



Global Threats & Challenges

CAPSTONE Spouses Course

Col Casey "Radio" Grider, USAF (J3)

LT Mike Morrow, USN (J2)

26FEB2024

OVERALL CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED



Agenda



➤ Strategic Environment

- Security Environment Overview
- Global Priorities
- Defense Priorities

➤ Global Threats

- Worldwide Overview
- China
- Russia
- North Korea
- Iran
- Violent Extremist Organizations
- Climate Change & Geopolitics
- Health Security
- Additional Transnational Issues

➤ Strategic Approach

- Integrated Deterrence
- Campaigning
- Advance Regional Goals with Allied Support
- Force Employment

➤ Q & A





Strategic Environment



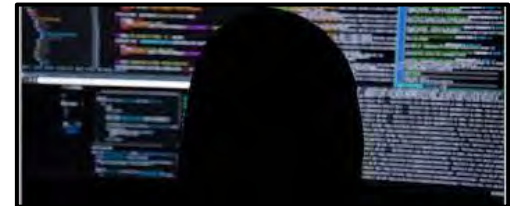
Security Environment Overview



Now and over the next two decades, we face an array of strategic challenges that are interconnected. Our competitors deliberately link them to erode deterrence, exert economic coercion, and endanger political autonomy.

CHALLENGES AHEAD

- **Complex interactions between a rapidly changing global balance of military capabilities**
- **Emerging technologies**
- **Competitor doctrines that pose new threats to the U.S. homeland and to strategic stability**
- **An escalation of competitors coercive and malign activities in the “gray zone”**
- **Transboundary challenges that impose new demands on the Joint Force and defense enterprise**





Global Priorities



The National Security Strategy is prepared periodically by the executive branch and lists the **national security concerns** and how the administration plans to deal with them.

Out-Compete China and Constrain Russia

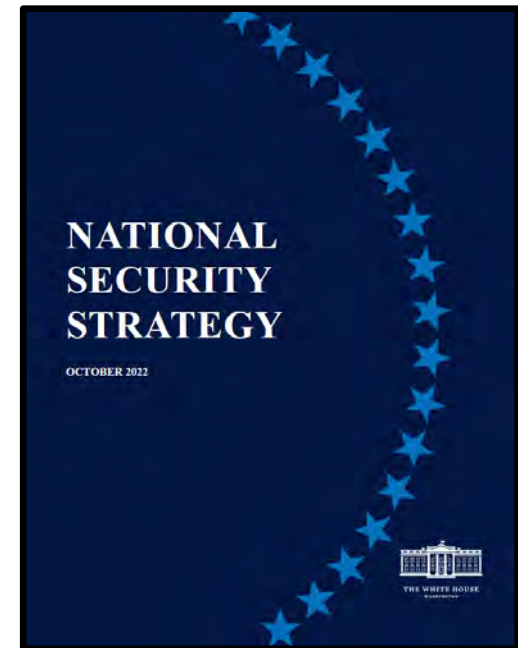
- **China:** Only competitor with both the intent to reshape the international order and the power to do it
- **Russia:** Pursuing imperialist foreign policy with goal of overturning the international order

Cooperate on Shared Challenges

- Climate and Energy Security
- Pandemics and Biodefense
- Food Insecurity
- Arms Control and Non-Proliferation
- Terrorism

Shape the Rules of the Road

- Technology
- Securing Cyberspace
- Trade and Economics



Key Takeaway: Out-compete our rivals to shape the international order while tackling the shared challenges that will define the next stage of human history.

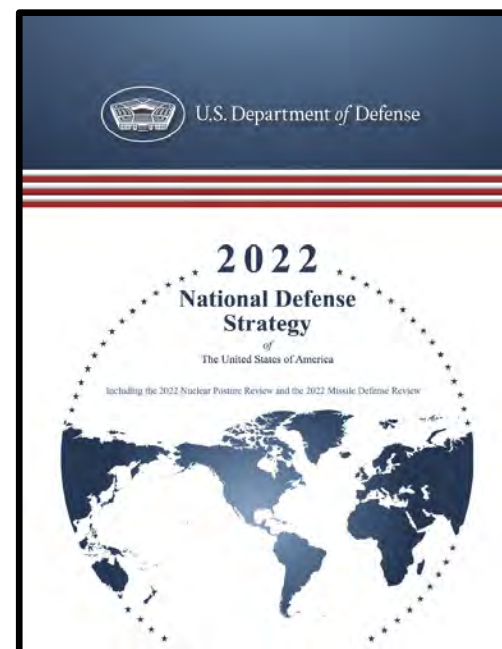


Defense Priorities



The National Defense Strategy details the DoD's path forward to protect Americans, promote global security, seize new strategic opportunities, and defend our democratic values.

- **Defend the homeland, paced to the growing multi-domain threat posed by China**
- **Deter strategic attacks against the U.S., Allies, and partners**
- **Deter aggression, while being prepared to prevail in conflict when necessary**
 - Prioritize China challenge in the Indo-Pacific region
 - Russia challenge in Europe
- **Building a resilient Joint Force and defense ecosystem**



Key Takeaway: Support a stable and open international system while honoring defense commitments.



