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CHINA MILITARY DIGEST

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35th Meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC)

The 35th meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC) was [held](#) on 27 May 2026 in Beijing. The meeting was co-chaired by Shri Sujit Ghosh, Joint Secretary (East Asia) and Ms. Hou Yanqi, Director General of the Boundary & Oceanic Affairs Department of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Representatives from the two countries' diplomatic, defense, interior, and immigration departments [participated](#) in the meeting. The two sides reviewed the situation in the India-China border areas, and expressed satisfaction with the progress made in maintaining peace and tranquillity in the border areas, which has enabled progress towards gradual normalization of bilateral relations. Indian side stressed one early meeting of the next Expert Level Mechanism on Trans-border Rivers. The two sides agreed to work together to make substantive preparation for the next meeting of the Special representatives (SR), to be held in China. During the visit, the Indian delegation leader met Mr. Liu Jinsong, Director-General of the Department of Asian Affairs of Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and made a courtesy call on Chinese assistant Foreign Minister H.E. Mr. Hong Lei. To implement the consensus reached during the 24th Meeting of the Special Representatives on the India-China Boundary Question, the two sides discussed topics including boundary demarcation,

border management and control, institutional development, and cross-border exchanges and cooperation. Both sides agreed to continue maintaining communication through diplomatic and military channels to preserve the stable situation along the India-China border, and to actively prepare for the 25th Meeting of the Special Representatives on the India-China Boundary Question.

China, Pakistan pledge deeper military ties

General Zhang Shengmin, vice chairman of the Central Military Commission, [met](#) with visiting Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, Pakistan's Chief of Defense Forces and Chief of the Army Staff, in Beijing on May 26. During the meeting, Zhang Shengmin said that military-to-military relations are an important pillar of ties between the two countries. He added that China is ready to work with Pakistan to firmly support each other on issues concerning their respective core interests, strengthening coordination in international and regional affairs, and contribute to the development and security of the two countries, the region, and the wider world. In turn, Field Marshal Munir said developing relations with China is a cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy, and Pakistan appreciates China's long-standing support and assistance. He added that Pakistan will further deepen practical cooperation with China in defense, security and other fields, and continue to elevate the ironclad friendship between Pakistan and China in defense, security and other fields. The two sides [agreed](#) to promote the high-

level and high-quality development of military-to-military relations. Prior to meeting Zhang Shengmin, Asim Munir met the Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi to discuss developments in the Middle East and bilateral relations. According to the report, Asim Munir [briefed](#) Wang Yi on Pakistan's mediation efforts regarding the conflict between Iran and the United States. He added that reaching an agreement between Washington and Tehran appears close, and said Pakistan is prepared to continue its mediation efforts. Wang Yi confirmed that China supports Pakistan's diplomatic efforts. China maintains close relations with Pakistan and is considered one of its key regional allies.

Central Military Commission Issues "Measures for Strengthening the Education, Management, and Supervision of High-Ranking Military Officers"

The Central Military Commission recently [issued](#) the "Measures for Strengthening the Education, Management, and Supervision on High-Ranking Military Officer". The "Measures" consist of 26 articles across seven aspects. This effort seeks to enable the high-ranking military officers to lead officers and soldiers with a new political outlook in advancing national defense and military modernization. The "Measures" [focused](#) at carrying out "ideological rectification," deepening "political training," and establishing rules for strict education, strict management, and strict supervision of senior officers. Among its stated priorities are: tightening control over commanding

officers, strengthening Party Committee collective leadership, upholding Party management of cadres and personnel selection, and strengthening the supervision and management of principal leaders. The PLA commentary published on May 28 called the "Measures" as "essential requirement for ensuring the health of the Party and the long-term development of its cause", and urged the Chinese military to take "immediate action" to ensure the effective implementation and realisation of all measures, especially among the senior officials. The "Measures" have come months after several senior PLA officers were prosecuted on charges of violation of discipline and corruption.

