



UNCLOS



THE DISPUTES

THE SOUTH CHINA SEA DILEMMA



CURRENT EVENTS



THE WAY AHEAD



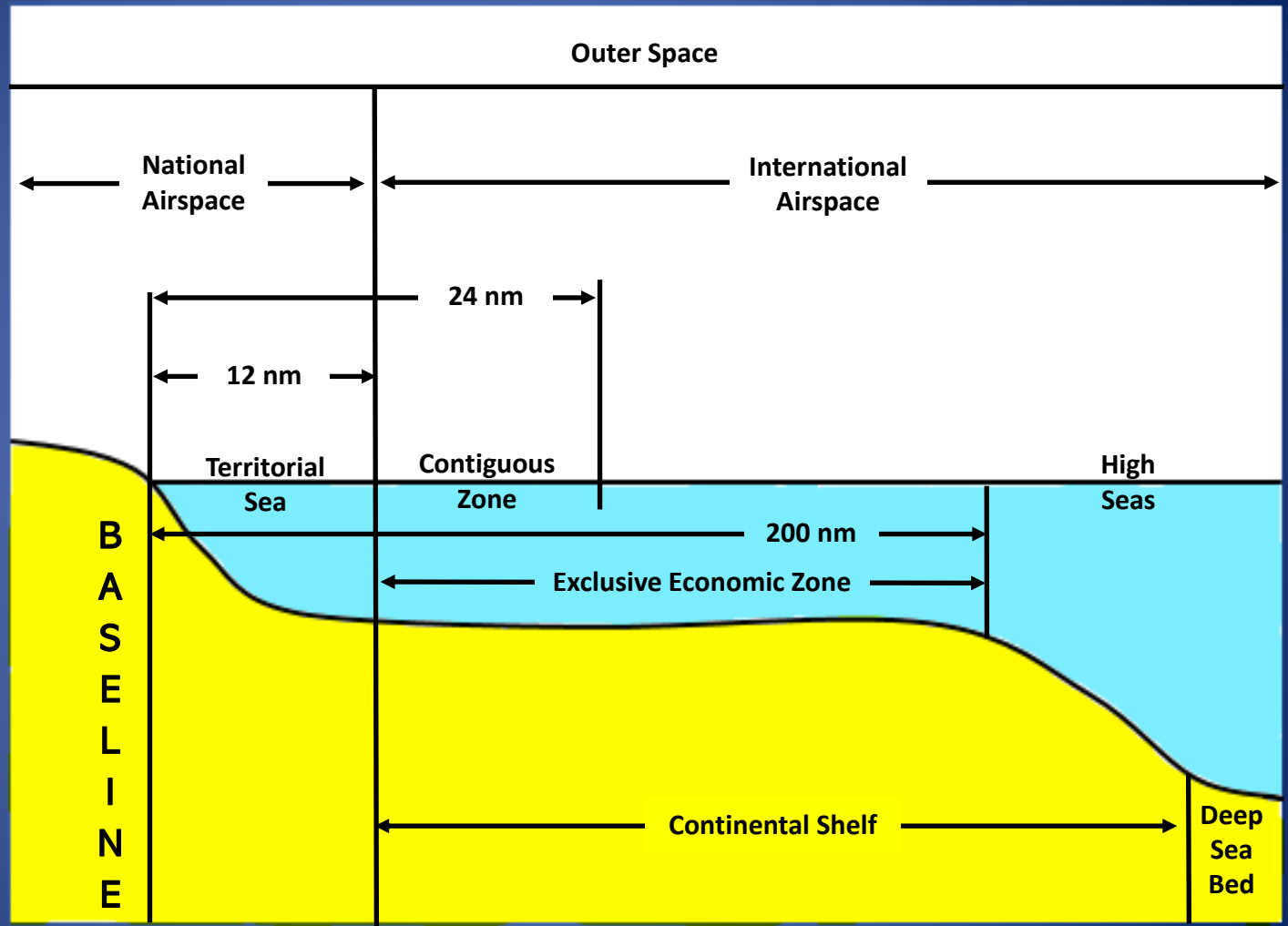
UNCLOS

1994

168 Parties

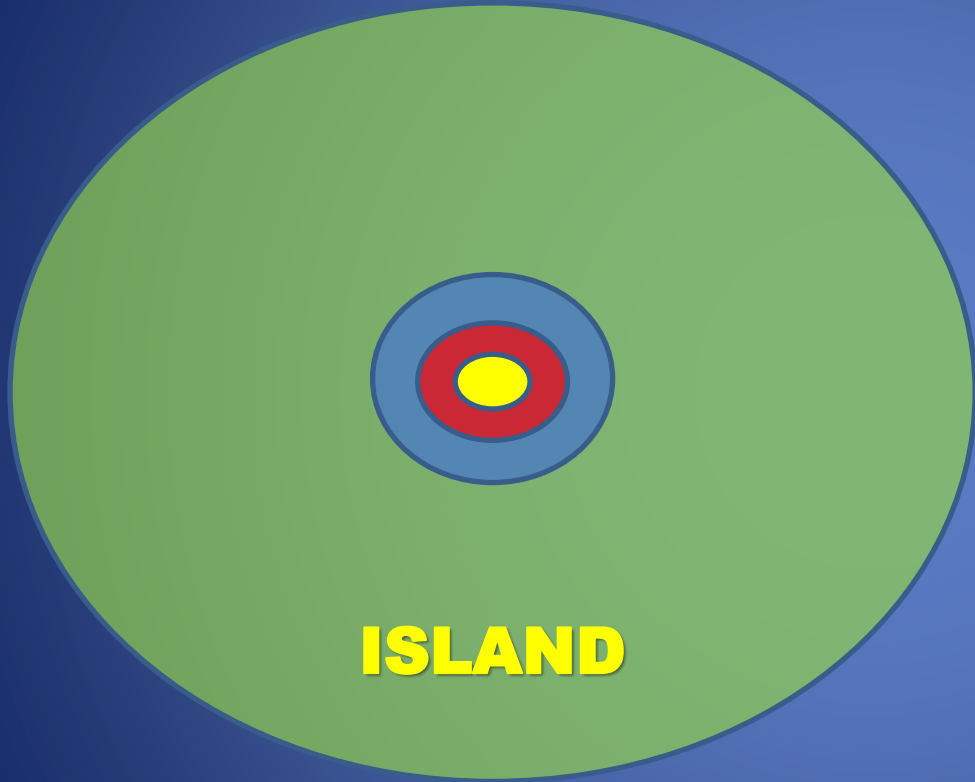
<https://legal.un.org/avl/ha/uncls/uncls.html>

Legal Boundaries of Oceans and Airspace





	ISLAND	ROCK	ARTIFICIAL ISLAND
Naturally formed	✓	✓	✗
Above water	✓	✓	
Can sustain human habitation	✓	✗	
ZONES	TS, CZ, EEZ, & continental shelf	TS	---





