MARKAS DAN WILAYAH PEMERINTAHAN ARMADA TENTERA LAUT CHINA
KERTAS PUTIH
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Foreword

The Information Office of the State Council released a white paper entitled “China’s National Defence in 2000.” Following is the “full text”:

The security situation in the Asia-Pacific region has been on the whole stable. Many Asian countries, particularly the East Asian countries, have tided over the financial crisis and their economies are steadily recovering with bright prospects. It is the policy options of most countries to rejuvenate their economies, and enhance dialogue and cooperation. They will continue to develop state-to-state relations in accordance with such principles as sovereign equality and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries. A number of countries have consistency stood for peaceful settlement of disputes, and engaged themselves in security dialogues in a variety of forms, at different levels and through different channels. All this has helped enhance mutual understanding and trust. The cooperation among ASEAN, China, Japan and the Republic of Korea is steadily developing in the economic and financial field. The tense situation on the Korean Peninsula is markedly easing off. China and Viet Nam have signed a land border treaty. The situation in the South China Sea remains generally stable.

However, in today’s world, factors that may cause instability and uncertainties have also increased. The world is far from peaceful. There is a serious disequilibrium in the relative strength of countries. No fundamental change has been made in the old, unfair and irrational international political and economic order. Harmonious and powerful politics still exist and are developing further in the international political, economic and security spheres. Certain big powers are pursuing “neo-interventionism,” “neo-gunboat policy” and neo-economic colonialism, which are seriously damaging the sovereignty, independency and developmental interests of many countries, and threatening world peace and security. The United Nations’ authority and role in handling international and regional security affairs are being seriously challenged. Under the pretenses of “humanitarianism” and “human rights,” some countries have frequently resorted to the use or threat of force, in flagrant violation of the UN Charter and other universally recognized principles governing international relations. In particular, the NATO, by-passing the UN Security Council, launched military attacks against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, producing an extremely negative impact on the international situation and relations between countries. A series of negative developments have occurred in the areas of arms control and disarmament. In particular, a certain country is still continuing its efforts to develop and introduce the National Missile Defence (NMD) and Theatre Missile Defence (TMD) systems, which have undermined the international community’s efforts to stem the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and to promote disarmament. As modern science and technology and economic globalization continue to develop, competition among countries has become fiercer than ever before. Financial and economic risks are increasing, and economic security has become a concern for all countries. The gap in development and the disparity between rich and poor countries continue to widen all over the world, particularly between the South and North, polarization has become an increasingly serious problem.

Local wars and armed conflicts have increased again, with conflicts and turbulence caused by ethnic, religious, territorial, resources or other factors cropping up one after the other. Some countries have continued to enlarge military bioes, strengthen military alliances and seek greater military superiority.
pose of promoting the economic, scientific and cultural development of all countries, and benefiting all mankind. Such activities as the testing, deployment or use of weapons, weapon systems or their components should be banned in outer space, in order to prevent the militarization of and an arms race in outer space. At present, there are international plans and policies to foster cooperation of national military and strategic superiority in, and control of, outer space. They are not only real but also growing. Therefore, it is realistic and urgent that the international community takes effective measures to stop such negative developments.

Over a period of years, the international community has, for the purpose of promoting the peaceful uses of outer space and preventing an arms race there, drawn up a series of multilateral or bilateral legal instruments regulating State Party space activities. However, these instruments have not reflected the development of the most advanced aerospace technology today, and therefore are unable to effectively prevent the militarization of or an arms race in outer space. China believes that the most direct and effective way to achieve this purpose in the new century is to negotiate and bring into being a new international legal instrument, in addition to continued strict compliance with the existing ones.

The 54th Session of the UN General Assembly adopted on March 3 the Resolution on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, with an overwhelming majority. The Resolution stresses that the negotiation and conclusion of an international agreement or agreements on the prevention of an arms race in outer space is the top priority of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Conference on Disarmament on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space. This reflects a universal aspiration and an urgent demand of the international community for the prevention of such an arms race. The Conference on Disarmament in Geneva has an important role to play in this respect. It should immediately reestablish the Ad Hoc Committee with a mandate to negotiate a new international legal instrument to realize the militarization of an arms race in outer space.

Anti-personnel landmines

The Chinese Government has always paid a great deal of attention to the accidental injuries to civilians caused by anti-personnel landmines (APL). Since its ratification of the Amendment Protocol to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons in 1998, the Chinese Government and its armed forces have strictly complied with and earnestly implemented the provisions of the Protocol, and have stopped exporting APLs that are not in conformity with the standards set out in the Protocol. In October 1999, China submitted its national report on the implementation of the Protocol to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

In addition, the Chinese Government has made strenuous efforts in mine clearance, both domestically and internationally. From early 1992 to early 1999, the Chinese Government launched two large-scale mine clearance operations on Chinese territory along the Sino-Vietnamese border. Over 2.2 million landmines and explosive devices of various kinds were removed, and more than 700 tons of abandoned ammunition and explosive devices were destroyed. An area of over 300 square kilometres was cleared. Some 290 border trade paths and ports of entry were re-opened, and 60,000 hectares of desertified farmland, pastures and forests were restored to their original state. Thus, the threat posed to the local people by the landmines left over from the border conflict has been eliminated. The Chinese Government has also, in conformity with the requirements of technological co-operation and assistance as prescribed in the protocol, provided every possible assistance to mine-affected countries by contributing to the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Mine Clearance Assistance and donating mine-clearance equipment directly to these countries. In 1998, the Chinese Government donated US$ 100,000 to the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for mine clearance operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina. In October 1999 and May 2000, China sponsored two international mine-clearance training courses in cooperation with the UN, training personnel from seven mine-affected countries (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cambodia, Namibia, Angola, Mozambique, Ethiopia and Rwanda) attended the courses, the contents of which ranged from mine-clearance techniques to operational methods and organizational procedures.

The Chinese Government is of the view that, in addressing the issue of accidental injury to civilians from mines, two-pronged approach should be adopted, i.e., restrictions on the use of landmines and mine clearance. The Amended Protocol, if universally acceded to and effectively carried out, should be able to satisfactorily resolve the problem of abuse and control of landmines. As far as the humanitarian aspect of the issue is concerned, the most urgent task, and the most effective approach, is to clear the landmines scattered in many parts of the world.

The UN Register of Conventional Arms and the issue of small arms

China participated in the UN Register of Conventional Arms from 1992 to 1997. However, since 1997, certain countries, in disregard of relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly, began to register its arms sales to Taiwan in the form of a footnote to its national report. It is obvious that such arms sales to Taiwan are not arms transfers between sovereign states. Furthermore, they constitute infringements upon China's sovereignty and interference in China's internal affairs. To place arms sales to Taiwan on the Register is inconsistent with the nature of the Register as a record of legitimate arms transfers between sovereign states. It can only politicize the Register, and as a result, seriously undermine its integrity and authority. This has forced China to suspend its participation in the Register since 1998. It is China's hope that the party concerned can take immediate and feasible measures to rectify its erroneous practice, so that the seriousness and integrity of the Register can be restored and maintained.

China actively supports international efforts to address the issue of small arms. It is in favour of taking necessary measures to combat illicit activities related to small arms, and the proliferation of such arms accumulation of such arms, so as to mitigate the armed conflicts and turbulences in the countries concerned and curb the further spread of terrorism and drug trafficking. Meanwhile, the Chinese Government is of the view that small arms by themselves are not the root cause of the problem. For most countries, small arms are still an indispensable means of safeguarding their national defence and social order. In addressing the issue of small arms, the sovereignty of the relevant countries should be fully respected, and the basic conditions, requirements and regions should be taken into consideration. It should also be noted that the right of countries to the legitimate possession of and normal trade in small arms should not be affected.

China participated in the 1998 UN Group of Gov't Experts on Small Arms. It supports the convening of the International Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Aspects in 2001. China also took part in the negotiation of the Protocol Against Illicit Manufacturing and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition at the UN Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of the Convention Against Transnational Organized Crimes with a view to joining the international efforts to combat
tention to all three issues by carrying out its substantive work in a balanced manner.

The Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems (hereafter referred to as the ABM Treaty) plays a very important role in maintaining the global strategic balance and stability, promoting nuclear disarmament and enhancing international security. However, in recent years, the United States has accelerated its development of a national missile defense system in disregard of the relevant provisions of the ABM Treaty and the opposition of the international community. China expresses its strong opposition to such moves on the part of the United States, for they will undermine the global strategic balance, severely hamper the nuclear disarmament process and international non-proliferation efforts, jeopardize global peace and regional stability and may even touch off a new round of arms race.

