTV	7
US warships in Taiwan Strait anger China	7
EU launches Operation IRINI to enforce Libya arms embargo	7
France pulls vessel from West Coast maritime security mission due to coronavirus	7
Security Guidance Updated for Gulf of Guinea	7
SHIPPING, PORTS, AND THE MARITIME ECONOMY	8
Maritime sector to get added support	8
HSFO Carriage Ban Comes Into Effect	8
Top carriers publish cyber security guidelines	8
Wartsila and PSA Marine complete 'IntelliTug' project initial trials	8
Chinese government further reduces port and cargo charges	9
Indonesia to cancel rules requiring national ships for coal, palm exports	9
IUU economic estimates climb as high as USD 50 billion in new study	9
Amended Regulations on Administration of Distant Water Fishery Released by Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China	9
Indian Ports In Confusion as Virus Lockdown Hits Operations	9
MoT allows goods to be moved from ports as congestion worsens	9
Japanese government considers integrating 15 yards to form shipbuilding super group	9
North Sumatra port debuts in global container business	9
PSA International to explore hydrogen as low-carbon fuel for Singapore	9

NOTES

Please click on the links for the full report. All links and news reports are correct at the time of publication. Through this bulletin, you will be linked to external websites. We have no control over the nature, content, and availability of those sites. The inclusion of any links does not necessarily imply a recommendation or endorsement of the views expressed within them.

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INDONESIA | 23 MAR | THE DIPLOMAT

Frigate combat system upgrade testing highlights Indonesia's maritime capabilities

One of Indonesia's guided-missile frigates underwent a round of combat system upgrade testing. While the development was expected, it nonetheless spotlighted the Southeast Asian state's ongoing attempts to boost its maritime capabilities.

[Full report](#)

JAPAN | 04 MAR | NAVAL NEWS

Japan to develop and deploy supersonic glide weapons that can target ships

The Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF) plans to deploy a Hyper-Velocity Gliding Projectile (HVGP) in fiscal year 2026 as a new weapon to repel enemies that invade Japan's remote islands, from a safe distance. This HVGP could even target large surface ships such as aircraft carriers.

[Full report](#)

JAPAN | 05 MAR | JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY

Japan commissions first Soryu-class submarine equipped with lithium-ion batteries

The Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) commissioned its first Soryu-class diesel-electric attack submarine (SSK) equipped with lithium-ion batteries in a ceremony held on 5 March in Hyogo Prefecture in west-central Japan.

PHILIPPINES | 06 MAR | THE DIPLOMAT

The Philippine Navy needs more than new ships

Until its institutional problems are solved, the PN will not be able to achieve its ambitious goals.

[Full report](#)

USA | 07 MAR | DEFENCE NEWS

Destroyers left behind: US Navy cancels plans to extend service lives of its workhorse DDGs

In a move with sweeping consequences for the U.S. Navy's battle force, the service is canceling plans to add 10 years to the expected service lives of its stalwart destroyer fleet, a cost-savings measure that would almost certainly hamper plans to grow the size of the fleet.

[Full report](#)

Continue on page 5

Australian submarine docks in Brunei

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office yesterday made a working visit to the Australian Collins Class Submarine HMAS Dechaineux, which is the first submarine to dock in Brunei Darussalam from 7th to 9th March 2020.

[Full report](#)

USA | 10 MAR | UK DEFENCE JOURNAL

US supercarrier and assault ship team up for joint operation

The Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group and the America Expeditionary Strike Group joined forces to conduct Expeditionary Strike Force operations in the Pacific. Ships and aircraft from the U.S. Navy, as well as aircraft from the U.S. Marine Corps, conducted a multitude of joint, high-end exercises.

[Full report](#)



[Wikipedia Commons](#)

USA | 12 MAR | SEAPOWERS

Navy Secretary commissions Future Carrier 2020 Task Force

Acting Navy Secretary Thomas B. Modly announced that he is commissioning a Blue-Ribbon Future Carrier 2030 (FC-2030) Task Force to conduct a six-month study that will reimagine the future of the aircraft carrier and carrier-based naval aviation (manned and unmanned) for 2030 and beyond.

[Full report](#)

GERMANY | 12 MAR | DEFENSE NEWS

Germany plans to send a warship to the Indian Ocean

The German Navy plans to send its frigate Hamburg to the Indian Ocean in June to conduct port visits and partake in a regional, naval

powwow on the French island of Réunion, the service announced March 12.

[Full report](#)

USA | 16 MAR | MARINE TIMES

Marines building dozens of missiles to sink Chinese ships

The Marine Corps might get its anti-ship missile system a year earlier than planned and in numbers to do some serious re-balancing against the Chinese military in the Pacific.

