

Taiwan Lawmakers Seek Clarification on Unverified U.S. Military Training Document

Lawmakers have asked Taiwan's Defense Ministry to verify an online document describing a purported expansion of U.S. military training personnel.

London, United Kingdom Oct 11, 2026 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - Taiwanese lawmakers Hung Meng-kai and Huang Chien-pin have asked Taiwan's Defense Ministry to clarify the authenticity and status of an online document that purportedly describes an expansion of U.S. military training arrangements in Taiwan, according to a Sept. 24, 2026, report by Mirror Daily.

The two Kuomintang legislators responded to material circulating online that purported to describe future military training arrangements. Mirror Daily reported that both lawmakers sought verification of the material and an explanation of whether it represented formal government planning.

An unidentified user posted a document titled "AIT 'U.S. Military Training Group Taiwan (US-MTG-T)' Expansion Plan" in the public Facebook group [Complaints About Commanding Officers – Bold Edition](#). According to Taiwanese news outlet CNEWS, the user who uploaded it said its authenticity could not be confirmed.

According to [Mirror Daily's Sept. 24 report](#), Hung asked the Defense Ministry to verify the document's authenticity. He said officials should correct the public record if the material was fabricated or explain its background, subject to protection of sensitive information, if it was genuine.

Huang called for legislative oversight of personnel numbers, duties, budgets and responsibilities associated with defense cooperation. Mirror Daily reported that he supported strengthening Taiwan's defense capabilities while seeking clearer explanations of cooperation arrangements and maintaining communication across the Taiwan Strait.

The lawmakers' requests for clarification do not authenticate the document or confirm an approved personnel increase.

A separate recommendation concerning U.S. military training personnel in Taiwan was made during a congressional hearing in Washington on May 15, 2025.

In [written testimony submitted to the U.S. House Select Committee on China](#), retired Rear Adm. Mark Montgomery recommended roughly doubling the joint training team in Taiwan to approximately 1,000 personnel. He also proposed placing half its staff on permanent duty orders and supporting the training effort through a formally designated operation. The recommendation was not an announcement of a U.S. government deployment decision.

Montgomery testified in his capacity as a senior director at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies. His submission presented policy recommendations rather than announcing a U.S. government deployment decision.

Taiwan's Central News Agency reported the testimony in a May 16, 2025, article. CNA said Montgomery described the existing team as numbering approximately 500 people. The report also noted that the U.S. government had not confirmed the precise number of American military personnel in Taiwan at that time.

U.S. legislation provides a separate basis for security assistance to Taiwan. The fiscal 2025 National Defense Authorization Act, enacted on Dec. 23, 2024, established the Taiwan Security Cooperation Initiative under Section 1323.

The enacted law, published by the U.S. Government Publishing Office, authorized up to US\$300 million for the initiative during fiscal 2025. Its assistance categories include equipment, defensive capabilities and training. Section 1323 does not prescribe a 1,000-person training mission.

The available records therefore document three separate matters: the Taiwanese lawmakers' requests for clarification, Montgomery's earlier recommendation concerning training personnel, and statutory authority for security assistance. They do not establish that the personnel expansion described in the material circulating online has been approved.

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