

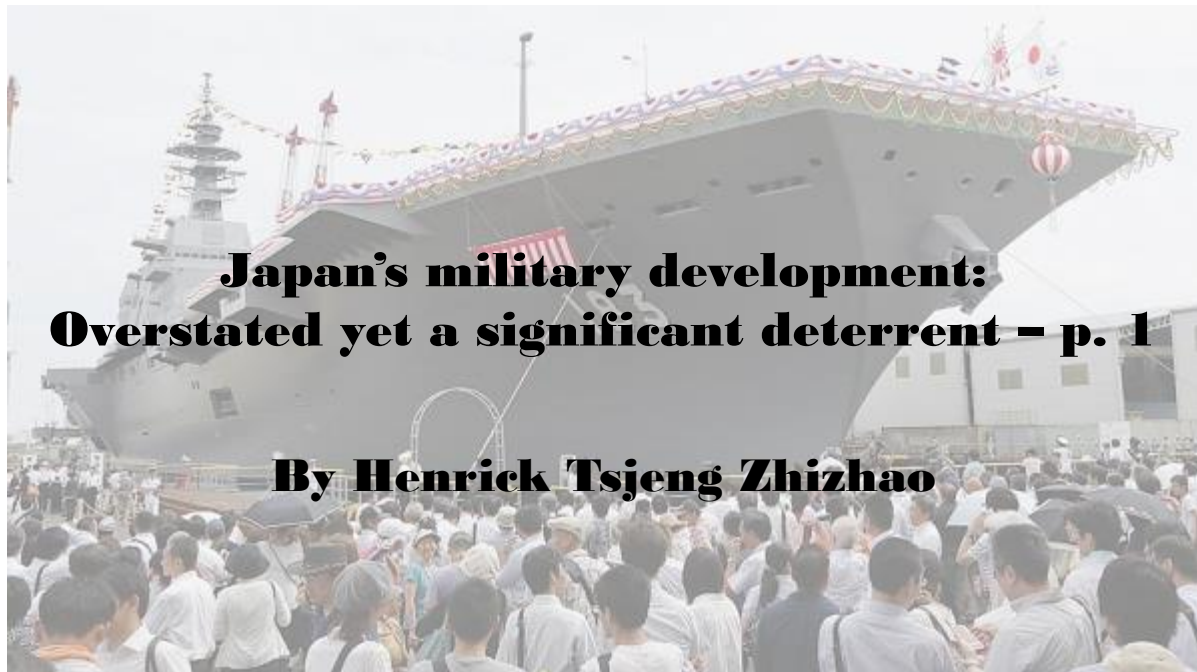


**S. RAJARATNAM SCHOOL
OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**
A Graduate School of Nanyang Technological University

Broader Horizons

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

Featured *MSP Perspective*:



**Japan's military development:
Overstated yet a significant deterrent – p. 1**

By Henrick Tsjeng Zhizhao

MSP Perspectives:

Japan's military development: Overstated yet a significant deterrent – p. 1

Naval Development & Policy:

Japan's military seeks big boost in defense budget – p. 2

Maritime Safety & Security:

Beijing open to code of conduct in South China Sea, but not now – p. 6

Shipping, Ports, & the Maritime Economy:

