

# The Indo-Pacific Bulletin

*The latest weekly developments in and around the region*

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## *At a Glance*

**North and South Korea Exchange Warning Shots**

**Myanmar Air raids kill 60 people in Kachin State**

**Chinese Aircrafts and Ships breach Taiwan's ADIZ**

**Japan and Australia sign an updated version of the 2007 Security Agreement**

**US and India conduct Second Edition of the Tiger Triumph Amphibious Exercise**



## North and South Korea Exchange Warning Shots

On 24th October 2022, North and South Korea exchanged warning shots from the western coast of the Korean peninsula, accusing each other of breaching their maritime borders. According to the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Republic of Korea, warning shots were fired at around 3:40am local time, to expel a North Korean merchant vessel that crossed the disputed sea boundary between the two countries called the Northern Limit Line. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea have been disputing this maritime boundary for several decades. The North Korean side reported that they have fired 10 rocket artillery shells after a South Korean navy ship violated the Northern Limit Line and fired warning shots “on the pretext of tracking down an unidentified ship.” These warning shots came in as South Korea was underway with its annual Hoguk exercise, along with the United States of America, to boost their defense capabilities in the region.





## Myanmar Military Conducts Airstrikes in Kachin state

On 23rd October 2022, nearly 80 people were killed in a music concert in the Kachin state of Myanmar, at the 62nd anniversary celebration of Kachin's ethnic minority's political organization, Kachin Independence Organization. On 24th October 2022, Myanmar military's office confirmed that there was an attack in on the Kachin Independence Army's brigade and called the air strikes a "necessary operation" on military base, in response to "terrorist" acts carried out by Kachin Independence Organization. This attack is being considered one of the most deadliest attacks since the Myanmar military seized power of the government in February 2021.

## Chinese Aircrafts Breach Taiwan's ADIZ

On 20th October 2022, the Taiwanese Ministry of National Defense tracked 20 Chinese military aircrafts (including one Shaanxi Y-8 anti-submarine warfare plane and one Shaanxi reconnaissance plane) and three naval ships around Taiwan, breaching the air defence identification zone (ADIZ). In response, Taiwan sent combat patrol aircraft naval ships and used land-based missile systems to monitor Chinese aircraft and vessels, while also issuing radio warnings. The ministry reported that Beijing has sent in nearly 266 Chinese military aircraft and 71 naval ships in October 2022. These sightings come in as the Chinese communist party Congress comes to an end, where President Xi Jinping secured a third term and reiterated Taiwan and Chinese reunification.





## Japan and Australia sign an updated version of the Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation

On 22nd October 2022, the prime ministers of Australia and Japan signed off on a revised version of the Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation in Perth, Australia. In the declaration, Australia and Japan agreed to share more sensitive intelligence and deepen their military cooperation, with an aim of countering China's assertiveness in the Indo-Pacific region. Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese stated that "This landmark declaration sends a strong signal to our region of our strategic alignment", while Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said that the agreement was a response to an "increasingly harsh strategic environment"

## India and the US conduct second edition of Tiger Triumph Exercise

From 18th to 20th October 2022, India and the US militaries conducted the second edition of the Indo-US Tri-Services Amphibious HADR Exercise or "Tiger Triumph 2022" at Vishakapatnam. The aim of this humanitarian exercise was to "consolidate interoperability and validate procedures for conducting amphibious HADR operations in the aftermath of a natural calamity". The Indian Navy was led by Rear Admiral Manish Sharma, while the US delegation was led by Major General Chris McPhillips. The official readout stated that "This year's exercise involves fifty combined participants, and is focused on staff planning, with an emphasis on processes for streamlining diplomatic, operational, and logistical coordination."

