Background Data:
Nuclear Weapons, Missiles, and
the Red Dragon Rising Game

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The Atomic Bomb

• “The A-bomb ended the war, but radar won it.”
• Aug. 1945: Single bomb destroys an entire city
  - Little Boy
    • Uranium bomb dropped on Hiroshima
    • 8900 lbs, 16 Ktons TNT
  - Fat Man
    • Plutonium bomb dropped on Nagasaki
    • 10300 lbs, 21 Ktons TNT
Offensive and Defensive Responses

- Longer Range, Faster, Higher Flying Bombers to deliver the bombs
  - March 1946: Strategic Air Command formed
  - B-52 first flies in 1954
- Bigger Hydrogen (Fusion vs. Fission) Bomb
  - Aug. 1949: First Soviet Atomic Bomb
  - Nov. 1952: First US H-bomb test (10 Mtons)
  - Nov. 1955: Soviet Union explodes their first H-Bomb
- O-T-H Radars and Defensive Lines
  - 1957-9: DEW (Distant Early Warning) Line
- Anti-Aircraft Missiles to intercept bombers
  - 1944: Design of Nike Ajax system

Ballistic Missiles: Germany's V-2 Rocket

- Over 1000 fired at London towards end of WW 2
- Could destroy a city block—but very inaccurate
- 2700 killed, 6500 injured
- Psychological effect: Essentially no warning and no defense, other than to destroy the launching sites
- What if you marry a nuclear warhead to a rocket?
Ballistic Missiles: How to Intercept?

- Most vulnerable during boost phase
- Hard to intercept during terminal phase: “bullet hitting a bullet”!
- Also consider effects of nuclear air burst caused by interception—must be 20 mi up or more

**Boost Phase**
- 200 mi up
- 15000 mph
- 300 s

**Midcourse Phase**
- 800 mi up
- 20 minutes

**Terminal Phase**
- 5 minutes
Weird Logic of Nuclear Deterrence

• Massive Retaliation: Invade a little country, and we will destroy you—only works as a deterrent if the other guy has no nuclear weapons

• Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD): “Whoever shoots first, dies second”
  - Sufficient counterforce that no matter what the aggressor does—even if he destroys a considerable number of the defender’s missiles on the ground—missiles will likely survive to still threaten his cities with utter destruction
  - U.S.: No first use policy

• Strategic Triad/Flexible Response
  - Ground-based Missiles (ICBMs): arrive in 20-30 minutes
  - Strategic Bombers: time on target 12 hours
  - Nuclear Submarines (SLBMs): can lay in wait for days or even months—assuming subs remain invisible and know that their home country has been destroyed

Cuban Missile Crisis

• Cold War: Great power politics in Asia, Middle East, Africa, Latin America
  - Communist insurgencies and Soviet-leaning governments in N. Korea, N. Vietnam, Cuba
  - E.g., U.S. response: CIA-supported Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba (1961)

• Soviet fears of U.S. “Massive Retaliation” — How to reach parity with the Americans when USSR is so technologically far behind?
  - Soviet missiles of the time could only reach European cities from their launching sites
  - U.S. deploys medium range missiles in Turkey in a highly provocative move (April 1962)—Soviets now fear a first strike!

• Soviet response: deploy own missiles into Cuba (September 1962)
Soviet-Cuban Friendship

Castro declares his country “Communist” after the Bay of Pigs

Seeks protection from U.S. aggression through support of Soviet Union

Cuban Missile Crisis

- Medium range missiles could reach Dallas or DC in 5 minutes
- Longer range missiles could reach virtually any major U.S. city
- Soviets: restores the MAD equation
- U.S.: what if their missiles could “decapitate” our ability to strike back? Mitigates MAD
Land Based Missiles of the Cuban Missile Crisis

Cuban Missile Crisis

U-2 Reconnaissance Plane

Reconnaissance Photo
“Red Dragon Rising”

- Rise of China as a World Power
  - 1947-9: Red Army expels Nationalist Chinese government to Taiwan
  - 1950-3: Korean War
    - The Cold War becomes HOT
    - North Korea in battle invades South Korea
    - UN (USA) intervenes on behalf of South Korea
    - China intervenes on behalf of North Korea
    - Cease fire along the DMZ 38th Parallel
  - Recent threats: Russia, Vietnam, India
The 24 Character Strategy

“冷静观察, 站稳脚跟, 沉着应付, 韬光养晦, 善于守拙, 绝不当头.”

“Observe calmly; secure our position; cope with affairs calmly; hide our capacities and bide our time; be good at maintaining a low profile; and never claim leadership.”– Deng Xiaoping

Figure 3. The First and Second Island Chains. PRC military theorists conceive of two island “chains” as forming a geographic basis for China’s maritime defensive perimeter.
Military Power of the People’s Republic of China
Report to Congress, 2008

