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CHINA MILITARY DIGEST

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High-level Military Commander Meetings held at India-China Border

India and China [held](#) two rounds of high-level military commander meetings on September 6-7 in the eastern sector of India-China border in Arunachal Pradesh, the Indian Ministry of External Affairs said in a statement on September 8. The meeting was held pursuant to the understandings reached between the Special Representative of India and China in August 2025 and August 2026, and subsequent discussions at the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination (WMCC) meetings. The [meetings](#) of commanders at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) were held in two sessions. The first session of the meeting was held on September 6 at Wacha in Arunachal Pradesh on the Indian side, and the second session of the meeting was held on September 7 at Damai on the Chinese side. The Indian side delegation was led by Lt Gen Girish Kalia, who head the Dimapur-based 3 Corps of the Indian Army. The ministry statement added that this is the first time that a commander-level meeting was held in the eastern sector of the India-China border, and the two militaries are conducting similar high-level commander meetings in the other sectors of the border.

Zhang Youxia, Liu Zhenli expelled from CPC and PLA

China has [expelled](#) two senior military generals, Zhang Youxia and Liu Zhenli, from the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the People's Liberation Army (PLA), the Chinese Ministry of National Defense said in a statement on September 21. General Zhang Youxia served as a member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and vice chairman of the

Central Military Commission (CMC), while General Liu Zhenli served as a CMC members and chief of staff of the CMC Joint Staff Department. The expulsions of Zhang Youxia and Liu Zhenli were formally approved during a Politburo meeting chaired by Xi Jinping on September 21 in Beijing. Probes into Zhang Youxia and Liu Zhenli were announced in January, and the two leaders were removed from the Central Military Commission in August this year. The statement cited alleged disloyalty, corruption and other serious disciplinary breaches. Zhang and Liu "seriously violated political discipline and political rules, formed cliques and factions, and were disloyal and dishonest to the Party," Xinhua [stated](#) in its report. The report claimed that the pair "crossed red lines and basic limits, and their political and economic wrongdoings were intertwined, and corrupt self-enrichment coexisted with dereliction of duty and abuse of office". "The sums involved were exceptionally large; the nature of their conduct was extremely serious and the impact extremely egregious," the report said. Their suspected criminal cases would next be handed over to military prosecutors for examination and persecution, in accordance with the law, Xinhua said.

China and Australia hold 10th defense coordination dialogue

The 10th Australia-China Defense Cooperation Dialogue was [held](#) in Beijing on September 17. The two sides discussed regional security, military relations, and maritime and air safety. At the dialogue, Mr. Bernard Philip, First Assistant Secretary International Policy from the Department of Defense, led the Australian delegation, while Major General Ye Jiang (叶建),

Deputy Director of the Central Military Commission Office for International Military Cooperation. This is an official-level meeting between Australia's Department of Defense and China's People's Liberation Army (PLA). At the meeting, the Australian side highlighted the need for all regional militaries to operate safely and professionally to prevent any miscalculations or escalations. According to Australian Defense Ministry, the dialogue [provided](#) an opportunity for both sides to exchange views on regional and global security issues and opportunities for future dialogue. The two sides discussed the importance of dialogue as a way to navigate their differences, the ministry's statement added. The Australian side raised the importance of all militaries in the region operating in a safe and professional manner at all times to avoid the risk of miscalculation or escalation, the statement said. The Australian sides also raised concerns over other issues, including China's 6 July 2026 test of a submarine-launched ballistic missile, the statement highlighted. Besides, the Australian side underscored the importance of adherence to international law, particularly the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Moreover, the Australian side also outlined the importance of all countries acting in a manner that respects sovereignty, uphold regional peace and stability, and provides transparency and reassurance on intent. The last dialogue of this series was held in October in Beijing, China.

