

*Appendices to Senior PLA Leader Military Diplomacy report
from October 2017 through December 2024*

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Appendix A: Key Sources

Prior to Apr 2017, the primary English-language source for information about military diplomacy was published on <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/MilitaryExchanges/index.htm>. However, on 20 Apr 2017, this website ceased to exist and the following English-language website was created: http://english.chinamil.com.cn/china-military/node_87047.htm. In addition, a second English-language website was also created at <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/> and a Chinese-language website at <http://www.mod.gov.cn/> is linked to it as well. Therefore, the majority of the information in this report is based on these three websites.

The US National Defense University's Institute for National Strategic Studies (INSS) has a very comprehensive database on PLA military diplomacy that can be accessed at [*Chinese Military Diplomacy, 2003-2016: Trends and Implications*](#). The database is copyrighted by Dr. Phillip C. Saunders, National Defense University, in 2024 as a covered work under Section 105 of title 17, United States Code. © Phillip C. Saunders, 2024. The database may be used for academic or government analysis with no payment but may not be resold for profit. The database should be cited as: Center for the Study of Chinese Military Affairs, *Chinese Military Diplomacy Database* version 4.98 (Washington, DC: National Defense University, July 19, 2024).¹

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Appendix B: Acronyms and Abbreviations

Acronym / Abbreviation	Full Term	Chinese Term
(A)	Army	
(AF)	Air Force	
(C)	Chinese	
(C/E)	Chinese and English	
(E)	English	
(N)	Navy	
(V)	Diplomatic visit	
ADM	Admiral	海军上将
ADMM	ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting	东南亚国防部长会议
aka	Also known as	
AMS	Academy of Military Sciences	军事科学院
AO	Australia & Oceania	
Apr	April	
ASA	Association of Southeast Asia	
ASC	ASEAN Security Community	
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations	东南亚国家联盟
AU	African Union	
Aug	August	
BXF	Beijing Xiangshan Forum	北京香山论坛
CAC	Central America & the Caribbean	
CAMS	China Association for Military Science	中国军事科学学会
CASCF	China-Arab States Cooperation Forum	
CASI	China Aerospace Studies Institute	
CCP aka CPC	Chinese Communist Party	中国共产党
CDQ	CHANG Dingqiu	常丁求
CELAC	Community of Latin America and Caribbean States	
CIISS	China Institute for International Strategic Studies	中国国际战略学会
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States	
CMC	Central Military Commission	中央军事委员会/中央军委
CMSS	China Military Science Society	
CNS	Chief of the Naval Staff	
COAS	Pakistan Chief of Army Staff	

COGS	Chief of the General Staff	总参谋部部长
COGS	Chief of the General Staff	总参莫部部长
CPEC	China-Pakistan Economic Corridor	
CS	Cyber Security	
CSMS	China Society of Military Science	
CT	Counter-Terrorism	
CWQ	CHANG Wanquan	常万全
DCOGS	Deputy Chief of the General Staff	总参谋部副部长
Dec	December	
DefMin	Defense Minister	国防部长
DIR	Director	
DJ	DONG Jun	董军
DLH	DING Laihang	丁来杭
DOB	Date of Birth	
DPD	Defense Policy Dialogue	
DPRK	Democratic People's Republic of China (North Korea)	
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo	
ECC	Economic Cooperation Organization	
EDD	Equipment Development Department	装备发展部
EURO	Europe	
EWG	Expert Working Group	
FAB	Foreign Affairs Bureau	外事局
FADM	Mozambique Defense Armed Forces	
FAO	Foreign Affairs Office	外事部/外事办公室/外办)
Feb	February	
FOCAC	Forum on China-Africa Cooperation	中非合作论坛
GAD	General Armament Department	总装备部
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council	
GEN	General	上将
GLD	General Logistics Department	总后勤部
GPD	General Political Department	总政治部
GSD	General Staff Department	总参谋部
HADR	Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief	

HMA	Humanitarian Mine Action	
HWD	HE Weidong	何卫东
HWG	HAN Weiguo	韩卫国
HZM	HU Zhongming	胡中明
IISS	International Institute for Strategic Studies	国际战略研究所
INSS	Institute for National Strategic Studies	
Jan	January	
JSD	Joint Staff Department	总参谋部
JSDM	Joint Staff Dialogue Mechanism	
Jul	July	
Jun	June	
KF	Key Finding	
LAC	Latin American and Caribbean	拉丁美洲
LGEM	Lieutenant General	中将
LQM	LI Qiaoming	李桥铭
LSF	LI Shangfu	李尚福
LZC	LI Zuocheng	李作成
LZL	LIU Zhenli	刘振立
LZL	LIU Zhenli	刘振立
Mar	March	
MCIS	Moscow Conference on International Security	莫斯科国际安全会议
MD	Military District	省军区
MENA	Middle East, North Africa, & Greater Arabia	
MERCOSUR	Southern Common Market	
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	外交部
MGEN	Major General	少将
MM	Military Medicine	
MND	Ministry of National Defense	国防部
MOD	Ministry of Defense	国防部
MR	Military Region	军区
MRAF	Military Region Air Force	军区空军
MS	Maritime Security	
NA	North America	
NDU	National Defense University	国防大学
Nov	November	
NPC	National People's Congress	全国人民代表大会
NZDF	New Zealand Defense Force	

Oct	October	
OIMC	Office of International Military Cooperation	国际军事合作办公室
PA	Pacific Alliance	
PAF	Pakistan Air Force	
PC	Political Commissar	政治委员/政委
PKO	Peacekeeping Operations	
PLA	People's Liberation Army	中国人民解放军
PLAA	PLA Army	中国人民解放军陆军
PLAAF	PLA Air Force	中国人民解放军空军
PLAN	PLA Navy	中国人民解放军海军
PLARF	PLA Rocket Force	中国人民解放军火箭军
PLASAC	PLA Second Artillery Corps	中国人民解放军第二炮兵
PLASAF	PLA Second Artillery Force	中国人民解放军第二炮兵
POB	Place of Birth	
PRC	People's Republic of China	中华人民共和国
PWD	Political Work Department	政治工作部
RCAF	Royal Cambodian Armed Forces	
ROK	Republic of Korea (South Korea)	
SA	South America	
SCO	Shanghai Cooperation Organization	上海合作组织
SecDef	Secretary of Defense	
Sep	September	
SJL	Shen Jinlong	沈金龙
SLD	Shangri-La Dialogue	
SSA	Sub-Saharan Africa	
TC	Theater Command	战区
TCA	Theater Command Army	战区陆军
TCAF	Theater Command Air Force	战区空军
TCN	Theater Command Navy	战区海军
TPDF	Tanzania People's Defense Force	
UAE	United Arab Emirates	
UK	United Kingdom	
UN	United Nations	联合国
Unk	Unknown	
US	United States	美国
USA	United States of America	美国
VADM	Vice Admiral	海军中将
VAP	Vientiane Action Programme	

WFH	WEI Fenghe	魏凤和
XQL	XU Qiliang	许其亮
ZAF	Zambian Air Force	
ZANU-PF	Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front	
ZYX	ZHANG Youxia	张又侠

Appendix C: Key Leader Profiles

This appendix provides brief profiles for the four Defense Ministers, three CMC Vice Chairmen, two Chiefs of the CMC Joint Staff Department, one Director of the CMC Political Work Department, and three PLAA, three PLAN, and two PLAAF Commanders.

Ministers of National Defense

This section provides profiles for the four Defense Ministers: General CHANG Wanquan (CWQ/常万全) served as the 11th Defense Minister from Mar 2013 to Mar 2018.² General WEI Fenghe (WFH/魏凤和) served as the 12th Defense Minister from Mar 2018 to Mar 2023.³ General LI Shangfu (LSF/李尚福) served as the 13th Defense Minister from Mar 2023 to Oct 2023, when he was removed from office for corruption.⁴ Admiral DONG Jun (DJ/董军) became the 14th Defense Minister and the first Navy officer to serve in this billet in Dec 2023.⁵

As a general rule, a new Defense Minister is selected during the Party Congress, which is held every five years, but is only added as a CMC Member. They do not become the Defense Minister and a State Council Councilor until the next National People's Congress (NPC) early the next year, and their predecessor remains as the Defense Minister and CMC Member until the NPC. Of note, from 1993 to 2008, two Defense Ministers (General Chi Haotian from 1993-2003 and General Cao Gangchuan from 2003-2008) served concurrently as a CMC Vice Chairman, and, from 2008 to Dec 2023, each Defense Minister served as a CMC Member. However, the current Defense Minister, Admiral DONG Jun, has not been added to the CMC as a Member or as a State Councilor.

CHANG Wanquan

Name and Rank: General CHANG Wanquan (常万全)⁶

Billet and Dates: 11th Defense Minister from Mar 2013 (12th NPC) to Mar 2018 (13th NPC).

DOB and POB: Jan 1949, Nanyang, Henan

Service: Army

Flag Officer Promotions: 1 star (Jul 1997), 2 star (2003), 3 star (Oct 2007)

Brief Background: Joined the PLA in Mar 1968 and the CCP in Nov 1968. From Jan 2002 to Dec 2004, he was the Chief of Staff of the Lanzhou Military Region (MR). From Dec 2004 to Oct 2007, he was the Commander of the Shenyang MR. From Oct 2007 to Mar 2013, he was the Director of the CMC General Armament Department (GAD). He became a CMC Member in Oct 2007.



WEI Fenghe

Name and Rank: General WEI Fenghe (魏凤和)⁷

Billet and Dates: 12th Defense Minister from Mar 2018 (13th NPC) to Mar 2023 (14th NPC).

DOB and POB: Feb 1954, Liaocheng, Shandong

Service: Second Artillery Force (PLASAF) (An Independent Branch that became a full Service as the PLA Rocket Force / PLARF in Jan 2016)

Flag Officer Promotions: 3 star (Nov 2012)

Brief Background: He joined the PLA in Dec 1970 as an enlisted member and got a direct promotion as an officer. He graduated from PLASAF Command Academy in 1984, and rose up the ranks to the rank of general in Nov 2012. In Oct 2012, he replaced Jing Zhiyuan as Commander of the PLASAF. Prior to becoming the Commander, he also served as a Deputy Chief of the CMC General Staff Department. He also served as Chief of Staff and as a Deputy Chief of Staff of the PLASAF, 53rd Base commander, 54th Base Chief of Staff, and a variety of other command positions in the PLASAF. In Mar 2018, he was appointed as the Minister of National Defense and as a State Councilor. In Mar 2023, he retired from his position as State Council Councilor and Minister of National Defense at the first session of the 2023 National People's Congress. In Jun 2024, the CCP Politburo announced that WEI had expelled from the Party for "disciplinary and law violations".



LI Shangfu

Name and Rank: General LI Shangfu (李尚福)⁸

Billet and Dates: 13th Defense Minister from Mar 2023 (14th NPC) to Oct 2023

DOB and POB: Feb 1958, Chengdu, Sichuan

Service: Army

Flag Officer Promotions: 1 star (Jul 2006), 2 star (Aug 2016), 3 star (Jul 2019)

Brief Background: He joined the PLA as a technician at the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in 1982. He spent 31 years working there, including 10 years as the Center Director. He then served as a Deputy Director of the CMC GAD from 2014 to 2016 and Director of the GAD's successor Equipment Development Department (EDD) from 2017 to 2022. He was conferred the rank of General in Jul 2019 and was appointed as a member of the CMC in Oct 2022. He was appointed as the 13th Minister of National Defense and as State Council Councilor in Mar 2023. In Aug 2023, LI disappeared from public view and was then removed from office for corruption in Oct 2023.



DONG Jun

Name and Rank: Admiral DONG Jun (董军)⁹

Billet and Dates: 14th Defense Minister from Oct 2023 to present

DOB and POB: 1961, Yantai, Shandong

Service: Navy

Flag Officer Promotions: 1 star (Jul 2012), 2 star (Jul 2018), 3 star (Sep 2021)

Brief Background: In 1978, he was admitted to the Dalian Naval Academy, and entered the PLA Navy (PLAN) in 1979 after graduation. He has been the Director of the PLAN Headquarters' Staff Department's Military Training Department, a Deputy Chief of Staff of the North Sea Fleet, a Deputy Commander of the East Sea Fleet (2013), a PLAN Deputy Chief of Staff (Dec 2014), a Deputy Commander of the Southern Theater Command (TC) (Jan 2017), a Deputy Commander of the PLAN (Mar 2021), and then the PLAN Commander (Aug 2021). On 29 Dec 2023, he was appointed as the 14th Minister of National Defense; he succeeded LI Shangfu who was removed from office in Oct 2023 for corruption. He is the first defense minister from the PLAN. Of note, however, as of late Dec 2024, he has not been added as a CMC Member or as a State Council Councilor.



CMC Vice Chairmen

Since the 16th Party Congress in 2002, the CMC has had two Vice Chairmen serving at the same time as shown below, where (A) refers to Army and (AF) refers to Air Force:

- 2002 (16th Party Congress): Guo Boxiong (A) and Cao Gangchuan (A), who served concurrently as the Defense Minister
- 2004: XU Caihou (A) added
- 2007 (17th Party Congress): Guo Boxiong (A) and XU Caihou (A)
- 2012 (18th Party Congress): Fan Changlong (A) and XU Qiliang (AF)
- 2017 (19th Party Congress): XU Qiliang (AF) and ZHANG Youxia (A)
- 2022 (20th Party Congress): ZHANG Youxia (A) and HE Weidong (A).

This section provides profiles for the three CMC Vice Chairmen: Air Force General XU Qiliang (XQL/许其亮) and General ZHANG Youxia (ZYG/张又侠) became a Central Military Commission (CMC) Vice Chairmen at the 19th Party Congress in Oct 2017. General HE Weidong (HWD/何卫东) replaced XQL at the 20th Party Congress in Oct 2022.

XU Qiliang

Name and Rank: General XU Qiliang (许其亮)¹⁰

Billet and Dates: CMC Vice Chairman from Oct 2012 (18th Party Congress) to Oct 2023 (20th Party Congress)

DOB and POB: Mar 1950, Linqu County, Shandong

Service: Air Force

Flag Officer Promotions: 1 star (1993), 2 star (1996), 3 star (Jun 2007)

Brief Background: Attended pilot training from 1966-1969. Served as Commander of an Air Division, Deputy Commander of an Air Corps, Chief of Staff of the Shanghai Command Post, a PLA Air Force (PLAAF) Headquarters Deputy Chief of Staff and then Chief of Staff, a Deputy Commander of the Shenyang MR Air Force (MRAF), a Deputy Chief of Staff of the CMC GSD, and PLAAF Commander (2007). In 2012, he became China's first career Air Force officer promoted to Vice Chairman of the CMC.



ZHANG Youxia

Name and Rank: General ZHANG Youxia (张又侠)¹¹

Billet and Dates: CMC Vice Chairman from Oct 2017 (18th Party Congress) to present

DOB and POB: Jul 1950, Beijing

Service: Army

Flag Officer Promotions: 1 star (1997), 2 star (2007), 3 star (Jul 2011)

Brief Background: He joined the Army in 1968 as an enlisted soldier at 18 years of age. In 1976 he was serving in the 14th Group Army, stationed in Yunnan province, when he got a direct promotion as an officer. He took part in the border clashes of 1979 between China and Vietnam, and then the 1984 Battle of Laoshan. In Aug 2000, he was named Commander of the 13th Group Army. In Dec 2005, he became



a Deputy Commander of the Beijing MR, and the Commander of the Shenyang MR in Sep 2007. In 2012, he became the Director of the CMC GAD. In Oct 2017, he became a CMC Vice Chairman.

HE Weidong

Name and Rank: General HE Weidong (何卫东)¹²

Billet and Dates: CMC Vice Chairman, Oct 2022 (20th Party Congress) to present

DOB and POB: May 1957, Nanping, Fujian

Service: Army

Flag Officer Promotions: 1 star (Jul 2008), 2 star (Jul 2017), 3 star (Dec 2019)

Brief Background: He joined the PLA in 12/1972 after middle school as an enlisted soldier and later received a direct promotion as an officer. He was Commander of Jiangsu Military District (MD) in Jul 2013, Commander of the Shanghai Garrison in Mar 2014, a Deputy Commander of the Western TC and concurrent Commander of the TC Army in Jul 2016, and Commander of the Eastern TC from Sep 2019 to Oct 2022. He replaced XU Qiliang as a CMC Vice Chairman at the 20th Party Congress in Oct 2022.



Chiefs of the CMC Joint Staff Department

This section provides profiles for the two Chief of the Joint Staff Department: General LI Zuocheng (LZC/李作成) served as the Chief of the CMC Joint Staff from Aug 2017 to Oct 2022. General LIU Zhenli (LZL/刘振立) replaced him in Oct 2022.

LI Zuocheng

Name and Rank: General LI Zuocheng (李作成)¹³

Billet and Dates: Chief, CMC Joint Staff Department, Aug 2017 to Oct 2022 (20th Party Congress)

DOB and POB: Oct 1953, Anhua County, Hunan

Service: Army

Flag Officer Promotions: 1 star (1997), 2 star (2009), 3 star (Jul 2015)

Brief Background: He joined the PLA as an enlisted soldier in 1970 and received a direct promotion as an officer. In 1978, LI fought in the Sino-Vietnamese War as a company Commander in the Guangxi Military District and was injured in battle. He became a division Commander by 1994. In 1998, he became the Commander of the 41st Group Army. In 2002, he was appointed as a Deputy Chief of Staff of the Guangzhou MR. In Dec 2007, he was transferred to the Chengdu MR as a Deputy Commander. In Aug 2013, he became the Chengdu MR Commander. After the PLA's reorganization that began in Dec 2015, he was named the inaugural Commander of the PLA Army. In Aug 2017, he became the Chief of the CMC Joint Staff Department. At the 20th Party Congress in Oct 2022, he retired and was replaced by LIU Zhenli.



LIU Zhenli

Name and Rank: General LIU Zhenli (刘振立)¹⁴

Billet and Dates: Chief, CMC Joint Staff Department, Oct 2022 (20th Party Congress) to present

DOB and POB: Aug 1964, Luancheng County, Hebei

Service: Army

Flag Officer Promotions: 1 star (Dec 2010), 2 star (Jul 2016), 3 star (Jul 2021)

Brief Background: He joined the PLA in Sep 1983. He became the Chief of Staff of the 65th Group Army in Dec 2009, Commander of the Group Army in Feb 2012, and Commander of the 38th Group Army in Mar 2014. He was transferred to the People's Armed Police in Jul 2015 and appointed as the Chief of Staff of the Staff Department. In Dec 2015, he became the first Chief of Staff of the newly created PLA Army. In Jun 2021, he became the PLA Army Commander. In Sep 2022 (20th Party Congress), he became the Chief of the CMC Joint Staff Department, replacing LI Zuocheng.



Director, CMC Political Work Department

This section provides a profile for the single Director of the CMC Political Work Department: Admiral MIAO Hua from Oct 2017 (19th Party Congress) until Oct 2024, when he was suspended. As of Jan 2025, he did not have a replacement.

MIAO Hua

Name and Rank: Admiral MIAO Hua (苗华)¹⁵

Billet and Dates: Director, CMC Political Work Department, Oct 2017 (19th Party Congress) until Oct 2024 (suspended)

DOB and POB: Nov 1955, Fuzhou, Fujian

Service: Career Army until Dec 2014 when he switched to the Navy

Flag Officer Promotions: 1 star (Jul 2001), 2 star (Jul 2014), 3 star (Jul 2015)

Brief Background: He joined the PLA in Dec 1969 as an enlisted soldier and received a direct promotion as an officer. In the 1980s, he served as a Political Commissar (PC) in several regiments. In the 1990s, he rose to Director of the Political Department of the 93rd Division, and then PC of the 91st Division. In Aug 1999, he became the Director of the Political Department of the 31st Group Army; the PC of the 12th Group Army in Jul 2005; the Director of the Political Department of the Lanzhou MR in Dec 2010, a Deputy PC of the Lanzhou MR in Jul 2012; and PC of the Lanzhou MR in Jul 2015. In Dec 2015, he was transferred from the Army to the Navy and appointed as the PLAN PC, which was a highly unusual move. On 28 Nov 2024, the MND announced the suspension of Miao, while he was being investigated for “serious violations of discipline.”



PLA Army Commanders

This section provides profiles for the three PLA Army (PLAA) Commanders: General HAN Weiguo (HWG/韩卫国) from Aug 2017 to Jun 2021; General LIU Zhenli (LZL/刘振立) from Jun 2021 to Sep 2022; and General LI Qiaoming (LQM/李桥铭;) from Sep 2022 to present.¹⁶ Of the three commanders, only HWG met with any foreign visitors since the 19th Party Congress in Oct 2022.

HAN Weiguo

Name and Rank: General HAN Weiguo (韩卫国)¹⁷

Billet and Dates: Commander, PLA Army, Aug 2017 (19th Party Congress) to Jun 2021

DOB and POB: 1958, Jingxing County, Hebei

Service: Army

Flag Officer Promotions: 1 star (Jul 2006), 2 star (2015), 3 star (Jul 2017)

Brief Background: He joined the Army as an enlisted soldier in Apr 1970 and received a direct promotion as an officer. He then served as a platoon leader, company Commander, training staff officer, battalion Commander, and regiment chief of staff in Fujian Province. He then served in various billets in the 31st Army in the Nanjing MR. He then served as the Commander of the 12th Group Army (71st Group Army since Apr 2017) in Xuzhou, Jiangsu, in the Nanjing MR. In Dec 2013, he became a Deputy Commander of the Beijing MR, which became the Central TC in 2016. After the 2016 re-



organization of the PLA, he became the Commander of the Central TC. In Aug 2017 leading up to the 19th Party Congress, he became the second Commander of the PLA Army.

LIU Zhenli

Name and Rank: General LIU Zhenli (刘振立)¹⁸

Billet and Dates: The second PLA Army Commander, Jun 2021 to Sep 2022 (20th Party Congress), when he became the Chief of the CMC Joint Staff Department.

See his profile above in the Chief of the CMC Joint Staff Department section.



