

Refugee Review Tribunal

AUSTRALIA

RRT RESEARCH RESPONSE

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This response was prepared by the Country Research Section of the Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT) after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the RRT within time constraints. This response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum.

Questions

1. Can you provide information on the PLA – are you conscripted, do you volunteer, and how do you leave the PLA, etc?
2. Please provide any information on treatment of dissidents in the Army.
3. Please provide any information on Taiwanese passports and the availability of false Taiwan passports.

List of Sources Consulted

Internet Sources:

Government Information & Reports

Bureau of Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Taiwan

<http://www.boca.gov.tw/english/index.htm>

Criminal Investigation Bureau, Taiwan <http://www.cib.gov.tw/english/index.aspx>

Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the United States of America

<http://www.china-embassy.org/eng/>

Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada http://www.irb.gc.ca/cgi-bin/foliocgi.exe/refinfo_e

UK Home Office <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk>

US Department of State <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk>

United Nations (UN)

UNHCR <http://www.unhcr.ch/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/home>

Non-Government Organisations

Amnesty International <http://www.amnesty.org/>

Global Security <http://www.globalsecurity.org/>

Human Rights Watch <http://www.hrw.org/>

International News & Politics

BBC News <http://news.bbc.co.uk>

Taipei Times <http://www.taipeitimes.com/>
Washington Post <http://www.washingtonpost.com/>
Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page

Region Specific Links

China Internet Information Center website <http://www.china.org.cn/english/>

Search Engines

Google <http://www.google.com.au/>

UNHCR *REFWORLD* UNHCR Refugee Information Online

Databases:

Public	<i>FACTIVA</i>	Reuters Business Briefing
DIMIA	<i>BACIS</i>	Country Information
	<i>REFINFO</i>	IRBDC Research Responses (Canada)
RRT	<i>ISYS</i>	RRT Country Research database, including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, US Department of State <i>Country Reports on Human Rights Practices</i> .
RRT Library	<i>FIRST</i>	RRT Library Catalogue

RESPONSE

1. Can you provide information on the PLA – are you conscripted, do you volunteer, and how do you leave the PLA, etc?

General Information

Wikipedia provides information on the People's Liberation Army (PLA) with reference to organisation, history, internal security, commercial enterprises and technology (Wikipedia 2005, 'People's Liberation Army', 7 July http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/People's_Liberation_Army – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 1).

The Global Security website provides extensive information on the PLA.

- General information ('People's Liberation Army' 2005, Global Security website, 27 April <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/china/pla.htm> – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 2);
- History ('PLA History' 2005, Global Security website, 27 April <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/china/pla-history.htm> – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 3);
- Training ('PLA Training' 2005, Global Security website, 27 April <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/china/pla-training.htm> – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 4);
- Army Uniform ('Army Uniform' 2005, Global Security website, 27 April <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/china/army-uniforms.htm> – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 5);

- Army Insignia ('Army Insignia' 2005, Global Security website, 27 April <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/china/army-insignia.htm> – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 6);
- Rank Insignia ('Rank Insignia' 2005, Global Security website, 27 April <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/china/pla-rank.htm> – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 7);
- Military Regions ('Military Regions' 2005, Global Security website, 27 April <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/china/mr.htm> – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 8); and
- 'Nanjing Military Region' 2005, Global Security website, 27 April <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/china/mr.htm> – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 9).

Conscription, Volunteers, Discharge & Desertion

According to Wikipedia, in theory all Chinese citizens have the duty to perform military service while in practice military service with the PLA is voluntary (Wikipedia 2005, 'People's Liberation Army', 7 July http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/People's_Liberation_Army – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 1).

The Information Office of China's State Council published a white paper entitled *China's National Defense in 2004* on 27 December 2004. Chapter V provides information on the military service system. The following extracts provide information on conscription, volunteers and discharge.

China practices a military service system which combines conscripts with volunteers and a militia with a reserve service.

... Active Service

Active service is the principal form in which Chinese citizens perform their military service obligations. The citizens in active service in the PLA are servicemen in active service, consisting of officers in active service, civil cadres and soldiers in active service.

