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# Some Areas of Preparing of the Modern Military Power from China Forces' Point of View

## A modern haderő felkészítésének néhány területe a Kínai Haderő szempontjából

### **Abstract**

This article gives an overview of the significant areas that today can significantly influence the success of military operations. The author examines these areas regarding developing the Chinese military power. The authors analyse the expectations that are present in armed struggle and peace operations during the common armed military activities of the 21st century. Looking at these areas, the authors analyse the developments that are taking place in the Chinese armed forces and affect Chinese interests.

Keywords: training, productive forces, training tasks, military operations, asymmetric warfare, peace operations, network-based planning, action-based operations, electronic warfare, Chinese advocacy modernisation.

### Absztrakt

A cikk áttekintést ad azokról a főbb területekről, amelyek napjainkban jelentősen befolyásolhatják a katonai műveletek sikerét. Ezeket a területeket vizsgálják a szerzők a kínai haderő fejlesztése szempontjából. A szerzők elemzik azokat az elvárásokat a amelyek a modern XXI. századi fegyveres katonai tevékenységek során mind a fegyveres harcban, mind a békeműveletekben jelen vannak. Ezeket a területeket vizsgálva a szerzők elemzik azokat a fejlesztéseket, amelyek a kínai haderőben folynak és hatással van a kínai érdekek érvényesítésében.

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Kulcsszavak: felkészítés, hatékony haderő, kiképzési feladatok, katonai műveletek, aszimmetrikus hadviselés, békeműveletek, hálózat alapú tervezés, hatás alapú műveletek, elektronikai hadviselés, kínai érdekérvényesítés modernizáció

"The history of humanity is nothing else as the history of warfare. People have always murdered each other and will do so forever. That is, the most important feature of man is how much skill he can gain in warfare. Everything else is subordinated to it."

Simon Scarrow

### INTRODUCTION

"Without one's weapons, no empire can be safe, but you can only trust in your good fortune to escape from the evil." Niccolo Machiavelli

Nowadays, due to the disintegration of the bipolar world system, it has to face some challenges facing the world, which threatens its environment and security. Successor states and economically and politically intensified states make serious efforts to create security and military deterrence to prepare for possible military responses in response to the 21st-century security challenges. Part of the response to this challenge requires the use of modern military forces by national states and international organisations and federations. So it is still vital for nations to have a modern and sufficient force. That is why it is essential that nation states have the modern, useful and purposeful force that complies with the age requirements. Modern and sufficient force is a pillar of national security and independence. The People's Liberation Army as the third most powerful armed force in the world as part of its second most robust economy is making serious efforts and making improvements to modernise its forces.

The modern army of the 20th century must in general meet three requirements:

- The first is the protection of the country due to the tasks of the national force and the enforcement of the interests of the country's foreign policy;
- The second is if it is a member of an alliance to prepare for military tasks in the alliance system;
- The third is participation in international commitments and contracts (UN, EU AU, etc.). Active cooperation in peace operations<sup>3</sup> with other peacekeeping forces and charitable organisations.

The tasks of designing and preparing a modern and efficient<sup>4</sup> force can be clearly defined, as well as the tasks and areas that characterise the forces described above. In this paper,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> According to NATO AJP 3.4.1, peace treaties include conflict prevention, peacebuilding, peace-keeping and humanitarian operations.

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we have examined the significant areas that characterise well-trained and efficient forces through the tasks and define the direction of preparation for the development of China's policy and military force.

The duties of the Chinese military are recorded in the documents of the Communist Party of China and the Central Military Commission. Accordingly, the requirements imposed on it differ from other NATO member country:

- Conduct traditional national defence and military operations;
- Disaster recovery;
- Fight against piracy;
- Participation in peace operations (UN);
- Ensure the dominance of one party system as a military wing of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP).