China Issues "Opinions on Strengthening the Development of NCO Academies"

General Office of the Central Military Commission [issued](#) "Opinion on Strengthening the Development of Non-

Commissioned Officer (NCO) Academies" on September 10, outlining plans to bolster the construction and development of academies for non-commissioned offices. The outline aligns with the CMC's deployments regarding the reform of military academies and to accelerate the training of NCO talent. The guidelines focus [heavily](#) on integrating political stance with high-tech combat readiness to modernize China's armed forces. The document consists of 5 main parts divided into 18 specific articles. The document implements Xi Jinping's thought on strengthening the military, the military strategic guidelines for the new era, and the military education guidelines for the new era. The document upholds the principle of building the military through political integrity, emphasizes the deep integration of combat operation and education, prioritizes innovation-driven development, and advocates for a systematic, coordinated approach to development. The document clearly [define](#) the overall requirements for NCO academy development, the comprehensive strengthening of ideological and political work, the precise positioning of these academies' missions, the deepening of educational and instructional reforms, and the enhancement of support for combat readiness and effectiveness.

China, Russia, Mongolia Hold Border Defense Cooperation 2026 Joint Exercise

The Border Defense Cooperation 2026 joint exercise was [conducted](#) by China, Russia, and Mongolia from September 2 to 3, in the tri-border area near Manzhouli in Inner Mongolia, China. The main focus of the exercise is to prevent and combat reconnaissance and sabotage activities in

border regions. The exercise was to check their responses to simulated threats where actors or terrorists attempt to escape from the Russian border area into Chinese and Mongolian territories. For the exercise, the Russian side [dispatched](#) helicopter to conduct air strike; the Mongolian troops blocked the escaping routes and the Chinese drone-assisted combat team detected and locked on the terrorists. Then, under the cover of FPV drones, an assault team advanced rapidly toward the terrorists' hideout in armored all-terrain vehicle and stormed inside to arrest the terrorists. Key drills were joint planning, joint searches, coordinated strikes and arrests, drone-assisted surveillance, and the joint handover of suspects. The Chinese Defense Ministry [noted](#) that this is the second time the exercise has been held in this format. The exercise is aimed "to strengthen strategic trust, deepen cooperation, and ensure security and stability in the border areas." The ministry added that the exercise aims to strengthen strategic mutual trust among the three countries and expand cooperation in border defense. It also emphasized the importance of jointly maintaining safety and stability in border regions. The exercise deployed a range of modern, unmanned and intelligent border management technologies, the three sides jointly consolidated border security defense. Following the drills, military exchanges were carried out focusing on equestrian skills, obstacles crossing, as well as military dog training like detection, identification, tracking and apprehension. Previously, the three countries [held](#) the "Border Defense Cooperation 2025" drills on September 8-9, 2025, following the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit and military parade.

China-Laos Joint Support and Training Center Opens at Ban Keun Airport

China and Laos jointly [inaugurated](#) the China-Laos Support and Training Center and China-Laos Friendship Aviation Academy on September 29 at Ban Keun Airport in Vientiane Province, Laos. The inaugural ceremony was attended by Laotian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense General Khamlieng Outhakaysone and a delegation from the China's People's Liberation Army (PLA). The statement from the Chinese Ministry of National Defense said the Support and Training Center will be jointly [managed](#) and operated by China and Laos, and the center is aimed at helping Laos strengthen the training of its air force pilots. The construction and use of the center reflect respect and equal consultation between China and Laos, and comply with both countries' domestic laws, relevant international law and common practice, the statement noted. The statement pointed out that opening of center and academy is not directed against any third party and contributed to enhancing practical military cooperation as well as promoting regional peace and stability. Ban Keun Airport was [built](#) by the US military during the Vietnam War but is believed to have remained unused until China apparently carried out a major renovation. As per Reuters report, the construction work at the airport began in late 2025 and that the airfield, carved out from a patch of farmland, is now equipped with a large paved runway, a parallel taxiway, apron and a number of new buildings. This development is seen as part of Xi Jinping's proposal to Laotian counterpart Thongloun Sisoulith in June this year for a deeper law enforcement and security cooperation.