



Consortium of Indo-Pacific  
Researchers

## **Indo-Pacific Weekly Mail Sept 25 - Oct 01, 2023**

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Greetings Colleagues,

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

### **U.S.-Pacific Island Forum Summit held in Washington D.C.**



President Biden [hosted](#) the 2nd Pacific Islands Forum's summit in the White House from September 25-26, 2023. In the leaders' Statement, they reaffirmed and reiterated the U.S.-Pacific Islands enhanced cooperation to meet Pacific Priorities and achieve the vision of the first-ever U.S. Pacific Strategy released in 2022. The U.S. strategy is focused and guided by the [2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent](#) and to support the regional architecture led by the Pacific Island Forum (PIF). The Heads of the government of Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu were present in the meeting.

The leaders acknowledged the PIF as the apex of the Pacific regional architecture and they laid the importance of partnership and cooperation with the United States to advance the shared objectives outlined in the 2050 Strategy. President Biden [announced](#) a plan to work with Congress to provide \$200 million more funding for new activities for the Pacific in climate, trade, public health, and disaster relief. The document said, “These new programs and activities continue to demonstrate the U.S. commitment to work together with the Pacific Islands to expand and deepen our cooperation in the years ahead.”

Furthermore, the U.S. recognizes Cook Islands and Niue as independent, sovereign nations, and the document states, “This momentous occasion celebrates our shared history, common values, and people-to-people ties. A [joint statement](#) announced that the sides will hold a summit in 2025 and engage politically every two years thereafter. It is worth mentioning that Solomon Islands Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavar did not attend the meeting; moreover, he visited China in July 2023, and the Island country made a security pact in 2022 with China. [Read More](#)

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## **Indo-Pacific Armies Chiefs Conference (IPACC)**

The Indian and U.S. armies co-hosted a three-day conference of the Indo-Pacific Armies Chiefs in New Delhi. The Chief's Round Table Conference theme was "Together for Peace: Sustaining Peace and Stability in the Indo-Pacific Region." In the event, 30 countries and 18 army chiefs of the respective countries participated. In the opening ceremony, India's Defense Minister Mr. Rajnath Singh, [said](#), "India stands for a free, open, inclusive and rules-based Indo-Pacific". He reiterated, "Our efforts to build robust military partnerships with friendly countries underscore our commitment to safeguard national interests and address global challenges."

The newly appointed U.S. Army, Gen. Randy George, [said](#), "This region is a priority, and the Army is all over the world but exercises more in the Indo-Pacific because it is a priority." The Chief of the Indian Army, Gen. Manoj Pande, [said](#), "This symposium serves as a shining example of what can happen when nations come together with a common purpose." The event was aimed at enhancing military cooperation and collective response to the myriad challenges in the region, like climate, humanitarian assistance, and disaster relief. [Read More](#)

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## **Nepal P.M. Prachanda Visits China**

Nepal PM Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda Visited China and participated in the opening ceremony of the 19<sup>th</sup> Asian Games. He said that his visit to China would strengthen the bilateral relations between the two countries. He [stated](#), "My latest visit to China is the first high-level visit from Nepal after Chinese president Xi Jinping's state visit to Nepal in 2019. The visit has consolidated the climate of mutual trust

between Nepal and China in the context of such high-level visits not taking for long due to the Covid-19 pandemic.” [Read More](#)

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## **Indo-Pacific Quiz**



Which Pacific Island countries are recognized as sovereign nations by the U.S.?

- a. Samoa & Kiribati
- b. Tonga & Nauru
- c. Cook Islands & Nieu
- d. Cook Islands & Solomon Islands

In which country did Mohamed Muizzu has won the Presidential run-off?

- a. Indonesia
  - b. Maldives
  - c. Bangladesh
  - d. Malaysia
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## Consortium Highlights

	<p><b>Podcast:</b> Sept 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023</p> <p><b>Vietnam: A Survey of the Indochina Wars, 1945-1975</b></p> <p><a href="#">Tune in Here</a></p>
	<p><b>Upcoming Webinar:</b> Oct 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @7:00 AM EST</p> <p><b>Outcome of G-20 Summit and the Evolving World Order</b></p> <p><b>Join on Schedule at:</b> <a href="#">ZOOM Meeting Link</a></p>

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