

OPRF MARINT Monthly Report

November 2007



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This monthly report is edited/ summarized by publisher and staff writers based on published news resources.

Each resource is referenced with bracket below each title and is displayed as link URL on the last page of this report.

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Major Events in November 2007

Security: Somali pirates released Tanzania-flagged fishing trawlers owned by a South-Korean, *Mavuno 1* and *Mavuno 2*, after holding them since May 2007 on November 4, and Taiwan-flagged fishing trawler *Ching Fong Hwa* on November 5, respectively. The U.S. naval vessels provided humanitarian and medical assistance to the crew of the released vessels.

On November 16, French Defense Minister Herve Morin told the Navy began escorting ships carrying World Food Program (WFP) provisions to Somalia to protect them against attacks by pirates.

A ceremony of transferring three patrol boats given to the Indonesian National Police by the Japanese government was held at Tanjung Priok sea port in North Jakarta on November 30. (Note: The three patrol boats are believed to have been provided under the Official Development Assistance (ODA) program of the Japanese government in June 2006.)

Military: U.S. Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates visited three East Asian countries between 4 and 9 November for the first time after he took office. DS Gates had a talk with Japanese Defense Minister Shigeru Ishiba at the Defense Ministry on November 8. In addition, DS Gates met with Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda and Foreign Minister Masahiko Komura on 8th, and delivered a speech on U.S. Asian policy and U.S.-Japan alliance at Sophia University on 9th.

A South Korean newspaper, the Chosun Ilbo, dated November 7 published a satellite image (Google Earth) of the Russia-made *Krivak*-class frigate anchoring in the vicinity of Nampo port down the Taedong River in North Korea.

According to an announcement of Vice Admiral Raman Suthan, Commander of the Indian naval fleet on the eastern front, on November 14, India plans to station an aircraft carrier in the Bay of Bengal along with at least half of the 32 new warships and six submarines over the next five years or so.

A Chinese naval ship, the *Shenzhen* left Zhanjiang, Guangdon, for a port call to Japan on November 21. The *Shenzhen* made a courtesy visit to Japan on November 28 – December 1 at the invitation of Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force.

The U.S. Navy aircraft carrier USS *Kitty Hawk* were to spend the four-day Thanksgiving holidays in Hong Kong starting on 21, but China refused the entry shortly before its arrival. The *Kitty Hawk* returned to Japan, passing through the Taiwan Strait.

Diplomacy and International relations: The U.S. newspaper, *The Wall Street Journal* dated November 3, reported in its article titled “Arctic Thaw Defrosts a Sea Treaty” that shrinking of a frozen sea in the Arctic is accelerating a U.S. accession to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

On November 6, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) has begun hearing arguments on the sovereignty of Pedra Branca/Pulau Batu Puteh “island” between Malaysia and Singapore.

Shipping, Resources, Environment and Miscellaneous: China is sending 189 construction workers on its 24th scientific expedition to Antarctica in mid-November to expand two scientific research stations.

On November 29, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Minister Freddy Numberi told Indonesia had so far lost 24 islands because of natural disasters and environmental damage. As a result, the total number of islands in Indonesia declined from 17,504 to 17,480.

1. Information Digest

1.1 Security

November 4-5 “Somali pirates set ships free” (EagleSpeak, November 4 and 5, 2007)

Somali pirates released Tanzania-flagged fishing trawlers owned by a South-Korean, *Mavuno 1* and *Mavuno 2*, after holding them since May 2007 on November 4, and Taiwan-flagged fishing trawler *Ching Fong Hwa* on November 5, respectively. The U.S. naval vessels provided humanitarian and medical assistance to the crew of the released vessels.

According to Commander Lydia Robertson, the spokeswoman for the U.S. 5th Fleet, the Navy was also urging the Somali pirates to leave the chemical tanker *Golden Nori* chartered by the Japanese Shipping Company and hijacked by the pirates on October 28 and two other hijacked vessels. (As for the *Golden Nori*, see 1.1 Security, OPRF MARINT Monthly Report October 2007.) South Korean media have reported that the Somali pirates were demanding between 700,000 US dollars (USDs) and one million USDs in ransom. Robertson made no comment on ransom demands, deferring to the shipping company.

Regarding the North Korean cargo ship *Dai Hong Dan* which was rescued by the U.S. Navy after it was attacked by the Somali pirates on October 30, and the criticism that the U.S. Navy freed the North Korean vessel that was engaging in illegal activities (on 3rd), Robertson said, “We did not detain the North Korean vessel... We are not monitoring the ship.” Andrew Mwangura, Director of the Kenyan branch of the Seafarers Assistance Program, had urged the U.S. Navy to detain the North Korean freighter and bring it to the Kenyan port city of Mombasa, where it would be searched. Mwangura has suspected the vessel of using a fake name and involvement in unlawful activities in Somalia.

Source: U.S. Navy photo, EagleSpeak, November 1, 2007

http://bp0.blogger.com/E-QOnTGFX_o/Ryn2mmX3yhI/AAAAAAAAACHY/bIKxqALbFJc/s1600-h/NK+Freight1.jpg

North Korean cargo vessel *The Dai Hong Dan*

【Related Story】**“N. Korea thanks U.S. for rescuing NK vessel” (Chosun Ilbo, November 9, 2007)**

On November 8, the official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) said North Korea officially thanked the U.S. for conducting rescue operations for the North Korean cargo ship *Dai Hong Dan* attacked by pirates off the Somali coast. The KCNA called this case “a symbol of North Korea-U.S. cooperation in the war against terrorism.” The remarks are a further sign that the North is determined to improve ties with the U.S., as the disablement of its nuclear facilities is going smoothly and it is expected to be removed from the U.S.’ list of state sponsors of terrorism soon.

The KCNA reported on how the *Dai Hong Dan* was attacked by the pirates. According to the KCNA, having disguised themselves as security guards for the North Korean vessel while it lay at anchor off the Somali capital of Mogadishu, the seven pirates detained all crewmembers in the pilothouse and engine room. The pirates fired gunshots and demanded 15,000 US dollars (USDs) in cash, but crew disarmed two hijackers and exchanged gunshots with the rest. With the pilothouse taken by pirates, crewmembers sailed on into international waters using emergency steering gear and a compass while continuing to fight the pirates. The U.S. destroyer *James Williams* and a helicopter came to the aid of the North Korean vessel. Some 20 hours after the attack began, the hijackers surrendered. In the fight, one pirate was killed and six North Korean sailors were injured. A medic of the U.S. warship offered treatment to injured North Korean sailors.

