



CHINA AND WHY WE SHOULD PAY ATTENTION

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PRESIDENT XI

- “Complete” PLA modernization by 2035
- Transform the PLA into a “world class” military by 2049
- PLA developing the capabilities to:
 - Conduct joint long-range precision strikes across domains
 - Increasingly sophisticated space, counterspace, and cyber
 - Accelerating the large-scale expansion of its nuclear forces

WHY?

- “The great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation” by 2049 to:
 - Match or surpass U.S. global influence and power
 - Displace U.S. alliances and security partnerships in the Indo-Pacific region
 - Revise the international order to be more advantageous to Beijing’s authoritarian system and national interests.

PROGRESS

- PLAA
 - 975,000 troops
 - Fastest modernization in years



Major Ground Units



China Military
eng.chinamil.com.cn

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eng.chinamil.com.cn

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PROGRESS

- PLAN
 - “Largest Navy in the World”



Major Naval Units



- Northern Theater Navy**
- 1 Aircraft Carrier
 - 4 Nuclear-powered Attack Submarines
 - 14 Diesel-powered Attack Submarines
 - 2 Cruisers
 - 11 Destroyers
 - 12 Frigates
 - 12 Corvettes
 - 2 Tank Landing Ships
 - 3 Medium Landing Ships
 - 15 Missile Patrol Craft
- Eastern Theater Navy**
- 18 Diesel-powered Attack Submarines
 - 13 Destroyers
 - 23 Frigates
 - 24 Corvettes
 - 3 Amphibious Transport Docks
 - 16 Tank Landing Ships
 - 5 Medium Landing Ships
 - 38 Missile Patrol Craft
- Southern Theater Navy**
- 1 Aircraft Carrier
 - 6 Nuclear-powered Ballistic Missile Submarines
 - 2 Nuclear-powered Attack Submarines
 - 14 Diesel-powered Attack Submarines
 - 10 Destroyers
 - 14 Frigates
 - 20 Corvettes
 - 5 Amphibious Transport Docks
 - 10 Tank Landing Ships
 - 8 Medium Landing Ships
 - 14 Missile Patrol Craft

0 250 500 Kilometers
 Representations of locations are approximate.
 Boundary representation is not necessarily authoritative.
 Information current as of 01 Jan 2021.



PROGRESS

- PLAAF

- “3d largest in the world”
- 2,800 aircraft



Major Aviation Units



HOW DID THEY GET HERE?

- Theft
- US distraction
 - Internal politics
 - Budgeting
 - Middle East
- Study



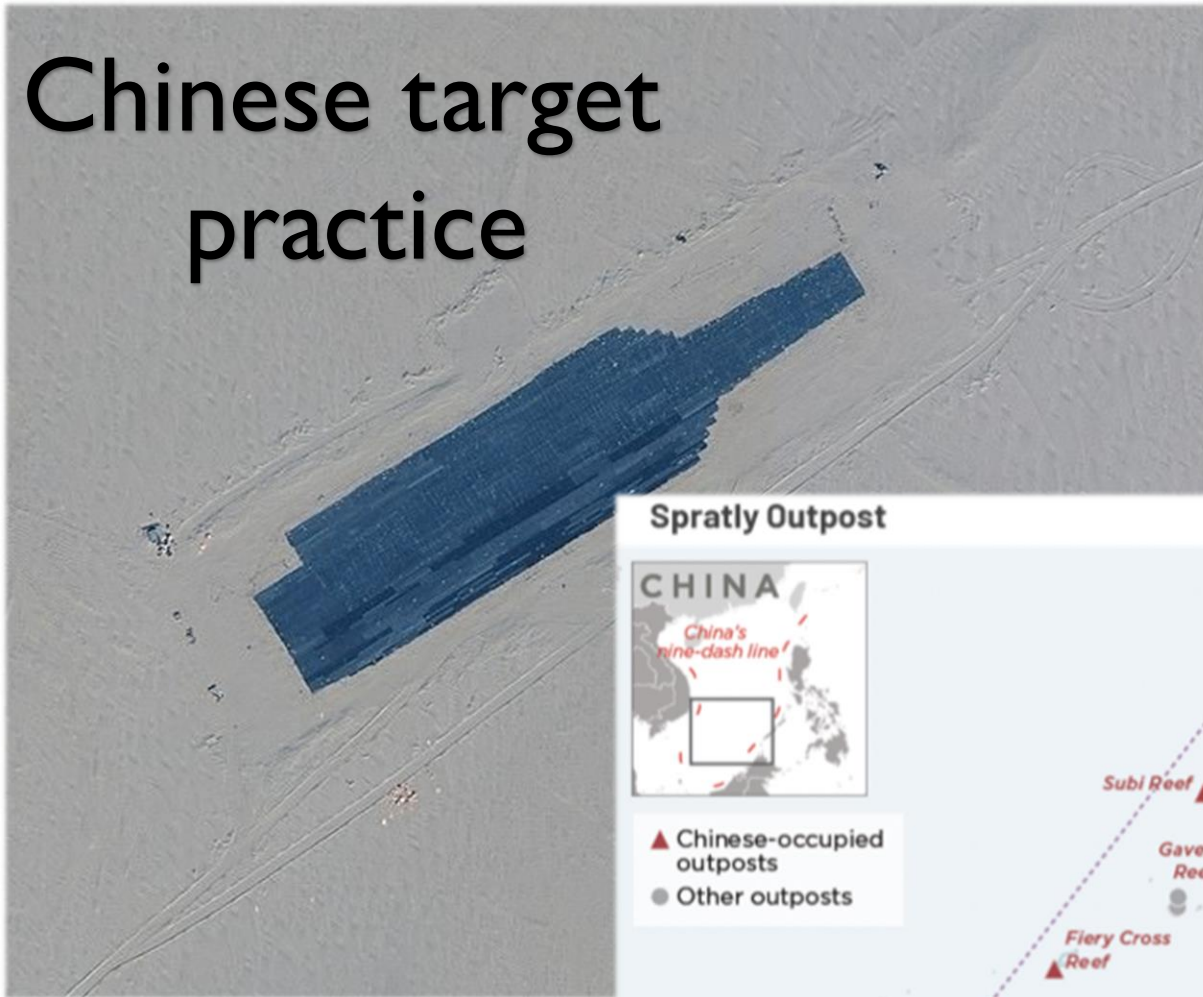
WHAT NEXT?

