



Written by [Gary Benoit](#) on November 2, 2023

China's Saber-rattling in the Taiwan Strait

Saber-rattling is intensifying in the Taiwan Strait that separates Communist China on the Mainland from the Republic of China on Taiwan. "China sent 43 warplanes and seven ships near Taiwan on Wednesday in yet another large drill maneuver directed against the small island nation that Beijing claims rights over," [The Hill reported yesterday](#).

Taiwan's Ministry of Defense posted on X yesterday that "37 of the detected aircraft ... had crossed the median line of the Taiwan Strait."



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37 of the detected aircraft
(SU-30*6, J-16*16, J-10*4,
H-6K*4, KJ-500 AEW&C*2, UAV
RECCE*1, Y-9CC*1, Y-8
ELINT*1, WZ-7 UAV RECCE*1,
Y-20 Aerial Refueling*2) had
crossed the median line of the
Taiwan Strait and entered
Taiwan's SW and SE ADIZ.

— 國防部 Ministry of National
Defense, R.O.C. 國防部
(@MoNDefense) [November 1,
2023](#)

The Hill also reported that "The military drill is the latest against Taiwan, which has been self-governed since 1949 after its people fled Chinese communist rule. Taiwanese officials frequently post updates on Chinese drills, though many of them involve just a handful of aircraft or ships, not dozens of them."

The Chinese Communist regime claims that Taiwan is part of China, and over the years has made clear its intent to take Taiwan by force if necessary. [The Associated Press reported yesterday](#) that "China's military maneuvers are seen as intended to break down Taiwanese morale, exhausting its pilots and other personnel and wearing down its equipment."

News of the latest drill came just two days after a Chinese military official warned that "no matter who tries to split Taiwan from China in any form, China and the Chinese military will never allow that to happen."



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