

# How US Airpower Can Offset China's Expanding Naval Power

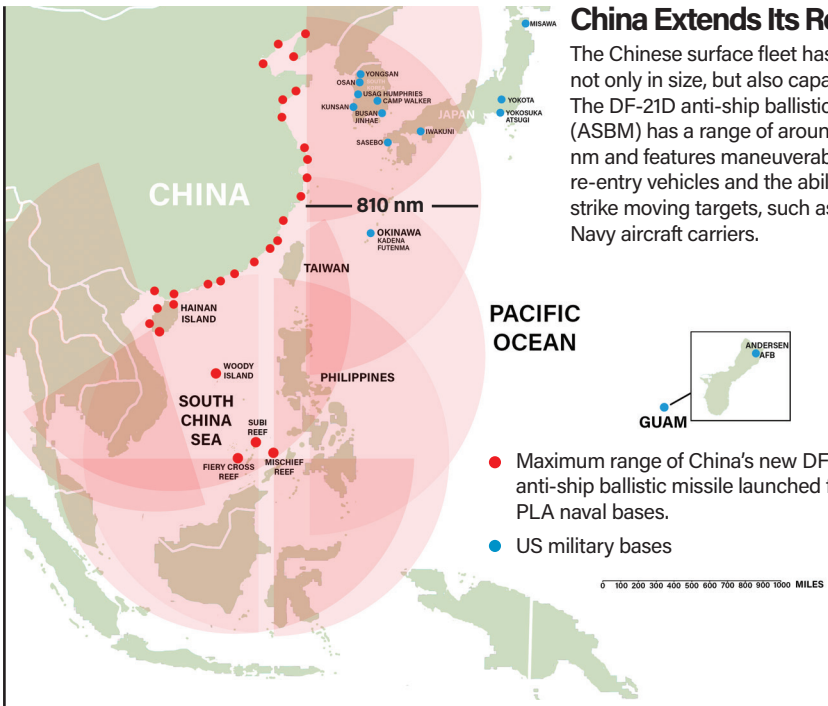
US Air Force bombers can cover more ocean faster than ships at sea, providing a critical counter to China's new, longer-range anti-ship defenses.

## Bombers' Range Advantage

Two B-52s flying at 600 knots can cover 140,000 square miles of ocean area in two hours.



Traveling at 20 knots, two Navy destroyers cover only 4,666 square miles in two hours—1/30<sup>th</sup> of the area.



## China Extends Its Reach

The Chinese surface fleet has grown not only in size, but also capability. The DF-21D anti-ship ballistic missile (ASBM) has a range of around 810 nm and features maneuverable re-entry vehicles and the ability to strike moving targets, such as US Navy aircraft carriers.