

Current Intelligence Report Circular

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United States Contribution to Increased Tension Levels: China and Taiwan

ON 28 SEP, United States (U.S.) Vice President Kamala Harris spoke at the U.S. Naval Base located in Yokosuka Japan. Before the speech, Vice President Harris was located below deck on the warship vessel. The conversation between an unnamed commander and Vice President Harris demonstrated the vessel's missile and anti-submarine capabilities. The commander proceeded to point out the hypothetical enemy, defining it as a "hostile country" without specific identification. During her speech, Vice President Harris condemned "disturbing" actions by China in the Pacific, pledging to strengthen "unofficial ties" with Taiwan. The relationship between Taiwan and the U.S. was reiterated by Vice President Harris regarding deterrence by U.S. defense military personnel. This was especially true concerning an unprovoked attack by China. U.S. military forces are ordered to operate based on actions of aggressiveness presented by China, in accordance with U.S. long-standing policy. Response by the spokesman at the Chinese Foreign Ministry, Wang Wenbin, demanded the U.S. to derive their focus based on the "One China" policy to clarify opposition of Taiwan separatist activities. U.S. President Joe Biden is scheduled to hold his first meeting with Chinese leader Xi JINPING in NOV during the Group of 20 (G20) meeting in Indonesia. END

CMCD Note

U.S. Vice President Harris' speech seems to follow the typical rhetoric that we have seen from the current administration. While the official U.S. policy remains to be one of preserving the status quo in the East, the United States President and Vice President continue to strengthen ties with Taiwan. While we continue to see more condemnation of China's actions from the United States side, the rhetoric from China continues to grow more assertive. The Chinese government statements continue to be aimed at the United States and remain disapproving in nature.

Sources

CNN - Harris calls China's behavior 'disturbing' and reiterates US support for Taiwan in speech

<https://www.cnn.com/2022/09/28/politics/kamala-harris-china-taiwan/index.html>

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<https://www.reuters.com/world/us-vp-harris-push-against-chinas-taiwan-policy-japan-speech-2022-09-27/>

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