

Indian Express, 5 September 2007

### **Five-nation naval exercise kicks off**

New Delhi, September 4: The five-nation Malabar 07-2 naval exercise kicked off on Tuesday with close to 30 warships meeting 500 nautical miles east of Vishakhapatnam for the work up phase of the six-day war games. Naval ships from India, the US, Japan, Australia and Singapore, including three aircraft carriers and a nuclear submarine, met deep at sea early in the morning to get acquainted with each other and carry out basic manoeuvres to prepare for a mock battle on the last two-days of the exercise.

Time, 6 September 2007

### **A Gunboat Message to China**

The six-day-long exercise currently underway in the Bay of Bengal is one of the biggest war games the world will see this year. But not all its participants want that fact broadcast. The exercise, dubbed Malabar 07-02, involves warships from the U.S., Australia, India, Japan and Singapore more than two dozen, in all, including two U.S. aircraft carrier and India's sole carrier, and a nuclear-powered submarine. Participants are keen to stress that the exercise will focus on anti-piracy drills and rescue missions and in no way threatens a certain growing Asian power to the north. "There is no military alignment," India's Defense Minister A.K. Antony said recently. "It's only an exercise."

Hindustan Times, 7 September 2007

### **India says 'not yet' to another assault ship from US**

The United States has offered a second assault ship like the USS Trenton to India, but for the time being the Indian Navy has said "no" to another acquisition. According to the India Strategic defence magazine, Indian naval officers have examined the USS Nashville, listed in the US Navy as an Austin-class Amphibious Transport Dock, "but that there was no movement on the US offer". The Indian Navy has also said 'no' to the highly sophisticated Northrop Grumman's Hawkeye II -- the all-weather carrier-based Tactical Airborne Early Warning Aircraft.

Hindustan Times, 7 September 2007

### **Making waves**

The ongoing Indo-US joint naval exercise Malabar has grabbed the world's attention to an unprecedented degree, arguably for the first time in its history. The two navies have expanded their circle of engagement by inviting Australia, Japan and Singapore to take part in the 13th iteration of the war games, making it bigger in scale and complexity. Distrustful of the quad formed by the United States, India, Australia and Japan, China is intently watching every move in the high seas and making its own deductions. The spectacular scale of the war games involving 26 warships, over 175 aircraft and 20,000 personnel from five nations is sure to leave behind a legacy of controversy.

Reuters, 8 September 2007

### **U.S. sees India as partner in global naval alliance**

ABOARD USS KITTY HAWK, Bay of Bengal (Reuters) - The United States hopes to build an alliance with friendly navies such as India's to form a global force of 1,000 ships and boost maritime security, a top U.S. naval commander said on Friday. But

Washington's naval cooperation with New Delhi is not intended to send a signal to Beijing and the U.S. navy was not looking to build a base in the Indian Ocean region, Vice-Admiral Doug Crowder said.

Reuters, 10 September 2007

### **Bully to pal, U.S. comes full circle in Bay of Bengal**

ABOARD USS KITTY HAWK, Bay of Bengal (Reuters) - The last time the U.S. Navy's Seventh Fleet came to the Bay of Bengal, in 1971, it was to intimidate India as it fought Pakistan in a war that led to Bangladesh's birth. It was an attempt at gunboat diplomacy which did not work as New Delhi refused to blink. But it was also an affront India refused to forget as it marked one of the lowest points in relations between the giant democracies.

Times of India, 18 September 2007

### **Navy Room leak case: HC notice to CBI on bail plea of accused**

NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court on Monday sought reply from the CBI on the bail application filed by Vinod Kumar Jha, an accused in the Navy War Room Leak case, by October 8. Justice Pradeep Nadrajog issued notice to the probe agency on an application filed by Jha challenging the trial court order on March 20, rejecting his bail plea. Jha, the sacked Commander of Indian Navy, had sought bail on the ground that he was arrested by the CBI in April last year and the agency had failed to recover any incriminating document from his possession.

Press Information Bureau, 21 September 2007

### **INDO-FRENCH EXERCISE VARUNA 07 OFF DJIBOUTI DURING WEST ASIA DEPLOYMENT**

Within the framework of their bilateral relations, both Indian and the French Navy are taking part in "Varuna 07", a sea and air military exercise that commenced on 11 Sep 07 offshore Somali coast and in the Gulf of Aden. Aiming at increasing the two navies' interoperability, it plans various maneuvers such as the visiting of ships by airborne and seaborne means, commando projection and air to surface exercise as well as a maritime patrol the in the abovementioned maritime zones.

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.