...Soldiers in active service are composed of conscripts based on compulsory military service (referred to as conscripts) and volunteers based on volunteer military service (referred to as non-commissioned officers). Non-commissioned officers are chosen from conscripts who have completed their terms of active service, and may be recruited from citizens with professional skills in non-military organizations. The term of service for conscripts in active service is two years. A system of active service for different terms is adopted for non-commissioned officers. The first two terms are three years each, the third and fourth terms four years each, the fifth term five years, and the sixth term nine years or longer. Non-commissioned officers are divided into two categories: specialized-technical and non-specialized-technical. The term of active service for the former ranges from the first to the sixth, and the latter and women non-commissioned officers serve, in principle, only the first term.

The lowest military rank for soldiers in active service is private, and the highest is non-commissioned officer of the sixth grade. Conscripts in their first year of service are of the rank of private, and rise to the rank of private first class in their second year. The military ranks for non-commissioned officers are divided into six grades in three categories. The first two grades are junior non-commissioned officers, the third and fourth grades are intermediate

non-commissioned officers, and the fifth and sixth grades are senior non-commissioned officers.

...Enlistment in Peacetime

The number of conscripts enlisted into active service in China every year, and the requirements and time for their enlistment are prescribed by order of the State Council and the CMC. The provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government make arrangements for enlistment in their respective areas in accordance with the enlistment order of the State Council and the CMC. Enlistment in peacetime usually takes place once a year.

The Military Service Law of the PRC stipulates that male citizens who reach the age of 18 by December 31 each year are eligible for enlistment for active service. Those who are not enlisted that year remain eligible for enlistment until the age of 22. Female citizens may also be enlisted, if necessary. Male citizens reaching the age of 18 before December 31 should register for military service before September 30 of the same year. Citizens who meet the required conditions for active service are enlisted into active service after gaining approval from the military service organs of their own counties, autonomous counties, cities or municipal districts. If a citizen qualified for enlistment is the only supporter of his or her family or is a student in a full-time school, his or her enlistment may be postponed. Citizens who are kept in custody for investigations, legal proceedings or trials, or who are serving sentences or are under criminal detention or surveillance may not be enlisted.

Discharge from Active Service and Resettlements

Active officers who have reached the maximum age limit for peacetime active service should be discharged from active service. Those who have not yet reached the maximum age limit or have not served the minimum term limit for peacetime active service may be discharged from active service in special circumstances after gaining approval. Soldiers who have completed their term of active service should be discharged from active service.

The state makes proper arrangements for officers and civil cadres who have been discharged from active service. The main modes of arrangement are transference to civilian work, demobilization and retirement.

...When conscripts have been discharged from active service, the people's government of the county where they were enlisted makes appropriate arrangements for them, depending on whether they are from the countryside or city and whether they have received any awards for meritorious service. Non-commissioned officers are resettled and arranged as transference to civilian work, demobilization, or retirement from active service according to their terms of service (China's State Council 2004, 'Chapter V The Military Service System', *China's National Defense in 2004* (2), 27 December, Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the United States of America website <http://www.china-embassy.org/eng/xw/t176725.htm> – Accessed 6 July 2005 – Attachment 10).

An Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada response dated 29 October 1999, provides the articles of the revised Military Service Law (30 December 1998) which relate to desertion and draft evasion (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1999, *CHN33011.E – China: Update to CHN17214.E of 28 April 1994; penalties imposed on deserters from the military service*, 29 October http://www.irb.gc.ca/cgi-bin/foliocgi.exe/refinfo_e – Accessed 6 July 2005 – Attachment 11).

2. Please provide any information on treatment of dissidents in the Army.

Very little information on the treatment of dissidents in the Army was found amongst the sources consulted.

According to Amnesty International, “Zhang Yuxiang, a former cadre in the People’s Liberation Army district propaganda department, from Jiangsu province, was reportedly detained for three days in early February 1998 for questioning about exiled dissident Wang Bingzhang’s visit to China ... Zhang Yuxiang had been jailed for two years in 1991 for his alleged involvement in a “counter-revolutionary” political group” (Amnesty International 1998, *China: Detention and Harassment of Dissidents and Others between January and June 1998*, 1 June, ASA 17/016/1998 <http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGASA170161998?open&of=ENG-2S2> – Accessed 7 April 2005 – Attachment 12).