Singapore poised to remain one of the world's top ports: Maersk – p. 10

Table of Contents

MSP PERSPECTIVES.....	1
Japan's military development: Overstated yet a significant deterrent	1
NAVAL DEVELOPMENT & POLICY	2
Japan's military seeks big boost in defense budget	2
Philippines accuses China of activity on disputed shoal.....	2
Australian and Indonesian navies conclude Exercise Cassowary 2013	2
Philippines recalls envoy to China amid new sea spat	2
Taiwan 'to pull out troops in islets' near China	3
Vietnam establishes seaplane squadron	3
Chinese naval vessels in rare visit to Hawaii for exercises with US.....	3
State-backed China Shipbuilding to raise \$1.4 billion for naval buildup	3
Authorities face tough choice over Hongsangeo torpedo.....	3
Fire breaks out on Russian nuclear submarine.....	4
S. Korea to deploy coastal surveillance system by next year	4
Philippines, US launch South China Sea war games	4
Russia Starts Building 2 Frigates for Vietnamese Navy	4
Russia offers one-year guarantee for aircraft-carrier.....	4
Taiwan receives first US anti-submarine aircraft	5
MARITIME SAFETY & SECURITY	6
Beijing open to code of conduct in South China Sea, but not now.....	6
Fire-damaged Singapore ship sinks	6
Maritime security firm urges Suez Canal precautions.....	6
Japanese minister discusses sea disputes with Philippines.....	6
Japan says 'no dispute' exists on islands anniversary.....	7
Japan, Vietnam agree to beef up maritime security cooperation.....	7
Armed guards now deployed on 80% of container ships, tankers.....	7
Typhoon Usagi kills 25 in China	7
Asian pirates now want electronics, cash.....	7
Piracy in Somalia almost eradicated.....	8
Greater co-operation helps tame border threats.....	8
FEREX 2013: over 300 multi-agency personnel mobilized for ferry rescue exercise	8
Australia PM Abbott downplays Indonesia opposition to refugee plans	8
Dozens missing as boats sink in South China Sea typhoon	8
Australian leader Tony Abbott to seek asylum seeker solution in Indonesia	9
SHIPPING, PORTS, & THE MARITIME ECONOMY	10
Singapore poised to remain one of the world's top ports: Maersk.....	10
LNG shipping set for winter boost as Japan shuts nuclear reactors.....	10
K Line orders four fuel-saving car carriers	10
PetroChina scandal escalates	10
Malaysia's IJM sells port stake to Chinese firm	11
IBIA: Bunker sales predicated to grow in Asia, decline in North America.....	11
More than 2,300 Passengers and crew stranded in Korea's Jeju Island Port.....	11
Port cargo volume rises 5.3% in H1	11
China's shipbuilding shakeup will strengthen appeal to buyers	12
NSR not yet a threat to Singapore maritime trade.....	12
Singapore secures central role in LNG shipping developments	12
Zhuhai expands terminal construction	12
Destination Asia.....	12
What the P3 alliance means for the Asian ports	13
Shipping industry pushes for more sustainability action	13

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.

Should you encounter any problem in retrieving the articles, please feel free to contact us. As some of the articles are available to subscribers only, we will send you the full article upon request.

Maritime Security Programme, RSIS

Editorial Team

Jane Chan

Ristian Atriandi Supriyanto

Henrick Tsjeng Zhizhao

Contact Us

For comments /
suggestions /requests,
kindly write to us at

RSISMSP@ntu.edu.sg

MSP Perspectives

Japan's military development: Overstated yet a significant deterrent

By Henrick Tsjeng Zhizhao

Associate Research Fellow, Maritime Security Programme

Japan released its 2013 defence white paper in July. The document itself does not show any significant departures from previous years, with security issues like North Korea revisited as in previous white papers. But what differentiates Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's stance is his intention to revise and reinterpret Japan's pacific constitution, and to adopt a more assertive stance towards countries appearing to pose a threat to Japan, most notably China. This anxiety over China was reflected in the defence white paper, more strongly than in previous years. The white paper also indicated [a defence budget increase of 0.8 per cent from 2012](#), the first increase after ten consecutive years of decline.

Shortly after the white paper was released, the Ministry of Defense also announced it was pursuing a [budget increase of three per cent for 2014](#), as well as the development of new platforms. Two new discussions also went underway: the enhancement of [Japanese amphibious capabilities through the development of a new amphibious unit](#), and the ability to [launch pre-emptive strikes on hostile bases](#).

Such developments have attracted considerable media attention and have been attributed to Mr Abe's nationalistic posturing. In reality, they do not show a marked shift by Japan towards "[remilitarisation](#)" as claimed by some observers. However, they do send a strong message of deterrence, which may be deemed necessary in the context of a tense security environment in Japan's neighbourhood. At the same time, they may further heighten tensions if not accompanied by appropriate trust-building measures.

According to a report by IHS Jane's, the proposed budget increase of three per cent does not necessarily indicate "remilitarisation", and many initiatives for capability upgrades were actually started before Mr Abe's term. Japan, under both the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and the previous Democratic Party of Japan, has shown a trend towards enhancing military capabilities as part of Japan's move from being a purely "pacifist" state to one with a "normal" military role.

The recent launch of the JS *Izumo*, a new helicopter destroyer, [also garnered considerable interest](#). However, its capabilities have been overstated, while its initial construction predates Mr Abe's term. Moreover, Japan's Maritime Self-Defense Force already has existing helicopter destroyers such as the *Hyuga* Class vessels.

