China Missile Chronology

Last update: June 2012

2012

18 May 2012
The Department of Defense releases the 2012 “Military and Security Developments Involving the People’s Republic of China” report. The report highlights that the PLA Air force is modernizing its ground-based air defense forces with conventional medium-range ballistic missiles, which can “convey precision strikes against land targets and naval ships, including aircraft carriers, operating far from China’s shores beyond the first island chain.” According to the Department of Defense’s report, China will acquire DF-31A intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) and enhanced, silo-based DF-5 (CSS-4) ICBMs by 2015. To date, China is the third country that has developed a stealth combat aircraft, after the U.S. and Russia. J-20 is expected conduct military missions by 2018. It will be equipped with “air-to-air missiles, air-to-surface missiles, anti-radiation missiles, laser-guided bombs and drop bombs.” J-20 stealth fighter is a distinguished example of Chinese military modernization.


15 April 2012
North Korea shows off a potential new ICBM in a military parade. Dubbed the KN-08, the missiles are displayed on what appear to be Chinese-made transporter erector launchers (TELs), specifically the WS 51200. According to Jeffrey Lewis and Joshua Pollack, Hubei Sanjiang Space Wanshan Special Vehicle Co., a subsidy of China Aerospace Science and Industry Corporation (CASIC) exported “classis and other parts for a missile-transport vehicle” which could be in contravention of China’s national export control laws and UN Security Council resolutions. Geng Shuang, a spokesman for the Chinese Embassy in Washington denied that China had violated United Nations sanctions. In addition, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson, Liu Weimin, responded “China has kept communication with relevant countries on issues such as non-proliferation.”


4 March 2012
According to state-run news agency Xinhua, China plans to raise its defense budget by 11.2 percent to 106.4 billion USD in 2012. The Chinese military modernization includes the “home-built J-10 jet fighter, new nuclear submarines

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and modern surface vessels armed with supersonic anti-ship missiles.” China’s National People’s Congress spokesman Li Zhaoxing asserted that the Chinese military budget is “reasonable and appropriate,” and that its primary purpose is to defend China’s sovereign and territorial integrity, which does not pose any threat to foreign nations. China’s regional neighbors, such as India, Indonesia, and Vietnam, have begun to strengthen their own military capabilities in response to China’s buildup.


16 January 2012
China Aerospace Science and Technology Corps (CASC) promises it will ensure the success of all satellite launches. According to state-run Xinhua News Agency, “China plans to launch 21 rockets and 30 satellites this year.” In addition, CASC will launch the Shenzhou-9 spacecraft to conduct docking tests with the Tiangong-1 space laboratory. In order to improve the new Chinese navigation system Beidou, CASC will launch six more satellites.


2011
27 December 2011
China announces that the Beidou satellite navigation system is operational. According to the project’s spokesman, Ran Cheng, Beidou “offers location, timing and navigation data to China and surrounding areas.” Since 2000, China has been developing the system, which it hopes will be an alternative to American GPS. The Beidou network can give China the accuracy to guide missiles, smart munitions, and other weapons in a regional conflict. It also offers redundancy and independence should the U.S. restrict Chinese access to GPS. According to the China’s space white paper released in December, China aims to complete the global Beidou satellite navigation system by 2020. It will be comprised of “five GEO satellites and 30 non-GEO satellites.”


21 December 2011
The BBC reports that Finnish authorities seize 69 Patriot surface-to-air missiles and 160 tons of explosives on a British-registered cargo ship destined for Shanghai, China. The missiles are disguised as “fireworks.” Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Weimin said the transportation of missiles is not related to China, and that the “British ship loaded with Patriot missiles was on its way from Germany to the ROK [Republic of Korea].”


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9 November 2011
State-run news agency Xinhua reports that China successfully launched the remote-sensing satellite Yaogan XII. A Long March 4B rocket put the satellite into orbit. While Chinese media asserted the satellite is solely “to conduct scientific experiments, carry out surveys on land resources, and disaster monitoring,” Jane’s argues the satellite is to be used for military reconnaissance missions.


18 October 2011
A day after Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou made a statement saying Taiwan may consider a peace agreement with China, Lai Shin-yuan, head of Taiwan’s Mainland Affairs Council, says that the agreement will only be considered if China removes approximately 1,600 missiles currently targeting the island. To date, Beijing has not renounced the possibility of the use of force against Taiwan.


27 September 2011
The China Daily reports that the Indonesian Navy will use Chinese made C-705 missiles. According to the Indonesian Defense Ministry secretary-general vice marshal Eris Haryanto, the missiles will be produced by both countries jointly, and the Chinese State Administration for Science, Technology and Industry for National Defense (SASTIND) will provide technology assistance. SASTIND and the Indonesian Directorate General of Defense Capabilities started cooperation on 22 March 2011. The C-705 missile is being developed by the China Aerospace Science and Industry Corporation (CASIC). The C-705 missile is designed for surface targets, which “could reach a range of 110 to 120 kilometers.”