November 14 “Malaysia refused again U.S. assistance over Malacca Strait” (AFP, November 14, 2007)

On November 14, Malaysian Deputy Minister Abdul Rahman Suliman rejected again U.S. help in fighting piracy in the Malacca Straits, saying it was not necessary since attacks had been decreasing in the area. The minister was not responding to any recent offers by the United States for help. However, Kuala Lumpur has long been wary of U.S. intentions in the Straits, and has repeatedly rejected plans for American anti-terrorism patrols there.

November 16 “French Navy begins patrol off Somalia” (AFP, November 16, 2007)

French Defense Minister Herve Morin said on November 16, the French navy began escorting ships carrying World Food Program (WFP) provisions to Somalia to protect them against attacks by pirates. President Nicolas Sarkozy promised in September to provide the escort service for two months. He said there had been 22 attacks by pirates off the Somali coast since the beginning of the year, including two against WFP-chartered ships. Raising a question about this matter to other defense ministers of the European Union (EU), he asked other nations to join France.

November 29 “Riddle of a ‘Mother ship’ of Somali pirates” (AP, November 29, 2007)

The Associated Press news running in the *International Herald Tribune* dated November 29 has reported as information from the Pakistani Navy ships participating in the Joint Task Force in the Arabian Sea (CTF-150) on the point of “mother ship” which Somali pirates are believed to

be using for the attacks as follows :

- (1) The U.S. Navy destroyer, the USS *Porter* sank the small speedboats that the pirates used to attack a Japanese chemical tanker, the *Golden Nori*, chartered by the Japanese marine company on October 28 (see map. As for this case, see 1. 1 Security in the OPRF MARINT Monthly Report, October 2007). The persons working for the CTF-150 believe skiffs like the ones used in the attack must have come from elusive “mother ship.” Commodore Khan Hasham of Pakistan said, “The small boats which are used for piracy could not travel from shore as far into the ocean as ships have been attacked. So they needed a mother ship from which the pirates could launch skiffs.” The Japanese vessel had been attacked some 85 nautical miles from Somalia — too far for the two small boats to have come from shore (see map). Some attacks are even further from land, as far as 250 nautical miles, Hasham said.
- (2) No warship of the CTF-150 has located a mother ship yet. As for where the mother ship is hiding, Andrew Mwangura, head of the Kenya-based East Africa Seafarers' Assistance Program, says the mother ships melt into the ordinary shipping traffic without notice once they have disgorged their deadly packs of speedboats. Coalition warships have frequently passed a mother ship, he says, without even realizing. The mother ships don't carry weapons, he says, preferring to arm two or three smaller boats with anti-tank missiles, machine guns and rocket propelled grenades. They leave the small boats at sea, possibly with another vessel loaded with fuel. When a merchant ship comes into view, these small, fast boats attack it in a group. Mwangura said, “Mother ships are among the fishing vessels. They won't find it until there are no fishing vessels in Somali waters.”

Speed boat in flames*

Presumption attack sea area of the *Golden Nori***

Source*:

http://bp2.blogger.com/_E-QOnTGFX_o/RzfiQCkJbI/AAAAAAAAACNI/ZVCLoZTZaGs/s1600-h/skiff+3.jpg

Source**:

http://bp3.blogger.com/_E-QOnTGFX_o/RyhXUmX3yYI/AAAAAAAAACGQ/2osqtd8T7wI/s1600-h/yemen_pol_2002.jpg

November 30 “Japan gives Indonesian National Police three patrol boats” (The Jakarta Post, December 1, 2007)

A ceremony of transferring three patrol boats given to the Indonesian National Police by the Japanese government was held at Tanjung Priok sea port in North Jakarta on November 30.

Calling that the patrol boats will help Indonesia handle piracy, maritime terrorism and weapon smuggling in the Malacca strait, Japanese Ambassador Shin Ebihara said, "I hope Indonesia can use the boats effectively to secure the Malacca Strait." Each of the three boats is 27 meters in length and can carry up to 12 personnel. They are named "Hayabusa", "Anis Madu" and "Taka". According to Indonesian National Police chief General Susanto, these three boats will be placed in Tanjung Batu, Riau and Belawan, Medan (North Sumatra).

(Note: The three patrol boats are believed to have been provided under the Official Development Assistance (ODA) program of the Japanese government in June 2006. Refer to 1.1 in OPRF MARINT Monthly Report, June 2006.)

1.2 Military

November 4-9 "U.S. Defense Secretary Gates visits China, South Korea and Japan" (American Forces Press Service, November 4-10, 2007)

U.S. Defense Secretary (DS) Robert M. Gates visited three East Asian countries between 4 and 9 November for the first time after he took office, and the outline of his tour including the meeting with top defense officials of the three countries is as follows.

1. Visit to China

DS Robert M. Gates had a talk with Chinese Minister of National Defense General Cao Gangchuan in Beijing on November 5. During a joint news conference, Gates called the U.S. relationship with China "candid, constructive and cooperative." The two defense leaders discussed many issues between the two countries to maintain the momentum. According to Gates, two leaders agreed to moving forward and deepening our military-to-military dialogue including on nuclear policy, strategy and doctrine, and enhancing military exchanges at all levels. The two officials also made an agreement to implement a direct telephone link between the Pentagon and the Ba Yi building. U.S. defense officials have been calling for more transparency in Chinese military policy. Raising the uncertainty over China military modernization to Cao, Gates pointed out the need for greater transparency to allay international concerns. Cao told Gates that the Chinese believed it was important that the two nations should expand the military exchange program to all fields and to all levels. The Chinese also agreed that the two navies conduct a joint exercise with a relatively more complex scenario "at the proper time," Cao said. Furthermore, Cao told that the Chinese government and the Chinese armed forces placed great importance in DS Gates visit for military-to-military exchanges between the two countries.

After the meeting between the top defense officials, Gates met with Vice Foreign Minister Dai Bingguo, Gen. Xu Caihou, the new vice chairman of the Central Military Commission, and then with Gen. Guo Boxiong, the senior vice chairman of the commission.

2. Visit to the Republic of Korea (ROK)

DS Robert M. Gates had a talk with ROK Minister of National Defense (MND) Kim Jang-soo

in Seoul on November 7. DS Gates was in South Korea to participate in the 39th Security Consultative Meeting between leaders of the two countries. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Navy Adm. Michael G. Mullen; Navy Adm. Timothy J. Keating, commander of U.S. Pacific Command; and Army Gen. Burwell B. Bell, commander of U.S. Forces Korea and Combined Forces Command, accompanied the secretary.

In a joint statement issued following the meeting, DS Gates offered firm assurances that the transition of wartime operational control will be carried out in a manner that strengthens deterrence and maintains a fully capable ROK-U.S. combined defense posture on the peninsula. The secretary reaffirmed that the U.S. will continue to provide significant bridging capabilities until the ROK obtains full self-defense capabilities.

