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मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

CHINA MILITARY DIGEST

DECEMBER 2024

- **Two Chinese Lt. Generals were removed from the National People's Congress (NPC)**
- **Meeting on India-China Border Affairs Consultation and Coordination Mechanism (WMCC) was held**
- **Special Representatives of India and China met in Beijing**
- **Chinese Defence Minister Dong Jun visits Vietnam**
- **Chen Hui is appointed the new PLA Ground Force Political Commissar**
- **Xi Jinping inspected the PLA troops stationed in Macao**

Two Chinese Lt. Generals were removed from the National People's Congress (NPC)

In a notice, the Standing Committee of the NPC announced on December 25 that 8 deputies to the NPC were dismissed, including two senior PLA officials. The notice [confirmed](#) that Lt. General You Haitao (尤海涛), former Deputy Commander of PLA Army, and Lt. General Li Pengcheng (李鹏程), former Commander of the PLA Southern Theatre Command (STC) Navy, had been removed from the country's top legislature - NPC. Citing the reason of removal, the statement issued by the NPC said You Haitao and Li Pengcheng were suspected of "serious violation of laws and discipline" – a phrase that usually refers to corruption. You Haitao's post as a member of the NPC Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee was revoked accordingly. You Haitao, [born](#) in January 1958, is a second generation PLA officer, his father PLA General You Taizhong (尤太忠) (1918-1998) [was](#) the Commander of the Chengdu Military Region and the Guangzhou Military Region, and a Member of the 10th, 11th, and 12th CCP Central Committees, and former Member of the Central Advisory Committee. Li Pengcheng (李鹏程), [born](#) in 1963, and a Member of the CCP. On November 25, 2024, it was decided to remove Li Pengcheng from his position as a representative of the 14th NPC. He served the PLA Navy for more than 40 years, and held various posts including Deputy Commander of the STC & Commander of the STC Navy. It is worth noting that Li Pengcheng was appointed Commander of the STC Navy after his predecessor Ju Xinchun (鞠新春) was dismissed from the NPC in December last year alongside eight

other PLA Generals, including a number of senior members of the PLA Rocket Force which oversees China's nuclear arsenal.

Meeting on India-China Border Affairs Consultation and Coordination Mechanism (WMCC) was held

The 32nd Meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination on India-China Border Affairs [held](#) on 5 December 2024 in New Delhi. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Gourangalal Das, Joint Secretary (East Asia), and the Chinese delegation was led by Mr. Hong Liang (洪亮, born in 1969), Director General of the Boundary & Ocean Affairs Department of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). The Indian Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) issued statement after the meeting that said the two sides positively affirmed the implementation of the most recent disengagement agreement which completed the resolution of the issues that emerged in 2020. Both sides reviewed the situation in border areas, and reflected on the lessons learnt from the events of 2020 in order to prevent their recurrence. They agreed on the need for effective border management and maintenance of peace & tranquility in accordance with relevant bilateral agreements, protocols and understandings reached between the two governments. The leader of the Chinese delegation Hong Liang called on Indian Foreign Secretary during the visit. The statement issued by the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that representatives of the two countries' foreign affairs, defense, home affairs, immigration and other departments [attended](#). The two sides positively evaluated the solutions reached by the two countries on border-related

issues, agreed to continue to fully and effectively implement the relevant plans, and take measures to further ease the border situation. The meeting decided that the two sides agreed to continue to play a good role in the border negotiation mechanism, maintain communication through diplomatic and military channels, and maintain sustainable peace and tranquility in the border area.

Special Representatives of India and China met in Beijing

According to the statements issued by the Indian Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), the 23rd Meeting of the Special Representatives (SRs) of India and China, respectively Shri Ajit Doval, National Security Advisor of India, and Mr. Wang Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs, was [held](#) in Beijing on 18 December 2024. The SRs reiterated the importance of maintaining a political perspective of the overall bilateral relationship while seeking a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable framework for settlement of the boundary question, and resolved to inject more vitality into this process. This was the first meeting of the SRs since frictions had emerged in the Western Sector of the India – China border areas in 2020. The SRs positively affirmed the implementation of the latest disengagement agreement of October 2024, resulting in patrolling and grazing in relevant areas. Both SRs underlined the importance of maintaining peace and tranquility in the border areas to promote overall development of the India – China bilateral relationship. The two sides agreed to continue the strengthen cross-border exchanges and cooperation, promote the resumption of Indian pilgrims’ pilgrimage to Tibet, China, cross-border river

cooperation and Nathula border trade. In addition, the two sides also exchanged views extensively and in-depth on bilateral, international and regional issues of common concern, emphasizing the importance of a stable, predictable and good China-India relationship to international and regional peace and stability. Indian NSA called on H.E. Mr. Han Zheng (韩正, 1954), Vice President of the People’s Republic of China (PRC). NSA invited Mr. Wang Yi to visit India at a mutually convenient date to hold the next round of SR meeting

