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## **CHINA, PHILIPPINES OFFER CONFLICTING ACCOUNTS ON 'DANGEROUS' VESSEL STANDOFF**

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04.12.2024

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Anadolu Agency (4 December 2024)

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China and the Philippines have accused each other of provoking a maritime confrontation in the disputed South China Sea, local media reported on Wednesday.

The Philippine Coast Guard stated that its vessels encountered a series of aggressive actions by Chinese Coast Guard (CCG) and People's Liberation Army Navy vessels during a routine patrol near Scarborough Shoal early Wednesday.

"The assault targeted the vessel's navigational antennas while it was positioned 16 nautical miles south of Bajo de Masinloc," the Philippines Coast Guard reported.

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