

**DO FAMILY CONNECTIONS MATTER IN  
THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY  
IN CHINA? (I)**

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## Executive Summary

1. Princelings (太子党) are very well known in China for their role in politics and business. Taking advantage of their family connections, these children of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) veteran leaders reaped huge economic and political benefits in the process of economic reforms. In contrast, princelings in the military are much less prominent.
2. In recent years, however, princelings have emerged in the leadership of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) in China. The appointment of Liu Yuan (刘源), son of Liu Shaoqi (刘少奇) (former president of China), as political commissar of the Chinese Academy of Military Sciences and the appointment of Zhang Haiyang (张海阳), son of General Zhang Zhen (张震) (former vice chairman of the Central Military Commission), as political commissar of the Chengdu Military Region in December 2005 aroused great interest in the media.
3. The focus of this study is China's princeling generals, children of the first generation leaders holding the rank of major general and above in the PLA. More specifically, the first generation leaders include military leaders who were awarded the rank of at least major general between 1955 and 1964 and civilian leaders who enjoyed the deputy provincial/ministerial rank before 1966.
4. Until very recently, China's princeling generals faced two major career barriers in their military and political careers. Instead of moving up to become chief military leaders, the majority of the princeling generals ended their military careers in deputy positions. At the same time, with some exceptions, very few princeling generals ever had a chance to enter the central committee of the CCP, the most powerful political organ in China.

5. Family connections have often proved to be an asset for these princeling generals. It was easier for them to join the PLA than it was for children of ordinary families, and they constituted a major source of students at the Harbin Institute of Military Engineering.
  
6. The fact that the princeling generals hit the glass ceiling in the military and the central committee means that their family background could also be a liability. Their stagnation in deputy positions was a side effect of nepotism, and their deprivation of central committee membership could be attributed to the notoriety of princelings in the 1980s and 1990s.

# DO FAMILY CONNECTIONS MATTER IN THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY IN CHINA? (I)

BO Zhiyue\*

## Princeling Generals in China: Who Are They?

- 1.1 Due to their family connections, princelings (太子党) played a prominent role in politics and business in the 1980s and 1990s. Their siblings in the military, however, were not very well known. The term “princeling generals” in China refers to military officers holding the rank of major general and above in the People's Liberation Army (PLA) who are children of the first generation leaders.
- 1.2 More specifically, the first generation high-ranking CCP leaders include military leaders that were awarded the rank of at least major general between 1955 and 1964 (10 marshals, 10 senior generals, 57 generals,<sup>1</sup> 177 lieutenant generals,<sup>2</sup> and 1,357 major generals<sup>3</sup>) and civilian leaders that enjoyed the deputy provincial/ministerial rank before 1966.
- 1.3 There are a few individuals in this study that do not strictly fit the criteria. First, the “general couple,” Major General Deng Xianqun (邓先群) (former director of the Mass Work Department of the General Political Department) and Lieutenant General Su Qianming (粟前明) (former deputy commander of

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<sup>1</sup> Two lieutenant generals—Wang Jian'an (王建安) in 1956 and Li Jukui (李聚奎) in 1958—were later promoted to the rank of general. See <http://www.people.com.cn/GB/29999/2808298.html>.

<sup>2</sup> Two major generals—Nie Heting (聂鹤亭) in 1956 and He Cheng (贺诚) in 1958—were later promoted to the rank of lieutenant general.

<sup>3</sup> Between 1955 and 1964, 558 senior colonels were promoted to the rank of major general. For details, see [http://news.xinhuanet.com/ziliao/2004-08/17/content\\_1804216.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/ziliao/2004-08/17/content_1804216.htm).

the Second Artillery Corps), are not exactly children of the first generation CCP military and civilian leaders. Deng Xianqun is Deng Xiaoping's half sister, and Su Qianming Deng's brother-in-law.

