

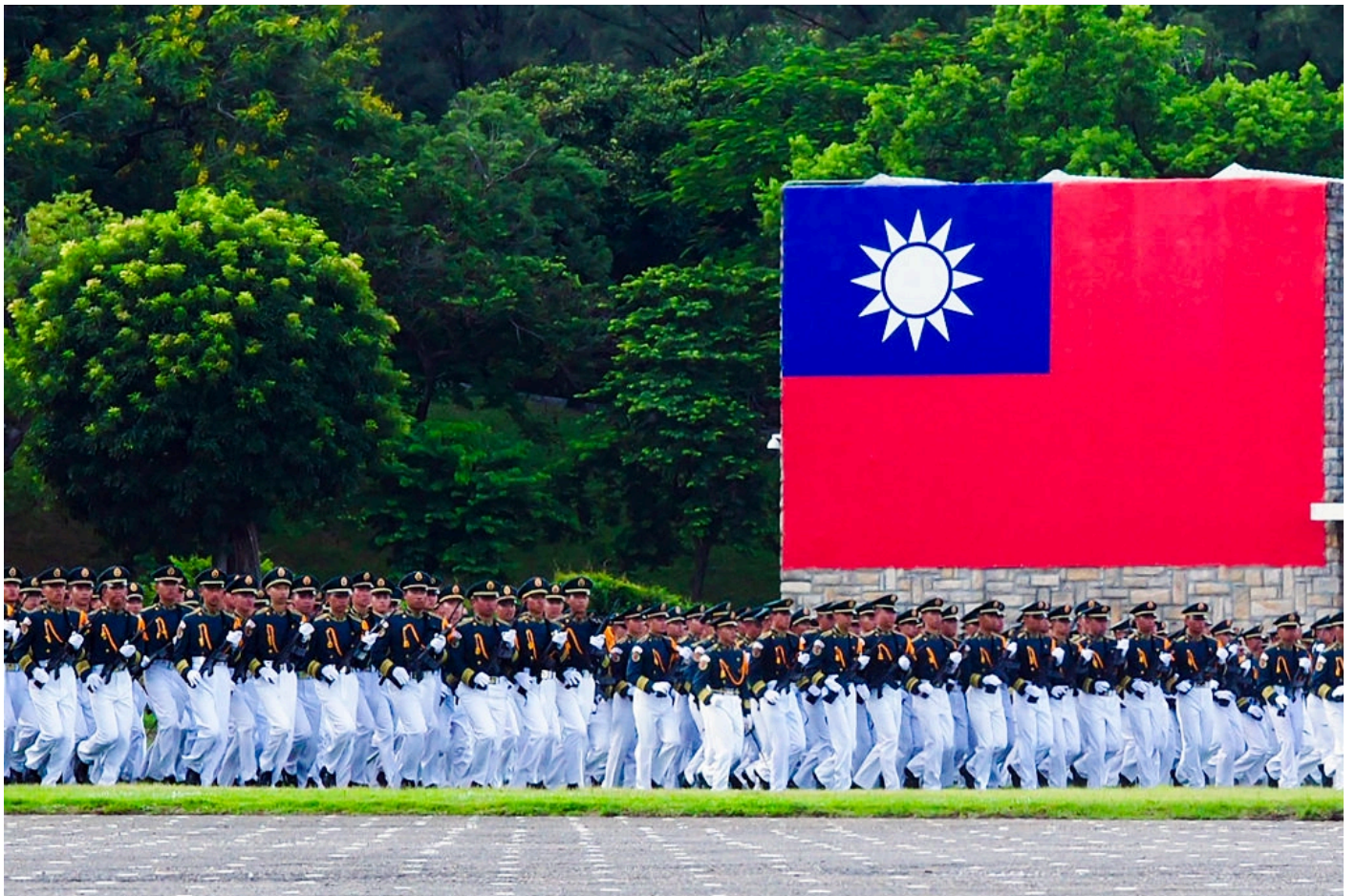
CCP Spy Cases Have Quadrupled in Last 3 Years: Taiwan Security Bureau

Almost two-thirds of the individuals prosecuted in 2024 were active or former military personnel, the bureau said.

16

3

Save



Students from the Republic of China (ROC) Military Academy march during the academy's 100th anniversary ceremony in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, on June 16, 2024. Sam Yeh/AFP via Getty Images



