

**AIRCRAFT CARRIER**

**Aircraft carriers versus battleships in war and myths: demythologizing carrier air dominance at sea/ James R. FitzSimonds**

*The Journal of Military History: Vol 84, No.3, July 2020, pp.843-865 (24A)*

Aircraft carrier has been commonly portrayed as the ultimate element of sea power especially after the World War II. It was believed that aircraft carrier to be so lethal during the World War that surface combatants including battleship seems powerless against any air strikes. However, it seems that this is only a myth as most battleships proved to be the ultimate determinant of sea control.

**ASEAN**

**ASEAN as pivotal actor: balancing centrality & the Indo-Pacific/ Joel Ng**

*RSIS Commentary : No. 0158, 17 August 2020 (F31)*

“ASEAN Centrality” has previously been defined as ASEAN being the “least objectionable” actor to lead. However, in a wider Indo-Pacific of resident competing powers, ASEAN may well be rethought of as the pivotal actor to enable their goals to be accomplished.

**Managing economic fallout: ASEAN+3's incomplete effort/ Kaewkamol Pitakdumrongkit**

*RSIS Commentary : No. 0154, 6 August 2020 (F31)*

ASEAN and its East Asian partners in the ASEAN+3 have been handling the economic impact of COVID-19 on the region commendably. However, there are missing policy pieces essential to effectively sustain regional supply chains and augment economic resilience.

**ASIA**

**Asia in 2019/ Uk Heo**

*Asian Survey: Vol.60 No.1, January/February 2020, pp.1-7 (12)*

Among the major events that occurred in Asia in 2019 that received global attention and have significant policy implications are the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), the US-China trade war, the North Korean nuclear issue and protests in Hong Kong.

**AUSTRALIA**

**Introduction : a critical analysis of Australian foreign, defence and strategic policy/ Rebecca Strating**

*Australian Journal of International Affairs: Vol.74 Issue 3, June 2020, pp.208-212 (36)*

The contribution argues that the White Paper takes a fragmented approach in analysing and describing national and global security challenges. To achieve the outcomes articulated in the White Paper, the Australian government needs to pay greater attention to conflict prevention and achieving sustainable peace, which are key tenets of the United Nation's Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda. As pieces of declaratory policy, defence and foreign policy white papers serve an important function of signalling to domestic and international audiences the interests, values and priorities of the state.

**AUSTRALIA****The myth of Australia's 'strategic policy' / Sheryn Lee**

*Australian Journal of International Affairs: Vol.74 Issue 3, June 2020, pp.228-243 (36)*

This trend raises two key questions: first, what is 'strategic policy'? And second, does Australia have a strategic policy? An examination of primary and secondary sources suggests that the term implies a response to a geostrategic environment, major arms acquisitions and capability development, or a major foreign or defence policy direction.

**AVIATION****Safety studies/ David Learmount**

*Flight International: 11-17 August 2020, pp.20-21 (65)*

Accidental shoot-down events occurred due to misidentification hence airline industry need to approach this matter carefully and to treat these matter as if they were a traditional threat and to develop mitigations.

**CHINA****China and Panama: penetrating America's backyard/ Loro Horta**

*RSIS Commentary : No. 0160, 21 August 2020 (F31)*

As tensions between Washington and Beijing rise at the global level, their rivalry is putting great pressure on small states. China's growing presence in Panama has raised concerns at the highest levels of the Trump administration.

**Can China remake regional order? contestation with India over the Belt and Road Initiative/ Lai-Ha Chan**

*Global Change, Peace & Security: Vol 32, No. 2, June 2020, pp. 199-217*

The article proceeds in five major steps. First, it outlines the theoretical framework of international order rebuilding in which both contestation and legitimation play significant roles. Second, it discusses the legitimation role of the BRI for China, focusing on the norms, rules and institutional arrangements of Chinese state capitalism. The third section illustrates India's strategic concerns and efforts to balance against China which makes South Asia a contentious region in China's outward push to transform regional order. The fourth section discusses India's counter-narrative. The fifth section is devoted to the discussion of the contestation between China and India's competing regional-ordering projects.

