



ANALYSIS OF THE PRC'S MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE WEBSITES

22 January 2025

Introduction

This report provides information about the People's Republic of China's (PRC / 中华人民共和国) Ministry of National Defense (MND/国防部) English- and Chinese-language websites. Of note, although the PRC uses Ministry of National Defense and MND, the website link uses MOD (Ministry of Defense). The report begins by providing some background information about the websites and then identifies 11 key findings. It then discusses how each website is organized. Finally, it discusses the number of the same articles that were published on both websites and the number of articles that were published on only one of the websites for the period of 1-15 December 2024.

Section 1: Background¹

On 20 August 2009, the People's Republic of China's (PRC) Ministry of National Defense (MND) inaugurated an official website (国防部网) to serve as a new platform for releasing military and defense-related information.² After a two-year trial period, it was formally launched on 1 August 2011, along with a mobile website for both Android and Apple (iPhone) access through a trial mobile Ministry of National Defense Network (手机国防部网). The Ministry of National Defense Network also launched a “self-developed free terminal” (自主研发的免费终端) based on the Apple operating system.³

The official MND website derived from the China Military Network (中国军网), which was affiliated with the *People's Liberation Army Daily* (解放军报). An interesting twist to the motivation for standing up this website is found in a 2009 interview with an editor of China Military Network, in which one of the section subtitles is “国防部网站成美军新武器 (Department of Defense website provides a new weapon for the U.S. military).”⁴ The article continues by showcasing how various foreign military websites are used, including for morale building, to increase public support for the military and to facilitate recruiting. It concludes with “The official launch of the Ministry of National Defense website on 1 August 2011 is a major step for the Chinese military to become open and transparent and compete for the right to speak in international public opinion.”

¹ Frank Miller, Tung Ho, and Kenneth Allen, eds., *The People's Liberation Army as Organization Volume 3.0* (Washington, D.C.: The Jamestown Foundation; Vienna: Exovera, 2025).

² Ta Kung Pao, “PRC Ministry of National Defense Prepares to Open Website for Military Transparency,” 8 May 2008. And “China's defense ministry launches official website,” *China Daily in English*, 20 August 2009. Accessed at https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2009-08/20/content_8592527.htm. The Chinese version of the new MND website is <http://www.mod.gov.cn/>. The English version is <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/>.

³ The article says mobile phone and Apple mobile phone. This author has not tested either to see if they still work. See <https://baike.baidu.com/item/国防部网/60105746>. Last updated Dec 2023.

⁴ Ibid. The interview is embedded in the Baidu Baike article.

There are two Chinese (Simplified and Traditional) and English versions of the website, which are described in detail later. Each website displays a different format, and the content is somewhat varied.⁵ As designed in 2009, the Chinese versions consisted of three parts: the news channel, data, and columns.

- The news channel covers current news, high-level developments, military construction, national defense construction, national defense education, national defense technology, military operations, military diplomacy, arms control and disarmament, etc.
- Data includes leaders of the CMC headquarters, military regulations, weapons and equipment, military history, etc.
- Column subjects include national defense videos, hot topics, military pictures, etc.

The content of the English version has significantly less information, ostensibly designed in 2009 to be “more in line with the characteristics and rules of external communication” and taking into account “the concerns and reading habits of overseas netizens about China’s national defense information.”

In its own words, “The Ministry of National Defense website is the website of the Ministry of National Defense of the People’s Republic of China, which mainly publishes authoritative information on China’s national defense and military construction. The website of the Ministry of National Defense aims to disseminate China’s national defense policies to the outside world, strengthen foreign exchanges and cooperation, display the good image of the Chinese military as a mighty, civilized and peaceful force, and promote the modernization of national defense and the military.”

A review of the current website layout shows it represents news from each of the Central Military Commission (CMC/中央军事委员会) organizations, and all services of the People’s Liberation Army (PLA/人民解放军) and the People’s Armed Police (PAP/人民警察). The Information Office and website are most likely closely affiliated with the CMC Political Work Department’s Propaganda Department and are probably run out of that department in coordination with the CMC Joint Staff Departments’ Foreign Affairs Bureau. It is not clear how this office coordinates with the State Council Information Office and with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Key Findings

This section provides 11 key findings (KF) concerning the English and Chinese websites.

KF 1: The two websites are not organized in the same way.

KF 2: Only a few articles with the same information are posted on both websites. For example, from 1-15 December 2024, the English website had 18 new articles, and the Chinese website had

⁵ There are two Chinese versions—one using traditional characters, which are used in Taiwan, and one using simplified characters, which are used in China.

58 articles. Of these, only five articles (28% of the English site and 9% of the Chinese site) were on both websites. There does not appear to be a set pattern for which articles are only in English or Chinese or are published on both websites.

KF 3: While some tabs are updated frequently, some tabs do not have any new information for over a year.

KF 4: The English website homepage has eight tabs, and the Chinese website has 12 tabs, which are organized differently between the two websites.

KF 5: Concerning the English website, only the Top News tab includes 16 current articles, all of which are from December 2024. As such, each time a new article is added, the earliest one is deleted. The following bullets provide information about the CMC, Services, and Theater Commands tabs:

- The CMC tab, which has a separate sub-tab for each of the 15 subordinate organizations, only has from 2-9 articles that range from 2018 through 2022. There are no articles from 2023 or 2024.
- The four Services tab (Army, Navy, Air Force, and Rocket Force) has 10 articles for each service sub-tab that range from 2019 through 2024.
- The five Theater Commands tab (Eastern, Southern, Western, Northern, and Central) have 9-10 articles for each sub-tab, which range from 2019 through 2024.

KF 6: Each website has 10 photos that rotate across the top of the page under the Home Tabs that are linked to the relevant article, but they are not the same articles on each website.

KF 7: Each English tab has a base datalink assigned to it that starts with <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb>, but it is not clear what xb stands for. The next part of each datalink identifies the tab, such as <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/Leadership/index.html> for the Leadership tab. In addition, each link ends with [/index.html](#).

KF 8: Each Chinese tab has a base datalink <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/>, where gfbw stands for guofangbu wang (国防部网) and is translated as Ministry of National Defense Website. The next part includes 2-4 letters that identify the information in that specific tab, such as <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gc/index.html>, where gc stands for gaoceng (高层) and is translated as “leadership”. In addition, each link ends with [/index.html](#).

KF 9: Although some of the Chinese website tabs have links at the bottom to previous articles going back a couple of years, the English website stopped doing this in early 2024.

KF 10: The bottom line is that readers need to check each website at least once a week as the articles disappear over time.

KF11: Of note, virtually every organization in the PLA is listed in protocol order (组织序列), including the 15 CMC organizations, the four services, and the five Theater Commands.

Section 2: MND English-Language Website

This section provides information about the structure of the MND English-language website, including the Page Header, HOME Page Tab and sub-tabs, LEADERSHIP tab, DEFENSE POLICY tab, CMC DEPARTMENTS tab, MILITARY SERVICES tab, THEATER COMMANDS tab, NEWS tab, and PUBLICATIONS tab.

Page Header

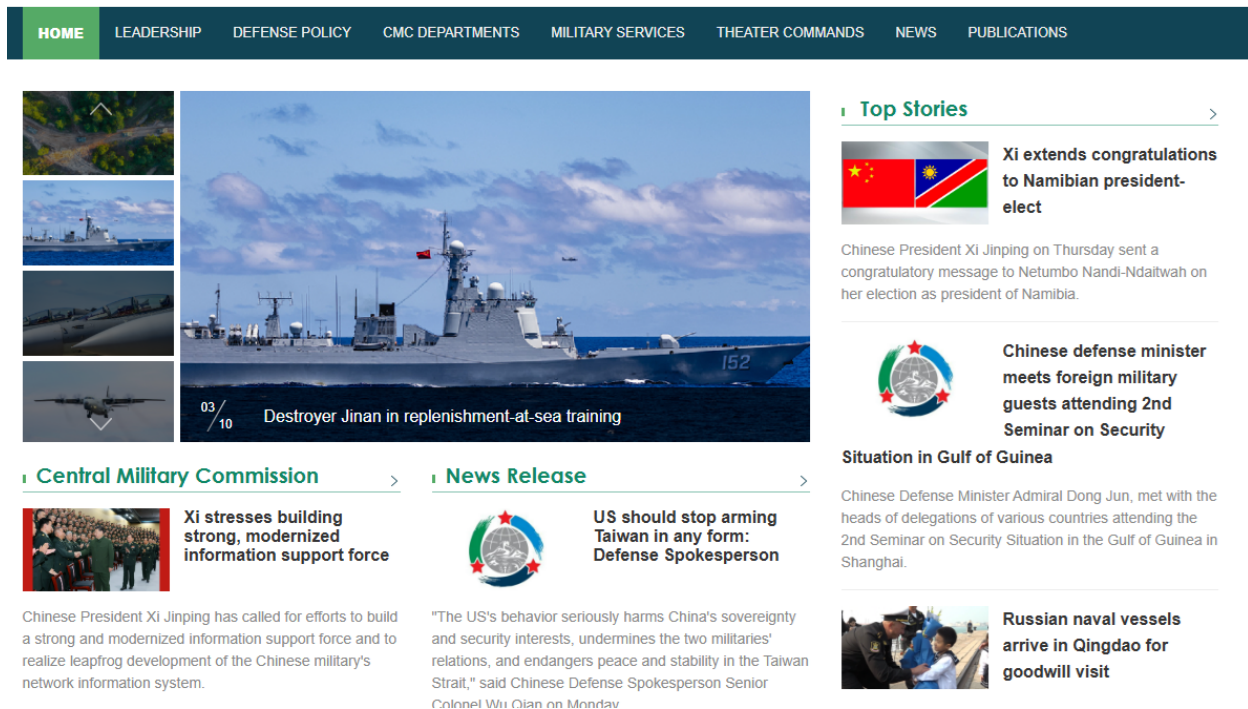
Figure 1 shows the page header, which includes the name and PRC national emblem.⁶

Figure 1: Ministry of National Defense Page Header⁷



Figure 2 shows the eight primary tabs from HOME to PUBLICATIONS, each of which has sub-tabs that will be discussed below.