Pledging U.S. support to South Korea during a joint news conference after the meeting, Gates said, "The United States remains committed to the security of the ROK. The level of our troops will depend on the security situation and on our joint appraisal with the ROK on the need for those troops."

Pointing out North Korea is cooperating in dismantling its nuclear programs, but it is too early to let down the alliance's guard, MND Kim said, "Although it is true that North Korea has begun the process of dismantling its nuclear program, we cannot say that the threat from North Korea has reduced tangibly or discernibly." Kim asserted, "There is no intelligence to indicate that North Korea is less of a threat. In order for us to change our view of the situation, we would need very real and very tangible military intelligence to that effect." Kim also emphasized, "What is certain is that North Korea is continuing to pursue acquisition of asymmetrical weapons. We cannot conclude the threat from North Korea has been reduced."

3. U.S.-Japan Defense Leaders' Meeting

DS Robert M. Gates had a talk with Japanese Defense Minister (DM) Shigeru Ishiba at the Defense Ministry on November 8. In addition, DS Gates met with Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda and Foreign Minister Masahiko Komura, and delivered a speech on U.S. Asian policy and U.S.-Japan alliance at Sophia University on November 9.

According to the homepage (HP) of the Japanese Defense Ministry, an outline of the meeting is as follows.

- (1) Transition of alliance: DM Shigeru Ishiba and DS Gates agreed that while the buildup of ballistic missile defense (BMD) asset between the two countries is proceeding, the effective operation of the system is becoming more important from now on. In addition, two defense leaders agreed to recognition that in order to promote defense cooperation between Japan and the United States including the BMD, it is extremely important to keep information security commonly shared between the two parties.
- (2) Refueling activities in the Indian Ocean: Based on reconfirmation of importance of continuing the war on terror by international community, DM Ishiba mentioned that it is important for Japan to resume the refueling mission in the Indian Ocean at an early date in order to contribute to the international community and to strengthen Japan-U.S. alliance. Ishiba also said he would like to make his utmost efforts to have a new antiterrorism bill (that will allow

Japan to resume its refueling mission in the Indian Ocean) which has been under deliberation enacted at the Diet. Responding these words, DS Gates appreciated the recent Japanese contribution to the war on terror and efforts of the Japanese government for implementing the early resumption of the mission.

- (3) Share of the financial burden relating to the stationing of U.S. forces in Japan: DM Ishiba and DS Gates confirmed that the financial burden relating to the stationing of U.S. forces in Japan is an important factor to secure the smooth and effective implementation of the U.S.-Japan Security Alliance and concurred to aim at an early settlement of the special agreement.
- (4) Realignment of U.S. forces (stationed in Japan): DM Ishiba and DS Gates confirmed to implement all-round realignment of the U.S. forces including the movement and return of the Futema Air Station. Regarding the return of the land south of Kadena, Ishiba asked Gates to return the Camp Zukeran (Camp Foster) to Japan to the maximum extent possible.
- (5) Roles, Missions and Capabilities: DM Ishiba and DS Gates confirmed to continue evaluation on roles, missions and capabilities, and it is important to promote feasibility of bilateral relations between the two countries. Additionally, two defense leaders agreed to tackle continually the promotion of common sharing of information.

Transcript of an address of DS Robert M. Gates at the Sophia University:

<http://www.defenselink.mil/speeches/speech.aspx?speechid=1192>

November 7 “China, Indonesia sign agreement on defense cooperation” (Xinhua, November 7, 2007)

While in Beijing, Indonesian Defense Minister Juwono Sudarsono signed a defense cooperation agreement with his Chinese counterpart Cao Gangchuan. Although specific details of the deal were not released, the accord is the first that China concluded with a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), marking an important strategic step for Beijing in Southeast Asia. The agreement is particularly significant, considering Indonesia's proximity to the Strait of Malacca, through which much of China's energy is shipped.

November 7 “SK Newspaper made an image of NK frigate public” (Chosun Ilbo, November 7, 2007)

A South Korean newspaper, the Chosun Ilbo, dated November 7 published a satellite image (Google Earth) of the Russia-made *Krivak*-class frigate anchoring in the vicinity of Nampo port down the Taedong River in North Korea.

Source: Chosun Ilbo, November 7, 2007
<http://www.chosunonline.com/article/20071107000027>

Russia-made *Krivak*-class Frigate anchored near Nampo port

According to the report, the 3,000-ton frigate has neither guns nor radar. North was only known to have three warships with a displacement of more than 1,000 tons -- two *Najin*-class frigates (1,500-ton) manufactured in the 1970s and one *Soho*-class frigate (1,600-ton) in the 1980s. South Korean and U.S. intelligence authorities assume that the warship was imported as scrap metal given that it has no guns and radar. But it is possible that the North will install weapons in the vessel to use it as a warship, since Pyongyang has long tried to import large warships from China and Russia in response to South Korea's construction of warships with a displacement of more than 3,000 tons including a 7,000-ton Aegis vessel. On November 6, a military source said, "The South Korean military is keeping an eye on the Russia-made warship, since there is information that North Korea will equip the vessel with helicopters to use it as a flagship." The existence of a warship-building yard near Nampo port supports that information. But another source said the North imported the warship "for display." Experts say that the warship is likely to be the latest *Krivak-III* model. The *Krivak-III* is 123.5 m long and 14.2 m wide and equipped with SA-N-4 ship-to-air missiles and KA-27 helicopters. Built in the mid 1980s, it is still used by the Russian Navy.

November 7 "China delivers patrol boats to Cambodia" (Xinhua, November 7, 2007)

On November 7, the China State Ship-building Corporation delivered a batch of marine equipments to the Royal Armed Forces of Cambodia to help its navy branch counter crimes like smuggling and drug trafficking. The equipment includes four 46-meter-long patrol boats, three 20-meter-long patrol boats, one landing ship and one 60-meter-long floating dock. At the handover ceremony held at the Navy Headquarters in Sihanoukville, Cambodia's Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Tea Banh said, "The high-quality equipment will play an important role in improving the Cambodian navy forces' working efficiency and safeguard the security and integrity of the kingdom's territorial waters."

November 7 “Taiwanese National Defense Minister visits Taiping Islet of Spratly Islands” (Taipei Times, November 8, 2007)

On November 7, after confirming that he visited the islet the previous, National Defense Minister Lee Tien-yu said constructing an airport on Taiping Island is a must. He said, “Neighboring countries have all established their airport facilities. In addition to national security issues, the airport and the runway will improve transport between the island and Taiwan. Also, if personnel are injured on the island, the facilities will shorten travel time to carry the patients to a hospital significantly.” Taiping Island, the biggest atoll of the Spratly Islands, is under Taiwan control. According to Lee, the planned runway, which will be 1,198 meters long and 30 meters wide, will be safe for aircraft as large as a C-130 Hercules.