### MAIN ISSUES OF THE CHINESE MILITARY REFORM

The most crucial moment for the unprecedented modernisation of the Chinese military force occurred in 2013 when, under the leadership of President Xi Jinping, the government announced some reform measures, the success of which would be enabled by the Chinese armed forces in the 21st century. Century to meet the regional and global security challenges. Of course, the introduction of ambitious reforms did not go unresponsive, so the president was not only in favour of army development but also strengthening of his power. The president has managed the tasks successfully, as evidenced by the fact that in March 2018, China's state administration abolished the term of office of the head of state so that Xi Jinping could be China's leading leader up to the end of his life. This full-scale and fast-paced reform affected all aspects of the armed forces:

### **STEPS IN 2013**

As part of the first action, at the time of the announcement, they also formulated the optimisation of the size of the army and the establishment of a balance between the forces of the forces, and the establishment of commander-in-chief of joint operations and the reorganisation of military higher education. The plan was put into practice in 2015, when President Xi Jinping spoke about reducing the army's 300,000 people, mainly dealing with non-combatant administrative forces. In November, the elements of the reorganisation of the commander-in-chief and command hierarchy were also made public, with perhaps the most striking point being the introduction of new command-line headquarters in place of regional command posts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Effective word meaning according to Hungarian Expression Handwriting: very effective; without any losses, the least needed effort and time (work, action, change) that fulfills its purpose completely.

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### **STEPS IN 2015**

Subsequently, on December 31, 2015, it was announced that the central command of ground troops was wholly transformed, and instead of the former chief of staff of the General Staff now, as with all the other forces, the army will be given a separate headquarters. The Second Artillery Corps with former Armed Forces was renamed Rocket Force, and it was developed into an independent military force. In the same year, the New Strategic Support Force was established as a new, independent weapon, the most important task of which was the implementation of space, cyber and electronic warfare. <sup>5</sup>

#### **STEPS IN 2016**

At the beginning of January 2016, the chairman again made a huge announcement detailing the replacement of 15 new chief group headquarters, offices and committees under the authority of the Central Military Commission, instead of the former Chief Chambers of the General Staff. These administrative units have also taken over some tasks that were formerly the responsibility of regional headquarters, thus reducing administration elements and speeding up the flow of information. From 1 February, the new regionally competent headquarters were established, namely: Eastern, Southern, Western, North and Central Command.

Their subordinates include the Navy and the Air Force, according to the system of regional headquarters, while illustrating the dominance of the mainland military force, the chief commanders were exempted from the army forces.<sup>6</sup>

### FROM 2017 TO 2020

From 2017, the most extended period of the reform has taken place, which will continue until 2020. As part of this, the policy system and the Military Legal System is renewed, and civil-military integration is also changed.

The detailed tasks of the completed and ongoing reform steps are shown in the following table:

COSTELLO, John: The Strategic Support Force: China's Information Warfare Service. In: China Brief Vol XVI, Issue 3, 2016 15 http://www.jamestown.org/uploads/media/\_CB\_16\_3\_2.pdf (2016.09.25)
 SAUNDERS, Phillip C. – WUTHNOW, Joel: China's Goldwater-Nichols? Assessing PLA Organizational Reforms. In: Strategic Forum, April 3.2016 <a href="http://inss.ndu.edu/Portals/68/Documents/stratforum/SF-294.pdf">http://inss.ndu.edu/Portals/68/Documents/stratforum/SF-294.pdf</a>(2016.09.25)

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Reform Area (English)	Reform Area (Chinese)	Topics	Target Date
Leadership Management System	领导管理体制	Reform Central Military Committee departments, military services, logistics system, equipment development system	2015*
Joint Command and Control System	联合作战指挥体制	Establish two-level joint command system, reform joint training, establish theater commands	2015 <sup>†</sup>
Military Scale Structure	军队规模结构	Reduce force size by 300,000, reducing noncombat personnel, reduce officer billets, phase out old equipment	2016‡
Force Composition	部队编成	Adjust force structure, optimize reserve force, reduce militias	2016
Cultivating New-Type Military Talent	新型军事人才培养	Enhance professional military education	2016
People's Armed Police command and control system and force composition	武装警察部队指挥管理体制和力量结构	Adjust People's Armed Police command and control and force structure	2016
Policy System	政策制度	Reform personnel system, budget management and procurement system, salary and welfare system	2017–2020
Developing Civil- Military Integration	军民融合发展	Enhance management of civilian- military integration	2017–2020
Military Legal System	军事法治体系	Reform military regulations and military justice system	No Date Provided

<sup>\*</sup>Although the "Opinions" states that changes to the leadership management system were completed in 2015, the Central Military Commission (CMC) reforms were not announced until the second week in January 2016. See "CMC Opinions on Deepening National Defense and Military Reforms," Xinhua, January 1, 2016.