[Full report](#)

JAPAN | 20 MAR | NAVAL TECHNOLOGY

Japan commissions first Maya-class Aegis destroyer JS Maya

The Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) has commissioned its first Maya-class Aegis Destroyer, JS Maya (DDG-179), which features ballistic missile defence capabilities.

[Full report](#)

RUSSIA | 23 MAR | NAVAL NEWS

Russia designs fifth-generation nuclear submarines

Russia is currently building fourth-generation submarines and designing fifth-generation U-boats. Little is known about the new submarines, but it is clear they will eliminate problems encountered by modern nuclear submarines, online Gazeta.ru publication writes.

[Full report](#)

SINGAPORE | 24 MAR | NAVAL NEWS

New Chief of Navy in Singapore

The Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) welcomed Rear-Admiral (RADM) Aaron Beng as its new Chief of Navy (CNV) at a Change of Command Parade held at RSS Singapura - Changi Naval Base this morning. During the parade, RADM Beng took over the Navy's symbol of command from the outgoing CNV, RADM Lew Chuen Hong.

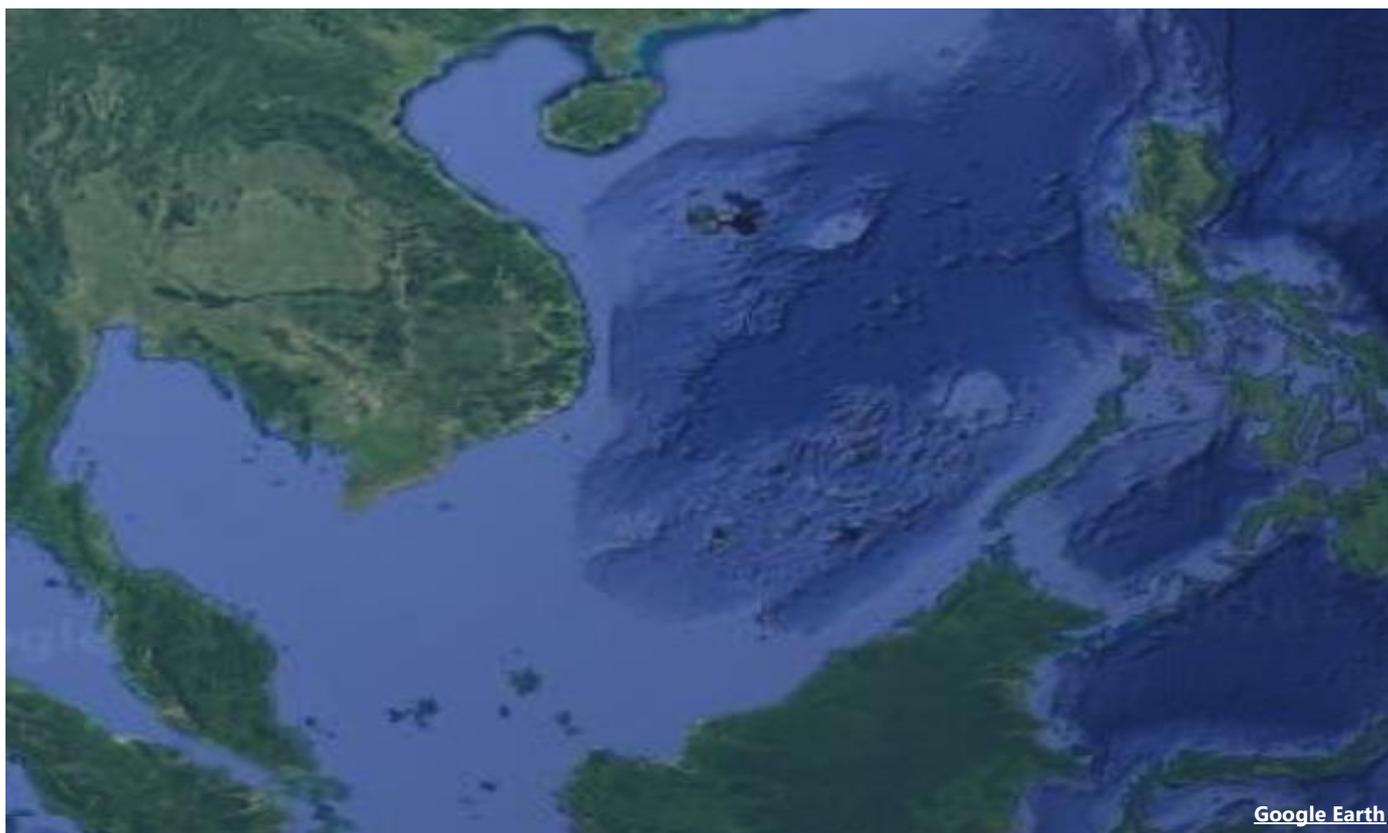
[Full report](#)

PAKISTAN | 26 MAR | NAVAL NEWS

China lays keel of Pakistan navy's 2nd Type 054A/P frigate

A keel laying ceremony for the second Type 054 A/P Frigate for Pakistan Navy was held at Hudong Zhonghua shipyard in China on March 23rd.