Figure 2: Home Tabs and Sub-tabs⁸



⁶ "Ministry of National Defense (China)," Wikipedia. Accessed at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ministry_of_National_Defense_\(China\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ministry_of_National_Defense_(China)).

⁷ The English version of the MND official website. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/>.

⁸ The English version home tabs and sub-tabs of the MND website. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/>.

Figure 3 provides 10 photos downloaded on 5 December 2024. The article affiliated with link each photo can be accessed (via the website) by clicking on the photo.

Figure 3: Photos on 5 December⁹



Figure 4 provides 10 photos downloaded on 6 December 2024. As can be seen, the first photo replaced the last photo from 5 December. This situation occurs routinely. As such, the website needs to be accessed daily in order to see any new entries.

Figure 4: Photos on 5 December¹⁰

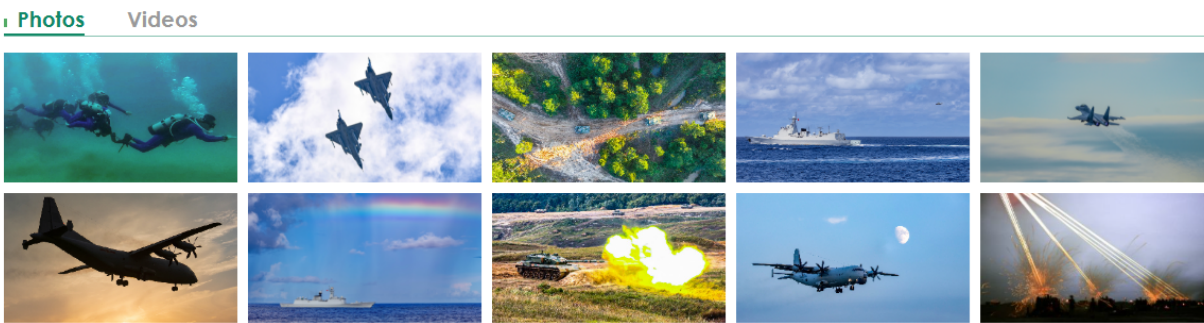
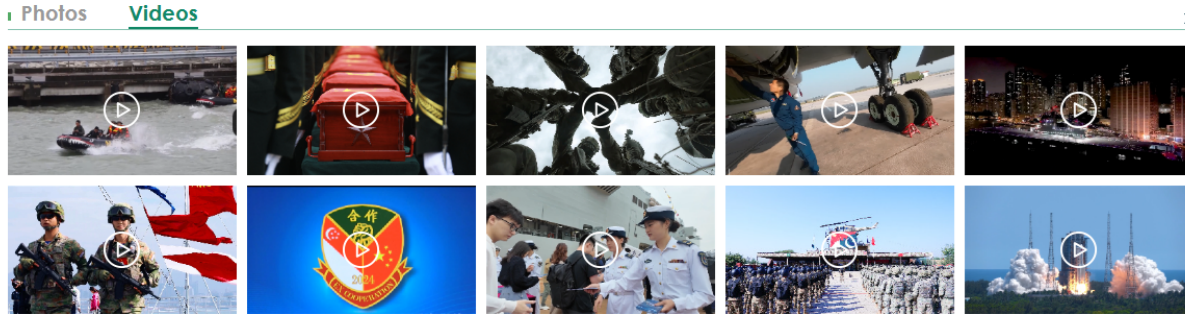


Figure 5 provides 10 videos from November and December 2024. Most likely as a new one is added, the oldest one is deleted.

⁹ The Photos of the English version of the MND official website. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/>.

¹⁰ The Photos of the English version of the MND official website. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/>, accessed on 6 December 2024.

Figure 5: Videos¹¹



HOME Tab and Sub-tabs

The HOME tab starts with 10 photos that rotate every few seconds. You can click on the photo and see the article that it is linked to. The HOME tab, which was accessed on 5 December 2024, also has the following 10 sub-tabs and number of articles per tab and the date range for the related articles noted on 5 December:

- Central Military Commission (3 articles from 26 October to 5 December)
- News Release (3 articles from 26 November to 2 December)
- Top Stories (4 articles all of 5 December)
- Military Services (3 articles from 25 October to 11 November)
- Theater Commands (3 articles from 14-28 October)
- Overseas Operations (1 article on 22 November)
- Features (2 articles on 18 and 26 November)
- Special Report on *Celebrating the 75th Founding Anniversary of the PRC*¹²
- Photos (8, which are linked to the affiliated article from 25 November to 5 December)
- Videos (10, which are linked to the affiliated article all on 5 December)

LEADERSHIP Tab

Figure 6 shows the information on the LEADERSHIP tab accessed on 6 December 2024 that shows the Chairman (Xi Jinping), Vice Chairmen (Zhang Youxia and He Weidong), and Members (Liu Zhenli, Chief of the Joint Staff Department; Miao Hua, Director of the Political Work Department; and Zhang Shengmin, Secretary, Discipline Inspection Commission) of the Communist Party of China (CPC; aka Chinese Communist Party / CCP) Central Military Commission (CMC) and the PRC (aka State) CMC since the 20th Party Congress in October 2022 and the 14th National People's

¹¹ The Videos of the English version of the MND official website. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/>, accessed on 5 December 2024.

¹² "Celebrating the 75th Founding Anniversary of the PRC 1949.10.1-2024.10.1," China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/SpecialReports/2024/Celebratingthe75thFoundingAnniversaryofthePRC/index.html>.

Congress (NPC) in March 2023.¹³ Although clicking on the names of the two Vice Chairmen (Zhang Youxia¹⁴ and He Weidong¹⁵) opens a link to their short profiles, clicking on the names of the three members does not open a link to their profiles. Also of note, although Admiral Miao Hua, who became the Director of the Political Work Department in October 2017, was suspended for corruption in November 2024, his name has not been removed as of 15 January 2025.

Figure 6: CPC and PRC Central Military Commission



¹³ “CPC Central Military Commission,” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/Leadership/index.html>.

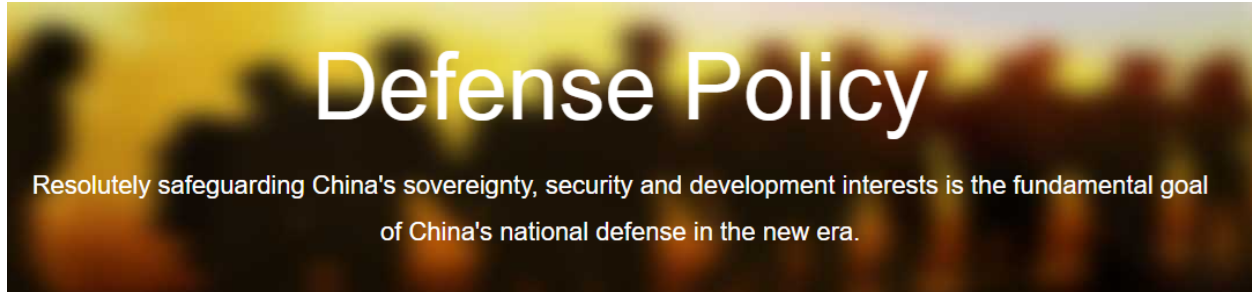
¹⁴ “Zhang Youxia,” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/Leadership/CentralMilitaryCommission/16208689.html>. Zhang Youxia, male, Han ethnicity, was born in July 1950 and is from Weinan, Shanxi Province. He joined the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) in December 1968 and the Communist Party of China (CPC) in May 1969. He graduated from the Basic Department of the PLA Military Academy and received a junior college education. Zhang is currently a member of the CPC Central Committee Political Bureau, Vice Chairman of the CPC Central Military Commission, and Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission of the People’s Republic of China. He holds the rank of general in the PLA Army.

¹⁵ “He Weidong,” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/Leadership/CentralMilitaryCommission/16208690.html>. He Weidong, male, Han ethnicity, was born in May 1957 and is from Dongtai, Jiangsu Province. He joined the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) in December 1972 and the Communist Party of China (CPC) in November 1978. He received an undergraduate education at the Central Party School. He is currently a member of the CPC Central Committee Political Bureau, Vice Chairman of the CPC Central Military Commission, and Vice Chairman of the Central Military Commission of the People’s Republic of China. He holds the rank of general in the PLA Army.

DEFENSE POLICY Tab

This tab provides a 4-page overview of the PRC's National Defense Policy in the New Era.¹⁶

Figure 7: Defense Policy



CMC DEPARTMENTS Tab

This tab provides information about the 15 CMC functional sections, including seven departments (offices), three commissions, and five directly affiliated bodies in protocol order shown below.¹⁷ Figure 8 provides an example of the header and the first two departments. By clicking on each organization, a series of about 2-10 articles involving that organization appear going back several years. For example, the number of articles identified for each organization on 16 December 2024 and the range of dates for when the articles were published are shown after each name.