THE DISPUTES

■ Contested Waters

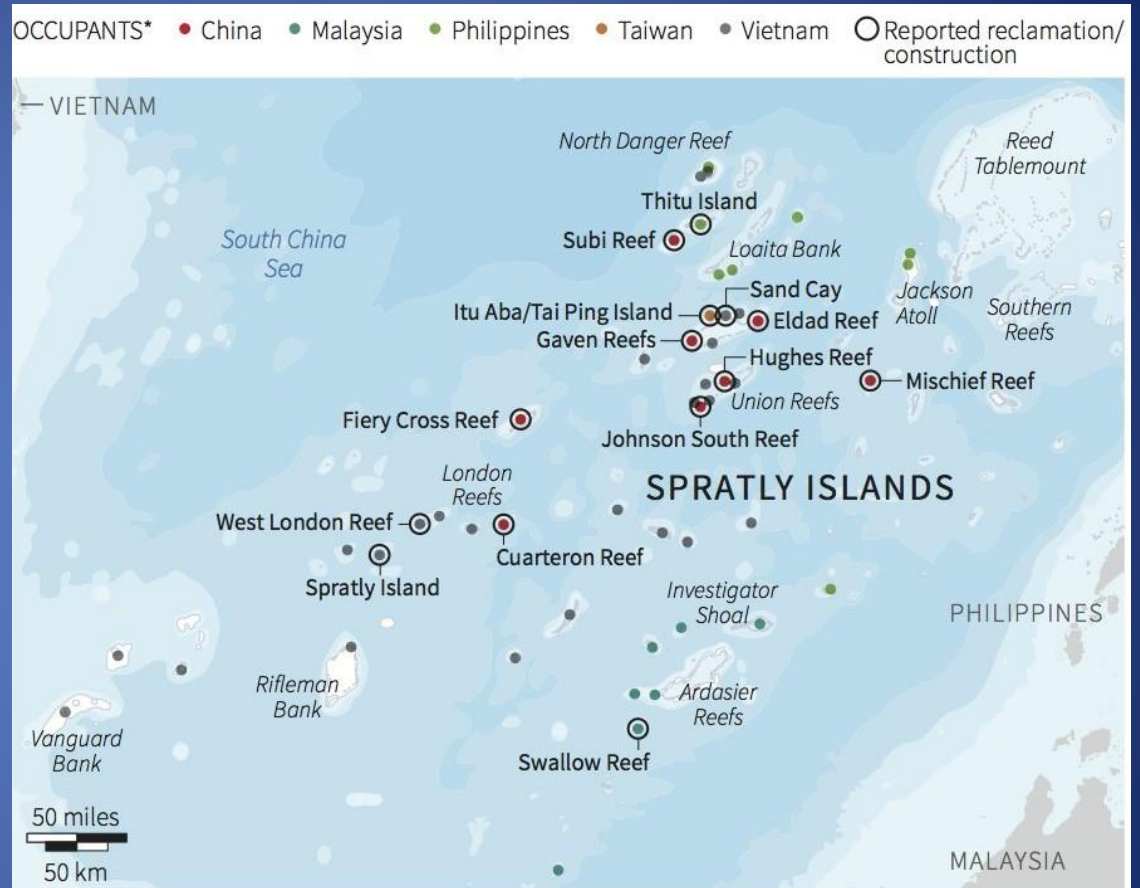


National maritime claims in the South China Sea are a tangle of overlapping boundaries. China's claim, which is based on historical fishing use, cuts across the broadest and deepest swath of water, while other countries, like Malaysia, use geological features such as the continental shelf boundary to inform their stake.

SOURCE: David Rosenberg
(www.southchinasea.org)



Reclamation & Construction



Sources: U.S. government; Reuters.

*Occupation does not signify undisputed sovereignty.

Southwest Cay (Vietnam)



Total amount of reclaimed land: **7.5 acres**

Johnson Reef (China)



Total amount of reclaimed land: **27 acres**

Sin Cowe Island (Vietnam)



Total amount of reclaimed land: **26 acres**

Subi Reef (China)



Total amount of reclaimed land: **976 acres**

CHINESE CARGO VESSELS AT SUBI REEF (ZAMORA REEF)