LI Qiaoming

Name and Rank: General LI Qiaoming (李桥铭)¹⁹

Billet and Dates: Commander, PLA Army, Sep 2022 (20th Party Congress) to present

DOB and POB: Apr 1961, Yanshi, Henan

Service: Army

Flag Officer Promotions: 1 star (Jul 2011), 2 star (Jul 2016), 3 star (Dec 2019)

Brief Background:

He joined the PLA as an enlisted soldier in 1976 and received a direct promotion as an officer. He successively served as Chief of Staff of the 361st Regiment, Commander of the 364th Regiment, Chief of Staff of the 124th Division, Deputy Chief of Staff of the 42nd Army, and Commander of the 124th Division of the 42nd Army. He was appointed Chief of Staff of the 41st Group Army in Jan 2010 and Commander of the 41st Army in Sep 2013. In Feb 2016, he became Commander of the Northern TC Army. In Sep 2017, he was promoted to Commander of the Northern TC. In Dec 2022, he was commissioned as the third Commander of the PLA Army.



PLA Navy Commanders

This section provides profiles for the three PLA Navy (PLAN) Commanders: Vice Admiral/Admiral Shen Jinlong (SJL/沈金龙) from Jan 2017 to Sep 2021²⁰; Admiral DONG Jun (DJ/董军) from Sep 2021 to Dec 2023 when he became the Defense Minister; and Admiral HU Zhongming (HZM/胡中明) from Dec 2023 to present. Although Shen had four meetings in 2017 before the Party Congress, he only had one meeting with any counterparts (US Navy Chief of Naval Operations Admiral John Richardson) after the 20th Party Congress. DONG only participated in one video conversation in Nov 2021. HU did not participate in any meetings.

Of note, all officer ranks are based on the PLA Army. The PLA does not have Chinese terms for naval officer ranks that are equivalent to U.S. Navy ranks from ensign to admiral. Instead, they are identified in Chinese language articles by the Army rank with the term Navy in front of it, such as Navy General (海军上将).²¹ Although there are no official Chinese terms for U.S. Navy ranks, the PLA does use U.S. Navy ranks in English-language articles, such as Admiral WU Shengli.²²

Shen Jinlong

Name and Rank: Admiral Shen Jinlong (沈金龙)²³

Billet and Dates: 8th Commander, PLA Navy, Jan 2017 to Sep 2021

DOB and POB: Oct 1956, Nanhui, Shanghai

Service: Navy

Flag Officer Promotions: 1 star (Jul 2010), 2 star (Jul 2016), 3 star (Jul 2019)

Brief Background: Shen joined the PLA as an enlisted sailor and received a direct promotion as an officer, where he served as the Commanding Officer of a frigate and later a frigate squadron (*dadui*). He subsequently served as the Chief of Staff of a frigate division (*zhidui*) and as Commander of a Support Base of the North Sea Fleet and President of the Dalian Naval Academy from 2011 to 2014. In Aug 2014, he was appointed as a Deputy Commander of the South Sea Fleet, and in Dec 2014 was promoted to Commander of the fleet. He became Commander of the PLA Navy in Jan 2017, but did not receive his third star until Jul 2019.



DONG Jun

Name and Rank: Admiral DONG Jun (董军)²⁴

Billet and Dates: The 9th PLA Navy Commander from Sep 2021 to Oct 2023, when he became the 14th Defense Minister until now

Billet and Dates: The second PLA Army Commander, Jun 2021 to Sep 2022 (20th Party Congress), when he became the Chief of the CMC Joint Staff Department.

See his profile above in the Minister of National Defense section.



HU Zhongming

Name and Rank: Admiral HU Zhongming (胡中明)²⁵

Billet and Dates: 10th Commander, PLA Navy, Dec 2023 to present

DOB and POB: Jan 1964, Qingdao, Shandong

Service: Navy

Flag Officer Promotions: 1 star (Jul 2014), 2 star (Dec 2019), 3 star (Dec 2023)

Brief Background: He joined the PLAN as an enlisted sailor in 1979 and received a direct promotion as an officer. He then served in several billets, including as a commanding officer of three types of vessels (conventional submarines, new nuclear submarine, and missile destroyer). In 2002, he participated in the Navy's first circumnavigation of the world. From Mar 2015 to Mar 2016, he served as an Assistant to the PLAN's Chief of Staff and the served as a Deputy Chief of Staff until Dec 2019 to Dec 2021, when he became the Commander of the North Sea Fleet (aka Northern TC Navy) and a concurrent Deputy Commander of the Northern TC. From Dec 2021 to Dec 2023, he served as the PLAN Chief of Staff.



PLA Air Force Commanders

This section provides profiles for the two PLAAF Commanders: Lieutenant General / General DING Laihang (DLH/丁来杭) from Aug 2017 to Sep 2021,²⁶ and General CHANG Dingqiu (CDQ/常丁求) from Sep 2021 to present.²⁷ DLH only traveled abroad once (Thailand and Pakistan in Apr 2018) and only held one meeting in 2021 via video. CHANG also only held one meeting in 2022 via video.

DING Laihang

Name and Rank: General DING Laihang (丁来杭)²⁸

Billet and Dates: 12th Commander, PLA Air Force, Aug 2017 to Sep 2021

DOB and POB: Sep 1957, Hangzhou, Zhejiang

Service: Air Force

Flag Officer Promotions: 1 star (Jul 2003), 2 star (Jul 2013), 3 star (Jul 2019)



Brief Background: There is no information about when he joined the PLAAF, but he most likely joined during the mid-1970s at the end of the Cultural Revolution. He first became a cadet at one of the PLAAF's aviation preparatory schools and then the 9th Flight School in Hubei Province, which most likely was for only one to two years. He then moved up the ladder as a Flight Squadron [company] Commander and a Flight Group [battalion] Deputy Commander and Commander. In the 1980s and 1990s, he served in the Beijing MRAF as a Deputy Commander and Commander of the 24th Air Division's 71st Air Regiment and Deputy Commander of the 24th Air Division, and then Commander of the Beijing MRAF Training Base (most likely the Cangzhou/Cangxian Test and Training Base in Hebei Province) until 2001. He then transferred to the Nanjing MRAF where he served as Chief of Staff (Director of the Headquarters Department) of the 8th Air Corps and Commander of the Air Force Fuzhou Command Post, which was the 8th Air Corps successor, and then became the Commandant of the Air Force Command College in Beijing in 2007. In 2009, he became the Chief of Staff of the Chengdu MRAF. In 2012, he became the Commander of the Shenyang MRAF and concurrent Deputy Commander of the Shenyang MR. In Feb 2016, when the Shenyang MR and MRAF became the Northern TC and TCAF, respectively, he continued as the TCAF Commander and concurrent TC Deputy Commander. Since taking office as the PLAAF Commander, he only traveled abroad once (Thailand and Pakistan in Apr 2018).²⁹

CHANG Dingqiu

Name and Rank: General CHANG Dingqiu (常丁求)³⁰

Billet and Dates: 13th Commander, PLA Air Force, Sep 2021 to present

DOB and POB: Jan 1967, Hengyang County, Hunan

Service: Air Force

Flag Officer Promotions: 1 star (Jul 2012), 2 star (Jul 2018), 3 star (Sep 2021)



Brief Background: He joined the Air Force in 1984 and attended basic flight school. He successively served as the Commander of a battalion-level Flight Group (1996 and 2000), and a Deputy Commander and Commander of the 3rd Fighter Division. In 2011, he became an Assistant Chief of Staff at PLAAF Headquarters. In 2013, he became Chief of Staff

of the Shenyang MRAF. In Jan 2016, he was promoted to become a Deputy Commander of the newly founded Southern TC and served until Dec 2017, when he was appointed as a Deputy Chief of Staff of the CMC Joint Staff Department. In Aug 2021, he became the 13th Commander of the Air Force.

Appendix D: List of Countries by Region

The world is organized into several geographic regions and the PRC deals with each of them through the following seven regional departments that are subordinate to the State Council's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA).³¹ Unfortunately, there is no information available about which countries each department is responsible for.

- The Department of Asian Affairs
- The Department of West Asian and North African Affairs
- The Department of African Affairs
- The Department of European-Central Asian Affairs
- The Department of European Affairs
- The Department of North American and Oceanian Affairs
- The Department of Latin American and Caribbean Affairs

The CMC's Office of International Military Cooperation (OIMC / 国际军事合作办公室) has at least four regional bureaus that coordinate with the relevant MFA departments and provide bilingual desk officers and policy support for defense engagements by region.³² As can be seen, they do not necessarily link up exactly with the MFA departments. Also, there are most likely other OIMC bureaus as well, but no information was found.

- Asian Affairs Bureau (亚洲局) includes South Asia and Southeast Asia, as well as Asia-Pacific multilateral security cooperation (亚太多边安全合作政策) policy
- European and Asian Affairs Bureau (欧亚局) includes Western and Eastern Europe, Russia, and East Asia
- American and Oceania Affairs Bureau (美洲大洋洲局)
- West Asian and African Affairs Bureau (西亚非洲局).

Unfortunately, neither the MFA nor the OIMC provides a list of the countries for which they are responsible for.

According to the 2012 edition of the annual *China's Foreign Affairs* book published by the PRC's MFA, one section organizes the world into the following seven geographic regions, but it doesn't provide a list of the countries per region.³³ The seven geographic regions include 1) Asia, 2) West Asia and North Africa, 3) Sub-Saharan Africa, 4) Eurasian Region, 5) Europe, 6) North America and Oceania, and 7) Latin America and the Caribbean. However, another section of the book provides a list of 166 countries and divides them into the following five geographic regions: 1) Asia (44 countries), 2) Africa (48 countries), 3) Europe (43 countries), 4) America (23 countries), and 5) Oceania (8 countries).

However, for purposes of this report, a reliable Western source from 2024 by Matt Rosenberg is going to be used. According to him, the 196 countries of the world can be logically divided into eight regions based on their geography, mostly aligning with the continent on which they are located.³⁴ The eight regions include 1) Asia, 2) Middle East, North Africa, and Greater Arabia, 3) Europe, 4) North America, 5) Central America and the Caribbean, 6) South America, 7) Sub-Saharan Africa, and 8) Australia and Oceania. However, some groupings don't strictly adhere to divisions by continent. For example, the Middle East and North Africa are separated from Sub-Saharan Africa along cultural lines. Likewise, the Caribbean and Central America are grouped separately from North and South America due to similarities based on latitudes. That said, however, this report organizes the countries based on Matt's guidance shown below, which are shown in alphabetical order by region. Based on analysis of the data gathered for this report, each region is organized into two categories: "Interaction with China" that means there have been

meetings between China and that country, and “No Interaction with China” that means no information was found concerning any meetings between China and that country. As shown in each sub-section, a 2-4 letter term/acronym is assigned to each region and is used for identification purposes in the various tables in this report. The terms/acronyms include ASIA, MENA, EURO, NA, CAC, SA, SSA, and AO.

Asia (ASIA)

Asia stretches from the former “stans” of the USSR to the Pacific Ocean. There are 27 countries in Asia:

- Interaction with China: Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, North Korea (DPRK), South Korea (ROK), Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam
- No Interaction with China: Bhutan, Brunei, Taiwan,

Middle East, North Africa, and Greater Arabia (MENA)

The 23 countries of the Middle East, North Africa, and Greater Arabia include some countries not traditionally considered as part of the Middle East (such as Pakistan). Their inclusion is based on culture. Turkey is also sometimes placed in lists of Asian and European countries since geographically, it straddles them both.

- Interaction with China: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan (The former republics of the Soviet Union are typically lumped into one region, nearly 30 years after independence. In this listing, they’ve been placed where most appropriate.), Egypt, Iran, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and The United Arab Emirates.
- No Interaction with China: Algeria, Bahrain, Iraq, Israel (Israel may be located in the Middle East, but it is certainly an outsider culturally and perhaps better belongs attached to Europe, like its seaward neighbor and European Union member state, Cyprus.), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Somalia, Syria, Tunisia, and Yemen.

Europe (EURO)

The European continent contain 48 countries and stretches from North America and back to North America as it encompasses Iceland and all of Russia.

- Interaction with China: Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Switzerland, and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (The United Kingdom is the country composed of the constituent entities known as England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.).
- No Interaction with China: Albania, Andorra, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, and Vatican City.

North America (NA)

North America includes only three countries but it takes up most of a continent and is thus a region onto itself:

- Interaction with China: The United States of America.
- No Interaction with China: Canada and Mexico.

Central America and the Caribbean (CAC)

Among the 20 countries of Central America and the Caribbean, none are landlocked, and half are islands:

- Interaction with China: Costa Rica and Cuba.
- No Interaction with China: Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago.

South America (SA)

Twelve countries occupy South America, which stretches from the equator to nearly the Antarctic Circle:

- Interaction with China: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Suriname, Uruguay, and Venezuela.
- No Interaction with China: Colombia, Guyana, Paraguay, and Peru.

Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA)

There are 48 countries in sub-Saharan Africa:

- Interaction with China: Angola, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Comoros, The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Gambia, Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
- No Interaction with China: Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, The Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Namibia, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Swaziland, and Togo.

Australia and Oceania (AO)

There are 15 countries of Australia and Oceania:

- Interaction with China: Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, and Papua New Guinea.
- No Interaction with China: East Timor, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, The Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Appendix E: Brief Overview of Key Organizations and Meetings

This appendix provides a brief overview of the following eight organizations and meetings that are mentioned in the report:

- Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting (ADMM)
- ADMM-Plus Meeting
- Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)
- Beijing Xiangshan Forum
- Shangri-La Dialogue
- Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC)
- China-Latin America High-level Defense Forum
- Other Dialogues

ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, commonly abbreviated as ASEAN, is a political and economic union of 10 states in Southeast Asia, including Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.³⁵ The predecessor of ASEAN was the Association of Southeast Asia (ASA), formed on 31 Jul 1961 and consisting of Thailand, the Philippines, and Malaya. ASEAN itself was created on 8 Aug 1967, when the foreign ministers of five countries—Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand—signed the ASEAN Declaration.

Together, its member states represent a population of more than 600 million people and land area of over 1.7 million sq mi). The primary objectives of ASEAN, as stated by the association, are “to accelerate economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region”, and “to promote regional peace and stability through abiding respect for justice and the rule of law in the relationship among countries in the region and adherence to the principles of the United Nations Charter.” In recent years, the bloc has broadened its objectives beyond economic and social spheres.

ASEAN engages with other supranational entities in the Asia-Pacific region and other parts of the world. It is a major partner of the United Nations (UN), Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), Pacific Alliance (PA), Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR), Community of Latin America and Caribbean States (CELAC), and Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO). It also hosts diplomatic missions throughout the world, maintaining a global network of relationships that is widely regarded as the central forum for cooperation in the region.

ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting (ADMM)

The ASEAN Security Community (ASC) Plan of Action, adopted at the 10th ASEAN Summit, stipulates that ASEAN shall work towards the convening of an annual ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting.³⁶ Against this background, the Inaugural meeting of the ADMM was held in Kuala Lumpur on 9 May 2006. The ADMM is the highest defence consultative and cooperative mechanism in ASEAN. The ADMM aims to promote mutual trust and confidence through greater understanding of defence and security challenges as well as enhancement of transparency and openness.

Objectives

The objectives of the ADMM, are:

- To promote regional peace and stability through dialogue and cooperation in defence and security;
- To give guidance to existing senior defence and military officials dialogue and cooperation in the field of defence and security within ASEAN and between ASEAN and dialogue partners;
- To promote mutual trust and confidence through greater understanding of defence and security challenges as well as enhancement of transparency and openness; and
- To contribute to the establishment of an ASEAN Security Community (ASC) as stipulated in the Bali Concord II and to promote the implementation of the Vientiane Action Programme (VAP) on ASC.

Achievements

Practical cooperation in the ASEAN defence sector has grown steadily since its inception with various initiatives in the following areas:

- Maritime Security (MS)
- Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)
- Counter-Terrorism (CT)
- Peacekeeping Operations (PKO)
- Military Medicine (MM)
- Cyber Security (CS)
- Border Management
- Defence Industry
- Defence Education
- Other Confidence-building Measures.

ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM=Plus)

The ADMM-Plus is a platform for ASEAN and its eight Dialogue Partners that includes Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea (South Korea), Russia, and the United States (collectively referred to as the “Plus Countries”), to strengthen security and defence cooperation for peace, stability, and development in the region.³⁷ The Inaugural ADMM-Plus was convened in Ha Noi, Viet Nam, on 12 Oct 2010. Since 2017, the ADMM-Plus meets annually, to allow enhanced dialogue and cooperation among ASEAN and the Plus Countries in the midst of an increasingly challenging regional security environment.

Objectives

The objectives of the ADMM-Plus, are:

- To benefit ASEAN Member States in building capacity to address shared security challenges, while cognizant of the differing capacities of various ASEAN Member States;
- To promote mutual trust and confidence between defence establishments through greater dialogue and transparency;
- To enhance regional peace and stability through cooperation in defence and security, in view of the transnational security challenges the region faces;
- To contribute to the realization of an ASEAN Security Community which, as stipulated in the Bali Concord II, embodies ASEAN's aspiration to achieve peace, stability, democracy and prosperity in the region where ASEAN Member States live at peace with one another and with the world at large;

- To facilitate the implementation of the Vientiane Action Programme, which calls for ASEAN to build a peaceful, secure and prosperous ASEAN, and to adopt greater outward-looking external relation strategies with our friends and Dialogue Partners.

Membership

The Concept Paper on ADMM-Plus: Principles for Membership, adopted at the 3rd ADMM, Pattaya, 25-27 Feb 2009 outlines the principles for membership to the ADMM-Plus process, as follows:

- The Plus country shall be a full-fledged Dialogue Partner of ASEAN;
- The Plus country shall have significant interactions and relations with ASEAN defence establishment; and
- The Plus country shall be able to work with the ADMM to build capacity so as to enhance regional security in a substantive way in order to promote capacity-building in the region in the fields of defence and security.

Achievements

The ADMM-Plus has become an effective platform for practical cooperation among the participating countries' defence establishments. The ADMM-Plus currently focuses on seven areas of practical cooperation, namely maritime security (MS), counter-terrorism (CT), humanitarian assistance and disaster management (HADR), peacekeeping operations (PKO), military medicine (MM), humanitarian mine action (HMA) and cyber security (CS). Experts' Working Groups (EWGs) have been established to facilitate cooperation in these areas. The EWGs are each co-chaired by one ASEAN Member States and one Plus Country, operating in a three-year cycle. Below are the key deliverables of the seven EWGs since its inception:

Shanghai Cooperation Organization (上海合作组织)

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) is a Eurasian political, economic, international security and defence organization established by China and Russia in 2001.³⁸ It is the world's largest regional organization in terms of geographic scope and population, covering approximately 24% of the area of world (65% of Eurasia) and 42% of the world population. The SCO is the successor to the Shanghai Five, formed in 1996 between the People's Republic of China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, and Tajikistan. In Jun 2001, the leaders of these nations and Uzbekistan met in Shanghai to announce a new organization with deeper political and economic cooperation. In Jun 2017, it expanded to eight states, with India and Pakistan. Iran joined the group in Jul 2023, and Belarus in Jul 2024. Several countries are engaged as observers or dialogue partners. The Summits of the Heads of State are held once a year and rotate among the countries involved. As of 2023, the SCO is primarily centered on security-related concerns, describing the main threats it confronts as being terrorism, separatism and extremism.

As of 2009, the organization's activities expanded to include increased military cooperation, intelligence sharing, and counterterrorism. At the same time, leaders of SCO states repeatedly stated that the SCO was not a military alliance. As of 2023, the SCO had not provided military support in any actual conflicts. However, as of 2017, military exercises have regularly been conducted among members to promote cooperation and coordination against terrorism and other external threats, and to maintain regional peace and stability. There have been a number of SCO joint military exercises. The first of these was held in 2003, with the first phase taking place

in Kazakhstan and the second in China. Since then, China and Russia have teamed up for large-scale war games in Peace Mission 2005, Peace Mission 2007 and Peace Mission 2009, under the auspices of the SCO. a meeting of SCO Defence Ministers.

The SCO holds an annual Defense Ministers’ Meeting that rotates among the countries. For example, the 2023 meeting was held in New Delhi, India, in April.³⁹ Defense Minister LI Shangfu led the delegation and delivered a speech. During each meeting, the Defense Minister also holds separate talks with some of the participants. The 2024 meeting was held in Astana, Kazakhstan, and was attended by Defense Minister DONG Jun.⁴⁰

They also hold various Expert Working Group Meetings.⁴¹ For example, in Sep 2024, China’s MND in Beijing hosted an EWG from Sep 25 to 26. This EWG was organized by the Chinese PLA National Defense University, and representatives from the SCO member states and the Secretariat participated in the meeting and exchanged views on military cooperation.

Beijing Xiangshan Forum (北京香山论坛)

In 2006, the China Association of Military Science (中国军事科学学会),⁴² which is subordinate to the PLA Academy of Military Science (AMS/军事科学院), held the 1st Beijing Xiangshan Forum (北京香山论坛/BXF) with the goal of holding a new forum every two years. The forum has transformed from the original version in 2006, which was an event meant for scholars to interact with the PLA on security issues every other year, to an international event involving senior military officials from around the world. The format was altered with the 5th forum in 2014 when it was upgraded to a semi-official (Track 1.5 in scholars’ parlance) event with the goal of being held annually.⁴³ However, although it was held in 2015, 2016, 2018, and 2019, it was not held in 2017. It was also not held in 2020 to 2022 due to COVID, but was held in 2023 and 2024.

Table 4 below provides an overview of the 11 forums, including the year, month, theme, and number of attendees. Each forum lasts for three days, and, as shown in the rest of this report, the Defense Minister and CMC Vice Chairmen hold separate meetings with some, but not all, of the key foreign military attendees.