24 August 2011
The United States Department of Defense releases its annual report entitled, “Military and Security Developments Involving the People’s Republic of China 2011.” The report estimates that China’s military modernization has made drastic improvement. The report suggests that the “PLA is obtaining large numbers of highly accurate cruise missiles, many of which have ranges in excess of 185 km.” Michael Schiffer deputy assistant secretary of defense says, “the pace and scope of China’s sustained military investment have allowed China to pursue capabilities that we believe are potentially destabilizing to regional military balances, increase the risk of misunderstanding and miscalculation, and may contribute to regional tensions and anxieties.” Schiffer also urges China to improve its military transparency and openness. Xinhua News Agency reports that Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Fu Ying responds to the criticism in an interview with German magazine, Der Spiegel by telling the world not to worry about China’s military ambitions. She says, “[the West and its allies] are not going to see a U.S. or a Soviet in China.”


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27 July 2011
China’s Ministry of Defense spokesman Senior Colonel Geng Yansheng confirms that “China is currently refitting an old aircraft carrier that it bought from another country and will use it for research, experiments and training purposes.” According to Col. Geng, “there is not a question of when this ship is launched,” it will be decided upon the schedule of the refurbishment project. Col. Geng reiterates that China’s national defense policy will not change. However, some in the region feel threatened by the development. “China’s next moves have to be watched carefully, or there eventually could be a negative impact on maritime safety in Asia,” said Yoshihiko Yamada, a professor at Japan’s Tokai University.


10 June 2011
The Malaysian Insider, based on Wikileaks, asserts that a Malaysian company, Electronics Component Limited (with links to China) has tried to purchase gyroscopes used for guiding missiles from Chinese firm VibTel Industrial. According to Pam Durham, the director of Missile Threat Reduction at the U.S. State Department, “ECL [Electronics Component Limited] is associated with a network of Iranian-controlled front companies that procure sensitive goods on behalf of a number if Iranian entities of proliferation concern.” The report says that Chinese officials will investigate the case.


27 May 2011
Jane’s International Defense Review reports that the China National Precision Machinery Import & Export Corporation has begun marketing “a rocket system that allows an 8x8 mobile launcher to transport and launch a pod of four SY400 (神鹰400制导火箭武器系统) 400 mm guided rockets and a pod containing one BP-12A [BP12A近程战术地对地导弹武器系统] 600 mm long-range guided missile. According to Jane’s, “both systems are based on the Wanshan Special Vehicle Company’s (WSVC) WS 2400 8x8 cross-country chassis, which has a gross vehicle weight of 41 tonnes, and varies in its application. Wanshan Special Vehicle, also known as Hubei Sanjiang Space Wanshan Special Vehicle CO., Ltd [湖北三江航天万山特种车辆有限公司] is a state-owned vehicle and chassis manufacturing corporation, which is subordinated to China Sanjiang Space Group [中国三江航天集团]. China has used this classis for a large group of rocket artillery applications. No comments are made from the Chinese government.


Related content is available on the website for the Nuclear Threat Initiative, www.nti.org.
6 April 2011
The New York Times reports that China is set to launch its first aircraft carrier on its maiden voyage. State-run Xinhua publishes, “The Chinese state news agency has posted photographs of an aircraft carrier [巨舰即将出航 圆70年中国人航母梦: Giant Ship to make maiden voyage, Chinese dream comes true after 70 years] under reconstruction that appears to show the warship near completion.” According to the Associated Press, China purchased the carrier from the Ukraine more than a decade ago. The ship — first named Riga when its construction began in 1985 — was later named the Varyag. After the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the Ukraine sold the ship to China in 1992 when it was structurally complete, but without electronics. According to Asia Times, China installed the shipborne multi-function Active Phased Array Radar and Sea Eagle as sensors, which were also equipped with Flying Leopard 3000 Naval air defense missile system. It is not yet known how China will outfit the carrier with missiles.


16 March 2011
According to Jane’s Defense & Security Intelligence & Analysis, China’s new Dongfeng-16 missile poses a serious threat to Taiwan, and “China has begun deploying a new pattern of ballistic missiles against Taiwan.” Taiwan National Security Bureau Director-General Tsai Der-sheng emphasizes that the “Dongfeng-16 is a new type of ballistic missile that has a longer range than anything in China’s current cross-Taiwan Straight arsenal.” It is thought to have a range of 800-1,000 km, and but it is not known if it has multiple-warhead technology. Chinese military expert, Xu Guangyu denies the existence of Dongfeng-16 missiles. He argues that Taiwan is making false reports in order to increase U.S.-Taiwan arms sales. Jane’s also says that China has deployed the “Dongfeng-21D missile,” known as a “carrier-killer.” According to the “Military and Security Developments Involving the People’s Republic of China 2011” report produced by the United States’ Department of Defense, “the missile is intended to provide the PLA the capability to attack large ships, including aircraft carriers, in the western Pacific Ocean. The DF-21D has a range exceeding 1,500 km and is armed with a maneuverable warhead.”