The development of an amphibious unit – helpful for Japan in the event of a contingency over disputed islands and also in [deepening interoperability with the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps](#) as well as [operational joint-service capability](#) – is neither inherently offensive nor anything unique given that similar units are fairly common throughout the region. Nonetheless, it sends a clear signal to other countries, China in particular, that Japan is willing and able to defend its territories if attacked.

The debate in Japan over pre-emptive strikes dates back to the Cold War, and has typically centred on the North Korean threat in more recent times. Even so, the mere discussion of such an option today would likewise send a robust message of deterrence to other countries including China.

As such, Japan's capability improvement is not necessarily due to Mr Abe's politics, but rather follows past trends, though the current administration has certainly given it a boost. Japan's path towards a military with a greater international role is only to be expected given its past participation in supporting roles for overseas assignments like Operation Enduring Freedom, as well as in anti-piracy and humanitarian and disaster relief operations, for which amphibious capacity is also an enabler.

Nevertheless, these developments send a robust message of deterrence, which may be seen as essential given the uncertain security environment Japan faces. But they do not inspire trust in a tense neighbourhood marred by territorial disputes, especially where China is concerned.

Japan and China have had defence engagements in the past, though many of these have stalled as a result of tensions. The Japanese defence establishment, on its part, could consider making clear that its intention is not simply to deter against China, but to develop new or on-going engagement initiatives as well. But rebuilding trust also takes two hands to clap. Given China's own increasingly assertive stance in its disputes with Japan, the P.R.C. itself could also demonstrate a similar willingness to engage.

Naval Development & Policy

JAPAN | 3 SEPTEMBER | JAKARTA POST

Japan's military seeks big boost in defense budget

Japan needs to boost its military spending to counter the potential threat from China's increasingly powerful armed forces and North Korea's long-range missiles, its defense minister said Tuesday. Defense Minister Itsunori Onodera said Japan cannot afford to be complacent over what he said are significant security issues in the region.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA-PHILIPPINES | 3 SEPTEMBER | WALL STREET JOURNAL

Philippines accuses China of activity on disputed shoal

MANILA—The Philippines said China appeared to be preparing to build structures on the disputed Scarborough Shoal, accusing China of attempting to violate the Philippines' claim to the territory. Philippine Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin told a budget hearing in the House of Representatives that "concrete blocks were sighted inside the shoal," which he called "a prelude to construction." He showed three pictures, including one depicting about 30 concrete blocks scattered around the shoal located less than 200 kilometers, or 120 miles, from the northern Philippine province of Zambales.

Full Report Available Upon Request

AUSTRALIA-INDONESIA | 3 SEPTEMBER | NAVAL-TECHNOLOGY

Australian and Indonesian navies conclude Exercise Cassowary 2013

Australia and Indonesia have successfully concluded a biennial naval exercise, codenamed Exercise Cassowary 2013, off the coast of Darwin, Australia, intended to strengthen maritime relations. During the biennial maritime security training exercise, which concluded on 31 August 2013, Indonesian Eastern Fleet and the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) ships and sailors focused on conducting boarding operations to counter the threat of illegal fishing.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA-PHILIPPINES | 5 SEPTEMBER | MANILA TIMES

Philippines recalls envoy to China amid new sea spat

The Philippine ambassador to China has been recalled for consultations, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said Thursday amid fresh tensions in a seething maritime territorial row. Ambassador Erlinda Basilio flew back to Manila as the defense department this week accused China of laying 75 concrete blocks on disputed territory in the South China Sea, Foreign Affairs spokesman Raul Hernandez said.

[Full Report](#)

TAIWAN | 6 SEPTEMBER | AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE

Taiwan 'to pull out troops in islets' near China

TAIPEI — Taiwan is set to withdraw troops from two islets near the Chinese mainland next year and turn the former battleground into a tourist attraction amid warming ties, reports said Friday. Nearly 200 soldiers currently stationed in the Tatan and Ertan islets, which form part of the Taiwan-controlled Kinmen island group off southeast China's Xiamen city, will be withdrawn from May 2014, said United Evening News, citing defence authorities.

