

[N.Korea, China 'Agreed to Preliminary Meeting' for Nuke Talks](#)

Chosun Ilbo, 9 April 2010

North Korea is reported to have accepted in March a Chinese proposal to hold a preliminary meeting before the resumption of the stalled six-party nuclear talks. Japanese daily Asahi Shimbun said the U.S. took Pyongyang's consent as a sign of progress and began bilateral discussions with North Korean officials. The two sides, however, failed to move forward in light of the recent sinking of the South Korean Naval corvette Cheonan in the West Sea.

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2010/04/09/2010040900844.html

[Gov't. Military Engulfed in Intelligence Blunders](#)

Chosun Ilbo, 9 April 2010

South Korea's handling of intelligence and classified information once again in the spotlight in the wake of the mysterious sinking of the Navy corvette Cheonan. Officials proved as ready as ever to leak anything they knew and lawmakers were accused of abusing their privilege to access classified information. Cheong Wa Dae, meanwhile, embarrassed itself by publicly speculating about the timing of North Korean leader Kim Jong-il's visit to China. Presidential spokeswoman Kim Eun-hye told reporters on Mar. 31 that Kim's visit to China could be imminent. "There is a high possibility and we are monitoring the situation," Kim said. Another high-ranking Cheong Wa Dae official confirmed the comments.

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2010/04/09/2010040900906.html

[What trust? Obama snubs Hatoyama](#)

Asahi Shimbun, 9 April 2010

When the White House named the leaders granted official summit talks with President Barack Obama, Japanese officials expected Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama to be on the list. After all, the meetings would be held on the sidelines of next week's Nuclear Security Summit in Washington, and Obama and Hatoyama had promised to work together to create a world free of nuclear weapons. As White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs named the leaders of China, India, Germany and other nations Tuesday, Japanese officials waited. And waited. Hatoyama's name was not mentioned. Although the reason for excluding Hatoyama was not given, diplomatic sources said it is clear that the deadlock over the U.S. Marine Corps Air Station Futenma in Okinawa Prefecture has led to a stalemate in Japan-U.S. diplomacy at the highest level.

<http://www.asahi.com/english/TKY201004080463.html>

[Hatoyama, Obama talk about Futenma](#)

Asahi Shimbun, 14 April 2010

WASHINGTON--Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama, in a meeting here Monday with U.S. President Barack Obama, reiterated his resolve to settle the Futenma relocation issue by the end of May. The two men, seated side by side at a dinner given for leaders attending the Nuclear Security Summit in Washington, spoke for about 10 minutes. Hatoyama said he sought Obama's cooperation in resolving the issue of relocating the U.S. Marine Corps Air Station Futenma in Okinawa Prefecture, but that he stopped short of discussing specific sites. He declined to say how the president responded.

<http://www.asahi.com/english/TKY201004130431.html>

[Japan gets jitters on China navy](#)

Asahi Shimbun, 15 April 2010

Beijing's flaunting of its naval strength this week close to Japan's territorial waters set off alarm bells in Tokyo, where the government ordered close monitoring of any similar naval maneuvers by China in the future. The passage of 10 Chinese warships through international waters between Okinawa's main island and Miyakojima island on Saturday provided stark confirmation of the Chinese navy's expansion of its blue-water capabilities, officials said. The excursions could also pose a threat to U.S. naval forces operating in the same western Pacific area, according to analysts.

<http://www.asahi.com/english/TKY201004140340.html>

[Military Increasingly Convinced of N.Korean Sub Attack](#)

Chosun Ilbo, 19 April 2010

Military officials and experts believe that if a North Korean torpedo was involved in the sinking of the South Korean Navy corvette Cheonan, it was probably launched from a 325-ton Shark-class submarine. The sub ranks between a full-blown submarine and a mini-sub in terms of size. South Korean military intelligence are reportedly focusing on the fact that one or two Shark-class submarines from a submarine base in Cape Bipagot, South Hwanghae Province are unaccounted for during the time of the Cheonan's sinking.

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2010/04/19/2010041901342.html

[Rumors Link Cheonan Sinking to Revenge for Naval Skirmish](#)

Chosun Ilbo, 19 April 2010

North Korea's denial of any involvement in the sinking of the Navy corvette Cheonan on March 26 has failed to convince some in South Korea who believe the attack was carried out in retaliation for the North's ignominious defeat in a naval skirmish in November last year. North Korean defector Park Sang-hak, who heads the group Fighters for Free North Korea, claimed he was told by an inside source that the naval base in Nampo held a rally on Feb. 16, the birthday of North Korean leader Kim Jong-il, vowing revenge for the defeat in the skirmish in November.

