



3rd Japan-Taiwan Strategic Dialogue (remote)



The Impact on Japan-Taiwan Security Strategies after COVID-19



Gen. Osamu Onoda (JASDF ret.)

2020. 5.29



Question on Japan-Taiwan security strategy after COVID-19

- **The US-China relationship is deteriorated toward decoupling. At what extent actual decoupling will proceed during/ after COVID-19 ?**
- **Japan and Taiwan's trade with China is very large. Is it a good idea to tighten the trade with China along with the U.S. under such devastating economic situation?**
- **China strongly opposes the U.S. criticism while flexing muscle in the ECS and SCS. The U.S. Forces respond actively in order to send a message for avoiding miscalculation. How Japan and Taiwan will respond PLA and CCG activities in cooperation with the U.S.?**
- **Japanese government will continue to improve the relationship with China while keeping better unofficial relationship with Taiwan. How should GoJ coordinate or cooperate with Taiwan in security domain?**



Competition between world No.1 and No.2 states began in 2017

- “They (China and Russia) are determined to **make economies less free and less fair, to grow their militaries, and to control information and data to repress their societies and expand their influence.**”

(U.S. National Security Strategy issued on 17 Dec. 2017)

- Competitive approach to the PRC has two objectives;
 - ① To improve the resiliency of institutions, alliances, and partnerships to prevail against the PRC challenges
 - ② To compel Beijing to cease or reduce actions harmful to the U.S. vital, national interests and those of our allies and partners
- “Even as we compete with the PRC, we welcome cooperation where our interests align. **Competition need not lead to confrontation or conflict.**”

(U.S. Strategic Approach to the PRC issued on 20 May, 2020)



“China problem” from the views of liberal democratic countries

- Political pressure to neighbors with intimidation and coercion; show of force, diplomatic isolation, economic sanction, etc.
- Repression of human rights; ethnic or religious minorities, free and open Hong Kong.
- Unfair trade practices, state subsidizing domestic industries, manipulating currency levels, forced technology transfers, etc.
- Checkbook diplomacy only for its own interest
- Military force development and technological advancements without transparency
- Malicious cyber activities; espionage, theft, disruption, disinformation, etc.
- Unilateral and unlawful attempts to use its military, paramilitary, and law enforcement forces to coerce and prevail in disputes



Modernization of PLAN and PLAAF



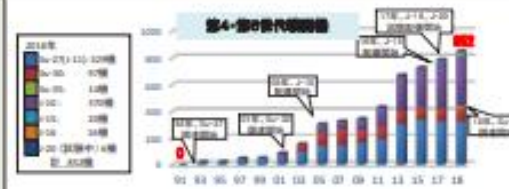
Submarine



ジン級原子力潜水艦
【Jane's by IHS Markit】



シャン級原子力潜水艦
【Jane's by IHS Markit】



J-20 戦闘機
【Jane's by IHS Markit】



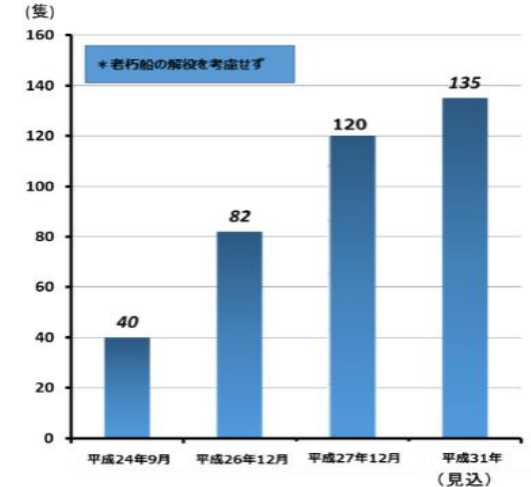
J-16 戦闘機
【Jane's by IHS Markit】



Su-35 戦闘機
【Jane's by IHS Markit】

中国公船の勢力増強

【勢力の推移】(1000ト级以上)