- General Office¹⁸ (11 articles; 1/2019-3/2022)
- Joint Staff Department (JSD)¹⁹ (5 articles; 8/2018-1/2022)
- Political Work Department (PWD)²⁰ (9 articles; 6/2019-11/2022)
- Logistic Support Department (LSD)²¹ (15 articles; 5/2020-4/2022)
- Equipment Development Department (EDD)²² (5 articles; 5/2018-12/2020)
- Training and Administration Department (TAD)²³ (5 articles; 9/2018-11/2020)
- National Defense Mobilization Department (NDMD)²⁴ (5 articles; 7/2020-7/2021)

¹⁶ "China's Defense National Defense Policy in the New Era," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/DefensePolicy/index.html>.

¹⁷ "CMC," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/CMCDEPARTMENTS/index.html>.

¹⁸ "General Office," China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CMC/Departments/GeneralOffice/index.html>.

¹⁹ "Joint Staff Department," China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CMC/Departments/JointStaffDepartment/index.html>.

²⁰ "Political Work Department," China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CMC/Departments/PoliticalWorkDepartment/index.html>.

²¹ "Logistic Support Department," China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CMC/Departments/LogisticSupportDepartment/index.html>.

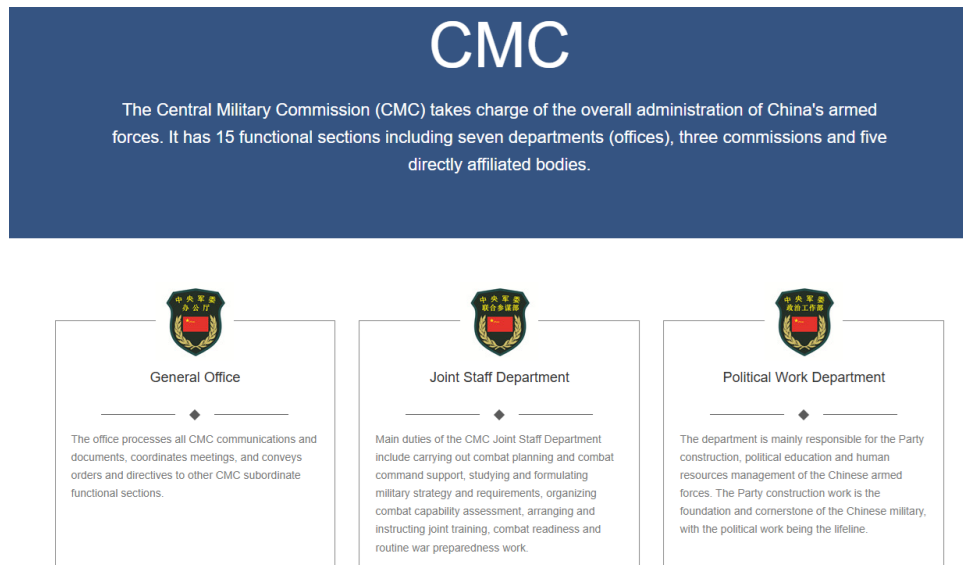
²² "Equipment Development Department," China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CMC/Departments/EquipmentDevelopmentDepartment/index.html>.

²³ "Training and Administration Department," China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CMC/Departments/TrainingandAdministrationDepartment/index.html>.

²⁴ "National Defense Mobilization Department," China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CMC/Departments/NationalDefenseMobilizationDepartment/index.html>.

- Discipline Inspection Commission (DIC)²⁵ (6 articles; 6/2018-1/2022)
- Politics and Law Commission (PLC)²⁶ (7 articles; 12/2020-8/2021)
- Science and Technology Commission (S&TC)²⁷ (3 articles; 9/2020-5/2021)
- Office for Strategic Planning (OSP)²⁸ (2 articles; 11/2020)
- Office for Reform and Organizational Structure (OROS)²⁹ (3 articles; 9/2018-8/2020)
- Office for International Military Cooperation (IMCO/OIMC)³⁰ (9 articles; 7/2020-3/2022)
- Audit Office³¹ (2 articles; 10/2019-6/2020)
- Agency for Offices Administration (AOA)³² (2 articles; 12/2019-5/2020).

Figure 8: CMC Organizations³³



MILITARY SERVICES Tab

This tab provides information about the big picture organizational structure of the four PLA services in protocol order – Army / PLAA, Navy / PLAN, Air Force / PLAAF, and Rocket Force /

²⁵ “Discipline Inspection Commission,” China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CMC/Departments/DisciplineInspectionCommission/index.html>.

²⁶ “Politics and Law Commission,” China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CMC/Departments/PoliticsandLawCommission/index.html>.

²⁷ “Science and Technology Commission,” China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CMC/Departments/ScienceandTechnologyCommission/index.html>.

²⁸ “Office for Strategic Planning,” China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CMC/Departments/OfficeforStrategicPlanning/index.html>.

²⁹ “Office for Reform and Organizational Structure,” China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CMC/Departments/OfficeforReformandOrganizationalStructure/index.html>.

³⁰ “Office for International Military Cooperation,” China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CMC/Departments/OfficeforInternationalMilitaryCooperation/index.html>.

³¹ “Audit Office,” China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CMC/Departments/AuditOffice/index.html>.

³² <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CMC/Departments/AgencyforOfficesAdministration/index.html>.

³³ “CMC,” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/CMCDEPARTMENTS/index.html>.

PLARF – as well as the Armed Police Force (PAP) and Reserve Force.³⁴ Figure 9 shows the header and the Army sub-tab. Of note, although the header includes the Strategic Support Force, there are no affiliated tabs since it was abolished and completely reorganized in 2024.

Prior to January 2025, you could click on each service and force and it would open up a link to Chinamil.com, with several related articles and photos that go back as far as 2019 for some services.³⁵ Of note, as of January 1, 2025, clicking on the service overview does not open up any other links, nor does the Chinamil.com website and associated link (<http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/index.html>), which no longer has any links to current articles. Authorized by the CMC’s Political Work Department’s (former General Political Department) News Media Center (解放军新闻传播中心), China Military Online claims to be the only official English-language military news website of the Chinese Armed Forces and an important platform for building up the online international communication capacity of the Chinese military.³⁶ Established on 5 March 2003 as an online English-language news provider of the PLA Daily, it was officially named China Military Online on 5 March 2007 and began around-the-clock news releases, with leading online public opinion and setting a good image of China’s military abroad as its main tasks. China Military Online releases military news items 24 hours daily in English by using multimedia communication means, such as texts, photos, graphics, audio messages, video, and cell phone news. As a result, it can instantly and directly reach its audiences abroad at crucial moments of major military news coverage and breaking news events of China. Chinamil.com also has a Chinese-language tab (<http://www.81.cn/?big=jian>).

By clicking on each organization, a series of 10 Chinamil.com articles involving that organization appear going back to 2019. For example, the number of articles identified for each organization on 16 December 2024 and the range of dates for when the articles were published are shown after each name in the following bullets:

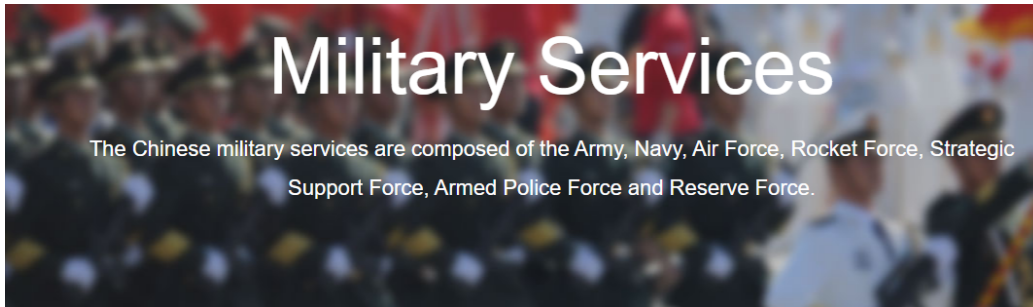
- PLAA: 10 articles; 9/2023-10/2024
- PLAN: 10 articles; 10/2024-11/2024
- PLAAF: 10 articles; 7/2023-8/2024
- PLARF: 10 articles; 10/2019-10/2024

³⁴ “Military Service,” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/MilitaryServices/index.html>.

³⁵ The following links worked prior to January 2025 but they do not work any more. “Army,” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/Army/index.html>. <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/Navy/index.html>. And “Navy,” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/AirForce/index.html>. And “Rocket Force,” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/RocketForce/index.html>. And “Armed Police Force,” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/ArmedPoliceForce/index.html>. And “Reserved Force,” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/ReserveForce/index.html>.

³⁶ “About Us,” China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/SinglePage/AboutUs/index.html>.

Figure 9: MILITARY SERVICES Tab



Army



The PLAA plays an irreplaceable role in maintaining China's national sovereignty, security and development interests. It comprises maneuver operation, border and coastal defense, and garrison forces. Under the PLAA, there are 5 TC army commands, the Xinjiang military command, and the Tibet military command. The ETC Army has under it the 71st, 72nd, and 73rd group armies; the STC Army has the 74th and 75th group armies; the WTC Army has the 76th and 77th group armies; the NTC Army has the 78th, 79th and 80th group armies; and the CTC Army has the 81st, 82nd and 83rd group armies.