November 13 “Malaysia launches a new type of patrol vessel” (The New Strait Times, November 13, 2007)

On November 13, the Royal Malaysian Navy launched its latest Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) named the *KD Perak*. Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Najib Razak, announced that Malaysia will launch three other OPVs by 2009, to be built in Malaysia based on a German design.

Source: The New Strait Times, November 13, 2007
<http://www.nst.com.my/Tuesday/National/2082560/Article/index.html>

The new Royal Malaysian Navy off-shore patrol vessel the *KD Perak*

November 14 “Two U.S. Navy vessels visit Vietnam” (Thanh Nien News.com, November 14, 2007)

Japan (Sasebo) based two U.S. Navy mine warfare ships-- USS *Patriot* and USS *Guardian* in Vietnam-- paid the courtesy call to Hai Phong, Vietnam on November 15. The two ships were to remain there until 18. According to the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi, these are the first military ships to make an official visit to a northern port since Washington and Hanoi established diplomatic relations in 1995. So far, other U.S. ships have stopped in Da Nang and Ho Chi Minh City in the southern part.

Source: US Navy photo

http://www.news.navy.mil/list_single.asp?id=43048USS *Patriot* (MCM 7)

Source: US Navy photo

http://www.news.navy.mil/list_single.asp?id=25975USS *Guardian* (MCM 5)**November 14 “India to strengthen naval forces in the Bay of Bengal in view of China” (Zee News, November 14, 2007)**

According to an announcement of Vice Admiral Raman Suthan, Commander of the Indian naval fleet on the eastern front, on November 14, India plans to station an aircraft carrier in the Bay of Bengal along with at least half of the 32 new warships and six submarines over the next five years or so. Already, a few months ago, India's Air Force said it would strengthen its presence in the east, adding new fighter jets and moving two squadrons of 36 state-of-the-art Russian-built Sukhoi-30 aircraft to the area. They are an apparent move to counter Chinese interests in the region. Admiral Susan says, “China has fuel interests of its own as fuel lines from Africa and the Persian Gulf run through these waters, and so they are also building up their Navy.” India has air and naval bases and listening posts across the eastern region. It considers the eastern sea routes vital to its security.

Many Indian defense experts believe that China has military or intelligence facilities on Myanmar's Coco Islands. Regarding this matter, Suthan said as follows. “We keep hearing about China's interest in Coco Island and are wary of its growing interest in the region, and we are keeping a close watch. Although China is believed to have no facilities on Coco (*), the navy cannot let its guard down. The naval fleet in east India has long legs and, with the government's emphasis on the ‘look east’ policy, we are strengthening our naval forces in this area.”

(*) Note: Regarding the Chinese facility in Coco Island, for instance, an Indian journalist, Sudha Ramachandran, reported in his article titled “Myanmar plays of India and China” on “*The Asia Times Online*” dated 17 August 2005, “Myanmar government leased the Coco Island to China in 1994. China built a maritime reconnaissance and electronic intelligence station on the Great Coco and is now constructing a base on the Small Coco Island.” (Refer to OPRF MARINT Monthly Report, August 2005.) If what Admiral Susan mentioned in the above quotation were true, it is notable that the previous information (from the Indian journalist) may have been denied.

November 14 “New U.S. listening post in Sri Lanka worries India” (Times Now.tv, November 14, 2007)

Indian government is said to be deeply concerned about a new listening post which was

recently established by the United States in Vavuniya in the northeastern part of Sri Lanka. New Delhi is worried that this listening post can be used to spy on key strategic installations in southern India - like the Thumba rocket launch station near Thiruvananthapuram, the Kalpakkam nuclear station in Tamil Nadu and the naval dockyard in Vishakapatnam to name but a few. The sophisticated U.S. maritime surveillance facility was presented to the Sri Lankan government only recently, as part of the U.S. National Security Act that allows the U.S. government to aid countries fighting terror. But the facility also virtually gives Washington a vital new strategic listening post in the region.

November 16 “Indonesia & Brunei end a joint naval drill” (Antara News, November 16, 2007)

On November 16, the Indonesian and Brunei navies ended a week-long joint military exercise codenamed “Helang Laut-10A/07” in East Java. The drill which involved 20 Indonesian naval officers and 18 Brunei naval officers focused on procedures and tactics of sea surface war, electronic war and anti submarine war. In the exercise, the two navies conducted a joint sea patrol to safeguard sea lanes and protect each other’s national interests. Five warships consisting of three from the Indonesian Navy and two from the Brunei Navy took part in the exercise.

November 20 “China intends to strengthen military ties with ASEAN” (Channel NewsAsia, November 21, 2007)

On November 20, Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao proposed stepping up military relations with ASEAN and called for joint security in international shipping lanes in the South China Sea and Malacca Strait as follows: (a) We should increase military exchanges and cooperation, pursue institutionalized defense cooperation, strengthen dialogue on defense policy and promote more cooperation between our militaries; (b) We should advance practical cooperation and joint development in the South China Seas and maintain stability in the area; and (c) As a user of the Malacca Strait, China is ready to actively participate in the relevant cooperation projects. China would fund a “maritime investigation training program” with three Malacca Strait nations in 2008.

November 21 “Chinese Navy’s missile destroyer sets off for Japan” (Xinhua, November 21, 2007)

A Chinese naval ship, the *Shenzhen*, being headed by Rear Admiral Xiao Xinnian, vice chief of staff of the South China Sea Fleet of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy, left Zhanjiang, Guangdong, for a port call to Japan with 345 naval officers and crew on November 21. The *Shenzhen* will make a courtesy visit to Japan on November 28 – December 1 at the invitation of Japan’s Maritime Self Defense Force. This will be the first such visit to Japan by the ship of the PLA Navy. During the four-day stay in Japan, the naval officers and sailors of the two countries will conduct military exchanges and various entertainment activities. The two sides will also visit each other's naval ships, and the two military bands will give joint performance for citizens in

Tokyo. In addition, the *Shenzhen* will be open to the public.

Source: Xinhua, November 21, 2007
http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2007-11/21/content_7119146.htm

【Related Story 1】

“The *Shenzhen* arrives at Tokyo Port on the morning of November 28” (Xinhua, November 28, 2007)

The *Shenzhen* has arrived at Tokyo Port’s Harumi Pier on the morning of November 28, being led by the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force destroyer *Ikazuchi*.

