



China to Host South African Military at Logistics Symposium

OE Watch Commentary: With its first overseas military base recently established in Djibouti, China is building military relationships elsewhere on the African continent. As the accompanying excerpted article from the South African *DefenceWeb* site relates, a Chinese delegation from the Central Military Commission Logistics Support Division, steered by its Deputy Chief of Administrative Office, Senior Colonel Huang Dongping, visited the South African Department of Defense Logistics Division in Pretoria and Cape Town between 29 October and 2 November. Her purpose was to finalize hosting of the first military logistics symposium between the two countries. The Chinese and South African militaries, according to the agreement, will hold the logistics symposium in March 2019 at the Logistics University of [the] Chinese People's Liberation Army, located in Chongqing, China.

Topics to be discussed at the upcoming symposium include preservation of warehouses, technical maintenance and repair, uniform production, and supply. According to Senior Colonel Huang Dongping, it is imperative that soldiers be exposed to foreign learning concepts. While the South African National Defense Force has traditionally purchased much of its military equipment from its own relatively large military industrial base as well as from the United States and Europe, South Africa has, in the past few months, tightened its military association with China. With China being one of South Africa's largest trading partners, this military cooperation follows on the heels of that close economic relationship. **End OE Watch Commentary (Feldman)**

Source: Kabelo Tsogang, "China and South Africa to host first military logistics symposium," *DefenceWeb (South Africa)*, 5 November 2018. http://www.defenceweb.co.za/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=53638:china-and-south-africa-to-host-first-military-logistics-symposium&catid=47:Logistics&Itemid=110

A delegation from the People's Republic of China (PRC) Central Military Commission Logistics Support division, steered by its Deputy Chief of Administrative Office, Senior Colonel Huang Dongping, have visited the South African Department of Defence Logistics Division in Pretoria and Cape Town to finalize hosting the first military logistics symposium between the two countries.

"The atmosphere that welcomed us on our arrival portrayed the professionalism that is upheld in this School," Dongping said. According to her it is imperative and logical to nurture on fresh soldiers by exposing them to foreign learning opportunities."

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"China will be hosting a symposium to improve the logistical support for South African soldiers such as the ones pictured here."

Source: John Stupart/Wikimedia, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Africa#/media/File:Roodewal_Weapons_Range_-__\(8724689015\).jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Africa#/media/File:Roodewal_Weapons_Range_-__(8724689015).jpg), CC BY 2.0.