10 OCTOBER 2017

Cement Mixer

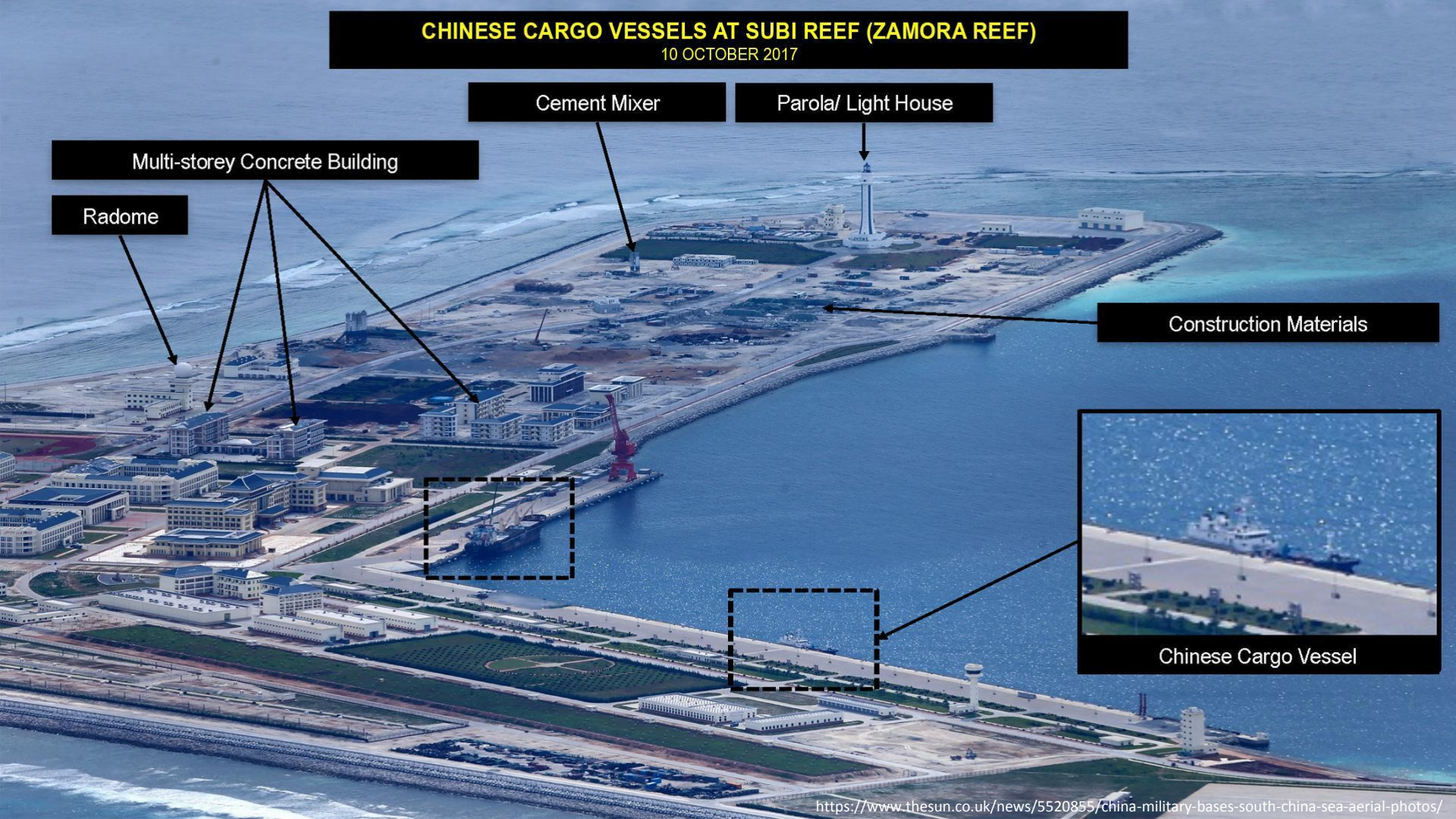
Parola/ Light House

Multi-storey Concrete Building

Radome

Construction Materials

Chinese Cargo Vessel



Land Reclamation Comparison...

