

Speaker: Ken Wu

Topic: Can Taiwan survive a Chinese invasion?

Date: 10/18/2008

- **Li Ao once said this back in 2000 presidential election, “if Chinese does not intend to invade Taiwan, 99% of Taiwanese would choose independence, including myself.”**

 - **Most Taiwanese today do not feel Taiwan would win in a war against China and they are also not too sure if US would help them at the end.**

 - **China at this point simply cant guarantee a quick win against Taiwan.**

 - **Taiwan needs to survive about 1 to 2 week. All Taiwan needs to do is to sustain its self for 1 week without decisive Chinese victory.**
 - takes 1 week for foreign powers to involve and help.
 - Cost of Chinese economy and political stability cannot allow China to fight Taiwan over 1 to 2 weeks long or it is too costly.

 - **In modern warfare, the first step is to obtain aerial dominance or control air.**

Air control provides cover to navy that carries the bulk of invasionary forces and its supplies. Air control can also provide support to parachuters if the offensive force does decide to land troops behind enemy lines.

 - **Second step would be maritime dominance or sea control.** With navy having dominant presence near enemy territory they can not only provide massive fire power to support the ground troops and effectively block supplies or communications in and out of the conflict zone.

 - **The final step would be landing of the ground troops to realize military occupation of enemy territory.** Without ground forces occupying enemy territories, that will not be a complete military occupation.
- SIMULATION:**
- **they will need to take over the Taiwanese air space with fewer 2nd generation jets than Taiwan and manage to beat the Taiwanese air force with less experienced pilots**(Taiwanese pilots average 3500 flight hours and China with 50-100). **Taiwanese invested much money on their ground to air missiles**(cost efficient for us and deadly to enemies).

total vs. total

- **Altogether with more 2nd generation fighters than what China has in stock at the moment, China still has more low-range and low-tech fighters. Without counting the almost obsolete 4000 units of J-7s, the Chinese total number of Sukhois(including J-11 and Su-30 from the navy) is a little more than 270. Taiwan has 330 2nd generation aircrafts in inventory(146 F-16, 57 Mirage 2000, and 128 IDF).**

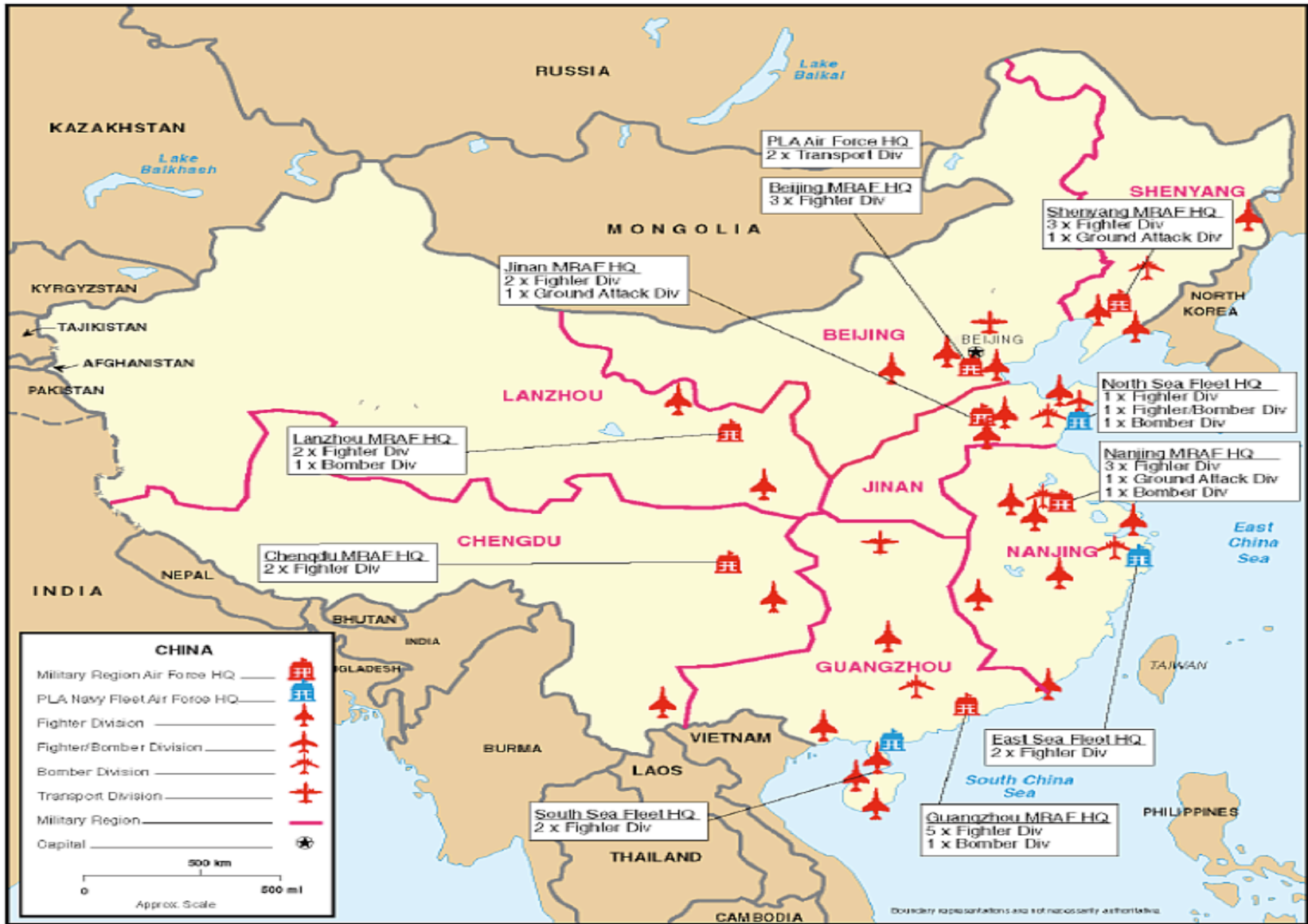
-Chinese have about 26 fighter divisions, and it is estimated that around 13 of them will be assigned to fight Taiwan in a war, or 50% of the total advanced fighters from China, and that is about fewer than 140 fighters. Numbers wise, Taiwan certainly has the upper hand.