※2015年12月未現在
※公開情報を基に作成



Cruiser/Frigate

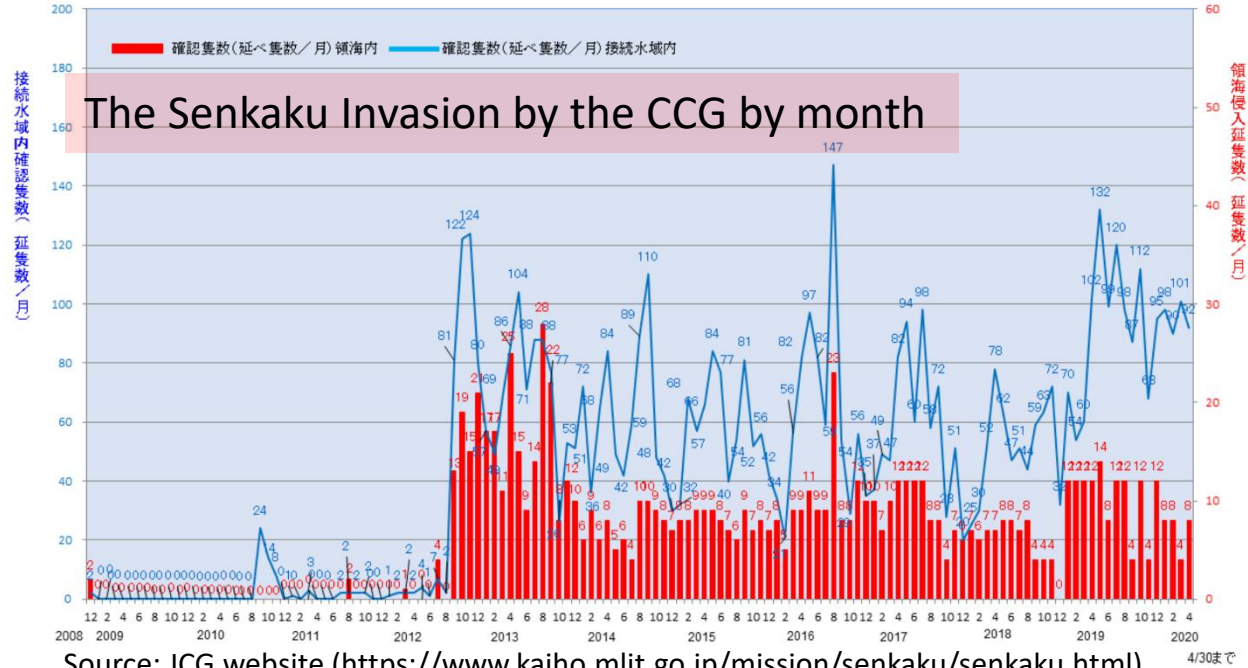


ルーヤンⅢ級駆逐艦
【Jane's by IHS Markit】



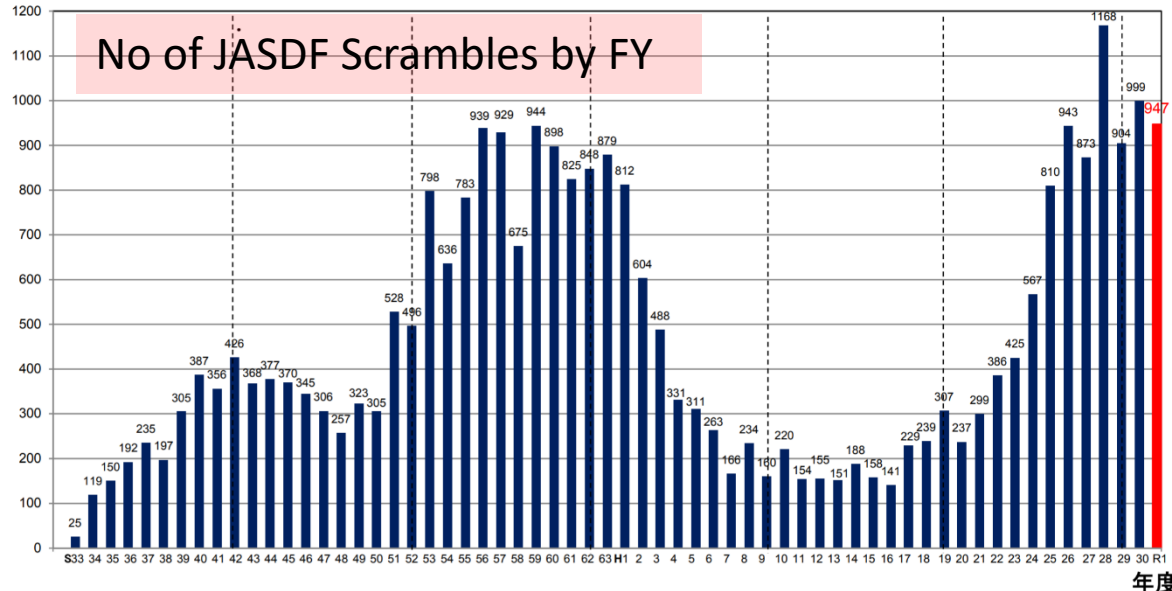
レンハイ級駆逐艦 (未就役)
【Jane's by IHS Markit】

<https://pelicanmemo.hatenablog.com/entry/2017/06/25/203000>

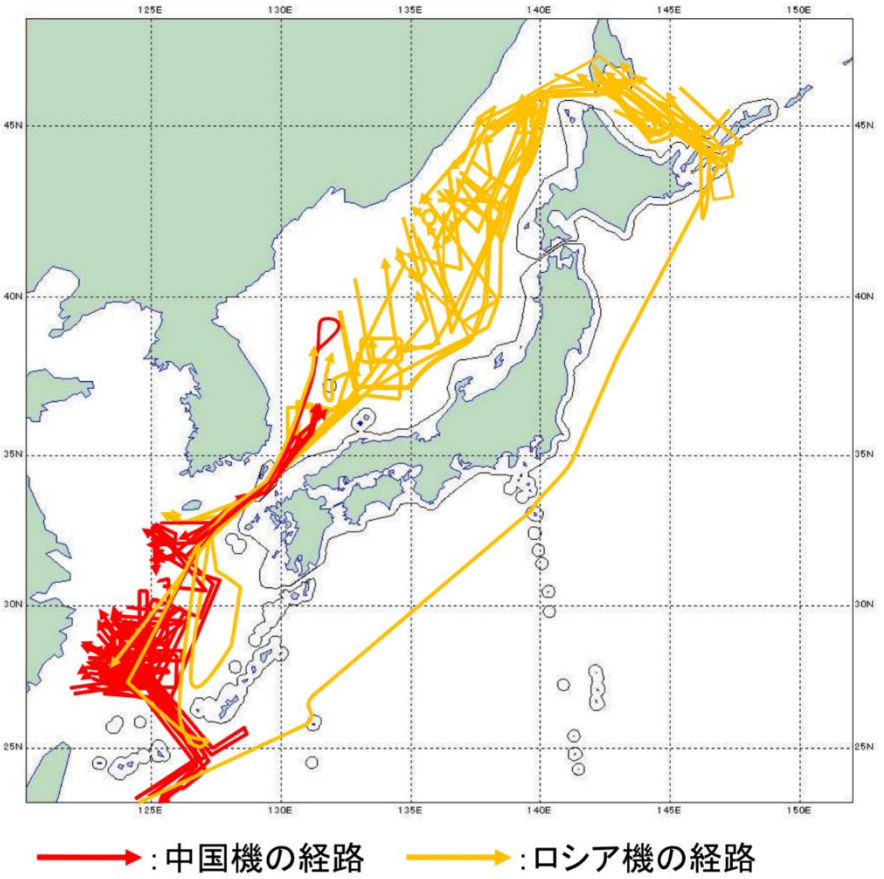


China has been modernizing military and paramilitary asset and actively expanding the activities

Source: JCG website (<https://www.kaiho.mlit.go.jp/mission/senkaku/senkaku.html>)



Source: <https://www.mod.go.jp/js/Press/press2020.htm>







How COVID-19 affects the world and the region

- **The world realized vulnerabilities to pandemic; medical systems, economy, social systems, supply chain, world leadership and international cooperation.**
- **Lockdown closed the border, stops people from moving and causes devastating economic recession.**
- **China succeeded in earlier containment but failed to gain worldwide trust despite of “mask diplomacy” and Taiwan succeeded in earliest containment but was ignored by WHO.**
- **US-China relationship gets worst showing blame game.**
- **China drops the word “peaceful” reunification from the report to the NPC pressuring Taiwan strongly.**
- **China tries to take over the dominance in the ECS and SCS accumulating faits accomplis after Aircraft carrier T. Roosevelt was dismissed and the U.S. concentrates the force into the region rising tension.**

PLAN conducts long endurance exercise from May 14 to July 31 to catch up on training missed due to COVID-19 