**CHINA****Hyping the China threat/ Christopher Layne**

*The National Interest : September/October 2020, No 169, pp.21-31 (30A)*

Two powerful forces are shaping the future of Sino-American relations: geopolitics and America's liberal ideology. If managed, it is possible to keep even intense great power competitions from tipping over the precipice into war.

**China in 2019: party for the party/ Shaun Breslin**

*Asian Survey: Vol.60 No.1, January/February 2020, pp.21-33 (12)*

In recent years, it can be seen that the leaders of China are continuing to focus their attention on how to deal with the slow of economic growth and the need for a united China.

**COVID-19****ASEAN response: pushing back vaccine nationalism/ Mely Caballero-Anthony**

*RSIS Commentary : No. 0162, 26 August 2020 (F31)*

As ASEAN economic ministers meet virtually this week to deal with, among other things, the severe impacts of COVID-19, their crucial task should be to strengthen multilateral cooperation. ASEAN should rally its dialogue partners and the private sector to make vaccines available to all. Can ASEAN centrality help push back the worrying trend of vaccine nationalism?

**COVID-19: Australian defence industry responds to the challenge/ Kym Bergmann**

*Asia-Pacific Defence Reporter : July-August 2020, Vol.46, No.6, p.15 (9)*

The current pandemic has brought global disruptions that requires all industries to work together to overcome the challenges including the Australian Defence Industry who has been commended for their tremendous support and assistance to their government.

**COVID-19****An epochal moment? the COVID-19 pandemic and China's international order building/ Nicholas Ross Smith and Tracey Fallon**

*World Affairs : Vol 183 No 3, Fall 2020, pp.235-255 (55)*

China has been seeing using the COVID-19 pandemic as a way to maximize their international order-building efforts with international powers. The pandemic also allows China to form friendship to those countries affected by the pandemic when China stepped in to provide humanitarian assistance during this time of crisis which can leave a lasting impact for the global order.

**CYBER****Cybersecurity for defence industry/ Ewen Levick**

*Australian Defence Magazine: May/June 2020, Vol. 28, No.5, pp.34-37 (61)*

The article focuses on the cyber threats that has grown and evolved over the years including in defence industries or those industries that have connection to them.

**IT****Acquiring artificial intelligence systems: development challenges, implementation risks, and cost/benefits opportunities/ Jonathan Mun**

*Naval Engineers Journal : Vol 132 No 2, June 2020 pp.79-94 (40)*

The acquisitions of artificial intelligence (AI) systems has been a challenge for most including U.S. Department of Defense (DOD). Due to the potential for high-risk failures of the AI system acquisitions, it is critical to examine the ways in approaching and managing the acquisitions of these systems.

**LEADERSHIP****Iron-fist leadership is not leadership/ Theodore F. Schmit**

*Proceedings US Naval Institute: July 2020, pp.74-76 (86)*

Military leadership is first introduced at Recruit Training or Officer Candidate School although leadership experiences differs greatly during this period of time. Leadership style develop over time and in order to thrive, leaders must be taught about the human element earlier and at every step along the way.

**Connecting the dots: developing leaders who can turn threats into opportunities/ Richard A. McConnell**

*Military Review : May-June 2020, pp. 27-35 (81)*

The article discusses the importance of leaders and planners in any organization; in recognizing and taking advantage of what is known as exceptional information.

**MARITIME****Change for navies - new trends shape logistic support ships/ Peter Donaldson**

*Naval Forces: Vol.XLI, No.2, 2020, pp.34-37 (41)*

The article discusses the constant pressure on naval procurement and operational budgets that has forced navies including naval architects to make new logistic support ships that are ready for combat as well as policing and humanitarian missions and at the same time must be cost and environmentally friendly.

**Send in the coast guard... with the marines!/ Daniel Wiltshire**

*Proceedings US Naval Institute: August 2020, pp.26-30 (86)*

The United States of America's coast guard patrol boats will be vital in supporting the Marine Corps in a war in the Pacific islands where China has placed their missiles and ready for combat.

**MARITIME****Deciphering China's 'world-class' naval ambitions/ Ryan D. Martinson**

*Proceedings US Naval Institute: August 2020, pp.50-54 (86)*

The Chinese Navy already routinely operates out of area, so its global aspirations including to erode U.S's naval supremacy should come as no surprise.