- 1.4 Second, Major General Liang Biqin (梁必骏), a senior research fellow of the Chinese Academy of Military Sciences, is cousin of Lieutenant General Liang Biye (梁必业) (former political commissar of the Chinese Academy of Military Sciences).
- 1.5 Third, several PLA generals are not children of the first generation CCP military and civilian leaders. Their fathers were “patriotic generals” or “national heroes,” not CCP generals. Major General Feng Hongda (冯洪达) (former deputy commander of the North Sea Fleet of the PLA Navy) is son of Feng Yuxiang (冯玉祥), a “patriotic general” who worked with the CCP; Major General Ma Guochao (马国超) (former deputy political commissar of the PLA Naval Air Force),<sup>4</sup> is son of Ma Benzhai (马本斋),<sup>5</sup> a “national hero.” Fourth, as will be discussed later, there are a few important exceptions where the PLA princeling generals are children of either revolutionary martyrs or PLA leaders with a rank lower than that of major general by 1964.
- 1.6 Finally, this study has ruled out a few cases in which the alleged princeling generals are not princelings. The most prominent example is Lieutenant General Dong Liangju (董良驹) (former director of the General Office of the Central Military Commission of the Central Committee of the CCP). He was believed to be the son of Dong Biwu (董必武), former vice president of the People's Republic of China (PRC). But in fact, he is not related to Dong Biwu. Dong Biwu has two sons and one daughter. Their names are Dong Liangyu (董良羽), Dong Lianghui (董良翬), and Dong Lianghe (董良翮). The eldest son, Dong Liangyu, also served in the PLA, but he retired at the age of 55 as a

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<sup>4</sup> For an interview with Ma Guochao, see [http://www.gmw.cn/content/2005-02/08/content\\_179469.htm](http://www.gmw.cn/content/2005-02/08/content_179469.htm).

<sup>5</sup> For a brief bio of Ma Benzhai, see <http://politics.people.com.cn/GB/1026/3174254.html>.

senior colonel in 1993.<sup>6</sup> Dong Biwu's daughter and younger son have never joined the PLA.

### **“Deputy Position” Phenomenon**

2.1 From the list of former princeling generals (Table 1), it is evident that many of them exited the PLA in deputy positions. Out of fourteen lieutenant generals/vice admirals, eleven fall into this category:

- Li Lun (李伦), son of General Li Kenong (李克农), retired as deputy director of the General Logistics Department (GLD)<sup>7</sup>
- Su Qianming (Deng Xiaoping's brother-in-law) and Zhang Xiang (张翔, son of former defense minister, General Zhang Aiping 张爱萍) both retired as deputy commanders of the Second Artillery Corps
- Luo Dongjin (罗东进), son of Marshal Luo Ronghuan (罗荣桓), retired as deputy political commissar of the Second Artillery Corps
- Tan Dongsheng (谭冬生), son of former Vice Premier Tan Zhenlin (谭震林), retired as deputy commander of the Guangzhou Military Region
- He Daoquan (何道泉), son of He Changgong (何长工), retired as vice president of the National Defense University
- Wang Sumin (王苏民), son of a former Deputy Chief of Staff, Lieutenant General Wang Zheng (王诤), retired as deputy director of the Central Guards Bureau
- Zhang Xuedong (张学东) (son of Major General Zhang Shuzhi 张树芝) and Ye Zhengda (叶正大, son of Ye Ting 叶挺) both retired as deputy directors of the Commission of Science, Technology, and Industry for National Defense (COSTIND)

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<sup>6</sup> For an interview with Dong Liangyu about his family and his career, see <http://www.chinabright.com.cn/gotone/g10/family.htm>.

<sup>7</sup> Li Lun's grade was that of a military region deputy leader since deputy directors of the GLD have that grade and have to retire at 63. Lieutenant General Wen Guangchun (温光春), former deputy director of the GLD, was born in October 1941 and retired at the end of 2004. For Wen's details, see <http://www.npc.gov.cn/zgrdw/common/dbxx.jsp?label=DB&id=102973&lx=RDDDB&pdmc=null>.

