

Leak of Australian Commander's China Comments Fuels Further Talk of War

By [John Power](#)

Asia-Pacific Research, May 04, 2021

[South China Morning Post](#)

Region: [China](#), [Oceania](#)

Theme: [Defence](#)

All Global Research articles **can be read in 51 languages by activating the “Translate Website”** drop down menu on the top banner of our home page (Desktop version).

An Australian military commander warned of the “high likelihood” of conflict with China in a confidential briefing last year, an Australian newspaper reported on Tuesday, with the timing of the leaked remarks adding fuel to growing discussion about the risk of armed confrontation with Beijing over [Taiwan](#).

Major General Adam Findlay told Australian special forces in a private briefing last April to prepare for the possibility of war with [China](#), describing the country's [largest trading partner](#) as the biggest threat to the region, The *Sydney Morning Herald* reported.

Findlay, who served as Special Operations Commander in the [Australian](#) Army before stepping down last year, said China had been competing with Australia in the “grey zone” to achieve its objectives without military force but that could change despite Canberra's efforts to avoid conflict, according to the newspaper, which cited multiple unnamed sources.

“Grey zone” warfare describes offensive actions such as cyberattacks, intelligence-gathering and [trade](#) sanctions that fall short of military action.

The report on Findlay's comments comes after two senior government figures raised the possibility of Australia becoming embroiled in a regional military conflict.

[Read the full article here.](#)

*

Note to readers: please click the share buttons above or below. Forward this article to your email lists. Crosspost on your blog site, internet forums. etc.

*Featured image: Vessels take part in a three-way exercise involving Australian, Japanese and US forces.
Photo: US Pacific Fleet*

The original source of this article is [South China Morning Post](#)
Copyright © [John Power](#), [South China Morning Post](#), 2021

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: [John Power](#)

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). Asia-Pacific Research will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. Asia-Pacific Research grants permission to cross-post Asia-Pacific Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Asia-Pacific Research article. For publication of Asia-Pacific Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: editors@asia-pacificresearch.com

www.asia-pacificresearch.com contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: editors@asia-pacificresearch.com