Chinese Coast Guard vessels x 4 intruded into Japanese territorial water of Senkaku Island on May 8-9 

Chinese Coast Guard vessels rammed and sunk a Vietnamese fishing boat on Apr. 2 

China established two new districts, Xisha and Nansha, in Sansha City 


China marks Malaysian drillship activities from last October by the increased presence of naval and paramilitary ships 

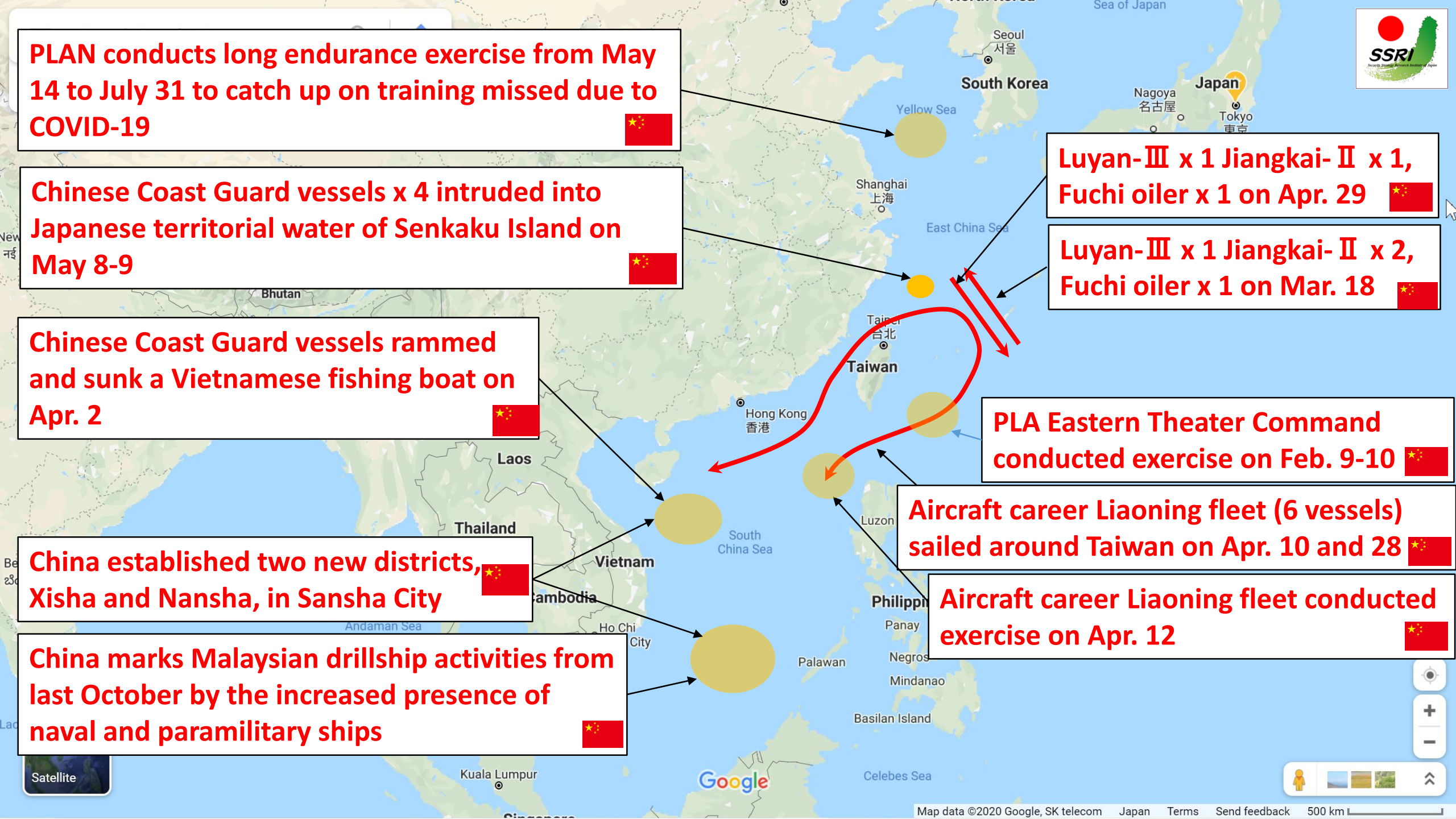
Luyan-III x 1 Jiangkai-II x 1, Fuchi oiler x 1 on Apr. 29 