2 March 2011
Pakistan and China have embarked on a joint venture for the construction of two missile-armed naval vessels in the Chinese port city of Tianjin, says a press release from the Government of Pakistan. “Under the joint venture signed between Pakistan Navy and China Shipbuilding and Offshore International Company, two Fast Attack boats capable of carrying missiles would be constructed simultaneously in Pakistan and China. [sic]” According to the Global Times, “China and Pakistan are cooperating in different defence fields including joint production of a trainee aircraft and nuclear power plants.”

— Press Information Department, PR No.15, “Pakistan and China Start Joint Venture of Constructing Missile

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8-9 January 2011
Days after China tested its J-20 stealth fighter; U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates expresses concerns over China’s recent progress in developing new weapons systems, while taking part in an arrival ceremony in Beijing with Chinese Defense Minister Liang Guanglie. “They [the Chinese military] clearly have the potential to put some of our capabilities at risk. And we have to pay attention to them, we have to respond appropriately with our own programs,” Gates said. Gates hopes that the strategic dialogue between the U.S. and China will help to reduce the risk capabilities. Gates also says that he has been wary of Chinese work on “anti-ship, cruise and ballistic missiles ever since he took the job.” The following day, China’s Ministry of Defense, Liang Guanglie, told reporters that “China still lagged far behind developed nations in terms of weaponry and rejected claims that China’s military development was a threat,” according to state-run Xinhua. However, U.S. naval intelligence remains unconvinced regarding to the statement. Vice Admiral David J. “Jack” Dorsett, director of U.S. naval intelligence, tells a reporter that, “over the years, the Chinese military doctrine has a ‘hide and bide’ — hide your resources and bide your time” strategy.


2010

27 December 2010
Admiral Robert F. Willard, Commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, reveals that China’s new anti-ship ballistic missile is now in the early stages of deployment after extensive testing. According to a 2009 Report to Congress, the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission stated that “the ‘D’ version of China’s DF-21 medium-range missile (DF-21D), “[t]his missile is intended to deny regional access to surface ships of the opposing side. When combined with appropriate surveillance and targeting sensor systems, this missile could have the potential to destroy or disable aircraft carriers and their associated battle groups while in transit.” Admiral Willard testified earlier this year that “China appeared to have achieved ‘initial operational capability’ but it would take ‘several more years’ before fully deploying the system.” The Chinese government does not make any official statements in response to the report.


18 November 2010
Rao Qamar Suleman, Air Chief Marshal of the Pakistan Air Force confirms that Pakistan bought Chinese missiles

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and avionics to equip its 250 JF-17 Thunder jet fighter. During interviews with the China Daily and the Global Times, Suleman states that “Chinese radar systems and SD-10 mid-range homing missiles would be used on the fighters [Fighter China-1 Xiaolong Aircraft] co-developed by the two nations.” Mr. Suleman also reveals that Pakistan may also buy up to four Surface-to-Air-Missiles, including the HQ-18. Suleman expresses Pakistan’s desire to strengthen military cooperation with China, while upgrading Pakistan’s armed forces.


21 October 2010

The Russian State Duma ratifies a Russian-Chinese intergovernmental agreement on the notification of each other’s impending ballistic missile and space rocket launches. The purpose of the agreement is to notify the other party of the launch of ballistic missiles “whose flight range exceeds 2,000 km over the other’s territory.” The official agreement was signed in Beijing in October 2009, creating a missile launch notification system in both countries.


24 September 2010

During an interview with Taiwanese media in New York, People’s Republic of China’s premier Wen Jiabao praises that the political relations between Mainland China and Taiwan have reached the most promising point in decades, due to the progress in their economic ties.

“温家宝表示，两岸有共识，今后会根据四句话的原则，‘先经后政，先易后难，把握节奏，循序渐进’，发展两岸关系. 他相信，最终会撤走对台导弹[温家宝 indicates that both sides have come to the agreement to prioritize economic development before political issues. Both sides will strengthen and develop cross-strait relations gradually by tackling easy issues first. He believes dismantling the missiles that are aimed at Taiwan is achievable]” (Unofficial translation to English). According to Japan Economic Newswire, Taiwanese government officials welcome Wen’s comments as evidence of progress. Speaker Wang Jin-ping of Taiwan’s majority Nationalist Party comments that Wen’s remarks give “positive assistance” to cross-strait relations. According to Agence France-Presse, “Taiwanese experts estimate that the Chinese military has more than 1,600 missiles aimed at the island.” However, Taiwan’s Ministry of National Defense remains skeptical to Wen’s peaceful overtures because Mainland China has yet to renounce the use of force and may deploy new missiles in the future.


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9 September 2010
According to the Xinhua News Agency, troops from five Shanghai Cooperation Organization countries have launched a live-fire drill in southern Kazakh training grounds. It is their third joint training of the “Peace Mission 2010” anti-terror exercise. The exercise “involves 5,000 troops from five of the six Shanghai Cooperation Organization member states: China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan, from 9-25 September. Uzbekistan is not taking part in the drill. There is no report of the exact quantity of weapons being used during the firing drill, but China’s Ministry of Defense confirms that the exercise “involves tanks, armoured vehicles, fighter planes, bombers, rockets and anti-aircraft missiles.”

