The EastWest Institute (EWI) convened the 10th anniversary of the U.S.-China Sanya Initiative from October 27 to 29, 2018. The dialogue was made possible through the generous support of the China-United States Exchange Foundation (CUSEF) and other private donors and was organized in close partnership with the China Association for International Friendly Contact (CAIFC). Retired American and Chinese senior flag officers and executives of the hosting organizations met in Beijing to discuss critical issues of mutual concern and interest impacting the U.S.-China military-to-military relationship, including North Korea, Taiwan, the South China Sea, emerging technologies, as well as other regional security challenges.

The dialogue afforded timely opportunities for substantive exchanges prior to the November 9th meeting between U.S. Secretary of Defense James Mattis and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, and Chinese Minister of Defense Wei Fenghe and State Councilor Yang Jiechi. Planned activities included two days of off-the-record discussions at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing with the participation of observers from both China and the United States, as well as official meetings with Admiral Miao Hua, Director of the Political Department of the Chinese Central Military Commission, and Ambassador Terry Branstad, the U.S. Ambassador to the People’s Republic of China.
Meet the Delegates

Admiral (ret.) William A. Owens and Admiral Miao Hua discuss the U.S.-China military relationship.

Admiral (ret.) William A. Owens and Admiral Miao Hua discuss the U.S.-China military relationship.

General (ret.) Norton A. Schwartz offers insights to Chinese delegates.

Mr. Huang Dizhong
Special Assistant to the Chairman,
China-United States Exchange Foundation

CHINESE PARTICIPANTS

General (ret.) Qi Jianguo
Former Deputy Chief,
Joint Staff Department,
Central Military Commission

General (ret.) Li Andong
Former Deputy Director,
General Armament Department,
Chinese People’s Liberation Army

Lieutenant General (ret.) Ren Haiquan
Former Vice President,
Academy of Military Science,
Chinese People’s Liberation Army

Mr. Yi Xian
Vice President,
China Association for International Friendly Contact

Mr. Xin Qi
Vice President,
China Association for International Friendly Contact

CHINESE OBSERVER

Mr. Huang Dizhong
Special Assistant to the Chairman,
China-United States Exchange Foundation

Left to right: Admiral (ret.) William A. Owens, General (ret.) Li Andong and Mr. Xin Qi.
U.S. PARTICIPANTS

Admiral (ret.) William A. Owens
Former Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Chairman, Red Bison Advisory Group LLC

General (ret.) Norton A. Schwartz
Former Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Ambassador Karl W. Eikenberry
Former United States Ambassador to Afghanistan
Former Deputy Chairman, Military Committee, North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Mr. John K. Hurley
Founder and Managing Partner,
Cavalry Asset Management
Director, EastWest Institute

Ms. Martha Bejar
Chief Executive Officer,
Red Bison Advisory Group LLC

Dr. Lora Saalman
Vice President, Asia-Pacific Program,
EastWest Institute

U.S. OBSERVERS

Colonel Timothy P. Kuehne
Air Attaché,
Embassy of the United States of America in Beijing

Ms. Maria Sand
Political-Military Affairs Unit Chief,
Embassy of the United States of America in Beijing
U.S. Delegation Activities

Sanya Initiative delegates met with Admiral Miao Hua, Director of the Political Department of the Chinese Central Military Commission.

Delegates gathered for dialogue at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse.

U.S. delegates met with Ambassador Terry Branstad, U.S. ambassador to the People’s Republic of China.

U.S. Delegation Activities

Acknowledgements

The 10th anniversary meeting of the U.S.-China Sanya Initiative was made possible through the partnership of the China Association for International Friendly Contact (CAIFC) and the generous support of the China-United States Exchange Foundation (CUSEF) and Mr. Joel H. Cowan.

Mr. Joel H. Cowan