An article dated 21 July 2004 in *The Washington Post* reports that China released Jiang Yanyong, the dissident PLA physician “after 49 days confinement aimed at pressuring him to disavow a letter in which he denounced the 1989 Tianamen Square massacre.”

China has released the dissident physician who became a national hero for exposing the government’s coverup of the SARS epidemic, sending him home Monday night after 49 days of confinement aimed at pressuring him to disavow a letter in which he denounced the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre.

...A person close to the family said Jiang succeeded in resisting the demands of his jailers despite seven weeks of intense indoctrination sessions. The closest Jiang came to backing down was a statement in which he conceded that others might have used his Tiananmen letter for their own purposes, but he also wrote that he should not be held responsible for other people’s actions, the person said.

...There was no comment Tuesday from the Chinese government. Jiang Yanyong was never charged with a crime, and the government had said only that the military was “helping and educating him” because he had violated military discipline.

Military officials have warned Jiang that his release does not mean his case is closed, a person close to the family said, but they have also indicated that he can resume giving medical advice to his patients.

...The decision to detain Jiang was a risky one because of the popular reputation for honesty and integrity he earned during the SARS coverup. In 2003, two weeks after a letter he wrote to China’s state-controlled media blowing the whistle was leaked to foreign news media, the government fired the health minister and mayor of Beijing, sharply raised its official count of SARS cases and launched a campaign to alert the public of the disease and stop its spread. Jiang then used the renown he had gained for another cause. In late February, he sent a letter to members of the Chinese leadership urging them to admit that the party’s 1989 military assault on student-led, pro-democracy demonstrations in Tiananmen Square was wrong. The letter, in which he described treating scores of wounded civilians at his hospital on the night of the crackdown, was delivered to foreign media during the annual meeting of China’s legislature.

...Jiang Yanyong was detained on June 1, just days before the 15th anniversary of the massacre. Military and security officials seized him while he was on his way to the U.S. Embassy to apply for a visa to visit his daughter, then transported him in an armored vehicle to a remote military facility on the outskirts of Beijing, sources familiar with the situation said.

The officials threatened to keep Jiang in custody under 24-hour supervision until he “changed his thinking” about the Tiananmen crackdown and forced him to write “thought reports” every day as part of the indoctrination process, one source said.

But the doctor refused to budge.

...During the July 7 visit with Hua, the military officials described Jiang as honest but politically naive, told her that he had finally made progress in his thought reports and showed her a statement in his handwriting, sources close to the family said.

But Jiang did not disavow his Tiananmen letter in the statement, the sources said. Instead, he acknowledged that other people might have used his letter for their own purposes, one person close to the family said. He also allowed that his jailers had helped him realize that the Chinese Communist Party in 1989 was “like a patient with complicated colorectal cancer” who faced imminent death unless emergency surgery was performed, the person said.

Jiang, a senior party member, wrote that surgery might prolong the patient’s life, and he discussed the disease and the consequences of surgery in great detail in the statement. But he never said whether the patient – in this case, the party – should be saved, and he never condoned the military crackdown, the person said (Pan, Philip P. 2004, ‘China Frees Dissident Physician’, *Washington Post*, 12 July <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A63793-2004Jul20.html> – Accessed 6 July 2005 – Attachment 13).

The most recent US Department of State *International Religious Freedom Report 2004* provides the following information on the PLA and religion.

The “Routine Service Regulations” of the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) state explicitly that servicemen “may not take part in religious or superstitious activities.” Party and PLA military personnel have been expelled for adhering to the Falun Gong spiritual movement (US Department of State 2004, ‘Restrictions on Religious Freedom’, *International Religious Freedom Report 2004 – China (includes Tibet, Hong Kong and Macau)*, 15 September – Attachment 14).

An article dated 16 April 2005 in *The Seattle Times* reports that 2,000 retired PLA servicemen from across China staged protests in Beijing to demand pension increases.

About 2,000 retired servicemen from across China staged sit-down protests in Beijing this week to demand pension increases in a public display of dissent that has alarmed the leadership, a military source and witnesses said.

The back-to-back demonstrations from Monday to Wednesday were the biggest by veterans in China since the 1949 revolution and unsettling for the Communist Party, which has relied on the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) to maintain its five-decade-old monopoly on power.