7 August 2010
Xinhua News Agency reports that China concludes a five day air defense exercise with a live-fire drill and precision attacks on air targets by ground-to-air missiles. The exercise takes place in seven cities across Henan and Shandong provinces and involves more than 12,000 personnel. The exercise’s code name is “Vanguard 2010.” China Daily reports that there are seven types of ground-to-air weaponry, and that the exercise includes a new type of ground-to-air missile and other state-of-the-art anti-aircraft guns. According to the deputy commander of the People’s Liberation Army - Jinan Military Command, Feng Zhaoju, there were nearly 200 military aircraft, including drones, reconnaissance aircraft, fighter jets and helicopters involved in the military drill.

10 August 2010
The Chinese navy launches its first aircraft-carrier on its maiden voyage. Xinhua News Agency reports that the refitting work on the aircraft-carrier will still continue after its sea trial. People’s Daily reports that the carrier is expected to officially operate with the Chinese Navy in August next year. The United States seeks explanation from China regarding the types of equipment installed on the aircraft carrier. U.S. State Department spokesperson Victoria Nuland says that U.S.-China relations should be an “open, transparent relationship in military-to-military affairs,” however does not believe that the two countries have reached that goal yet. According to the BBC News, Japanese Defense Minister Toshimi Kitazawa urged Beijing to give international community a clear explanation of needing an aircraft carrier with high maneuverability and attack capabilities. “The so-called aircraft carrier is just a purchased hull China has been refitting for research and training purposes,” Chinese Vice Foreign Minister, Fu Ying said.

18 July 2010
A naval studies journal under the Taiwanese Defense Ministry reports that China will have approximately 2,000

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missiles targeted at Taiwan by 2011. “The analysis of China’s attack capabilities also found that if Beijing actually decided to launch the missiles this year, 90 percent of targets in Taiwan would be destroyed,” says the report. China has never renounced its claimed sovereign right to use force if necessary.


15 June 2010
According to the Global Security Newswire, China is speeding up its preparation for launching a “space command,” which the U.S. and Russia already maintain. Unnamed Chinese air force sources claim that the People’s Liberation Army Air Force “will develop by 2050 an unmanned stealth fighter that can operate in space and an equivalent to the U.S. space shuttle to better compete with the United States in a space armament race expected in the future.” One of the sources states that the PLA will use 2010-2030 to develop a fourth-generation fighter and “missile-attacking weapons,” as well as build a satellite information system for command superiority over Chinese airspace. No official statements are released from the Chinese government, which has maintained in the past that its space activities are civilian. China’s most recent (2006) White Paper on its activities in space states, “China is unflinching in taking the road of peaceful development, and always maintains that outer space is the common wealth of mankind.”


21 May 2010
Indonesia offers the joint production of missiles, other weapons, and non-military hardware with China. Indonesia’s Defense Minister Purnomo Yusgiantoro said that the Indonesian navy and air force had been using Chinese made C-802 missiles for a long time and the need for this missile was increasing. The C-802 is the export version of the Ying-Ji 802 land attack and anti-ship cruise missile with a range of 120 km.


12 May 2010
Over 1,000 retired staff and workers of the China Aerospace Science and Industry Group’s 061 Base in Zunyi, Guizhou Province, demonstrate and block roads for three days demanding the return of RMB 20 million which allegedly were held back from about 5,000 retired staff and workers. Although a large number of Public Security personnel were standing by, no clashes occurred. The 061 military industrial base has about 20,000 staff and workers. It develops core components for the Shenzhou 7 spacecraft and long-range missiles such as guidance and control systems.


6 April 2010
Noshir Gowadia, a former B-2 stealth bomber engineer accused of helping China design a cruise missile with

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stealth capabilities by selling U.S. military secrets, is due to face trial in federal court in Honolulu. Gowadia is charge on 21 counts, including conspiracy, violating the arms export control act, and money laundering. The prosecutors allege that the information provided by Gowadia was used to design an exhaust nozzle that gives off less heat, making it difficult for infrared detectors to find the missile.


2 April 2010
China receives 15 batteries of the new S-300 missile defense systems from Russia. The S-300 (NATO SA-20 Gargoyles) can simultaneously track up to 100 targets and engage 12 aircraft or ballistic missiles at a range of over 15 km.


17 March 2010
China deploys new Russian-made S300PMU2 long-range surface-to-air missiles in Fujian, covering the entire airspace of northern Taiwan. The missiles have a range of 200 km and sophisticated radar functions. Yu Sy-tue, Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense spokesperson, however, states that "the situation is fully under control," as Taiwan's Patriot Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) also cover Chinese fighters operating in the Taiwan Strait.


7 March 2010
China inaugurates a factory in Iran for assembling and producing the Nasr-1 anti-ship missile. The Nasr is based on the Chinese C-704 anti-ship missile, which was unveiled at the 2008 Zhuhai Air Show and was developed specifically for Iran by China's Hongdu Aviation Group. The Nasr-1 appears to be the active radar-guided variant of the C-704 with a range of about 170 km. It targets ships of 1,000-4,000 tons displacement and has a 95.7 percent kill probability. The existence of further versions of the C-704, the C-704KD, which may indicates an air-to-surface application, suggests that there may be additional models of the Nasr family.


