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1. ROK Naval Exercises

Yonhap ("S. KOREA HOLDS FINAL DAY OF MASSIVE NAVAL EXERCISES", Seoul, 2010/08/09) reported that the ROK staged a submarine hide-and-seek drill in waters off the west coast Monday on the final day of massive naval exercises. Some 4,500 troops from all four branches of the service have been mobilized for the drills that also involved the 14,000-ton Dokdo amphibious landing ship, an 1,800-ton submarine and a 4,500-ton Chungmugong Yi Sun-shin Class class destroyer, plus some 50 fighter jets. "The exercises this time, which were conducted jointly by the army, navy, air force and marines, were more intensive than ever and are believed to have achieved our intended goals," a military official said on customary condition of anonymity.

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/national/2010/08/09/51/0301000000AEN20100809002700315F.HT ML>

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2. Inter-Korea Relations

Chosun Ilbo ("N.KOREANS SEIZE S.KOREAN FISHING BOAT", Seoul, 2010/08/09) reported that an ROK fishing boat was seized by a DPRK patrol boat in the East Sea on Sunday. The 41-ton squid fishing boat Daeseung carrying four ROK and three PRC crewmen was captured in the East Sea on Sunday and has been under investigation in the DPRK. A Coast Guard officer said, "We're checking if the boat violated the North's EEZ because the fishing grounds are adjacent to North Korean waters." http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2010/08/09/2010080900948.html

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3. Japanese Three Non-Nuclear Principles

Kyodo ("JAPAN TO MULL LEGISLATING ON 3 NONNUCLEAR PRINCIPLES: KAN", Nagasaki, 2010/08/09) reported that Prime Minister Naoto Kan said Monday in Nagasaki he wants to consider enshrining into law Japan's three non-nuclear principles of not possessing, producing or introducing nuclear weapons in the country. Kan said he aims to realize a world that does not rely on nuclear deterrence at all, but added that Japan has no other choice but to continue depending on the U.S. nuclear deterrence at present since the world has yet to see the elimination of nuclear weapons. <http://home.kyodo.co.jp/modules/fstStory/index.php?storyid=516431>

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4. Cross Strait Relations

Taiwan News ("CHINA'S MISSILES TARGETED AT TAIWAN TO INCREASE TO 2,000", Taipei, 2010/08/09) reported that the PRC is said to reinforce its defense along its southeast coastlines by increasing the existing some 1,500 missiles to at least 1,800 with an aim to counter America's potential presence in the Taiwan Strait, said an intelligence senior official, according to Liberty Times report. Even if the PRC is determined to dismount its missiles targeted at Taiwan to show its goodwill in the maintenance of cross-strait stability, the scheduled production plans of missiles will continue. A number of missile brigades will still be established. And in fact, some of the exercises toward Taiwan are moved inland or replaced by war games, leading to the impression that the frequency of drills have been lowered, the anonymous official said.

http://www.etaiwannews.com/etn/news_content.php?id=1341959&lang=eng_news&cate_img=logo_taiwan&cate_rss=TAIWAN_eng

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5. PRC Energy and Environment

Agence France-Presse ("CHINA ORDERS 2,000 FIRMS TO SHUT OUTDATED PLANTS", Beijing, 2010/08/09) reported that the PRC government has ordered over 2,000 firms in high-polluting and energy-intensive industries to shut down outdated plants in its latest efforts to cut pollution and restructure the economy. A total of 2,087 companies that produce steel, coal, cement, aluminium, glass and other materials have to close their old and obsolete facilities by the end of September, the

Ministry of Industry and Information Technology said.

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20100809/sc_afp/chinaeconomyenvironmentenergypollution

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