[Full Report](#)

VIETNAM | 6 SEPTEMBER | XINHUA

Vietnam establishes seaplane squadron

HANOI, Sept. 6 (Xinhua) -- Vietnamese Navy held a ceremony to announce the decision of forming a DHC-6 seaplane squadron, which is supposed to manage all relevant combat-ready and training activities, local Tien Phong (Pioneer) news website reported on Friday. At the ceremony held on Thursday in northern Vietnamese city of Hai Phong, Vice Admiral Pham Ngoc Minh, the Navy's chief of staff, said the establishment of the DHC-6 seaplane squadron, along with the EC-225 helicopter squadron, the Navy's first squadron formed on Dec. 25, 2011, are steps to building up the modern regular Navy and fulfilling the task of safeguarding Vietnam's sovereignty over territorial waters and islands.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA-UNITED STATES | 8 SEPTEMBER | SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST

Chinese naval vessels in rare visit to Hawaii for exercises with US

Three PLA Navy ships carrying hundreds of sailors arrived in Hawaii on Friday to join a search and rescue exercise with the US Navy during a rare visit intended to foster familiarity. The guided missile destroyer Qingdao, a frigate and a supply ship were welcomed with performances by lion dancers and a children's hula group. The ships carrying 680 officers and sailors will participate in the exercise tomorrow with the USS Lake Erie in waters off Waikiki and Diamond Head.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 11 SEPTEMBER | REUTERS

State-backed China Shipbuilding to raise \$1.4 billion for naval buildup

(Reuters) - State-backed China Shipbuilding Industry (601989.SS) plans to raise up to \$1.4 billion through a private share sale to buy assets used for building warships, the first time Beijing is tapping the capital market to fund its military expansion. The move comes as China creates its own military-industrial complex, with the private sector seen taking a key role, as the country gains a new sense of military assertiveness and deals with a growing budget to develop modern equipment including aircraft carriers and drones.

[Full Report](#)

SOUTH KOREA | 15 SEPTEMBER | KOREA HERALD

Authorities face tough choice over Hongsangeo torpedo

Defense acquisition authorities are facing a tough choice over whether to resume the production of Hongsangeo, a domestic anti-submarine torpedo, as the final testing of the weapon was not satisfactory. Since July, two practice Hongsangeo torpedoes and two live ones have been tested. Three of them hit the

intended targets, while one live torpedo failed, a Defense Acquisition Program Administration official said, declining to be named.

[Full Report](#)

RUSSIA | 16 SEPTEMBER | REUTERS

Fire breaks out on Russian nuclear submarine

(Reuters) - A fire burned for five hours on an atomic-powered submarine undergoing repairs near Russia's eastern port of Vladivostok on Monday, but naval and shipyard officials said there was no risk of a radiation leak and nobody was hurt. Black smoke poured from the submarine Tomsk, which is powered by two nuclear reactors, after it caught fire at the Zvezda shipyard in Bolshoi Kamen, about 25 km (15 miles) across a bay from Vladivostok on the Sea of Japan, authorities said.

[Full Report](#)

SOUTH KOREA | 16 SEPTEMBER | YONHAP NEWS

S. Korea to deploy coastal surveillance system by next year

SEOUL, Sept. 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will develop an advanced coastal surveillance system composed of radar and cameras for deployment in border and offshore areas prone to infiltrations by next year, the Defense Acquisition Program Administration (DAPA) said Monday. The DAPA said it will spend 41.8 billion won (US\$38.6 million) to upgrade the current radar and thermal observation devices placed in coastal areas and additionally install day and night surveillance cameras developed by Daebo Communication & Systems, a South Korean IT company.

[Full Report](#)

PHILIPPINES-UNITED STATES | 19 SEPTEMBER | TAIPEI TIMES

Philippines, US launch South China Sea war games

The Philippines and the US launched war games yesterday at a naval base facing turbulent waters claimed by China, as the allies sought to highlight their expanding military alliance. About 2,300 marines from both sides are taking part in the annual maneuvers, which this year are being staged alongside the South China Sea and come ahead of US President Barack Obama's planned first visit to the Philippines next month.

[Full Report](#)

RUSSIA-VIETNAM | 24 SEPTEMBER | RIA NOVOSTI

Russia Starts Building 2 Frigates for Vietnamese Navy

KAZAN, September 24 (RIA Novosti) – A Russian shipyard on Tuesday started work on a second pair of frigates for the Vietnamese navy, the shipbuilding company said. The Gepard (Cheetah) class frigates are designed to guard and patrol the state border and economic zone, fight smuggling, poaching and piracy at sea and aid vessels in distress.