4 March 2010
China will launch the first module of its permanent space station next year. The orbiting laboratory Heavenly Palace (Tiangong-1) is expected to be 30 feet long and will initially serve as a docking station. The China National Space Administration (CNSA) plans three further missions for the next year. The CNSA’s long-term objectives include the establishment of a permanent space station and a lunar mission by 2022.


22 February 2010
In a feature story for the state-run China Daily, several Chinese analysts voice their concerns about neighboring countries acquiring U.S. Patriot missile defense systems. Air Force colonel Dai Xu alleges that the provision of

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Patriot missile defense systems is part of a U.S. strategic encirclement of China. Ni Lexiong, an expert on military affairs at the Shanghai Institute of Political Science and Law, compares the increasing number of U.S. missile defense systems on China's neighboring countries with the U.S. missile defense plans Russia is facing in Eastern Europe. Finally, Tang Xiaosong, director of the Center of International Security and Strategy Studies at the Guangdong University of Foreign Studies says that Beijing should also be concerned about Washington hoping to sell Patriot systems to India and other Southeast Asian countries. Furthermore, former department deputy head on the Russian Defense Ministry, Lt. Gen. Yevgeny Buzhinsky notes that China is likely to build up its offensive strategic capabilities in the advent of a global U.S. missile defense system in East Asia.


8 February 2010
The Chinese-born aerospace engineer Dongfan Chung, 73, sentenced to more than 15 years in prison for acquiring secret space shuttle data and other information for China. Chung worked for Rockwell International's space and defense unit, which was taken over by Boeing in 1996, for 30 years was found guilty of spying for China in six counts of economic espionage and other charges after 300,00 sensitive documents were found at his home. The documents included plans for the fuelling system of a Delta 4 rocket, an antenna system for the space shuttle and other aerospace and military technologies. According to the prosecution, Chung had sent information to China since the late 1970s. Chung was arrested in February 2009. Beijing insisted that it had no links to the case and that it had been set up.


26 January 2010
The 215 Cruise Missile Brigade in Luizhou, Guangxi, deploys Sword 10th cruise missiles. The missile has a range of more than 1500 km and covers Vietnam, Taiwan, northern India, the Korean Peninsula, and Okinawa. The missiles made their first appearance during last year's national parade.


11 January 2010
China tests ground based midcourse missile interception technology. Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Jiang Yu states that "the test was defensive in nature and targeted at no country." The spokesman reiterated that the test would produce no space debris, or threaten any orbiting spacecraft. The test apparently achieved its expected objectives. There is no official word of the missile used in the test; possible candidates include HQ-9, HQ-12, or possibly DF-21 variant


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2009

28 December 2009
China deploys HQ9 SAM missiles in Baoji, Shanxi province. The Baoji HQ9 battalion consists of 8 launch vehicles. Three other HQ9 missiles have been deployed in Shanxi province.

9 December 2009
Jiuquan Space Launch Center launches a remote sensing satellite the Yaogan VII. The satellite is expected to aid scientific experimentation, land resources survey, crop yield estimates and disaster prevention and reduction. The CZ-2D rocket carried the satellite into orbit.

26 November 2009
Indonesia purchases the C-802 Chinese cruise missile to be installed on the PT PAL coastal patrol ship. The C-802 is a cruise missile with a range of 300 kilometers equipped with inertial guidance GPS system. The C-802 has been exported to Iran, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Thailand, and Myanmar.

17 November 2009
China is developing an anti-ship ballistic missile capable of striking carrier battle groups beyond visual range. The missile will have a range of 900 miles (1500 km), and will be fired from a mobile land based launcher. China is also developing a beyond visual range. The radar system is named SKY wave and is capable of detecting naval vessels up to 18600 miles (3000 km) away.

2 November 2009
Qian Xuesen, the father of China space technology program and critical actor in the development of China's first ballistic missile, passes away at the age of 98. Qian retired in 1991, but his research was essential to the development of the CZ-2F which was used for China's first manned space flight mission. Qian was born in 1911 in Hangzhou Zhejiang province. He was awarded a scholarship to attend graduate school at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and later attended the California Institute of Technology where he assisted in the creation of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. During World War II, Qian helped design missile technology for the U.S. military. However, in 1955, during the height of McArthyism, he was deported back to China. Upon returning to China, Qian began China's first missile and rocket research institute.

30 October 2009
The Hainan Satellite launch center begins construction near the city of Wenchang. This will be the fourth satellite launch center, and will replace the launch center in Xichang. The location of the launch site in the Longlou town is 800 meters from the seaside. The site was chosen, because of its proximity to the equator which affords energy saving opportunities. The lower the latitude of the launch the greater the centrifugal force. The new launch site

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will be ready in 2013, and will be responsible for geosynchronous orbit, polar orbiting, large space stations, and deep space exploration.

