
CHINA AND THE PHILIPPINES HOLD CRUCIAL TALKS TO EASE TENSIONS AFTER INTENSE CLASH IN DISPUTED WATERS

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Jim Gomez

China and the Philippines held a crucial meeting Tuesday to try to ease mounting tensions following their worst confrontation in the disputed South China Sea that sparked fears of a wider conflict that could involve the United States.

There was no mention of any major agreement, however, after the daylong meeting in Manila that could prevent a repeat of the June 17 clash at Second Thomas Shoal which caused injuries to Filipino navy personnel and damaged two military boats.

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