[Full report](#)



CHINA | 29 MAR | SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST

Beijing may step up drills in South China Sea amid rising tensions with US military, analysts say

China's air force and navy are keeping a close watch on US freedom of navigation patrols in the South China Sea, and military experts expect sabre-rattling over the disputed waters to intensify.

[Full Report](#)

NIGERIA | 01 MAR | HELLENIC SHIPPING NEWS

NIMASA Set to Tackle Piracy with Multi-million Dollar Vessels

In bid to halt piracy, criminality in Nigeria's territorial waters and the annual loss of about \$2.3 billion to maritime crime, the Nigerian Navy and the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) have taken delivery of two Special Mission Vessels (SMV), an effort they believe will put an end to the menace.

[Full report](#)

CHINA-VIETNAM | 03 MAR | SCSPI

311 Vietnamese Fishing Vessels Intruding into the Waters of Chinese Mainland and Hainan Island in February

In February 2020, a total of 311 Vietnamese vessels (counted based on MMSI numbers; it would be 330 if counted based on ship's name)

intruded into internal waters, territorial seas, and exclusive economic zones (EEZs) of Guangxi, Hainan, and Guangdong provinces and conducted illegal activities.

[Full report](#)

CHINA-VIETNAM | 17 MAR | THE DIPLOMAT

Did Vietnam's Maritime Militia Really Swarm a China Military Base ?

Recently, one story that attracted good deal of attention among South China Sea watchers is the allegations by the Beijing-based South China Sea Strategic Situation Probing Initiative (SCSPI) that an armada of Vietnamese fishing trawlers swarmed the waters off China's Hainan Island.

[Full report](#)

SINGAPORE-INDONESIA | 16 MAR | THE STRAITS TIMES

Continued from page 6

Sea robbery attempt in Singapore Strait foiled by Singapore and Indonesian navies

A daring robbery attempt by three pirates in the Singapore Strait on Monday (March 16) morning was foiled by the close cooperation between the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) and the Indonesian navy (TNI-AL).

[Full report](#)

INDIA-FRANCE | 21 MAR | THE HINDU

In a first, India, France conduct joint patrols from Reunion Island

India and France, for the first time, have conducted joint patrols from the Reunion Island, signalling New Delhi's intent to engage with friendly foreign partners in expanding its footprint in the Indian Ocean, focusing on the stretch between the East African coastline and the Malacca straits.

[Full report](#)

SOUTH CHINA SEA | 24 MAR | PHILSTAR

With world busy fighting coronavirus, China quietly builds installations on Philippine-claimed reefs

While the rest of the world is busy battling the coronavirus pandemic, China, where the virus originated, has taken advantage of the countries' preoccupation by building new facilities on Philippine-claimed territories in West Philippine Sea.

[Full report](#)

THAILAND-UNITED STATES | 24 MAR | US NAVY

America, ESG 31st MEU Complete Exercise Cobra Gold 2020

The America Expeditionary Strike Group and embarked 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) departed Thailand after completing Exercise Cobra Gold 2020, March 11.

[Full report](#)

CHINA | 26 MAR | NASDAQ

China conducts second methane hydrate test in the South China Sea - CCTV

China extracted 861,400 cubic metres of natural gas from methane hydrate, known as "flammable ice", during an one-month trial production in the South China Sea, state television reported on Thursday, citing the land and resources ministry.

[Full report](#)

TAIWAN STRAIT | 27 MAR | TAIPEI TIMES

US warships in Taiwan Strait anger China

China yesterday accused the US of playing a dangerous game with its support for Taiwan, after a US warship passed through Taiwan Strait.

[Full report](#)

EUROPEAN UNION | 31 MAR | EUROPEAN COUNCIL

EU launches Operation IRINI to enforce Libya arms embargo

The European Union is stepping up its efforts to enforce the UN arms embargo on Libya, thereby contributing to the peace process in the country, through the launch of a new CSDP (Common Security and Defence Policy) military operation in the Mediterranean.