- Will we be there if needed?
 - Feb '14 – Crimea Annexation
 - Ongoing – Russo-Ukrainian War
 - Aug '21 – Afghanistan Departure
 - Ongoing – Taiwan Sovereignty Challenges
 - “Will American go to war over Estonia?”

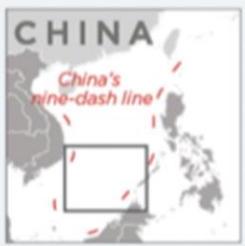
TAKEAWAYS

- We should not shy away from **confronting China** on all fronts – economic, diplomatic, military, cyber, space, IP theft
- Allies in the region will hedge if US is unreliable – Japan goes Nuclear, South Korea goes Nuclear, India/Pakistan conflict, Vietnam
- Region is critically important to US livelihood – shipping, natural resources, friends, our word
- Defense spending does not correlate to readiness
- Commitment, cohesion, steadfastness as a country – manifested in speech, diplomacy, military strategy
- **Nellis AFB is crucial** to military operational test, training and advanced tactics development
 - Red Flag Exercises, USAF Weapons School, Operational Test

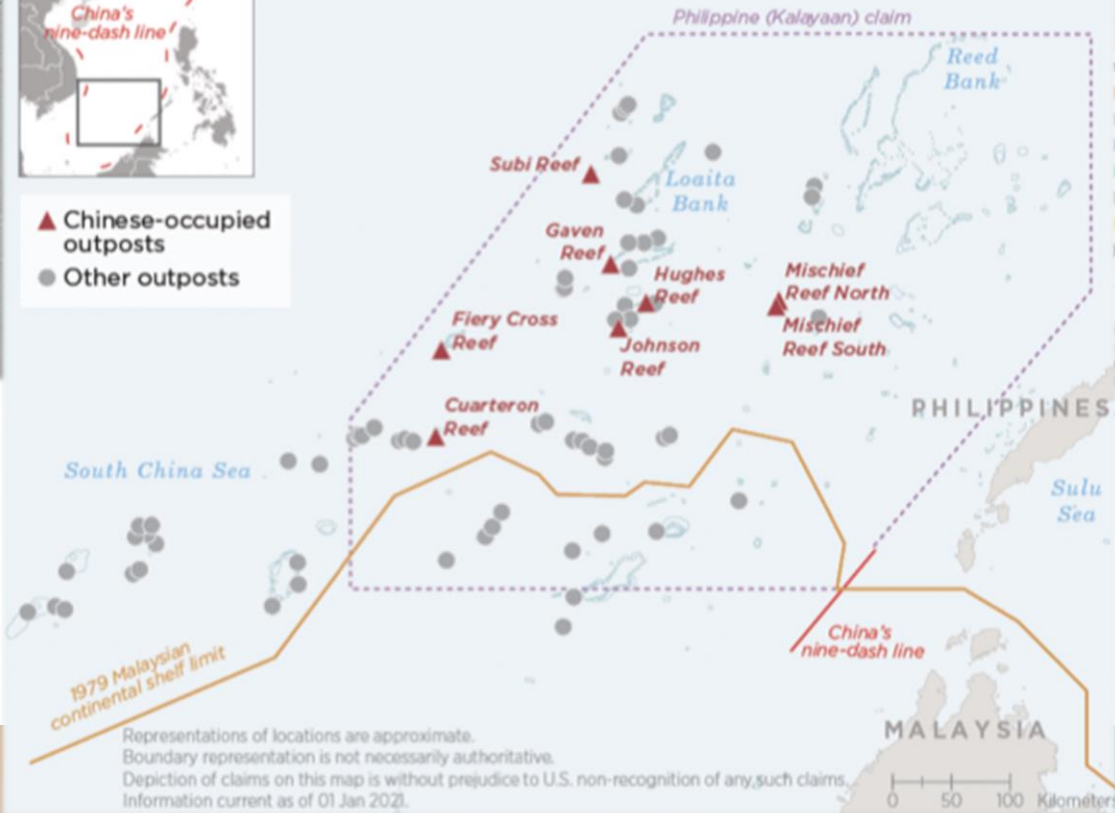
Chinese target practice



Spratly Outpost



- ▲ Chinese-occupied outposts
- Other outposts



Nuclear Ballistic Missiles