Global Threats



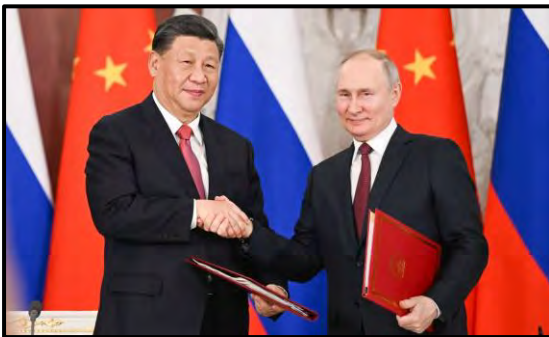
Worldwide Overview



In the near future, the United States and its Allies will confront a complex and pivotal international security environment dominated by two critical strategic challenges that intersect with each other.

CRITICAL STRATEGIC CHALLENGES

- First: Great powers, rising regional powers, and non-state actors vying for dominance in the global order
- Second: Shared global challenges including climate change and human & health security





China



China's Communist Party will continue efforts to achieve President Xi Jinping's vision of making China the preeminent power in East Asia and a major power on the world stage.



REGIONAL AND GLOBAL OBJECTIVES

- Secure what it views as its sovereign territory, including Taiwan
- Attempt to establish its preeminence in regional affairs
- Project power globally; offset U.S. military superiority

MILITARY CAPABILITIES

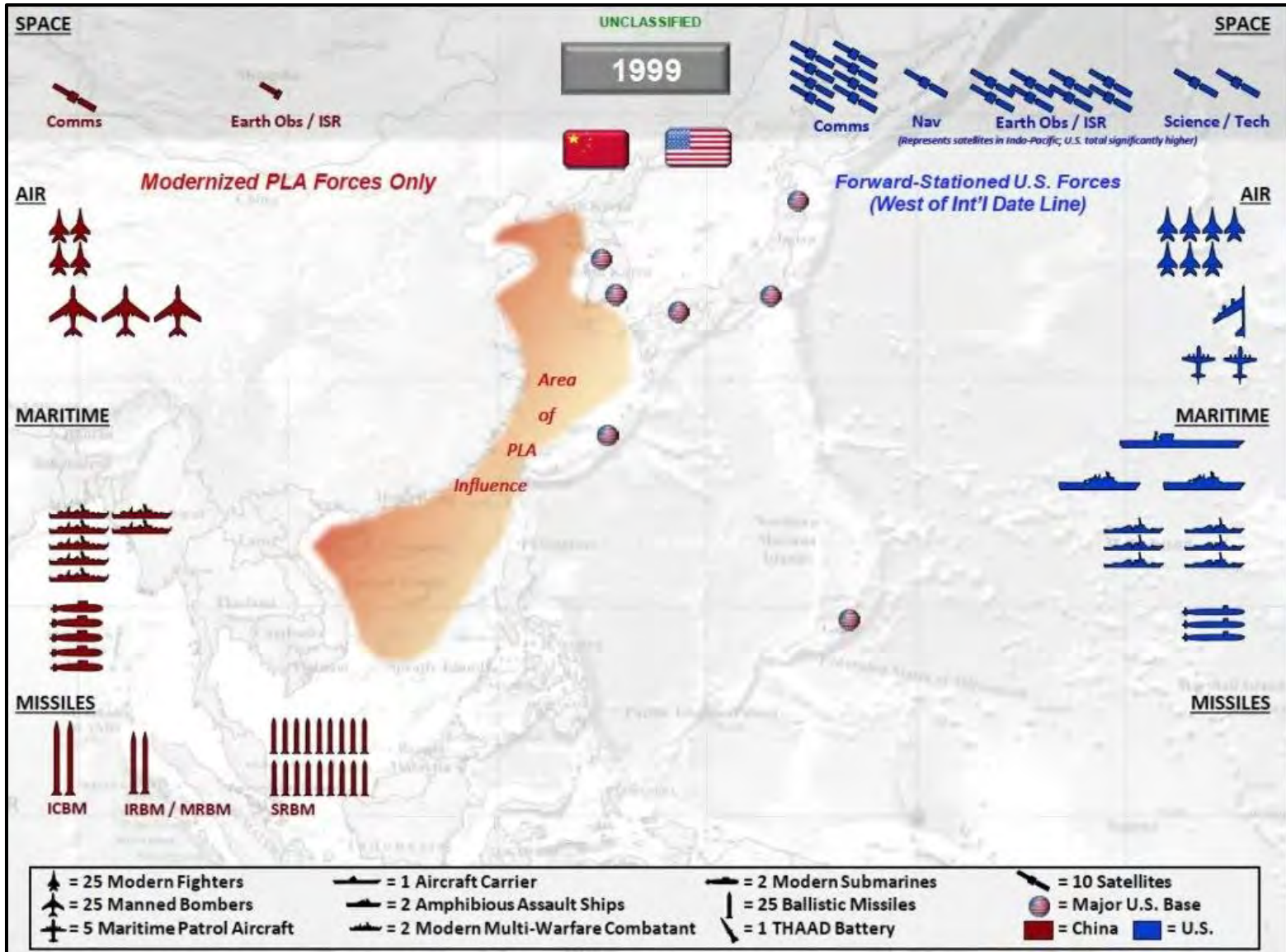
- **CONVENTIONAL:** Navy and Air Force largest in the region
- **WMD:** Building hundreds of new ICBM silos
- **SPACE:** Designed to advance global standing and erode US influence
- **TECHNOLOGY:** Top threat to US technological competitiveness
- **ECONOMICS:** Central to global supply chains
- **CYBER:** Broadest, most active, and persistent cyber threat
- **MALIGN INFLUENCE:** Wants to sow doubts & damage democracy