[Full report](#)

FRANCE | 31 MAR | DEFENCE WEB

France pulls vessel from West Coast maritime security mission due to coronavirus

The French Navy has suspended its Mission Corymbe off West Africa due to the COVID-19 coronavirus, and withdrawn a vessel from the area.

[Full report](#)



WEST AFRICA | 31 MAR | THE MARITIME EXECUTIVE

Security Guidance Updated for Gulf of Guinea

Industry organizations, supported by government and military organizations, have worked together to produce a new publication that will help mariners detect, deter and delay external threats to their safety.

[Full report](#)



SINGAPORE | 27 MAR | THE STRAITS TIMES

Maritime sector to get added support

The maritime sector will be getting extra help to tide it over the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, Deputy Prime Minister Heng Swee Keat said yesterday.

[Full Report](#)

GLOBAL | 02 MAR | SHIP & BUNKER

HSFO Carriage Ban Comes Into Effect

The International Maritime Organization's (IMO) long-awaited ban on the carriage of non-compliant fuels came into effect over the weekend, which may prompt the shift of a few more dregs of high-sulfur fuel oil (HSFO) demand into the new very low sulfur fuel oil (VLSFO) blends.

[Full report](#)

GLOBAL | 10 MAR | SPLASH 24/7

Top carriers publish cyber security guidelines

The Digital Container Shipping Association (DCSA), a neutral, non-profit group established to further digitalisation of container shipping through technology standards, today in

conjunction with its nine member carriers, published the DCSA cyber security implementation guide to facilitate vessel readiness for the IMO (International Maritime Organization) Resolution MSC.428(98) on Maritime Cyber Risk Management in Safety Management Systems.

[Full report](#)

SINGAPORE | 16 MAR | SHIP TECHNOLOGY

Wartsila and PSA Marine complete 'IntelliTug' project initial trials

Marine technology company Wartsila and terminal towage operator PSA Marine have completed the 'IntelliTug' project initial sea trials.

[Full report](#)

CHINA | 17 MAR | SEATRADE MARITIME NEWS

Chinese government further reduces port and cargo charges

China's Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Finance has issued notice of a reduction in port construction fees and payments to the ships oil pollution damage compensation fund for a period of six months.

[Full report](#)

INDONESIA | 19 MAR | HELLENIC SHIPPING NEWS

Indonesia to cancel rules requiring national ships for coal, palm exports

Indonesia's government will revoke rules requiring exporters of coal and palm oil to use national shipping companies for the shipments,

[Full report](#)

GLOBAL | 20 MAR | SEAFOOD SOURCE

IUU economic estimates climb as high as USD 50 billion in new study

Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing has profound effects on the economies and pocketbooks of developing countries, removing billions of dollars worth of fish every year from the legal trading system.

[Full report](#)

CHINA | 24 MAR | GLOBAL TIMES

Amended Regulations on Administration of Distant Water Fishery Released by Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China

The newly amended *Regulations on the Administration of Distant Water Fishery* ("Regulations") have been approved after deliberation by the Executive Meeting of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

[Full report](#)

INDIA | 25 MAR | BLOOMBERG

Indian Ports In Confusion as Virus Lockdown Hits Operations

India's government told all major ports that the coronavirus fight is a valid reason to halt some port operations, leaving traders confused over which goods will continue to flow in and out of the world's seventh-biggest economy.

[Full report](#)

MALAYSIA | 27 MAR | THE EDGE MARKETS

MoT allows goods to be moved from ports as congestion worsens

The government has allowed goods stuck at Port Klang, Port of Penang and Johor Port to be removed and delivered to their final destinations promptly to ensure that the movement of incoming essential goods is not impeded.

[Full report](#)

JAPAN | 27 MAR | SPLASH 24/7

Japanese government considers integrating 15 yards to form shipbuilding super group

Japan is currently exploring the possibilities to integrate 15 major shipyards in the country under a so-called All Japan Shipbuilding merger plan, following similar steps by neighbouring shipbuilding rival countries China and South Korea, local financial newswire *Nikkei* is reporting.

[Full report](#)

INDONESIA | 30 MAR | THE JAKARTA POST

North Sumatra port debuts in global container business

Kuala Tanjung Port in North Sumatra made its debut in the global container market, with its first shipment on Saturday, as Indonesia bids to tap into the lucrative Strait of Malacca shipping trade dominated by Singapore and Malaysia.

[Full report](#)



SINGAPORE | 31 MAR | PORT TECHNOLOGY

PSA International to explore hydrogen as low-carbon fuel for Singapore

PSA International has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with a coalition of five Singaporean and two Japanese companies to explore the potential of hydrogen as a low-carbon alternative for Singapore.

[Full report](#)