Table 4: Beijing Xiangshan Forum

Forum	Year	Month	Theme	Attendees
1st ⁴⁴	2006	Sep	Peaceful Development and Security in the Asia-Pacific Region	24 delegates from 14 foreign countries who represented 21 famous foreign think tanks
2nd ⁴⁵	2008	Oct	International Security Cooperation and Asia-Pacific Security	23 delegates from 12 foreign countries on behalf of 19 well-known research institutions
3rd ⁴⁶	2010	Oct	Evolution of International Strategic Configuration and Asia-Pacific Security	27 delegates from 18 foreign countries
4th ⁴⁷	2012	Oct	Asia-Pacific Security: New Issues and New Ideas	Over 60 defense experts from 21 foreign countries and 21 delegates from various Chinese research institutions

5th ⁴⁸	2014	Oct	Win-win through Cooperation: Building an Asian Community of Shared Destiny	Over 300 participants from more than 61 countries and 4 international organizations; 14 officials were at the level of defense minister, and 19 at the level of deputy defense minister.
6th ⁴⁹	2015	Oct	Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific: Realities and Visions	There were over 500 participants - including military leaders, government officials, experts and scholars - from 49 countries and 5 international organizations. ⁵⁰
7th ⁵¹	2016	Oct	Build a New Type of International Relations through Security Dialogue and Cooperation	Representatives from 59 countries and six international organizations
8th ⁵²	2018	Oct	Building a New Type of Security Partnership of Equality, Mutual Trust and Win-Win Cooperation	Over 500 delegates from more than 70 countries and international organizations ⁵³
9th ⁵⁴	2019	Oct	Maintaining International Order and Promoting Peace in the Asia-Pacific	More than 1,300 people, including 76 official delegations, defense ministers from 23 countries, representatives and scholars from international organizations, as well as observers of various countries attended the forum. ⁵⁵
10th ⁵⁶	2023	Oct	Common Security Lasting Peace	Invitation was extended to the defense and military leaders, heads of international organizations and think tanks and renowned experts and scholars of more than 100 countries
11th ⁵⁷	2024	Sep	Promoting Peace for a Shared Future	More than 500 representatives from official delegations of more than 100 countries and international organizations, in addition to over 200 Chinese and foreign experts and scholars.

Table 5 below provides the following information concerning who the Defense Ministers and CMC Vice Chairmen had separate meetings with during the 8th (2018), 9th (2019), 10th (2023), and 11th (2024) Beijing Xiangshan Forums: 1) altogether, the Defense Ministers and Vice Chairmen had a total of 56 individual meetings with senior foreign leaders who attended the forum; 2) the Defense Minister did not have any meetings during the 9th and 10th forums; 3) the only time the Defense Minister and a Vice Chairman met with the same person separately was the Laos Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent Defense Minister during the 11th Beijing Xiangshan Forum; 4) only Vice Chairman XU Qiliang had any meetings during the 9th forum; 5) the two vice Chairmen had separate meetings during the 10th and 11th forums, but neither of them met with the same person; 6) altogether, the Defense Ministers and Vice Chairmen met with representatives from 37 different countries; and 7) of the 37 countries, they only met once with representatives

from 24 different countries, and they met twice with representatives from seven countries (Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Serbia, Suriname, and Zimbabwe), three times with representatives from three countries (Cambodia, Mongolia, and Russia), and four times with representatives from two countries (Singapore and Vietnam). Concerning Singapore, the same Defense Minister, Ng Eng Hen, attended each of the four Forums and met with XU Qiliang twice, HE Weidong once, and ZHANG Youxia once. Of note, no separate meetings were held with any representatives from the United States.

Table 5: Hosted Meetings during the Beijing Xiangshan Forum

DefMin / VC	Year	Visitor (Name/Billet)	Country	Region	BXF	Meetings
WFH	2018	DefMin Leandro Bacale	Equatorial Guinea	SSA	8th	8
		DefMin Atanasio M'tumuke	Mozambique	SSA		
		DefMin Aleksandar Vulin	Serbia	EURO		
		DefMin Vladimir Padrino	Venezuela	SA		
		DefMin Oswaldo Jarrin	Equador	SA		
		DefSec Sanjay Mitra	India	ASIA		
		State Secretary of Ministry of Defense Khalzankhuu Batbileg	Mongolia	ASIA		
		Defense Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief Soe Win	Myanmar	ASIA		
XQL	2018	DefMin Ng Eng Hen	Singapore	ASIA	9th	5
		DefMin Mohamad Sabu	Malaysia	ASIA		
		Deputy Prime Minister and DefMin Ishwor Pokhrel	Nepal	ASIA		
		Deputy Secretary of the Central Military Commission of the Communist Party and DefMin Ngo Xuan Lich	Vietnam	ASIA		
		Deputy Prime Minister and DefMin Tea Banh	Cambodia	ASIA		
XQL	2019	DefMin Ng Eng Hen	Singapore	ASIA	9th	3
		DefMin	Vietnam	ASIA		
		Chief of Army Staff Qamar Javed Bajwa	Pakistan	ASIA		
ZYY	2023	Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent Minister of Defense	Serbia	EURO	10th	7
		DefMin Win Bakri Daki	Papua New Guinea	AO		
		DefMin Oppah Charm Zvipange Muchinguri	Zimbabwe	SSA		
		DefMin Serge Shoigu	Russia	EURO		

		DefMin Krishna Mathoera	Suriname	SA		
		Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent DefMin Chansamone Chanyalath	Laos	ASIA		
		DefMin Gursed Saikhanbayar	Mongolia	ASIA		
HWD		DefMin Alhaji Mohammed Badaru Abubakar	Nigeria	SSA		5
		DefMin Colonel General Zakir Hasanov	Azerbaijan	MEN A		
		DefMin Ng Eng Hen	Singapore	ASIA		
		DefMin General Phan Van Giang	Vietnam	ASIA		
		Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent DefMin Tea Seiha	Cambodia	ASIA		
ZYX	2024	DefMin Ng Eng Hen	Singapore	ASIA	11th	10
		Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent DefMin Gen. Tea Seiha	Cambodia	ASIA		
		DefMin	Kazakhstan	ASIA		
		DefMin	Vietnam	ASIA		
		Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent DefMin	Laos	ASIA		
		DefMin	Mongolia	ASIA		
		DefMin	Papua New Guinea	AO		
		DefMin	Zimbabwe	SSA		
		DefMin Andrei Belousov	Russia	EURO		
		DefMin	Suriname	SA		
HWD		Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent DefMin	Myanmar	ASIA		3
		Minister of Defense and Veterans	South Africa	SSA		
		Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff	Pakistan	ASIA		
DJ	2024	DefMin Maya Fernández Allende	Chile	SA		15
		DefMin Lala Monja Delphin Sahivelo	Madagascar	SSA		
		DefMin Hanana Ould Sidi	Mauritania	SSA		
		DefMin Mohamed Ghassan Maumoon	Maldives	ASIA		
		DefMin Sherali Mirzo	Tajikistan	ASIA		
		DefMin Viktor Khrenin	Belarus	EURO		
		DefMin Suren Babikyan	Armenia	EURO		

	Deputy DefMin Alexander Fomin	Russia	EURO
	Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent DefMin	Laos	ASIA
	DefMin	Kyrgyzstan	ASIA
	DefMin	Gabon	SSA
	DefMin	United Arab Emirates	MEN A
	DefMin	Cameroon	SSA
	Minister of Interior and Immigration	Fiji	AO
	Minister of Defense and National Service	Tanzania	SSA

Shangri-La Dialogue

The Shangri-La Dialogue (SLD), aka International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) Asia Security Summit, is a “Track One” inter-governmental security conference held annually in Singapore by the Bahraini-funded IISS think tank.⁵⁸ The dialogue is commonly attended by defence ministers, permanent heads of ministries and military chiefs of mostly Asia-Pacific states. The forum’s name is derived from the Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore, where it has been held annually since 2002 in May or June.

The summit serves to cultivate a sense of community among the most important policymakers in the defence and security community in the region. Government delegations have made the best out of the meeting by holding bilateral meetings with other delegations on the sidelines of the conference. While primarily an inter-governmental meeting, the summit is also attended by legislators, academic experts, distinguished journalists and business delegates.

Over the years, the Shangri-La Dialogue has become one of the most important independent forums for the exchange of views by international security policy decision-makers. Besides the host nation, countries that have participated in the dialogue have included 28 other countries.⁵⁹

In 2002, the first high-level PLA officer, Major General Zhan Maohai, who was the Director of the MND Foreign Affairs Office, attended and gave a speech. It appears that no senior-level PLA officers attended during the 2003-2006 conferences. Since 2007, the PLA has sent a delegation headed by a senior officer, including the Defense Minister (DefMin); a Deputy Chief of the General Staff (DCOGS) in charge of intelligence and foreign affairs; a Vice President of the Academy of Military Sciences (VP/AMS); or a Director of the MND Foreign Affairs Office (FAO), as shown in Table 6 below. Of note, the first Defense Minister to attend was in 2011 and the next one was in 2019.

Table 6: Shangri-La Dialogue

Year	Number	Delegation Leader	Service	Billet
2002	1st	MGEN Zhan Maohai	PLAA	Dir, MND FAO
2003 - 2006	2nd to 5th	No PLA Delegations		
2007 ⁶⁰	6th	LTGEN ZHANG Qinsheng	PLAA	DCOGS

2008	7th	LTGEN MA Xiaotian ⁶¹	PLAAF	DCOGS
2009	8th			
2010	9th			
2011 ⁶²	10th	GEN Liang Guanglie	PLAA	DefMin
2012 ⁶³	11th	LTGEN Ren Haiquan	PLAA	VP/AMS
2013 ⁶⁴	12th	LTGEN Qi Jianguo	PLAA	DCOGS
2014 ⁶⁵	13th	GEN Wang Guanzhong	PLAA	DCOGS
2015 ⁶⁶	14th	ADM Sun Jianguo	PLAN	DCOGS
2016	15th			
2017 ⁶⁷	16th	LTGEN HE Lei	PLAA	VP/AMS
2018 ⁶⁸	17th			
2019	18th	GEN WEI Fenghe	PLARF	DefMin
2020-2021	No Dialogue due to COVID			
2022 ⁶⁹	19th	GEN WEI Fenghe	PLARF	DefMin
2023 ⁷⁰	20th	GEN LI Shangfu	PLAA	DefMin
2024 ⁷¹	21st	ADM DONG Jun	PLAN	DefMin

Forum on China–Africa Cooperation (FOCAC)⁷²

The Forum on China–Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) (中非合作论坛) is an official forum between the PRC and all states in [Africa](#) with the exception of the Kingdom of Eswatini. It is the primary multi-lateral coordination mechanism between African countries and China and since 2018 is viewed by those countries as a cooperation platform within the Belt and Road Initiative. FOCAC is the primary multi-lateral coordination mechanism between African countries and China. Along with the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum (CASCF), FOCAC was one of the first regional organizations established by China outside its territorial periphery. Since 2018, China and the African states explicitly view FOCAC as a part of China’s [Belt and Road Initiative](#). As of 2022, the members of FOCAC are 53 African countries (all except Eswatini), China, and the African Union Commission. A number of North African states are dual members of both CASCF and FOCAC: Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Somalia, Sudan, and Tunisia. Although the African Union has increasingly played a coordinating role since joining CASCF in 2012, each African state represents itself in FOCAC and activities are implemented bilaterally between China and individual African countries. Each meeting results in a three-year action plan and Chinese pledges of loans, grants, and export credits.

Rationale and principles

Although established following the urgings of African diplomats in the late 1990s, China has taken the lead in FOCAC throughout the existence of the organization. Since 2000, FOCAC meets every three years,⁷³ alternating between an African country and China, although the 2021 meeting took place online due to COVID-19. The primary Chinese participants have included the President (aka Secretary General of the Communist Party) or the Premier. For example, during the 2018 FOCAC in Beijing, a total of 40 Presidents, 10 Prime Ministers, 1 vice-president and the Chairperson of the AU Commission were among the African dignitaries who participated in the Forum.

Security and The China-Africa Defense and Security Forum

Military cooperation goes back to the Cold War period when China was keen to help African liberation movements. Eritrea's first president Isaias Afwerki, a leader in the fight for independence, received military training in China. Apart from some traditional allies such as Somalia and Tanzania, China also had military ties with non-aligned countries like Egypt. In Jul 2017, China set up its first overseas military base in Djibouti as a logistics facility for peacekeeping missions on the continent.

Among the channels that China has used for security diplomacy with the African countries are the China-Africa Defense and Security Forum (established in 2018) and the China-Africa Peace and Security Forum (which first met in 2019).

In Jul 2019, Defense Minister WEI Fenghe collectively met with all African representatives of the 1st China-Africa Peace and Security Forum in Beijing.⁷⁴ In Aug 2023, Defense Minister LI Shangfu delivered a keynote speech at the 3rd China-Africa Peace and Security Forum in Beijing.⁷⁵ More than 100 senior representatives from the African Union (AU) and nearly 50 African countries attended the forum. LI held meetings with the defense leaders of Senegal, Comoros, the Republic of the Congo, Cameroon, Ghana, Zambia, South Sudan, Gambia, Mauritania, Uganda and other countries respectively, as well as the commissioner for political affairs, peace and security of the AU Commission.

China-Latin America High-level Defense Forum

Since 2012, there have been five China-Latin America High-level Defense Forum (中国-拉丁美洲高级防务论坛) held in Beijing, including the 1st Forum in Nov 2012, where Defense Minister Liang Guanglie provided a keynote speech,⁷⁶ No information was found about the 2nd and 3rd Forums. The 4th Forum was held in Nov 2018 at the PLA National Defense University's International College of Defense Studies and included 24 Latin American and Caribbean countries.⁷⁷ The 5th Forum was held by video in Dec 2022 and included more than 60 defense and military leaders, senior representatives and experts from 24 LAC countries.⁷⁸ Both the 4th and 5th Forums involved Defense Minister WEI Fenghe as a keynote speaker.⁷⁹

Other Dialogues

The PLA also has Dialogues with various countries that do not necessarily involve the key leaders discussed in this report. However, it is important to know what those Dialogues are. Therefore, this section provides some basic information about Dialogues with the European Union (EU), India, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, Russia, the United Kingdom (UK), and United States. The countries are listed in alphabetical order.

China-European Union

In Dec 2020, the 11th China-European Union (EU) Defense and Security Policy Dialogue was held via video link.⁸⁰ The Dialogue was co-chaired by heads of the CMC OIMC and the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy and Crisis Response at the European External Action Service. The meeting marked the 45th anniversary of the establishment of China-EU diplomatic ties.

- In Feb 2022, the 12th China-EU Defense and Security Policy Dialogue was held via video link.⁸¹ The Dialogue was co-chaired by heads of the CMC OIMC and the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy and Crisis Response at the European External Action Service.

- *China-India*⁸²
- In Jan 2021, the 9th China-India Corps Commander Level Meeting was held on the Chinese side of the Moldo-Chushul border meeting point.⁸³
- In Jan 2022, the 14th India-China Corps Commander Level Meeting was held at Chushul-Moldo border meeting point on the Chinese side.⁸⁴
- In Jul 2022, the 16th China-India Corps Commander Level Meeting was held at Chushul-Moldo border meeting point on the Indian side.⁸⁵
- In Apr 2023, the 18th China-India Corps Commander Level Meeting was held at Chushul-Moldo border meeting point on the Chinese side.⁸⁶
- In Oct 2023, the 20th of China-India Corps Commander Level Meeting was held at Moldo-Chushul border meeting point on the Indian side.⁸⁷

China-Japan

In Feb 2023, Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Sun Weidong and his Japanese counterpart Shigeo Yamada hosted the 17th China-Japan Security Dialogue in Tokyo.⁸⁸ Major General ZHANG Baoqun, a Deputy Director of the CMC OIMC, and Atsushi Ando, Deputy Director of the Defense Policy Bureau of the Japanese Ministry of Defense, attended the Dialogue.

China-New Zealand

In Nov 2019, the 10th Strategic Dialogue between the Chinese and New Zealand militaries was held in Wellington. General LI Zuocheng, Chief of the CMC Joint Staff Department, Air Marshal Kevin Short, Chief of New Zealand Defense Force (NZDF), and Andrew Bridgman, New Zealand's Secretary of Defense and Chief Executive of the Ministry of Defense, co-chaired the event.⁸⁹ The two sides exchanged in-depth views on issues of common concern such as the bilateral ties, mil-to-mil relations and the regional security.

In May 2023, the 11th Strategic Dialogue between the Chinese and New Zealand militaries was held in Xi'an, China.⁹⁰ No information was provided concerning who attended.

China-Singapore

In Dec 2017, the 6th Defense Policy Dialogue (DPD) between the defense ministries of China and Singapore took place in Singapore.⁹¹ Rear Admiral Jiang Guoping, an Assistant to the Chief of the CMC Joint Staff Department, and Chan Yeng Kit, Permanent Secretary of the Singaporean Ministry of Defense, jointly presided over the Dialogue.

In Sep 2021, the 8th China-Singapore DPD took place via video link.⁹² Lieutenant General SHAO Yuanming, a Deputy Chief of the CMC Joint Staff Department, and Chan Heng Kee, Permanent Secretary of Singapore's Ministry of Defense, co-chaired the meeting.

China-Russia

In Aug 2023, China and Russia held the 11th Moscow Conference on International Security (MCIS) in Beijing.⁹³ Defense Minister General LI Shangfu attended.

China-United Kingdom

In Jan 2022, the militaries of China and the United Kingdom (UK) held the 8th China-UK Defense Strategy Consultation via video link.⁹⁴ The consultation was co-chaired by Lieutenant General SHAO Yuanming, who was a Deputy Chief of the Joint Staff Department, and Dominic Wilson, Director General of Security Policy of the UK Ministry of Defense.

China-United States

In Nov 2017, Marine Corps General Joseph Dunford, Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, met at the Pentagon in Washington, DC, with Major General SHAO Yuanming, a Deputy Chief of the CMC Joint Staff Department, during the first meeting of the China-U.S. Joint Staff Dialogue Mechanism (JSDM).⁹⁵ The JSDM “will serve as an opportunity to discuss how to manage crises, prevent miscalculations, and reduce the risk of misunderstanding,” Dunford expressed.

In Dec 2017, the 2nd Asia-Pacific Security Dialogue between the defense departments of China and the United States took place in Beijing.⁹⁶ Director HU Changming of the CMC OIMC and the U.S. Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense David Helvey jointly presided over the Dialogue. A separate meeting was held with Major General SHAO Yuanming, who was a Deputy Chief of the Joint Staff Department. They agreed to work through the China-US Asia-Pacific security Dialogue between the defense departments of the two countries and other Dialogue and exchange mechanisms, to enhance mutual trust, make proper control of divergences, expand bilateral military cooperation and push forward relations between the two militaries at a new starting point. In Nov 2018, Defense Minister General WEI Fenghe attended the 2nd China-US Diplomatic and Security Dialogue at the Pentagon and met with the US Defense Secretary Jim Mattis.⁹⁷

Appendix F: Senior Leaders Hosted Visits in China and Visits Abroad

This appendix lays the foundation for Appendices G-1 through K that provide information from the PRC MND’s official English and Chinese websites about hosted visits in China by the Defense Minister, CMC Vice Chairmen, Chief of the CMC Joint Staff Department, Director of the CMC Political Work Department, and the PLAA, PLAN, and PLAAF Commanders. Unless noted, all hosted meetings took place in Beijing.

Appendices G-1 to G-4 provide information about hosted visits and visits abroad by the Defense Ministers. Appendices H-1 and H-2 provide information about the CMC Vice Chairmen, and Appendices I-1 and I-2 provide information about the Chief of the Joint Staff Department. The data in each of these appendices is organized into two parts. The first part provides a table showing all of the visits by the senior PLA leader. The second part includes the same data in verbal format. The data is organized by person, month and year from 2017 to 2024, the person who hosted them by name, country, and region, and the reason for the visit. Each entry in the verbal format identifies whether the information came from the English website (E), Chinese website (C), or both (C/E). As in Appendix C, acronyms are used for each leader’s name, such as CWQ for CHANG Wanquan, in order to save space.

The information in Appendix J combines the hosted visits and travel abroad data for the Director of the CMC Political Work Department, and Appendix K combines the hosted visits and travel abroad data for the Service Commanders.

Appendix G-1: Defense Minister Hosted Visits

This appendix is divided into two parts. Part 1 includes a table showing all of the Defense Minister hosted visits from October 2017 through 2024. Part 2 includes the same data in verbal format that includes the relevant citations.