Each flag
represents
10 acres



PRC



Since late 2015, China's focus has been on building military infrastructure



The South China Sea Arbitral Award

July 12, 2016

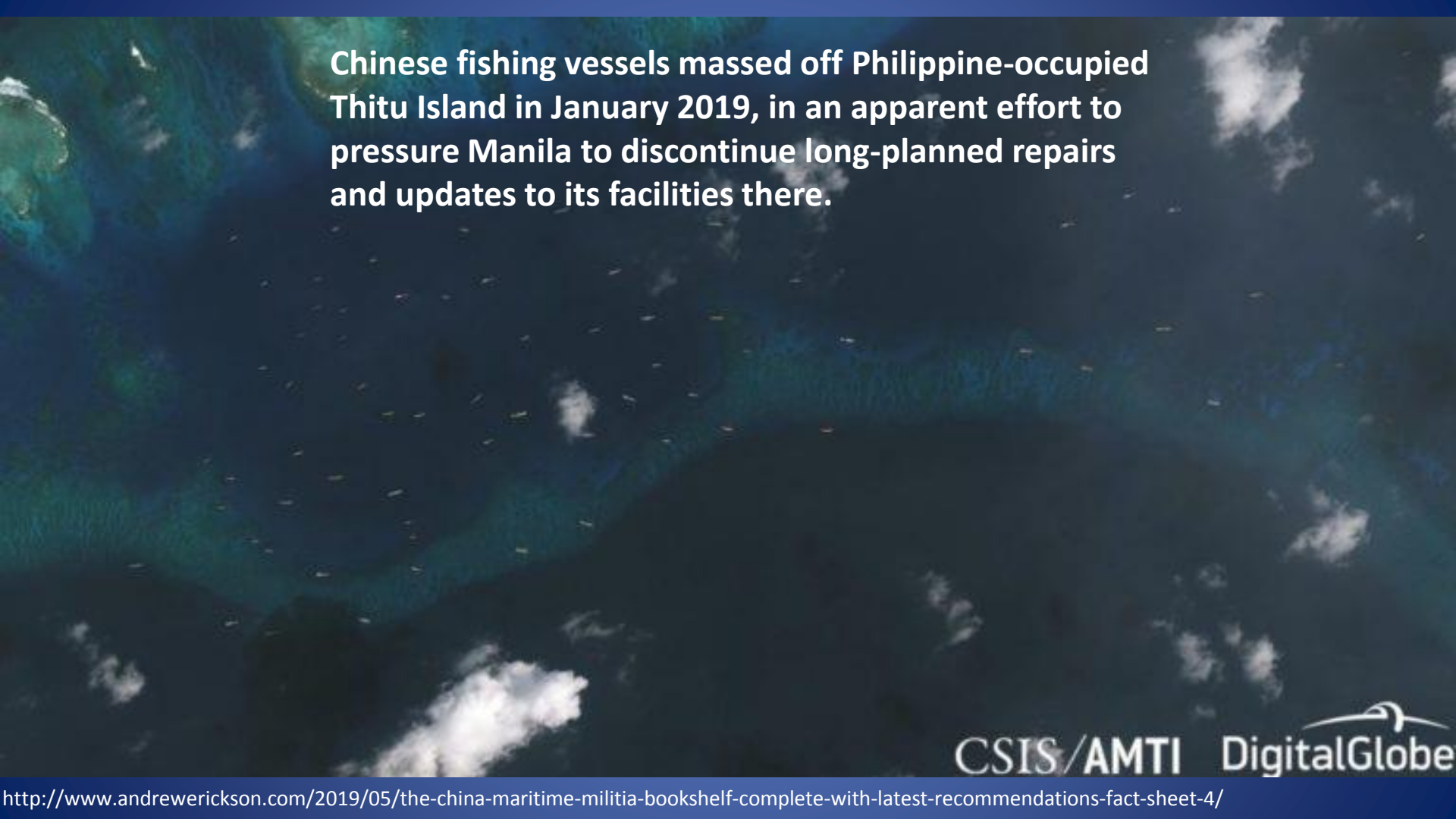


CURRENT EVENTS

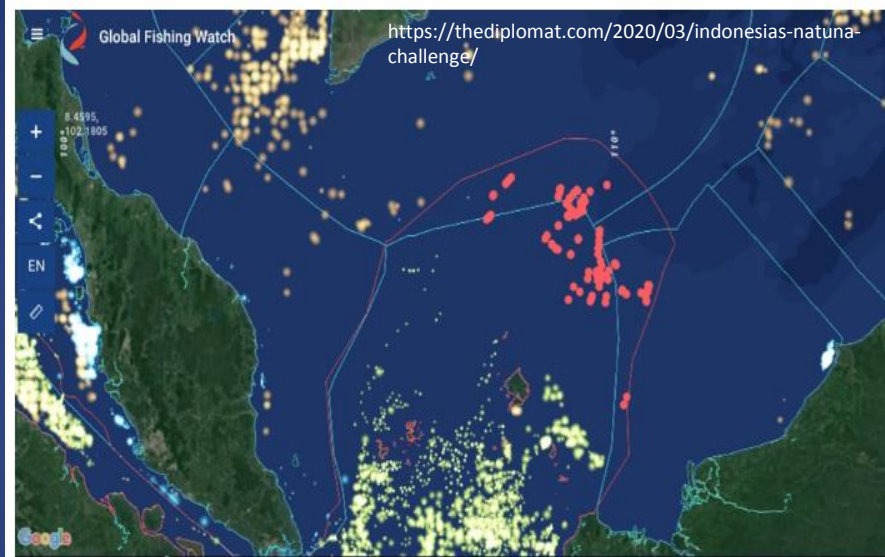
Aggravating Factor:

China's Maritime Militia



A satellite image of the South China Sea, showing a large number of small white dots representing fishing vessels clustered around a small island in the upper left quadrant. The water is a deep blue color, and there are some white clouds scattered across the scene.