Source: Xinhua, Nov 28, 2007
<http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6310911.html>

Shenzhen arriving at Harumi Pier

【Related Story 2】

“Japan Defense Ministry, U.S. Embassy in Tokyo denied report on U.S.’ pressuring Japan to cease a tour to Aegis-ship” (AFP, November 30, 2007)

Regarding the news of the Yomiuri Shimbun dated 30 that a tour of the Japanese

Aegis-equipped warship *Kirishima* by Chinese sailors of the *Shenzhen* was cancelled due to U.S. pressure, the AFP news running from Tokyo dated December 30 reports as follows.

U.S. embassy spokesman David Marks said, "Neither U.S. forces in Japan nor the U.S. embassy in Tokyo asked Japan to cancel a tour of an Aegis ship." Defense Minister Shigeru Ishiba also denied the news, telling reporters: "I haven't heard that we were planning to show an Aegis warship." A defense ministry spokeswoman said the choice of ship was determined based on vessels' training schedules. She said, "Today the *Kirishima* is away from Yokosuka port, so physically they can't visit it."

November 21 "The latest U.S. nuclear attack-sub visits South Korea" (Chosun Ilbo, November 27, 2007)

According to the Korean military authorities on November 26, the USS *Connecticut*, the second of three U.S. *Seawolf*-class nuclear-powered attack submarines, has been moored at a pier of the Korean Navy's 3rd Fleet in Busan since November 21 for an eight-day stay for maintenance and replenishing. The *Seawolf*-class was developed in 1990 to replace the *Los Angeles* class, the U.S. Navy's main nuclear-powered attack submarines. The ultramodern subs are considered the world's most powerful, far superior to the *Los Angeles*-class vessels in terms of attack and underwater operational capabilities. *Los Angeles*-class subs have anchored at Korea naval bases before, but this is the first visit by a *Seawolf*-class vessel. The *Connecticut* is under the command of the U.S. Navy's Atlantic Fleet, and so far only U.S. Pacific Fleet submarines stop in Korea, provoking much public curiosity on its background. Some source has said, "This is related to the rumor that the USS *Connecticut* may be transferred to the Pacific Fleet next year." There is much speculation as to why the submarine, which was expected to depart Busan base on November 28, entered the Yongho-dong base, where it can be easily seen by the public, instead of other bases such as Jinhae where submarines can be shielded from public view. A Korean military officer said, "It seems that they decided to give their crew time to relax, including a little tourism, to help them get over the fatigue of an extended period underwater. They also seem to intend to show something to North Korea and China."

The USS *Connecticut* can carry torpedoes, anti-ship missiles and 50 Tomahawk cruise missiles, which can hit targets more than 1,300 km away with high accuracy. The sub features high-level stealth capabilities to make it hard for the enemy to detect. It also has the ability to drop off commandos in enemy territory and can gather intelligence by intercepting enemy communications.

Source: Chosun Ilbo, Nov 27, 2007
<http://english.chosun.com/w21data/html/news/200711/200711270003.html>

The USS *Connecticut* is anchored at Yongho-dong naval base in Busan.

November 21 “China rebuffed U.S. flattop’s entry to Hong Kong Port” (VOA News.com, November 22, 2007)

The crew members of the U.S. aircraft carrier, USS *Kitty Hawk*, was to spend in Hong Kong the Thanksgiving holiday for four days beginning on November 21 with their families who had flown there. The visit to Hong Kong had been planned several months before. However, the Chinese-side refused the entry of the *Kitty Hawk* shortly before its arrival. Later, the Chinese-side allowed the U.S. Navy to anchor in the harbor as scheduled, but at that time the carrier battle group consisting of five accompanying vessels (one of which was a nuclear attack submarine) had already been bound for Japan, sailing approximately 250 miles off under heavy weather.

【A related article】

“The U.S. aircraft carrier returned to Japan after transiting the Taiwan Strait” (Reuters, December 1 and Taipei Times, December, 1, 2007)

The USS *Kitty Hawk* and five accompanying ships passed through the Taiwan Strait on their way back to Japan after China barred the carrier group from entering the Hong Kong harbor, a spokesman for the U.S. Pacific Command said. “USS *Kitty Hawk* carrier strike group has transited the Taiwan Strait. This was a normal navigational transit of international waters, and the route selection was based on operational necessity, including adverse weather,” he said. Declining to make a direct comment on this matter on November 30, a spokesman for the Taiwan’s National Defense Ministry said the Taiwan Strait is an international channel, and so long as the transit makes no threats against Taiwan, Taipei respects the rights of foreign vessels passing through the Strait. The transit of the U.S. aircraft carrier through the Taiwan Strait has not been noted since the relations between China and Taiwan grew more strained in March 1996. The USS *Kitty Hawk* battle group returned to Yokosuka, Japan on 27th.

November 22 “U.S. military strategy aims to refocus on the Philippines” (Focus on the Global South, November 22, 2007)

Herbert Docena, a guest researcher at the Policy Research Advisory Agency, the Focus on the Global South, located in Bangkok, expresses his interesting view on the aim that the United States has recently deployed military forces to the Philippines which is close to the constant presence in his long article titled “At the Door to all the East: The Philippines in the United States Military Strategy” issued on November 22. The report says that the U.S. moves to encircle China by securing the bases and stationing military forces in the countries located in the strategic area around China called “the dragon’s lair” where decisive battles could erupt in certain war-planning scenarios. Because of its strategic location, the Philippines is among the countries in which the U.S. wants to establish bases, secure access agreements, and station troops.

Notes: The full report, “At the Door to all the East: The Philippines in the United States Military Strategy” can be downloaded at

<http://www.focusweb.org/at-the-door-to-all-the-east.html?Itemid=94>

November 25 “Vietnam protests Chinese military exercise in Hoang Sa (Vietnam News Agency, November 2, 2007)

On November 25, Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokesman Le Dung protested against a Chinese military exercise in the Hoang Sa archipelago in the East Sea from November 16 to 23, and reasserted its claim over the islands.

[A related article]**“Chinese Foreign Ministry refuted Vietnam’s protest” (Xinhua, November 27, 2007)**

On November 26, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman refuted Vietnam's protest that Chinese Navy's exercise in Xisha Islands infringed upon its sovereignty as groundless. The spokesman told Chinese Navy's routine exercise in Xisha Islands had been its normal activity within China's territorial waters.

November 26 “Submarine rescue exercise begins in Australia” (The Australian, November 27, 2007)

The Australian navy is playing host to a vast international submarine rescue exercise codenamed Pacific Reach, meant to prevent a repeat of the tragedy of the Russian submarine *Kursk* in 2000. Submarines, ships and teams of specialist divers, as well as military observers from 15 nations have gathered in Perth to conduct the two-week exercise. Two Australian submarines, as well as one each from South Korea and Japan, will take part in the simulated emergencies.

