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MILITARY DIGEST

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- **Chinese Defense Minister Dong Jun attends SCO Defense Ministers' Meeting**
- **4th International Security Cooperation Seminar for Defense Attachés was held**
- **Military Training for the PLA's new Recruits**
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Chinese Defense Minister Dong Jun attends SCO Defense Ministers' Meeting

Chinese Defense Minister Dong Jun led a delegation to attend the Meeting of Defense Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan on April 28. The Meeting of Defense Ministers of the SCO Member States serves as a core multilateral mechanism within the organization's framework for deepening cooperation in defense and security. During his meeting, he emphasized that the SCO should continuously enhance the effectiveness of its mechanism and, through action-oriented approaches, fortify its security barriers. Dong Jun [stated](#) that the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative, the Global Civilization Initiative, and the Global Governance Initiative have injected valuable stability and certainty into a turbulent and unsettled world. Key agendas discussed were international and regional defense and security landscape, and cooperation among the armed forces of member states. Before attending the SCO meeting, Dong Jun paid visits to Russia and Kyrgyzstan, holding talks with defense officials from Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Iran, Pakistan, Belarus and other nations. On April 24, Dong Jun met with Russian Minister of Defense Andrey Belousov in Russia, and the two sides engaged in an in-depth exchange of views regarding bilateral state and military relations, the international and regional situation, and issues of mutual concern. Both sides agreed that their respective militaries should steadily deepen pragmatic cooperation in various fields, and jointly

uphold international justice and the international order. On April 27, Dong Jun [met](#) Kyrgyz Prime Minister Akylbek Zhaparov in Bishkek. Zhaparov stated that Kyrgyzstan has always regarded China as a core strategic partner and will continue to deepen the comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries, and continued pragmatic cooperation between the two militaries holds even greater practical significance for jointly combating terrorism, extremism, separatism, transnational crime, and other security threats. Dong Jun noted that the two militaries have maintained vigorous growth, yielding fruitful results in exchanges and cooperation across various fields, and China stands ready to work with Kyrgyzstan to continuously deepen their traditional friendship.

4th International Security Cooperation Seminar for Foreign Military Attachés to China held in Beijing

The 4th International Security Cooperation Seminar for Foreign Military Attaches to China was [held](#) at the International College of Defense Studies of the PLA National Defense University on April 9-10. The seminar brought together military attaches to China from more than 80 countries, representatives of international organizations in China, as well as experts and scholars from universities and think tanks. Participants conducted in-depth exchanges on enhancing international cooperation to address regional security challenges and build mutual trust. The seminar aims to establish a candid, professional, constructive platform for dialogue, contributing to joint responses to

global security risks and promoting peace and stability at both regional and global levels. Set against the backdrop of a complex international security environment, the conference utilized various formats including thematic lectures, interactive discussions, and fields' visits, to explore effective strategies for addressing destabilizing factors. The seminar [featured](#) exchanges involving experts and scholars from both military and civilian sectors, serving as a platform to articulate China's stance and proposals regarding security cooperation. The initiative is to strengthen China's international military cooperation. During the seminar, Professor You Dongxiao from NDU [remarked](#): "Security should not be a 'cake to be enjoyed exclusively,' but rather 'oxygen to be shared by all'." Ali Asghar Khan, representative from Pakistani Defense Attaché in Beijing, stated: "The international community must uphold the philosophy of global governance characterized by 'extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits'." Representative from the Defense Attaché from Sierra Leone, pointed out that the current international situation is marked by escalating turbulence, and that economic and social development faces significant challenges that sounds an alarm regarding international peace and security.

Military Training for the PLA's new Recruits

In April, various training bases [conducts](#) military training for spring-enlisted recruits across the People's Liberation Army. Training units are deeply embedding scientific and intelligent methods into every

stage of the new recruit training process. At a training base under the Eastern Theatre Command Navy, new recruits undergo assessments including bone density and body fat measurements immediately upon entering the camp. Based on the results, a "physical fitness profile" is generated for each individual. Commanders at the base explained that this year, they have partnered with local physical fitness research institutions to implement rigorous oversight across key areas including physiological monitoring, the prevention and treatment of training-related injuries, and nutritional management thereby providing robust support for scientifically structured training. According to Battalion Commander, the traditional training model tends to overlook individual differences, thereby compromising the quality and efficiency of training, and now they have adopted a "progressive" training model, breaking down subjects into granular components. Recruits must secure a "certificate of proficiency" for a preceding module before they can obtain an "Entry Ticket" for the subsequent one. This method of instruction caters to the diverse training needs of recruits with varying foundational capabilities. For instance, at a naval training base, recruit Xie Ziheng [failed](#) to pass his first live-fire shooting session, however, after undergoing intense practice using an intelligent shooting system, he achieved a remarkable turnaround. During training, the intelligent shooting system analyzes real-time data such as the recruit's breathing rhythm and weapon-holding posture and provides specific suggestions for improvement.

Deep integration of scientific concepts and intelligent technologies is profoundly reshaping the training paradigm for new recruits across all new recruit training grounds throughout the PLA.

Embassy of Nepal hosts an event for Nepali Army Day in Beijing

The Embassy of Nepal hosted a reception to [observe](#) the 263rd Nepali Army Day in Beijing on April 2. PLA Major General Nie Songlai, Deputy Dean, Institute of War Studies, PLA Academy of Military Sciences had [attended](#) the event as the Guest of Honor and delivered a speech, underscoring the long-standing and stable relationship of exchange and cooperation between the militaries of China and Nepal. Roshan Khanal, Charge d'affaires of the Embassy, in her remarks, underscored the importance of the military cooperation between Nepal and China based on the principles of friendship, mutual respect and shared prosperity. Colonel Jayendra KC, Military Attaché, in his remark underlined the need of further advancing the longstanding military cooperation between Nepal and China in various activities including joint exercises, training, capacity building as well as rescue and relief operations. The Embassy stated that the event was attended by approximately 150 participants including representatives from People's Liberation Army of China, Defense Attaches from various countries stationed in China, representatives of private sectors and the Nepali Community in Beijing. Besides, Charhar Institute also [sent](#) representatives to attend the event and the delegation was headed by Cheng

Xizhong (成锡忠), Chief Researcher on South Asian Affairs, and Qian Feng (钱峰), Senior Researcher. The Charhar Institute, [established](#) in 2009, is a Beijing-based Chinese non-governmental, non-partisan, and independent think tank dedicated to public diplomacy and international relations. Analysts observe that, amidst the evolving regional security landscape and the shifting dynamics of international cooperation, the potential for collaboration between China and Nepal, particularly in the realms of defense, security, and non-traditional security, continues to be steadily unlocked. The event provides a vital platform for deepening bilateral relations and expanding multilateral cooperation.

PLA Eastern Theatre Command conducts Far-Sea Training Exercises

PLA Eastern Theatre Command [organized](#) a naval task force 133 to transit the Yokoate Waterway on April 19, and proceed to the Western Pacific to conduct exercises aimed at enhancing far-sea operational capabilities. PLA Eastern Theatre Command spokesperson Xu Chenghua emphasized that this constitutes routine training organized in accordance with the annual plan, and it complies with relevant international laws and practices and is not directed at any specific country or target. The Yokonata Waterway is a natural passage [connecting](#) the East China Sea with the Western Pacific, and it is [located](#) south of Japan's Kyushu Island, situated near the Tokara Islands. It is a deep-water channel of strategic significance within the "First Island Chain" and is suitable for the transit of large naval flotillas.