...Wearing their old uniforms, more than 1,500 retired PLA officers from about 20 provinces staged a peaceful sit-down protest outside the Beijing office of the General Political Department on Monday and Tuesday, the military source and the witnesses said.

“The government was caught unprepared. ... It is worried veterans will continue to link up and bring chaos to society,” the military source said yesterday.

Police and local officials dispersed the protest 36 hours later by forcibly putting the petitioners on buses or trains and sending them back to their hometowns, said the military source and the witnesses, who all requested anonymity.

On Wednesday, more than 400 retired rank-and-file soldiers from nine provinces staged a brief protest on the doorsteps of the General Political Department, a branch of the PLA that oversees personnel, propaganda dissemination, song and dance troupes and athletes.

Police were prepared this time and shunted the group to an indoor sports stadium in Fengtai in suburban Beijing before the protesters were sent home, the PLA source and the witnesses said.

Analysts said the protests were only the tip of the iceberg.

Millions of low-ranking PLA officers and rank-and-file soldiers who were given jobs at state-owned enterprises after retirement feel their pay and new status fail to live up to their contributions to the country. Many have lost their jobs because most state firms are losing money.

Authorities were investigating who organized the protests by the veterans and how they managed to make plans.

Freedom of assembly and association is enshrined in China's constitution, but the authorities are obsessed with stability and regularly crack down on organized dissent.

...The first group of protesters were among an estimated 300,000 officers who retired, voluntarily or otherwise, between 1990-99 and received pensions of up to 60,000 yuan (\$7,200), the military source said.

But former company, platoon and battalion commanders, younger than 50 after 10 to 20 years of service, demanded retroactive pension increases after the government revised its policy in 2003 to boost the standard of living of veterans.

Pensions for retired servicemen have almost doubled since (Lim, Benjamin Kang 2005, '2,000 retired servicemen stage protests for pension in Beijing', *The Seattle Times*, source: *Reuters*, 16 April – Attachment 15).

3. Please provide any information on Taiwanese passports and the availability of false Taiwan passports.

On 1 July 2003, the Taiwanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced a new cover for the Taiwanese passport.

In response to public opinion, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, based on functional considerations, has designed a new cover for the ROC passport. The word "TAIWAN" will be added to the cover of the new edition of the ROC passport, below the national emblem. The format of inside pages of the passport, the national title, and the national emblem will all remain unchanged. These changes are intended to help foreign immigration officers readily distinguish ROC passports from PRC passports.

Passports with the new format will be issued on September 1, 2003. However, passports with the current format will remain valid until their respective dates of expiry (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Republic of China 2003, 'Taiwan: The New Version of the ROC Passport', 1 July – Attachment 16).

An article dated 1 September 2003 by *BBC News* contains a picture of the new Taiwanese passport. Richard Shih, a spokesman for the Taiwanese Foreign Ministry “stressed that, other than the addition of the word Taiwan, the new version of the passport was completely the same as the old version” (‘Taiwan issues “provocative” passports’ 2003, *BBC News*, 1 September <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/3197059.stm> – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 17).

An article dated 2 September 2003 in *The Taipei Times* contains a picture of Kuo Yi-ming with the first new Taiwanese passport, numbered “210000001” which was issued on 1 September 2003 (Tai-lin, Huang 2003, ““Taiwanese” passports make debut’, *Taipei Times*, 2 September <http://www.taipeitimes.com/News/front/archives/2003/09/02/2003066152> – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 18).

Attachment 19 provides information on how to apply for a Taiwanese passport, sourced from the Bureau of Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Taiwan (‘The easy way to apply for an ROC Passport’ (undated), Bureau of Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Taiwan website <http://www.boca.gov.tw/~boca4002/en/index.htm#1> – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 19).

No definitive information on the availability of false Taiwanese passports was found amongst the sources consulted. The following articles provide information on false Taiwanese passports, both old and new.

Old Passports

An October 2001 working paper on human smuggling from Ecuador and China provides information on human smuggling from Fujian, China to the United States. It notes that one method involves buying and using fake Taiwanese passports.