Schedule of Military Reforms 2015-2020

(Forrás: http://ndupress.ndu.edu/JFQ/Joint-Force-Quarterly-82/Article/793267/chinas-goldwater-nichols-assessing-pla-organizational-reforms/ 2018.05.05.)

<sup>†</sup>Reforms to the two-tiered joint command system, composed of the CMC and theater commands, were not announced until January and February 2016, respectively.

<sup>‡</sup>Although the CMC reform outline lists 2016 as the completion date for the downsizing, a PLA spokesman has stated that it would be complete by the end of 2017. See "China to Cut 300,000 Troops by 2017," Xinhua, September 4, 2015.

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### THE PURPOSE OF THE REFORMS

The most important principles and aims of the Reform are contained in the Military Commission's official publication "Opinion on the Reinforcement of National Defense and Reform of Armed Forces" published on January 1, 2016. <sup>7</sup> Accordingly, it is necessary to create a strong army to create modern capabilities and to meet the requirements of an integrated universal operational system. Strengthen legality and order by promoting innovation and development. In other words, it is the strengthening of the correct political direction, that is, the power of the Communist Party with the strengthening of the Communist principles and the struggle against corruption.

Another principal objective of the reform is to prepare for joint operations under the Force Information Conditions, as already mentioned in the 2015 White Paper on Defense. The transformation of the Chiefs of Heads of General Staff into Joint Military Organizations and the establishment of a Joint Operation Command Center in Beijing and at each of the theatre headquarters will change this.

### AREAS OF PREPARATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE MODERN ARMY

"War is not an independent phenomenon, but the continuation of politics by different means." Carl von Clausewitz

The primary task of the armed forces is to represent political interests and to protect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country. National forces must be prepared for full or limited territorial aggression, with a security operation to stop and revive the aggressor. Accordingly, special emphasis should be placed on the development, maintenance and development of military developments and capabilities.

The development of the People's Liberation Army is a continuous and comprehensive picture of all four armed forces:

- Land Force; (850,000 people total + reserve forces)
- Missile Force; (100,000 people total)
- Maritime Navy; (235,000 people total: 26,000 Naval Air Force, 10,000 Marines)
- Air Force. (398,000 people total: 600 Anti-Missile Missiles, 1 Airborne Corps, 3 Airborn Divisions, 1 Reconnaissance Regiment, 1 Special Operation Force Unit)

If we look at the capabilities of the modern military, we have to analyse the following areas:

- 1. Developing individual skills and leadership and study of international literature and the knowledge of combat tactics. (enrollment in foreign schools);
- 2. Co-operation and Compatibility with the Armed Forces, on the one hand, and international obligations (UN,) with peacekeeping force;

http://www.cdsndu.org/html\_en/to\_articleContent\_article.id=40288a8553c564450154ec08fb690409.html (2018.04.25)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> CMC issues guideline on Deepening the Reform of National Defense and Armed Forces. College of Defense Studies, NDU, PLA, China 2016.05.16

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- 3. Physical preparation;
- 4. Preparing the battlefield area;
- 5. Armament modernisation.
- The combat tactical and military training includes the latest tactical tactics, knowledge of the rules of modern asymmetric warfare (usually planned in training, and core training). Within the modernisation of the armed forces, the knowledge and application of new armaments can be most effectively learned through exercises and exercises. The guarding of critical objects and territories, the rules of which should be the priority task of defence reserve officers and reserve space protectors, and this is a priority in their training. Understanding combined protection and impact-based armed activity is a prerequisite for successful combat tactics. During the preparation of the Chinese Forces, some of its prospective leaders are acquainted with the elements of modern combat, such as hybrid warfare, and its procedural system in foreign upper-level military training institutes (USA, Great Britain, France, Hungary, etc.)
- 2) Interoperability for the national army is, in my opinion, a critical area, because the primary condition for a broadly planned application of the forces of the Chinese military and its specialists is to provide a thorough knowledge of the activities of armaments teams in the modern struggle, which provides modern-based action-based network planning<sup>8</sup>. Modern XXI. Century force is a feature-based network-based design-based activity.
- 3) Physical training and compliance with physical requirements have always been a priority area for members of the armed forces and bodies. In the course of history, the physical condition of soldiers was decisive in the armed struggle. The special operation (special forces) that characterise the forces of the 21st century are a priority area for their physical training. China's political leadership has territorial demands vis-à-vis neighbouring countries "One China Policy" and an essential set of tasks by state policy to protect Chinese interests in overseas territories to preserve China's stability in separatism and terrorism against which he has an individual responsibility for special forces. In the Chinese army, the real use of soldiers in the physical preparation of soldiers has a prominent role, the widening of their borders is continuously maintained to achieve the stated goal. This is subject to the physical preparation of soldiers.
- 4) The preparation of the Battlefield Operation Area nowadays not only includes the preparation of possible directions or areas for military operations, But the hybrid warfare and cyber attacks that characterize the role of the hinterland, as well as the extended range weapons and our century, require that the critical Infrastructure

