

The Hindu, 6 September 2007

Race for multi-billion dollar fighter deal on

NEW DELHI: The race for the multi-billion dollar fighter aircraft deal has opened with a high-level Swedish delegation proposing a defence partnership pact with India and offering a partnership to develop the next generation of fighters. Sweden is also planning to post a Defence Attache at its embassy here to pursue further defence opportunities in the country. The Scandinavian country had found a foothold in India's defence market when it supplied the Bofors artillery guns in the mid-eighties. But the ensuing scandal made the defence establishment wary of dealing with companies from the country.

International Herald Tribune, 6 September 2007

5 nation war games in Bay of Bengal seen as new Asia alliance to contain China

NEW DELHI: Indian and U.S. aircraft carriers plow through the Bay of Bengal launching fighter jets into the air. American submarines cruise below Japanese, Australian and Singaporean warships. The stated aim of this week's massive war games off India's east coast is to improve the ability of the five participating militaries to fight terrorism and piracy. But in the five days of naval exercises that began Tuesday, experts see a broader strategic shift that is being driven in large part by the fear of a rising China.

Indian Express, 6 September 2007

Eye on aircraft tender, Sweden seeks defence cooperation

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 4 : With the Rs 42,000 crore global tender to acquire 126 multi-role combat aircraft for the Indian Air Force finally out, participating countries have started lobbying for their aerospace companies by offering incentives of joint development and defence cooperation. Sweden is the first off the block, after tenders were issued last week, with a high-level delegation led by Vice Minister for Defence H G Wessburg in Delhi to meet senior officials from the Ministry of Defence this week. The country has proposed new areas of defence cooperation, including the joint development of fighter aircraft and submarines.

The Hindu, 7 September 2007

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Times of India, 13 September 2007

Two pilots killed in IAF trainer crash

HYDERABAD: A squadron leader and a trainee pilot of the Indian Air Force were killed when a trainer aircraft caught fire and crashed near the air force academy on the outskirts of Hyderabad early Tuesday. The aircraft, a Kiran Mk-1, carrying squadron leader and flight instructor H C Bhagat, 36, and trainee pilot U C Sati, 20, was 10 minutes into its

flight, when its left engine was engulfed in flames.

Times of India, 13 September 2007

Indian Air Force on tsunami alert

NEW DELHI: All transport aircraft and helicopters of the Indian Air Force were on Wednesday put on operational standby to take off any minute, if any search and rescue needed to be launched in the event of a tsunami. A special operations room headed by Air Vice Marshal K K Mathew has been set up at the Air Headquarters to coordinate the search and rescue missions.

The Hindu, 18 September 2007

Unmanned aerial vehicles may need airworthiness certificate

BANGALORE: The Centre for Military Airworthiness and Certification (CEMILAC) has recommended that all future unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) should be cleared for their airworthiness. Sources told The Hindu that the recommendations, made via a report by a specially-formed team from the centre, had been submitted to the Defence Ministry. It is under consideration, they said. Almost all the 41 countries operating UAVs are debating UAV certification issues. In India, design, manufacture, operation, maintenance, safety and liability of UAVs are not assessed by any independent regulatory authority.

CNN-IBN, 23 September 2007

A 'General' unrest in forces; Army, Navy, IAF at war

New Delhi: India is getting 156 more generals and a civil war is on in the military to grab these posts. The Army is crying foul, complaining that the Air Force and Navy have got more posts than they deserve. On the occasion of the implementation of the second phase of the Ajai Vikram Singh Committee Report - aimed at ending the stifling stagnation in the military by creating more room at the top the tension was palpable. The Army made the rather ambitious demand for a 150 per cent increase in the number of its generals, even pressing for a new rank of Colonel General. The Committee rejected the idea of a new rank and heavily pruned the numbers, deciding that there ought to be only 156 more generals and that new posts be shared by all three services.

Times of India, 26 September 2007

IAF contingent leaves for Congo

NEW DELHI: A strong contingent of the Indian Air Force, including pilots, gunners and technicians, left on Tuesday to join over 5,000 Indian military personnel in Congo for UN peacekeeping duties. The 243-strong IAF task force, which will fly MI-25 attack and MI-17 utility helicopters, is led by Group Captain N J S Dhillon. The contingent will be posted on Congo-Rawanda-Uganda border. It will be headquartered at Goma in North-Eastern Congo.

The Hindu, 27 September 2007

IAF fine tunes new air tactics, fighting concepts

New Delhi, Sept. 27 (PTI): Indian Air Force has finalised plans to purchase new attack and heavy lift utility helicopters as part of measures to bolster air surveillance and air to ground fighting capabilities in the Himalayas. As part of these new measures, IAF has

procured and put sensors on board Unmanned aerial vehicles as well as its fixed wing assets and has been training hard on the concepts of waging battle from stand-off distances.

Economic Times, 28 September 2007

IAF instructors complete training programme on Hawk AJT

NEW DELHI: The first batch of six Indian Air Force flying instructors have successfully completed their "Convex Flying Programme" on the Hawk Advance jet trainer at RAF valley in the United Kingdom. During the 10-week programme, the pilots underwent ground school training and simulator sorties at Royal Air Force Valley, avionics training at BAE Systems in Brough, and sea survival training, prior to flying training. The flying phase covered 15 flights per pilot, including night flying over a five-week period.

The Hindu, 28 September 2007

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