- 2.2 Quite unfortunately, Vice Admiral He Pengfei (贺鹏飞), son of Marshal He Long (贺龙), died in 2001 at the age of 56. He was a deputy commander of the PLA Navy at the time.
- 2.3 The case of Lieutenant General Su Rongsheng (粟戎生), son of Senior General Su Yu (粟裕),<sup>8</sup> is noteworthy. Su Rongsheng grew up in the military, but he still could not overcome the barrier of deputy positions. Su Rongsheng joined his parents in the military at the age of one in 1943. His father taught him swimming by throwing him into a stream when he was two years old. And he began shooting lessons at the age of five when his father gave him a pistol.<sup>9</sup> After graduating from the Harbin Institute of Military Engineering (Hajungong) in 1966, General Su Yu sent him to the border area in Yunnan province. He started from scratch there. Three years later, when his troops were transferred to an inland province, his father sent him to the Sino-Soviet border where military clashes were most likely to occur at that time. Su Rongsheng is one of very few Hajungong graduates who have worked his way up through the ranks, from an ordinary soldier, through squad leader, platoon commander, deputy company commander, company commander, regiment commander, division commander, army chief of staff, army commander, and eventually to deputy commander of the Beijing Military Region in November 1997.<sup>10</sup> He was awarded the rank of major general in 1988 and the rank of lieutenant general eleven years later. He stayed in the position of deputy commander of the Beijing Military Region for eight years until his retirement in December 2005.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> [http://english.chinamil.com.cn/site2/special-reports/2005-08/11/content\\_270869.htm](http://english.chinamil.com.cn/site2/special-reports/2005-08/11/content_270869.htm).

<sup>9</sup> He Pin and Gao Xin, *Zhonggong Taizidang (CPC Princes)* (Toronto: Canada Mirror Books, 1992), pp. 359-366. See also <http://www.zbnews.net/zhuanti/20050526tj/tj52.htm>.

<sup>10</sup> [http://www.lovenudt.com/biography/general/list/040919\\_surongsheng.htm](http://www.lovenudt.com/biography/general/list/040919_surongsheng.htm).

<sup>11</sup> A widely circulated story on the internet has it that Su Rongsheng, son of an ever-victorious general, had his waterloo in 1985 while he was directing a division in his capacity as chief of staff of the 67<sup>th</sup> Army in a war against Vietnam. But this story does not explain why he had to stay in the position of deputy commander of the Beijing Military Region for eight years.

2.4 This “deputy position” phenomenon was also evident among princeling generals with the rank of major general. Some notable examples are:

- Hong Bao (洪豹), son of General Hong Xuezhi (洪学智), retired as deputy commander of the Tianjin Garrison
- Chen Zhijian (陈知建), son of Senior General Chen Geng (陈赓), retired as deputy commander of the Chongqing Garrison<sup>12</sup>
- Ma Guochao, son of Ma Benzhai, retired as deputy commander of the PLA Naval Air Force
- Zhou Borong (周伯荣), son of Major General Zhou Fatian (周发田), retired as deputy chief of staff of the PLA Navy<sup>13</sup>
- Luo Jian (罗箭), son of Senior General Luo Ruiqing (罗瑞卿), retired as a deputy political commissar of the General Armament Department’s (GAD) second-level Logistics Department<sup>14</sup>
- Luo Jian’s colleague, Hua Zhongliang (华钟亮), son-in-law of General Song Shilun (宋时轮), retired as deputy director of the GAD’s second-level Logistics Department<sup>15</sup>
- Feng Hongda, son of Feng Yuxiang, was believed to have died while he was a deputy commander of the PLA Navy’s North China Sea Fleet

2.5 Major General Qin Tao (秦涛), son of former defense minister, General Qin Jiwei (秦基伟),<sup>16</sup> presents a unique case. He was removed from office as deputy commander of the Beijing Garrison due to an incident in his jurisdiction.

2.6 The incident happened on September 20, 1994, ten days before the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the PRC. Lieutenant Tian Mingjian (田明建), a

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<sup>12</sup> <http://hlj.rednet.com.cn/Articles/2004/10/627839.HTM>.

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.ahxf.gov.cn/shownew.asp?ID=5535>.

<sup>14</sup> For an interview with Luo Jian, see <http://www.zbnews.net/zhuanti/20050526tj/tj43.htm>. Luo Ruiqing named his three sons Luo Jian, Luo Yu (罗宇), and Luo Huan (罗寰). He was hoping that China would produce its own rockets (箭, *huojian*), spaceships (宇, *yu*), and atomic bombs (寰, *huan*).

