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Indo-Pacific Weekly Mail June 14-June 21, 2026

Greetings Colleagues,

The Consortium is pleased to share its latest newsletter for the Indo-Pacific.
Press the reply button for your feedback and comments.

Beyond Seven: G-7's Pivot toward Emerging Economies



Figure 1: G-7 family photo with partner countries, Evian, France, June 16, 2026

The G-7 summit in Evian, France, this week highlights significant aspects of the group's future. First, it is customary now that the G-7 group underscores the importance of emerging economies such as Brazil, India, Egypt, South Korea, Kenya, and invites them to the summit, so it has extended beyond the original seven: India, South Korea, and Kenya. This expansion suggests the group may require renaming to better bridge the gap with global stakeholders, who are forging new paths in economic growth and supply chain development.

Second, the G-7 core members- have drifted apart. The member nations—France, the UK, Germany, Italy, Canada, and Japan—maintain viewpoints distinct from those of the US on critical global issues. Unlike the US President, other members do not share the same thoughts on the Iran conflict, China, Russia, NATO spending, Immigration, climate, global trade, and investments. While other group members have been attempting to coordinate with current US leadership, these efforts seem far from the reality of their policy disagreements.

Nonetheless, in the joint statement, the G-7 countries addressed the regulation of legal Immigration and expressed shared concern regarding Russia's war in Ukraine.

On geopolitical issues leaders highlight the importance of free and open Indo-Pacific and reaffirm any unilateral change in the status quo in the East China Sea, the South China Sea, and across the Taiwan Strait.

The breakthrough was the signing of the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the US and Iran at the Palace of Versailles. The G-7 countries agreed on a multinational initiative led by France and the UK to facilitate the resumption of maritime traffic in the Strait of Hormuz by protecting commercial vessels and verifying Iran's removal of all the mines. The agreement prevents Iran from developing nuclear weapons, and Israel will stop the violence against Hezbollah in Lebanon. The signed MoU between the US and Iran remains very fragile, as there is a 60-day window for both countries to negotiate the terms. [Read More](#)

INDOPACOM Reverts its Name to PACOM

The Pentagon reverted the name of Indo-Pacific Command (INDOPACOM) to the U.S. Pacific Command (USPACOM), stating it is “restoring legacy and honors the command’s deep historical roots, fostering a sense of pride and collective spirit among all who serve in the Pacific.” It added that the area of responsibility remains unaltered and spans from the West Coast of America to the western border of India. Interestingly, President Trump himself in his first term, 2018, named Pacific Command to INDOPACOM. Former defense secretary Jim Mattis described the command's area of responsibility as stretching "from Bollywood to Hollywood.” So, what is behind reverting the command’s name in eight years under the same Commander-in Chief?

What does it mean for India and the Indian Ocean? [Read More](#)

China Imposes Restrictions on 10 US Companies

Chinese Commerce Ministry add 10 US companies involved in defense and rare earth productions in response to the US government's "egregious act of adding to its so-called 'Chinese military enterprise list.'" Export operators are prohibited from exporting dual-use items to the 10 entities that include AVEOX, Red Cat Holdings, Inc, Teal Drones, Inc, IMSAR, Jaia Robotics, Inc., Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp, USA Rare Earth, Inc etc. US earlier blacklisted Chinese tech giants Alibaba, Baidu and electric vehicle giant BYD.

It is worth noting that China's restrictions were implemented a month after US President Trump visited Beijing, as part of an effort to thaw bilateral relations. Trump continues to praise Xi Jinping and recently admired China's non-involvement in the Iran conflict. He expects to visit again for the APEC conference later this year and plans to host Chinese President Xi Jinping in the US in September. It remains to be seen how effective the "G-2" diplomacy will be in improving relations between the two superpowers and preventing conflict.

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Russia Expand Partnership with ASEAN Countries

Russian President Putin hosted the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) leaders in Kazan to expand the strategic partnership between the two sides. Russia seeks to enhance cooperation with ASEAN countries in trade, investment, energy, and infrastructure. Both sides adopted the Kazan declaration 2026 to promote mutual growth, a sustainable future, and aspire to create a multipolar world amid geopolitical challenges. Both sides will promote maritime cooperation, connectivity, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030, as outlined in the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP).

It is noted that, despite the distinct views on the Ukraine War between ASEAN and Russia, the group seeks to diversify its relations and sees Russia as a stabilizing force in the region gripped by US-China competition. [Read More](#)

Indo-Pacific Quiz

In which year US President Donald Trump renamed US Pacific Command (PACOM) to Indo-Pacific Command (INDOPACOM)?

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| a. 2016 | c. 2018 |
| b. 2025 | d. 2026 |

In which country is the G7 summit scheduled to be held in 2027?

- | | |
|------------|----------|
| a. Germany | c. Italy |
|------------|----------|

b. Japan

d. USA

Consortium Highlights

- ❖ Upcoming Podcast: "Sustaining Primacy; the future of American Strategic Interest in South Asia" 2:00 PM EST, June 23, 2026
 - ❖ Upcoming Webinar: Indian Ocean in US's China Strategy
 - ❖ Upcoming Webinar: Fractured Proximity: India-Bangladesh relations
 - ❖ Commentary: Pentagon's Renaming Gambit: Does Indo-Pacom's Demise Diminish India? [Read More](#)
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Indo-Pacific Quiz Key

Here are the **Answers** for June 14, 2026, Newsletter Quiz

Q. Which country has been mediating US-Iran conflict 2026?

a. Pakistan

Q. Where is the Yellow River located?

c. China

Contributions: Indu Saxena