November 27 “U.S. Marine provides Anti-Terrorism Training For Cambodians Forces” (Xinhua, November 27 and 28, 2007)

The United States' Marine Corps personnel started to provide anti-terrorism training for

Cambodia's National Counter Terrorism Task Force (NCTTF) on November 27. U.S. Marines from the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, stationed aboard the amphibious assault ship USS *Essex* based in Sasebo, Japan, will arrive in port city Sihanoukville on 21st to stay there for six days.

During the Cambodia Maritime Security Seminar held in Phnom Penh city on November 28, Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said, "I used to be very concerned that my country can become a safe shelter for terrorists in maritime areas because we lacked the materials and techniques to safeguard the territory. Now, we have cooperation with our friends and partners to combat all those terrorists and cross-border criminals and improve our sea environment protection." Some 100 participants from Australia and Cambodia attended the seminar.

November 27 "Indonesia ratifies Aussie security Pact" (The Age, November 27, 2007)

On November 27, Indonesian parliament has ratified the defense treaty between Indonesia and Australia, the Lombok Treaty. Australia has already ratified the agreement. The pact, which covers ten security areas, including cooperation on defense, counter-terrorism, maritime security and intelligence, is the first formal security agreement between the two countries since Indonesia abandoned the previous treaty during the 1999 East Timor crisis.

Note: the formal name of the treaty is "Agreement Between the Republic of Indonesia and Australia on the Framework for Security Cooperation"

November 28 "Iran's Navy deploys a new type of sub" (RIA Novosti, November 28, 2007)

On November 28, Iran's Navy commissioned a domestically designed and produced light submarine featuring extended stealth capability and strong firepower. The submarine is reportedly fitted with noise-reduction features and is capable of firing missiles and torpedoes simultaneously. "This submarine is equipped with advanced weapons and electronics systems. It has been developed in the last decade by [Iranian] scientists and engineers. The Iranian Navy is equipped with all the necessary modern weaponry, including missiles, and is sufficient to protect effectively our southern flank in the Persian Gulf," a TV program quoted Navy commander, Admiral Habib Sayyari, as saying. The admiral also said the Navy commissioned a destroyer and a missile boat.

Source: RIA Novosti, November 28, 2007
<http://en.rian.ru/world/20071128/89970209.html>

1.3 Diplomacy and International Relations

November 3 “Opposition to U.S.’ Accession to UNCLOS noted in U.S. press” (Opinion Journal from the Wall Street Journal Editorial Page, November 3, 2007)

The Web page of the U.S. newspaper, *Opinion Journal (The Wall Street Journal)*, dated November 3 took up the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) as a hot topic in an (unsigned) article titled “A Sinkable Treaty.” It urges that before the deliberation on the bill at the Senate plenary session all Senate members should read one again the full text of the UNCLOS that was ratified at the Senate Diplomatic Committee on October 31 to find out new amazing discoveries. The points are mentioned as follows.

- (1) Considering the potential effects extended by the UNCLOS on the U.S. military activities, the Administration says the military activities are excluded despite treaty’s article 20. The article 20 states, “In the territorial sea, submarines and other underwater vehicles are required to navigate on the surface and to show their flag.” This will affect the ability of U.S. submarines to gather intelligence in coastal waters or deploy the Special Forces on hostile shores. Last haven’t we checked a one billion-dollar submarine called the USS *Jimmy Carter* which had been built precisely for that purpose? Also, the article 196 states that countries “shall take all measures necessary to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment resulting from the use of technologies under their jurisdiction or control.” The Navy might also ask how its powerful sonar equipment—which some environmentalists say harms marine life—could run afoul of Article 196.
- (2) The treaty's requirements on pollution are a back-door mechanism for forcing U.S. compliance with the Kyoto Treaty and other global environmental pacts. At the deliberation on a bill at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee an Administration spokesman told that the treaty did not exercise jurisdiction over land-based pollution. However, Republican Senator David Vitter asked, “Why then is there a section entitled ‘Pollution from Land-Based Sources?’” This is a perceptive question, considering that Article 213. It notes that countries “shall adopt laws and regulations and take other measures necessary to implement applicable international rules and standards established through competent international organizations to control such

pollution.”

- (3) Critics are also concerned about the powers of direct taxation the treaty confers on the International Seabed Authority (ISA). The details of this innovation are buried in Article 13 of the treaty's third annex, and contain a mix of “production charges” and annual million-dollar “administrative” fees. Such measures are all but unprecedented for an international organization and have a potential for corruption, especially when the taxes can run as high as 70 percent of net proceeds.
- (4) Some 154 countries have joined the UNCLOS, with the U.S. one of the few holdouts. Critics who are against the accession are being labeled “isolationists.” But the U.S. has been abiding voluntarily with the terms of the treaty since 1983, with no ill effect. Twenty-some years ago, objecting to handing sovereignty over two-thirds of the Earth's surface to another unaccountable international body, a former President Ronald Reagan refused to sign the treaty then. Now it's up to 34 Senators to show similar courage. (Note: For ratification of the treaty favorable votes of two-thirds of 100 members—67 and over are required.)

November 3 “Melting frozen sea in the Arctic speeds up U.S. accession to UNCLOS” (The Wall Street Journal, November 3, 2007)

In the U.S. newspaper, *the Wall Street Journal* dated November 3, a journalist, Nick Timiraos, has reported in his article titled “Arctic Thaw Defrosts a Sea Treaty” that shrinking of frozen sea in the arctic is expediting the U.S. accession to the UNCLOS. The point is as follows.

- (1) The treaty gives coastal nations, including non-signatories, rights to manage resources in an exclusive economic zone (EEZ) that extends 200 nautical miles from their shores. Nations also can apply to explore for resources on their continental shelf extending as far as 350 nautical miles offshore. Oil and mining companies support the treaty because it could grant the U.S. access to an additional 291,000 square miles of seabed in the Gulf of Mexico, North Atlantic, Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean. The U.S. portion of the EEZ created by the treaty is the largest of any country's, and at 3.36 million square miles, is larger than the continental U.S.
- (2) Recent estimates suggest more than 400 billion barrels of oil and gas could be located in the Arctic, along with deep-sea deposits of precious metals. Russia has reportedly found 32 oil and gas discoveries in the Arctic region.