China's Liaoning aircraft carrier formation heads to Western Pacific for training

China's Liaoning Carrier Strike Group [conducted](#) training in the Western Pacific beginning on May 19. According to Japan's Joint Staff Office statement issued on May 19, the PLA Navy's Liaoning Carrier Strike Group was operating in the Philippine Sea east Luzhou, and it was spotted near Okinotori Island on May 18. According to PLA Navy's statement, "On May 19, the PLA Navy sent a carrier tasks group led by Liaoning aircraft carrier to relevant waters of the Western Pacific to conduct training on such subjects as far-seas tactical flight, live firing, support and cover, and integrate search and rescue, so as to test and enhance the realistic combat training capabilities of the forces. This is a routine training organised in accordance with the annual

plan aimed to enhance military's capability to fulfil its mission." The Group was composed of Liaoning aircraft carrier, cruiser CNS Wuxi (104), destroyer CNS Kaifeng (124), frigate CNS Luohe (545) and fast combat support ship CNS Hulunhu (901). In response, Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force destroyer JS Asahi (DD-119) shadowed the Liaoning CSG. The formation entered the Philippine Sea via the Luzon Strait between the Philippines and Taiwan. Neither Taiwan nor the Philippines made any official statement, though Joseph Wu, Taiwan national Security Council Secretary General, acknowledged in a social media post on May 18 that Taiwan had sighted the Liaoning Carrier Strike Group in the Western Pacific. The training was to [test](#) and enhance the realistic combat training capabilities of the forces.

China, Mongolia held 'Steppe Partner 2026' joint army training

China-Mongolia joint army training "Steppe Partner" was [held](#) in Inner Mongolia, China, from late May to early June. According to China's Ministry of National Defense (MND) on May 28, the joint exercise focused on the theme of 'joint strike against illegal armed groups' for enhancing practical cooperation, and strengthening capabilities of both sides in jointly upholding regional peace, stability. The exercise was [held](#) at a joint training base in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. On the early morning of May 26, the Mongolian military train carrying the participating Mongolian troops

crossed the border through the land part of Erenhot, and then, the Mongolian troops transferred to a Chinese train for their destination to joint training base. The joint training was [open](#) soon after the inaugural ceremony at a joint training base in Inner Mongolia, and the training commanders from both sides jointly inspected the participating troops and delivered their respective speeches. More than 600 officers and soldiers participated the event. This is the second iteration of China-Mongolia "Steppe Partner" series of joint army training. Participating Chinese troops were primarily composed of armored units from a brigade under the PLA 79th Group Army that incorporated firepower assault, operational support, logistics support, and many other specialized elements. The two sides carried out combat-oriented training centered on subjects such as joint command and coordinated strikes to improve capabilities to jointly address security risks and execute joint missions.

Chinese, U.S. militaries hold working group meeting of Military Maritime Consultative Agreement in Hawaii

Military representatives from China and the United States [held](#) a meeting of the Military Maritime Consultative Agreement (MMCA) in Hawaii from May 28 to 29, 2026. According to Ministry of National Defense (MND), PRC, the two sides had candid and constructive exchanges on the current China-U.S. air and maritime safety and security situation, evaluated the execution of the Rules of Behaviour for Safety of Air

and Maritime Encounters since the MMCA in 2025. The meeting also discussed measures to improve China-U.S. military maritime safety and security. The Chinese side claimed the two sides agreed that effective communication and exchanges between the two militaries can help frontline troops perform tasks in a more professional manner, deepen mutual understanding and avoid misperception and miscalculation. On May 29, the U.S. military [issued](#) a statement that said, military officials from the US Indo-Pacific Command, US Pacific Fleet, US Pacific Air Forces and US Coast Guard had met with PLA representatives in Honolulu. It added, the forum “provides for discussions between operators focused on reducing the risk of unsafe and unprofessional encounters”. The meeting came after the Chinese navy repeatedly drove away military aircraft and warships belonging the US allies in the East China Sea and South China Sea. China has repeatedly accused the U.S. of disrupting regional peace and stability by sending military aircraft and warships to the South China Sea, and by holding large-scale military exercises with regional allies. China and the U.S. signed the Military Maritime Consultative Agreement (MMCA) in 1998. Under the mechanism, working groups from two militaries meet once or twice a year. The framework was suspended for a brief period following then-US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s 2022 visit to Taiwan, however, the mechanism was resumed in April 2024, after Xi Jinping and then U.S. President Joe Biden reached a consensus in November

2023 to restore direct military communication.