By Lily Zhou

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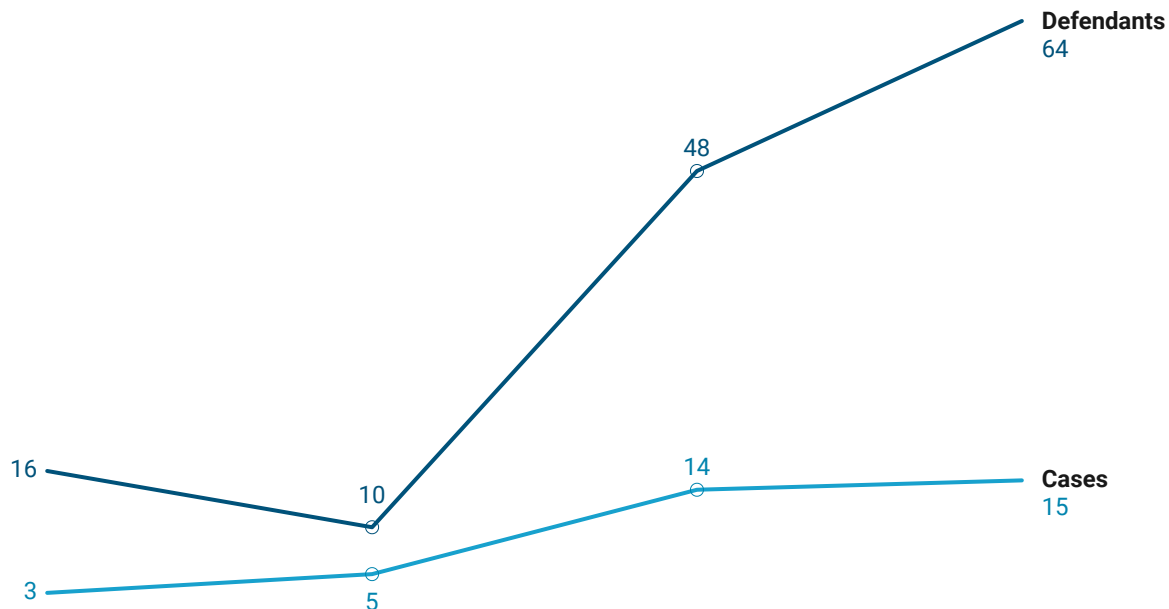
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The number of people prosecuted for allegedly spying on behalf of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has quadrupled in the past three years, according to Taiwan's National Security Bureau (NSB).

In a report published on Sunday, in which the NSB analyzed the CCP's targets and tactics, the bureau said a total of 64 people were prosecuted in CCP spy cases in 2024. In the previous three years, 16, 10, and 48 alleged spies were prosecuted, respectively.

The number of spy cases in 2024 was 15, compared to three in 2021. In 2022 and 2023, there were five and 14 cases, respectively, in relation to alleged spying for the CCP. The data do not include prosecutions under the Anti-Infiltration Act.

Number of CCP spy cases and defendants in Taiwan



Among those prosecuted in 2024, almost two-thirds of the defendants were current and former military personnel, including 28 active military personnel and 15 former soldiers.

The numbers show that active military personnel are the main targets of the CCP's infiltration, NSB said. Other targets include government departments and pro-Beijing organizations.

The report listed the CCP's typical tactics used in the cases, including collusion with criminal gangs, entrapping former soldiers with debts, and influencing elections through various methods.

According to the NSB, the CCP has recruited criminal gangs in Taiwan to target active military personnel who are facing financial difficulties, and offer them interest-free loans in exchange for sensitive information. Criminal gangs have also been asked to erect the CCP's five-star red flags when the CCP invades Taiwan.

The gangs have also attempted to set up sniper teams using CCP funds, instructing ex-military officers to list high-ranking officials of Taiwan's military, and collect the coordinates and photos of foreign agencies in Taiwan, and military radar stations and training bases, the report said.

Another method is having former military personnel set up shell companies and underground banks and casinos where active military personnel can be incentivized or forced to hand over intelligence, sign declarations of allegiance to the CCP, or defect to mainland China taking with them Taiwanese military helicopters. The same method was also used to target military personnel online via social media platforms such as Facebook, Line, and LinkedIn. Cryptocurrencies were used in an attempt to evade scrutiny.

The CCP also bribes temples to make contact with active military personnel during religious events. The soldiers are then incentivized to provide military intelligence and shoot videos of them holding the CCP's five-star red flags while saying they are defecting to mainland China, the report said.

The CCP has also tried to influence Taiwan's elections by publishing disinformation, supporting preferable candidates, instructing civil organizations in Taiwan to forward the work of the CCP's foreign

influence United Front Work Department, and inviting local officials and villagers to visit mainland China, the report said.

Espionage in Court

The report was published days after seven ex-military officers were indicted for allegedly selling photographs and GPS coordinates of Taiwan's military installations to their contacts in mainland China.

One of the defendants, Chu Hung-yi, is the chairman of a small political party, Fukang Alliance, which was founded in 2023 but failed to have any candidate elected.

Chu was accused of requesting money from a contact in China to fund the party's campaign costs, and received 2 million New Taiwan Dollars (around \$60,400) via WeChat and 150,000 Chinese yuan (around \$20,500) via underground money transfers.

The Ministry of the Interior has said it will ask the Constitutional Court to disband the party as soon as possible.

In October 2024, the Taiwan High Prosecutors Office indicted a woman, identified by her surname Lee, the chairperson of a temple who's linked to a criminal gang, and nine others.

Lee was accused of recruiting a spy ring of former military personnel who were allegedly instructed to provide sensitive military intelligence and to appear in uniform in videos where they held the CCP's five-star red flag and pledged to defect in a Chinese invasion of Taiwan.

In August 2024, eight military and former military personnel in a spy ring were [jailed](#) for providing classified intelligence or propaganda material to the Chinese regime.

Hsieh Meng-shu, a lieutenant colonel, had been conspiring to defect to the CCP with a CH-47 Chinook helicopter after being persuaded by ex-military officer Hsieh Ping-cheng, the judgment said.

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Lily Zhou is an Ireland-based reporter covering China news for The Epoch Times.



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