The Resolution on the Preservation of and Compliance with the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, co-sponsored by China, Russia and Belarus, and adopted at the 54th Session of the UN General Assembly with an overwhelming majority, called upon the parties to the ABM Treaty to refrain from the deployment of anti-ballistic missile systems, to safeguard the defense of their territories. It also expressed support for further efforts by the international community to safeguard the inviolability and integrity of the ABM Treaty. The Resolution is a clear manifestation of the international community's opposition to US efforts to develop and deploy missile defense systems, and of its will to safeguard the ABM Treaty. On July 18, 2000, President Jiang Zemin of the PRC and President Vladimir Putin of the Russian Federation signed a joint statement on anti-missile defense. In the statement, the presidents reaffirmed that the ABM Treaty remains the cornerstone of global strategic stability and international security, and constitutes the basis for a framework of the key international agreements designed to reduce and limit offensive strategic weapons and to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Emphasizing that it is totally untenable to press for amending the ABM Treaty on the pretext of so-called missile threats from some countries, the presidents point out that to amend the text of the ABM Treaty is tantamount to an act of undermining the ABM Treaty and will inevitably bring about a series of negative consequences, and that the country which presses for amending this treaty will have to bear the full responsibility for all these consequences. The presidents also reiterate that under the present strategic situation, it is of great practical significance to preserve the integrity and effectiveness of the ABM Treaty. The United States government should earnestly heed the appeal of the international community and stop the development and deployment of missile defense systems that may undermine global strategic stability.

The joint research and development of the theater missile defense (TMD) system by the United States and Japan with a view to deploying it in East Asia will enhance the overall offensive and defensive capabilities of the US-Japan military alliance to an unprecedented level, which will also far exceed the defensive needs of Japan. This will touch off a regional arms race and jeopardize security and stability in the Asia-Pacific region. China expresses its profound concern over such an eventual development. China vigorously opposes the provision of the TMD system, its components and technology, and any such assistance to Taiwan. China is also strongly against any attempt to incorporate Taiwan in any form into the TMD system by any country.

Chemical and biological weapons

China does not possess chemical weapons and has always stood for the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of such weapons. As a State Party to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), China has faithfully fulfilled all its obligations under the Convention. It has submitted its initial declaration and annual declarations in time and in their entirety, and accepted several inspections by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). China was also a full participant in the work of the Executive Council and the Conference of State Parties. China has been active in supporting the work of the OPCW and has co-sponsored, along with the OPCW, a regional seminar on implementation of the Convention, as well as several training courses for inspectors. Since 1998, the State Administration of the Petroleum and Chemical Industry of China added 10 chemicals to the third category of the List of Controlled Chemicals.

It is the view of the Chinese government that the implementation of the Convention has been, on the whole, effective, since it entered into force three years ago. However, there are problems which should not be ignored: The universality of the Convention leaves a lot to be desired; a certain State Party has made de facto reservations regarding the provisions of the Convention, and some State Parties have been very slow destroying their chemical weapons stockpiles. These problems should be put right as soon as possible.

China has been a victim of chemical warfare. Large quantities of chemical weapons abandoned by the aggressors remain on Chinese soil to this day. These weapons still seriously threaten the lives of the local people and have caused serious damage to the ecological environment. In July 1999, the Chinese and Japanese governments signed the Memorandum on the Destruction of the Chemical Weapons Abandoned by Japan in China, in which the Japanese Government explicitly admits the fact of the abandoning of chemical weapons, and undertakes to earnestly fulfill the obligation and duty of destroying these weapons. China urges Japan to start the substantive destruction conscientiously and at the earliest date possible, in accordance with the principles and provisions set forth in the Memorandum.

China does not possess biological weapons, and was once a victim of such weapons. China stands for the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of biological weapons, and strongly opposes the development, production and stockpiling of biological weapons by any country, as well as the proliferation of such weapons and related technology in any form by any country. As a State Party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), China has fully and conscientiously fulfilled its obligations under the Convention and has, on an annual basis, provided the United Nations with information on confidence-building measures in this regard.

China supports the enhancement of the effectiveness of the BWC in a comprehensive manner. Upon its accession to the BWC, China pointed out the absence of concrete and effective measures for verification. China holds that, in order to strengthen the effectiveness of the BWC, a necessary verification mechanism should be established. In view of the complexity of biological weapons and bio-technology, the verification mechanism to be established must be rational, just and feasible. In order to protect the legitimate security and commercial interests of State Parties, concrete measures aimed at preventing the abuse of verification should be provided for. At the same time, there should be mechanisms to promote international co-operation and exchanges among State Parties in the field of bio-technology for purposes not prohibited by the Convention. These measures will be conducive to enhancing the universality of the Convention and the future Protocol.

Prevention of an arms race in outer space

China is strongly opposed to an arms race in outer space. China maintains that the exploration and utilization of outer space should be for the sole pur
Nuclear weapons and missile defence

China has consistently advocated the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons, and has made unremitting efforts to this end. On the very first day it came into possession of nuclear weapons, China solemnly declared that it would not be the first to use such weapons, that it would not use or threaten to use such weapons against non-nuclear weapon states or nuclear-weapon-free zones. In May 2000, China, together with four other nuclear-weapon states, issued a joint statement declaring that their nuclear weapons are not targeted at any country.

China vigorously supports the efforts of the countries concerned to establish nuclear-weapon-free zones on a voluntary basis, and has undertaken to provide both positive and negative security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon states and nuclear-weapon-free zones. In July 1999, China reached an agreement with ASEAN on the text of the Protocol to the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty and became the first among the five nuclear-weapon states to commit itself to signing the Protocol once it is adopted. It is the most universal international arms control treaty, the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) has laid a solid legal foundation for international efforts to stem the proliferation of nuclear weapons, promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy. China supports all efforts to consolidate and strengthen the international mechanism of nuclear non-proliferation, and has faithfully fulfilled its obligations under the NPT. This position of China's will remain unchanged. In December 1998, China signed with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) the Additional Protocol aimed at strengthening the effectiveness of the IAEA safeguards system, undertaking to report to the IAEA China's nuclear cooperation with non-nuclear weapon states.

The CTBT is an important milestone in the process of international nuclear disarmament. As one of the first countries to sign the CTBT, China has been actively participating in the work of the Preparatory Commission of the Treaty Organization, and earnestly carrying out preparatory work for the implementation of the Treaty in China. Being a nuclear-weapon state, China is fully aware of its responsibilities concerning the entry into force of the Treaty. Therefore, the Chinese Government is still committed to the early ratification of the Treaty, despite such negative developments in the past two years as the nuclear tests in India and Pakistan and the US Senate's refusal to ratify the CTBT. Now, the Chinese Government has already completed the necessary preparations and formally submitted the Treaty to the NPC for review and ratification.

China has all along adopted a positive attitude to the negotiation of a convention that prohibits the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons purposes, known as the FMCT. The Chinese Government maintains that progress on the issue of the FMCT negotiations is, and will continue to be, closely related to global peace and security situation. In view of the fact that the United States is accelerating its efforts for the development and possible deployment of a national missile defence system and space weapons, and that the United States and Russia still possess nuclear arsenals large enough to destroy the world many times over, it is China's position that continued nuclear disarmament and the prevention of an arms race in outer space are mutually linked with arms control and disarmament. China's arms control and disarmament efforts are conducive to the relaxation of the international atmosphere, thereby constituting a vital means of safeguarding world peace and enhancing international security. At the same time, the Chinese Government resolutely opposes the attempts of some countries to use arms control and disarmament as a tool to weaken other countries and reinforce their own military superiority for the purpose of seeking regional or global hegemony.

VI. Arms Control and Disarmament

Recent years have witnessed a series of negative developments in the area of international arms control and disarmament, which have undermined the sound momentum of international disarmament efforts hard won following the end of the Cold War. The international community is confronted with grave challenges in its efforts to stem the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and promote disarmament, and with the emerging danger of a new arms race, which has become a cause for serious concern.

The Chinese Government attaches great importance to the issue of arms control and disarmament, and works hard to promote the sound development of the international disarmament process. It believes that fair and rational arms control and disarmament efforts are conducive to the relaxation of the international atmosphere, thereby constituting a vital means of safeguarding world peace and enhancing international security. At the same time, the Chinese Government resolutely opposes the attempts of some countries to use arms control and disarmament as a tool to weaken other countries and reinforce their own military superiority for the purpose of seeking regional or global hegemony.
In April 1996, the heads of state of China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan met in Shanghai for the first time and signed the Agreement on Confidence-building in the Military Field Along the Border Areas. In April 1997, the heads of state of the five countries met again in Moscow and signed the Agreement on Mutual Reduction of Military Forces in the Border Areas. The agreement stipulates that each country should reduce military forces deployed in the border areas to such a minimum level as to be compatible with the good-neighbour relations it enjoys with the other four countries in accordance with the principle of equal security. It reiterates that none of the contracting parties should use or threaten to use military forces in their border areas. They should use any of them to seek military superiority unilaterally; that the military forces of one party deployed in the border areas shall not engage in any military activity to threaten any other party or prejudice the peace and stability of the border areas; and that the number of military personnel and the mobility of the main categories of weaponry and military technical equipment in the geographical areas as defined in the agreement should be reduced or restricted. In July 1998 and August 1999, respectively, the heads of state of the five countries met for the third and fourth times in Almaty in Kazakhstan and Bishkek in Kyrgyzstan, where they signed the relevant statements. In July 2000, the heads of state of the five countries met for the fifth time in Dushanbe of Tajikistan. The president of Uzbekistan attended the meeting as an observer. The Dushanbe Statement signed after the meeting points out that the five countries are playing an increasingly important and positive role in safeguarding regional security and stability and are committed to making the "Shanghai Five" a regional mechanism for their multilateral co-operation in all fields. The five countries have decided to deepen co-operation in the military, political, diplomatic, economic and social fields in order to consolidate regional security and stability, and to effectively implement all the clauses of the agreements they have signed concerning confidence-building in the military field and the mutual reduction of military forces along the border areas. They have made it clear that they will never allow any country to use their territory to conduct any activities detrimental to the sovereignty, security and public order of any of the five countries, and that they will support each other's efforts in safeguarding their national independence, state sovereignty, territorial integrity and social stability.