Table 7: Defense Minister Hosted Visits

DefM in	M	Year	Visitor (Name/Billet)	Country	Region	Reason	Separate VC Mtg
CWQ	10	2017	DefMin Andrei Ravkov	Belarus	EURO	Visit	
CWQ	11	2017	CDR Defense Forces General Constantine Guveya Chiwenga	Zimbabwe	SSA	Visit	
CWQ	11	2017	Minister for Foreign Affairs and National Defense Luis Filipe Tavares	Cape Verde	SSA	Visit	
CWQ	12	2017	Minister of Presidential Affairs and National Defense Etienne Massard Kabinda Makaga	Gabon	SSA	Visit	
CWQ	12	2017	Deputy Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Ghadir Nezamipour	Iran	MENA	Visit	
CWQ	12	2017	DefMin Tariq Shah Bahrami	Afghanistan	MENA	Visit	

CWQ	1	2018	Navy Commander	Myanmar	ASIA	Visit	
WFH	3	2018	Chief of Defense Forces Tarnchaiyan Srisuwan	Thailand	ASIA	Visit	
WFH	4	2018	Naval Chief of Staff Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi	Pakistan	ASIA	Visit	
WFH	4	2018	DefMin	Uzbekistan	ASIA	Visit	
WFH	4	2018	DefMin	Pakistan	ASIA	15th SCO DefMin Meeting	
			DefMin	Tajikistan	ASIA		
			DefMin	Kazakhstan	ASIA		
			DefMin	Kyrgyzstan	ASIA		
			DefMin	India	ASIA		
WFH	4	2018	DefMin Zakir Hasanov	Azerbaijan	MENA	Visit	
WFH	4	2018	Deputy Commander-in-chief of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) and chief of the Royal Cambodian Army, General Meas Sophea	Cambodia	ASIA	Visit	
WFH	5	2018	Chief of Defense Forces, Tanzania People's Defense Force (TPDF) General Venance Mabeyo	Tanzania	SSA	Visit	
WFH	5	2018	DefMin Enkhbold	Mongolia	ASIA	Visit	XQL
WFH	5	2018	Chief of the General Staff of the Austrian Armed Forces General Othmar Commenda	Austria	EURO	Visit	
WFH	6	2018	SecDef James Mattis	USA	NA	Visit	
WFH	6	2018	Chief of Defense Force Lieutenant-General Melvyn Ong	Singapore	ASIA	Visit	

WFH	7	2018	Chief of Army Staff General Rajendra Chhetri	Nepal	ASIA	Visit	
WFH	7	2018	DefMin Aleksandar Vulin	Republic of Serbia	EURO	Visit	ZYX
WFH	7	2018	Chief of Armed Forces Philippe Rebord	Switzerland	EURO	Visit	
WFH	7	2018	Ground Forces Commander-in-Chief Colonel General Oleg Salyukov	Russia	EURO	Visit	
WFH	8	2018	Chief of Defence Force Lieutenant-General Melvyn Ong	Singapore	ASIA	Visit	
WFH	8	2018	DefMin Brigadier General Amir Hatami	Iran	MENA	Visit	ZYX
WFH	10	2018	DefMin Ursula von der Leyen	Germany	EURO	Visit	XQL
WFH	10	2018	Chief of Navy Rear Admiral Lew Chuen Hong	Singapore	ASIA	Visit in Guangzh ou, ASEAN- China Joint Maritime Exercise- 2018	
WFH	10	2018	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for National Defense Tea Banh	Cambodia	ASIA	Visit	
WFH	10	2018	DefMin	Nigeria	SSA	Visit	
WFH	11	2018	DefMin Leandro Bacale	Equatorial Guinea	SSA	8th Beijing Xiangsha n Forum (Separate Meetings)	
			DefMin Atanasio M'tumuke	Mozambique	SSA		
			DefMin Aleksandar Vulin	Serbia	EURO		
			DefMin Vladimir Padrino	Venezuela	SA		
			DefMin Oswaldo Jarrin	Equador	SA		
			DefSec Sanjay Mitra	India	ASIA		

			State Secretary of Ministry of Defense Khalzankhuu Batbileg	Mongolia	ASIA		
			Defense Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief Soe Win	Myanmar	ASIA		
WFH	1 1	201 8	Visiting delegation of the Permanent Representatives of the UN Security Council member states. The Permanent Representative of France to the UN Francois Delattre and Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the UN Taye Atske Selassie Amde spoke on behalf of the delegation.	United Nations		Visit	
WFH	1 1	201 8	DefMin Javier Zavaleta	Bolivia	SA	4th China-Latin America Defense Leaders Meeting in Beijing	
			Minister of Public Security Michael Soto	Costa Rica	CAC		
WFH	1 1	201 8	Royal Thai Navy Commander Adm Luechai Ruddit	Thailand	ASIA	Visit	
WFH	1 1	201 8	Military Chief of Staff Mohamed Farid Hegazy	Egypt	MENA	Visit	
WFH	1 1	201 8	Deputy Secretary of the Central Military Commission of the Communist Party and DefMin Ngo Xuan Lich	Vietnam	ASIA	Visit in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang AR, for China-Vietnam border area disaster	

						relief joint drill	
WFH	1 1	201 8	Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces Leopoldo Cintra Frias	Cuba	CAC	Visit	
WFH	1 2	201 8	Deputy DefMin of the Russian Federation and Chief of Main Directorate for Political-Military Affairs of the Russian Armed Forces Andrey Kartapolov	Russia	EURO	Visit	
WFH	1	201 9	DefMin Christopher Pyne	Australia	AO	Visit	
WFH	2	201 9	Royal Armed Forces Deputy Commander-in- Chief and concurrent Army Commander	Cambodia	ASIA	Visit	XQL
WFH	2	201 9	Vice DefMin	Vietnam	ASIA	Visit	
WFH	4	201 9	Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi	Pakistan	ASIA	Visit	
WFH	5	201 9	Chairperson of Zimbabwe African National Union- Patriotic Front (ZANU- PF) and the Zimbabwean DefMin Oppah Muchinguri	Zimbabwe	SSA	Visit	
WFH	5	201 9	Deputy Commander-in- Chief of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) and Commander of the Cambodian National Military Police General Sao Sokha	Cambodia	ASIA	Visit	
WFH	6	201 9	Air Forces Commander Hasan Kucukakyuz	Turkey	MENA	Visit	

WFH	6	2019	Army Chief of Staff	Nepal	ASIA	Visit	
WFH	7	2019	DefMin Ron Mark	New Zealand	AO	Visit	XQL
WFH	7	2019	Collectively met with all African representatives			1st China-Africa Peace and Security Forum	
WFH	7	2019	Collectively with Representatives			4th Caribbean and South Pacific Advanced Defense Forum	
WFH	9	2019	Air Force Chief of Staff	Bangladesh	ASIA	Visit	
WFH	11	2019	DefMin Tibor Benkő	Hungary	EURO	Visit	
WFH	11	2019	Chief of Army Staff Aziz Ahmed	Bangladesh	ASIA	Visit	
WFH	11	2019	First Deputy Director of the Federal Security Service and director of the Border Service Vladimir Kulishov	Russia	EURO	Visit	
WFH	12	2019	Chief of the Air Staff of Pakistan Air Force Air Chief Marshal Mujahid Anwar Khan	Pakistan	MENA	Visit	
WFH	12	2019	DefMin	Japan	ASIA	Visit	WFH
WFH	12	2019	DefMin	Indonesia	ASIA	Visit	WFH
WFH	3	2020	DefMin Ng Eng Hen	Singapore	ASIA	Video call	
WFH	3	2020	SecDef Mark Esper	USA	NA	Video call	
WFH	5	2020	DefMin Jeong Kyeong-doo	South Korea	ASIA	Video call	

WFH	8	2020	SecDef Mark Esper	USA	NA	Video call	
WFH	8	2020	Ambassador to China	Vietnam	ASIA	Visit	
WFH	6	2021	8th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Defense Ministers' Meeting-Plus was held via video link			Video call	
WFH	6	2021	12th China-ASEAN Defense Ministers' Informal Meeting held via video link			Video call	
WFH	8	2021	Senior Minister and DefMin Hishammuddin Hussein	Malaysia	ASIA	Video call	
WFH	11	2021	DefMin Prabowo Subianto	Indonesia	ASIA	Video call	
WFH	11	2021	DefMin General Sergei Shoigu	Russia	EURO	Video call	
WFH	1	2022	Deputy DefMin Khalid bin Salman	Saudi Arabia	MENA	Video call	
WFH	4	2022	DefMin General Phan Van Giang	Vietnam	ASIA	Visit in Guangxi Zhuang AR at 7th China-Vietnam Border Defense Friendship Exchange	
WFH	4	2022	SecDef Lloyd Austin	USA	NA	Video call	
WFH	5	2022	Minister for Defense and National Service Stergomena Lawrence Tax	Tanzania	SSA	Video call	
WFH	6	2022	13th China-ASEAN Defense Ministers' Informal Meeting (Co-chair)		ASIA	Video call	

WFH	6	2022	Deputy Prime Minister and DefMin General Tea Banh (Conference Co-chair)	Cambodia	ASIA	Video call (Part of 13th ASEAN DefMin Meeting)	
WFH	8	2022	10th Moscow Conference on International Security hosted by the Russian Defense Ministry	Russia	EURO	Video call	
WFH	9	2022	Army Chief of Staff	Pakistan	MENA	Visit in Xi'an, Shaanxi	
WFH	10	2022	DefMin Sergei Shoigu	Russia	EURO	Phone call	
WFH	11	2022	DefMin Saikhanbayar Gursed	Mongolia	ASIA	Video call	
WFH	11	2022	DefMin Prabowo Subianto	Indonesia	ASIA	Visit in Xi'an, Shaanxi	
WFH	11	2022	DefMin Dr Ng Eng Hen	Singapore	ASIA	Visit in Xi'an, Shaanxi	
WFH	12	2022	Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) DefMins (held in Beijing)			Video Conference; attended in person	
WFH	12	2022	5th Defense Forum China-Latin American and the Caribbean States (held in Beijing)			Video Conference; attended in person	
WFH	13	2023	DefMin Begench Gundogdyevhere	Turkmenistan	ASIA	Visit	
LSF	4	2023	Navy Commander Admiral Amjad Khan Niazi	Thailand	ASIA	Visit	
LSF	4	2023	Navy Chief of Staff Admiral M Shaheen Iqbal	Bangladesh	ASIA	Visit	
LSF	5	2023	Vice Prime Minister and DefMin Jean-Pierre Bemba	Democratic Republic of Congo	SSA	Visit	

LSF	5	2023	DefMin Yasukazu Hamada	Japan	ASIA	Phone call	
LSF	5	2023	Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi	Pakistan	MENA	Visit	
LSF	6	2023	DefMin General Phan Van Giang	Vietnam	ASIA	Visit	
LSF	6	2023	National Defence Force General Rudzani Maphwanya	South Africa	SSA	Visit	
LSF	6	2023	Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Army General Narongpan Jitkaewtae	Thailand	ASIA	Visit	
LSF	7	2023	Chief of the Pakistani Air Force Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu	Pakistan	MENA	Visit	
LSF	7	2023	Commander of the Russian Navy Admiral Nikolay Yevmenov	Russia	EURO	Visit	
LSF	8	2023	Commander of the UAE Air Force and Air Defense Major General Ibrahim Nasser Mohamed Al-Alawi	United Arab Emirates	MENA	Visit	
LSF	8	2023	Unidentified Leader	Senegal	SSA	3rd China-Africa Peace and Security Forum in Beijing (Separate Meetings)	
			Unidentified Leader	Comoros	SSA		
			Unidentified Leader	Republic of the Congo	SSA		
			Unidentified Leader	Cameroon	SSA		
			Unidentified Leader	Ghana	SSA		
			Unidentified Leader	Zambia	SSA		
			Unidentified Leader	South Sudan	SSA		
			Unidentified Leader	Gambia	SSA		
			Unidentified Leader	Mauritania	SSA		
DJ	1	2024	DefMin General Sergei Shoigu	Russia	EURO	Video call	
DJ	3	2024	Deputy Commander of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) and Commander of the Royal Cambodian	Cambodia	ASIA	Visit	

			Army General Mao Sopian				
DJ	4	2024	President-elect and DefMin Prabowo Subianto	Indonesia	ASIA	Visit	
DJ	4	2024	SecDef Lloyd Austin	USA	NA	Video call	
DJ	5	2024	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defense Affairs Dr. Khalid bin Mohammed Al Attiyah	Qatar	MENA	Visit	
DJ	5	2024	Chief of the South African Navy Vice Admiral Monde Lobese	South Africa	SSA	Visit	
DJ	6	2024	DefMin Cristóvão Artur Chume	Mozambique	SSA	Visit	
DJ	8	2024	DefMin Phan Van Giang	Vietnam	ASIA	Visit	
DJ	9	2024	DefMin Maya Fernández Allende	Chile	SA	11th Beijing Xiangshan Forum (Separate Meetings)	
			DefMin Lala Monja Delphin Sahivelo	Madagascar	SSA		
			DefMin Hanana Ould Sidi	Mauritania	SSA		
			DefMin Mohamed Ghassan Maumoon	Maldives	ASIA		
			DefMin Sherali Mirzo	Tajikistan	ASIA		
			DefMin Viktor Khrenin	Belarus	EURO		
			DefMin Suren Babikyan	Armenia	EURO		
			Deputy DefMin Alexander Fomin	Russia	EURO		
			Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent DefMin	Laos	ASIA		
			DefMin	Kyrgyzstan	ASIA		
			DefMin	Gabon	SSA		
			DefMin	United Arab Emirates	MENA		
			DefMin	Cameroon	SSA		
			Minister of Interior and Immigration	Fiji	AO		
Minister of Defense and National Service	Tanzania	SSA					
DJ	10	2024	DefMin Andrei Belousov	Russia	EURO	Visit	

DJ	1 2	202 4	Chief of Navy Staff Emmanuel Ikechukwu Ogalla	Nigeria	SSA	2nd Seminar on Security Situation in the Gulf of Guinea in Shanghai (Separate Meetings)	
			National Navy Chief of Staff Charles Hubert Bekale Meyon	Gabon	SSA		

Part 2: Data in Verbal Format

Oct 2017 (E): CWQ hosted a meeting with Belarus DefMin Andrei Ravkov⁹⁸

Nov 2017 (E): CWQ hosted a meeting with General Constantine Guveya Chiwenga, Commander of the Zimbabwe Defense Forces⁹⁹

Nov 2017 (E): CWQ hosted a meeting with Minister for Foreign Affairs and National Defense of Cape Verde Luis Filipe Tavares¹⁰⁰

Dec 2017 (E): CWQ hosted a meeting with Etienne Massard Kabinda Makaga, Minister of Gabon Presidential Affairs and National Defense¹⁰¹

Dec 2017 (E): CWQ hosted a meeting with Ghadir Nezamipour, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Iranian armed forces¹⁰²

Dec 2017 (E): CWQ hosted a meeting with Afghan DefMin Tariq Shah Bahrami¹⁰³

Jan 2018 (C): CWQ met with Myanmar's Navy Commander.¹⁰⁴

Mar 2018 (E): WFH Hosted a meeting with Thailand Chief of Defense Forces Tarnchaiyan Srisuwan¹⁰⁵

Apr 2018 (C/E): WFH Hosted a meeting with Pakistani Naval Chief of Staff Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi¹⁰⁶

Apr 2018 (C/E): WFH Hosted a meeting with Uzbekistan DefMin¹⁰⁷

Apr 2018 (E): WFH Hosted a meeting with SCO Defense Minister's Meeting.¹⁰⁸ The 15th Defense Ministers' Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States was held in Beijing. WFH presided over the meeting and delivered a keynote speech. Leaders of the defense ministries and militaries of SCO member states including Russia, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, as well as representatives of the SCO Secretariat and the Executive Committee of the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the SCO attended the meeting. The Belarusian DefMin attended the meeting as a special guest. WEI met with DefMins of Pakistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and India to exchange views on deepening military exchange and cooperation, and they participated in the opening ceremony of the 5th "Fanfare for Peace" military music festival.

Apr 2018 (E): WFH Hosted a meeting with Azerbaijan DefMin Zakir Hasanov.¹⁰⁹

Apr 2018 (C/E): WFH Hosted a meeting with General Meas Sophea, the visiting deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) and chief of the Royal

Cambodian Army to mark the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and Cambodia.¹¹⁰

May 2018 (C/E): WFH Hosted a meeting with Chief of Defense Forces of the Tanzania People's Defense Force (TPDF) General Venance Mabeyo.¹¹¹

May 2018 (C/E): WFH Hosted a meeting with Mongolia DefMin Enkhbold.¹¹² XQL hosted a separate meeting with him.¹¹³

May 2018 (C/E): WFH Hosted a meeting with General Othmar Commenda, Chief of the General Staff of the Austrian Armed Forces.¹¹⁴

Jun 2018 (E): WFH Hosted a meeting with US Secretary of Defense James Mattis.¹¹⁵

Jun 2018 (E): WFH Hosted a meeting with Singapore's Chief of Defense Force Lieutenant-General Melvyn Ong.¹¹⁶

Jul 2018 (E): WFH Hosted a meeting with Nepal Chief of Army Staff General Rajendra Chhetri.¹¹⁷

Jul 2018 (E): WFH Hosted a welcome ceremony and meeting with DefMin of the Republic of Serbia Aleksandar Vulin, who also had a separate meeting with CMC Vice Chairman ZYX.¹¹⁸

Jul 2018 (E): WFH Hosted a meeting with Switzerland's (Swiss) Chief of Armed Forces Philippe Rebord.¹¹⁹

Jul 2018 (E): WFH Hosted a meeting with Russian Ground Forces Commander-in-Chief Colonel General Oleg Salyukov.¹²⁰

Sep 2018 (C/E): WFH hosted a meeting with Singapore Chief of Defence Force Lieutenant-General Melvyn Ong.¹²¹

Sep 2018 (C/E): WFH hosted a meeting with Iranian DefMin Brigadier General Amir Hatami, who had a separate meeting with CMC Vice Chairman ZYX.¹²²

Oct 2018 (C/E): WFH hosted a meeting with German DefMin Ursula von der Leyen, who also had a separate meeting with CMC Vice Chairman XQL.¹²³

Oct 2018 (E): WFH attended The 5th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Defense Ministers' Meeting (ADMM)-Plus in Singapore and held meetings with ASEAN DefMin.¹²⁴ The meeting was attended by the DefMins of ASEAN member countries as well as ASEAN's eight Plus partners, namely Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea (ROK), Russia and the United States. It was chaired by Ng Eng Hen, the DefMin of Singapore which takes over the chairmanship of ASEAN this year. On the sidelines of the meeting, WFH met separately with the DefMins of Singapore, the United States, Laos, New Zealand, Thailand, Japan, Australia and South Korea.

Oct 2018 (C/E): WFH attended the ASEAN-China Joint Maritime Exercise-2018 in Guangzhou, Guangdong, and met with the heads of the ASEAN delegations.¹²⁵ WFH said that the ASEAN-China Joint Maritime Exercise-2018 was the first joint maritime exercise between the Chinese military and militaries from the 10 ASEAN countries. Prior to the collective meeting, WFH met with Rear Admiral Lew Chuen Hong, Chief of Navy of the Republic of Singapore. Commander of the PLA Southern Theater Command Yuan Yubai and other officials attended relevant meetings.

Oct 2018 (C/E): WFH hosted a meeting with Cambodia's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for National Defense Tea Banh and Nigerian DefMin.¹²⁶

Nov 2018 (E): The China Association for Military Science (CAMS) and China Institute for International Strategic Society (CISS) co-hosted the 8th Beijing Xiangshan Forum.¹²⁷ Sixty-seven countries and seven international organizations sent official delegations to attend the forum. Among them, nearly 50 foreign officials are at the vice-ministerial level and above. In addition, 82 foreign and 38 Chinese experts and scholars attended. There was a total of more than 500

official representatives and guests. WFH delivered a keynote speech and hosted separate meetings with DefMins, including Leandro Bacale, Minister for National Defense in Equatorial Guinea, Atanasio M'tumuke, National DefMin of Mozambique, Aleksandar Vulin, National DefMin of Serbia, Vladimir Padrino, National DefMin of Venezuela and Oswaldo Jarrin, Minister of National Defense of Ecuador.

Nov 2018 (C/E): WFH hosted a meeting with Indian Defense Secretary Sanjay Mitra and State Secretary of the Mongolian Ministry of Defense Khalzankhuu Batbileg.¹²⁸

Nov 2018 (E): WFH hosted a meeting with Myanmar's Defense Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief Soe Win¹²⁹

Nov 2018 (C/E): WFH hosted a meeting with a visiting delegation of the Permanent Representatives of the UN Security Council member states.¹³⁰ The Permanent Representative of France to the UN Francois Delattre and Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the UN Taye Atske Selassie Amde spoke on behalf of the delegation.

Nov 2018 (E): WFH hosted a meeting with the Royal Thai Navy Commander Adm Luechai Ruddit.¹³¹

Nov 2018 (C/E): WFH hosted a meeting with Egyptian Military Chief of Staff Mohamed Farid Hegazy.¹³²

Nov 2018 (C/E): WFH attended 4th China-Latin America Defense Leaders Meeting in Beijing and met separately with the visiting Bolivian DefMin Javier Zavaleta and Michael Soto, Minister of Public Security in Costa Rica.¹³³ CMC Vice Chairman XQL also had separate meetings with some attendees.

Nov 2018 (E): WFH hosted a meeting with Vietnam DefMin Ngo Xuan Lich in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, during the 5th high-level border meeting between the Chinese and Vietnamese militaries.¹³⁴ The meeting was linked to a China-Vietnam border area disaster relief joint drill that was held in the vicinity of Phục Hòa District of Cao Bằng Province in the northeast region of Vietnam. WFH and Ngo Xuan Lich, Deputy Secretary of the Central Military Commission of the Communist Party and DefMin of Vietnam, inspected the joint drill

Nov 2018 (C/E): WFH hosted a meeting with Cuban Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces Leopoldo Cintra Frias.¹³⁵

Dec 2018 (E): WFH hosted a meeting with Deputy DefMin of the Russian Federation and Chief of Main Directorate for Political-Military Affairs of the Russian Armed Forces Andrey Kartapolov.¹³⁶

Jan 2019 (E): WFH hosted a meeting with Australian DefMin Christopher Pyne¹³⁷

Feb 2019 (C): XQL and WFH met separately in Beijing with Cambodian Royal Armed Forces Deputy Commander-in-Chief and concurrent Army Commander.¹³⁸

Feb 2019 (C): WFH met with Vietnam's Vice DefMin.¹³⁹

Mar 2019 (E): WFH attended the 16th Defense Ministers' Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, He also delivered a speech.¹⁴⁰ He also met separately with India's DefMin Nirmala Sitharaman, Pakistan's Defense Secretary Lieutenant General Ikram Ul Haq, and Kazakhstan's DefMin Nurlan Yermekbayev during the meeting.

Apr 2019 (C/E): WFH talks with Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi, Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) of Pakistan, who was visiting China to participate in the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy.¹⁴¹

Apr 2019 (C): WFH hosted a meeting with the Pakistan Navy Chief of Staff.¹⁴² The PLA Navy's Chief of Staff attended the meeting.

May 2019 (E): WFH hosted a meeting with Oppah Muchinguri, who was the chairperson of Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF) and the Zimbabwean DefMin.¹⁴³

May 2019 (C/E): WFH hosted a meeting with met General Sao Sokha, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) and Commander of the Cambodian National Military Police.¹⁴⁴

Jun 2019 (C/E): WFH hosted a meeting with Turkish Air Forces Commander Hasan Kucukakyuz.¹⁴⁵ Note, there was no mention of him meeting separately with PLAAF Commander DLH.

Jun 2019 (C): WFH met with Nepal's Army Chief of Staff.¹⁴⁶

Jul 2019 (C/E): WFH hosted a meeting with New Zealand DefMin Ron Mark.¹⁴⁷ CMC Vice Chairman XQL also had a separate meeting with him.

Jul 2019 (C): WFH collectively met with all African representatives of the 1st China-Africa Peace and Security Forum in Beijing.¹⁴⁸

Jul 2019 (C): WFH met collectively with Representatives of the 4th Caribbean and South Pacific High-Level Defense Forum in Beijing.¹⁴⁹

Sep 2019 (E): WFH led a delegation to observe the Tsentr-2019 strategic exercise at the Donguz training range in Orenburg, Russia, from Sep 19 to 21.¹⁵⁰ More than 1,600 troops, over 300 sets of weapons and equipment, and nearly 30 fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters from China participated in the exercise. He also exchanged views with Russian DefMin Sergei Shoigu¹⁵¹ on strengthening the pragmatic cooperation between the two militaries, and met with relevant leaders of other participating countries who had arrived in Russia to observe the exercise.