<sup>15</sup> [http://www.js.xinhuanet.com/zhuanlan/2005-06/20/content\\_4474041.htm](http://www.js.xinhuanet.com/zhuanlan/2005-06/20/content_4474041.htm).

<sup>16</sup> Qin Jiwei was awarded the rank of lieutenant general in 1955 and general in 1988 while he was defense minister. For his biography, see <http://www.china.org.cn/chinese/zhuanti/208078.htm>.

deputy commander of 12<sup>th</sup> Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> Division, Beijing Garrison, killed four leaders (including the political commissar) of his regiment and injured a number of others. He then took to the streets killing dozens of people, including an Iranian diplomat and his son, and injuring many others.<sup>17</sup>

- 2.7 As a result of this tragic incident, the Beijing Garrison leadership was reshuffled. He Changgong's son, Lieutenant General He Daoquan, who was deputy commander of the Beijing Military Region and concurrent commander of the Beijing Garrison, was demoted to deputy chief of staff of the region. He was replaced by Major General Liu Fengjun (刘逢君), deputy chief of staff of the Beijing Military Region at the time.
- 2.8 In addition, Major General Zhang Baokang (张宝康), who was born in 1941 in Zhejiang Province,<sup>18</sup> lost his position as political commissar of the Beijing Garrison and was demoted to deputy director of the Political Department of the Nanjing Military Region. Major General Qin Tao was removed from his position as deputy commander of the Beijing Garrison, and his career probably ended there.<sup>19</sup>

### **“Central Committee” Hurdle**

- 3.1 The second impression one may get from Table 1 is that few of the former princeling generals have ever made it to the central committee of the CCP. There are only two exceptions. One is Ding Henggao (丁衡高) (son-in-law of Marshal Nie Rongzhen 聂荣臻 and husband of Lieutenant General Nie Li 聂力). He is exceptional in three aspects, being the only full general in the group, the only chief leader (head of the Commission of Science, Technology, and Industry for National Defense), and the only princeling to have served on several CCP central committees.

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<sup>17</sup> For details of the Tian Mingjian incident, see <http://www.beiming.info/html/88166.html>.

<sup>18</sup> For his biography, see [http://www.hzqz.com/intro/bnxs4\\_intro.asp](http://www.hzqz.com/intro/bnxs4_intro.asp).

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.beiming.info/html/88166.html>.

- 3.2 A native of Nanjing, General Ding was a renowned scientist. He became an assistant research fellow in the Chinese Academy of Sciences in 1952 after graduating from the School of Engineering, Nanjing University. He later studied in the Soviet Union, at the Leningrad Institute of Precision Machinery and Optical Instruments, between 1957 and 1961. Over the subsequent 23 years, Ding was involved in the research, design, and testing of strategic missiles and satellites. In 1985, he was appointed head of the Commission of Science, Technology, and Industry for National Defense (COSTIND). In September of the same year, he was elected as an alternate member of the 12<sup>th</sup> Central Committee. He was a member of both the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> central committees.<sup>20</sup>
- 3.3 The second exception is He Daoquan. Very curiously, his father, He Changong (何长工) (1900-87, Hunan), a prominent communist revolutionary and former vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), never made it to the central committee of the CCP.<sup>21</sup> He Changong is four years older than Deng Xiaoping and joined the CCP two years earlier than Deng. He worked closely with Mao Zedong in the early years of Mao's military and political career: he was one of the three designers of the first military flag of the Red Army;<sup>22</sup> he participated in the Autumn Harvest Uprising of 1927 under Mao's leadership and helped Mao convert a local military force (actually a bandit) in Jinggangshan under the leadership of Wang Zuo (王佐) to the fold of the Red Army in 1928.<sup>23</sup> He was one of the most important military leaders of the Red Army at the time. He was party representative of the Twenty-Eighth Regiment, the Fourth Army of the Red Army in 1928, party representative of the Thirty-Second Regiment in 1929, commander of the Eighth Army of the Red Army

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<sup>20</sup> Shen Xueming (沈学明) and Zheng Jianying (郑建英), eds., *Zhonggong diyijie zhi dishiwujie zhongyang weiyuan* (The CCP Central Committee members from the first through the fifteenth central committee) (Beijing: Zhongyang wenxian chubanshe, 2001), 4-5.