In March 2000, the defence ministers of the five countries met in Astana of Kazakhstan for the first time. The joint communique signed after the meeting reiterates the determination of the five countries to develop their military and political relations and conduct friendly co-operation based on equality and mutual trust with due consideration to the interests of all the parties and their neighbouring areas. It points out that such co-operation is not exclusive, nor is it directed at any third country or bloc of countries. The five countries stressed the importance of cooperation in other countries' international affairs on the excuse of protecting ethnic or religious interests, or human rights. They declared that they would never tolerate national separatism, religious extremism or terrorism, and that they would absolutely oppose any activity by such forces on their respective territories against other countries. They pledged to jointly take effective measures to crack down on such activities so as to safeguard regional peace and stability. The five agreed that they would further study the possibility of strengthening confidence-building measures in the military field, promote co-operation between frontier departments, and jointly combat transnational crimes, stage joint exercises in preventing dangerous military activities, combating international terrorists and carrying out emergency rescue and disaster relief, share peacekeeping experiences and co-ordinate with each other in peace-keeping operations.

In August 1995, China's Ministry of National Defence and the Frontier Defence General Administration of the Federation of Russia signed the Sino-Russian Agreement on Frontier Defence Co-operation. Under the Agreement, the two sides shall carry out co-operation with each other in frontier defence and make every effort to turn the boundary between China and Russia into one of peace, tranquillity and friendship; exchange information in the interest of frontier defence co-operation; co-ordinate their measures to effectively guard their boundary and maintain certain order through accidental incidents or conflicts in the border areas; co-ordinate with each other in taking measures against illegal activities in the border areas; assist in the search for, detention and timely transfer of people crossing boundaries illegally, together with their transportation means and belonging, exchange experiences on organizing and implementing the defence of their national boundaries; and help each other with technical equipment for the defence of their national boundaries.

In November 1999, China's Ministry of National Defence and the Frontier Guards Administrative Bureau of Mongolia signed the Sino-Mongolian Agreement on Co-operation in Frontier Defence. The agreement stipulates that the two sides shall promote co-operation in frontier defence and make efforts to keep peace and order on the Chinese-Mongolian border, and promote cooperation in frontier defence activities, exchange information in the interest of maintaining normal order in the border areas and related information; discuss measures and share experiences in guarding and managing the border and maintaining normal order, together with their counterparts in accidental incidents or disputes in the border areas; crack down on illegal activities across the border, such as smuggling of weapons, trafficking in narcotics and other contrabands, robbery and theft; strengthen co-operation between boundary representatives of the two sides in handling accidental incidents through consultation, and assist each other in the search for and timely transfer of the people crossing boundaries illegally, together with their transportation means, livestock and other belongings; and inform each other of any possible natural disasters or epidemic diseases which may cause losses to the other and measures to be adopted to prevent them from crossing the boundary.

The relevant government departments and frontier forces of China have faithfully implemented the spirit and essence of the treaties and agreements, and actively promoted exchanges and co-operation with their counterparts of neighbouring countries. They have dealt with boundary affairs in a timely manner and cracked down on illegal activities in the border areas together with their counterparts through communication and consultation mechanism, and frontier talks and meetings. With the gradual establishment and implementation of confidence-building measures, there has been a visible decrease in the number of boundary disputes and incidents, a narrowing of the border areas has been effectively maintained, and a peaceful and friendly atmosphere has gradually prevailed along the boundary.

Participation in UN peace-keeping operations

According to the UN Charter, the UN Security Council is conferred primary responsibility for the maintenance of world peace and stability. As a permanent member of the UN Security Council, China has been committed to the maintenance of international peace and security within the scope of the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, to work for the successful accomplishment of these principles by the United Nations and its specialized agencies. It is important to note that the UN Security Council is the most important body of the United Nations, which is the authoritative and effective organ of the United Nations. The Security Council has the responsibility to maintain international peace and security, and to prevent conflicts from erupting into war. It is the ultimate authority to determine the existence of a threat to the peace, breaches of peace or acts of aggression, and to take appropriate action to maintain international peace and security.
military relations with countries in west Asia, Af-
rica, Latin America and Oceania, as well as those in
eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independ-
ent States. Chinese armed forces have continued to
provide assistance to their counterparts in develop-
ing countries in personnel training, equipment, logis-
tics and medical care, and will seek to widen the scope of contacts in the future.

In May 1999, China postponed its high-level mili-
tary exchange programmes with the United States
in response to the serious incident of bombing of the Chinese Embassy in the Federal Republic of Yu-
slavia by the US-led NATO forces. Following the
gradual improvement of the relations between the
two countries, normal military contacts between
China and the US have resumed. The defence min-
istries of the two countries held defence consulta-
tions at the vice-ministerial level in January 2000.

The US defence secretary visited China in July of
the same year. China has always attached impor-
tance to the development of military relations with
European countries, and has exchanged or main-
tained high-level visits and conducted military ex-
changes with them at various levels.

The past two years have seen good-will visits by
Chinese naval vessels to New Zealand, Australia, the
Philippines, Malaysia, Tanzania and South Africa, and
visits by naval vessels from France, Russia, Aus-
tralia, Malaysia, Belgium, Canada and Turkey. In
addition, China has sent many delegations or groups of military experts to other coun-
tries for visits, training, study or research, and hosted
many similar foreign delegations or groups. These
exchange activities has covered many fields, rang-
ing from military education, training and manage-
ment to scientific research, academic study, culture
and sports, and medical care. In August 1999, the
PLA participated in the Second World Military Games held in Croatia.

New progress has been made in co-operation be-
 tween the PLA and foreign armed forces in military
education and training. In the past two years, more
than 200 Chinese military personnel have been sent
to study in Russia, Germany, France, Britain, Paki-
stan, Bangladesh, Thailand and Kuwait, while nearly
1,000 military personnel from Africa, Latin America
and Europe and other Asian countries have come to
study in China.

Regional security co-operation

China supports regional security dialogue and co-
operation at different levels, through various chan-
nels, in different forms and in a step-by-step man-
ner pursuant to the principles of participation on an
equal footing and reaching consensuses through con-
sultation in the spirit of seeking common ground
while reserving differences. China maintains that
the multilateral security dialogue and co-operation
in the Asia-Pacific region should be oriented toward
and characterized by mutual respect instead of the
strong bullying the weak, co-operation instead of
confrontation, and seeking consensus instead of im-
posing one's own will on others. China has partici-
pated in the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), Confer-
ence on Interaction and Confidence-Building Mea-
 sures in Asia (CICA), Council on Security Co-opera-
tion in the Asia-Pacific Region (CSCAP), Northeast
Asia Co-operation Dialogue (NEACD), Academic
Symposium of China, the United States and Japan,
and other activities for multilateral security dialogue
and co-operation. China stands for enhancing mu-
 tual understanding and trust between countries and
promoting regional peace and stability through these
important governmental and non-governmental chan-
cles of interactions on security and stability.

The ARF is the only pan-Asia-Pacific official
multilateral security dialogue and co-operation fo-
rum at present. Representatives of the Chinese min-
isters of foreign affairs and national defence have
attended all the ARF foreign ministers and senior
officials' meetings. They have also attended official
or unofficial meetings on confidence-building mea-
sures, peace-keeping, maritime search and rescue,
ergency rescue and disaster relief, preventive diplo-
macy, non-proliferation, and guiding principles
within the framework of the ARF. For the past two
years, China has hosted, successively in Beijing, the
ARF Seminar on Tropical Hygiene and Prevention
and Treatment of Tropical Infectious Diseases, the
ARF Professional Training Programme on China's
Security Policy, the 4th ARF Meeting of Heads of
Delegations and the 9th ARF Seminar on Defence
Conversion Co-operation.

China holds that the ARF should continue to fo-
cus on confidence-building measures, explore new
security concepts and methods, and discuss the ques-
tion of preventive diplomacy. At the same time, it
believes that the parties concerned should have a
full discussion first on the concept, definition, prin-
ciples and scope of preventive diplomacy in the Asia-
Pacific region and reach consensus in this regard.