Source: The Wall Street Journal, November 3, 2007
<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB119405742998381358.html?mod=Review-Outlook-US>

Potential Extension of the U.S. EEZ

November 6 “ICJ begins deliberations on Island dispute between Malaysia and Singapore” (Channel News Asia, November 7, 2007 and others)

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) has begun hearing arguments on the sovereignty of Pedra Branca/Pulau Batu Puteh* “island” on November 6. Singapore has argued that Malaysia has no evidence to show that it owns the island. Singapore set out to prove that Malaysia never regarded Pedra Branca as its territory. The Singapore team of over 30 members was all prepared and armed with geographical maps.

On the other hand, Malaysia was well prepared, and Attorney General Abdul Gani Patail said he was confident that he would win the dispute. According to Abdul Gani, Singapore has administered the Horsburgh Lighthouse on Pedra Branca from colonial times but the controversy erupted in 1979 when the outcrops were claimed by each country as theirs. (See photo.) (AFP, November 2, 2007)

Note *: Pedra Branca (which means “White Rock” in Portuguese and is also being called Pulau Batu Puteh by the Malaysians) is located some 24 nautical miles to the east of Singapore, and it commands the entire eastern approach to the Straits of Singapore. (See map.) Pedra Branca houses the Horsburgh Lighthouse, the oldest feature on the island which was built by the British between 1847 and 1851. The island also comprises Middle Rocks which are two clusters of rocks situated 0.6 nautical miles south of Pedra Branca, and South Ledge, a rock formation which can be seen only at low-tide, that sits 2.1 nautical miles to the south. In 1979, Malaysia published a map claiming the island. In response, Singapore lodged a formal protest with Malaysia in early 1980. Both Singapore and Malaysia decided to put the dispute on the sovereignty over Pedra Branca/Pulau Batu

Puteh, Middle Rocks and South Ledge before the ICJ, submitting written documents on their case for sovereignty to the ICJ between 2004 and 2005. (Channel News Asia, November 6, 2007)

Source: Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Pedra_Branca_island.png

Location of Pedra Branca (Pulau Batu Puteh)

Source: Channel News Asia, November 7, 2007
<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/singaporelocalnews/view/310035/1.html>

Pedra Branca (Pulau Batu Puteh)

Bedra Brace South Ledge

November 20 “Taiwan reaffirms sovereignty over Taiping Island” (Taiwan Headlines, November 21, 2007)

The Taiwan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) has reaffirmed its sovereignty over Taiping islet of the Spratly Islands in a press release dated November 20. The MOFA made this reaffirmation after its Vietnamese counterpart issued a statement on 15th. The MOFA insisted in the press release that the Spratly Islands, Paracel Islands, Macclesfield Islands, and Pratas

Islands are all part of Taiwan's territory from the perspective of history, geography, and international law. Taiwan has for many years stationed personnel on Taiping Island. According to the press release, Taiwan, as a sovereign country, opposes any provocative moves but supports the use of dialogue to resolve disputes and to jointly develop resources in the area.

1.4 Shipping, Resources, Environment, and Miscellaneous

November 5 “China prepares for expansion of the Antarctic base” (Xinhua, November 6, 2007)

China is sending 189 construction workers on its 24th scientific expedition to Antarctica in mid-November to expand two scientific research stations. The workers are all dispatched from the China Railway Construction Engineering Group (CRCEG). According to information available at a ceremony to send off the workers on November 5, they will help extend the two permanent stations named Changcheng (Great Wall) and Zhongshan. Ten projects are to be constructed, including a space observation station, garage, warehouse, garbage and sewage discharge system, boiler house, high-frequency radar room and oil tanker. They would be completed in two to three years. The Chinese scientific expedition team, comprising 219 explorers, will fix the site of China's third scientific research station at the South Pole.

November 8 “Kazakhstan, China agreed to build pipeline” (Reuters, November 8, 2007)

Kazakhstan's KazMunaiGas and China National Petroleum Corp. (CNPC) signed an agreement to construct a natural gas pipeline in 2008-2009 so as to supply China with 40 billion cubic meters of gas annually from the Caspian Sea. The pipeline will be routed through Turkmenistan and possibly Uzbekistan, which would give Beijing access to Caspian Sea gas reserves.

November 28 “Numbers of Chinese containers handled in 2007 reaches 100 million” (China Daily, November 29, 2007)

The number of container units handled by Chinese ports in 2007 hit 100 million on November 28. “China's container transportation has reached world levels both in handling efficiency and building networks, greatly contributing to the prosperous shipping industries of Northeast Asia and the world,” Xu Zuyuan, vice-minister of communications, said at a ceremony in Tianjin Port. According to Xu, to date, for every two containers traveling along shipping lines in the Pacific, one is from China. The country also manufactures 90 percent of the world's containers, he said. Although the development of China's container industry started at least 20 years later than those of developed countries, the throughput of cargo and containers at its ports has been the largest in the world for the past five years, with an annual growth rate of 35 percent. In 2002

China overtook the United States to become the world's top handler of containers. In 2006, Chinese ports handled 5.6 billion tons of cargo and 93 million TEUs (20-foot container equivalent units).

November 29 “Indonesia lost 24 small islands (Antara News, November 29, 2007)

Indonesia has so far lost 24 islands because of natural disasters and environmental damage, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Minister Freddy Numberi said on November 29. He said four islands disappeared when a massive tsunami devastated Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD) province on December 26, 2004, while 20 others in Riau province and in the Seribu island group in Jakarta Bay had also vanished because of unbridled exploitation and environmental damage. Consequently, Freddy Numberi said, the total number of islands in Indonesia had declined from 17,504 to 17,480. “Scientists have even predicted that Indonesia could lose at least 2,000 islands by 2030 if the government fails to anticipate it and take preventive measures,” the minister said. The maritime affairs and fisheries ministry had recounted the islands in Indonesia and reported the result to the United Nations.

2. Intelligence Assessment

New U.S. “Maritime Strategy” and its Implications

At the “International Seapower Symposium” held at the U.S. Naval War College on October 17, Admiral Gray Roughead, Chief of Naval Operations; General James T. Conway, Commandant of the Marine Corps; and Admiral Thad W. Allen, Commandant of the Coast Guard, presented the new maritime strategy called “*A Cooperative Strategy for 21st Century Seapower*” (hereafter a new strategy).”

A new strategy is the first unified maritime strategy that has jointly been formulated by the three maritime forces of the United States. The new strategy is likely to drastically change the U.S. maritime strategy since it was last published nearly twenty years ago as the “Maritime Strategy” in 1986. We will discuss an outline of the new strategy as below, and analyze its features and problems.