Sep 2019 (C): WFH met with Bangladesh's Air Force Chief of Staff.¹⁵²

Nov 2019 (E): WFH hosted a meeting with Hungarian DefMin Tibor Benkő.¹⁵³

Nov 2019 (E): WFH Met with US Secretary of Defense Dr. Mark Esper in Bangkok, Thailand.¹⁵⁴

Nov 2019 (C/E): WFH hosted a meeting with the Chief of Bangladesh Army Staff Aziz Ahmed.¹⁵⁵

Nov 2019 (C/E): WFH hosted a meeting with Vladimir Kulishov, Russia's first deputy director of the Federal Security Service and director of the Border Service.¹⁵⁶

Dec 2019 (C/E): WFH hosted a meeting with Air Chief Marshal Mujahid Anwar Khan, Chief of the Air Staff of Pakistan Air Force.¹⁵⁷ Note, there was not mention of him meeting separately with PLAAF Commander DING Laihang.

Dec 2019 (C): XQL and WFH met separately with Japan's DefMin.¹⁵⁸

Dec 2019 (C): XQL and WFH met separately with Indonesia's DefMin.¹⁵⁹

Mar 2020 (E): WFH had a video call with Singapore DefMin Ng Eng Hen.¹⁶⁰

May 2020 (E): WFH had a video call with the South Korean DefMin Jeong Kyeong-doo.¹⁶¹

May 2020 (E): WFH had separate video calls with Russian DefMin Sergei Shoigu and Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and DefMin Tea Banh.¹⁶²

Mar and Aug 2020: WFH had video call with US Secretary of Defense Dr. Mark Esper.¹⁶³

Aug 2020 (C): WFH met with Vietnam's Ambassador to China.¹⁶⁴

Jun 2021 (E): The 8th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Defense Ministers' Meeting-Plus was held via video link.¹⁶⁵ WFH attended the meeting and made a statement.

Jun 2021 (E): WFH co-chaired the 12th China-ASEAN Defense Ministers' Informal Meeting held via video link. The other co-chair was Brunei's Second Minister of Defense.¹⁶⁶ This was the 30th anniversary of China-ASEAN dialogue partnership.

Jul 2021 (E): WFH attended the 18th meeting of the Council of Ministers of Defense of SCO Member States in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, and addressed the meeting.¹⁶⁷ During the meeting, he

successively held talks with the DefMins of Pakistan, Belarus, Russia, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan

Sep 2021 (E): WFH had a video call with Malaysian Senior Minister and DefMin Hishammuddin Hussein.¹⁶⁸

Nov 2021 (E): WFH had a video call with Indonesian DefMin Prabowo Subianto.¹⁶⁹

Nov 2021 (E): WFH had a video call with Russian DefMin General Sergei Shoigu.¹⁷⁰ PLA Navy Commander DJ and PLA Air Force Commander CDQ attended the video call.

Jan 2022 (E): WFH had a video call with Saudi Arabia's Deputy DefMin Khalid bin Salman.¹⁷¹

Apr 2022 (E): WFH Hosted a meeting with Vietnam DefMin General Phan Van Giang in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region at the 7th China-Vietnam Border Defense Friendship Exchange.¹⁷²

Apr 2022 (E): WFH held a telephone conversation with US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin.¹⁷³

May 2022 (E): WFH had a video call with Tanzanian Minister for Defense and National Service Stergomena Lawrence Tax.¹⁷⁴

Jun 2022 (E): The 13th China-ASEAN Defense Ministers' Informal Meeting was held via video link.¹⁷⁵ WFH and General Tea Banh, Deputy Prime Minister and DefMin of Cambodia, the rotating chair of ASEAN, co-chaired the meeting. WFH delivered a speech. The two of them also held an informal meeting via video link.

Aug 2022 (E): WFH delivered a speech via video link at the 10th Moscow Conference on International Security hosted by the Russian Defense Ministry.¹⁷⁶

Sep 2022 (C): WFH met with Pakistan's Army Chief of Staff in Xi'an, Shaanxi.¹⁷⁷

Oct 2022 (E): WFH had a phone conversation with Russian DefMin Sergei Shoigu.¹⁷⁸

Nov 2022 (E): WFH attended the 9th ASEAN Defense Ministers' Plus (ADMM-Plus) conference in Cambodia and delivered a speech.¹⁷⁹ He also met and held talks with Cambodian state and military leaders.

Nov 2022 (E): WFH had a video call with Mongolian DefMin Saikhanbayar Gursed.¹⁸⁰

Nov 2022 (E): WFH hosted a meeting with Indonesian DefMin Prabowo Subianto in Xi'an, Shaanxi Province.¹⁸¹

Nov 2022 (E): WFH hosted a meeting with Singapore DefMin Dr Ng Eng Hen in Xi'an, Shaanxi Province.¹⁸²

Dec 2022 (E): WFH attended and addressed the joint meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) DefMins via video link.¹⁸³

Dec 2022 (E): WFH participated in the 5th Defense Forum China-Latin American and the Caribbean States, which was held via video link, and gave a keynote speech.¹⁸⁴ Leaders from the defense (security) departments and militaries of 24 Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries participated.

Jan 2023 (C/E): WFH hosted a meeting with Turkmenistan DefMin Begench Gundogdyevhere.¹⁸⁵

Apr 2023 (E): LSF attended the meeting of the Council of Defense Ministers of the Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in New Delhi, India.¹⁸⁶ During the meeting, he addressed the conference and met with the heads of delegations from relevant countries to communicate and exchange views on the issues of international and regional situation as well as defense and security cooperation. He also met separately with DefMins from Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, India (Rajnath Singh), Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Russia, Uzbekistan and Iran.

Apr 2023 (C/E): LSF hosted a meeting with Thailand's Navy Commander Admiral Amjad Khan Niazi.¹⁸⁷ Note, there was no mention of a meeting with the PLA Navy Commander.

Apr 2023 (C/E): LSF hosted a meeting with Bangladesh's Navy Chief of Staff Admiral M Shaheen Iqbal.¹⁸⁸ Note, there was no mention of a separate meeting with the PLA Navy Commander.

Apr 2023 (E): LSF met separately with Russia's DefMin Sergei Shoigu and President Putin in Moscow.¹⁸⁹

May 2023 (E): LSF hosted a meeting with Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) Vice Prime Minister and DefMin Jean-Pierre Bemba.¹⁹⁰ President XI Jinping and President Tshisekedi had announced the elevation of the bilateral relationship from a strategic partnership of win-win cooperation to a comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership.

May 2023 (E): LSF had a phone conversation with Japan's DefMin Yasukazu Hamada using the direct telephone link under the maritime and air liaison mechanism between the Chinese and Japanese defense departments for the first time.¹⁹¹

May 2023 (C/E): LSF hosted a meeting with Pakistani Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi.¹⁹² Note, there was no mention of a separate meeting with the PLA Navy Commander.

Jun 2023 (E): LSF hosted a meeting with Vietnamese DefMin General Phan Van Giang.¹⁹³

Jun 2023 (C/E): LSF hosted a meeting with Chief of the South African National Defence Force General Rudzani Maphwanya.¹⁹⁴

Jun 2023 (C/E): LSF hosted a meeting with Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Army General Narongpan Jitkaewtae.¹⁹⁵

Jun 2023 (E): LSF attended the 20th Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore where he gave a speech and also met separately with Singapore's DefMin Ng Eng Hen.¹⁹⁶ The two DefMins also witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on the establishment of a secure defense telephone link.

Jul 2023 (C/E): LSF hosted a meeting with the Chief of the Pakistani Air Force Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu.¹⁹⁷ Note, there was no mention of a separate meeting with the PLA Air Force Commander.

Jul 2023 (C/E): LSF hosted a meeting with the Commander of the Russian Navy Admiral Nikolay Yevmenov.¹⁹⁸ Note, there was no mention of a separate meeting with the PLA Navy Commander.

Aug 2023 (E): LSF hosted a meeting with Commander of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Air Force and Air Defense Major General Ibrahim Nasser Mohamed Al-Alawi.¹⁹⁹ Note, there was no mention of a separate meeting with the PLA Air Force Commander.

Aug 2023 (E): LSF delivered a keynote speech at the 3rd China-Africa Peace and Security Forum in Beijing.²⁰⁰ More than 100 senior representatives from the African Union (AU) and nearly 50 African countries attended the forum. LI held meetings with the defense leaders of Senegal, Comoros, the Republic of the Congo, Cameroon, Ghana, Zambia, South Sudan, Gambia, Mauritania, Uganda and other countries respectively, as well as the commissioner for political affairs, peace and security of the AU Commission.

Jan 2024 (E): DJ held a video call with Russian DefMin General Sergei Shoigu.²⁰¹

Mar 2024 (C/E): DJ hosted a meeting with General Mao Sopian, who was the Deputy Commander of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) and Commander of the Royal Cambodian Army.²⁰²

Apr 2024 (C): DJ hosted a meeting with Indonesian President-elect and DefMin Prabowo Subianto.²⁰³

Apr 2024 (E): DJ had a video call with US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin.²⁰⁴

May 2024 (C/E): DJ hosted a meeting with Dr. Khalid bin Mohammed Al Attiyah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defense Affairs of Qatar.²⁰⁵

May 2024 (E): DJ hosted a meeting with Chief of the South African Navy Vice Admiral Monde Lobese.²⁰⁶ Note, there was no mention of any meeting with the PLA Navy Commander.

Jun 2024 (E): DJ hosted a meeting with Mozambican DefMin Cristóvão Artur Chume.²⁰⁷

May-Jun 2024 (E): DJ attended the 21st Shangri La Dialogue and gave presentation on China's Approach to Global Security.²⁰⁸ During the event, DONG also met with senior defense officials from the United States, Canada, Thailand, Japan, Australia, France, Cambodia and New Zealand. Chinese DefMin DJ and U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin²⁰⁹ met on Friday during the 21st Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore. He also held talks with the president of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the high representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. Singaporean Prime Minister Lawrence Wong also met with DJ at Istana, the country's presidential palace.

Aug 2024 (C/E): DJ hosted a meeting with his Vietnamese counterpart Phan Van Giang.²¹⁰

Sep 2024 (C/E): The 11th Beijing Xiangshan Forum was convened at the Beijing International Convention Center.²¹¹ DJ met separately with met in Beijing respectively with Chilean DefMin Maya Fernández Allende, Madagascan DefMin Lala Monja Delphin Sahivelo, Mauritanian DefMin Hanana Ould Sidi, Maldivian DefMin Mohamed Ghassan Maumoon, Tajik DefMin Sherali Mirzo, Belarusian DefMin Viktor Khrenin, Armenian DefMin Suren Babikyan, and Russian Deputy DefMin Alexander Fomin.

Sep 2024 (C): DJ hosted separate meetings with the following people during the 11th Beijing Xiangshan Forum: Lao Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent DefMin; Kyrgyz DefMin; Gabon DefMin; United Arab Emirates (UAE) DefMin; Cameroon DefMin; Fiji's Minister of Interior and Immigration; and Tanzania's Minister of Defense and National Service.²¹²

Oct 2024 (C/E): DJ hosted a meeting with visiting Russian DefMin Andrei Belousov, which marked the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and Russia.²¹³

Nov 2024 (E): DJ attended and delivered a speech at 11th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) held in Vientiane, Laos.²¹⁴ Prior to the meeting, DONG held talks with defense leaders from New Zealand, India, Malaysia and the Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Dec 2024 (C/E): DJ met separately with the heads of delegations of various countries attending the 2nd Seminar on Security Situation in the Gulf of Guinea in Shanghai.²¹⁵ Heads of military delegations participating in the meeting, including Nigeria Chief of Navy Staff Emmanuel Ikechukwu Ogalla and Gabon National Navy Chief of Staff Charles Hubert Bekale Meyon.

Appendix G-2: Defense Minister Visits Abroad

This appendix is divided into two parts. Part 1 includes Table 8 that shows all of the Defense Minister visits abroad from October 2017 through 2024. Part 2 includes the same data in verbal format that includes the relevant citations.

Table 8: Defense Minister Visits Abroad

Def Min	M	Year	Country	Region	Host	Other Meetings	Reason
CW Q	10	2017	Philippines	ASIA	SecDef Delfin Lorenzana	President Duterte; Russia, Singapore, & South Korea DefMin	Attend the 11th ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting (ADMM) and the 4th ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting (ADMM)-Plus, which included

							Defense department leaders from ten ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) nations and eight dialog partners.
CW Q	12	2017	Uzbekistan	ASIA	DefMin Abdusalom Azizov	President Mirziyoyev	Visit
CW Q	2	2018	Singapore	ASIA	DefMin Ng Eng Hen	President Lee Hsien Loong	attend the 8th informal meeting of DefMins from China and member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).
CW Q	2	2018	Equatorial Guinea	SSA	DefMin Leandro Bacale Ncogo Ayingono	President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo	Visit
			Gabon	SSA	DefMin Etienne Massard Kabinda Makaga	President Ali Bongo Ondimba; Prime Minister Emmanuel Issoze Ngondet	
WF H	4	2018	Russia	EUR O	DefMin General of the Army Sergei Shoigu		Attend 7th Moscow Conference on International Security
			Belarus	EUR O	DefMin Lieutenant General Andrei Ravkov	President Alexander Lukashenko	Visit after 7th Moscow Conference
WF H	6	2018	Cambodia	ASIA	DefMin Tea Banh		Visit
			Myanmar	ASIA	State Counselor		

					Aung San Suu Kyi		
WF H	8	201 8	India	ASIA	DefMin Nirmala Sitharaman	Prime Minister Narendra Modi	Visit
WF H	10	201 8	Russia	EUR O	DefMin Sergei Shoigu		Observe Vostok 2018 Exercise at the Tsugol Proving Ground, which included Mongolia
WF H	10	201 8	Singapore	ASIA	DefMin Ng Eng Hen	SecDef USA James Mattis	Attend 5th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Defense Ministers' Meeting (ADMM)- Plus; attended by the DefMins of ASEAN member countries as well as ASEAN's eight Plus partners, namely Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia and the United States.
						DefMin Laos	
						DefMin New Zealand	
						DefMin Thailand	
						DefMin Japan	
						DefMin Australia	
WF H	11	201 8	USA	NA	SecDef James Mattis		Visit
WF H	3	201 9	Egypt	MEN A	DefMin Mohamed Zaki	President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi	Visit
WF H	3	201 9	Kyrgyzstan	ASIA	DefMin	DefMin Nirmala Sitharaman, India	Attend 16th Defense Ministers' Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States
						Defense Secretary Lieutenant General Ikram Ul Haq, Pakistan	
						DefMin Nurlan	

						Yermekbayev, Kazakhstan	
WF H	5	201 9	Vietnam	ASIA	DefMin Ngo Xuan Lich	National Assembly Chairwoman Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan	Visit
WF H	10	201 9	Russia	EUR O	DefMin Sergei Shoigu		Observe the Tsentr- 2019 strategic exercise at the Donguz training range in Orenburg
WF H	10	201 9	Uruguay	SA	DefMin Jose Bayardi	Vice President Lucia Topolansky	Visit
			Argentina	SA	President Mauricio Macri		
			Brazil	SA	DefMin Fernando Azevedo e Silva	President Jair Bolsonaro; Vice President Hamilton Mourao	
WF H	11	201 9	Thailand	ASIA	Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o- cha	US SecDef Mark Esper	Visit
WF H	10	202 0	Philippines	ASIA	Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana	President Rodrigo Duterte	Visit
			Indonesia	ASIA	DefMin Prabowo Subianto		
			Malaysia	ASIA	DefMin Ismail Sabri Yaakob	Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin	
WF H	11	202 0	Nepal	ASIA	Home Minister Ram Bahadur Thapa		Visit

WF H	12	202 0	Pakistan	ASIA	President Arif Alvi	Prime Minister Imran Khan	Visit linked to the joint exercise “Xiongying (Eagle)-IX,” which was the ninth such exercise between the PLA Air Force and Pakistan’s Air Force.
WF H	3	202 1	Serbia	EUR O	DefMin Nebojsa Stefanovic	President Aleksandar Vucic; Deputy Prime Minister	Visit
			Hungary	EUR O	DefMin Tibor Benko	President Janos Ader; Deputy Prime Minister Zsolt Semjen	
WF H	4	202 1	Sri Lanka	ASIA	Defence Secretary Kamal Gunaratne	President Gotabaya Rajapaksa; Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa	Visit
WF H	4	202 1	Vietnam	ASIA	Vice Secretary of the Central Military Commisio n and DefMin Senior Lieutenant General Phan Van Giang		Attend the 6th China-Vietnam Border Defense Friendship Exchange was held in Dongxing City, China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, and Binh Lieu district, Vietnam’s Northern Province of Quang Ninh.
WF H	7	202 1	Tajikistan	ASIA	DefMin	DefMin Pakistan	Attended the 18th meeting of the Council of Ministers of Defense of SCO Member States
						DefMin Belarus	
						DefMin Russia	
						DefMin Kazakhstan	

						DefMin Kyrgyzstan	
WF H	4	202 2	Oman	MEN A	Deputy Prime Minister for Defense Affairs Sayyid Shihab bin Tarik Al Said	Minister of the Royal Office Sultan bin Mohammed al Nomani; and Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr Hamad al- Busaidi	Visit
			Iran	MEN A	DefMin Mohamma d Reza Ashtiani	President Ebrahim Raisi; and Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Mohammad Bagheri	
			Turkmenist an	ASIA	DefMin Begench Gundogdy ev	President Serdar Berdimuhamed ov	
WF H	6	202 2	Singapore	ASIA	DefMin Ng Eng Hen	Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong	Attend the 19th IISS Shangri-La Dialogue
						US SecDef Lloyd Austin	
WF H	11	202 2	Cambodia	ASIA	Deputy Prime Minister and DefMin General Tea Banh	Prime Minister Hun Sen, and Lieutenant General Hun Manet, who was the deputy Commander- in-Chief of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) and the Commander- in-Chief of the Royal Cambodian Army.	Attend the 9th ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting- Plus (ADMM-Plus)

						US SecDef Lloyd Austin	
						DefMin Vietnam	
						DefMin Laos	
						DefMin Australia	
						DefMin New Zealand	
						DefMin South Korea	
						Deputy DefMin Russia	
LSF	4	202 3	India	ASIA	DefMin Rajnath Singh	DefMin Belarus	Attend the meeting of the Council of Defense Ministers of the Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)
						DefMin Kyrgyzstan	
						DefMin Kazakhstan	
						DefMin Tajikistan	
						DefMin Russia	
						DefMin Uzbekistan	
						DefMin Iran	
LSF	6	202 3	Singapore	ASIA	DefMin Ng Eng Hen		Attend the 20th Shangri-La Dialogue
LSF	8	202 3	Russia	EUR O	DefMin General Sergei Shoigu	DefMin Iran	Attend the 11th Moscow Conference on International Security (MCIS)
						DefMin Saudi Arabia	
						DefMin Kazakhstan	
						DefMin Vietnam	
LSF	8	202 3	Belarus	EUR O	DefMin Viktor Khrenin	President Aleksandr Lukashenko	Traveled there after the 11th MCIS for visit
DJ	4	202 4	Kazakhstan	ASIA	President Kassym- Jomart Tokayev		Visit

DJ	5	2024	Singapore	ASIA	DefMin Ng Eng Hen	Prime Minister Lawrence Wong	Attend the 21st Shangri La Dialogue
						US SecDef Lloyd Austin	
						DefMin Canada	
						DefMin Thailand	
						DefMin Japan	
						DefMin Australia	
						DefMin France	
						DefMin Cambodia	
						DefMin New Zealand	
						President of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the high representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy	
DJ	11	2024	Laos	ASIA	DefMin	DefMin New Zealand	Attend the 11th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus)
						DefMin India	
						DefMin Malaysia	
						Secretary-General of ASEAN	
DJ	12	2024	Vietnam	ASIA	Party General Secretary Tô Lâm, Secretary of the Central Military		

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Part 2: Data in Verbal Format

Oct 2017 (E): CWQ visited the Philippines, hosted by Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana and also met with President Duterte.²¹⁶ CWQ attended the 11th ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting (ADMM) and the 4th ASEAN Defense Ministers’ Meeting (ADMM)-Plus, which included Defense department leaders from ten ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) nations and eight dialog partners.²¹⁷ At the sideline of the China-ASEAN Defense Ministers’ Informal Meeting and the ADMM-Plus, CHANG held bilateral talks with the DefMins of Russia, Singapore, Malaysia and South Korea respectively.

Dec 2017 (E): CWQ visited Uzbekistan, hosted by DefMin Abdusalom Azizov and also met with President Mirziyoyev.²¹⁸

Feb 2018 (E): CWQ visited Singapore to attend the 8th informal meeting of DefMins from China and member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).²¹⁹ The meeting was co-chaired by Singaporean DefMin Ng Eng Hen and CWQ who had the ASEAN Chairmanship. CWQ met separately with DefMin Ng Eng Hen.²²⁰ CWQ also met with President Lee Hsien Loong.²²¹

Feb 2018 (E): CWQ visited Equatorial Guinea, hosted by DefMin Leandro Bacale Ncogo Ayingono and also met with President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo.²²² CWQ visited Gabon on the same trip, hosted by DefMin Etienne Massard Kabinda Makaga and also met with President Ali Bongo Ondimba and Prime Minister Emmanuel Issoze Ngondet.²²³

Apr 2018 (E): WFH Visited Minsk, Belarus and Moscow, Russia (7th Moscow Conference on International Security); In Moscow met with General of the Army Sergei Shoigu, the head of the Russian Defence Ministry.²²⁴ In Belarus, WFH met with President Alexander Lukashenko and his Belarusian counterpart Lieutenant General Andrei Ravkov.²²⁵

Jun 2018 (E): WFH Visited Cambodia and Myanmar and was hosted by Cambodian DefMin Tea Banh and Myanmar’s State Counselor Aung San Suu Kyi.²²⁶

Aug 2018 (E): WFH Visited India and met with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and DefMin Nirmala Sitharaman²²⁷

Sep 2018 (E): WFH visited Russia to observe the Vostok 2018 Exercise at the Tsugol Proving Ground, which included Mongolia. Met with Russian DefMin Sergei Shoigu at the exercise.²²⁸

Oct 2018 (E): WFH attended The 5th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Defense Ministers’ Meeting (ADMM)-Plus in Singapore and held meetings with ASEAN DefMin.²²⁹ The meeting was attended by the DefMins of ASEAN member countries as well as ASEAN’s eight Plus partners, namely Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, Russia and the United States. It was chaired by Ng Eng Hen, the DefMin of Singapore which takes over the chairmanship of ASEAN this year. On the sidelines of the meeting, WFH met separately with the DefMins of Singapore, the United States, Laos, New Zealand, Thailand, Japan, Australia and South Korea.