China has actively advocated the development of
multilateral co-operation in military, medicine, mili-
tary law and the conversion of military technologies and
facilities for civilian use within the framework of
the ARF. It has proposed to establish an ARF ma-
 rine information and data centre, encouraged ex-
change of high-level military visits and port calls by
naval vessels, as well as exchanges of military per-
nel, and supported co-operation in emergency
rescue and disaster relief, safety in maritime navi-
gation and marine environmental protection.

China has been an active participant in the pro-
cess of the CICA initiated by Kazakhstan, believing
the purpose of the CICA as generally consistent with
its security goals in Asia. It is of the view that the
CICA should develop step by step with full consider-
ations given to the regional peculiarities and diversi-
ties in Asia.

In 1996, China formally joined the CSCAP, and in
1997 established the CSCAP China Committee.
And it has actively participated in the CSCAP ac-
tivities.

Since the establishment of the NEACD in 1993,
China has attended all its meetings, and in 1996 and
1999, hosted the fourth and ninth NEACD meetings
in Beijing. China has also worked with other mem-
ber states and succeeded in getting the NEACD to
reach agreement on the guiding principles for co-
operation focused on northeast Asian countries.

China has established, with Russia, the United
States, France, Germany, Ukraine, Canada, Austra-
 lia, New Zealand and some neighbouring countries
and regional organizations, mechanisms for regular
or irregular consultations on the issues of security,
defence and arms control. Deserving of maintaining
lasting peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region,
officials and scholars from China's Ministry of Na-
tional Defence and other departments concerned
have involved themselves more extensively and
deeply in symposiums and other activities on Asia-
Pacific security. China has promoted mutual under-
standing and trust between China and the countries
concerned.

Confidence-building measures

The Chinese Government has always attached
importance to confidence-building measures with
neighbouring countries and has worked hard for
their adoption. It has energetically advocated the
conclusion of border treaties or agreements through
talks between the parties concerned on an equal foot-
ing. In accordance with the principles of non-inter-
ference in the internal affairs of other countries and
refraining from directing at any third party and
threatening or harming other countries' security and
stability, so as to safeguard equal security for all the
parties concerned, and regional peace and stability.
security. The basic realization of standardization and serialization of the Army and general-purpose armaments has enhanced the capabilities of fire repression, range, battlefront maneuverability, battlefield intelligence and reconnaissance, operational command and protection, and has thus met the demand for combined operations: The Navy has made great progress in enhancing missile availability, three-dimensional operation capability and information capability, and it thus has acquired the capability of offshore defensive operations. The Air Force has acquired an all-weather, all-aerospace and around-the-clock operational capability of a rather high level, and is being equipped with certain high-tech weapons. The Second Artillery Force has been equipped with short-range, medium-range, long-range and intercontinental missile systems, and has the capability of rapid reaction and mobile operations.

To meet the requirements of an evolving socialist market economy and the restructuring of government organs, the PLA has gradually set up a new weaponry management system since 1998. Based on the strategy of invigorating the armed forces by reliance on science and technology, Chinese armed forces are quickening the pace of new weapon research and development and pushing the development of new armaments by means of scientific and technological innovations. They attach importance to giving play to the role of the market mechanism by encouraging appropriate competition. They are gradually improving their equipment ordering system, and building and improving the research and acquisition-contracting system. A system featuring across-the-board and life-cycle management will be gradually practiced, which would raise the quality and control the life-cycle cost of high-tech weapons, and increase the overall effectiveness of weaponry construction.

In addition, laws and regulations concerning equipment administration and procedures for equipment work will be improved that fit in with the new management system so that the equipment work will be accomplished in an orderly, co-ordinated and highly efficient way.

Facing the world's military developments and the characteristics of modern warfare, the Chinese armed forces will, in the course of modernizing their weaponry, devote themselves to transforming semi-mechanized and mechanized weapon systems to automated and informationalized systems as soon as possible, so that they can possess weapons as advanced as possible and assure the accomplishment of the sacred missions assigned to them by the nation.

Disaster relief

China is a country vulnerable to natural disasters. To help cope with floods from big rivers, droughts and storms in some areas, and mud-rock flows and landslides along railways and highways, the PLA takes an active part in disaster alleviation projects organized by the local governments. During the past two years, it has participated in building over 20,000 km flood-prevention dikes, over 30 reservoirs, over 300 kilometres anti-tide dams, and more than 300 irrigation and drainage pumping stations, including such comprehensive projects as the Xiaolangdi on the Yellow River, the Magu on the Yellow River, the Jinghe River and the Filan River, and the Huanghe River, which have reduced the risk of floods and improved the drainage of the Jinghe River, the Filan River and the Huanghe River. The PLA has actively engaged in relief assistance in the wake of earthquakes in the northwest region of the country and has actively engaged in relief assistance in the wake of earthquakes in the northwest region of the country. China's armed forces have provided 70,000 personnel to participate in disaster relief work, the general headquarters/departments, military area commands, provincial military commands and lower-level commands have all assigned personnel to the national and local rescue and relief command organs, to co-ordinate the command relationships between the military and local governments, formulate rescue and relief measures, establish disaster situation reporting systems, manage relief assets, and implement command and co-ordination of disaster relief in a flexible, rapid, efficient and accurate way. The participating units all have their own rescue plans. Routine rescue rehearsals are conducted to keep boats, planes, motor vehicles and other disaster relief assets in readiness for immediate action in case of any disaster. The past two years have witnessed more than 500,000 PLA officers and men participating in more than 100 rescue and relief operations.

In particular, in the fight against the floods from the Yangtze, Nenjiang and Songhua rivers in 1998, the PLA contributed more than 300,000 officers and men, as well as 12,500 motor vehicles, 1,170 boats and ships and over 200 planes, repaired or reinforced dikes and dams over 10,000 kilometres long, closed breaches and removed dams at more than 14,000 places. They also rescued and evacuated more than 3 million victims, making outstanding contributions to the protection of the people's lives and the State property. The PLA, while engaging in disaster relief, has also taken an active part in post-disaster rehabilitation by raising donations and helping disaster-stricken people to resume production, rebuild homes and overcome difficulties. In the past two years, the armed forces have helped disaster-stricken people to build more than 40,000 houses, and donated over 26 million items of clothing and quilts and other materials worth more than 50 million yuan.

V. International Security

Co-operation and Military Exchanges

China handles its military relations independently, and conducts military exchanges and co-operation with other countries on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. Military diplomacy should serve the State's overall diplomacy and modernization of national defence and the armed forces. In pursuance of this purpose, the PLA has actively engaged in external contacts and exchanges in the political and military field, and made sustained efforts for enhanced mutual trust, friendship and co-operation with armed forces of other countries, and for regional and world peace, stability and development.

Over the past two years, China has sent more than 70 high-level military delegations to over 60 countries, and hosted some 160 high-level foreign military delegations. In addition, the Chinese military has conducted friendly and mutually beneficial exchanges and co-operation with its foreign counterparts in the technical and other specialized fields. In this period, the Chinese PLA has dispatched more than 150 technical or other specialized delegations abroad, while over 180 foreign military delegations of the similar nature have visited China. China has improved its military relations with its neighbouring countries. With active high-level military contacts, the bilateral military relations between China and Russia have developed smoothly. Chinese armed forces have made great efforts to promote ties with the armed forces of the northeast Asian countries, and made positive contributions to the stability of the Korean Peninsula and the Asia-Pacific region. China's military contacts with countries in the south, southeast and central Asia have maintained their momentum. At the same time, China has further strengthened its
Since the founding of the New China, the logistical work of the Chinese armed forces has been making progress constantly. Logistics for the Army alone has evolved into combined logistics for all the services and arms. Simple and backward logistical equipment has evolved into diverse equipment backed by modern technology and some high technology. Logistical support capability for military operations in ordinary conditions has evolved into that under modern, especially high-tech, conditions.

In the 1990s, the logistical work of the Chinese armed forces focused on meeting the need of providing logistical support for local wars in high-tech conditions and strengthening the logistical operational readiness. Logistical work supporting emergency mobile forces has been quickened. Logistical support forces for emergency mobile operations have been organized, and logistical support capability and rapid reaction capability have been enhanced. Investment in war preparation projects has been increased. The scope, distribution and structure of war material reserves have been properly adjusted. And by reliance on science and technology, logistical support has been invigorated, so as to continuously raise the level of the modernization in logistical support.

Marked progress has been made in the research and development of highly technical and specialized logistical equipment to provide the armed forces with flexible and efficient facilities for logistical supply and maintenance support, medical aid and emergency repair, surface replenishment, air refueling and maneuverability support for the Second Artillery Force. In January 2000, the Chinese armed forces started to practise the joint logistics system, which is based on military area commands by the combination of regional support with organic system support and the combination of general supply support with special supply support. Unified general-purpose material supply and service support are provided by military area commands, and special material supply and service support are provided by the services and are integrated through their organic channels.

