DETERRENCE: Expeditionary Force 21, Forward and Ready, Now and in the Future

Driven by post Iraq-Afghanistan withdrawal pains and facing budget cuts, the US Marines wants a more agile, rapidly deployable force structure, integrated with the Navy, ceding long-term occupation to the Army, and a more flexible, lighter, faster vessels and equipment to support independent expeditionary operations in the face of “anti-access/area denial” threats.

• New US Marine Concept Re-establishes Maritime Roots, Christopher Cavas, Defense News, April 6, 2014
North Korea continues to push unlikely partners together while creating fissures with its ally. China floated a trial balloon stating via a proxy academic that they might consider direct talks with South Korea and the U.S. North Korea also helped delay OPCON (Operational Control) of military forces in the Republic of Korea and even served to bring South Korea and Japan together. It is possible to quantify to some extent how North Korea transfers the negative impacts of sanctions to the common people by measuring luminosity.

- Obama to vow ‘reconsideration’ of 2015 OPCON transfer plan in Seoul, Lee Chidong, GlobalPost. 24 April 2014
- Expert: China’s ‘revisionists’ could isolate N. Korea diplomatically, Kim Oihyun, The Hankyoreh. 24 April 2014
- Countering Sanctions: The Unequal Geographic Impact of Economic Sanctions in North Korea, Yong Suk Lee, Williams College. 30 March 2014 [PDF, 691 Kb]
between pollution and suicide rate in Asia and the US.

- **Engulfed by China smog, Korea boosts air monitoring spend 10-fold**, Cleanbiz.Asia (10 December 2013)
- **Japan, South Korea concerned that China’s smog will affect them**, Julian Ryall and Audrey Yoo, South China Morning Post (6 November 2013)
- **Is air pollution a risk factor for suicide?**, John Upton, Pacific Standard (11 April 2014)

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New York City’s climate change adaptation trajectory is unusual among global cities in that it has the technical resources to commission science, engineering, and policy research specific to its needs. Through projects (such as those discussed in this article), New York City is leveraging its human capital to make better use of current facilities and regulatory frameworks, providing a potential model for other jurisdictions.

- **Cities Lead the Way in Climate Change Action, Cynthia Rosenzweig**, William Solecki, Stephen A. Hammer and Shagun Mehrotra, *Nature*, vol. 467, pp. 909-911 (2010) [0.98 MB, PDF]
ENERGY SECURITY: Power Hungry, Anilesh S. Mahajan, Business Today, 27 April 2014

The power of electricity, the electricity of power, the powerlessness of powerlessness. Indian parliamentary elections may turn on the perception of the “Gujarat model of development” marketed by a champion for the powerful, also invested in electricity and the politics of favors. Pursuit of non-performing zero-carbon assets – nuclear and wind – has made things worse.

- In Tamil Nadu, electricity supply beats corruption, development as main issue, S. Bridget Leena, Mint (23 April 2014)
- Shocking! Link between politics and electricity in India, Hindustan Times (23 April 2014)

AUSTRAL PEACE AND SECURITY: Malcolm Fraser: An Unlikely Radical, Robert Manne, The Age, 26 April 2014

‘Dangerous Allies' is the most radical book ever to have been written by a former Australian prime minister. Fraser expresses the essence of his policy recommendation in these words: "To make sure that America does not have a capacity to force Australia into a war which we should well and truly keep out of." Great powers do not reward loyalty; that is the abiding illusion on which our defence policy has been based for more than a century. It's time for Australia to grow up.'

- Malcolm Fraser calls for closure of Pine Gap Joint Defence Facility, Matt O'Neil, RN Breakfast, ABC Radio National (28 April 2014)
- 5 Philippine bases where the U.S. military will look to gain a footing, Trefor Moss, Southeast Asia Real Time blog, Wall Street Journal (28 April 2014)
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