Nov 2018 (C/E): WFH visited the United States and was hosted by Secretary of Defense James Mattis.²³⁰

Mar 2019 (E): WFH visited Egypt and had separate meetings DefMin Mohamed Zaki and President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi.²³¹

Mar 2019 (E): WFH attended the 16th Defense Ministers' Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, He also delivered a speech.²³² He also met separately with India's DefMin Nirmala Sitharaman, Pakistan's Defense Secretary Lieutenant General Ikram Ul Haq, and Kazakhstan's DefMin Nurlan Yermekbayev during the meeting.

May 2019 (E): WFH visited Vietnam and had separate meetings with Vietnamese National Assembly Chairwoman Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan and his host, Vietnamese DefMin Ngo Xuan Lich.²³³

Sep 2019 (E): WFH led a delegation to observe the Tsentr-2019 strategic exercise at the Donguz training range in Orenburg, Russia, from Sep 19 to 21.²³⁴ More than 1,600 troops, over 300 sets of weapons and equipment, and nearly 30 fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters from China participated in the exercise. He also exchanged views with Russian DefMin Sergei Shoigu on strengthening the pragmatic cooperation between the two militaries, and met with relevant leaders of other participating countries who had arrived in Russia to observe the exercise.

Sep 2019 (E): WFH Visited Uruguay, Argentina, and Brazil, where he met separately with Uruguayan Vice President Lucia Topolansky and DefMin Jose Bayardi;²³⁵ Argentine President Mauricio Macri (Note, there was no mention of meeting with any senior military officials),²³⁶ and Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, Vice President Hamilton Mourao, and DefMin Fernando Azevedo e Silva.²³⁷

Nov 2019 (E): WFH Visited Thailand and met with Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha.²³⁸

Nov 2019 (E): WFH Met with US Secretary of Defense Dr. Mark Esper in Bangkok, Thailand.²³⁹

Sep 2020 (E): WFH visited the Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaysia and met with the following people: Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte and Philippine Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana;²⁴⁰ Indonesian DefMin Prabowo Subianto; Malaysian Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin and separately with DefMin Ismail Sabri Yaakob;

Nov 2020 (E): WFH visited Nepal and was hosted by Home Minister Ram Bahadur Thapa²⁴¹

Dec 2020 (E): WFH visited Pakistan and met with President Arif Alvi and Prime Minister Imran Khan.²⁴² The visit was linked to the joint exercise "Xiongying (Eagle)-IX," which was the ninth such exercise between the PLA Air Force and Pakistan's Air Force.

Mar 2021 (E): WFH visited Serbia and Hungary, where he met separately in Serbia with Serbia's President Aleksandar Vucic and Deputy Prime Minister and DefMin Nebojsa Stefanovic and in Hungary with Hungarian President Janos Ader, Deputy Prime Minister Zsolt Semjen, and DefMin Tibor Benko.²⁴³

Apr 2021 (E): WFH visited Sri Lanka and met separately with President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, and Defence Secretary Kamal Gunaratne.²⁴⁴

Apr 2021 (E): WFH visited Vietnam to attend the 6th China-Vietnam Border Defense Friendship Exchange was held in Dongxing City, China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, and Binh Lieu district, Vietnam's Northern Province of Quang Ninh.²⁴⁵ Chinese State Councilor and DefMin General WFH and Vietnamese Vice Secretary of the Central Military Commission and DefMin Senior Lieutenant General Phan Van Giang led delegations to participate in the event respectively.

Jul 2021 (E): WFH attended the 18th meeting of the Council of Ministers of Defense of SCO Member States in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, and addressed the meeting.²⁴⁶ During the meeting, he successively held talks with the DefMins of Pakistan, Belarus, Russia, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan

(Overview: No specific dates) Nov 2021 (E): International military cooperation activities around the 100th anniversary of the founding of the CPC.²⁴⁷ During 2021, WFH attended the 12th China-ASEAN Defense Ministers' Informal Meeting, the 8th ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting-Plus, the meeting of the Council of Ministers of Defense of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States, and the 4th UN Peacekeeping Ministerial Conference, and proposed the initiative to maintain and practice true multilateralism. WFH visited Vietnam, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan and other neighboring countries, and held video calls with the DefMins of Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia.

Apr 2022 (E): WFH Visited (Muscat) Oman, (Tehran) Iran, and (Ashkhabad) Turkmenistan for meetings with the following people: Oman -- Deputy Prime Minister for Defense Affairs Sayyid Shihab bin Tarik Al Said, Minister of the Royal Office Sultan bin Mohammed al Nomani, and Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr Hamad al-Busaidi;²⁴⁸ Iran -- President Ebrahim Raisi, Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Mohammad Bagheri, and DefMin Mohammad Reza Ashtiani;²⁴⁹ and Turkmenistan -- President Serdar Berdimuhamedov and DefMin Begench Gundogdyev.²⁵⁰

Jun 2022 (E): WFH visited Singapore to attend the 19th IISS (Institute for International Strategic Studies) Shangri-La Dialogue.²⁵¹ While there, he had separate meetings with Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and DefMin Ng Eng Hen and with US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin.²⁵²

Nov 2022 (E): WFH visited Cambodia to attend the 9th ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) and gave a speech.²⁵³ He had separate meetings with Prime Minister Hun Sen, Deputy Prime Minister and DefMin General Tea Banh, and Lieutenant General Hun Manet, who was the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF) and the Commander-in-chief of the Royal Cambodian Army.²⁵⁴ He also had a separate meeting with US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin.²⁵⁵ During the meeting, he also met respectively with DefMins of six countries, i.e., the US, Vietnam, Laos, Australia, New Zealand, the ROK, as well as the Russian deputy DefMin, exchanging views on strengthening military cooperation and issues of common concern.²⁵⁶

Apr 2023 (E): LSF attended the meeting of the Council of Defense Ministers of the Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in New Delhi, India.²⁵⁷ During the meeting, he addressed the conference and met with the heads of delegations from relevant countries to communicate and exchange views on the issues of international and regional situation as well as defense and security cooperation. He also met separately with DefMins from Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, India (Rajnath Singh), Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Russia, Uzbekistan and Iran.

Jun 2023 (E): LSF attended the 20th Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore where he gave a speech and also met separately with Singapore's DefMin Ng Eng Hen.²⁵⁸ The two DefMins also witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on the establishment of a secure defense telephone link.

Aug 2023 (E): LSF attended the 11th Moscow Conference on International Security (MCIS) and delivered a speech.²⁵⁹ On the sideline of the conference, he held talks with Russian DefMin General Sergei Shoigu. He also held bilateral meetings with heads of defense departments and armed forces from Iran, Saudi Arabia, Kazakhstan, Vietnam and other countries. He then visited Belarus and met separately with President Aleksandr Lukashenko and DefMin Viktor Khrenin.²⁶⁰

Apr 2024 (E): DJ visited Astana, Kazakhstan, and met with President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev.²⁶¹

May-Jun 2024 (E): DJ attended the 21st Shangri La Dialogue and gave presentation on China's Approach to Global Security.²⁶² During the event, DONG also met with senior defense officials from the United States, Canada, Thailand, Japan, Australia, France, Cambodia and New Zealand. Chinese DefMin DJ and U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin²⁶³ met on Friday during the 21st

Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore. He also held talks with the president of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the high representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. Singaporean Prime Minister Lawrence Wong also met with DJ at Istana, the country's presidential palace.

Nov 2024 (E): DJ attended and delivered a speech at 11th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) held in Vientiane, Laos.²⁶⁴ Prior to the meeting, DONG held talks with defense leaders from New Zealand, India, Malaysia and the Secretary-General of ASEAN.

Dec 2024: DJ visited Vietnam and was hosted by Party General Secretary Tô Lâm, Secretary of the Central Military Commission.²⁶⁵

Appendix G-3: Defense Minister Visits Abroad by Country and Date

Tables 9 and 10 in Appendix G-1 contain the same information about the 31 countries the Defense Ministers visited during 35 separate trips from October 2017 through 2024, but they are organized differently for analysis purposes. Table 9 below is organized alphabetically by country and includes the reason for the visit, the month and year the trip was taken, and the Defense Minister who took the trip. There were three basic reasons for the travel, including to attend a conference (C), a diplomatic visit (V), or to observe an exercise (E). Table 10 is organized by date, Defense Minister, country, and reason.

Table 9: Defense Minister Visits Abroad by Country

Country	Reason	Date	DefMin
Belarus	V	Apr-2018	WFH
Belarus	V	Aug-2023	LSF
Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay	V	Oct-2019	WFH
Cambodia	C	Nov-2022	WFH
Cambodia, Myanmar	V	Jun-2018	WFH
Egypt	V	Mar-2019	WFH
Equatorial Guinea, Gabon	V	Feb-2018	CWQ
India	V	Aug-2018	WFH
India	C	Apr-2023	LSF
Kazakhstan	V	Apr-2024	DJ
Kyrgyzstan	C	Mar-2019	WFH
Laos	C	Nov-2024	DJ
Nepal	V	Nov-2020	WFH

Oman, Iran, Turkmenistan	V	Apr-2022	WFH
Pakistan	E	Dec-2020	WFH
Philippines	C	Oct-2017	CWQ
Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia	V	Oct-2020	WFH
Russia	C	Apr-2018	WFH
Russia	E	Oct-2018	WFH
Russia	E	Oct-2019	WFH
Russia	C	Aug-2023	LSF
Serbia, Hungary	V	Mar-2021	WFH
Singapore	C	Feb-2018	CWQ
Singapore	C	Oct-2018	WFH
Singapore	C	Jun-2022	WFH
Singapore	C	Jun-2023	LSF
Singapore	C	May-2024	DJ
Sri Lanka	V	Apr-2021	WFH
Tajikistan	C	Jul-2021	WFH
Thailand	V	Nov-2019	WFH
USA	V	Nov-2018	WFH
Uzbekistan	V	Dec-2017	CWQ
Vietnam	V	May-2019	WFH
Vietnam	V	Apr-2021	WFH
Vietnam	V	Dec-2024	DJ

V = Visit; E = Observe and Exercise; C = Conference

Table 10: Defense Minister Visits Abroad by Date

Date	DefM in	Country	Reason
Oct-2017	CWQ	Philippines	C
Dec-2017	CWQ	Uzbekistan	V
Feb-2018	CWQ	Equatorial Guinea, Gabon	V
Feb-2018	CWQ	Singapore	C
Apr-2018	WFH	Belarus	V
Apr-2018	WFH	Russia	C
Jun-2018	WFH	Cambodia, Myanmar	V
Aug-2018	WFH	India	V
Oct-2018	WFH	Russia	E
Oct-2018	WFH	Singapore	C
Nov-2018	WFH	USA	V
Mar-2019	WFH	Egypt	V
Mar-2019	WFH	Kyrgyzstan	C
May-2019	WFH	Vietnam	V
Oct-2019	WFH	Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay	V
Oct-2019	WFH	Russia	E
Nov-2019	WFH	Thailand	V
Oct-2020	WFH	Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia	V
Nov-2020	WFH	Nepal	V
Dec-2020	WFH	Pakistan	E
Mar-2021	WFH	Serbia, Hungary	V

Apr-2021	WFH	Sri Lanka	V
Apr-2021	WFH	Vietnam	V
Jul-2021	WFH	Tajikistan	C
Apr-2022	WFH	Oman, Iran, Turkmenistan	V
Jun-2022	WFH	Singapore	C
Nov-2022	WFH	Cambodia	C
Apr-2023	LSF	India	C
Jun-2023	LSF	Singapore	C
Aug-2023	LSF	Belarus	V
Aug-2023	LSF	Russia	C
Apr-2024	DJ	Kazakhstan	V
May-2024	DJ	Singapore	C
Nov-2024	DJ	Laos	C
Dec-2024	DJ	Vietnam	V

Appendix G-4: Defense Minister Hosted and Visited Countries

As shown in Table 11 below, the PRC’s Defense Ministers have had meetings in China or abroad with key military leaders from a total of 66 different countries since October 2017. Of the 66 countries, the Defense Ministers have hosted meetings with key leaders from 51 countries. They have also visited 31 different countries. Of the 66 countries, only 16 countries have included hosted visits by the Defense Ministers and visits abroad by the Defense Ministers.²⁶⁶ The 16 countries are identified by a * next to them. Table 11 also shows how many visits have occurred with each country. Although the CMC Vice Chairmen and the Chief of the Joint Staff Department have also hosted visitors and travelled abroad, this table only includes information for the four Defense Ministers. Information about the Vice Chairmen and the Chief of the Joint Staff Department can be found in their respective sections.

Table 11: Defense Minister Hosted and Visited Countries

Country	Host ed	Visit ed
Afghanistan	1	
Argentina		1
Australia	1	
Austria	1	
Azerbaijan	1	
Bangladesh	3	

*Belarus	1	2
Brazil		1
*Cambodia	5	2
Cameroon	2	
Cape Verde	2	
Comoros	1	
Cuba	1	
Democratic Republic of Congo	2	
*Egypt	1	1
Equador	1	
Equatorial Guinea		1
*Gabon	4	1
Gambia	1	
Germany	1	
Ghana	1	
*Hungary	1	1
India		3
*Indonesia	3	1
*Iran	2	1
Japan	1	
Kazakhstan		1
Kyrgyzstan		1
Laos		1
Madagascar	1	
Malaysia		1
Mauritania	1	
Mongolia	2	
Mozambique	3	
*Myanmar	1	1
*Nepal	3	1
New Zealand	1	
Nigeria	3	
Oman		1
*Pakistan	7	1
Philippines		2
Qatar	2	
Republic of Serbia	1	
Republic of the Congo	1	
*Russia	4	4
Senegal	1	
Serbia		1
*Singapore	4	3
South Africa	4	
South Sudan		

Sri Lanka		1
Switzerland	1	
Tajikistan		1
Tanzania	3	
Thailand	4	1
Turkey	1	
*Turkmenistan	1	1
Uganda	1	
United Arab Emirates	2	
Uruguay		1
*USA	2	1
*Uzbekistan	1	1
Venezuela	1	
*Vietnam	6	3
Zambia	1	
Zimbabwe	4	

Table 12 below provides information about the 16 countries that have had key leaders hosted by the Defense Minister and have hosted the Defense Minister abroad. As shown in the table, there has been continuous interaction at home and abroad between leaders from various countries, including Cambodia (DefMin Tea Banh), Hungary (DefMin Tibor Benko), Indonesia (DefMin Prabowo Subianto), Singapore (DefMin Ng Eng Hen), Turkmenistan (DefMin Begench Gundogdyev), the United States (SecDef James Mattis), and Vietnam (DefMin Ngo Xuan Lich and General Phan Van Giang). However, as shown in the table, the leaders rarely meet more than twice – once in China and once in their country.

Table 12: 16 Countries That Had Delegations Visit China and Hosted The PRC Defense Minister

DefMin	Hosted Visit / Visit Abroad	Date	Country	Visitor / Host
CWQ	HV	Nov 2017	Belarus	DefMin Andrei Ravkov
WFH	HV (C)	Apr 2018	Belarus	DefMin
WFH	HV	Apr 2018	Cambodia	DepCdr Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF)
WFH	VA	Jun 2018	Cambodia	DefMin Tea Banh
WFH	HV (C)	Oct 2018	Cambodia	DefMin Tea Banh
WFH	HV	Feb 2019	Cambodia	Dep Chief of Staff RCAF
WFH	HV	May 2019	Cambodia	DepCdr RCAF
WFH	VA	Nov 2022	Cambodia	DefMin Tea Banh

DJ	HV	Mar 2024	Cambodia	DepCdr RCAF
WFH	HV	Nov 2018	Egypt	Military COS Mohamed Farid Hegazy
WFH	VA	May 2019	Egypt	DefMin Mohamed Zaki
CWQ	HV	Dec 2017	Gabon	DefMin Etienne Massard Kabinda Makaga
DJ	HV (C)	Sep 2024	Gabon	DefMin
WFH	HV	Nov 2019	Hungary	DefMin Tibor Benko
WFH	VA	May 2021	Hungary	DefMin Tibor Benko
WFH	VA	Sep 2020	Indonesia	DefMin Prabowo Subianto
WFH	HV	Nov 2022	Indonesia	DefMin Prabowo Subianto
DJ	HV	Apr 2024	Indonesia	DefMin Prabowo Subianto
CWQ	HV	Dec 2017	Iran	Ghadir Nezamipour, DCOS Iranian armed forces
WFH	VA	Apr 2022	Iran	DefMin Mohammad Reza Ashtiani
WFH	VA	Jun 2018	Myanmar	State Counselor Aung San Suu Kyi
WFH	HV	Nov 2018	Myanmar	Defense Services Deputy Commander-in-Chief Soe Win
WFH	HV	Jul 2018	Nepal	Chief of Army Staff General Rajendra Chhetri
WFH	HV	Jun 2019	Nepal	Army Chief of Staff
WFH	VA	Nov 2020	Nepal	Home Minister Ram Bahadur Thapa
WFH	HV (C)	Apr 2018	Pakistan	Unidentified
WFH	VA	Dec 2020	Pakistan	Prime Minister Imran Khan
WFH	HV	Jul 2018	Russia	Ground Forces Commander-in-Chief Colonel General Oleg Salyukov
WFH	HV	Dec 2018	Russia	Deputy DefMin Andrey Kartapolov
WFH	VA	Sep 2019	Russia	DefMin Sergei Shoigu
WFH	HV	Nov 2019	Russia	First Deputy Director of the Federal Security Service and Director of the Border Service Vladimir Kulishov

WFH	VA	Aug 2023	Russia	DefMin
DJ	HV (C)	Sep 2024	Russia	Deputy DefMin Alexander Fomin
DJ	HV	Oct 2024	Russia	DefMin Andrei Belousov
WFH	VA (C)	Feb 2018	Singapore	DefMin Ng Eng Hen
WFH	HV	Jun 2018	Singapore	Chief of Defense Force Lieutenant-General Melvyn Ong
WFH	HV	Sep 2018	Singapore	Chief of Defense Force Lieutenant-General Melvyn Ong
WFH	HV	Nov 2022	Singapore	DefMin Ng Eng Hen
WFH	VA	Apr 2022	Turkmenistan	DefMin Begench Gundogdyev
WFH	HV	Jan 2023	Turkmenistan	DefMin Begench Gundogdyev
WFH	HV	Jun 2018	USA	SecDef James Mattis
WFH	VA	Nov 2018	USA	SecDef James Mattis
CWQ	VA	Dec 2017	Uzbekistan	DefMin Abdusalom Azizov
WFH	HV	Apr 2018	Uzbekistan	DefMin
WFH	HV	Nov 2018	Vietnam	DefMin Ngo Xuan Lich
WFH	HV	Feb 2019	Vietnam	Vice DefMin
WFH	VA	May 2019	Vietnam	DefMin Ngo Xuan Lich
WFH	VA	Apr 2021	Vietnam	DefMin Senior Lieutenant General Phan Van Giang
WFH	HV	Apr 2022	Vietnam	DefMin General Phan Van Giang
DJ	HV	Aug 2024	Vietnam	DefMin General Phan Van Giang
DJ	VA	Dec 2024	Vietnam	Party General Secretary and Secretary of the CMC Tô Lâm,

HV = Hosted Visit; HV (C) = Separate meeting with the DefMin as part of a Conference; and VA = Visit Abroad.

Appendix H-1: CMC Vice Chairmen Hosted Visits

This appendix is divided into two parts. Part 1 includes Table 13 that shows all of the CMC Vice Chairmen hosted visits from October 2017 through 2024. Part 2 includes the same data in verbal format that includes the relevant citations.