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2010/04/19/2010041901395.html

[Some Evidence About Shipwreck Obtained, Minister Says](#)

Chosun Ilbo, 20 April 2010

Military investigators have some evidence suggesting that a torpedo or a mine was the cause of the blast that sank the Navy corvette Cheonan, Defense Minister Kim Tae-young said Monday. "There isn't a complete lack of evidence," Kim told the National Assembly's Defense Committee. "There are many things we can infer from the twisted hull of the vessel, and we will comb through specific components to come up with concrete evidence." Kim appears to have been referring to the fact that the upper right hand portion of the Cheonan received the bulk of the damage even though the blast impacted the lower left hand section of the vessel, which is a classic sign of a torpedo or mine attack.

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2010/04/20/2010042001172.html

[U.S. Gets More Active in Cheonan Investigation](#)

Chosun Ilbo, 20 April 2010

The South Korean military has asked the U.S. for intelligence about North Korean submarines and espionage operations against the South to establish whether the North was involved in the sinking of the Navy corvette Cheonan on March 26, according to a source on Monday. The source said, "South Korean and U.S. intelligence agencies are trying to check what the North Korean Army was doing, including what communications they exchanged and what their submarines or submersibles were doing around the time of the disaster."

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2010/04/20/2010042000432.html

'N.Korean Officer' Says North Sank the Cheonan

Chosun Ilbo, 20 April 2010

A North Korean Army officer has testified that the North Korean military attacked the South Korean Navy corvette Cheonan before it sank in the West Sea on March 26, the head of a South Korean activist group claimed Monday. Choi Sung-yong of the Family Assembly Abducted to North Korea said, "It seems that the Cheonan was sunk in a premeditated North Korean operation." Choi published a transcript of a telephone conversation with what he says is a senior North Korean Army officer.

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2010/04/20/2010042000972.html

Futenma May deadline a political time bomb

Asahi Shimbun, 20 April 2010

Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama will face intense pressure to step down if his government fails to reach a decision on relocating the Futenma air base in Okinawa Prefecture to an island in southern Japan by his self-imposed end of May deadline. In a move largely seen as driven by desperation, the government has started the groundwork to officially seek consent from local leaders on Tokunoshima island in Kagoshima Prefecture to relocate elements of the U.S. Marine Corps Air Station Futenma in Okinawa. It's a high-stakes gamble, and the cards are stacked against Hatoyama.

<http://www.asahi.com/english/TKY201004190406.html>

India's first anti-submarine warfare corvette launched

Hindu, 20 April 2010

Kolkata: Launching the country's first Anti Submarine Warfare Corvette (ASWC) for the Indian Navy at the Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) Limited here on Monday, M.M. Pallam Raju, Union Minister of State for Defence, said three more such P-28 Corvettes will be launched by the GRSE by 2015. Pointing to the completion of the Rs. 560 crore modernisation programme of the GRSE scheduled for 2011, Mr. Raju said the dock's building capacity will be boosted manifold as it could then manufacture frigates.

<http://www.hindu.com/2010/04/20/stories/2010042062662000.htm>

S.Korea Warns North Role in Sinking of Ship Could Harm Nuclear Talks

Chosun Ilbo, 21 April 2010

South Korea says multinational talks meant to get rid of Pyongyang's nuclear weapons programs would be unlikely to resume if evidence points to a North Korean role in the sinking of a South Korean navy ship. Foreign Minister Yu Myung-hwan dismissed a media report Tuesday that North Korea may be preparing its third

nuclear weapons test. However, he told reporters if evidence emerges linking the North to last month's sinking of a navy corvette, it would be difficult to resume six-nation nuclear talks. He says from a common sense view, it will be hard to have the six-party talks in the foreseeable future if evidence confirms North Korea's involvement in the sinking.

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2010/04/21/2010042100480.html

[FM Noncommittal About Response to Cheonan Sinking](#)

Chosun Ilbo, 21 April 2010

Foreign Minister Yu Myung-hwan on Tuesday declined to commit himself to any course of action the government could take in response to the sinking of the Navy corvette Cheonan on March 26. "We need to consider our moves with all options on the table, rather than talk about any possible concrete action," he said. Yu was speaking at a press briefing when asked if he believed it would be possible to invoke the right to self-defense and take military action if it is confirmed that North Korea was behind the sinking of the Cheonan.