To keep pace with the development of the socialist market economy and meet the needs of the armed forces' quality construction, the Chinese armed forces have carried out a series of reforms in logistical work. In December 1998, the PLA and the Armed Police Force ceased to engage in commercial activities. Most of the more than 6,000 enterprises run by the military were closed down or handed over to local authorities. In July 1998, in conformity with the requirements of the military industry modernization stipulated in the National Defense [1998] 17, the State Planning Commission and the CMC jointly promulgated the Programme for the Implementation of the Military Insurance System. A military insurance system with Chinese characteristics is gradually taking shape. In addition, the soldiers' casualities, emergency medical assistance and the demobilized soldiers' medical insurance system have been implemented in 1998 and 1999, respectively. In recent years, the Chinese armed forces have endeavored, through continuous explorations, to realize a socialized service system by contracting out certain logistical support items, utilizing market resources and streamlining military support establishments, so as to raise the cost-effectiveness of defence expenditure. From January 2000, mess management, barracks maintenance and post exchange service will be gradually contracted out in organizations located at or above the corps level and academies and hospitals in large and medium-sized cities.

Logistics

The PLA regards logistical construction as an important part of the effort toward comprehensively enhancing combat effectiveness and meeting the needs of modern warfare. On the principle of combining a peace-time with a wartime footing, combining the army with the people, overall planning, embodying key points, scientific management, and diligence and thrift, it strives to provide adequate logistical support for army building, operations and other activities.

Weapony and equipment

Consistently placing weapony construction in a prominent position, the Chinese armed forces strive to transform military equipment and enhance their operational capability for self-defense.

In 1998 China has adhered to the principle of focusing on self-reliance while actively drawing on advanced foreign military technology. It has made great achievements in modernizing its weaponry, providing a powerful support for building a modernized army and safeguarding state sovereignty and
division and the brigade. At present, there are 272 military legal advisory sections with 1,688 full-time or part-time lawyers. Military lawyers serve as legal advisers to the commanding officers and officers in their decision-making, act as defender when accepting authorization by criminal, inadvisability as agent when accepting authorization by military units or servicemen.

Military legal knowledge has been incorporated into the military education and training of the PLA and the curriculum of military academies and schools. In accordance with the unified national plan, China's armed forces have launched three five-year campaigns from 1986 to 2000 to popularize legal knowledge. Law courses are taught in cadets and officers in military academies and schools, covering national laws, military regulations and rules, fundamental legal knowledge and international humanitarian law.

Downsizing and restructuring

In September 1997, China announced an additional reduction of 500,000 military personnel over the next three years. By the end of 1999, this reduction had been achieved, and the adjustment and reform of the structure and organization of the armed forces had been basically completed.

Reducing military personnel by compressing the scale of the armed forces. The PLA was reduced to less than 2.5 million by downsizing the Army, restructuring the naval and air units. Some units with outdated equipment, restructuring logistical support and equipment management systems, military academies and schools and training establishments, and dismantling and merging internal organs of the units at and above the corps level cut 500,000 personnel. Of all the services, the Army was cut by 18.6 per cent; the Navy, 11.4 per cent; the Air Force, 12.6 per cent; and the Second Artillery Force, 2.9 per cent.

Making a good start at and above the corps level by streamlining the organizational structure. By undergoing readjustment of functions, and cutting and merging departments, internal bodies and personnel are reduced. By dismantling and merging subdivisions in the PLA general headquarters, departmental, military area commands and services and arms, both the subordinate sections of the special organs and personnel were reduced by about 20 per cent. Following this, the total number of organs at and above the corps level was reduced by over 1,500, making the command structure leaner, more agile and efficient. Over 250 bureaus and management bodies engaged in commercial activities were either completely dismantled or handed over to local governments.

Optimizing the PLA's structure through readjustment

The Army field troops deactivated some corps headquarters and a number of divisions and regiments, thus further improving the organizational structure. The Navy, Air Force and Second Artillery Force dismantled or merged some of their organic units through elimination of outdated equipment and restructuring. After the adjustment, the Army field troops have become more integrated, smaller, lighter and more versatile. The services and arms featuring higher technology make up a higher percentage of the armed forces. Their structure is further optimized.

Straightening out relations within the PLA through structural reform. The General Armament Department has been set up to readjust the weaponry and equipment administration and management. Centralized management for the major items of weaponry has been achieved. The weaponry and equipment construction has been placed under unified leadership and the across-the-board and life-cycle management strengthened. The logistical support of equipment has been reestablished to establish logistical support system based on military area commands, which combines area support with organic support and general supply with specialized support, has been established. These have greatly enhanced the all-service interaction and in-tensive support capability. The reform of educational and training institutions has resulted in the reduction of military academies and schools, expansion in the scope of individual institutions, upgrading in officer training and greater prevalence in selection of personnel. The military academies and schools are moving in the new direction of enlarged scale, modernized instruction, standardized management and socialized logistical support.

Ideological and political Work

The Chinese armed forces have all along given priority to ideological and political work. In the new historical conditions, the tasks set for the work are: to provide ideological and political motivation to win in future high-tech wars, to provide a reliable political guarantee for preserving the nature of the people's army, its distinctive character and style of work.

The ideological and political work in the Chinese armed forces aims at raising the overall quality of the officers and men and producing a new generation of officers and men, who are strong ideologically and politically, capable militarily, knowledgeable in science and technology, fit physically and mentally. To achieve this, the improvement of political quality must be integrated with the improvement of overall quality; study of advanced ideology with the grasp of general knowledge; the educational guidance with practice; and the strict discipline with flexibility. To win future wars, the Chinese armed forces resolutely give play to their power in ideological and political work. Educate officers and men with correct ideological ideas, encourage them to possess a lofty revolutionary spirit, nurture them in a good political environment, and discipline them strictly with rules and regulations. The Chinese armed forces constantly strive to increase the ideological consciousness, dauntless spirit, sturdy style of work and iron discipline of their officers and men, and to make them the leading organs of modernization, science and technology and creativity, and to raise the all-round fighting capability of the armed forces.

The Chinese armed forces adhere to the absolute leadership of the Communist Party of China and persist in making their aim to serve the people heart and soul, placing the interests of the State and people above everything else and carrying forward patriotism and revolutionary heroism of the rank and file. They cultivate a strong will to combat and defend a firm belief in revolutionary ideals and a spirit of sacrifice and dedication, foster in them a correct outlook on the world, life and values, educate them to support the reform, to have a correct regard for the interests adjustment in the reform, to persist in building the armed forces through diligence and thrift, to always maintain the armed forces' true-political qualities of arduous struggle.

The PLA has always attached strategic importance to military training. Proceeding from the needs of real fighting, the PLA conducts arduous and strict training of its troops. Through decades of development and continuous reforms and carrying forward traditional and innovative training, the PLA has become more sound, a unique and relatively complete system of troop training and institutional education has taken shape.

In the late 1980s, the PLA, in order to adapt to profound changes in the world's military affairs and with high-tech local wars, actively engaged in military training featuring new technology, and energetically carried out military training reforms. In the development and innovation of military theories, new conditions and characteristics, new high-tech local wars have become more and more acute. New disciplines in military training have been set up. Operational training theories, especially for combined operations, have been continuously improved. Newly-revised doctrines for operations and battles have been promulgated, and training programmes have been adapted to this purpose. In updating training programmes, emphasis has been laid on the learning of and training in new knowledge, skills, equipment and warfare. A new training programme
has enacted the Law of the PRC on Garrisoning the Macao Special Administrative Region, providing legal basis for the Macao Garrison to station its troops and maintain order and security, consistent with the law. The revision of the Law of the PRC on Military Service System has further improved China's military service system. The State Council and the CMC have revised the regulations on the conscription of the PLA Soldiers on Active Service, and the CMC has stipulated more than 40 items of military regulations such as the Regulations of the PLa on Institutional Education and the Regulations of the PLA on Border Defense Duties, providing full legal guarantee for strengthening the building of national defence and armed forces, the promotion of various military reforms and the protection of the legitimate rights and interests of the officers and soldiers. The PLA general headquarters/departments, the services and arms and the military area commands have formulated over 300 items of military rules, further advancing the course of governing the armed forces according to law.