13 October 2009
Russia and China sign a ballistic missile and space launch vehicles notification agreement. The agreement was signed by Russian First Deputy Defence Minister Aleksandr Kolmakov and Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army Ma Xiaotian. The two nations recognize the importance of the agreement which will strengthen cooperation and trust between the two nations.

1 October 2009
China Communist Party and the People Liberation Army celebrate their 60th anniversary. The grand military parade showcases technological advancement in all branches of the military. Among the 108 missiles that are part of the parade, the PLA displays new indigenously developed missiles, the DF-15B, DF-11A, MRBM DF-21C, DF-31A, and the first public appearance of the Changjian long sword (CJ-10) cruise missile. Furthermore, the new anti-ship ballistic missile DF-21D will also be displayed. The missile has maneuverable fins to improve accuracy when attacking moving vessels at sea.

21 September 2009
Indonesia purchased three Chinese Qianwei-3 portable surfaces-to-air missiles (SAM) units. The Chinese SAM units developed by the Chinese Precision Machinery Import-Export Corporation (CPMIEC) will be based in Jakarta, Madiun, and East Java at the Iswahyudi Air force base.

10 September 2009
A United Arab Emirates (UAE) Hercules C130 transport aircraft is detained in Calcutta, India. The aircraft is carrying an undeclared missile bound for Xianyang, Shaanxi province China. The United States and Europe have delivered numerous missiles to the UAE fear unauthorized trade of sensitive missile technology to China. U.S. and France are concerned about the transfer of three missiles, French MICA Beyond Visual Range Air to Air Missile, U.S. AGM-65 Maverick Air to Ship missile, and the A/R/UGM-84 Harpoon anti-ship missiles. U.S. embassy officials investigated the plane and found no U.S. Missiles on board. The plane continued the cargo delivery to Xianyang, China. An unidentified Chinese defence official states that the arms were from the International Defense Exhibition and Conference held in April of this year.

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2 September 2009
China will display five new types of domestically manufactured missiles at the National Day military parade on 1 October. The five missiles include the DF-41 ICMB, the JL-2 SLBM, as well as conventional cruise missiles and medium- and short-range ballistic missiles. The DF-41 and JL-2 are China's latest domestically designed and manufactured ballistic missiles.
—"National Day Parade Will Showcase New PLA Arsenal," South China Morning Post Online, 3 September 2009;

18 August 2009
China's efforts to develop a maneuvering warhead for its theater ballistic missiles increasingly concern the U.S. Navy as it would increase the threat to U.S. warships in the western Pacific. Consequently the U.S. Navy is undertaking more efforts to defend the fleet against ballistic missile attacks through development of the SM-3 sea-based interceptor missile and upgrades to the Aegis combat system. The weak spot of Chinese anti-access strategies, however, remains China's targeting capability, which currently consists of ground-based over-the-horizon radars that make the targeting of moving ships on the high seas difficult.

14 August 2009
China's new Xi'an H-6K cruise missile bomber is spotted at the People's Liberation Army Air Force (PLAAF) Central Flight Test Establishment (CFTE) at Yanliang airbase in Xi'an. The H-6K is based in the Tupolev Tu-16 Badger from the 1950s and has undergone several steps of improvement. The bombers wings have been redesigned and strengthened in order to allow it to carry six weapons externally. Possible equipped weapons are the YJ-62 anti-ship missile, or a Tomahawk-type cruise missile.

6 August 2009
In a new study concerning a possible Chinese attack in Taiwan, Rand Corp. concluded that China might be able to dominate the air in a surprise attack, however, the need of launching a full ground assault, coupled with the resulting international and economic consequences make such a scenario unlikely in the near future.

30 July 2009
Since 2004 China has constructed about 60 Type 022 (Hubei-class) guided-missile fast attack crafts (FAC). The Type 022 weighs 220 tones in full displacement, has a maximum speed of 36 knots with a range of 300 nautical miles (nm) and is operated by a crew of twelve. Based on a catamaran design the Type 022 has important features to reduce radar, visual, acoustic and infrared signatures. It is armed with eight 120 km-range YJ-83 (C-803) anti-ship cruise missiles (ASCMs). The Type 022 is a significant step to control China's near seas as part of its anti-access strategy.

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17 June 2009
At the end of their summit, Dmitry Medvedev and Hu Jintao adopt a joint declaration in which Russia and China declare that they consider international security as indivisible and universal. Countries could not guarantee their security at the expense of other countries’ security including through the installation and global and regional missile defense systems. Furthermore, Russia and China support the peaceful use of outer space and oppose the deployment of weapons in space.

15 June 2009
Larry Wortzel, vice chairman of the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission says in a hearing by the panel focused in the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) that “China has made great strides modernizing its naval forces.” Additionally, Wortzel describes China’s effort to develop the capacity to deny regional access as credible. According to Wortzel, Chinese writings on doctrine emphasize the need for the control of the seas through missiles, electronics and information technologies that span the surface, subsurface, air and space.