Luyan-III x 1 Jiangkai-II x 2, Fuchi oiler x 1 on Mar. 18 

PLA Eastern Theater Command conducted exercise on Feb. 9-10 

Aircraft carrier Liaoning fleet (6 vessels) sailed around Taiwan on Apr. 10 and 28 

Aircraft carrier Liaoning fleet conducted exercise on Apr. 12 



Chinese Coast Guard vessels x 4 intruded into Japanese territorial water of Senkaku Island on May 8-9 

USS New Orleans, Barry, Mustin, Rafael, oiler and supply ship with subs conducted EX on May 2-8 


USS McCampbell sailed through Taiwan strait on May 13 

USS Barry sailed through Taiwan strait on Apr. 22 

FONOPS by USS McCampbell on Mar. 10 

FONOPS by USS Barry on Apr. 28 

Chinese Coast Guard vessels rammed and sunk a Vietnamese fishing boat on Apr. 2 

China established two new districts, Xisha and Nansha, in Sansha City on Apr. 18 


USS America, Barry, Bankerhill, HMAS Parramatta conducted joint EX on Apr. 13 



FONOPS by USS Bankerhill on Apr. 29 

China marks Malaysian drillship since last October by the increased presence 

The USS Rafael Peralta on May 14 

USS America and JMSDF Murasame conducted exercise on Apr. 9-10 



Luyan-III x 1 Jiangkai-II x 1, Fuchi oiler x 1 on Apr. 29 

Luyan-III x 1 Jiangkai-II x 2, Fuchi oiler x 1 on Mar. 18 

B-52 x 2, MC-130J on Feb 12 

PLA Eastern Theater Command conducted exercise on Feb. 9-10 

Aircraft carrier Liaoning fleet (6 vessels) sailed around Taiwan on Apr. 10 and 28 

Aircraft carrier Liaoning fleet conducted exercise on Apr. 12 

Aircraft Carriers TR and RR back on May 20, 21 

ICS Montgomery and cargo ship Cesar Chavez near Malaysian drillship on May 7 





More focus on China's increasing “Sharp Power” after COVID-19

- Strengthening **PLAN/PLAAF capabilities and presence** will impact on the balance of power in the region
- **Non-military action** will be more on the “front line”; propaganda, disinformation, cyber operation, isolation
- **Accumulating partner countries** and increasing leadership in international entities obtained by economic power
- **Changing international rule and norms** with increasing supporter countries
- Excessive dependence on the PRC for **supply chains** of key strategic materials and goods



Japan's strategic approach for Japan-Taiwan security

- **Keep improving relationship with the PRC for stable and prosperous region while building better unofficial relationship with Taiwan.**
- **Strengthen alliance with the U.S. and partnership with coastal countries in the Indo-Pacific region**
- **Make strong influence on international/regional community countering China's influence expansion and Taiwan isolation**
- **Conduct multilateral military/ non-military talks and exercises including Taiwan utilizing US Forces platform and infrastructure**
- **Cooperate with Taiwan on non-military capacity building program for regional partners; public health, pandemic response, cyber security, maritime surveillance**
- **Start consultation with Taiwan for establishing possible way for sharing common operational picture (COP) and intelligence**



Expected Taiwan's role in Japan-Taiwan Security Strategy

- **Share intelligence and analysis on China with neighboring partners**
 - **Taiwan is the only country which could provide deep insight on China and identify disinformation made by China.**
 - **Disclose correct inside information to the foreign media or think tank**
- **Defend its territory and global commons as a member of archipelagic defense coalition**
 - **Taiwan is located vital position not only for northeast Asia but Indo-Pacific to deter PRC's aggression**
 - **Taiwan could join or host military/ non-military talks & exercises in the region**
- **Taiwan could provide capacity building programs for regional partners using its technology and expertise in public health, pandemic response, cyber security, and maritime surveillance**



Summary

- **The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the US-China opposition in all spheres.**
- **The U.S. deepens interest in Taiwan's security and strengthens cooperation.**
- **Japan continues to strengthen the alliance with the U.S. while keeping better relation with both the CCP and Taiwan.**
- **Japan and Taiwan should cooperate to deter assertive PRC activities with regional partners.**