THEATER COMMANDS Tab

This tab provides information about the big picture organizational structure of the five Theater Commands in protocol order that were created in 2016: Eastern / ETC, Southern / STC, Western / WTC, Northern / WTC, and Central / CTC.³⁷ Of note, the PLA's protocol order for the five Theater Commands is Eastern, Southern, Western, Northern, and Central, which are listed in this order at the top of the link shown in Figure 10, but the order shown by the arm patches is Eastern, Western, Southern, Northern, and Central. It is not clear why this mistake was made.

Prior to January 2025, you could click on each Theater Command arm patch photo shown in Figure 10 and it would open up a link to Chinamil.com with several related articles and photos that go back as far as 2019 for some services.³⁸ Also of note, as of January 15, clicking on the Theater

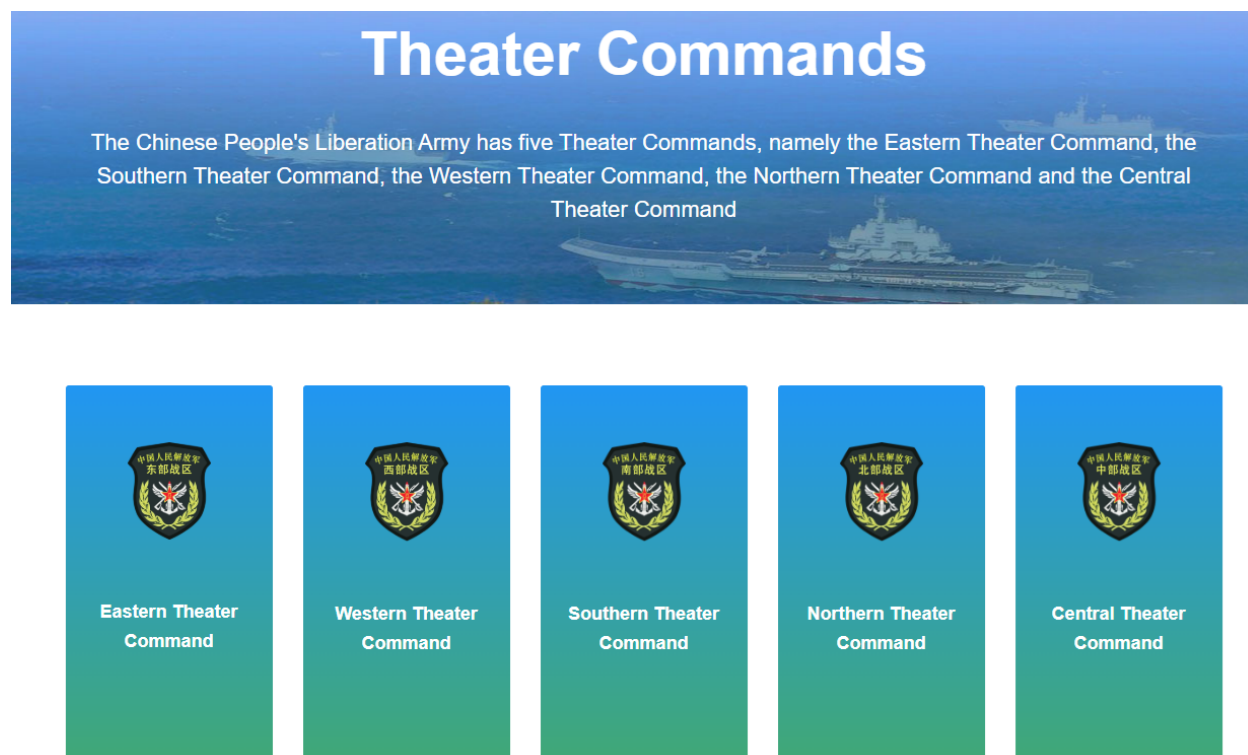
³⁷ The following links worked prior to January 2025 but they do not work any more. "Theater Commands," Ministry of national Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/TheaterCommands/index.html>. And "Eastern Theater Command," China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/EasternTheaterCommand/index.html>. And "Western Theater Command," China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/WesternTheaterCommand/index.html>. And "Southern Theater Command," China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/SouthernTheaterCommand/index.html>. And "Northern Theater Command," China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/NorthernTheaterCommand/index.html>. And "Central Theater Command," China Military. Accessed at <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/armed-forces/central-theatre-command%20.html>.

³⁸ The following links worked prior to January 2025 but they do not work any more. <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/Army/index.html>. <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/Navy/index.html>. <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/AirForce/index.html>. <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/RocketForce/index.html>. <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/ArmedPoliceForce/index.html>. <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/ReserveForce/index.html>.

Command arm patch does not open up any other links, though the Chinamil.com website and associated link (<http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/ARMEDFORCES/index.html>) still has the information as in the past. Clicking on each relevant Theater Command name opens up a link with several related articles and photos that go back at least one year. By clicking on each organization, a series of 9-10 articles involving that organization appear going back to 2019. For example, the number of articles identified for each organization on 16 December 2024 and the range of dates for when the articles were published are shown after each name in the following bullets:

- ETC: 10 articles; 11/2023-10/2024
- STC: 9 articles; 9/2022-1/2024
- WTC: 10 articles; 2/2024-9/2024
- NTC: 10 articles; 11/2020-9/2023
- CTC: 9 articles; 2/2019-8/2020

Figure 10: Five Theater Commands



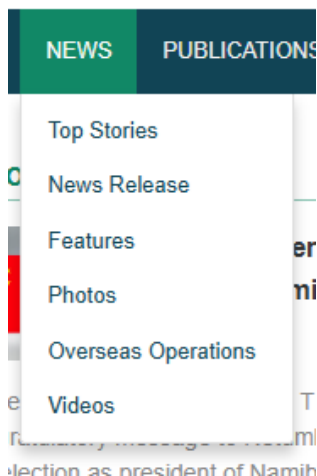
NEWS Tab

Clicking on the NEWS tab brings down six sub-tabs shown in Figure 11.³⁹ Each sub-tab provides about 15 articles, covering about one month. As such, the tabs need to be opened frequently in

³⁹The English version of the MND official website. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/>. And “Top Stories,” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/TopStories/index.html. And “News Release,” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/NewsRelease/index.html. And “Features,” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/Features/index.html. And “Photos,” Ministry of National Defense.

order to see new articles. Of note, the photos and videos are the same ones found in the other tabs. The Overseas Operations sub-tab is organized into three categories: Joint Training and Exercises,⁴⁰ Peacekeeping,⁴¹ and Escort Missions.⁴² Each of the Overseas Operations sub-tabs has articles that go back about one year.

Figure 11: NEWS Tab



This tab also provides a link to the two latest MND's Regular Press Conferences as shown in Figure 12.⁴³

Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/Photos/index.html. And "Overseas Operations," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/OverseasOperations/index.html. And "Videos," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/Videos/index.html.

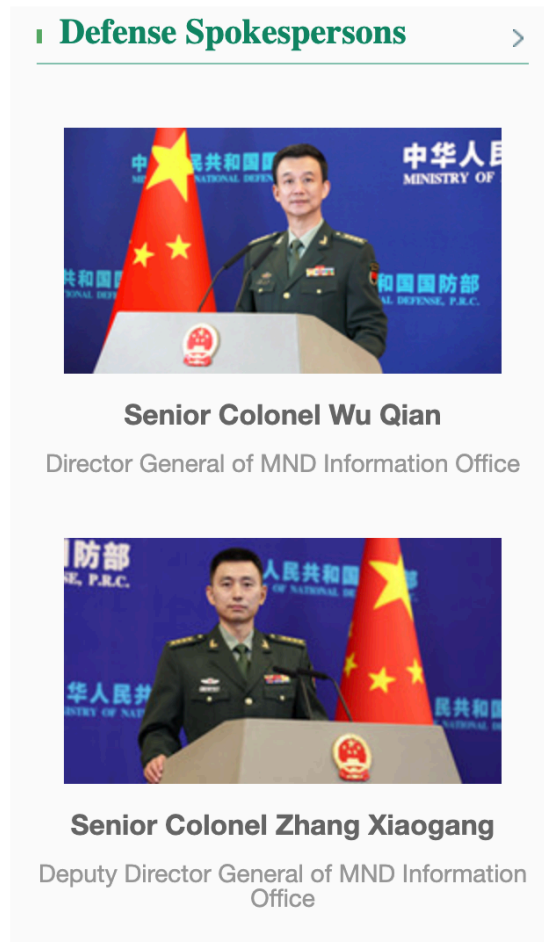
⁴⁰ "Joint Training and Exercises," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/OverseasOperations/JointTrainingandExercises/index.html.

⁴¹ "Peacekeeping," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/OverseasOperations/Peacekeeping/index.html.

⁴² "Escort Missions," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/OverseasOperations/EscortMissions/index.html.

⁴³ "Defense Spokespersons," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/NewsRelease/DefenseSpokespersons/index.html. And Li Jiaoyao, "Senior Colonel Wu Qian," Ministry of National Defense, February 1, 2018. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/NewsRelease/DefenseSpokespersons/4888140.html. And Li Jiaoyao, "Senior Colonel Zhang Xiaogang," Ministry of National Defense, June 1, 2023. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/NewsRelease/DefenseSpokespersons/16231714.html.

Figure 12: Defense Spokesperson Tab⁴⁴



PUBLICATIONS Tab

This tab provides information about key PLA publications as shown in Figure 13, which are organized into three categories:⁴⁵ The Chinese PLA of Today (2020),⁴⁶ Laws & Regulations,⁴⁷ and White Papers.⁴⁸ Unfortunately, the White Papers only include 2010, 2013, and 2015.

