
PHILIPPINES REPORTS CONFRONTATION WITH CHINA IN SOUTH CHINA SEA

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Philippines Coast Guard accuses China of engaging in dangerous maneuvers around Second Thomas Shoal.

The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) has said two of its vessels were involved in a confrontation with the Chinese navy in the disputed South China Sea and accused the Chinese Coast Guard (CCG) of engaging in dangerous maneuvers at Second Thomas Shoal, a long-running flashpoint between the two countries.

The first incident occurred when the Chinese navy ship crossed paths with the coastguard boats 7 nautical miles (13km) from Pag-asa Island on April 21, the PCG said in a statement on Friday. The rock in the disputed Spratly Islands, also known as Thitu Island, was occupied by the Philippines in the 1970s and is now home to as many as 400 people.

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