**NORTH KOREA****North Korea in 2019: a year of strategic adjustments/ John Delury**

*Asian Survey: Vol.60 No.1, January/February 2020, pp.69-78 (12)*

2019 saw North Korea's transition from economic development, politics and defence. North Korea also sees lesser joint military exercises with the United States and South Korea but at the same time resuming their short-range missile testing as to show their military development.

**POLICING****Mind the grass! exploring the assessment of informant coverage in policing and law enforcement/ Colin Atkinson**

*The Journal of Policing, Intelligence and Counter Terrorism : Vol 14, Issue 1, April 2019, pp.1-19*

This paper examines the use of informants in policing and law enforcement in the United Kingdom in order to tackle all sorts of crimes and to which extent they can provide information on suspects, crimes and criminal conspiracies.

**SINGAPORE**

**Intelligence operations: risks faced by academia/ Dylan MH Loh and Benjamin Ho**

*RSIS Commentary : No. 0156, 12 August 2020 (F31)*

The involvement of a Singapore citizen in a foreign intelligence operation in the US highlights the challenges faced by the academia as competition and contestation among major powers become more intense. In response, it is best for Singapore and its citizens to adopt a balanced and cautious approach.

**SOUTH KOREA**

**South Korea in 2019: little progress in denuclearization of North Korea and poor macroeconomic performance/ Sung Deuk Hahm**

*Asian Survey: Vol.60 No.1, January/February 2020, pp.61-68 (12)*

The two biggest events in South Korea in 2019 were a series of meetings between US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un to discuss the denuclearization of North Korea and the trade war with Japan.

**TERRORISM**

**Islamist radicalisation in Italy: just a myth?/ Groppi Michele**

*The Journal of Policing, Intelligence and Counter Terrorism : Vol 15, Issue 2, July 2020, pp.117-135*

This paper suggests a number of preventive measures with the intention of contributing to the discussion on counter-radicalisation policies and striking a proper balance between security and democratic values. The first part of the article presents a record of terrorist activity in Italy (violent radicalisation), while the second part features quantitative and qualitative evidence illustrating how violent ideas have permeated certain segments of local Muslim communities (cognitive radicalisation). The third section proposes a number of preventive measures countering radicalisation based on the study's empirical findings. Lastly, the paper concludes with a discussion of the likelihood of Italy becoming a future theatre and incubator of jihad.

**THE PHILIPPINES**

**2020 Jolo suicide attack: evolving tactics/ Kenneth Yeo and Remy Mahzam**

*RSIS Commentary : No. 0165, 31 August 2020 (F31)*

The 24 August 2020 suicide bombing in Jolo which involved female attackers has brought attention to the emergence of the pro-Islamic State (IS) Hatib Hajan Sawadjaan faction of the Abu Sayyaf Group and its tactic of engaging women for this role.

**UNITED STATES**

**Why Kissinger matters/ Jacob Heilbrunn**

*The National Interest : July/August 2020, No 168, pp.5-11*

As United States of America become more active in foreign affairs, it seems safe to say that the case for Henry Kissinger is becoming stronger than ever until now.

**Employ coast guard LEDets in the Indo-Pacific/ Andrew Ray**

*Proceedings US Naval Institute: August 2020, pp.20-25 (86)*

In order to combat the constant rising of China's military and economic strength, the United States felt that they need to increase theirs as well and partner up with local nations especially in the Indo-Pacific as it is currently the center of great power competition.

**VIETNAM****Assessing the candidates for 2021 leadership reshuffle**

*Asia Monitor Southeast Asia Vol.1 : Vol.31, Issue 8, August 2020, pp.10-12 (49)*

The year 2021 will see a leadership reshuffle in Vietnam. However due to the media restraints that is being controlled by the state, it is difficult to predict the shift in the political figures. The article however provides a list of candidates based on the existing information.

**WEAPON****Lethal weapon: combatives and mental skills training to ensure overmatch in the close-combat fight/ Peter R. Jensen and Andy Riise**

*Military Review : July-August 2020, pp. 14-22 (81)*

Combative training provides environments that generates stress responses in soldiers similar to those engendered by combat. It also provides opportunities to mitigate the performance risk from the stress response and provides the tools for soldiers to perform optimally.

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