Key Takeaway: China has the capability to alter the rules-based global order in every realm and across multiple regions and is increasingly pushing to change international norms.

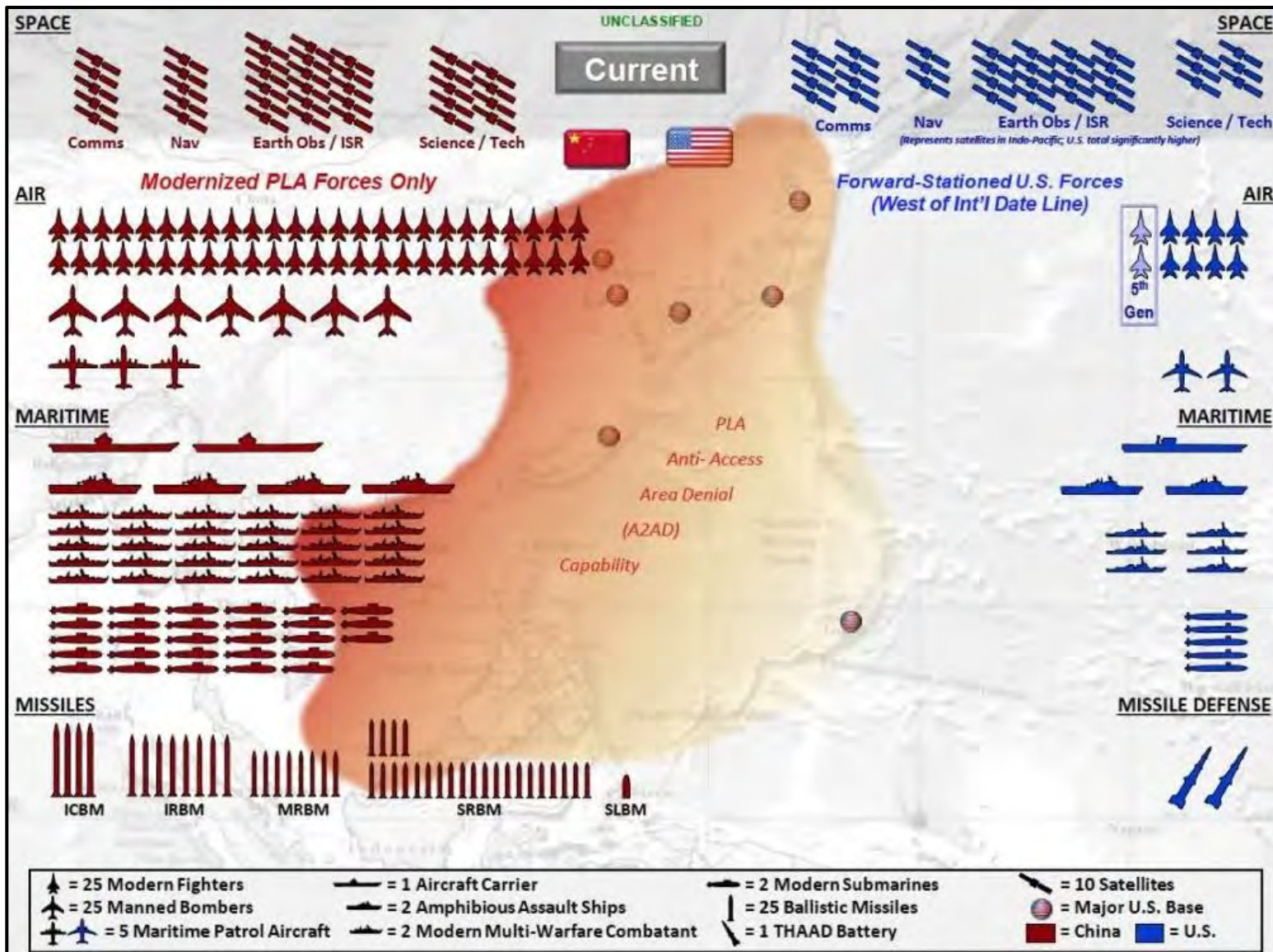


China: Order of Battle (1999)





China: Order of Battle (Current)





China: Order of Battle (2025)