[Full Report](#)

INDIA-RUSSIA | 25 SEPTEMBER | THE HINDU

Russia offers one-year guarantee for aircraft-carrier

Kochi, Sept. 25: INS Vikramaditya (Admiral Gorshkov), the \$2.33 billion Russia-built aircraft carrier which will be delivered to Indian Navy on November 15 after a delay of nearly five years, will only have a one-year

guarantee. Victor M. Komardin, Deputy Director-General of Rosoboronexport, Russia's state-owned arms exporter, told media persons here that during the guarantee period, a team of Russian engineers would be stationed in India to take care of "every single screw of the ship."

[Full Report](#)

TAIWAN-UNITED STATES | 25 SEPTEMBER | CHANNEL NEWSASIA

Taiwan receives first US anti-submarine aircraft

TAIPEI: Taiwan on Wednesday received the first of 12 anti-submarine aircraft from the United States, as it beefs up its naval defences against China, the military said. Television footage showed the P-3C Orion patrol aircraft landing at an air base in southern Pingtung county. Water was then splashed on the plane in a brief welcome ceremony. The other 11 planes are scheduled for delivery by 2015, the military said.

[Full Report](#)

Maritime Safety and Security



CHINA | 16 SEPTEMBER | CHANNEL NEWSASIA

Beijing open to code of conduct in South China Sea, but not now

BEIJING: A code of conduct for handling disputes in the South China Sea should be discussed "gradually", Beijing said after meetings with Southeast Asian nations, suggesting any agreement is still far off. The 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) has been trying for more than a decade to secure agreement from China on a legally binding code of conduct.

[Full Report](#)

SINGAPORE | 3 SEPTEMBER | NEW STRAITS TIMES

Fire-damaged Singapore ship sinks

KOTA TINGGI: ONE of the two Singapore-registered vessels, which caught fire on Saturday, has sunk. The MT Kit 57 sank seven hours after it caught fire at 11.40am. Both Singapore-registered vessels were moored together one nautical mile south of Pulau Mungging, near here, when a fire broke out in the engine room of the unoccupied and unmanned MT Kit 57.

[Full Report](#)

EGYPT | 3 SEPTEMBER | MARINE LINK

Maritime security firm urges Suez Canal precautions

Heightened security should be implemented now on all merchant ships transiting the Suez Canal and the Mediterranean, UK Maritime security company GoAGT advises shipmasters. The warning comes after reports that the "Cosco Asia", a Panamanian registered ship, was attacked on Saturday while transiting the Canal. Egyptian officials say they foiled the attack, which was aimed at disrupting shipping in the Canal.

[Full Report](#)

JAPAN-PHILIPPINES | 5 SEPTEMBER | KYODO

Japanese minister discusses sea disputes with Philippines

MANILA, Sept. 5 -- The Japanese minister in charge of Okinawa said Thursday he had "frank" discussions with Philippine defense and foreign affairs officials on "territorial issues and ocean policies," including the simmering sea disputes in the East China Sea and the South China Sea. Ichita Yamamoto, in Manila on a three-day visit to take a look at former U.S. military bases in the Philippines, said he discussed the Senkaku disputes between Japan and China with Philippine Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin and Philippine Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario during his meetings with the two officials.

Full Report Available Upon Request

JAPAN | 11 SEPTEMBER | BBC

Japan says 'no dispute' exists on islands anniversary

Japan tightened security around disputed islands and restated its ownership of the chain, a year after its nationalisation of the islands triggered a bitter row with China. Tensions remain high with Beijing, which sent several coastguard boats to patrol around the islands on Tuesday. Japan bought the islands, known as Senkaku in Japan and Diaoyu in China, from their private owner a year ago.

[Full Report](#)

JAPAN-VIETNAM | 16 SEPTEMBER | KYODO

Japan, Vietnam agree to beef up maritime security cooperation

HANOI, Sept. 16 -- Japanese Defense Minister Itsunori Onodera and his Vietnamese counterpart Phung Quang Thanh agreed Monday to boost cooperation in maritime security amid concern over China's growing naval activities, Japanese officials said. During their talks in Hanoi, Onodera was quoted by the officials as telling the Vietnamese defense minister that the rule of law and dialogue are vital in settling issues to secure stability in the Asian region.

