

CASA



The Current and Strategic Affairs Forum

Contours of the QUAD in the New Paradigm

Webinar Summary Report

Publishing date : 27 February 2021

Published by : The Current And Strategic Affairs Forum

Co-hosted by : International Security Industry Council of Japan

Acknowledgements:

The Webinar “**Contours of the QUAD in the New Paradigm**” held on 27 February 2021 at 11am IST was organised by The Current and Strategic Affairs Forum (CASA) jointly with the International Security Industry Council of Japan (ISIC). We would like to thank our panelists for their comprehensive analysis and candidly expressing their views:

Vice Admiral Pradeep Chauhan, AVSM **, VSM (Retd)
Director General, National Maritime Foundation

Lt General Jerry Martinez (Retd)
Former Commander US Forces Japan, 5th Air Force, Pacific Air Forces

Vice Admiral Yoji Koda (Retd)
Former Fellow Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University

Professor John Blaxland
Defence & Strategic Studies Centre, Australian National University

Dr Yujen Kuo
Institute of China and Asia-Pacific Studies, National Sun Yat-Sen University

CASA



The Current and Strategic Affairs Forum

We would also like to thank the many other distinguished attendees including many senior veterans, business leaders, professors, think tank researchers, contributors, analysts and others who took time out of their busy schedules to attend and shared their inputs with views, including some very relevant Q&A and comments during the Webinar.

We would like to thank Lt Gen Gautam Moorthy, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, ADC (Retd), Former DG Ordnance Services and founder of CASA, Mr James Angelus, President of ISIC, Lt Gen PR Shankar, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd), Former DG Artillery and co-founder CASA, for moderating the session, Mr Mahadevan Shankar of CASA Core Committee together with Mr Jeffrey Bloom, Vice President and Representative Director, ISIC and Mr Ryan Bloom, Director International Communications, ISIC for moderating, coordinating and contributing towards organising the Webinar.

DISCLAIMER:

The views expressed in this Webinar Summary Report are those of the presenters/participants and do not necessarily reflect the policies or opinions of CASA, or any other statutory body.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior permission of The CASA Forum (CASA).



Presentation:

Lt Gen Gautam Moorthy introduced the eminent panelists on the Webinar with a broad overview of the key challenges impacting the QUAD countries relations in the current challenging geopolitical environment.

General Moorthy thanked James Angelus, President of ISIC and his team for their significant contributions towards co-hosting this Webinar bringing along their eminent speakers. General Moorthy expressed his gratitude to ISIC team and indicating this would be the first of many Webinars to be organised jointly. Developing a long-term relationship between CASA and ISIC would objectively contribute towards increasing awareness amongst members of both institutions of the many strategic issues facing the QUAD countries, drafting papers to assist policy makers in each country and also facilitate bilateral conversations with key industry bodies to promote effective economic and defence related partnerships amongst QUAD countries.

Lt Gen PR Shankar as the Moderator in his remarks introducing the Webinar topic key issues, stated that China has brought us together. The QUAD has several rough edges that need to be ironed out.

V Adm Pradeep Chauhan key points:

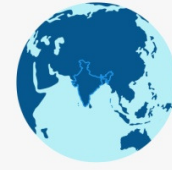
1. Geo economic and non-geo-economic goal need to be defined.
2. Geo strategic goals also need definition.
3. QUAD in the middle. Need for India to knit the Indo Pacific together.
4. SAGAR (Security And Growth for All in the Region) initiative.
5. Postmodern India aims for a global common and maritime common.



6. Rules based order derived by international consensus. India goes by this. Public goods need to move freely.
7. Which direction are we taking? Towards Westphalian states with main line and other interests to protect?
8. Need to develop centralized constructive engagement. Use all forms of connectivity.
9. QUAD is in our national interest. No better structure. From the East Coast of Africa around India to Asia is the growth corridor.
10. Building trust with constructive engagement.
11. Indo Pacific initiative. We approach the QUAD with a great wave, not froth as China said. QUAD is not Asia's NATO.
12. QUAD is taking shape because of Chinese revisionist policies and penetration. China does not follow UNCLOS. China has to respect rules. In order to protect sovereignty of nations some structure is necessary to impose rules-based order and oppose dominance by China.

Lt General Jerry Martinez key points:

1. China is the greatest long-term threat to the USA.
2. It is influencing in the military, political, economic domains at great speed. It is carrying out coercion and has become far more public and aggressive.
3. The Pacific is a priority. If nations do not act now, then when do we combat Chinese aggression? Instead of rhetoric, we need to act.
4. 85% of Japan's oil comes through the South China Sea.
5. We need to take China's threat seriously. Three great friends of the US i.e. Australia, India and Japan are in this together. We need to operate militarily



together. We need to show commitment. No joint statement after foreign minister's meeting. No halfway with China. We cannot be afraid to show commitment. We need to work on interoperability, share intelligence, carry out joint training, put in place joint command and control systems.