Chinese fishing vessels massed off Philippine-occupied Thitu Island in January 2019, in an apparent effort to pressure Manila to discontinue long-planned repairs and updates to its facilities there.

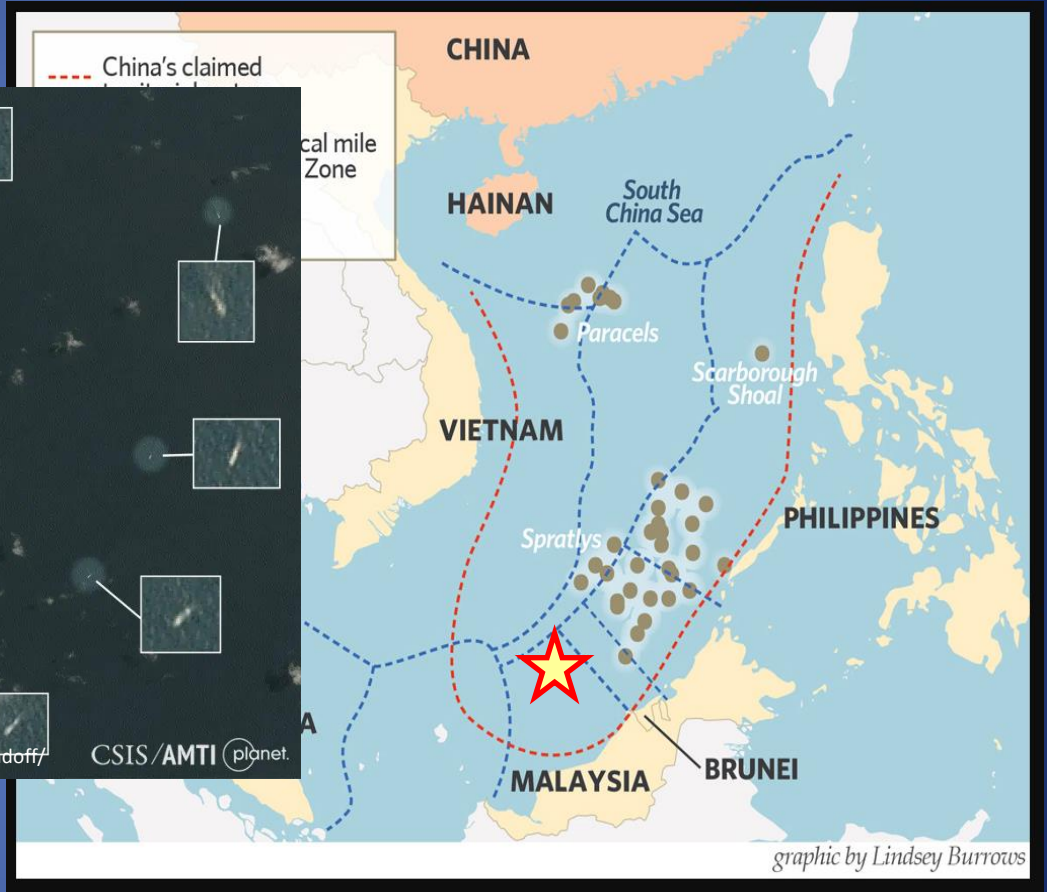


Chinese fishing and coast guard vessels (red dots) plotted on the Global Fishing Watch platform from November 1, 2019 to January 17, 2020. The yellow dots are Indonesian vessels. The red line indicates Indonesia's EEZ.

