

~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~**PLA-N Task Force Visit to Sydney Jun 19**

As at 31 May 2019

**Communication Pack****Communication Approach****POSTURE** s22(1)(b)(ii)

- **ARRIVAL:** REACTIVE. All media enquiries to be dealt with via extant MECC process.
- CO *Kuttabul* (CAPT M Shand) will be the senior officer to welcome the NETF.
- **POST-ARRIVAL:** REACTIVE. PLA-N may invite media to their ships at various times during the duration of their port visit.
  - All media visits are to be approved by CO *Kuttabul*, in consultation with MECC Division, and an ADF officer is to escort media from the main gate to the ship's gangway (and return).
  - Media will only be permitted to record on board the PLA-N ships, and may not access any other part of the base unless approved by CO *Kuttabul*.

**CONTEXT** s22(1)(b)(ii)

The PLA-Navy's 31<sup>st</sup> Naval Expeditionary Task Force (NETF), consisting of three ships (*Xuchang* FFG-536, *Luoma Hu* AOR-964 and *Kunlun Shan* LPD-998) will visit Sydney over the period of 03–07 June 2019 for a routine port visit as the task force returns from a deployment.

The task force deployed to the Gulf of Aden to conduct counter piracy operations in December 2018, s33(a)(iii), s33(b).

**RESTRICTIONS :**

s33(a)(iii)

- Deputy Fleet Commander and CO *Kuttabul* are the only spokespersons.

**SYNCHRONISATION REQUIREMENTS:** MAROPS / JOC/ NHQ (DGNCC) / MSC / IP DIV

**AUTHORISED SPOKESPERSONS:**

- **Primary:** CO *Kuttabul*
- **Secondary:** Deputy Fleet Commander

**RELEASE AUTHORITY:** DGNCC

**Key Messages**~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

- **Pleased to welcome a PLA-N task force to Sydney for a port visit.**
  - Australia welcomes China's contributions to global security, including its participation in UN peacekeeping, humanitarian and disaster relief, and anti-piracy operations.
    - The PLA-N task force is comprised of the Jiangkai II frigate *Xuchang* (FFG-536), the Fuchi auxiliary replenishment ship *Luoma Hu* (AOR-964) and the landing platform dock *Kunlun Shan* (LPD-998).
    - This visit is part of an extended deployment for the PLA-N task force which recently conducted anti-piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden.
- **Port visits are a routine activity conducted by all navies to undertake low level maintenance and provide valuable opportunities for crew respite.**
  - The last PLA-N visit to FBE occurred in Jun 2017.
  - HMAS *Melbourne* is the most recent RAN warship to visit China, visiting Qingdao in late April (2019) for the PLA-N's International Fleet Review.

## Talking Points

### General

- A People's Liberation Army—Navy's Task Force is conducting a routine port visit to Sydney over the period of 3—7 June 2019.
- This visit is part of an extended deployment for the PLA-N task force which recently conducted anti-piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden.
- The PLA-N Task Force is comprised of the Jiangkai II frigate *Xuchang* (FFG-536), the Fuchi auxiliary replenishment ship *Luoma Hu* (AOR-964) and the landing platform dock *Kunlun Shan* (LPD-998).
- Over 730 PLA-N officers and sailors are embarked in the three PLA-N ships for the visit to Sydney.
- The RAN wishes forward to engagement with the PLA-N officers a relaxing and enjoyable visit to Sydney.

s33(a)(iii)

s33(a)(iii)



s33(a)(iii)



s33(a)(iii)



s47E(d)

