
TAIWAN MUST COPE FIRMLY WITH CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES: TSAI

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President Tsai Ing-wen (蔡英文) said Tuesday that her administration will resolutely safeguard the sovereignty and security of the Republic of China (Taiwan), adamantly protect Taiwan's democratic and free life style and strengthen Taiwan in the face of constantly changing circumstances.

Tsai noted that in his Jan. 2 speech on Taiwan, Chinese President Xi Jinping (习近平) reiterated Beijing's willingness to take all necessary measures, including military force, to bring Taiwan into the fold, adding that the statement had a certain impact on regional peace and stability.

In such a volatile situation, the government must be steadfast in the above-mentioned areas as it seeks stability, adapts to change and makes progress, Tsai said.

Tsai made the remarks during an inspection tour of the Army Defense Command in Hualien and Taitung where she observed an exercise aimed at demonstrating the military's resolve in safeguarding national security and later had lunch with the troops.

During the lunch, Tsai thanked the military for its defense of the nation.

The president noted she had watched military exercises designed to test combat readiness and emergency response capability. To support the military strategy of "multiple deterrence and resolute defense," the government will continue to enhance the combat performance of military personnel, particularly by improving training quality and methods, she added.

Tsai said she has seen recent improvements in military equipment and combat skills and called on the armed forces to continue to improve joint combat capability to enhance national security.

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