<sup>21</sup> For his bio, see <http://202.106.161.5:7777/was40/search?channelid=36976&searchword=%B1%EA%CC%E2=%25%BA%CE%B3%A4%B9%A4%25>.

<sup>22</sup> [http://url.xiushui.net/qg/Article\\_Show.asp?ArticleID=7](http://url.xiushui.net/qg/Article_Show.asp?ArticleID=7).

<sup>23</sup> <http://szlib.szptt.net.cn/jgs/wj5.htm>.

and member of the General Front Committee of the First Route Army of the Red Army in 1930, and political commissar of the Thirteenth Army, Fifth Army Corps of the Red Army in 1932. He participated in all five anti-military campaigns as well as the subsequent long march. His military career stagnated in 1938 when he was appointed provost of the Anti-Japanese University (Kangda).<sup>24</sup>

- 3.4 It seemed that his son, He Daoquan, fared better. He Daoquan joined the PLA at the age of 16 in 1951. In the subsequent thirty-six years, he climbed from a platoon commander, staff officers (can mou 参谋) of various levels, to an army commander. At the Thirteenth Party Congress in November 1987, he was elected as an alternate member of the central committee. In the following year, he was awarded the rank of major general.
- 3.5 At the age of 53, He Daoquan's future looked bright. Although he failed to enter the 14<sup>th</sup> Central Committee in 1992, he nevertheless was promoted to deputy commander of the Beijing Military Region and concurrently commander of the Beijing Garrison in 1993.<sup>25</sup> The Tian Mingjian Incident mentioned earlier sealed his political career. He later retired as vice president of the National University of National Defense with the rank of lieutenant general.

### **Family Connections: Asset or Liability?**

- 4.1 Family connections have proved to be an asset for the princeling generals. Although future sons- and daughters-in-law of first generation CCP leaders

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<sup>24</sup> It is not clear why Mao did not use He Changgong in military campaigns of the late 1930s and 1940s. He was involved in military education first in Yan'an and later in Jilin. His absence from substantial military campaigns between 1938 and 1949 formed a sharp contrast to his active involvement in military campaigns in the late 1920s and early 1930s. He never made it to the central committee even as an alternate member and his positions in the central government were mostly deputy positions. He was vice minister (but acting minister) of Heavy Industries, vice minister of Geology, vice president of the PLA Military and Political University, vice president of the PLA Military Institute, and vice chairman of the CPPCC.

<sup>25</sup> Shen Xueming and Zheng Jianying, p. 376.

may have different individual stories, direct descendants of the revolutionary leaders benefited from their status as princelings in at least two ways.

- 4.2 First, it was easier for them to join the PLA than it was for children of ordinary folks. Some princelings saw their fathers as role models and they wanted to follow in the footsteps of their parents and carve their own niche in the military. This was the case for Lieutenant General Fan Xiaoguang (范晓光), son of General Wang Ping (王平), for example.<sup>26</sup> For some princelings, their family background was a way out from being sent to the countryside during the Cultural Revolution, and enabled them to join the PLA instead. Liu Yazhou (刘亚洲), for instance, was sent to the PLA by his father, Liu Jiande (刘建德), who was a deputy political commissar in a PLA division at the time.
- 4.3 Second, the princelings had easier access to Harbin Institute of Military Engineering (i.e., Hajungong), which was established in 1953.<sup>27</sup> Senior General Chen Geng was the founding president of Hajungong, and princelings constituted a major source of students. At a meeting of the Preparatory Committee for Hajungong in 1952, Marshal Chen Yi (陈毅), a vice premier at the time, called for CCP leaders to support Senior General Chen Geng by sending their children to Hajungong.<sup>28</sup>
- 4.4 As a result, many princelings were later enrolled there. Out of ten marshals, seven had children or grand-children trained at Hajungong, and six out of ten senior generals sent their children there.<sup>29</sup> Chen Danhuai's (陈丹淮) case is illustrative. When Danhuai was admitted to Hajungong in 1961,<sup>30</sup> his father,

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<sup>26</sup> <http://dcw.435000.com/html/1/2005/12/news15579.html>.

