
CHINA SAYS MILITARY DRILLS NEAR TAIWAN WERE A 'NECESSARY ACTION'

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Recent Chinese military drills off Taiwan's southwest coast were a "necessary action" to protect China's sovereignty, Beijing said on Wednesday, after Taiwan complained the large-scale air and naval exercises were a serious provocation.

China, which claims democratic Taiwan as its own, has stepped up military activities near the island, in actions Taiwan views as intimidation to force it to accept Chinese rule.

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