Table 13: CMC Vice Chairmen Hosted Visits

VC	M	Year	Visitor (Name/Billet)	Country	Region	Reason	Separate DefMin Mtg
XQL	11	2017	Commander-in-chief of the Myanmar Defense Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing	Myanmar	ASIA	Visit	
XQL	12	2017	DefMin Tariq Shah Bahrami	Afghanistan	MENA	Visit	
ZYX	4	2018	DefMin Abdusalom Azizov	Uzbekistan	ASIA	Visit	
ZYX	4	2018	DefMin Andrei Ravkov	Belarus	EURO	Visit	
ZYX	4	2018	DefMin Zakir Hasanov	Azerbaijan	MENA	Visit	
XQL	4	2018	DefMin Sergei Shoigu	Russia	EURO	Visit	
ZYX	4	2018	Deputy Minister of Defense and concurrent Director of the General Political Bureau of the Lao People's Army Vilay Lakhambong	Laos	ASIA	Visit	
ZYX	5	2018	DefMin Enkhbold	Mongolia	ASIA	Visit	
ZYX	7	2018	Chief of Air Staff of Pakistan Air Force (PAF), Air Marshal Mujahid Anwar Khan	Pakistan	ASIA	Visit in Urumqi, Xinjiang Uygur AR	
ZYX	7	2018	DefMin Aleksandar Vulin	Iran	MENA	Visit	WFH
ZYX	7	2018	Chief of Army Staff (COAS) of the Pakistan Army General Qamar Javed Bajwa	Pakistan	ASIA	Visit	
ZYX	9	2018	DefMin Brigadier General Amir Hatami	Iran	MENA	Visit	WFH
XQL	10	2018	DefMin Ursula von der Leyen	Germany	EURO	Visit	WFH

ZY X	1 0	201 8	DefMin Sergei Shoigu	Russia	EURO	Visit	
XQ L	1 0	201 8	DefMin Ng Eng Hen	Singapore	ASIA	8th Beijing Xiangsha n Forum (Separate Meetings)	
			DefMin Mohamad Sabu	Malaysia	ASIA		
			Deputy Prime Minister and DefMin Ishwor Pokhrel	Nepal	ASIA		
			Deputy Secretary of the Central Military Commission of the Communist Party and DefMin Ngo Xuan Lich	Vietnam	ASIA		
			Deputy Prime Minister and DefMin Tea Banh	Cambodia	ASIA		
XQ L	1 0	201 8	Chief of the Defense Force Angus Campbell and Secretary of the Department of Defense Greg Moriarty	Australia	AO	Visit to Beijing to attend the 21st Defense Strategic Consultation between the two countries	
XQ L	1 1	201 8	DefMin Javier Zavaleta	Bolivia	SA	4th China- Latin America High- level Defense Forum in Beijing (Separate Meetings)	
			Minister of Public Security in Costa Rica Michael Soto	Costa Rica	CAC		
XQ L	1 1	201 8	Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces Leopoldo Cintra Frias	Cuba	CAC	Visit	
XQ L	1	201 9	DefMin Christopher Pyne	Australia	AO	Visit	
XQ L	2	201 9	Royal Armed Forces Deputy Commander-in-	Cambodia	ASIA	Visit	WFH

			Chief and concurrent Army Commander				
XQ L	3	201 9	Chief of the Army General Staff	South Korea	ASIA	Visit	
XQ L	4	201 9	Commander-in-Chief of Defense Services Min Aung Hlaing	Myanmar	ASIA	Visit (Separate Meeting with XI Jinping)	
XQ L	7	201 9	DefMin Ron Mark	New Zealand	AO	Visit	WFH
ZY X	7	201 9	Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Zubair Mahmood Hayat	Pakistan	ASIA	Visit	
ZY X	8	201 9	DPRK Director of Korean People's Army General Political Department Kim Su Kil	North Korea	ASIA	Visit	
XQ L	9	201 9	Chief of the General Staff and First Deputy Minister of the Cuban Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (MINFAR) Senior Lieutenant General Alvaro Lopez Miera	Cuba	CAC	Visit	
XQ L	1 0	201 9	Armed Forces Chief of the General Staff	Iran	MENA	Visit	
XQ L	1 0	201 9	DefMin Ng Eng Hen	Singapore	ASIA	9th Beijing Xiangsha n Forum (Separate Meetings)	
			DefMin	Vietnam	ASIA		
			Chief of Army Staff Qamar Javed Bajwa	Pakistan	ASIA		
XQ L	1 2	201 9	DefMin	Japan	ASIA	Visit	WFH
XQ L	1 2	201 9	DefMin	Indonesia	ASIA	Visit	WFH
ZY X	6	202 2	Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa	Pakistan	ASIA	Visit in Qingdao, Shandong	
XQ L	8	202 2	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of	Cambodia	ASIA	Visit in Guangzho u,	

			National Defense General Tea Banh			Guangdong	
ZY X	2	2023	Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces and Commander of the Royal Cambodian Army Hun Manet	Cambodia	ASIA	Visit	
ZY X	4	2023	Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir	Pakistan	ASIA	Visit	
ZY X	6	2023	Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee of the Pakistan Army Sahir Shamshad Mirza	Pakistan	ASIA	Visit	
ZY X	10	2023	Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent Minister of Defense	Serbia	EURO	10th Beijing Xiangshan Forum (Separate Meetings)	
			DefMin Win Bakri Daki	Papua New Guinea	AO		
			DefMin Oppah Charm Zvipange Muchinguri	Zimbabwe	SSA		
			DefMin Serge Shoigu	Russia	EURO		
			DefMin Krishna Mathoera	Suriname	SA		
			Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent DefMin Chansamone Chanyalath	Laos	ASIA		
			DefMin Gursed Saikhanbayar	Mongolia	ASIA		
			DefMin Alhaji Mohammed Badaru Abubakar	Nigeria	SSA		
			DefMin Colonel General Zakir Hasanov	Azerbaijan	MENA		
			DefMin Ng Eng Hen	Singapore	ASIA		
HW D			DefMin General Phan Van Giang	Vietnam	ASIA		
			Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent DefMin Tea Seiha	Cambodia	ASIA		

HW D	4	202 4	Chief of the Political Directorate of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces General Víctor Rojo Ramos	Cuba	CAC	Visit				
ZY X	6	202 4	DefMin Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud	Saudi Arabia	MENA	Visit	DJ			
ZY X	8	202 4	US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan	USA	NA	Visit				
ZY X	9	202 4	DefMin Ng Eng Hen	Singapore	ASIA	11th Beijing Xiangshan Forum (Separate Meetings)				
			Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent DefMin General Tea Seiha	Cambodia	ASIA					
			DefMin	Kazakhstan	ASIA					
			DefMin	Vietnam	ASIA					
			Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent DefMin	Laos	ASIA					
			DefMin	Mongolia	ASIA					
			DefMin	Papua New Guinea	AO					
			DefMin	Zimbabwe	SSA					
			DefMin Andrei Belousov	Russia	EURO					
			DefMin	Suriname	SA					
			HW D				Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent DefMin	Myanmar	ASIA	
							Minister of Defense and Veterans	South Africa	SSA	
							Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff	Pakistan	ASIA	

Part 2: Data in Verbal Format

Nov 2017 (E): XQL hosted a meeting with Commander-in-chief of the Myanmar Defense Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.²⁶⁷

Dec 2017 (E): XQL hosted a meeting with Afghanistan DefMin Tariq Shah Bahrami.²⁶⁸

Apr 2018 (E): ZYX hosted separate meetings with Laotian Vice DefMin Vilay Lakhmfon, Uzbek DefMin Abdusalom Azizov, Belarus DefMin Andrei Ravkov.²⁶⁹

Apr 2018 (E): ZYX hosted a meeting with Azerbaijan DefMin Zakir Hasanov.²⁷⁰

Apr 2018 (C/E): XQL hosted a meeting with Russian DefMin Sergei Shoigu.²⁷¹

Apr 2018 (C): ZYX met separately in Beijing with Lao Deputy Minister of Defense and concurrent Director of the General Political Bureau of the Lao People's Army, the Uzbekistan DefMin, and the Belarus DefMin.²⁷²

May 2018 (E): ZYX hosted a meeting with Mongolian DefMin Enkhbold.²⁷³

Jul 2018 (E): ZYX hosted a meeting in Urumqi, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, with the Chief of Air Staff of Pakistan Air Force (PAF), Air Marshal Mujahid Anwar Khan.²⁷⁴ Of note, there was no mention of the PLA Air Force Commander's involvement or why he was in Urumqi.

Jul 2018 (E): ZYX hosted a meeting with met General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Army Staff of the Pakistan Army.²⁷⁵ Major General Zhong Shaojun (Director of the General Office of China's CMC), Major General SHAO Yuanming (Deputy Chief of Staff of China's CMC Joint Staff Department), and Lieutenant General Zhou Songhe (Vice Commander of the PLA Army) also attended the meeting.

Sep 2018 (C/E): ZYX hosted a meeting with Pakistan Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa to discuss how Pakistan's Army provides security to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).²⁷⁶ The Commander of the PLA Army, General HAN Weiguo, also met separately with the delegation.²⁷⁷

Sep 2018 (E): ZYX hosted a meeting with Iran DefMin Brigadier General Amir Hatami.²⁷⁸

Sep 2018 (C): ZYX met with Pakistan's Army Chief of Staff.²⁷⁹

Sep 2018 (C): ZYX met with Iran's DefMin.

Oct 2018 (C/E): ZYX hosted a meeting with Russian DefMin Sergei Shoigu.²⁸⁰

Oct 2018 (E): XQL held several separate talks with DefMins attending the 8th Beijing Xiangshan Forum in Beijing.²⁸¹ These included Ng Eng Hen, Minister of Defense of Singapore, Mohamad Sabu, Minister of Defense of Malaysia, Ishwor Pokhrel, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense of Nepal, Ngo Xuan Lich, Deputy Secretary of the Central Military Commission of the Communist Party and DefMin of Vietnam, and Tea Banh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for National Defense of Cambodia.

Oct 2018 (E): XQL hosted a meeting with Australia's Chief of the Defense Force Angus Campbell and Secretary of the Department of Defense Greg Moriarty, who were on a visit to Beijing to attend the 21st Defense Strategic Consultation between the two countries.²⁸²

Oct 2018 (E): XQL hosted separate meetings during the 8th Beijing Xiangshan Forum with Singapore Minister of Defense, Malaysian Minister of Defense, Nepal Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense, Vietnam Deputy Secretary of the Central Military Commission of the Communist Party and DefMin, and Cambodia Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for National Defense.

Nov 2018 (E): XQL met with foreign representatives attending the 4th China-Latin America High-level Defense Forum in Beijing, including Bolivian DefMin Javier Zavaleta. DefMin WFH also had separate meetings, including Bolivian DefMin Javier Zavaleta and Michael Soto, Minister of Public Security in Costa Rica.²⁸³

Nov 2018 (E): XQL hosted a meeting with Cuban Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces Leopoldo Cintra Frias.²⁸⁴

Jan 2019 (E): XQL hosted a meeting with Australian DefMin Christopher Pyne.²⁸⁵

Feb 2019 (C): XQL and WFH met separately in Beijing with Cambodian Royal Armed Forces Deputy Commander-in-Chief and concurrent Army Commander.²⁸⁶

Mar 2019 (C): XQL met with the South Korean Chief of the Army General Staff.²⁸⁷

Apr 2019 (C/E): PRC President XI Jinping met with Myanmar's Commander-in-Chief of Defense Services Min Aung Hlaing at the Great Hall of the People.²⁸⁸ LZC was the only senior PLA leader who was identified as attending the meeting. XQL met separately with him.

Jul 2019 (C/E): XQL hosted a meeting with New Zealand DefMin Ron Mark.²⁸⁹ DefMin WFH also hosted a separate meeting.

Jul 2019 (C/E): ZYX hosted a meeting with Pakistan Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Zubair Mahmood Hayat.²⁹⁰

Aug 2019 (E): ZYX hosted a meeting with North Korean (DPRK) Director of Korean People's Army General Political Department Kim Su Kil.²⁹¹

Sep 2019 (E): XQL hosted a meeting with Senior Lieutenant General Alvaro Lopez Miera, Cuba's Chief of the General Staff and First Deputy Minister of the Cuban Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (MINFAR).²⁹²

Sep 2019 (C): XQL met with Iran's Armed Forces Chief of the General Staff in Beijing.²⁹³

Oct 2019 (E): XQL hosted a meeting with Singapore DefMin Ng Eng Hen during the 9th Beijing Xiangshan Forum.²⁹⁴

Oct 2019 (C): XQL met with Vietnam's DefMin during the 9th Beijing Xiangshan Forum.²⁹⁵

Oct 2019 (C/E): XQL hosted a meeting with Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff Qamar Javed Bajwa.²⁹⁶

Dec 2019 (C): XQL and WFH met separately with Japan's DefMin.²⁹⁷

Dec 2019 (C): XQL and WFH met separately with Indonesia's DefMin.²⁹⁸

Oct 2019 (E): XQL hosted a meeting with Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff Qamar Javed Bajwa.²⁹⁹

Jun 2022 (E): ZYX hosted a meeting in Qingdao, Shandong, with Pakistan Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa.³⁰⁰

Aug 2022 (C/E): XQL hosted a meeting in Guangzhou, Guangdong, with Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defense General Tea Banh.³⁰¹

Feb 2023 (C/E): ZYX hosted a meeting with Hun Manet, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces and Commander of the Royal Cambodian Army.³⁰²

Apr 2023 (E): ZYX hosted a meeting with Pakistani Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir.³⁰³

Jun 2023 (C/E): ZYX hosted a meeting with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee of the Pakistan Army Sahir Shamshad Mirza.³⁰⁴

Oct 2023 (E): ZYX attended the 10th Beijing Xiangshan Forum and presented a keynote speech.³⁰⁵

Oct 2023 (E): ZYX hosted a meeting with Serbian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense

Oct 2023 (E): ZYX hosted separate meetings with DefMins of Papua New Guinea (PNG) (Win Bakri Daki) Zimbabwe (Oppah Charm Zvipange Muchinguri), and Russia (Sergei Shoigu), who were attending the 10th Beijing Xiangshan Forum.³⁰⁶ He also had separate meetings with Lao Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defense Chansamone Chanyalath and Mongolian Minister of Defense Gursed Saikhanbayar.³⁰⁷

Oct 2023 (E): HWD hosted separate meetings with DefMins of Nigeria (Alhaji Mohammed Badaru Abubakar), Azerbaijan (Colonel General Zakir Hasanov), Singapore (Ng Eng Hen), and Vietnam (General Phan Van Giang), and the Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and DefMin (Tea Seiha), who were attending the 10th Beijing Xiangshan Forum in China.³⁰⁸

Oct 2023 (C): HWD hosted a meeting with Vietnam's DefMin.³⁰⁹

Nov 2023 (E): ZYX hosted a meeting with Suriname DefMin Krishna Mathoera who was attending the 10th Beijing Xiangshan Forum.³¹⁰

Apr 2024 (C/E): HWD hosted a meeting with General Víctor Rojo Ramos, who was the Chief of the Political Directorate of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces.³¹¹

Jun 2024 (E): ZYX hosted a meeting with Saudi DefMin Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud.³¹²

Jun 2024 (E): ZYX, vice chairman of CMC, and DJ met separately on the same day with Saudi DefMin Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud.³¹³

Aug 2024 (E): ZYX hosted a meeting with US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan.³¹⁴

Sep 2024 (C/E): ZYX hosted separate meetings during the 11th Beijing Xiangshan Forum with Singapore DefMin Ng Eng Hen, and Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent DefMin General Tea Seiha.³¹⁵

Sep 2024 (C): HWD hosted separate meetings with the following people during the 11th Beijing Xiangshan Forum: Myanmar’s Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent DefMin; South African Minister of Defense and Veterans; and Pakistan’s Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.³¹⁶

Sep 2024 (C): ZYX hosted separate meetings with the following people during the 11th Beijing Xiangshan Forum: Kazakh DefMin and Vietnamese DefMin.³¹⁷

Oct 2024 (C): ZYX hosted separate meetings with Laos’ Deputy Prime Minister and concurrent DefMin and with Mongolia’s DefMin as part of the 11th Beijing Xiangshan Forum.³¹⁸

Oct 2024 (C): ZYX hosted separate meetings with Papua New Guinea’s DefMin and Zimbabwe’s DefMin as part of the 11th Beijing Xiangshan Forum.³¹⁹

Oct 2024 (C/E): ZYX hosted a meeting with Russian DefMin Andrei Belousov.³²⁰

Nov 2024 (C): ZYX hosted a meeting with Surinam’s DefMin in conjunction with the 11th Beijing Xiangshan Forum.³²¹

Appendix H-2: CMC Vice Chairmen Visits Abroad

This appendix is divided into two parts. Part 1 includes Table 14 that shows all of the CMC Vice Chairmen’s visits abroad from October 2017 through 2024. Part 2 includes the same data in verbal format that includes the relevant citations.

Table 14: CMC Vice Chairmen Visits Abroad

VC	M	Year	Country	Region	Host	Other Meetings	Reason
ZYX	5	2018	Pakistan	ASIA	Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Zubair Mahmood Hayat	Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi Acting President and Chairman of the Senate of Pakistan Sadiq Sanjrani Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Mujahid Anwar Khan Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi	Visit

XQL	10	2018	Kyrgyzstan	ASIA	Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Kyrgyzstan, Rayimberdi Duishenbiev	President Sooronbai Jeenbekov and Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Kyrgyzstan, Rayimberdi Duishenbiev	Visit
			Tajikistan	ASIA	DefMin General Sherali Mirzo	President Emomali Rahmon	
			Kazakhstan	ASIA	DefMin Nurlan Ermekbaev	Chairman of the Senate Kassym-Jomart Tokayev	
XQL	6	2019	Mozambique	SSA	DefMin Atanasio M'tumuke	President Filipe Nyusi	Visit
			Angola	SSA	DefMin	President Joao Lourenco	
XQL	8	2019	Pakistan	ASIA	Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee Zubair Mahmood Hayat	President Arif Alvi	Visit
						Prime Minister Imran Khan	
						Chief of Army Staff Qamar Javed Bajwa	
						Chief of Naval Staff Zafar Mahmood Abbasi	
						Chief of Air Staff Mujahid Anwar Khan	
ZYX	11	2019	Russia	EURO	DefMin General Sergei Shoigu	President Vladimir Putin	Visit
HWD	12	2023	Cambodia	ASIA	DefMin		Visit
			Laos	ASIA	DefMin		
ZYX	10	2024	Vietnam	ASIA	DefMin Phan Van Giang	General Secretary of the Communist Party To Lam	Visit
						President Luong Cuong	

						Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh	
HW D	1 2	202 4	Cuba	CAC	First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and concurrently the President Miguel Diaz-Canel	Leader of the Cuban Revolution General Raul Castro Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba. Álvaro López Miera	Visit

Part 2: Data in written Format

Dec 2017 (E): ZYX Visited Russia and met separately with Russian DefMin Sergei Shoigu and President Vladimir Putin.³²² The delegation included Lieutenant. General LI Shangfu, director of the Equipment Development Department under the CMC, and Lieutenant General MA Yiming, who is a Deputy Chief of Staff of the Joint Staff Department under the CMC.

May 2018 (E): ZYX Visited Pakistan and had separate meetings with Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, Sadiq Sanjrani, who was the acting president and chairman of the Senate of Pakistan, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Zubair Mahmood Hayat, Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Mujahid Anwar Khan and Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Zafar Mahmood Abbasi.³²³ Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Yao Jing and Major General SHAO Yuanming, who is a Deputy Chief of the Joint Staff Department of the CMC were present at the above meetings.

Sep 2018 (E): XQL Visited Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Kazakhstan. He met separately with Kyrgyz President Sooronbai Jeenbekov and Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Kyrgyzstan, Rayimberdi Duishenbiev;³²⁴ met separately with Tajikistani President Emomali Rahmon and DefMin General Sherali Mirzo;³²⁵ and met separately with Chairman of the Senate of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev and DefMin Nurlan Ermekbaev.³²⁶

Jun 2019 (E): XQL Visited Mozambique and Angola, where he met separately in Mozambique with President Filipe Nyusi and DefMin Atanasio M'tumuke,³²⁷ and in Angola with President Joao Lourenco.³²⁸

Aug 2019 (E): XQL visited Pakistan and had a joint meeting with President Arif Alvi and Prime Minister Imran Khan and separate meetings with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee Zubair Mahmood Hayat, Chief of Army Staff Qamar Javed Bajwa, Chief of Naval Staff Zafar Mahmood Abbasi and Chief of Air Staff Mujahid Anwar Khan.³²⁹

Nov 2023 (E): ZYX Visited Russia and had separate meetings with President Vladimir Putin and the DefMin General Sergei Shoigu.³³⁰

Dec 2023 (E): HWD Visited Cambodia and Laos.³³¹

Oct 2024 (E): ZYX Visited Vietnam and met separately with To Lam, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam; Luong Cuong, President; Pham Minh Chinh, Prime Minister; and DefMin Phan Van Giang.³³²

Dec 2024 (C/E): HWD visited Cuba and met Miguel Diaz-Canel, who was the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and concurrently the Cuban President.³³³

During his visit, he also visited General Raul Castro, leader of the Cuban Revolution, and met with Álvaro López Miera, Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba.

Appendix I-1: Chief of the Joint Staff Department Hosted Visits

This appendix is divided into two parts. Part 1 includes Table 15 that shows all of the Chief of the CMC Joint Staff Department hosted visits from October 2017 through 2024. Part 2 includes the same data in verbal format that includes the relevant citations.

Table 15: Chief CMC JSD Hosted Visits

CO S	M	Year	Visitor (Name/Billet)	Country	Region	Reason
LZ C	11	2017	Commander of the Zimbabwe Defense Forces General Constantine Guveya Chiwenga	Zimbabwe	SSA	Visit
LZ C	11	2017	Chief of General Staff of the Pakistan Army Lieutenant General Bilal Akbar	Pakistan	ASIA	Visit
LZ C	12	2017	Chief of the General Staff of the Mozambique Defense Armed Forces (FADM) Rear Admiral Lázaro Henriques Lopes Menete	Mozambique	SSA	Visit
LZ C	5	2018	Chief of the Main Operational Directorate of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces Colonel General Sergei Rudskoy	Russia	EURO	Attend PLA's and Russian Armed Forces' 20th Round of Strategic Consultation
LZ C	8	2018	Chief of the South African National Defense Force General Solly Shoke	South Africa	SSA	Visit
LZ C	8	2018	Head of the General Staff of the Armed Forces, First Deputy DefMin Oleg Belokonev	Belarus	EURO	Visit to discuss cooperation in joint military training. Oleg Belokonev observed the active phase of the joint Belarus-China anti-terror exercise Hunting Falcon 2018

						in the city of Jinan.
LZ C	1	201 9	Chief of Naval Operations Admiral John Richardson	USA	NA	Visit
LZ C	1	202 2	Secretary of Defense and Chief Executive of the Ministry of Defence of New Zealand Andrew Bridgman	New Zealand	AO	Video call
LZ C	7	202 2	Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Mark Milley	USA	NA	Video call
LZ L	6	202 3	First Deputy Minister of Defence of the Russian Federation and also Chief of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces General Valery Gerasimov	Russia	EURO	Video call
LZ L	1 2	202 3	Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Charles Q. Brown	USA	NA	Video call
LZ L	5	202 4	British Chief of the Defence Staff	UK	EURO	Video call

Part 2: Data in Verbal Format

Nov 2017 (E): LZC hosted a meeting with General Constantine Gueveya Chiwenga, Commander of the Zimbabwe Defense Forces.³³⁴

Nov 2017 (E): LZC hosted a meeting with Lieutenant General Bilal Akbar, the Chief of General Staff of the Pakistan Army.³³⁵

Dec 2017 (E): LZC hosted a meeting with met with Rear Admiral Lázaro Henriques Lopes Menete, Chief of the General Staff of the Mozambique Defense Armed Forces (FADM).³³⁶

May 2018 (E): LZC hosted a meeting with the Russian delegation that was attending the PLA's and Russian Armed Forces' 20th round of strategic consultation in Beijing.³³⁷ Major General SHAO Yuanming, who is a Deputy Chief of Staff of the Joint Staff Department of China's CMC, and Colonel General Sergei Rudskoy, chief of the Main Operational Directorate of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces, co-hosted the consultation.