4 June 2009
The new report "Ballistic and Cruise Missile Threat" published by the National Air and Space Intelligence Center (NASIC) describes China’s ballistic missile program as the most active one in the world. The report further sets the range of China’s modified CSS-5 (DF-21) medium-range, anti-ship ballistic missile to 900 miles. Furthermore, the U.S. intelligence community estimates that in just over two months, China’s ICMBs have increased by 25 percent. The report lists China s having 50 land-based missiles capable of reaching the United States and further estimates that this number will increase well over 100 in the next 15 years.

1 June 2009
Lisa Curtis, senior research fellow at the Heritage Foundation, testifies before the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission that China has provided missile manufacturing expertise and facilities to Pakistan and is Islamabad’s largest defense supplier. According to Curtis, Beijing has provided Pakistan with M-11 (DF-11) short-range missiles, built a ballistic-missile manufacturing facility near the city of Rawalpindi and assisted with the development the 750 km ranged solid-fuelled Shaheen-1 ballistic missile. She further noted that Beijing helped Pakistan to build nuclear reactors. Curtis identifies countering Indian influence in the region and diverting its military force away from China as the major reasons for Chinese assistance to Pakistan.

22 May 2009
China’s Military Training and Arms Department of the General Staff Headquarters states that the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) Second Artillery Corps (SAC) will be assigned to secondary military operations other than war (MOOTW). Its engineers will specialize in future emergencies involving transportation facilities.

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23 April 2009
China celebrates the 60th anniversary of the People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) and hold a large naval parade off the coastal city of Qingdao in the Yellow Sea. The event witnessed the first public appearance of China’s nuclear submarines Long March 6 (Xia-class/Type 092 SSBN) and Long March 3 (Han-class/Type 091 nuclear attack submarine) which led the parade. PLAN, however, did not display any of its more modern submarines. China displayed 25 vessels and 31 aircraft together with 21 vessels from 14 foreign countries.

22 April 2009
Wu Shengli, member of the Central Military Commission and Commander of the People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN), says that all coastal defense units have been armed with guided anti-ship and surface-to-air missiles, replacing coastal and anti-aircraft artillery. According to Wu, coastal defense units are becoming a new type of service arm, capable of air defense at key locations and over off-shore waters. Fielding the new generation of longer range shore-to-ship missiles also enhances the ability keep enemies out of the range of their weapon systems.

8 April 2009
A grand jury in New York City handed down an indictment on Chinese national Li Fangwei and his company Limmt Economic and Trade Company, as well as six Iranian firms, for using New York banks to finance the sale of high-strength metals to the Defense Industries Organization, an arm of the Iranian military. The materials can be used for long-range missile and nuclear weapons production, including engine nozzles and centrifuges. Eight alias firms that Li used to circumvent U.S. nonproliferation related trade controls were also identified. Li was charged with conspiracy to conceal bank transactions related to the sales. Li resides in China and is unlikely to be extradited to the United States for trial.

8 April 2009
A New York court charges the Chinese executive Li Fang Wei and his company Limmt Economic and Trade Company, as well as six Iranian firms of using New York banks to finance the sale of high-strength metals to the Defense Industries Organization, an arm of the Iranian military. The materials can be used for long-range missile and nuclear weapons production, including engine nozzles and centrifuges. Eight alias firms were identified that Li used to circumvent export controls. Li was charged with conspiracy to conceal bank transactions related to the sales.
—Colum Lynch, "Chinese Firm Indicted in Sales to Iran," Washington Post, 8 April 2009, in Lexis-Nexis,

Related content is available on the website for the Nuclear Threat Initiative, www.nti.org.
1 April 2009
The U.S. Naval Institute reports that China has developed a long-range anti-ship ballistic missile that holds U.S. Navy aircraft carrier groups at risk. The missile is based on the DF-21 medium-range ballistic missile (MRBM) and has a range of 2,000km. The report says that the new missile is difficult to locate and track on radar because of its complex guidance system, low radar signature, and a maneuverability that makes its flight path unpredictable.

25 March 2009
The 2009 Pentagon report on the "Military Power of the People's Republic of China" states that China has the most active missile program in the world. China is constantly modernizing its intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) and started deploying the new DF-31 and DF-31A ICMBs. Furthermore, two of the new Jin-class (Type 094) ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs) are believed to have already entered into service. In addition, China is developing quiet attack submarines, advanced anti-ship cruise and ballistic missiles, wire-guided and wake-homing torpedoes as anti-access and area-denial weapons, extending its capacities beyond the nation's borders.

8 March 2009
The China Aerospace Science & Industry Corp. (CASIC) announces the establishment of a scholarship worth 5million RMB for aerospace research in the five prestigious universities: Tsinghua University, Harbin Institute of Technology, Beihang University, Beijing Institute of Technology, and Northwestern Polytechnical University. The scholarship will be available for undergraduate and post graduate students. CASIC is a centrally administered, state-owned corporation which focuses on research and development of missile systems, launch vehicle and other aerospace equipment.