Regarding the methods of illegal migrant exporters, there are several strategies, or “channels,” through which snake people are smuggled into the U.S. The first channel is to use either genuine or forged documents which allow one to land directly at airports in the United States (such as JFK airport). They would first buy fake Taiwanese, Japanese, Singapore, Malaysian or South Korean passports to apply for U.S. visas as citizen of these countries. ...The used passports and visas sometimes are recycled for further use (Chin, 1999) (Kyle, David & Liang, Zai 2001, *Migration Merchants: Human Smuggling from Ecuador and China*, Working Paper 43, October, The Center for Comparative Immigration Studies, University of California, San Diego website, p.16 <http://ccis.ucsd.edu/PUBLICATIONS/wrkg43.PDF> – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 20).

A *Newsday* article reports on the trial of a Chinatown businesswoman known as “Sister Ping” who ran a people smuggling empire. Admitted snakeheads, Weng Yu Hui and Guo Liang Qi, testified that they used a variety of false passports including ones from Taiwan. Note that the article refers to operations in the 1980s and 1990s (Hurtado, Patricia 2005, ““Sister Ping” trial sheds light on smugglers’, *Newsday*, 23 May <http://www.nynewsday.com/news/local/manhattan/nyc-oing0524,0,3457439.story?coll=nyc-manheadlines-manhattan%00> – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 21).

An article dated 17 May 2001 by *Agence France Presse* reports that the Taiwan Independence Party has issued more than 200 fake Taiwanese passports “as part of the drive to establish a new country independent of China.” The party claims a man used one of the

passports to enter Honduras, Belize, El Salvador and a fourth unidentified country ('Man uses "independent Taiwan" passport to enter four countries' 2001, *Agence France Presse*, 17 May – Attachment 22).

An article dated 17 May 2001 in *The Taipei Times* reports that the above passport "looks exactly like a Republic of China passport."

Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokeswoman Katherine Chang (張小月) said that if such cases prove to be true, the ministry would inform other nations to keep an eye out for the fake documents.

...Ministry officials warned that if people attempt to use the fake passports to enter Taiwan or apply for visas from the US or European countries, they would face legal repercussions and that the false documents would be confiscated ('Taiwan passports dupe other countries' 2001, *Taipei Times*, 17 May <http://www.taipeitimes.com/News/local/archives/2001/05/17/86056> – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 23).

According to the US Department of State *Patterns of Global Terrorism – 2002* report in November 2002 "airline agents [in Paraguay] prevented three persons claiming to be from Taiwan bearing false passports and US visas from boarding an aircraft bound for the United States" (US Department of State 2003, 'Western Hemisphere Overview', *Patterns of Global Terrorism – 2002*, 30 April – Attachment 24).

An article dated 14 March 2003 in *The China Post* reports that airport police have cracked a "passport-forging ring that has falsified the travel documents of more than 50 college students in Taiwan."

Two suspects were arrested Wednesday.

...Chen, who ran a travel agency in Taipei, was charged with working with Contai to hunt for college students who could not pay their credit card debts.

The students were persuaded to give up their passports, which were taken to Thailand for forging, investigators said.

Many forged passports were sold to Thai and Chinese, who tried to use them to enter Canada, Japan and the United States, investigators added.

Investigators said the number of involved college students may hit 100. They were each offered NT\$30,000 to part with their passports, investigators added.

Police started looking into the forgery after they first tracked a Thai national using a fake Taiwan passport to enter Japan.

They found the passport was that of a Taiwan co-ed student, who owed NT\$600,000 in credit card back payment. She named a man, Shen, who bought her passport.

Shen was later found to be a schoolmate of Chen's. Both tried to persuade college students to sell passports, investigators said.

Most of the students claimed they lost their passports and applied for new ones, investigators added. They were easily convinced that they were not breaking any law ('Two suspects arrested in forged passport case' 2003, *China Post*, 14 March – Attachment 25).

An article dated 30 July 2003 in *The China Daily* reports that in March 2003, the Beijing Exits and Entry Inspection Bureau found eight forged passports including one from Taiwan in the luggage of a passenger.

In March this year, for example, the bureau found seven forged Hong Kong passports and one forged Taiwan passport in the luggage of a passenger surnamed Tan, who came from Southeast Asia, when the person was going to take flight MS869.

