



Consortium of Indo-Pacific
Researchers

Indo-Pacific Weekly Mail June 9-15, 2025

Greetings Colleagues,

The Consortium is pleased to share its latest newsletter for the Indo-Pacific.

Press the reply button for your feedback and comments.

G-7 Leaders Meet in Canada amid Escalating Global Tension



Figure 1: G-7 countries leaders gather in Canada, Image/ White House, USA

Amidst escalating tensions in the Russia-Ukraine, Gaza-Israel and newly erupted Israel-Iran conflicts, leaders from the world's wealthiest economies, G-7, convened in Kananaskis, Alberta, Canada. It is expected that the G-7 assembly will provide a valuable platform for discussing trade relations between countries and the escalating situations of the Russia-Ukraine war and the Israel-Iran conflict, ultimately fostering global peace and stability.

In addressing the media, President Trump reiterated his perspective on Russia's departure from the G-7, an organization that was previously known as the G-8 until its membership was suspended. He added that if Russia had been in the G-7, the war would not have happened.

U.S. President Donald Trump is abruptly leaving the Group of Seven summit, departing a day early as the conflict between Israel and Iran intensifies and the U.S. leader has declared that Tehran should be evacuated “immediately.”

Trump had been set to meet Tuesday with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum, and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. [Read More](#)

Xi Jinping Attends China-Central Asia Summit

Chinese President Xi Jinping will meet heads of the five Central Asian countries at the China-Central Asia summit in Astana, Kazakhstan. China is the largest trading partner of Central Asia; however, Russia has a significant influence in the region due to its historical and cultural ties.

China Seeks to deepen its economic and strategic relations with these countries amid shifting global geopolitical priorities. It is expected that China will sign agreements in trade, investment, energy, and tourism with these five countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan. China aims to enhance its Belt and Road Initiative in Central Asia to open a trade route to Europe.

It is worth noting that the U.S.-China trade tension has been putting pressure on the global economy. Recently, the two largest economies in the world have negotiated a deal regarding rare earths and semiconductors. Furthermore, escalating tensions between Israel and Iran in West Asia will have a far-reaching impact that could hugely disrupt the supply chain. [Read More](#)

Israel-Iran Conflict: Implications for the Indo-Pacific

Israel launched a fierce attack on Iran on May 13, asserting that its pre-emptive strike before its enemy goes closer to building an atomic bomb. Israeli attack destroyed some parts of Iran's central nuclear enrichment facility and military structure and also killed Iran's top commander and scientists, among others. The ongoing conflict between Israel and Iran has now progressed into

its fourth day. Both parties have conducted new missile launches overnight, occurring despite widespread international appeals for diplomatic engagement and efforts aimed at de-escalation.

The Israel-Iran conflict has the potential to escalate based on the strategic actions taken by the United States and China. China opposed the Israeli strike on Iran, and China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi said China would support Tehran in "defending its legitimate rights and interests." China has economic and strategic interests with Iran and has had a cooperation agreement for 25 years.

Israel's ongoing airstrikes and intelligence operations, along with Iran's retaliation, have raised concerns about a potential all-out war between the two countries, further pushing the already tense region into greater upheaval. [Read More](#)

Philippines and Japan Hold Joint Drill

Philippines and Japan held a joint Maritime Cooperation Exercise (MCA) in the Philippines' Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) in the West Philippine Sea. The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) participated in the joint drill. During the maneuver, AFP chief Gen. Romeo Brawner Jr. emphasized the broader strategic significance of the MCA, noting that the "cooperative activity is more than a display of maritime

capability – it is a manifestation of our enduring commitment to uphold peace, stability and a rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific."

It is worth mentioning that Japan shares concerns about China's illegal, coercive, aggressive, and deceptive measures against Philippine vessels and aircraft conducting lawful maritime operations in the South China Sea/West Philippine Sea. [Read More](#)

Indo-Pacific Quiz

What is the name of U.S. foreign intelligence service?

- | | |
|--------|-----------|
| a. MI6 | c. CIA |
| b. MI5 | d. Mossad |

In which country an airplane crashed just after the take-off that killed onboard 241 people?

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| a. India | c. Indonesia |
| b. New Zealand | d. Japan |
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Consortium Highlights

- ❖ Tune in: Podcast- Environmental Issues and Challenges in India, June 17, 2025 @10:00 AM EST

- ❖ A View on **Navigating Disputes: South China Sea and the Role of International Arbitration in Territorial Conflict Resolution.** [Read Here.](#)
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Indo-Pacific Quiz Key

Here are the **Answers** for June 8 Newsletter Quiz

Q. Who is the newly elected President of South Korea?

a. Lee Jae-myung

Q. In which country is the proposed Chinese embassy site a national security concern?

c. United Kingdom

Contributions: Indu Saxena