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2010/04/21/2010042100635.html

[Pakistan to get US guided-missile frigate on Aug 31](#)

News, 21 April 2010

WASHINGTON: Pakistan and United States signed a contract for the transfer of the guided-missile frigate USS McInerney here on Tuesday. The contract will enable Pakistan to take over the USS McInerney at the US Naval station Mayport, Florida on August 31 this year, after which it will be commissioned as PNS Alamgir .A comprehensive refurbishment of the ship will be undertaken under the supervision of US Navy, which will be completed by January 2011.

http://thenews.jang.com.pk/arc_default.asp?arc_date=4/21/2010

[Hatoyama strikes out on island plan](#)

Asahi Shimbun, 22 April 2010

Finally, it has come to this: The government's plan to relocate part of the U.S. Marine Corps Air Station Futenma to Tokunoshima island did not even reach first base. On Tuesday, the mayors of the three towns on the island in Kagoshima Prefecture off the southern coast of Kyushu were unanimous in rejecting an overture to meet with Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirofumi Hirano to discuss moving some of Futenma's functions from Okinawa Prefecture to Tokunoshima. Their refusal to even enter into talks means that Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama will have to look elsewhere if he has any hope of keeping to his self-imposed end of May deadline for announcing the Futenma move. Hatoyama was asked by Liberal Democratic Party head Sadakazu Tanigaki in the Diet on Wednesday if he could still reach a decision by his end of May deadline.

<http://www.asahi.com/english/TKY201004210391.html>

[U.S. Navy planning "Great Green Fleet"](#)

Hindu, 22 April 2010

The United States Navy is set to be both green and mean with the dawning of a new eco-friendly assault force that will mind its carbon footprint as it destroys its enemy. It is to launch "the Great Green Fleet", a fighting force of ships, submarines and planes powered entirely by biofuels. The first group will be tested in 2012, and

the navy plans for it to be operational by 2016. The push for greener fighting forces runs across the Pentagon. The military accounts for nearly 80 per cent of the U.S. government's energy consumption and the two wars in Afghanistan and Iraq have made strategists acutely conscious of both the massive cost and serious security risks of the gas-guzzling ways of the past. By the time it arrives in the war zone, a gallon of gas can cost up to \$400, according to a study by the Pew project on national security, energy and climate. The U.S. military is also anxious to cut down on fuel convoys to reduce troops' exposure to roadside bombs and other risks.

<http://www.hindu.com/2010/04/22/stories/2010042252321100.htm>

[Indian, US navies begin annual exercise in Arabian Sea](#)

IANS, 23 April 2010

NEW DELHI: The Indian and US navies on Friday began their annual 'Malabar' exercises in the Arabian Sea with the participation of frontline units of the Indian Navy's Western Fleet and the US Navy's 7th fleet.

<http://sify.com/news/indian-us-navies-begin-annual-exercise-in-arabian-sea-news-national-kextEcijgid.html>

[Indian Navy to acquire 10 stealth ships in 10 years](#)

The Financial Express, 23 April 2010

NEW DELHI: Ahead of the commissioning of the first indigenously built stealth ship INS Shivalik, the Indian Navy is likely to acquire 10 such vessels in the next 10 years, a naval officer said on Wednesday.

<http://www.financialexpress.com/news/Indian-Navy-to-acquire-10-stealth-ships-in-10-years/610085/>

[China defends drills in East China Sea](#)

People's Daily, 23 April 2010

China said Thursday that its naval ships in the East China Sea did not violate international law, after Japanese media alleged that two Chinese submarines and eight destroyers were spotted circling Japan's Okinotori coral reefs. Huang Xueping, a spokesman with the Chinese Ministry of National Defense, warned countries concerned to not track down or disrupt the activities of Chinese military vessels engaged in normal defense exercises. "We will investigate whether China has any intention against our nation" by dispatching the vessels, Japanese Defense Minister Toshimi Kitazawa said last week.

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90776/90786/6960403.html>

[Chinese Military Seeks to Extend Its Naval Power](#)

NYT, 24 April 2010

YALONG BAY, China — The Chinese military is seeking to project naval power well beyond the Chinese coast, from the oil ports of the Middle East to the shipping lanes of the Pacific, where the United States Navy has long reigned as the dominant force, military officials and analysts say. China calls the new strategy "far sea defense," and the speed with which it is building long-range capabilities has surprised foreign military officials. The strategy is a sharp break from the traditional, narrower doctrine of preparing for war over the self-governing island of Taiwan or defending the Chinese coast. Now, Chinese admirals say they want warships to escort commercial vessels that are crucial to the country's economy, from as far as the Persian Gulf to

the Strait of Malacca, in Southeast Asia, and to help secure Chinese interests in the resource-rich South and East China Seas.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/24/world/asia/24navy.html?ref=asia&pagewanted=print>