6. Biden administration showing intent but with a lot of rhetoric. When Biden was Vice President China had a lot of liberty.
7. QUAD is not Asian NATO. Organizational structures have to come up, lots of legalities involved.
8. We need to take China's threat seriously.

V Adm Yoji Koda key points:

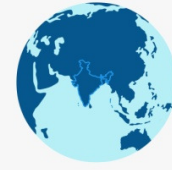
1. QUAD is a conceptual body. The objective of QUAD is becoming clearer and clearer. It is non-binding but stands by other agreements.
2. Set objectives- QUAD plus European nations i.e. UK, France and Germany. All want a Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) for maritime continuity and common values.
3. China's policy is A2/AD i.e. Anti Access / Area Denial, keep US Forces out.
4. Without fighting, demonstrate the PLA's capability.
5. Deprive US determination.
6. Chinese assets- hardware and high-tech support that connects its brain and muscles. Achilles' heel of China are the choke points between Pacific Ocean and South China Sea i.e. Bashi, Mindanao, Lombok, Mindora Straits, Sibuthu Passage, Makassar Straits. Submarines can restrictively operate in the Malacca straits. China has no control over the choke points.
7. QUAD cooperation is necessary. End objective-importance of Taiwan.



8. Cannot coordinate without a strong alliance.
9. Coordination in
 - a. Fleet Missile Defence
 - b. Integrated Air Defence
 - c. Anti-submarine warfare
 - d. AI Mines
 - e. Space
 - f. 5G/6G networks
 - g. Quantum computing
 - h. Seabed cable protection

Prof John Blaxland key points:

1. Authoritarian streak by China-Wolf warrior diplomacy
2. Significance of geography.
3. Cyber and space not tied to geography.
4. Australia US ties have deepened over the years-stop overlapping interest.
5. SWOT analysis.
 - a. Great power contestation.
 - b. Environmental challenges.
 - c. Governance challenges.
 - d. Defence links.
 - e. Lots of areas of cooperation in cyber.
 - f. Not integration but enhanced cooperation.
 - g. China should be made to understand that Taiwan is important



- h. Economically India and US not doing enough. Cannot let countries be dominated by China.
- i. Need to build reliable communication. Good contact points.
- j. Extend QUAD. Invite observers from ASEAN & NATO.

Dr Yujen Kuo key points:

1. China resorts to salami slicing and keeps testing Taiwan's reactions.
2. Prof showed slides of various incursions by China in 2020. 380 flights entered Taiwan's airspace in 2020, expecting more in 2021.
3. China wants to cut off Taiwan and Pratas islands. They keep trying different routes and strategies.
4. China's Behaviour Pattern-3 Steps.
 - a. Step 1. Break status quo.
 - b. Step 2. Create new status quo.
 - c. Step 3. Legalise new status quo.
5. China's Three Warfare Strategy
 - a. Prediction on perception and behavior pattern.
 - b. Test status quo.
 - c. Increase confidence and reinforce the behavior.
 - d. Create new status quo.
 - e. Justify legally the new status quo.
 - f. Psychologically make opponent look weak.
 - g. Mould public opinion.
6. Virtuous and Vicious Cycle.
 - a. Virtuous



- i. Create favorable new status quo.
- ii. Increase strategic activeness.
- b. Vicious
 - i. Passive reaction.
 - ii. Weaken & limit opponent.
 - iii. Use democracy of countries to undermine them.
 - iv. Further salami slicing.

7. Counter measures

- a. Make China suffer more losses than gains.

Summary

James Angelus adds that what this panel has clearly shown, including top commanders of American, Indian, and Japanese militaries, is their common resolve to counter China's aggressive behaviour. Equally important, is their eagerness to engage each other and become advocates for closer communications and planning under emerging Quad structures. "Dialogue is key, understanding is the basis for action through continuous, persistent engagement."

General Moorthy in his closing comments sincerely thanked the eminent speakers and the audience for their incisive comments with diverse questions. A vote of thanks was also given to General Shankar, James Angelus, Mahadevan Shankar, Jeffrey Bloom, Ryan Bloom and Kristian Ryan for their significant assistance in facilitating the Webinar with the secured IT platform together with the CASA and ISIC team members for helping organise the event.

The Webinar closed at 12.45 pm IST.