<sup>27</sup> For details, see Teng Xuyan (滕叙兗), *Hajungong zhuan* (The history of the Harbin Institute of Military Engineering), three volumes (Changsha: Hunan keji chubanshe, 2003).

<sup>28</sup> “‘Hajungong’ jishi” (“哈军工”纪实, The story of “Hajungong”), <http://www.china.org.cn/chinese/zhuanti/181418.htm>.

<sup>29</sup> <http://www.chinanews.com.cn/n/2003-02-23/26/275317.html>.

<sup>30</sup> [http://www.chinaedunet.com/jcgy/cgjj/2005/4/content\\_2178.shtml](http://www.chinaedunet.com/jcgy/cgjj/2005/4/content_2178.shtml).

Marshal Chen Yi, was so happy at the news that Chen Yi dedicated a poem to Danhuai.<sup>31</sup>

- 4.5 Among the thirty-seven former princeling generals identified in Table 1, twelve are Hajungong graduates. They are Chen Zhijian, Deng Xianqun, Hua Zhongliang, Liu Taihang (刘太行), Luo Dongjin, Peng Gang (彭钢), Su Qianming, Su Rongsheng, Wang Sumin, Xu Yanbin (许延滨), Ye Xuanning (叶选宁), and Zhang Xiang.
- 4.6 Their family background could also be a liability for the princeling generals. First, fear of accusations of nepotism usually kept them in deputy positions. Second, they mostly failed to enter the CCP Central Committee because of the bad reputation of princelings in the 1980s and 1990s.
- 4.7 When most veteran leaders were rehabilitated (posthumously in some cases) after the Cultural Revolution, their offsprings took advantage of their restored social status and reaped huge political and economic benefits by indulging themselves in rent-seeking ventures (guandao). As a result, their reputation in society suffered. Thus deputies to the Party congresses tended to reject princelings as candidates for the Central Committee. Of those that did become alternate members of the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> central committees, several came bottom of the poll.<sup>32</sup> For example, Deng Pufang (邓朴方) (son of Deng Xiaoping) and Xi Jinping (习近平) (son of Xi Zhongxun, 习仲勋) ranked 150<sup>th</sup> and 151<sup>st</sup> out of 151 alternate members of the 15<sup>th</sup> Central Committee. Five years later, in 2002, Deng Pufang ranked 154<sup>th</sup> out of 158 alternate members in the 16<sup>th</sup> Central Committee.<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> Chen Yi, “Shi Danhuai” (示丹淮, A poem to Danhuai), <http://past.people.com.cn/GB/shizheng/252/6165/6169/20010821/540568.html>.

<sup>32</sup> For a systematic study of princelings on the 16<sup>th</sup> Central Committee, see Zhiyue Bo, “The 16<sup>th</sup> Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party: Formal Institutions and Factional Groups,” *Journal of Contemporary China* 39, no. 13 (May 2004): 223-56.

<sup>33</sup> [http://news.xinhuanet.com/ziliao/2002-10/29/content\\_629567.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/ziliao/2002-10/29/content_629567.htm).

