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2. US-ROK on DPRK

Yonhap (Chang Jae-soon and Kim Deok-hyun, "S. KOREA, U.S. WARN N. KOREA OF 'SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES' IN CASE OF PROVOCATIONS", Seoul, 2010/07/21) reported that the ROK and the United States warned the DPRK on Wednesday that it will face "serious consequences" if it makes further provocations. According to a joint statement issued after talks between the foreign and defense ministers of the two allies, "The ministers urged North Korea to take responsibility for the attack" on the Cheonan. "They also called upon North Korea to refrain from further attacks or

hostilities against the ROK and underscored that there would be serious consequences for any such irresponsible behavior."
Full text of statement:
http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/national/2010/07/21/25/0301000000AEN20100721002500315F.HTML

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3. US on DPRK

Bloomberg News (Tony Capaccio, "U.S. SPY CHIEF NOMINEE CLAPPER SEES RISING DANGER IN NORTH KOREA RELATIONS", Washington, 2010/07/20) reported that James Clapper, US President Barack Obama's nominee for intelligence chief, told the Senate Intelligence Committee that the sinking of the Cheonan may indicate an increasing threat from the DPRK. “We may be entering a dangerous new period when North Korea will once again attempt to advance its internal and external political goals through direct attacks on our allies in the Republic of Korea,” said Clapper.

http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-07-20/obama-s-spy-chief-nominee-clapper-sees-danger-ahead-from-north-korea.html

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4. Japan-Taiwan Relations

China Times ("MOFA MONITORING JAPAN'S DEPLOYMENT PLANS IN SOUTH", Taipei, 2010/07/21) reported that the Taiwan Ministry of Foreign Affairs said July 20 that it has known for some time of Japan’s plans to deploy border security and coastal monitoring units to some islands in southwestern Okinawa Prefecture. MOFA officials pointed out that the Japanese plan is aimed at addressing the gap in its defenses in areas off its southern coast following the withdrawal of U.S. forces to Guam. They stressed the Japanese move is by no means meant to challenge countries, including Taiwan, that have claims over the Diaoyutai Islands.

http://www.taiwantoday.tw/ct.asp?xItem=111569&CtNode=414

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5. Japanese Nuclear Fuel Cycle

Asahi Shimbun (Kazumasa Tazenaka, "OPENING OF NUCLEAR WASTE PLANT DELAYED", Tokyo, 2010/07/21) reported that the Rokkasho nuclear reprocessing plant has been delayed once again.

The biggest issue is a process in which radioactive waste liquids produced during the removal of uranium and plutonium from spent nuclear fuels are solidified into glass. Testing of that part of the process began in 2007 but has been suspended many times. There have been problems stabilizing the temperature inside the reactor, which has resulted in the melted glasses not flowing smoothly.

http://www.asahi.com/english/TKY201007200500.html

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6. PRC-Pakistan Nuclear Cooperation

Times of India ("US SHOULD PRESSURE CHINA TO STOP NUKE SALES TO PAKISTAN: THINKTANK", Washington, 2010/07/20) reported that noting that the PRC's potential sale of two nuclear reactors to Pakistan has created great unease in the international non-proliferation community, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace has urged the US to put pressure the PRC to reverse course. "The US should oppose the transaction in its current form and pressure China to reverse course," Ashley Tellis said in a paper titled "The China-Pakistan Nuclear 'Deal': Separating Fact From Fiction."

http://carnegieendowment.org/publications/index.cfm?fa=view&id=41230

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