Based on the relevant laws of the State, China's armed forces have formed a military judicial system which is composed of the military courts, military procuratorates, and military internal administrative organs. The military courts independently exercise the trial, procuratorial and investigating powers in accordance with the law with regard to criminal cases within the armed forces. The military procuratorates and military procuratorates set up by the State in the armed forces and consist of three levels; the PLA, the military area command and the corps. The military courts independently exercise trial power in accordance with the law. The trial procedure are the same as those for civilian courts. A military court at the next higher level is the court of appeal for that at the next lower level. The military courts accept criminal cases within the armed forces and may accept criminal cases with the authorization from the Supreme People's Court. The military procuratorates are special people's procuratorates set up by the State in the armed forces and consist of three levels, which are the same as those for the military courts. They independently exercise procuratorial power in accordance with the law. A military procuratorate at a higher level directs the procuratorial work of that at a lower level. The military procuratorates, in accordance with the provisions of the Criminal Procedures Law, assume the responsibility of examining criminal cases investigated by the internal security organs and decide whether to approve an arrest, to initiate a prosecution; directly accepting and investigating criminal cases involving crimes committed by taking office advantage and deciding whether to make an investigation or initiate a prosecution; exercising supervisory over the legality of the investigatory and judicial activities of the internal security organs and the military courts. The president of the PLA Military Court and the procurator-general of the PLA Military Procuratorate are appointed or removed by the NPC Standing Committee. The internal security organs, set up in the political organs of the PLA units at or above the regiment level, carry out investigations into criminal cases within the armed forces in accordance with the provisions of the Criminal Procedures Law. China's military judicial organs shall render criminal punishment, in accordance with the Criminal Law of the PRC revised in 1997 and the four Geneva conventions and the two 1977 additional protocols to which China has all acceded, on military servicemen for their acts in violation of international humanitarian law such as maltreating a prisoner, injuring, killing or plundering innocent residents in times of war. The military lawyers in the armed forces and their legal services are administered in line with the national lawyers system. Military lawyers must obtain State-set qualifications after passing uniform national examinations. The armed forces are manned with military lawyers at three levels: the corps, the
Science, technology and industry for National Defence

China's fundamental aim in developing science, technology and industry for national defence is to satisfy the basic demands of national defence, guarantee the production and supply of military equipment, and raise the level of national defence modernization.

Since the founding of the PRC in 1949, the country, with a relatively small input and within a relatively short period of time, has built a comparatively complete defence science, technology and industry system independently through self-reliance, basically meeting the requirements for transforming the PLA from a simple ground force into an integrated armed service comprising the Army, Navy, Air Force and Second Artillery Force. In the field of sophisticated technology, the successful development of atomic bombs, missiles and man-made satellites has made China one of the few countries in the world with its own nuclear weapons and space technology. In the field of conventional equipment, China has made a fundamental shift from copying to independent production, giving a powerful boost to the modernization of the PLA's weaponry.

To meet the demand of the development of the socialist market economy, and set up a new defence science, technology and industry system with top-notch efficiency, China has carried out fundamental structural reforms. In March 1989, the State Commission of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defence was set up, to act as the leading department of the State Council in this regard, responsible for carrying out disciplinary management like policies, laws and regulations, plans, standards, and supervision in defence science, technology and industry. In July 1999, the corporations of five military industries, involved in nuclear, aeronautics, aeronautics, shipbuilding and weapons sectors respectively, were reorganized into 10 corporations, namely, China National Nuclear Corporation, China Nuclear Engineering and Construction Corporation, China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation, China Aerospace Machinery and Electronics Corporation, China Aviation Industry Corporation I, China Aviation Industry Corporation II, China State Shipbuilding Corporation, China Shipbuilding Industry Corporation, China North Industries Group Corporation and China South Industries Group Corporation.

Through this reform, the market competition mechanism has been introduced into China's national defence science, technology and industry system, and the structure and layout which have been gradually improving. In addition, the contingents of military industry have been streamlined, the capability of shifting from a peace-time to a wartime industrial system has been enhanced and strategic efforts have been made to establish a new military industry system of an operational type.

In developing its defence science, technology and industry, China adheres to the principle of relying on science and education, makes full use of the country's scientific and technological capability to develop military research and production, strengthens co-operation and exchanges in this field with other countries worldwide, promotes development of new and high technology weapons and equipment, accelerates the pace of application of scientific research findings and strives to supply arms of high performance, reliable quality and complete sets. Meanwhile, China's defence science, technology and industry, by strongly promoting the peaceful use of military industry technology and bringing the advancement of military industry into full play, gives priority to the development of civilian-use nuclear energy, aerospace, aviation, and shipbuilding industries, and thereby forms a benign circle of mutual military-civilian progress. Now, China's defence science, technology and industry has become an important force in the country's national economic development.

China's land borders total more than 22,800 kilometres in length; its mainland coastline stretches for some 18,000 kilometres; and it neighbours more than 20 countries, either contiguous or separated by stretches of sea. The Chinese Government pursues a policy of good neighbourliness and friendship. It defends and administers its land borders and territorial seas, safeguards the country's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests, and secures both its land and sea borders, strictly in accordance with treaties and agreements it has signed with its bordering countries, and the United Nations maritime conventions. China advocates settling pending and unresolved border and maritime demarcation issues through negotiations, upholds the importance to the setting up of a mutual confidence-building industry technology in border regions, and opposes the use of force or provocative acts. China has solved or basically solved boundary issues left over from history with most of its adjacent countries. In the 1960s, China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea ( DPRK), Mongolia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nepal and Myanmar settled their border issues through negotiations. In the 1990s, China signed new border treaties or agreements with Laos, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Viet Nam, and demarcating or basically demarcating the respective boundaries. The borders between China and Laos and Russia were re-surveyed; the field survey of the border between China and Kazakhstan has been completed; the survey of the border between China and Kyrgyzstan has started, and the survey of the border between China and Viet Nam is about to commence. China has signed treaties, agreements and understandings respectively with the DPRK, Mongolia, Russia, Myanmar, Viet Nam and Laos on border control measures, setting up confidence-building measures, preventing dangerous military activities and border co-operation, jointly maintaining frontier order within a bilateral or multilateral legal framework and preserving peace and stability on the borders. In the course of vigorous development of various kinds of cooperative relations with its neighbouring countries, China has opened more than 200 ports along its land and sea frontiers.

China exercises a joint military-civilian land and sea border management system, headed by the military and with a sharing of responsibilities between the military and the local authorities. The State Council and the CMC exercise unified leadership over land and sea border management. The Chinese Government places the utmost importance on the formulation of laws concerning frontier defence. It has enacted a series of laws and regulations, and corresponding local laws and regulations have been put in place in various kinds of border-adjacent provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the central government. The concerned departments of the State have promulgated special regulations with regard to exit and entry control and the management of border areas. Border control department conduct publicity and education activities aimed at enlightening the people of the frontier areas as to the nature of the boundaries, the concept of frontier defence, and border policies and laws. They also wage special battles to crack down on smuggling and narcotics, and hit hard at transnational, trans-border criminal activities in accordance with the law.
charge of Party affairs, personnel, publicity, security, etc. The General Logistics Department organizes and directs the armed forces' logistics construction and logistical support. Under it there are departments in charge of financial affairs, quartermaster, health administration, military transportation and supplies, and POLs, military construction and barracks, auditing, etc. The General Armaments Department organizes and directs the weaponry and equipment construction work of the armed forces. Under it there are departments in charge of planning; armaments for Navy, military aviation and combat equipment; Armaments development research, development and procurement; general equipment support; electronics and information infrastructure, equipment and technology co-operation, etc.

The second and arms. The PLA is composed of three services—the Army, Navy, and Air Force—and an independent arm, the Second Artillery Force. The Army has such arms as the infantry, artillery, armor, engineering, communications, anti-chemical warfare and Army aviation. The Navy has the following specialized units. The Navy has such arms as the surface, submarine, naval aviation, coastal defense and marine corps, as well as other specialized units. The Air Force has such arms as the aviation, surface-to-air missile and anti-aircraft artillery, радио- and air-borne, as well as other specialized units. The Second Artillery Force is composed of the strategic missile, conventional missile, and other specialized units.

The military area commands. The military area commands (theaters of war) of the PLA are military organizations set up according to the State's administrative divisions, geographical locations, strategic and operational orientations, and international tasks. Under each military area command are a number of Army combined corps, units of various arms, logistic support units, and provincial or garrison commands. Their major functions include organizing and co-ordinating the joint operations and exercises of the ground, naval, and air forces in each military area; exercising direct leadership over Party affairs, military training, administration, political work, logistic and armaments support of the Army units under its jurisdiction, and directing, organizing, and mobilizing the civil air defense and battlefield construction work in the military area. At present, the PLA has seven military area commands, namely Shenyang, Beijing, Lanzhou, Jinan, Nanjing, Guangzhou, and Chengdu.

The PLA runs the Academy of Military Science (AMS), the National Defence University (NDU), and the National University of Defence Technology (NUDT). The AMS is the PLA's highest-level research institute and centre of military science, and the NDU and the NUDT are two institutions of higher learning directly under the CMC. The former is mainly responsible for the education and training of senior commanding and staff officers and researchers, while the latter is mainly responsible for the education and training of senior scientists and engineers, and tactical commanding officers.

The PLAs reserve force is a force with its present organizational structure, with the reserve personnel as the base and active personnel as the backbone. The reserve force, which is integrated into the PLA under battle, receives military training in peacetime according to relevant regulations, and helps to maintain social order, if necessary, in accordance with the law. In wartime, it may be called into active service in pursuance of a State mobilization order.