Aug 2018 (E): LZC hosted a meeting with the Chief of the South African National Defense Force General Solly Shoke.³³⁸ Major General SHAO Yuanming, who is a Deputy Chief of Staff of CMC Joint Staff Department, and General Solly Shoke co-chaired the meeting.

Aug 2018 (E): LZC hosted a meeting with Belarus's Head of the General Staff of the Armed Forces, First Deputy DefMin Oleg Belokonev to discuss the development of cooperation in joint military training.³³⁹ Oleg Belokonev observed the active phase of the joint Belarus-China anti-terror exercise Hunting Falcon 2018 in the city of Jinan.

Jan 2019 (E): LZC hosted a meeting US Chief of Naval Operations Admiral John Richardson.³⁴⁰ Of note, the PLA Navy Commander, Vice Admiral SJL, was the host for his full visit.³⁴¹

Jan 2022 (E): LZC held talks via video link with Andrew Bridgman, Secretary of Defense and Chief Executive of the Ministry of Defence of New Zealand.³⁴²

Jul 2022 (E): LZC held a video talk at the invitation of General Mark Milley, US Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.³⁴³

Jun 2023 (E): LZL held video talks with General Valery Gerasimov, who was the First Deputy Minister of Defence of the Russian Federation and also Chief of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces.³⁴⁴

Dec 2023 (E): LZL held a video meeting at invitation of General Charles Q. Brown, Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff.³⁴⁵

May 2024 (E): LZL held a video talk with British Chief of the Defence Staff

Appendix I-2: Chief of the Joint Staff Department Visits Abroad

This appendix is divided into two parts. Part 1 includes Table 16 that shows all of the Chief of the CMC Joint Staff Department’s visits abroad from October 2017 through 2024. Part 2 includes the same data in verbal format that includes the relevant citations.

Table 16: Chief CMC JSD Visits Abroad

CO S	M	Year	Country	Region	Host	Other Meetings	Reason
LZC	8	2018	Russia	EURO	DefMin Sergei Shoigu	Chief of General Staff Valery Gerasimov	Attend the 5th meeting of Chiefs of Staff of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Members. Participants of the meeting also observed “Peace Mission-2018” SCO joint anti-terrorist drills in Russia’s Chelyabinsk.
LZC	11	2019	New Zealand	AO	Chief of New Zealand Defense Force (NZDF) Air Marshal Kevin Short, and Secretary of Defense and Chief Executive of the Ministry of Defense, Andrew Bridgman, co-chaired the event.	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand Winston Peters	Attend the 10th Strategic Dialogue between the Chinese and New Zealand Militaries

Part 2: Data in Verbal Format

Aug 2018 (E): LZC visited Russia to attend the 5th meeting of Chiefs of Staff of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) members and met separately with the DefMin Sergei Shoigu and Chief of General Staff Valery Gerasimov.³⁴⁶ Participants of the meeting also observed “Peace Mission-2018” SCO joint anti-terrorist drills in Russia’s Chelyabinsk.

Nov 2019 (E): LZC visited New Zealand to attend the 10th Strategic Dialogue between the Chinese and New Zealand militaries.³⁴⁷ LZC and Air Marshal Kevin Short, Chief of New Zealand Defense Force (NZDF), and Andrew Bridgman, New Zealand’s Secretary of Defense and Chief Executive of the Ministry of Defense, co-chaired the event. LZC also met with Winston Peters, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand. Chinese Ambassador to New Zealand Wu XI attended the meeting.

Appendix J: Director of the Political Work Department Hosted Visits and Visits Abroad

Director of the Political Work Department: Director of the CMC Political Work Department Admiral MIAO Hua (MH/苗华), who assumed the position in Oct 2017 but was relieved of duty in Nov 2024 for corruption. During this time, he traveled abroad three times and hosted two meetings, including one by video.

Jul 2018 (C): MH hosted a delegation from Vietnam.³⁴⁸

Jan 2019 (C): MH visited Laos and met with Bounnhang Vorachith, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and President of the People's Republic of China, the Lao Defense Minister Chansamone, and the Director of the General Political Bureau of the Lao People's Army Thonglo.³⁴⁹

May 2019 (C): MH visited Cuba and met with Raul Castro, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba.³⁵⁰

Oct 2019 (C): MH visited North Korea and was hosted by Li Suyong, Vice Chairman of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Minister of International Affairs.³⁵¹

Aug 2020 (E): MH had a video call with General Chalermphol Srisuwat, Chief of Joint Staffs of the Royal Thai Armed Forces, during the China-Thailand Military-to-Military Video Conference on Poverty Alleviation.³⁵² Of note, this was Miao’s only interaction with any foreign leaders during his tenure as the Director of the CMC Political Work Department (Aug 2017 – Nov 2024).

Appendix K: Service Commanders Hosted Visits and Visits Abroad

Of the three Army Commanders, three Navy, and two Air Force Commanders since the 19th Party Congress, only one Army Commander hosted any visits and none of them traveled abroad; only one Navy Commander hosted a visit and none of them traveled abroad, and only one Air Force Commander hosted a visit and also traveled abroad once to two countries. Each Air Force Commander also held a video call.

PLA Army Commander Hosted Visits and Visits Abroad

Sep 2018 (E): HWG hosted a meeting with the Pakistan Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javaid Bajwa, who also had a separate meeting with ZYX.³⁵³

PLA Navy Commander Hosted Visits and Visits Abroad

Jan 2019 (E): SJL hosted a meeting US Chief of Naval Operations Admiral John Richardson, who also had a separate meeting with LZC.³⁵⁴

PLA Air Force Commander Hosted Visits and Visits Abroad

Nov 2017 (E): DLH hosted a video call with Bulgarian Air Force Commander Major General Tsanko Stoychev.³⁵⁵

Nov 2017 (E): DLH hosted a meeting with the Commander of the Zambian Air Force (ZAF) Lieutenant General Eric Mwaba Chimese.³⁵⁶

Apr 2018 (E): DLH visited Thailand and Pakistan.³⁵⁷

Aug 2022 (E): CDQ held talks with Air Chief Marshal Napadej Dhupatemiya, Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Air Force, via video link.³⁵⁸

Appendix L: JSD and OIMC Military Diplomacy Key Personnel

This appendix briefly discusses the background and evolution of the CMC's Office of International Military Cooperation (OIMC), which is the main organization responsible for managing and coordinating PLA relationships with foreign militaries.³⁵⁹ In addition, it examines the role of the Joint Staff Department in military diplomacy.

A Brief History

The PLA's Foreign Affairs Office originated in 1951 when the CCP's CMC created a subordinate Foreign Liaison Division. After the Ministry of National Defense (MND) was formed in 1954, the PLA used this office as a base to establish a subordinate Foreign Affairs Office (FAO) in 1955 that received dual guidance from the General Staff Department (GSD) Intelligence (Second) Department and the MND General Office (办公厅). In 1959, the FAO was placed solely under the MND's General Office. In January 1964, the office expanded to become the Foreign Affairs Bureau (FAB/外事局) under the General Office. In 1965, the bureau was re-subordinated under the GSD, where it underwent unidentified organizational adjustments. From then on, the GSD Foreign Affairs Bureau and MND Foreign Affairs Bureau were dual hatted with MND's FAB providing a veneer for GSD activities. In December 1998, both the GSD and MND changed the name of the Foreign Affairs Bureau to the Foreign Affairs Office.

Impact of 2016 Reforms

On 11 Jan 2016, the CMC underwent a reorganization from a General Headquarters System to a Multi-Department System in which four General Departments were transformed into 15 organizations. As a result of these reforms, the Foreign Affairs Office was not only renamed to the Office for International Military Coordination (OIMC; 国际军事合作办公室), but it was also elevated into the CMC's new Multi-Department Organization System to become the 13th ranked department in protocol order. Concurrently, these reforms also abolished the former GSD Foreign Affairs Office. According to the official MND website: "The OIMC is mainly responsible for foreign military exchanges and cooperation, and for managing and coordinating the foreign affairs work of the whole military."³⁶⁰

OIMC Organizational Structure

So far, only a few organizations have been identified as being subordinate to the OIMC, including the Eurasian Bureau (欧亚局), the Security Center or Security Cooperation Center (安全合作中心), which is linked to China's peacekeeping activities and is usually identified as belonging to the MND OIMC, and the Arms Control and Compliance Affairs Office (军控和履约事务办公室), which has a subordinate Compliance Affairs Bureau (履约事务局) responsible for overseeing China's Chemical Warfare treaty participation requirements. The OIMC also has a Comprehensive Bureau, Asia Bureau and Americas and Oceanian Affairs Bureau. It most likely has several other regional bureaus that correlate to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' regional departments for Asian Affairs; West Asian and North African Affairs; African Affairs; European-Central Asian Affairs; European Affairs; North American and Oceanian Affairs; and Latin American and Caribbean Affairs.

OIMC Leadership

The following personnel have been identified as the Directors (主任) for the OIMC starting in 2016, each of whom spent most of their career involved in military diplomacy:³⁶¹

- **2016–2017:** Navy Rear Admiral GUAN Youfei (关友飞), who worked in various billets in the GSD and MND Foreign Affairs Office starting in the early 2000s.
- **2017–2018:** Army Major General HU Changming (胡昌明), who served most of his career in the GSD foreign affairs structure to include working as the first attaché in the PRC Embassy in Tanzania in the early 2010s and as a Deputy Director of the OIMC from 2016 – 2017.
- **2018–(2022):** Army Major General CI Guowei (慈国巍). He previously served as the PRC Military Attaché in Kyrgyz Republic and then the Director of the GSD Foreign Affairs Office's Eurasian Bureau. He then served as a Deputy Director of the MND Foreign Affairs Office and then as a Deputy Director of the OIMC before becoming the Director in 2018.

It appears that there have been at least four deputy directors (副主任) of OIMC since 2016 as well, each of whom were a major general or rear admiral before receiving a promotion. There are normally at least two to three deputy directors at the same time. It is not clear who, besides HUANG Xueping, is currently serving as a deputy.

- **2016-December 2018:** Major General CI Guowei
- **2016-2017:** Major General HU Changming
- **2016-November 2017:** Rear Admiral LI Ji (李际)
- **November 2017-(2022):** Major General HUANG Xueping (黄雪平).

CMC OIMC Military Diplomacy Activities

The MND's English-language website catalogued 13 events involving the CMC OIMC from 2018 to 2022, which are listed below. An unexplained phenomenon, however, is what conditions spur publicization of meetings and other events since some routine official OIMC talks are published in one period but not on other occasions. Of note, none of the articles identified the participants as from the MND OIMC, nor did they mention any participation by JSD representatives.

Joint Staff Department Military Diplomacy Involvement

It is still not exactly clear how the current CMC Joint Staff Department (JSD), which replaced the GSD in 2016, is actively involved in managing military diplomacy. The PLA has always assigned the military diplomacy portfolio to one of the Deputy Chiefs of the former General Staff Department or current Joint Staff Department. The current Deputy Chief of Staff with this portfolio since August 2017 is Lieutenant General SHAO Yuanming (邵元明). The meetings he has chaired are listed below:

- **January 2018:** China and Myanmar Diplomacy and Defense Consultations in Naypyidaw, Myanmar.
- **May 2018:** China and Russia 20th round of strategic consultation in Beijing.
- **September 2018:** China and Russia "Vostok-2018" strategic joint military exercise at the Tsugol training range in Russia's Trans-Baikal, where SHAO was the PLA exercise director.
- **April 2021:** China and Vietnam 10th Defense and Security Consultation in Dongxing, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.
- **September 2021:** China and Singapore 8th Defense Policy Dialogue via video link.
- **January 2022:** China and France 16th China-France Defense Strategy Consultation via video link.

- **January 2022:** China and United Kingdom 8th Defense Strategy Consultation via video link.

Additional Information

Based on information from the database used for this report, the following Deputy Chiefs of the Joint Staff Department have been actively involved in military diplomacy:³⁶²

- Lieutenant General SHAO Yuanming who served as a Deputy Chief of the Joint Staff Department from Feb 2017 through 2022 co-chaired multiple bilateral dialogues and consultations in Beijing with countries,³⁶³ including France,³⁶⁴ Russia,³⁶⁵ South Africa,³⁶⁶ India, Cambodia, Vietnam,³⁶⁷ USA, Germany, Iran, Kenya, Ethiopia, United Kingdom,³⁶⁸ and Singapore.³⁶⁹ Some of the meetings were conducted by video. SHAO also held meetings in New Zealand, Australia, U.S., Myanmar, Russia, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, and Cuba.
- Lieutenant General MA Yiming (马宜明) participated as a delegation member in a meeting with Cambodia in Beijing in Dec 2017³⁷⁰ and in Russia in Dec 2017.³⁷¹

There are several Deputy Directors for the CMC OIMC, each of whom are responsible for certain countries/regions. Unfortunately, a full list of names was not found. The following key personnel from the CMC OIMC presided over dialogues in Beijing:

- Lieutenant General HU Changming (胡昌明), who was the Director of OIMC from 2017 through 2018, hosted with 2nd China-US Asia-Pacific Security Dialogue in Dec 2017 with U.S. Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense David Helvey.³⁷²
- In Feb 2023, Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Sun Weidong and his Japanese counterpart Shigeo Yamada hosted the 17th China-Japan Security Dialogue in Tokyo.³⁷³ Major General ZHANG Baoqun (张保群),³⁷⁴ a Deputy Director of the CMC OIMC, attended the Dialogue. ZHANG traveled to Nepal in Mar 2024 and met with the Army Chief.³⁷⁵
- Major General YE Jiang (叶江)³⁷⁶ met with Dr. Michael Chase, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for China, Taiwan, and Mongolia, in Beijing for the 18th U.S.-PRC Defense Policy Coordination Talks in Sep 2024.³⁷⁷

¹ Center for the Study of Chinese Military Affairs, *Chinese Military Diplomacy Database* version 5.00 (Washington, DC: National Defense University, 2025). © Phillip C. Saunders, 2025.

² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chang_Wanquan.

³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wei_Fenghe.

⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Li_Shangfu.

⁵ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dong_Jun.

⁶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chang_Wanquan.

⁷ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wei_Fenghe.

⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Li_Shangfu.

⁹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dong_Jun.

¹⁰ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xu_Qiliang.

¹¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zhang_Youxia.

¹² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/He_Weidong.

¹³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Li_Zuocheng.

¹⁴ [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liu_Zhenli_\(general\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liu_Zhenli_(general)).

¹⁵ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Miao_Hua.

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- ²⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dong_Jun.
- ²⁵ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hu_Zhongming. <https://zh.wikipedia.org/wiki/胡中明>.
- ²⁶ DLH was not promoted to General until Jul 2019.
- ²⁷ CDQ received a concurrent rank promotion to General at the same time he became the PLAAF Commander.
- ²⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ding_Laihang. Kenneth W. Allen, *Commanders of the People’s Liberation Army Air Force: An Overview*, (Montgomery, AL: Air University China Aerospace Studies Institute (CASI), 11 Feb 2021). Accessed at <https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/CASI/Display/Article/2501047/commanders-of-the-pla-air-force/>.
- ²⁹ Of note, the official *PLAAF Website* kj.81.cn did not have any articles about these visits. The information was accessed at https://www.weibo.com/5704916395/GbAQ3aZtq?type=comment#_rnd1562957313627 and the *Pakistan Daily Times*’ “PLAAF Commander Addresses PAF Graduation Parade,” 14 Apr 2018, accessed at <https://dailytimes.com.pk/227907/plaaf-Commander-addresses-paf-graduation-parade/>.
- ³⁰ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chang_Dingqiu. <https://zh.wikipedia.org/wiki/常丁求>.
- ³¹ https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/wjbj/zjzj_663340/.
- ³² Frank Miller, “Ministry of National Defense” (Chapter 3), in Frank Miller, Tung Ho, and Kenneth Allen, editors, *The People’s Liberation Army as Organization Volume 3.0*, Exovera/Jamestown. When a trip crosses lines of bureaus, both are typically involved. MinDef Adm DONG Jun’s speech at the 21st Shangri-La Dialogues (28 May-3 Jun 2024) falls under the Asian Affairs Bureau responsibility while his follow-on visit to New Zealand would be handled by the America’s and Oceania Bureau. <http://www.mod.gov.cn/gfbw/jsjw/16311587.html>.
- ³³ Department of Policy Planning, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, *China’s Foreign Affairs 2012*, (Beijing, World Affairs Press, 28 Mar 2012).
- ³⁴ Matt Rosenberg, “Official Listing of Countries by World Region: The Eight Groupings of the World by Location and Culture”; updated 28 Aug 2024 and accessed at <https://www.thoughtco.com/official-listing-of-countries-world-region-1435153>.
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- ³⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shanghai_Cooperation_Organisation.
- ³⁹ <https://easternherald.com/2023/04/29/sco-has-gone-through-an-extraordinary-journey-of-22-years-li-shangfu/>.
- ⁴⁰ <https://ecrats.org/en/press/news/10208/>.
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- ⁴⁸ <https://www.xiangshanforum.cn/home.html?sessions=第五届香山论坛&code=3he22744C6BABSf2>.
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- ⁵⁰ <https://en.nanhai.org.cn/index/info/content/cid/20/id/1589.html>.
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- ⁵⁷ <https://www.xiangshanforum.cn/>. <https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202409/1319750.shtml>.
- ⁵⁸ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shangri-La_Dialogue. <http://www.iiss.org/conferences/the-shangri-la-dialogue/shangri-la-dialogue-archive/>.
- ⁵⁹ Australia, Brunei, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, South Korea, and Vietnam.
- ⁶⁰ ZHANG only served as one of the DCOGS from Dec 2006 until Jun 2007. Immediately after the Shangri-La Dialogue, he was appointed as the Guangzhou Military Region Commander. Information found at <http://baike.baidu.com/view/763190.htm>. His speech can be found at www.iiss.org/conferences/the-shangri-la-dialogue/shangri-la-dialogue-2007/plenary-session-speeches-2007/second-plenary-session--lt-gen-zhang-qinshen/.
- ⁶¹ Information, including MA Xiaotian's speeches, can be found at www.iiss.org/conferences/the-shangri-la-dialogue/shangri-la-dialogue-2008/plenary-session-speeches-2008/second-plenary-session-the-future-of-east-asian-security/second-plenary-session-lt-general-ma-xiaotian/, www.iiss.org/conferences/the-shangri-la-dialogue/shangri-la-dialogue-2009/plenary-session-speeches-2009/second-plenary-session/lieutenant-general-ma-xiaotian/, and www.iiss.org/conferences/the-shangri-la-dialogue/shangri-la-dialogue-2010/plenary-session-speeches/second-plenary-session/ma-xiaotian/.
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- ⁷⁵ 2000, 2009, 2012, 2018, 2021 (video), and 2024 - Beijing; 2003 - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; 2009 - Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt; 2015 - Johannesburg, South Africa; and 2021 - Dakar, Senegal and Beijing (video).
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http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2019-01/15/content_9405421.htm.
- ³⁵⁵ http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2017-11/28/content_7847062.htm.
- ³⁵⁶ http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2017-11/17/content_7831111.htm.
- ³⁵⁷ Of note, the official *PLAAF Website* kj.81.cn did not have any articles about these visits. The information was accessed at https://www.weibo.com/5704916395/GbAQ3aZtq?type=comment#_rnd1562957313627 and the *Pakistan Daily Times*’ “PLAAF Commander Addresses PAF Graduation Parade,” 14 Apr 2018, accessed at <https://dailytimes.com.pk/227907/plaaf-Commander-addresses-paf-graduation-parade/>.
- ³⁵⁸ http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2022-08/09/content_10177081.htm.
- ³⁵⁹ Unless identified, the information in this appendix came from Chad Sbragia and Kenneth Allen, *Managing the PLA’s Military Diplomacy: Key Institutions and Personnel*, (Washington DC: Jamestown Foundation China Brief,

Volume 22, Issue 21, 18 November 2022), accessed at <https://jamestown.org/program/managing-the-plas-military-diplomacy-key-institutions-and-personnel/>.

³⁶⁰ <http://eng.mod.gov.cn/cmcc/index.htm>.

³⁶¹ <https://www.wikiwand.com/zh-cn/articles/中央军事委员会国际军事合作办公室>. <https://zh.wikipedia.org/wiki/中央军事委员会国际军事合作办公室>.

³⁶² Of note, virtually every organization in the PLA has more than one deputy.

³⁶³ <https://baike.baidu.com/item/邵元明/16709986>. He was promoted to Lieutenant General in Aug 2018.

³⁶⁴ http://eng.mod.gov.cn/news/2022-01/13/content_4902929.htm.

³⁶⁵ http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2018-05/30/content_8045918.htm.

³⁶⁶ http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2018-08/24/content_9262529.htm.

³⁶⁷ http://eng.mod.gov.cn/news/2021-04/23/content_4883852.htm.

³⁶⁸ http://eng.mod.gov.cn/news/2022-01/12/content_4902851.htm.

³⁶⁹ http://eng.mod.gov.cn/news/2021-09/15/content_4894934.htm.

³⁷⁰ http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2017-12/19/content_7873974.htm.

³⁷¹ http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2017-12/06/content_7857475.htm.

³⁷² http://english.chinamil.com.cn/view/2017-12/14/content_7868625.htm.

³⁷³ http://eng.chinamil.com.cn/CHINA_209163/Exchanges/News_209188/16203844.html.

³⁷⁴ <https://baike.baidu.com/item/张保群/62982737>.

³⁷⁵ <https://kathmandupost.com/national/2024/03/10/chinese-army-major-general-zhang-calls-on-coas-sharma>.

³⁷⁶ As a Senior Colonel, YE Jiang served as the Air Force Attache in Washington DC from June 2014 to June 2019.

³⁷⁷ <https://www.pacom.mil/Media/News/News-Article-View/Article/3909065/readout-of-september-2024-us-prc-defense-policy-coordination-talks/>.