⁴⁴ "News Release," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/NewsRelease/index.html.

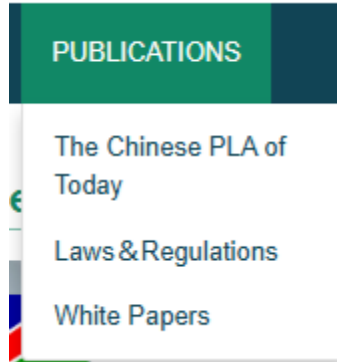
⁴⁵ "Home Page," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/>.

⁴⁶ "The Chinese PLA of Today 2020," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/Publications/TheChinesePLAofToday/index.html>.

⁴⁷ "Law & Regulations," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/Publications/LR/index.html>.

⁴⁸ "White Papers," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/Publications/WhitePapers/index.html>.

Figure 13: PLA Publications



English Website Conclusions

The MND English-language website provides a wide variety of important information about the PLA with a focus on the past few months. It is important to check the website frequently, because new articles replace older articles. Although the website previously had links at the bottom of each page that allowed the readers to open older articles going back a few years, the website ceased allowing access to the older articles in 2024. Finally, the website is apparently not updated on a regular basis. For example, Admiral Miao Hua has been arrested but his name is still on the LEADERSHIP tab. Furthermore, the Strategic Support Force was abolished and completely reorganized, but the MILITARY SERVICES tab has not provided any information about the new organizations. Finally, the PUBLICATIONS tab does not include the 2019 Defense White Paper, and no new White Papers have been published since then.

Section 3: MND Chinese Website Analysis

This section examines 13 components of the MND Chinese-language website located at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/> that provides important information about the PLA. As noted earlier, although the PRC uses Ministry of National Defense and MND, the website link uses MOD (Ministry of Defense). The report provides information gathered on 7 December 2024.

Although the MND also has an English version of the website discussed in the previous section, the two websites are not organized the same way or necessarily have the same content. The Website Comparison Section will provide a comparison of the content of the two websites.

Page Header

Figure 1 shows the page header, which includes the Chinese (中华人民共和国国防部) and English (Ministry of National Defense of the People's Republic of China) name and People's Republic of China (PRC) national emblem.

Figure 1: Ministry of National Defense Page Header⁴⁹



Figure 2 shows the 13 primary home tabs, each of which has sub-tabs that will be discussed.

Figure 2: Home Tabs⁵⁰



The following bullets show the 13 tabs in Chinese from left to right, followed by an unofficial English translation in brackets. As noted in the Key Findings Section, each website link begins with <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw>, where gfbw stands for guofangbu wang (国防部网) and is translated as Ministry of National Defense Website. Other than the Home Page tab, each main tab is followed by 2-10 letters to identify the specific tab shown in each subsection, such as “高层 [Leadership], gc for gaoceng.” In addition, each link ends with /gc/index.html.

- 首页 [Home Page]
- 高层 [Leadership], gc for gaoceng⁵¹
- 权威发布 [Authoritative News], qwfb for quanwei fabu⁵²
- 新闻发言人 [Press Spokesperson], xwfyr for xinwen fayanren⁵³
- 军事外交 [Military Diplomacy], jswj for junshi waijiao⁵⁴
- 武装力量 [Armed Forces]; wzll for wuzhuang liliang⁵⁵
- 军事行动 [Military Operations], jsxd for junshi xingdong⁵⁶
- 国防服务 [Serving in National Defense], gffw for guofang fuwu⁵⁷
- 法规文献 [Regulations and Documents], fgwx for fagui wenxian⁵⁸

⁴⁹ “Home Page [首页],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/>.

⁵⁰ “Home Page [首页],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/>.

⁵¹ “Leadership [高层],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gc/index.html>.

⁵² “Authoritative News [权威发布],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/qwfb/index.html>.

⁵³ “Press Spokesperson [新闻发言人],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/xwfyr/index.html>.

⁵⁴ “Military Diplomacy [军事外交],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jswj/index.html>.

⁵⁵ “Armed Forces [武装力量],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/wzll/index.html>.

⁵⁶ “Military Operations [军事行动],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jsxd/index.html>.

⁵⁷ “Serving in National Defense [国防服务],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gffw/index.html>.

⁵⁸ “Regulations and Documents [法规文献],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/fgwx/index.html>.

- 国防动员 [National Defense Mobilization], gfdy for guofang dongyuan⁵⁹
- 国防教育 [National Defense Education], gfjy for guofang jiaoyu⁶⁰
- 军队媒体 [Military Media] does not have a specific link, so you have to click on each sub-tab individually
- 学习强军 [Studies on Building a Strong Military], xxqj for xuexi qiangjun.⁶¹

Home Page

At the top of the Home Page a series of large photos rotate as shown in Figure 3.⁶² You can then click on the photo and the article associated with it appears.

Figure 3: Naval Vessel Photo



A group of 13 sub-tabs appear under the photos, which are listed below. Of note, eight of them are the same tabs listed in the Home Tabs and have a * next to them.

- *军事外交 [Military Diplomacy]⁶³
- *武装力量 [Armed Forces]⁶⁴
- *军事行动 [Military Operations]⁶⁵
- *新闻发言人 [Press Spokesperson]⁶⁶
- 视频播报 [Video Broadcast], spbb for shipin bobao ⁶⁷

⁵⁹ “National Defense Mobilization [国防动员],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gfdy/index.html>.

⁶⁰ “National Defense Education [国防教育],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gfjy_index/index.html.

⁶¹ “Studies on Building a Strong Military [学习强军],” 81.cn website [中国军网]. Accessed at http://www.81.cn/xxqj_207719/index.html.

⁶² “Home Page [首页],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/>.

⁶³ “Military Diplomacy [军事外交],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jswj/index.html>.

⁶⁴ “Armed Forces [武装力量],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/wzll/index.html>.

⁶⁵ “Military Operations [军事行动],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jsxd/index.html>.

⁶⁶ “Press Spokesperson [新闻发言人],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/xwfy/index.html>.

⁶⁷ “Video Broadcast [视频播报],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/spbb_214126/index.html.

- *军队媒体 [Military Media],⁶⁸ which has links to the various PLA newspapers and journals, such as PLA Daily⁶⁹
- *国防服务 [Serving in National Defense]⁷⁰
- *法规文献 [Regulation Documents]⁷¹
- 军媒视点 [Military Media Perspectives], jmsd for jun mei shidian⁷²
- *国防动员 [National Defense Mobilization]⁷³
- *国防教育 [National Defense Education]⁷⁴
- 专题 [Special Report], zt for zhuanti⁷⁵
- 图片 [Photos], tp for tupian.⁷⁶

Each sub-tab has links to several recent articles. In addition, at the bottom of each tab, there is a link (显示更多) <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gffw/rw/index.html> that you can click on and see previous articles going back as far as 2018 as shown in Figure 4:

Figure 4: Link to Older Articles⁷⁷



高层 [Leadership] Tab

Figure 5 shows the information in the 高层 [Leadership] Tab⁷⁸ accessed on 7 December 2024 that shows Chairman (Xi Jinping / 习近平), Vice Chairmen (Zhang Youxia / 张又侠 and He Weidong / 何卫东), and Members (Liu Zhenli / 刘振立, Chief of the Joint Staff Department; Miao Hua / 苗

⁶⁸ “Home Page [首页],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/>.

⁶⁹ “Home Page [首页],” 81.cn [中国军网]. Accessed at http://www.81.cn/szb_223187/szblb/index.html?paperNumber=01&paperName=jfjb&paperDate=2024-12-07.

⁷⁰ “Serving in National Defense [国防服务],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gffw/index.html>.

⁷¹ “Regulation Documents [法规文献],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/fgwx/index.html>.

⁷² “Military Media Perspectives [军媒视点],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jmsd/index.html>.

⁷³ “National Defense Mobilization [国防动员],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gfdy/index.html>.

⁷⁴ “National Defense Education [国防教育],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gfjy_index/index.html.

⁷⁵ “Special Report [专题],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/zt/index.html>.

⁷⁶ “Photos [图片],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/tp_214132/index.html.

⁷⁷ “Serving in National Defense [国防服务],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gffw/rw/index_10.html.

⁷⁸ “Leadership [高层],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gc/index.html>.

华, Director of the Political Work Department; and Zhang Shengmin / 张升民; Secretary, Discipline Inspection Commission) of the Communist Party of China (CPC; aka Chinese Communist Party / CCP) Central Military Commission (CMC) and the PRC (aka State) CMC since the 20th Party Congress in October 2022 and the 14th National People’s Congress (NPC) in March 2023.⁷⁹ Clicking on each name opens a link with multiple articles. Of note, although this is the same figure as in the English website, the English website does not link any articles to each person. As with the English-language link, although Admiral Miao Hua was suspended for corruption in November 2024, his name has not been removed from the English and Chinese links as of 15 January 2025.

[首页](#)
[高层](#)
[权威发布](#)
[新闻发言人](#)
[军事外交](#)
[武装力量](#)
[军事行动](#)
[国防服务](#)
[法规文献](#)
[国防动员](#)
[国防教育](#)
[军队媒体](#)

中共中央军事委员会

中共中央军事委员会主席



习近平

中共中央军事委员会副主席




张又侠 何卫东

中共中央军事委员会委员

刘振立 苗华 张升民

中华人民共和国中央军事委员会

中华人民共和国中央军事委员会主席



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中华人民共和国中央军事委员会委员

刘振立 苗华 张升民

权威发布 [Authoritative News] Tab

This tab has the following sub-tabs, each of which have multiple articles that go back to 2018.⁸⁰

⁷⁹ “Leadership,” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/Leadership/index.html>.