• “The pace and scope of China’s military transformation have increased in recent years, fueled by acquisition of advanced foreign weapons, continued high rates of investment in its domestic defense and science and technology industries, and far reaching organizational and doctrinal reforms of the armed forces. China’s expanding and improving military capabilities are changing East Asian military balances; improvements in China’s strategic capabilities have implications beyond the Asia-Pacific region.”
“China’s nuclear force modernization, as evidence by the fielding of the new DF-31 and DF-31A intercontinental-range missiles, is enhancing China’s strategic strike capabilities. China’s emergent anti-access/area denial capabilities – as exemplified by its continued development of advanced cruise missiles, medium-range ballistic missiles, anti-ship ballistic missiles designed to strike ships at sea, including aircraft carriers, and the January 2007 successful test of a direct-ascent, anti-satellite weapon – are expanding from the land, air, and sea dimensions of the traditional battlefield into the space and cyber-space domains.”
DF-21 (CSS-5) MRBM

- 60-80
- 500kT nuclear warhead
- over a distance of 1,800km
- 3-400m CEP

Figure 4. Medium and Intercontinental Range Ballistic Missiles. China is currently capable of targeting its nuclear forces throughout the region and most of the world, including the continental United States. Newer systems, such as the DF-31, DF-31A, and JL-2, will give China a more survivable nuclear force.
Crisis in the Straits

• 1999: President Lee of the ROC:
  “The Republic of China has been a sovereign state since it was founded in 1912. Moreover, in 1991, amendments to the Constitution designated cross-strait relations as a special state-to-state relationship. Consequently, there is no need to declare independence. The resolution of cross-strait issues hinges on the issue of different systems. We cannot look at issues related to the two sides simply from the perspective of unification or independence. The Chinese mainland’s promise of a “one country, two systems” formula for Hong Kong and Macau is irrelevant to Taiwan … the ROC is a sovereign, independent state.”

PRC and Taiwan

• “In recent years, the situation of the Taiwan Strait has become increasingly complicated and severe … our army … has stepped up its efforts to prepare for military struggles to safeguard the security and unity of the state.” — General Cao Gangchuan, Minister of Defense
Taiwan Straits

Taiwan Strait Military Balance, Ground Forces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>China</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Taiwan Strait Area</th>
<th>Taiwan Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel (Active)</td>
<td>1.25 million</td>
<td>440,000</td>
<td>130,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Armies</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infantry Divisions</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infantry Brigades</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanized Infantry Divisions</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mechanized Infantry Brigades</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armor Divisions</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armor Brigades</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artillery Divisions</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artillery Brigades</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airborne Divisions</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amphibious Divisions</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amphibious Brigades</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanks</td>
<td>6,700</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>1,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artillery Pieces</td>
<td>7,400</td>
<td>2,900</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The PLA active ground forces are organized into Group Armies, infantry, armor, and artillery units are organized into a combination of divisions and brigades deployed throughout the PLA's seven MRs. A significant portion of these assets are deployed in the Taiwan Strait area, specifically the Nanjing, Guangzhou, and Jinan MRs. Taiwan has seven Defense Commands, three of which have Field Armies. Each Army contains an Artillery Command roughly equivalent to a brigade plus.
### Taiwan Strait Military Balance, Air Forces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aircraft</th>
<th>China</th>
<th>Taiwan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Within range of Taiwan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fighters</td>
<td>1,630</td>
<td>330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bombers/Attack</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The PLAAF and the PLA Navy have approximately 2,250 operational combat aircraft. These consist of air defense and multi-role fighters, ground attack aircraft, fighter-bombers, and bombers. An additional 1,450 older fighters, bombers and trainers are employed for training and R&D. The two air arms also possess approximately 450 transports and over 100 surveillance and reconnaissance aircraft with intelligence, surface search, and airborne early warning capabilities. The majority of PLAAF and PLA Navy aircraft are based in the eastern half of the country. Currently, 490 aircraft could conduct combat operations against Taiwan without refueling. However, this number could be significantly increased through any combination of aircraft forward deployment, decreased ordnance loads, or altered mission profiles.

Figure 12. Taiwan Strait Military Balance, Air Forces

### Taiwan Strait Military Balance, Naval Forces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>China</th>
<th>Taiwan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destroyers</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frigates</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tank Landing Ships</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium Landing Ships</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diesel Attack Submarines</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuclear Attack Submarines</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal Patrol (Missile)</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The PLA Navy has the largest force of principal combatants, submarines, and amphibious warfare ships in Asia. After years of neglect, the force of missile-armed patrol craft is also growing. In the event of a major Taiwan conflict, the East and South Sea Fleets would be expected to participate in direct action against the Taiwan Navy. The North Sea Fleet would be responsible primarily for protecting Beijing and the northern coast, but could provide mission critical assets to support other fleets.

Figure 14. Taiwan Strait Military Balance, Naval Forces
There are currently 11 aircraft carriers, 22 cruisers, 60 destroyers, two littoral combat ships, 31 frigates, 11 amphibious assault ships, two amphibious command ships, 13 amphibious transport docks, 12 dock landing ships, 61 attack submarines, 14 ballistic missile submarines, 4 guided missile submarines, 14 mine countermeasures ships, eight patrol boats, and one technical research ship (military intelligence ship, the USS Pueblo, which is currently held by North Korea).

Support ships include two hospital ships, four salvage ships, two submarine tenders, four ammunition ships, five combat stores ships, four fast combat support ships, nine dry cargo ships, 15 replenishment oilers, four Fleet Ocean Tugs, four ocean surveillance ships, four container ships, 16 cargo ships (used for pre-positioning of Marine and Army materiel), and seven vehicle cargo ships (also used for prepositioning).
“Red Dragon Rising” Game