Full Report Available Upon Request

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | 18 SEPTEMBER | MARITIME EXECUTIVE

Armed guards now deployed on 80% of container ships, tankers

Seatrade Middle East Work Boats & Offshore Marine 2013, the region's leading event for workboat operators, builders and the offshore marine market, returns to the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC) on 30 September to 2 October 2013, with a dedicated forum on day one, focusing on operational excellence in Africa.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA-PHILIPPINES | 23 SEPTEMBER | AL-JAZEERA

Typhoon Usagi kills 25 in China

A powerful storm hit Hong Kong and the southern China coast on Monday blowing cars off roads, crippling power lines, causing flooding and killing at least 25 people. Typhoon Usagi, the strongest storm to hit the western Pacific this year, began pounding southern China late Sunday. More than 370 flights were canceled, and financial markets closed for at least part of the morning. Shipping and train lines were also shut down before Usagi weakened to a tropical depression over the southern Chinese province of Guangdong on Monday.

[Full Report](#)

MALAYSIA | 24 SEPTEMBER | JAKARTA POST

Asian pirates now want electronics, cash

Pirates targeting ships near Malaysian waters are now robbing crewmen of their money, handphones, laptops and personal belongings, said the Malaysia Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA). MMEA command, control, communication and information director Captain Maritime Hamid Haji Mohd Nor said the incidents in the Indo-nesian waters involved mostly sea robberies against passing merchant ships.

[Full Report](#)

SOMALIA | 24 SEPTEMBER | MALTA INDEPENDENT

Piracy in Somalia almost eradicated

Figures published by an EU military mission show that piracy operations around the coast of Somalia have almost been eradicated in the last year. Whereas 176 cargo ships were attacked and 25 pirated in 2011, the number fell to 35 ships attacked and 5 pirated last year. And this year, only 3 attacks were reported so far, with no ships being taken over by pirates.

[Full Report](#)

INDONESIA-MALAYSIA | 25 SEPTEMBER | KHABAR SOUTHEAST ASIA

Greater co-operation helps tame border threats

Indonesia and Malaysia are joining forces once again to police their long and porous maritime border in an effort to combat drug and human trafficking, weapons smuggling, and terrorism. The Indonesian Directorate General of Customs and Excise and the Malaysian Royal Customs Department held their 19th Co-ordinated Customs Patrol (Patkor Kastima) from September 2nd to 15th in Batam, Indonesia.

[Full Report](#)

SINGAPORE | 25 SEPTEMBER | MPA

FEREX 2013: over 300 multi-agency personnel mobilized for ferry rescue exercise

This morning, the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) successfully carried out a full deployment Ferry Rescue Exercise (FEREX 2013) involving more than 300 personnel from nine organisations. MPA's Assistant Chief Executive (Operations), Captain M Segar said, "MPA organises annual ferry rescue exercises as part of our on-going efforts to validate and update our emergency preparedness plans and operations. This morning's exercise tested the activation and notification process, and the handling of mass casualties, two critical components in the event of any ferry mishaps in our port waters."

[Full Report](#)

AUSTRALIA | 26 SEPTEMBER | CHANNEL NEWSASIA

Australia PM Abbott downplays Indonesia opposition to refugee plans

SYDNEY: Australia's new Prime Minister Tony Abbott played down Indonesian opposition to his controversial refugee boat plans Thursday, and pledged to never "do or propose" anything that would impinge its sovereignty. Abbott is due to travel to Jakarta next week ahead of the APEC summit for bilateral talks, which are likely to be dominated by his contentious military-led operation to turn asylum-seeker boats back to Indonesia, a key staging point for the thousands of asylum-seekers arriving in Australia every year by boat.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 30 SEPTEMBER | CHANNEL NEWSASIA

Dozens missing as boats sink in South China Sea typhoon

BEIJING: More than 70 people were missing after three fishing boats sank in a powerful typhoon in the South China Sea, state media said on Monday. "Three fishing boats have sunk since Sunday afternoon," Xinhua news agency said, quoting maritime authorities. Altogether five boats carrying 171 people were caught in

rough seas whipped up by Typhoon Wutip, which is expected to make landfall in Vietnam's central region later Monday.

[Full Report](#)

AUSTRALIA-INDONESIA | 30 SEPTEMBER | CNN

Australian leader Tony Abbott to seek asylum seeker solution in Indonesia

(CNN) -- Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott and Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono sought to present a united front on the controversial issue of asylum seekers Monday, as the two leaders held talks in Jakarta. The talks -- Abbott's first on foreign soil after assuming the premiership last month -- took place in the wake of the deaths of at least 36 people on Saturday off the coast of West Java, Indonesia.