other factors

- **the famous Taiwanese SAM(Surface-to-Air-missiles) defensive system, one of the best anti-air missile systems in the world, designed by the Chungshan Institute of Science and Technology. Along with SAM system acquired from the US, Chinese fighters flying across Taiwan strait unharmed would be extremely difficult.**

quality-

Average flight experience of a Chinese pilot is 50-150 hours, due to lack of military funding and over-sized air force population(300, 000 active personnels). **Taiwan's pilots need to meet minimum of 3500 hours(compare to USAF's 4000 hours) before being promoted to active fighter pilot status.** Taiwan spends on average 200 million NT to train someone to an active pilot



- Even if the Taiwanese does not have enough submarines, Chinese subs can be deterred by Taiwan's anti-sub defense.

-China has no real experience in modern warfare, and that often is a disadvantage on the offensive side.

- Taiwan has over 450, 000 standing military equipped with modern gears and weapons plus the artillery units. Transporting two or three times of ground troops to fight Taiwan would be impossible in today's given resources.

- China simply cannot allocate that much military force from the three military divisions that are assigned to invade Taiwan: Nan Jing, Guangzhou, Ji Nan(optional).

Best Chinese tactics--- missiles.

- The missiles will be the best way to threaten Taiwan since it is something the Taiwanese have not much defense for(PAC missiles has only 11% effectiveness), but it will not get China what they want... occupy Taiwan.

- Chinese missiles are NOT primarily used to kill people, but used to conduct military strike. missile strike in order of priority...

- 1. counter missile bases**
- 2. communication facilities**
- 3. enemy military infrastructures such as airport and seaport**
- 4. enemy military facilities that store instruments of war like air base or tank camp**
- 5. enemy military facilities that accomodate troops like barracks**

-1000 ballistic missiles can quickly use up before it can actually start killing civilians.

-Missile attacks are not unpredictable, it takes the missiles 10 minutes to reach Taiwan, I think that is plenty of time for most people to duck and hide in the bomb shelters.

-if China does fire all 1000 missiles, they basically giving away all their missile silo locations to the WORLD. Hard to think China wants everyone to see where they hide their missiles just because they want to kill a little Taiwan

WORST case scenario if Taiwan comes out in victory:

-Taiwanese will probably lose 10-15% of the economic value, approximately 15000 military casualties and maybe 5000 civilian casualties

methodology for estimate-

simulation is based on the recent Iraqi war for Iraq has similar population size as Taiwan, and the terrain is easier for invasion, plus the offense was done by a coalition of major military powers with modern conventional weapons and that will help me to give an over-estimation

- Because wars might happen in a surprise, so I also added an **"unexpected factor" by referring to the the 7.8 Richter scale rated 921 earthquake in 1999**. A sudden catastrophe like that occurred in late night at 2AM, people weren't expecting and had no ways of escaping in time, plus the tremor has same amount of energy as 400 Hiroshima atomic bombs((it does not mean the damage will be the same as atomic attack, just the surface tremor damage would be similar).

-Missile attacks give out similar effect of an earthquake for it explodes, creating tremors to destroy nearby infrastructures.

- a decisive win in a war would bring unity among people like it has always been in Taiwanese history. This is "Taiwanese spirit", the spirit of never giving up our homeland's freedom and dignity without a fight.

- a decisive win in a war would bring unity among people like it has always been in Taiwanese history. This is "Taiwanese spirit", the spirit of never giving up our homeland's freedom and dignity without a fight.