Chinese Defence Minister Dong Jun visits Vietnam

Chinese Defence Minister Dong Jun (董军, 1961) led a PLA delegation to Vietnam to attend the celebration of the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Vietnam People’s Army (VPA) held on December 20. On the afternoon of December 19, Vietnamese President To Lam [met](#) with the visiting Chinese Defence Minister in Hanoi and said the visit helps materialize high-level common perceptions on strengthening bilateral defense and security cooperation as a key pillar in Vietnam-China relations. He emphasized that Vietnam regards the development of bilateral relations with China as a strategic choice and top priority of its foreign policy. To Lam [emphasized](#) the need for expanding cooperation in political and ideological education, personnel training, and border defence, and better managing and settling disputes at sea based on high-level common perceptions and international law. In turn, Dong Jun [affirms](#) that China always attaches great importance to the traditional friendship between the two Parties, States, and armies. He emphasized the PLA’s readiness to

implement high-level common perceptions and to work with the VPA to promote substantive and comprehensive cooperation, contributing to building a Vietnam –China community with a shared future that carries strategic significance.

Chen Hui is appointed the new PLA Ground Force Political Commissar

Xi Jinping on December 23 [promoted](#) Chun Hui to the rank of PLA General the highest rank for active-duty officers in China. General Chen Hui (陈辉, 1962), now the Political Commissar of the PLA Ground Force, replaces General Qin Shutong (秦树桐, 1963) appointed to the post in January 2022, whose abrupt departure remains unexplained. In China, a political commissar is a military official in [charge](#) of ideology, political education and ensuring unit morale. Chen Hui, 61, served in the PLA Air Force for at least two decades. He graduated with a degree in radio communication from Hebei University of Technology in 1983. He took part in earthquake relief and rescue missions in Sichuan province in 2008 while serving in an air force unit. In 2010, he was appointed Deputy Political Commissar of PLA Air Force Command College in Beijing. In 2016, he was appointed Secretary of the discipline inspection commission of the Southern Theatre Command (STC) Air Force in Guangzhou, and in 2020, he was promoted to Secretary of discipline and inspection commission under the PLA Air Force. Since he has served largely in the PLA Air Force therefore, his appointment as the PLA Ground Force Political Commissar is unusual. He was promoted to the rank of the PLA Major General in July 2011, Lt. General in September 2020, and PLA General in December 2024.

Xi Jinping inspected the PLA troops stationed in Macao

Xi Jinping [inspected](#) the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) stationed at the New Port Camp in Macao Garrison on December 20, who came to attend the celebration of the 25th anniversary of Macao’s return to the mainland China. During his inspection he addressed the PLA troops and said that make greater contributions to continuing to create a new situation in the practice of “one country, two systems” with Macao characteristics. He reviewed the defense combat team, anti-riot team, anti-terrorism team, and emergency rescue team. He [emphasized](#) on resolutely implementing the decisions and instructions of the CPC Central Committee and the Central Military Commission (CMC), conscientiously implemented the “one country, two systems” policy and the Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region and the Garrison Law. He emphasized that the PLA troops stationed in Macao have a special missions and tasks, and the PLA must bear in mind responsibilities and missions, strengthen awareness of the combat team, focus on defense requirements to strengthen training and preparation. He stressed that the PLA in Macao must thoroughly uphold the absolute leadership of the Party over the military, and must maintain the high degree of centralization and stability of the troops. The senior leaders of the Communist Party of China (CPC) accompanied him were Cai Qi (蔡奇, 1955)-First ranked Secretary of the Secretariat of the Communist Party of China, General He Weidong (何卫东, 1957)- Vice-Chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC), Xia Baolong (夏宝龙, 1952)- Director of the Hong Kong and Macao Work Office and Cen Haohui (岑浩輝, 1962) – Chief Executive of Macao.