

DAILY TRACKER

NUCLEAR ISSUES

1. The return to service next month of unit 2 at the Koeberg nuclear power plant will help to reduce pressure on South Africa's constrained power system, state-owned utility Eskom says. The return to service of the unit, which has been offline for refuelling and maintenance, will support utility efforts to reduce loadshedding and meet high demand as the country moves into winter.

Source: https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/End-of-Koeberg-outage-to-

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2. The UK government has announced the launch of GBP120 million (USD146 million) in funding to support development of new nuclear energy projects, stimulate competition in the industry and unlock investment across the UK. The Future Nuclear Enabling Fund (FNEF) will help to realise the government's ambition to approve eight new reactors by 2030.

Source: https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/UK-launches-funding-to-encourage-nuclear-new-build

3. The Jordan Uranium Mining Company (JUMCO) has announced the production of 20 kg of yellowcake from 160 tonnes of uranium ore at a newly operational processing facility.

 $Source: \underline{https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/Jordan-announces-uranium-production}$

MISSILES/ BIO WEAPONS

1. Tensions between Australia and China have been running high for a while, flaring sporadically with their 'military encounters' in the Pacific region. However, there is a looming threat of escalation as the Australian Defense Minister has accused China of aggression in a rare statement.

Source: https://eurasiantimes.com/australia-accuses-china-of-military-aggression-as-pla-navy/

2. In an incident that has sparked serious concerns, a WZ-10 attack helicopter and two Ka-28 Helix anti-submarine warfare helicopters of the Chinese People's Liberation Air Force (PLAAF) on Tuesday set a dangerous precedent by not only crossing Taiwan's Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ) but also flying across the so-called "median line," an unofficial boundary that runs down the middle of the Taiwan



Strait.

Source: https://eurasiantimes.com/chinese-attack-helicopters-breach-the-high-risk-median-line/

3. At a time when the US has acknowledged that it has fewer ships compared to its rival China, America's naval chief Admiral Michael Gilday told the House Armed Services Committee that about nine ships should be scrapped, some of which were commissioned very recently.

Source: https://eurasiantimes.com/us-navy-to-discard-its-brand-new-warships-chinese-submarines/

4. As the Indian Navy plans to procure an aircraft carrier-borne fighter, US defense giant Boeing is confident of its F/A-18E Super Hornets, sidelining the French Rafale jets challenge.

Source: https://eurasiantimes.com/boeing-dassault-pr-teams-fire-salvo-at-each-other/

5. The MQ-9B Reaper Drone is set for a new upgrade offering it a short take-off and landing (STOL) capability making it the first unmanned aerial system (UAS) in its class to be able to take off from big deck amphibious assault ships.

Source: https://eurasiantimes.com/mq-9-reaper-drone-get-f-35-like-capabilities/

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

1. While the U.S. and Iran have so far failed to agree on terms for a new nuclear agreement, Israeli Defense Minister Benny Gantz warned that the Islamic nation is just weeks away from having the necessary materials for a nuclear weapon.

Source: https://www.foxnews.com/politics/iran-materials-first-nuclear-weapon-israeli-defense-minister

UN REFORMS

1. The Chinese government has issued a new directive that forbids Uyghurs in the Xinjiang region from discussing the network of internment camps or accepting calls from international phone numbers ahead of an expected visit by the United Nations human rights chief, a police office in the region told RFA.

Source: https://www.rfa.org/english/news/uyghur/authorities-notices-05112022184230.html

2. Former US President Donald Trump slammed the Biden administration for providing over \$40 billion in assistance to Ukraine amid Russia's military operation and urged Europe to do more to deal with its regional concerns.

Source: https://eurasiantimes.com/us-plans-to-support-kiev-with-over-40b-faces-domestic-criticism/

3. An RFA analysis of satellite images of the Grand Bazaar provided by PlanetLabs Inc. shows dramatic changes in the market, including the removal of buildings and the roofs of stalls, between photos taken on April 4 and May 4.

Source: https://www.rfa.org/english/news/uyghur/grand-bazaar-03312022162204.html

4. The officer, who works in Kashgar (in Chinese, Kashi) and declined to give his name, told RFA that police received special government notices on how to prepare for the visit this month by Michelle Bachelet, the U.N.'s high commissioner for human rights. The policeman said he was a Chinese Communist Party member and was playing a leading role in disseminating the notices during political study sessions and enforcing their mandates.

Source: https://www.rfa.org/english/news/uyghur/authorities-notices-05112022184230.html