The Chinese People's Armed Police Force undertakes the task of maintenance of security entrusted by the State. It is under the dual leadership of the State Council and the CMC, and consists of internal security forces, and gold mine, forest, water and power, and transportation security forces. The militia is a component of the State's armed forces. The militia members and women, under the command of military organs, perform combat readiness support and defensive operations, and help to maintain social order. The General Staff Headquarters is in charge of national militia work. Each military area command is responsible for the militia work under its jurisdiction. Each provincial command exercises leadership and command over the militia in its region.

The Standing Committee of the National People's Congress decides on general or partial mobilization and the State Council and the CMC jointly direct mobilization preparation and implementation. In November 1994, the State Commission for National Defence Mobilization was established. The Commission is a consultative body in charge of giving strategic mobilization under the leadership of the State Council and the CMC. Its major tasks are to carry out the national strategy of active defense, organize and implement the state's defense mobilization, and co-ordinate the relations between economic and military affairs, the armed forces and the government, and manpower and materials support in defense mobilization, so as to enhance national defense strength and the ability to shift from a peacetime to a wartime footing.

In peacetime the State conducts mobilization preparation and integration of the armed forces, the national economy, civil air defense, national defense transportation and other fields into the State's overall development plan and programme. Mobilization of the armed forces entails the measures and actions taken by the State to turn the armed forces from a peacetime to a wartime footing. Mobilization of the national economy entails the measures and actions taken by the State, in a well-organized and planned way, to shift the economic sector and related institutions from a peacetime to a wartime footing. The major tasks of civil air defense mobilization include the directing, building and management of civil air defense projects; command, communications and warning systems, and evacuation areas; the protection of key economic targets; the conduct of civil air defense publicity and education; and the management of civil air defense funds and materials. The Air Defence Law of the PRC went into force on January 1, 1997. Defence transportation mobilization provides organizational, material and technological support to transportation and communications, and mobilizes personnel and implements transportation and communications support during wartime. The Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) decides on general or partial mobilization, and the State Council and the CMC jointly direct mobilization preparation and implementation. In November 1994, the State Commission for National Defence Mobilization was established. The Commission is a consultant and co-ordinating body in charge of nationwide defense mobilization under the leadership of the State Council and the CMC. Its major tasks are to carry out the military strategy of active defense, organize and implement the State's defense mobilization, and co-ordinate the relations between economic and military affairs, the armed forces and the government, and manpower and materials support in defense mobilization, so as to enhance national defense strength and the ability to shift from a peacetime to a wartime footing.

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mobilization provides organizational, material and technological support to transportation and communications and construction during peace-time, and organizes and implements transportation and communications support during wartime.

All the State organs and armed forces, all political parties and mass organizations, and all enterprises, institutions and citizens must fulfill the mobilization obligations during peace-time according to regulations stipulated by laws, and fulfill the prescribed mobilization tasks after the State has proclaimed a mobilization order. At present, in line with the principle of combining a peace-time with a war-time footing and the military with the civilian sectors, and keeping reserve soldiers among the people, China continues to perfect its defence mobilization system, strengthen its mobilization potential and capacity, and promote the modernization of defence mobilization work.

China's defence education is guided by the principle which combines regular education with intensive education, universal education with advanced education, and textbook education with conduct education. Education in defence theories, spirit, and knowledge and skills is provided for all citizens. This aims to improve the citizens' understanding and knowledge of national defence, to develop their spirit of patriotism and to help them perform defence duties conscientiously.

According to the National Defence Law of the PRC, all State organs and armed forces, all political parties and mass organizations, and all enterprises and institutions are responsible for organizing and carrying out defence education in their respective regions and departments or units. The State has launched at large defence education and publicity activities in various forms using mass media and other means. The armed forces make use of their military museums, military history exhibitions, halls of fame and memorial halls of heroes as bases for patriotism and defence education among the people. Schools and colleges, with the assistance of military organs, offer appropriate defence courses according to their levels and types, or add defence education to regular courses. The State has made national defence education part of the education of the whole people, gradually bringing it into a socialized, diversified, regularized and institutionalized pattern.

The Chinese Government has consistently stuck to the principle of strict control, management and supervision of defence spending. It has established a complete administrative and regulatory system. China's defence budget and final accounts are examined and approved by the NPC. The State and armed forces' auditing organs exercise auditing and supervision of the total defence budget, itemized budgets and the budgets for various departments, as well as the entire process of execution of these budgets.

China's defence expenditure falls into the following categories: personnel expenses, costs for maintenance of activities, and costs for equipment. Personnel expenses mainly cover the pay, food and clothing of officers, non-ranking cadres, enlisted men and civilian employees. Costs for maintenance of activities mainly cover training, construction and maintenance of facilities and running expenses. Costs for equipment mainly cover research, experimentation, procurement, maintenance, transportation and storage. China's defence expenditure covers not only the active forces, but also the militia and reserve forces. Support for some retired officers, the education of the children of military personnel, and other social spending are also provided in the defence expenditure.

China's annual defence expenditures in 1995 and 1999 were 93.47 billion yuan (US$11.26 billion) and 107.67 billion yuan, respectively. And that for 2000 is 121.29 billion yuan (US$14.61 billion) (see Table below). The annual increase in defence expenses went or will go for the most part to cover the increased spending for carrying out their routine duties and operations of the armed forces; increased spending for the placement of the retired officers and their pensions; increased spending for pay and subsidy raises for military personnel to keep their living standards in step with the nation's social and economic development and with the increase of the per capita incomes of urban and rural residents; and increased spending for maintaining a garrison in Macao.

**Table:** Composition of China's Defence Expenditures in 1998-2000 (Unit: 100 million yuan)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Personnel expenses</th>
<th>Maintenance of activities</th>
<th>Costs for equipment</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>322.7</td>
<td>298.0</td>
<td>314.0</td>
<td>934.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>348.6</td>
<td>380.3</td>
<td>347.8</td>
<td>1076.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>405.5</td>
<td>418.1</td>
<td>389.3</td>
<td>1212.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overall, China's defence expenditure has remained at a fairly low level. In 1995 and 1996, the proportion of defence spending in the total State financial expenditure was 8.66 percent and 8.20 percent, respectively, and that in 2000 is 8.29 percent, all lower than those in 1997 or earlier (see Chart 1). In terms of US dollars, China's annual defence expenditure in 2000 is US$14.60 billion, which is only 5 percent of the United States' defence spending, 30 percent of Japan's, 40 percent of Britain's, 48 percent of France's, and 64 percent of Germany's (see Chart 2). In addition, the percentage of China's defence spending in its gross domestic product (GDP) is also lower than those of the USA, the Republic of Korea (ROK), India, Britain, France and some other countries (see Chart 3).

**Chart 1:** The Percentage of China's Defence Expenditure in the Total State Financial Expenditure 1995-2000

**Chart 2:** Comparison of Defence Expenditures of Some Countries in 2000 (Unit: US$100 million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>US</th>
<th>Japan</th>
<th>UK</th>
<th>France</th>
<th>Germany</th>
<th>China</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>484</td>
<td>1365</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>484</td>
<td>1365</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>484</td>
<td>1365</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>146</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>484</td>
<td>1365</td>
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<td>1365</td>
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<td>452</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The exchange rate used here is based on that announced by China's State Administration of Exchange Control this year, which is 8.28 (RMB to the dollar).
China adheres to building the armed forces by enhancing their quality, strengthening the armed forces by relying on science and technology, and managing the armed forces according to law, and is endeavoring to transform its armed forces from a numerically superior to a qualitatively superior type, and from a manpower-intensive to a technology-intensive type. At the same time, as well as to train high-quality military personnel and improve the modernization level of weaponry in order to comprehensively enhance the armed forces' combat effectiveness.

1. Combining the armed forces with the people and promoting self-defense by the whole people. China adheres to the concept of people's war under modern conditions, and exercises the combination of a streamlined standing army with a powerful reserve force for national defence. The reserve force and militia are maintained at an appropriate scale with armed forces structures and a certain level of training. In the light of the principle of combining peace-time footing with wartime footing and the army with the people, and having reserve soldiers among the people, China works hard to popularize and promote defence education, perfect the defence mobilization system and enhance the defence mobilization capacity.

2. Subordinating national defence to, and placing it in the service of, the nation's overall economic construction, and achieving their co-ordinated development. The Chinese Government believes that economic development and national defence are two strategic tasks in China's modernization efforts. The Chinese Government insists that economic development be taken as the centre, while defence work be subordinate to and in the service of the nation's overall economic construction. At the same time, along with economic development, the state strives to enhance its national defence strength, to effectively support the armed forces in their efforts to improve their quality and to form a mechanism which enables national defence and economic development to promote each other and develop in harmony.