[Full Report](#)

Shipping, Ports, and the Maritime Economy

SINGAPORE | 28 SEPTEMBER | TODAY

Singapore poised to remain one of world's top ports: Maersk

Singapore is well-placed to retain its position as one of the world's leading ports despite increased competition from other ports in the region, as its facilities and efficiency are difficult to replicate elsewhere, according to the head of Maersk Line's operations in the Asia-Pacific region. Singapore lost its crown as the world's busiest container port to Shanghai in 2010 and has trailed it ever since. Other Asian ports are also racing to upgrade their facilities and reduce port dues to capture a slice of the lucrative maritime trade. But Mr Thomas Knudsen, the Asia-Pacific Chief Executive for Maersk Line, said Singapore has little to worry about.

[Full Report](#)

JAPAN | 3 SEPTEMBER | LLOYD'S LIST

LNG shipping set for winter boost as Japan shuts nuclear reactors

THE liquefied natural gas shipping market is likely to receive a boost this coming winter as Japan shuts down two nuclear reactors and is forced to import more LNG to keep the lights on. Japan's Kansai Electric Power has said it will shut down its two Ohi reactors and it will not restart them until the reactors conform to Japan's new stricter regulations for nuclear power.

Full Report Available On Request

JAPAN | 4 SEPTEMBER | SHIP & BUNKER

K Line orders four fuel-saving car carriers

Japanese shipping line Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha, Ltd. (K Line) says it has ordered four fuel-efficient "next generation" car carrier vessels, with shipbuilders Shin Kurushima Dockyard Co. Ltd. and Japan Marine United Corporation each building two of the ships.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 5 SEPTEMBER | SINOSHIP NEWS

PetroChina scandal escalates

The largest ever anti-corruption investigation on China's oil industry continues. Yesterday CPC Central Committee officially removed former PetroChina head Jiang Jiemin from his post as head of State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission (SASAC). Several listed companies, which have business relations with PetroChina, all suffered different levels of drops in share prices this week. Some of them including Renzhi Oilfield Technology Services, Shenkai Petroleum & Chemical Equipment, Jinhong Energy,

and Anton Oilfield Services have clarified to the public that their businesses are not affected by the PetroChina investigation.

[Full Report](#)

MALAYSIA | 10 SEPTEMBER | MARITIME EXECUTIVE

Malaysia's IJM sells port stake to Chinese firm

Malaysian builder IJM Corporation Bhd said it is selling a 40 percent stake in Kuantan Port Consortium Sdn Bhd to China's Guangxi Beibu Gulf International Port Group Ltd for 334.4 million ringgit (\$101.53 million). IJM said in a stock exchange filing late on Monday that there would be no impact on earnings at the group level, although the sale would boost reserves. The move will pave the way for 3 billion ringgit worth of extension works at the biggest port on the east coast of Peninsula Malaysia, according to CIMB Research in a note earlier on Monday.

[Full Report](#)

UNITED KINGDOM | 11 SEPTEMBER | SHIP & BUNKER

IBIA: Bunker sales predicated to grow in Asia, decline in North America

The International Bunker Industry Association (IBIA) is seeking achievable targets for sulfur levels in ships' fuel and flexibility in how the industry can meet them, former IBIA chairman Nigel Draffin said Tuesday during a speech at London International Shipping Week, according to an emailed press release. "Buyers will take the least cost route and suppliers will only respond to demand," Draffin said.

[Full Report](#)

SOUTH KOREA | 15 SEPTEMBER | WALL STREET JOURNAL

Passengers Start Leaving Detained Chinese Cruise Liner

BEIJING—Passengers of a detained Chinese cruise liner in South Korea were starting to leave the craft Sunday after it was seized amid a legal dispute Friday, stranding more than 2,300 passengers and crew members. China's National Tourism Administration urged South Korea's Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism late Saturday to reverse the actions of a local court that Friday seized a 223-meter luxury cruise liner, run by HNA Cruise and Yacht Management Co., an arm of HNA Group, one of China's largest non-state-owned conglomerates.