⁸⁰ “Authoritative News [权威发布],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/qwfb/index.html>.

- 要闻 [Important News]⁸¹
- 军事机关 [Military Organs]⁸²

The Military Organs sub-tab identifies each of the 15 CMC functional sections, including seven departments (offices), three commissions, and five directly affiliated bodies in protocol order shown in Figure 5. Clicking on the organization’s name opens multiple related articles linked to each organization. The third column includes the identifier in the link for each organization. The jw that starts each one stands for junwei (CMC)

Figure 5: CMC Organizations

Chinese Name	English Name	Website Link Identifier
办公厅	General Office	jwbgt, junwei bangongting
联合参谋部	Joint Staff Department (JSD)	jwlhcmb, junwei lianhe canmoubu
政治工作部	Political Work Department (PWD)	jwzzgzb, junwei zhengzhi gongzuobu
后勤保障部	Logistic Support Department (LSD)	jwhqzb, junwei houqin baozhangbu
装备发展部	Equipment Development Department (EDD)	jwzbfzb, junwei zhuangbei fazhanbu
训练管理部	Training and Administration Department (TAD)	jwxlgbl, junwei xunlian guanlibu
国防动员部	National Defense Mobilization Department (NDMD)	jwgfdyb, junwei guofang dongyuanbu
纪律检查委员会	Discipline Inspection Commission (DIC)	jwjlcwyh, junwei jilu jiancha weiyuanhui
政法委员会	Politics and Law Commission (PLC)	jwzfwyh, junwei zhengfa weiyuanhui
科学技术委员会	Science and Technology Commission (S&TC)	jwkxjswyh, junwei kexue jishu weiyuanhui
战略规划办公室	Office for Strategic Planning (OSP)	jwzlgbgs, junwei zhanlue guihua bangongshi
改革和编制办公室	Office for Reform and Organizational Structure (OROS)	jwgghbzbgs, junwei gaige he bianzhi bangongshi
国际军事合作办公室	Office for International Military Cooperation (IMCO/OIMC)	jwgijshzbgs, junwei guoji junshi hezuo bangongshi
审计署	Audit Office	jwsjs, junwei shengji shu
机关事务管理总局	Agency for Offices Administration (AOA)	jwjgswglzj, junwei jiguan shiwu guanli zongju

⁸¹ “Important News [要闻],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/qwfb/yw_214049/index.html.

⁸² “Military Organs [军事机关],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/qwfb/index.html>.

新闻发言人 [Press Spokesperson] Tab

This tab has multiple articles going back to 2018 concerning information provided by the PLA's spokesperson.⁸³

军事外交 [Military Diplomacy] Tab

This tab has multiple articles going back to 2018 concerning information about the PLA's military diplomacy.⁸⁴ It is organized into the four following sub-tabs:

- 来访 [Visitors], lf for laifang⁸⁵
- 出访 [Visits Abroad], cf for chufang⁸⁶
- 交流 [Exchanges], jl for jiaoliu⁸⁷
- 留学 [Study Abroad], lx for liuxue.⁸⁸

武装力量 [Armed Forces] Tab

This tab is organized into the following 11 sub-tabs, which are further organized in protocol order by the five Theater Commands, four services, and People's Armed Police Force and Reserve Force categories.⁸⁹ Each sub-tab has multiple articles ranging from 2018 for some, while others only go back to 2023.

- 东部战区 [Eastern Theater Command], dbzq for dongbu zhanqu⁹⁰
- 南部战区 [Southern Theater Command], nbzq for nanbu zhanqu⁹¹
- 西部战区 [Western Theater Command], xbzq for xibu zhanqu⁹²
- 北部战区 [Northern Theater Command], bbzq for Beibu zhanqu⁹³
- 中部战区 [Central Theater Command], zbzq for zhongbu zhanqu⁹⁴

⁸³ "Press Spokesperson [新闻发言人]," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/xwfy/index.html>.

⁸⁴ "Military Diplomacy [军事外交]," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jsjw/index.html>.

⁸⁵ "Visitors [来访]," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jsjw/lf/index.html>.

⁸⁶ "Visits Abroad [出访]," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jsjw/cf/index.html>.

⁸⁷ "Exchanges [交流]," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jsjw/jl/index.html>.

⁸⁸ "Study Abroad [留学]," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jsjw/lx/index.html>.

⁸⁹ "Armed Forces [武装力量]," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/wzll/index.html>.

⁹⁰ "Eastern Theater Command [东部战区]," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/wzll/dbzq/index.html>.

⁹¹ "Southern Theater Command [南部战区]," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/wzll/nbzq/index.html>.

⁹² "Western Theater Command [西部战区]," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/wzll/xbzq/index.html>.

⁹³ "Northern Theater Command [北部战区]," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/wzll/bbzq/index.html>.

⁹⁴ "Central Theater Command [中部战区]," Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/wzll/zbzq/index.html>.

- 陆军 [Army], lj for lujun⁹⁵
- 海军 [Navy], hj for haijun⁹⁶
- 空军 [Air Force], kj for kongjun⁹⁷
- 火箭军 [Rocket Force], hjj for huoqianjun⁹⁸
- 武警 [People's Armed Police Force], wj for wujing⁹⁹
- 民兵预备役 [Reserve Force], mbyby for minbing yubeiyi¹⁰⁰

军事行动 [Military Operations] Tab

This tab is organized into the following five sub-tabs, each of which has multiple articles ranging from 2018:¹⁰¹

- 联演 [Joint Training Exercises], ly for lianyan¹⁰²
- 维和 [Peacekeeping], wh for weihe¹⁰³
- 反恐 [Counter-terrorism], fk for fankong¹⁰⁴
- 救援 [Rescue], jy for jiuyuan¹⁰⁵
- 护航 [Escort], hh for huhang¹⁰⁶

国防服务 [Serving in National Defense] Tab

This tab provides information about encouraging people to join the military and is organized into the following six sub-tabs with information going back to 2018.¹⁰⁷ It provides information about joining the PLA, leaving the PLA, and supporting family members.

- 入伍 [Join the Military], rw for ruwu¹⁰⁸

⁹⁵ “Army [陆军],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/wzll/lj/index.html>.

⁹⁶ “Navy [海军],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/wzll/hj/index.html>.

⁹⁷ “Air Force [空军],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/wzll/kj/index.html>.

⁹⁸ “Rocket Force [火箭军],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/wzll/hjj/index.html>.

⁹⁹ “People’s Armed Police Force [武警],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/wzll/wj_214054/index.html.

¹⁰⁰ “Reserve Force [民兵预备役],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/wzll/mbyby/index.html>.

¹⁰¹ “Military Operations [军事行动],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jsxd/index.html>.

¹⁰² “Joint Training Exercises [联演],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jsxd/ly/index.html>. The PLA does not have a single definition for the term “joint.” Based on analysis, the PLA uses the term “joint” to mean: two or more services; one or more services; two or more branches in the same service (e.g., combined arms); combined (e.g., multinational); or civil-military.

¹⁰³ “Peacekeeping [维和],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jsxd/wh/index.html>.

¹⁰⁴ “Counter-terrorism [反恐],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jsxd/fk/index.html>.

¹⁰⁵ “Rescue [救援],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jsxd/jy/index.html>.

¹⁰⁶ “Escort [护航],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jsxd/hh/index.html>.

¹⁰⁷ “Serving in National Defense [国防服务],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gffw/index.html>.

¹⁰⁸ “Join the Military [入伍],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gffw/rw/index.html>.

- 招生 [Student Recruitment], zs for zhaosheng¹⁰⁹
- 招飞 [Pilot recruitment], zf for zhaofei¹¹⁰
- 招聘 [Finding Jobs for Demobilized Personnel], zp for zhaopin¹¹¹
- 军属 [Military Families], js for junshu¹¹²
- 卫生 [Health], ws for weisheng¹¹³

法规文献 [Regulation Documents] Tab

This tab provides information about various regulations and is organized into the following five sub-tabs:¹¹⁴

- 法律法规 [Laws and Regulations]¹¹⁵ since 2018
- 白皮书 [Defense White Papers]¹¹⁶ since 2019
- 文件 [Documents]¹¹⁷ since 2018
- 司法解释 [Judicial Interpretations]¹¹⁸ with only one article (2018)
- 出版物 [Publications]¹¹⁹ since 2018

国防动员 [National Defense Mobilization] Tab

This tab provides information about national defense mobilization and is organized into the following five sub-tabs, each of which goes back to 2018:¹²⁰

- 武装动员 [Armed Forces Mobilization], wzdy for wuzhuang dongyuan¹²¹
- 政治动员 [Political Mobilization], zzdy for zhengzhi dongyuan¹²²

¹⁰⁹ “Student Recruitment [招生],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gffw/zs/index.html>.

¹¹⁰ “Pilot recruitment [招飞],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gffw/zf/index.html>.

¹¹¹ “Finding Jobs for Demobilized Personnel [招聘],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gffw/zp/index.html>.

¹¹² “Military Families [军属],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gffw/js/index.html>.

¹¹³ “Health [卫生],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gffw/ws/index.html>.