Tan was trying to take seven passengers from East China's Zhejiang and Fujian provinces to Cairo via Beijing, and then stow them away on the flight to Europe via Cairo ('Cracking Down on Stowaway Passengers' 2003, *China Daily*, 30 July, China Internet Information Center website <http://www.china.org.cn/english/travel/71195.htm> – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 26).

New Passports

An article dated 1 June 2004 by *The Central News Agency* reports that the Minister of Foreign Affairs "will actively study ways to step up measures to prevent passport counterfeiting" in Taiwan.

Anna A. Kao, the foreign ministry's deputy director-general of the Department of Information and Cultural Affairs, made the remarks in the wake of Minister of Justice Chen Ding-nan's suggestion at the Legislative Yuan the previous day to add fingerprint ID on key documents such as ROC ID card or passports.

Kao didn't respond directly to the suggestion, saying only that various problems do occur because of forged ROC passports and that they undermine the credibility of valid passports and anti-counterfeiting measures have to be strengthened (Wu, Lilian 2004, 'Better Measures Needed to Stop Passport Fraud: Foreign Ministry', *Central News Agency*, 1 June – Attachment 27).

The Member may be interested to know that one of the roles of Interpol Taipei is to prevent fake passports and document forgeries.

In order to suppress stolen and fake passport cases, this bureau has established the Anti-Passport Fraud Section to be fully in charge of stolen and fake passport cases. In addition, the International Police also work closely with the Bureau of Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign affairs, Bureau of Immigration and Foreign Embassies and Consulates in Taiwan to prevent the unlawful reproduction and use of fake documents. Furthermore, our officers continue to exchange relevant information with other Interpol states. We hope we can efficiently suppress document forgery and promote a good reputation for Taiwan within the international community ('About Interpol Taipei' 2004, Criminal Investigations Bureau, Taiwan website <http://www.cib.gov.tw/English/international/international02.aspx> – Accessed 7 July 2005 – Attachment 28).

Attachments

1. Wikipedia 2005, 'People's Liberation Army', 7 July.
(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/People's_Liberation_Army – Accessed 7 July 2005)
2. 'People's Liberation Army' 2005, Global Security website, 27 April.
(<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/china/pla.htm> – Accessed 7 July 2005)

3. 'PLA History' 2005, Global Security website, 27 April.
(<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/china/pla-history.htm> – Accessed 7 July 2005)
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(<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/china/pla-training.htm> – Accessed 7 July 2005)
5. 'Army Uniform' 2005, Global Security website, 27 April.
(<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/china/army-uniforms.htm> – Accessed 7 July 2005)
6. 'Army Insignia' 2005, Global Security website, 27 April.
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7. 'Rank Insignia' 2005, Global Security website, 27 April.
(<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/china/pla-rank.htm> – Accessed 7 July 2005)
8. 'Military Regions' 2005, Global Security website, 27 April.
(<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/china/mr.htm> – Accessed 7 July 2005)
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13. Pan, Philip P. 2004, 'China Frees Dissident Physician', *Washington Post*, 12 July.
(<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A63793-2004Jul20.html> – Accessed 6 July 2005)
14. US Department of State 2004, *International Religious Freedom Report 2004 – China (includes Tibet, Hong Kong and Macau)*, 15 September.
15. Lim, Benjamin Kang 2005, '2,000 retired servicemen stage protests for pension in Beijing', *The Seattle Times*, source: Reuters, 16 April. (FACTIVA)

16. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Republic of China 2003, 'Taiwan: The New Version of the ROC Passport', 1 July. (CISNET Taiwan CX83959)
17. 'Taiwan issues "provocative" passports' 2003, *BBC News*, 1 September.
(<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/3197059.stm> – Accessed 7 July 2005)
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19. 'The easy way to apply for an ROC Passport' (undated), Bureau of Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Taiwan website.
(<http://www.boca.gov.tw/~boca4002/en/index.htm#1> – Accessed 7 July 2005)
20. Kyle, David & Liang, Zai 2001, *Migration Merchants: Human Smuggling from Ecuador and China*, Working Paper 43, October, The Center for Comparative Immigration Studies, University of California, San Diego website.
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(<http://www.nynewsday.com/news/local/manhattan/nyc-0ing0524,0,3457439.story?coll=nyc-manheadlines-manhattan%00> – Accessed 7 July 2005)
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