[N.Korea Announces Seizure of S.Korean Properties](#)

Chosun Ilbo, 24 April 2010

Pyongyang is seizing five South Korean properties at a joint tourism zone in North Korea. Tensions over the zone have been building for nearly two years. The North may confiscate more properties. North Korea referred to the sinking of a South Korean navy ship as it blamed the South Friday for its decision. In addition to seizing five properties at the Mt. Kumgang resort, Pyongyang said it will freeze all remaining South Korean properties there and will expel the South's management personnel. The North says it will either take possession of the properties, or hand them over to new management from another country.

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2010/04/24/2010042400382.html

[India-US naval exercise begins](#)

Hindu, 24 April 2010

NEW DELHI: Navies of India and the United States have begun annual war exercises involving anti-submarine warfare surface firings, visit board, search and seizure and submarine operations. The 14th edition of MALABAR in the Arabian Sea will see frontline units of the U.S. Navy's 7 {+t} {+h} Fleet and Indian Navy's Western Fleet taking part in the 10-day exercise. The regular India – U.S. interaction over the years has resulted in an increase in the complexity and professional content of the bilateral exercise, Navy spokesman Cdr. P.V.S. Satish said here.

<http://www.hindu.com/2010/04/24/stories/2010042464041100.htm>

[Navy to procure new Light Utility Helicopters](#)

PTI, 25 April 2010

NEW DELHI: The Navy has initiated the process for procurement of new Light Utility Helicopters (LUHs) to replace its ageing fleet of Chetak choppers.

http://www.ptinews.com/news/625117_Navy-keen-to-procure-new-Light-Utility-Helicopters

[Scorpene delivery to be delayed by three years](#)

PTI, 26 April 2010

NEW DELHI: The first Scorpene submarine is expected to be delivered to the Navy after mid-2015 instead of 2012 and the delay is likely to impact the force levels of the Service, Government said on Monday.

http://www.ptinews.com/news/626730_Scorpene-delivery-to-be-delayed-by-three-years

[U.S. Thinks N.Korean Attack 'Likely' Cause of Shipwreck](#)

Chosun Ilbo, 27 April 2010

The U.S. believes there is high chance that South Korean naval corvette Cheonan was sunk in a North Korean attack, CNN reported Monday. "A North Korean torpedo attack was the most likely cause for the sinking of a South Korean warship last month," it said citing a U.S. military official. "The United States believes the ship was sunk by the blast of an underwater explosion, but that the explosive device itself did not come in contact with the hull of the South Korean ship," he said. This is in line with what the South Korean military has concluded.

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2010/04/27/2010042701278.html

[Emergency Meeting of Commanding Officers Next Week](#)

Chosun Ilbo, 27 April 2010

The military will convene an emergency meeting of top commanding officers next week to discuss a response to the sinking of the Navy corvette Cheonan near the maritime border with North Korea in the West Sea. The meeting will be held on or after May 3 following a funeral on Thursday for the 46 sailors who died in the shipwreck, a military source said Monday. The military notes that North Korea seems to have bolstered guerrilla-warfare exercises, apparently in order to launch provocations around the five South Korean islands off its west coast since last year, using weapons such as mini-sub, submarines and ground-to-ship missiles.

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2010/04/27/2010042701334.html

[Antony calls upon industry to boost ship building programmes of Indian Navy](#)

ANI, 29 April 2010

MUMBAI: Defence Minister A K Antony on Thursday called upon the Indian Industry to give their best in developing the country's ship building programmes.

<http://news.oneindia.in/2010/04/29/antonycalls-upon-industry-to-boost-ship-buildingprogrammes.html>

[Stealth? 6000-tonne visibility - India's latest warship begins duty](#)

The Telegraph, 29 April 2010

MUMBAI: In the bridge of India's latest warship that sets new standards, Captain M.D. Suresh knows just how vulnerable his vessel, the INS Shivalik, is.

http://www.telegraphindia.com/1100430/jsp/nation/story_12397764.jsp

[Country's first indigenously-built stealth warship commissioned](#)

The Times Of India, 30 April 2010

MUMBAI: Its a lean, mean fighting machine. But what makes it capable of delivering the killer punch is its stealthy nature to catch the enemy completely off-guard. No wonder the warship's crew have a theme song, which goes, "No limits for this baby, indeed, no limits."

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Countrys-first-indigenously-built-stealth-warship-commissioned/articleshow/5873619.cms>