[Full Report](#)

PHILIPPINES | 16 SEPTEMBER | HELLENIC SHIPPING NEWS

Philippines: Port cargo volume rises 5.3% in H1

The volume of cargo shipped in and out of the Philippines grew 5.3 percent in the first half, mainly driven by the continued expansion of the local economy according to data from the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA). Total cargo volume reached 97.96 million metric tons (MT) from January to June or 4.93 million higher than the 93.03 million MT recorded in the same period last year. Cargo shipped within the Philippines rose 8.2 percent to 40.77 million MT, while cargo shipped in and out of the country climbed 3.34 percent to 57.18 million MT.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 18 SEPTEMBER | LLOYD'S LIST

China's shipbuilding shakeup will strengthen appeal to buyers

Yards are braced for painful adjustments but will emerge leaner and fitter: China's shipbuilding industry is undergoing a restructuring that could be painful but will enhance the country's ability to attract key customers such as those from Greece, a leading Chinese diplomat has claimed. "I am very confident that the structural adjustment of the Chinese shipbuilding industry will also provide new opportunities for Greek shipping in the sense that in the future we can provide new ships with higher quality and higher technology at very competitive terms," said China's commercial attaché in Greece, Sun Liwei.

Full Report Available On Request

SINGAPORE | 23 SEPTEMBER | SHIP & BUNKER

NSR not yet a threat to Singapore maritime trade

Commercial voyages through the Northern Sea Route (NSR) do not yet pose a significant threat to Singapore's position in the maritime industry, carriers and analysts told the New Strait Times. Lars Mikael Jensen, head of Asia-Europe trade for Maersk Line, said the industry giant is considering using the NSR but does not expect to shift many vessels from the Suez Canal route.

[Full Report](#)

SINGAPORE | 23 SEPTEMBER | LLOYD'S LIST

Singapore secures central role in LNG shipping developments

City state will increase its clout as its gas imports rise: Singapore has imported an impressive 1.1m cu m of liquefied natural gas since imports started in April, equivalent to cargoes for around seven and a half 160,000 cu m LNG carriers, according to the latest data from Lloyd's List Intelligence. The growth of Singapore LNG imports is expected to create exciting opportunities for employment of gas ships as it develops as an Asian gas trading and shipping hub.

Full Report Available On Request

CHINA | 23 SEPTEMBER | SINOSHIP NEWS

Zhuhai expands terminal construction

The southeast China port of Gaolan port is to build three more 5,000 tons multipurpose berths. The designed annual handling capacity is 2.4m tons. The project is scheduled to be completed by 2014. The new berths will improve the container and bulk cargo handling capacity of Zhuhai to meet the fast throughput growth, the local transport authority said.

[Full Report](#)

CHINA | 27 SEPTEMBER | MARITIME GATEWAY

Destination Asia

Three Asian ports- Port Kelang and Port Tanjung Pelepas and the Port of Singapore are trying to snare the big three shipping lines to their ports to be the most favoured port in South East Asia. The world's three major shipping lines - Maersk, MSC and CMA CGM - are using three different ports right now to dispatch cargo to the United States and Europe. As the traditional strongholds of consumerism - the developed Western markets of Europe and the United States - suffer from a range of economic woes, consumption growth is

slowing down, causing revenue and profitability challenges for multinational corporations (MNCs). As a result, companies are increasingly looking to Asia for market expansion, revenue growth, and increased profits.

Full Report Available On Request

INDIA | 27 SEPTEMBER | MARITIME GATEWAY

What the P3 alliance means for the Asian ports

In June this year, the three shipping lines decided to forge an operational alliance. CMA CGM, Maersk Line and MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company SA agreed to establish a long-term working relationship on East-West trades, called the P3 Network. They aim to improve and optimize operations and service offerings. The P3 Network is expected to have a capacity of 2.6 million teu (initially 255 vessels on 29 loops) on three trade lanes: Asia -Euro Europe, Trans- Pacific and Trans-Atlantic.

Full Report Available On Request

SINGAPORE | 29 SEPTEMBER | ECO-BUSINESS

Shipping industry pushes for more sustainability action

The Sustainable Shipping Initiative (SSI) on Thursday launched a report calling for a greener shipping industry among its members and other maritime sector heavyweights, while giving an update on the progress made to date. The SSI, a 21-strong coalition of global shipping leaders, developed the 23-page report titled, 'A Case for More Action', during the past 18 months. It tackles maritime sustainability and the future of global trade, detailing challenges within the industry as well as case studies from different firms, together with a set of practical tools.

[Full Report](#)