
TAIWAN SAYS CHINA COAST GUARD PATROLS TO ITS EAST ARE 'PROVOCATIVE ACT'

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Ben Blanchard

Chinese Coast Guard patrols to the east of Taiwan are a "provocative act" and the military will closely [] with the island's Coast Guard in responding, Defence Minister Wellington Koo said on Monday.

China, which views democratically governed Taiwan as its own territory, was angered after Japan and the Philippines said last month they would begin formal talks on delimiting their maritime boundaries, viewing that [] involving waters off Taiwan. Delimitation is the process of legally establishing the outer limits of a state.

Late [] Saturday, Chinese state media said ships had been sent to carry out a "special maritime [] law-enforcement operation" in the waters east of Taiwan in response to the Japanese and Philippine announcement.

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