<sup>8</sup> In network-based design, the commander and commander's support team has the ability to select the most efficient and the most suitable device from networked devices to quickly monitor and evaluate results.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> One China Policy: The essence of the theory is that China does not recognize Taiwan as an independent state, but considers it as a part of China and therefore takes every step to make it happen in practice.

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protection should be part of the preparation of operational areas in the field of theater. Military organisations need to be prepared for protection from cyber attacks in the peacetime as part of the armed activities of the hybrid warfare. The armed and military industrial capacity of the Chinese military can provide the necessity and replacement of the combat forces. The development and modernisation of the national industry are continuous. The paramount development of the missile force and the supply of the Navy using means will ensure China's deterrence and nuclear disaster on the opposing side.

Some data support this deterrence:

- About 250 nuclear warheads;
- 7 ICBM<sup>10</sup> rocket brigade (66 ICBM);
- 1 IRBM<sup>11</sup> rocket brigade (6 IRBM);
- 11 MRBM<sup>12</sup> rocket brigade (134 MRBM);
- 8 SRBM<sup>13</sup> rocket brigade (252 SRBM) (> 1000 SRBM);
- 2 cruiser rocket brigade (54 LACM<sup>14</sup>) 1 + 4 SSBN<sup>15</sup> (12 BM<sup>16</sup> / ship);
- 2 bomber regiments.
- 5) Priority areas for armament modernisation as defined by the Chinese Government are:
  - Strengthening critical areas due to territorial claims in the controversial areas to create and maintain military force with the most up-to-date tools (VT-4 Tank, VN-17 Armored Personnel Carrier, J20 Fighter Jet, TB-001Drone).
  - The importance of seas, the way out of the sea, and the monitoring of offshore transport is the creation of conditions for the creation of a possible sea blockade (Type075 Amphibious Assault Ship, Type001A Aircraft Carrier).
  - Military use of space is a critical element of Chinese space research (Tianzhou spacecraft, Tiangon program).
  - Cyber operations are one of the foundations of a blueprint for modern warfare, while in the course of planning Chinese operations, a separate organisation for cyber operations has been established, which is central to its operations (PLA Unit 61398).
  - Modernizing Nuclear Ability One of the essential pillars of Chinese military deterrence focuses on developing development tools. (Rocket Launch Vehicles -Dongfeng-41, Naval Equipment Development, Air Force Development).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> ICBM: Intercontinental Ballistic Missile

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> IRBM: Intermediate-Range Ballistic Missile

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> MRBM:Middle-Range Ballistic Missile

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> SRBM:Short-Range Ballistic Missile

<sup>14</sup> LACM:Land-Attack Missile

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> SSBN:Submersible Ship capable of deploying Ballistic Missile Nuclear Powered

<sup>16</sup> BM: Ballistic Missile

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"The best supply is excellent training, protecting you from unnecessary losses". Erwin Rommel

### SUMMARY

Summing up, the Chinese political leadership will do its best to ensure that the military complies with the modern XXI. The specific requirements of the Chinese Army are the commitment of the military to political leadership, with which it has significant economic support for achieving political goals.

In the War and Modern Armed Forces, György Szternák's professor stated that the objectives listed in the abilities to develop clearly define the primary requirements for the training and training of tribes, units, subunits and soldiers to the Member States.

These may include:

- Integrated training for Joint Operation Staff,
- Ability to use in multi-national environments,
- The transportability of forces and assets, availability,
- The stock prepared for the task, the compactness of the subunits,
- The capability of commanders.

By examining and reflecting on these requirements, it is not to be stated that today's Chinese army is in line with the dominant modern forces of modern times.

"Victory usually goes to the army who has better-trained officers and men." Sun Tzu

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