¹¹⁴ “Regulation Documents [法规文献],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/fgwx/index.html>.

¹¹⁵ “Laws and Regulations [法律法规],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/fgwx/flfg/index.html>.

¹¹⁶ “Defense White Papers [白皮书],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/fgwx/bps/index.html>.

¹¹⁷ “Documents [文件],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/fgwx/wj_213958/index.html.

¹¹⁸ “Judicial Interpretations [司法解释],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/fgwx/sfjs/index.html>.

¹¹⁹ “Publications [出版物],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/fgwx/cbw/index.html>.

¹²⁰ “National Defense Mobilization [国防动员],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gfdy/index.html>.

¹²¹ “Armed Forces Mobilization [武装动员],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gfdy/wzdy/index.html>.

¹²² “Political Mobilization [政治动员],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gfdy/zzdy/index.html>.

- 经济动员 [Economic Mobilization], jjdy for jingji dongyuan¹²³
- 交通动员 [Transportation Mobilization], jtdy for Jiaotong dongyuan¹²⁴
- 人民防空 [Civil Air Defense], rmfk for renmin fangkong¹²⁵

国防教育 [National Defense Education] Tab

This tab provides information about national defense education for civilian students, and encourages active-duty personnel to understand the PLA’s history and changes in scientific research. It is organized into the following four sub-tabs, each of which goes back to 2018:¹²⁶

- 重要活动 [Important Events], zyhd for zhongyao huodong¹²⁷
- 先进典型 [Advanced Model], xjdx for Xianjin dianxing¹²⁸
- 军事院校 [Military Academic Institutions], jsyx for junshi yuanxiao¹²⁹
- 军史 [Military History], js for junshi¹³⁰

军队媒体 [Military Media] Tab

This tab provides links to various PLA publications and is organized into seven sub-tabs shown below:¹³¹

- 中国军网 [www.81.cn / China Military]¹³²
- 军队人才网 [Military Talent Net]¹³³
- 解放军报 [PLA Daily] newspaper¹³⁴

¹²³ “Economic Mobilization [经济动员],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gfdy/jjdy/index.html>.

¹²⁴ “Transportation Mobilization [交通动员],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gfdy/jtdy/index.html>.

¹²⁵ “Civil Air Defense [人民防空],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gfdy/rmfk/index.html>.

¹²⁶ “National Defense Education [国防教育],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gfjy_index/index.html.

¹²⁷ “Important Events [重要活动],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gfjy_index/zyhd/index.html.

¹²⁸ “Advanced Model [先进典型],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gfjy_index/xjdx/index.html.

¹²⁹ “Military Academic Institutions [军事院校],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gfjy_index/jsyxgfs/index.html.

¹³⁰ “Military History [军史],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/gfjy_index/js_214151/index.html.

¹³¹ “Home [首页],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/>.

¹³² “Home [首页],” China Military [中国军网]. Accessed at <http://www.81.cn/>. and <http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/>.

¹³³ “Home [首页],” Military Talent Net [军队人才网]. Accessed at <http://81rc.81.cn/>.

¹³⁴ “Home [首页],” PLA Daily [解放军报]. Accessed at http://www.81.cn/szb_223187/szblb/index.html?paperNumber=01&paperName=jfjb&paperDate=2024-12-07.

- 中国国防报 [China National Defense] newspaper¹³⁵
- 中国民兵 [Militia of China] journal¹³⁶
- 解放军画报 [PLA Pictorial] journal¹³⁷
- 国防教育 [National Defense Education] journal¹³⁸

学习强军 [Studies on Building a Strong Military] Tab

This tab provides information about Xi Jinping’s guidance to build a strong military. The header is shown in Figure 6.

Figure 6: Study to Build a Strong Military¹³⁹



Chinese Website Conclusions

The MND Chinese-language website provides a wide variety of important information about the PLA that goes back to 2018. It is important to check the website frequently. Clearly, the English-language version does not include everything that is in the Chinese-language version. Finally, unlike the English website, the Chinese website appears to be updated on a regular basis.

¹³⁵ “Home [首页],” China National Defense [中国国防报]. Accessed at http://www.81.cn/szb_223187/gfbszblb/index.html?paperNumber=01&paperName=zggbf&paperDate=2024-12-06.

¹³⁶ “Home [首页],” Militia of China [中国民兵]. Accessed at http://www.81.cn/rmjz_203219/zgmb/index.html.

¹³⁷ “Home [首页],” PLA Pictorial [解放军画报]. Accessed at <http://www.plapic.com.cn/>.

¹³⁸ “Home [首页],” National Defense Education [国防教育]. Accessed at http://www.81.cn/rmjz_203219/gfjy_203685/index.html.

¹³⁹ “Studies on Building a Strong Military [学习强军],” Ministry of National Defense. Accessed at http://www.81.cn/xxqj_207719/index.html.

Section 4: English and Chinese Websites Comparison

This section provides a big-picture comparison of the English and Chinese websites. The bottom line is that:

- 1) They are not organized in the same way.
- 2) Although the Chinese website has links at the bottom of most of its tabs that allow the reader to access multiple previous articles going back several years, the English website does not have any links to previous articles. Those links disappeared in early 2024. Therefore, if you don't check the website frequently, you will miss some articles completely.
- 3) While the tab for each of the 15 CMC organizations on the English website has fewer than 10 articles and no articles for 2023 or 2024 have been added, the CMC tab on the Chinese website has multiple articles for each of the 15 organizations going back as far as 2018, and are updated to now.
- 4) While the tab for each of the five Theater Commands on the English website only has 9-10 articles each, none of which are current articles, the Chinese website has multiple articles for each Theater Command going back as far as early 2018 in some cases.
- 5) While each tab for the four services on the English website only has 10 articles, some of which go back to 2019, the tab for each service on the Chinese website has over 200 articles, most of which cover 2023 and 2024.
- 6) A comparison of articles from the English and Chinese websites for 1-15 December 2024 revealed that the English website had 18 new articles, and the Chinese website had 58 articles. Of these, only five articles (28% of the English site and 9% of the Chinese site) were on both websites (see Appendix A for a list of the five articles that appeared on both websites; see Appendix B for a list of the article titles for the remaining 13 English articles and 51 Chinese articles). There does not appear to be a set pattern for which articles are only in English or Chinese or are published on both websites.

Appendix A: The Same Articles in the English and Chinese Websites

This appendix provides a list of the themes for the five articles from 1-15 December 2024 that were published in both English and Chinese.

- 1) More provocations from the Philippine side lead to stronger countermeasures.¹⁴⁰

¹⁴⁰ Lin Congyi, "More provocations from Philippine side lead to stronger countermeasures: Defense Spokesperson," China Military Online, December 13, 2024. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/NewsRelease/16358134.html. Ye Mengyuan [叶梦圆], "The MND's Stern Message to the Philippines: More Provocations Lead to Stronger Countermeasures [国防部正告菲方: 挑衅加一分 反制强一步]," Ministry of National Defense [国防部网], December 13, 2024. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/qwfb/16357930.html>.

- 2) China's Fujian aircraft carrier trials proceed as planned.¹⁴¹
- 3) The PLA Military Band will send a contingent to participate in the celebration for the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Vietnam People's Army (VPA) in Vietnam from 14-23 December.¹⁴²
- 4) Russian naval taskforce wraps up visit to Qingdao.¹⁴³
- 5) China-Indonesia Peace (Heping) Garuda-2024 joint exercise wraps up.¹⁴⁴

Appendix B: English Articles from 1-15 December 2024

This Appendix provides a list of the titles for the remaining 13 English articles that were not provided as Chinese articles on the Chinese website.

1. Xi stresses building strong, modernized information support force
2. Cuban President meets with China's CMC Vice Chairman He Weidong
3. PLA will never be absent or hesitant in fighting "Taiwan independence" and promoting national reunification: Defense Spokesperson
4. Regular Press Conference of the Ministry of National Defense on November 28
5. 47th Chinese naval escort taskforce departs for Gulf of Aden
6. Xi's article on advancing Party's self-reform to be published
7. Strategic air patrol targets no third party: spokesperson
8. CMC Equipment Development Department optimizes equipment pricing mechanism
9. There is no need for Japan to be extremely nervous: Defense Spokesperson
10. Military exercise being held in South China Sea
11. PLA Air Force Engineering University holds sci-tech month activities
12. Chinese naval hospital ship Peace Ark visits Djibouti

¹⁴¹ Li Weichao, "China's Fujian aircraft carrier trials proceed as planned," Xinhuanet, December 13, 2024. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/TopStories/16358132.html. And Ye Mengyuan [叶梦圆] "Ministry of National Defense: Fujian ship will gradually carry out subsequent test projects [国防部: 福建舰下步将逐步展开后续试验项目]," Ministry of National Defense [国防部网], December 13, 2024. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/qwfb/16357929.html>.

¹⁴² Li Jiaoyao, "PLA military band to participate in celebration for VPA's 80th anniversary in Vietnam," China Military Online, December 13, 2024. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/TopStories/16358214.html. Ye Mengyuan [叶梦圆], "The PLA Military Band will go to Vietnam to participate in the celebration of the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Vietnam People's Army [解放军军乐团将赴越南参加越南人民军建军 80 周年庆祝活动]," Ministry of National Defense [国防部网], December 13, 2024. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/qwfb/16357925.html>.