3. Safeguarding world peace, and opposing aggression and expansion. China resolutely opposes hegemonism and power politics, and combats the policies of war, aggression and expansion. China also objects to any country imposing in any form its own political system and ideology on other countries. China does not seek military expansion, nor does it station troops or set up military bases in any foreign country. China opposes arms race, and supports the international community in its efforts to promote world peace, national peace, security and prosperity. China possesses a small number of nuclear weapons entirely for self-defense. China undertakes not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon states. China does not participate in any nuclear arms race, and never deploys any nuclear weapons beyond its borders. China maintains a small but effective nuclear counterattacking force in order to deter possible nuclear attacks by other countries. Any such attack will inevitably result in a retaliatory nuclear counterstrike by China. China has always kept the number of its nuclear weapons at a low level. The scale, composition and development of China's nuclear force are in line with China's military strategy of active defence. China's nuclear force is under the direct command of the Central Military Commission (CMC) of the People's Republic of China, and CMC is ultimately responsible in the management of its nuclear weapons, and has established strict rules and regulations and taken effective measures to ensure the safety and security of its nuclear weapons.

Settlement of the Taiwan issue and realization of the peaceful reunification of China embodies the fundamental interests of the Chinese nation. The Chinese Government upholds the basic principle of "peaceful reunification, and one country, two systems" for settling the Taiwan issue, carrying forward the effort to develop relations between the two sides of the Taiwan Straits and the promotion of the peaceful reunification of China. The Chinese Government has consistently adhered to the one-China principle and will never give in to any form of pressure on the fundamental issues concerning State sovereignty and territorial integrity. The change of the Taiwan regional leaders cannot change the fact that Taiwan is a part of Chinese territory. Settlement of the Taiwan issue is entirely an internal affair of China. The Chinese Government firmly opposes any country selling arms to Taiwan, or entering into military alliances in any form with Taiwan, as well as outside interference in any way. The Chinese Government will do its utmost to achieve peaceful reunification, and advocate settling differences through dialogues and negotiations on the basis of the one-China principle. However, if a grave turn of events occurs leading to the separation of Taiwan from China, or if in any way Taiwan is invaded and occupied by foreign countries, or if the Taiwan authorities refuse, sine die, the peaceful settlement of cross-Strait reunification through negotiations, then the Chinese Government will have no choice but to adopt all drastic measures possible, including the use of force, for the country's supreme command and territorial integrity, and achieve the great cause of reunification. The "Taiwan independence" means provoking war again, and sowing splits means relinquishing peace across the Straits.

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) is an unconditional champion of the will of the State as its supreme will and the national interests as its supreme interests. It has the absolute determination, confidence, ability and means to safeguard State sovereignty and territorial integrity, and will never tolerate, condone or remain indifferent to the realization of any scheme to divide the motherland.

III. National defence construction structure and organization of the armed forces

The armed forces of the PRC are composed of the PLA, both the active and reserve components, the Chinese People's Armed Police Force and the militia. The China's General Command of the People's Liberation Army, under the direct command of the People's Republic of China, is the unified military command of the nation's armed forces. The Ministry of National Defence under the State Council directs and administers national defence work.

The active components of the PLA are the country's standing army, which mainly undertakes the tasks of military combat operations and help maintain social order, if necessary, in accordance with the law. Its basic organizational structures can be categorized into the general headquarters/departments, the services and arms and the military area commands.

The general headquarters/departments. The PLA's general headquarters/departments system is composed of the General Staff Headquarters, the General Political Department, the General Logistics Department and the General Armaments Department in accordance with the CMC. The CMC, through these four general headquarters/departments, directs and commands all the military area commands and the services and arms. The routine work of the Ministry of National Defence is handled, respectively, by these four general headquarters/departments. The General Staff Headquarters is the leading organ of all military work of the nation's armed forces. It organizes and leads the military construction of the nation's armed forces, and organizes and commands their military operations. Under it there are departments in charge of operations, intelligence, training, adjutant and force structure, mobilization, etc. The General Political Department is the leading organ of all political work of the nation's armed forces. It administers the armed forces' Party work, and organizes their political work. Under it there are departments in...
This has seriously affected world security and stability. Divisive, terrorist and extremist forces of every description have continued to endanger the international community, and global problems such as the environment, narcotic drugs and refugees have become increasingly prominent. New negative developments in the security of the Asia-Pacific region. The United States is further strengthening its military presence and bilateral military alliances in this region, advocating the development of the TMD system and planning to deploy it in East Asia. Japan has launched a series of military measures in the event of a situation in the areas surrounding Japan. All this goes against the tide of the times. Joint military exercises have increased in the region, to the detriment of trust between countries. The uncertain factors affecting security on the Korean Peninsula continue to exist, and the situation in South Asia remains unstable.

Encroachments on China's sovereignty and interests in the South China Sea are not infrequent, and some extra-regional countries are attempting to interfere in this issue. The Taiwan Strait situation is complicated and grave. Lee Teng-hui flagrantly dished out his "two states" theory in an attempt to split the country. The new leaders of the Taiwan authorities have adopted an evasion and obfuscation policy to the one-China principle. Separatist forces in Taiwan are scheming to split the Taiwanese island from China. They are bribing and exploiting the United States. This has seriously undermined the preconditions and foundation for peaceful reunification across the Straits. This is the root cause of tension across the Taiwan Straits. The United States has now stopped selling advanced weapons to Taiwan. Some people in the United States have been trying hard to get the Congress to pass the so-called Taiwan Security Enhancement Act. And some are even attempting to incorporate Taiwan into the US TMD system. The newly revised Guidelines for US-Japan Defence Co-operation has explicitly undertaken to exclude Taiwan from the scope of the "area surrounding Japan" referred to in the Japanese security bill that could involve military intervention. These actions have inflated the arrogance of the separatist forces in Taiwan, seriously undermined China's sovereignty and security and imperilled the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region. The world is undergoing profound changes which require the discard of the Cold War mentality and the development of a new security concept and a new international political, economic and security order responsive to the needs of our time. The core of the new security concept should be mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and co-operation. The UN Charter, the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence and other universally recognized principles governing international relations should serve as the political basis for safeguarding peace while mutually beneficial co-operation and common prosperity its economic guarantee. To conduct dialogue, consultation and negotiation on an equal footing is the right way to solve disputes and safeguard peace. Only by developing a new security concept and establishing a fair and reasonable new international order can world peace and security be fundamentally guaranteed.

China's fundamental interests lie in its domestic development and stability, the peace and prosperity of its surrouding regions, and the establishment and maintenance of a new regional security order based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence. China will continue to develop friendly relations and co-operation with all other countries. It will make unremitting efforts to safeguard peace, stability, prosperity and development of the Asia-Pacific region in particular and the world in general.

II. National defence policy

China pursues a national defence policy that is defensive in nature. The Constitution of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the National Defence Law of the PRC, which is enacted in accordance with the Constitution, specify the tasks of the armed forces of the PRC as being to consolidate national defence, resist aggression, defend the motherland, safeguard the people's peaceful labour, production and life, maintain the national reconciliation and the people wholeheartedly.

China has always attached primary importance to safeguarding state sovereignty, unity, territorial integrity and security, and has been working hard for a peaceful international and a favourable peripheral environment for China. Its modernization drive of development and powerfulness of China will constitute no threat to anyone, but will rather promote the world peace, stability and development. Never to seek hegemony is the Chinese people's solemn pledge to the world.

China's defence policy has the following main aspects:

- Consolidating national defence, resisting aggression, curbing armed subversion, and defending state sovereignty, unity, territorial integrity and security. China's efforts in defense modernization are put to the cause of self-reliance. China's defense policy saps no effort to avoid and curb war, and to solve international disputes and questions left over by history through peaceful means. However, in view of the fact that hegemonism and power politics still exist and are further developing, and in particular, the basis for the country's peace and prosperity is seriously imperilled. China will have to enhance its capability to defend its sovereignty and security by military means.

- Building and consolidating national defence independently and through self-reliance. China stresses self-reliance as the basis for safeguarding state security, and insists on making national defence policies and development strategies independently. China does not seek alliance with any country or bloc of countries, nor does it participate in any military bloc. China builds its defense science, technology and industry and develops its weaponry through self-reliance.

- Implementing the military strategy of active defense. Strategically, China pursues a principle featuring defensive operations, self-defense and gaining mastery by striking only after the enemy has struck. Such defense combines efforts to deter war with preparations to win self-defense wars in time of peace, and strategic defense with operational and tactical offensive operations in time of war. While basing themselves on existing weaponry and carrying forward their fine traditions, China's armed forces seek to adapt to profound changes in the world's military sphere, and prepare for defensive operations under modern, especially high-tech, conditions.

- Building a lean and strong military force the Chinese way. In line with the general requirements of being qualified politically, competent militarily and having a fine work style, a strong sense of discipline and adequate logistical support, the Chinese armed forces strive to strengthen their overall development and form a revolutionized, modernized and regularized people's army with Chinese characteristics.
transnational organized crimes of illicit manufacture of and trafficking in firearms.

China takes a responsible attitude toward the manufacture and transfer of small arms, having strict laws and administrative control measures in this regard. The Law of the PRC on the Control of Firearms and The Regulations of the PRC on the Administration of Arms Exports contain detailed stipulations on the manufacture, transportation, sales, equipment and entry and exit of firearms and ammunition, and stipulate stringent penalties for violations.