* The report can be downloaded at www.navy.mil/maritime/MaritimeStrategy.pdf

1. Outline

Regarding an understanding of the situation which will become its precondition, the new strategy describes the following points: (a) The 90 percent of the world’s trade is done in the maritime domain, and the sea-lanes and supporting shore infrastructure are the lifelines of the global economy; (b) On the other hand, new threats are emerging. With conflicts over the marine resources as a start, they are the appearance of various major actors and organizations by globalization, proliferations of weapons of mass-destructions, massive natural disasters, crimes, and so on; (c) Therefore, “no one nation” can independently secure the world’s waters any longer. Nations, non-government organizations, international agencies, and civilian communities must cooperate to stand against these threats.

Based on this recognition, the new strategy is proposing strategic concepts as follows.

To protect the U.S. mainland from the threats, and to advance the national interests, the U.S. maritime forces, utilizing its mobility and versatility, will be deployed in a global scale. While deploying sufficient fighting power to the western Pacific and Gulf regions, and the Indian Ocean, the United States will assign, in particular, to Africa and the western hemisphere the military forces which can conduct humanitarian assistance and anti-terrorist operations. They will fulfill the following strategic imperatives:

1. Limit regional conflict with forward deployed, decisive maritime power.
2. Deter major power war.
3. Win Nation’s wars.
4. Contribute to homeland defense in depth.
5. Foster and sustain cooperative relationships with more international partners.

6. Prevent or contain local disruptions before they impact the global system.

Also, to successfully implement the above strategic imperatives, the Services must expand the following capabilities:

1. Forward Presence.
2. Deterrence.
3. Sea Control.
4. Power Projection.
5. Maritime Security.
6. Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response.

In order to implement this strategy, the following three areas will receive priority attention.

1. Improve Integration and Interoperability.
2. Enhance maritime domain awareness.
3. Prepare people of three Services.

2. Features

The first feature of this new strategy is to deepen joint-integration of the maritime forces in the United States and to promote international cooperation. This feature is noted in the concept of the “1000-ship Navy” that then Chief of Naval Operations (now Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff), Admiral Michael Mullen, has been promoting since 2005. Under the situation where the number of the U.S. naval ships is decreasing to approximately 300, it is the concept of dealing jointly and effectively with the piracy problems, drug-trafficking, proliferations of weapons of mass-destruction, natural disasters and so on by filling the remaining gap of 700 ships through deepening the seamless cooperation among the navies, law enforcement agencies, and maritime shipping circles of other nations and enhancing maritime domain awareness. As the name of “1,000-ship Navy” gave an impression that the navies of every nation might come under the leadership of the United States, the concept was represented as the “Global Maritime Partnerships Initiative.”

The second is that the new strategy emphasizes the prevention of war and the winning of war to the same degree. The “Maritime Strategy” published in 1986 was offensive in nature based on the premise of fighting with the Soviet Union. Under the reduction of the military budget and the expansion of the Soviet naval power, the U.S. Navy changed its defensive strategy into offensive strategy in the 1970s, which resulted in formulating the “Maritime Strategy” of 1986 edition. The role of the navy was first of all deterrence. If it should fail, the United States and the allies were expected to win the war under the favorable condition, for which the “600-ship Navy” was required. However, 9/11 urged the radical reform of strategic concept to the U.S. naval strategy. The strategy does not assume a specific, clear threat, and is putting an emphasis on preventing the developments of various threats including terrorism, piracy, and a large scale of natural disasters and conflicts in cooperation with other nations. This is a transition from the concept of balance of power to that of the collective security.

The third is an emphasis on “soft power.” The new strategy has elevated “soft power,”

humanitarian assistance and the protection and promotion of economic activities, to the same level with “hard power” of naval warfare. (The Washington Post, October 17, 2007) Facing the hurricane “Katrina” and massive tsunamis in the Indian Ocean, together with abnormal weather caused by the climate change, the U.S. maritime services have come to recognize the social and economic confusions that cause such a large scale of natural disasters as the serious threats. The new strategy assumes disaster relief operations as well as humanitarian assistance through the deployment of the U.S. hospital ships to Africa and South Asia. (ibid)

The fourth is that no concern is noted over the increasing Chinese naval power. The Quadrennial Defense Review Report (QDR) 2006 was urging a policy of placing emphasis on deploying aircraft carriers and submarines to the western Pacific from the anxiety about the expansion of the Chinese naval power. However, despite an expression of anxiety about an increase of countries operating the submarines, the new strategy is not blaming China for expanding its submarine fleet by naming it directly. The U.S. is sounding out China about its participation in the “1,000-ship Navy” concept. It can be said that the new strategy is putting more emphasis on the possible cooperation with China than on the confrontation with Beijing.

3. Problems

The first problem for implementing the new strategy is how to promote the international cooperation. Although the relations between the United States and its allies are well founded, to build cooperative ties between the U.S. and the emerging maritime nations including China and India is another big problem. International cooperation among law enforcement organizations has just begun. If the international partnerships be promoted, the problems of sovereignty are inevitable. In order to conduct the joint, combined operations together, the other nations are required to have the same operational procedures with the United States, but the nations that can implement the joint operations with the U.S. are limited in numbers. Therefore, capacity building of other nations is an important issue. Also, while the Navy engages in the operations close to the mainland, the Coast Guard forces participates in the operations thousands of miles from the shores, and the Marine Corps is assumed to deal with maritime security missions with various kinds of ships. However, the functions as well as the integration and coordination of the missions within the U.S. maritime forces are not so simple matters. Exactly, “it is easy to say, but difficult to put it into practice.”

Well then, how should Japan deal with it? The relationship between the U.S. Navy and Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force (JMSDF) has been such close as to be rarely seen in the world. However, accepting this strategy will require cooperation between the U.S. Coast Guard and the Japanese Coast Guard (JCG), as well as cooperation between the U.S. Marine Corps and the Japanese Ground Self Defense Force. Domestically, cooperation between the JMSDF and JCG should be promoted. On this occasion, while promoting cooperation not only with the U.S. but also with other nations, Japan could not eliminate the possibility that it needs to reexamine the problems of the right of collective self-defense and a policy (three principles) of controlling arms exports. Moreover, the U.S. Navy has come to regard the western Pacific and the Indian Ocean as

a single, strategic theater since around the end of 1970s, which is succeeded by the new strategy. However, as seen in the discussion over the extension of the anti-terrorism special measures law, the significance of maintaining the presence of Japanese seapower in the Indian Ocean has not been widely accepted domestically. The refueling support mission by the JMSDF under the special measures law has brought about an important, strategic, and subsidiary effect of fixed presence in the Indian Ocean. In the future, in order to respond to the new strategy of the United States, it is necessary for Japan to deepen the understanding to be commonly shared between the United States and Japan about the overall maritime security issues, including the vital sea lanes from the Middle East.

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