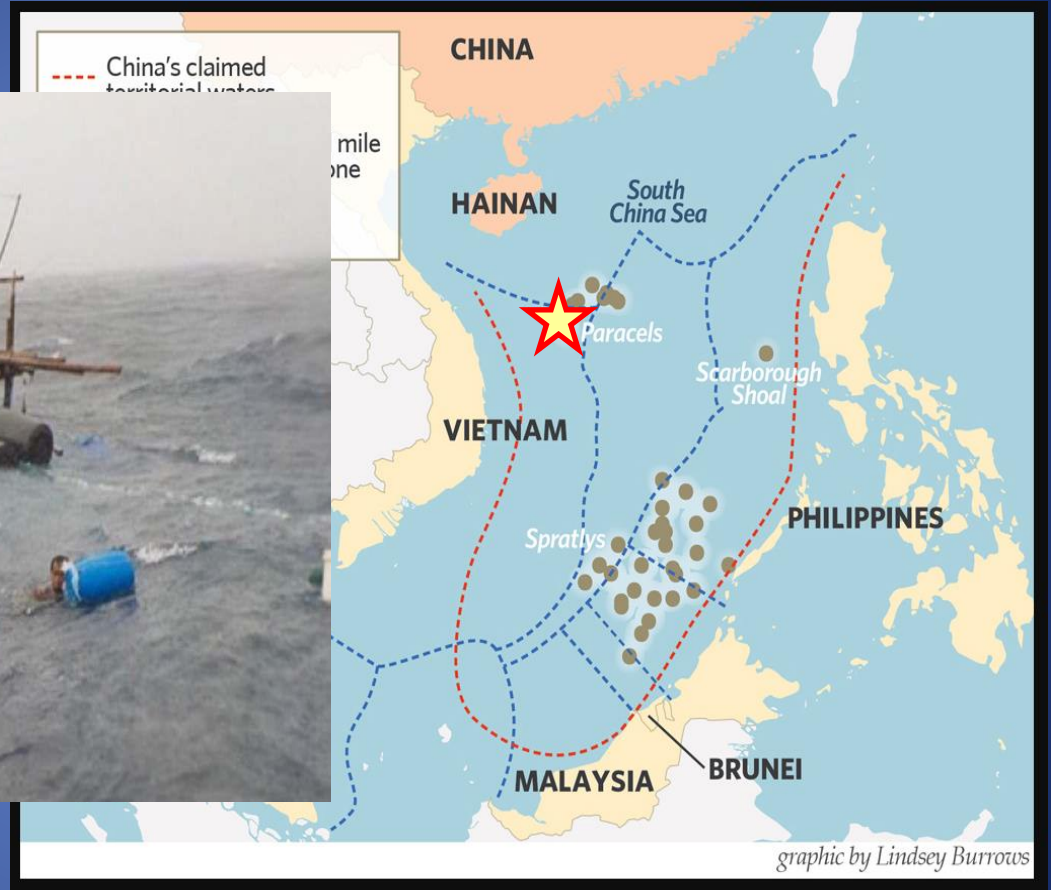


Haiyang Dizhi 8 and Nearby Ships

April 22, 2020









July 13, 2020

"Beijing's claims to offshore resources across most of the South China Sea are completely unlawful, as is its campaign of bullying to control them."

<https://www.state.gov/u-s-position-on-maritime-claims-in-the-south-china-sea/>



July 16, 2020

"We firmly stand for the freedom of navigation and overflight and unimpeded lawful commerce in these international waterways, in accordance with international law, notably UNCLOS."

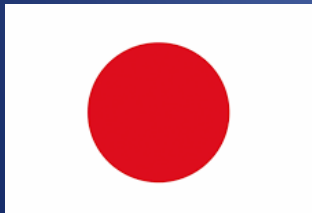
<https://www.livemint.com/news/india/india-has-abiding-interest-in-stability-of-disputed-region-of-south-china-sea-11594916648169.html>



July 23, 2020

Explicitly rejects the PRC's claim to "historic rights" in the SCS in accordance with the 2016 Arbitral Tribunal ruling.

<https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/australia-lays-down-law-south-china-sea-dispute>



August 7, 2020

"Anyone who is trying to change the status quo by force needs to be forced to pay a high cost."

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/1320377/south-china-sea-news-japan-warning-high-cost-taro-kono-Beijing-china>