**TABLE 1 FORMER PRINCELING GENERALS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Home/ Birth</b>	<b>Unit/ Title</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Relative</b>	<b>Status</b>
Chen Zhijian	Hunan	Chongqing Garrison/ Deputy Commander	Major General	Chen Geng	Retired
Deng Xianqun (female)	Sichuan/ 1935	GPD/ Department Director	Major General	Deng Xiaoping	Retired
Deng Yousheng	1940	COSTIND/ Bureau Chief	Major General	Luo Ruiqing	Retired
Ding Henggao	Jiangsu/ 1931	COSTIND/ Director	General	Nie Rongzhen	Retired
Fang Jiangnan	Hunan	Armed Police/ Political Department Director	Major General	Fang Qiang	Retired
Feng Hongda	Anhui	North China Sea Fleet/ Deputy Commander	Rear Admiral	Feng Yuxiang	Deceased
He Daoquan	Hubei/ 1935	NDU/ Vice President	Lieut. General	He Changgong	Retired
He Jiesheng (female)	Hunan/ 1935	AMS/ Department Deputy Director	Major General	He Long	Retired
He Pengfei	Hunan/ 1945	Navy/ Deputy Commander	Vice Admiral	He Long	Deceased
He Yi	Shaanxi	Armed Police/ Department Director	Major General	He Jinnian	Deceased
Hong Bao	Anhui	Tianjin Garrison/ Deputy Commander	Major General	Hong Xuezhi	Retired
Hua Zhongliang	Jiangsu/ 1943	GAD/ Department Deputy Director	Major General	Song Shilun	Retired
Li Lun	Anhui	GLD/ Deputy Director	Lieut. General	Li Kenong	Retired
Liu Taihang	Sichuan/ 1940	Air Force Academy/ Department Chair	Major General	Liu Bocheng	Retired
Luo Bin	Hubei	Defense Ministry/ Office Director	Major General	Wu Xiuquan	Retired
Luo Dongjin	Hunan/ 1939	Second Artillery Corps/ Deputy Political Commissar	Lieut. General	Luo Ronghuan	Retired
Luo Jian	Sichuan/ 1938	GAD/ Department Deputy Political Commissar	Major General	Luo Ruiqing	Retired
Ma Guochao	Hebei/ 1939	Navy Air Force/ Deputy Political Commissar	Rear Admiral	Ma Benzhai	Retired
Nie Li (female)	Sichuan/ 1930	COSTIND/ Department Director	Lieut. General	Nie Rongzhen	Retired
Peng Gang (female)	Hunan/ 1938	CMC/ Discipline Deputy Secretary	Major General	Peng Dehuai	Retired
Qin Tao	Hubei	Beijing Garrison/Deputy Commander	Major General	Qin Jiwei	Fired
Su Qianming	1933	Second Artillery Corps/ Deputy Commander	Lieut. General	Deng Xiaoping	Retired

Su Rongsheng	Hunan/ 1942	Beijing MR/ Deputy Commander	Lieut. General	Su Yu	Retired
Tan Dongsheng	Hunan/ 1941	Guangzhou MR/ Deputy Commander	Lieut. General	Tan Zhenlin	Retired
Wang Jianghuai	Anhui	NDU/ Professor	Major General	Wang Shaochuan	Retired
Wang Sumin	Jiangsu	Central Guards Bureau/ Deputy Director	Lieut. General	Wang Zheng	Retired
Xiao Xinghua	Hunan/ 1939	Armed Police/ Discipline Secretary	Major General	Xiao Ke	Retired
Xu Yanbin	Hunan	Armored Forces Engineering Academy/ President	Major General	Xu Guangda	Retired
Ye Xuanning	Guangdong/ 1938	GPD/ Department Director	Lieut. General	Ye Jianying	Retired
Ye Zhengda	Guangdong	COSTIND/ Deputy Director	Lieut. General	Ye Ting	Retired
Zhang Xiang	Sichuan/ 1943	Second Artillery Corps/ Deputy Commander	Lieut. General	Zhang Aiping	Retired
Zhang Xiaoyang	Hunan/ 1941	PLA Luoyang Foreign Languages Institute/ President	Major General	Zhang Zhen	Retired
Zhang Xuedong	Hunan/ 1934	COSTIND/ Deputy Director	Lieut. General	Zhang Shuzhi	Retired
Zhang Zhenqian	Hunan/ 1934	GSD/ Bureau Chief	Major General	Zhang Zhen	Retired
Zhong Jiafei	Guangxi	Guangxi Military District	Major. General	Zhong Fuxiang	Retired
Zhou Borong	Anhui/ 1945	Navy/ Deputy Chief of Staff	Rear Admiral	Zhou Fatian	Retired
Zhou Erjun	Zhejiang	NDU/ Political Department Director	Lieut. General	Zhou Enlai	Retired

**Source:** Author's database.

**ACRONYMS:**

**AMS:** Academy of Military Sciences

**CMC:** Central Military Commission

**COSTIND:** Commission of Science, Technology, and Industry for National Defense

**GAD:** General Armament Department

**GLD:** General Logistics Department

**GPD:** General Political Department

**GSD:** General Staff Department

**MR:** Military Region

**NDU:** National Defense University