¹⁴³ Gao Xinyu, ed., "Russian naval taskforce wraps up visit to Qingdao," China Military Online, December 10, 2024. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/TopStories/16357526.html. Ren Zijun [任子郡], ed., "Russian naval taskforce wraps up visit to Qingdao [俄罗斯海军舰艇编队抵达青岛访问]," PLA Daily [解放军报], December 6, 2024. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jswj/lf/16356382.html>.

¹⁴⁴ Li Lijun, ed., "China-Indonesia Peace (Heping) Garuda-2024 joint exercise wraps up," China Military Online, December 7, 2024. Accessed at http://eng.mod.gov.cn/xb/News_213114/TopStories/16356535.html. Li Lijun [李利军], ed., "The China-Indonesia 'Peace Eagle-2024' joint exercise held a closing ceremony [中印尼'和平神鹰-2024'联演举行结束仪式]," Xinhuanet [新华社], December 7, 2024. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jsxd/ly/16356525.html>. Li Lijun [李利军], ed., "China-Indonesia 'Peace Eagle-2024' joint exercise launches disaster relief drill [中印尼'和平神鹰-2024'联演展开灾害救援实兵演练]," PLA Daily [解放军报], December 6, 2024. Accessed at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jsxd/ly/16356393.html>.

13. US should stop arming Taiwan in any form: Defense Spokesperson.

Appendix C: Chinese Articles from 1-15 December 2024

This Appendix provides a list of the unofficial Google translations of the titles for the remaining 51 Chinese articles that were not provided as English articles on the English website.

1. A regiment of the Xinjiang Military Region conducts driving training [新疆军区某团开展驾驶训练]
2. Qiushi magazine publishes an important article by General Secretary Xi Jinping, “Deepening the Party’s Self-Revolution” [《求是》杂志发表习近平总书记重要文章《深入推进党的自我革命》]
3. In December 2024, Wu Qian, spokesperson for the Ministry of National Defense, released news on recent military-related issues [2024年12月国防部新闻发言人吴谦就近期涉军问题发布消息]
4. Xi Jinping will go to Macau to attend the celebration of the 25th anniversary of Macau’s return to the motherland and the inauguration ceremony of the sixth government of the Macau Special Administrative Region and inspect the Macau Special Administrative Region [习近平将赴澳门出席庆祝澳门回归祖国25周年大会暨澳门特别行政区第六届政府就职典礼并视察澳门特别行政区]
5. The General Office of the Central Military Commission issued the “Regulations on the Management of Social Employment in Military Units” [中央军委办公厅印发《军队单位社会用工管理办法》]
6. The 22nd meeting of the Expert Working Group of the SCO Defense Ministers’ Meeting was held in Beijing [上合防长会专家工作组第22次会议在京举办]
7. The troops stationed in Macau will always be the “stabilizing force” to maintain Macau’s prosperity and stability [驻澳门部队将始终做维护澳门繁荣稳定的“定海神针”]
8. Ministry of National Defense: Children of soldiers are the flowers of the army and the future of the motherland [国防部：军人子女是军队的花朵 祖国的未来]
9. Ministry of National Defense: Sun Tzu’s Art of War is both Chinese It is also the world’s [国防部：孙子兵法既是中国的 也是世界的]
10. Dong Jun met with the heads of delegations from various countries attending the Second Special Seminar on Security Situation in the Gulf of Guinea [董军集体会见出席第二届几内亚湾安全形势专题研讨会的各国代表团团长]
11. A certain military representative office of the Eastern Theater Command followed up on the implementation of the troops’ missions to provide accompanying support [东部战区某军代室跟进部队任务实施伴随保障]

12. A certain brigade of the Eastern Theater Command Army tested driving skills across the day and night [东部战区陆军某旅跨昼夜检验驾驶本领]
13. A certain brigade of the Southern Theater Command Army organized air-ground integrated training [南部战区陆军某旅组织空地一体集成训练]
14. A glimpse of the work and training of oil soldiers at a certain base of the Northern Theater Command Navy [北部战区海军某基地油料兵工作训练掠影]
15. The first company of a certain brigade of the 82nd Group Army wrote a new company history with hard work [第 82 集团军某旅发射一连用苦干实干书写新连史]
16. A certain brigade of the 74th Group Army carried out the year-end work summary and insisted on problem-oriented [第 74 集团军某旅开展年终工作总结坚持问题导向]
17. A certain brigade of the 81st Group Army strengthened the relationship between officers and soldiers and gathered the morale of the soldiers [第 81 集团军某旅密切官兵关系凝聚兵心士气]
18. A certain regiment of the Army: On-the-spot guidance and dispatch tested the emergency response capability [陆军某团： 临机导调检验应急处置能力]
19. Military camp observation | When the flag bearer took over 336 honorary battle flags [军营观察 | 当护旗手接过 336 面荣誉战旗]
20. A certain brigade of the Army carried out live-fire shooting training [陆军某旅开展实弹射击训练]
21. A certain brigade of the 74th Group Army organized a professional driving assessment continuous courses test the ability to respond [第 74 集团军某旅组织驾驶专业考核 连贯课目检验应变能力]
22. An Army brigade conducts night flight training [陆军某旅开展夜间飞行训练]
23. A brigade of the 82nd Army: Face challenges and fulfill responsibilities, take the initiative to do business [第 82 集团军某旅： 迎难而上履职责 主动作为干事业]
24. The “three-in-one” joint education and training mechanism builds a strong collaborative education platform [“三位一体”联教联训机制， 搭建强强联合的协作育人平台]
25. A brigade of the Army Aviation Academy explores the “two-level” talent training model [陆军航空兵学院某旅探索“实装两级”人才培养模式]
26. A brigade of the 82nd Army explores the establishment of a squad mutual training mechanism [第 82 集团军某旅探索建立分队互训机制]
27. An Army new recruit regiment implements continuous assessment to strengthen the new soldiers’ awareness of training for war [陆军某新兵团实施连贯考核强化新战士练为战意识]
28. An Army regiment thoroughly studies and implements the spirit of the Third Plenary Session of the 20th CPC Central Committee [陆军某团深入学习贯彻党的二十届三中全会精神]

29. A brigade of the 74th Army promotes training transformation and upgrading to forge a “firepower iron fist” with both offensive and defensive capabilities [第 74 集团军某旅推动训练转型升级 锻造攻防兼备的“火力铁拳”]
30. A Navy training base has done a good job in the allocation of sergeants trained in a targeted manner [海军某训练基地做好定向培养军士分配工作]
31. Images of comprehensive combat support training of a Navy detachment [海军某支队综合作战支援训练影像]
32. A Navy base: Elements work together to improve the comprehensive support level [海军某基地：要素协同提升综合保障水平]
33. A Navy Aviation Regiment conducts night flight training [海军航空兵某团开展夜间飞行训练]
34. A Navy base: Continuous special situations test support capabilities [海军某基地：连贯特情检验保障能力]
35. A Navy dadui uses new technologies to build a comprehensive management system platform [海军某大队借助新技术构建综合管理系统平台]
36. An Air Force unit carries out cross-regional cooperation to help soldiers and solve practical problems [空军某部开展跨区协作帮扶为兵服务 解决官兵现实难题]
37. An Air Force station: Collect wisdom to solve problems and improve training quality and efficiency [空军某场站：集智解难提升训练质效]
38. An Air Force brigade thoroughly studies and implements the spirit of the plenary session and sets off a wave of practical training [空军某旅深入学习贯彻全会精神 掀起实战化训练热潮]
39. An Air Force brigade invites a Navy unit to identify training shortcomings from the perspective of “opponents” [空军某旅邀请海军某部从“对手”角度找准训练短板]
40. Rocket Force veterans: Stand the last shift and take the last class before leaving the team [火箭军老兵：站好最后一班岗，上好离队前最后一堂课]
41. A Rocket Force brigade conducts a large discussion on “New Era Struggle Outlook” based on actual conditions [火箭军某旅结合实际开展“新时代奋斗观”大讨论]
42. A Rocket Force brigade strengthens training on new equipment, new skills and new tactics to sharpen the “Great Power Sword” [火箭军某旅加强新装备新技能新战法训练 砥砺“大国剑锋”]
43. A Rocket Force brigade explores and improves the Party Committee’s ability to discuss war and training [火箭军某旅探索提升党委议战议训能力水平见闻]
44. The China-Indonesia “Peace Eagle-2024” joint exercise launched a real-life disaster relief exercise [中印尼“和平神鹰-2024”联演展开灾害救援实兵演练]
45. The 37th China-Vietnam joint patrol in the Beibu Gulf was successfully concluded [中越第 37 次北部湾联合巡逻圆满结束]

46. The opening ceremony of the China-Indonesia “Peace Eagle-2024” joint exercise was held [中印尼“和平神鹰-2024”联演举行开始仪式]
47. The Chinese troops participating in the “Peace Eagle-2024” joint exercise arrived in Indonesia [“和平神鹰-2024”联合演习中方参演部队抵达印度尼西亚]
48. Official announcement! 2025 recruitment registration begins [官宣！2025年应征报名开始]
49. Remember history and create the future-the 11th National Memorial Day for the victims of the Nanjing Massacre was held across the country [牢记历史 开创未来——全国各地举行第十一个南京大屠杀死难者国家公祭日悼念活动]
50. Hong Kong held a public memorial ceremony for the victims of the Nanjing Massacre [香港举行南京大屠杀死难者公祭仪式]
51. The exploration and practice of strengthening the construction of the teaching staff of national defense education in the military and local governments of Henan Province. [河南省军地加强全民国防教育师资队伍建设的探索与实践].

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