3 March 2009
China's large-thrust carrier rocket Long March (Changzheng or CZ) 5 uses less fuel for the same load than any other rocket except Boeing's Delta 4 Heavy, says Liang Xiaohong, vice president of the China Academy of Launch Vehicle Technology. The rocket is still under development and scheduled to be brought into service in 2014. Its "carrying capacity factor" (a key parameter reflecting a rocket's performance) is 0.0146, compared to 0.0175 of the Delta 4 Heavy. The higher the factor, the less fuel is needed. The Long March 5 has a payload capacity of 25 tons and is expected to send lunar rovers, large satellites and space stations into space. The rocket will be launched from a new satellite launch center in Wenchang, the southernmost island of Hainan, which will also be operational in 2014.

15 February 2009
Taiwan Mainland Affairs Council (MAC) Chairwomen Lai Shin-yuan states that China has increased the number of short-range missiles targeting Taiwan to about 1,500. According to Lai, China increased the number of missiles last year although tensions eased after the election in Taiwan of President Ma Ying-jeou. "In this period of warmth, a

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war won’t break out, but don’t forget China still has 1,500 missiles aimed at Taiwan — more than 1,500 — and that's not right," Lai said.

5 February 2009
According to the United States Office of Naval Intelligence the People’s Liberation Army Navy's (PLAN) submarines completed twelve patrol missions in 2008 compared with seven in 2007, and two in 2006. Compared with western navies the PLAN's submarines activity rate remains low, whereas it is higher compared with the Russian Federation Navy, which completed seven missions in 2008. According to *Jane's Navy International* none of the PLAN's ballistic missile submarines (SSBNs) has conducted any deterrent patrols. China's Xia-class SSBN became operational in 2003; however, its status is uncertain. Furthermore five of the new Jin-class SSBNs remain under construction at Huludao Shipyard in Liaoning province, the first of which became operational in 2007.

2008

27 December 2008
China sends warships outside its territorial waters for the first time in centuries. Three ships are being sent from Sanya in Hainan province to help with international efforts to combat pirates and protect Chinese vessels in the Gulf of Aden, off the Somali coast. The flagship of the fleet is the Wuhan, a multi-purpose missile destroyer equipped with 16 anti-ship missiles, 48 surface-to-air missiles, close-in weapons systems and a helicopter. One other ship was identified as the Haikou, the People's Liberation Army Navy's latest destroyer model.

17 November 2008
The Taiwanese Minister of National Defense Chen Chao-min states that China deploys new YJ-62A subsonic anti-ship cruise missiles along its southeastern coast. The YJ-62A has a maximum range of 400km and can also be used as a land attack cruise missile (LACM). This puts the entire Taiwan area and its maritime territory within range.

12 September 2008
*Indo-Asian News Service* reports that China actively helps Bangladesh to build up a missile arsenal. Concerning its missile program Bangladesh depends almost entirely on Chinese hardware and technology. The first missile test was conducted on 12 May 2008 and successfully fired a C-802A anti-ship cruise missile with active participation of Chinese experts. India accuses China of arming South Asian nations surrounding India with missile systems.

2 September 2008
The United States Treasury Department lifts sanctions against China Great Wall Industry Corp. The Chinese government’s international aerospace trading company was accused of supplying Iran with ballistic missile technology in 2006. Great Wall Industry convinced the Treasury Department that it had implemented reforms.

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Furthermore China recognized United States law and international agreements against missile proliferation. The Treasury Department had frozen Great Wall Industry's assets in the United States to prevent it from doing business in the United States.

2007

24 November 2007
The East and South China Sea fleets of the People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) hold a large scale campaign level exercise. The exercise was conducted east of Taiwan and north of the Philippine archipelago. The objectives were to envelope and simulate a pincer attack on Taiwan from the sea. Kilo-class submarines bought from Russia successfully launched Russian-made SS-N-27 "Club" anti-ship cruise missiles for the first time during the exercise. The SS-N-27 can carry a 250kg warhead and has a range of 220km.

4 November 2007
In a statement during the 17th Congress of the Chinese Communist Party, Chinese President and chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC) Hu Jintao urges the Second Artillery Force (SAF; or SAC, the Second Artillery Corps), China's strategic missile troops, to improve its capabilities quickly. Hu also praised the SAF for its modernization progress in recent years.

13 September 2007
Pakistan tries to buy air-to-air missiles from the French company MBDA and radars from Thales for the JF-17 jet fighter it is developing with China. Through this deal, the technology could be transferred to China despite the European arms embargo on China. Because the same missiles and a similar type of radar are also being used by Taiwan’s French-built Mirage jet fighters, the deal could compromise the effectiveness of Taiwan’s defenses.

26 July 2007
China states that reports about Chinese missiles being shipped to Iraq through Iran are misleading and wrongly discredit China. Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao made the statement after a U.S. military spokesman in Baghdad said Chinese-made missiles were found in Iraq. Liu Jianchao's statement does not rule out the possibility that Chinese missiles could be in Iraq, but pointed out that China has strict export controls and does not sell weapons to non-state entities in recent years.

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20 July 2007
China reveals the new DF-25 medium-range ballistic missile as part of its military buildup of nuclear and conventional forces. The DF-25 has a range of 2,000 miles and can carry up to three nuclear warheads. In addition, a new version of the DF-21 short-range ballistic missile, the CSS-6, was revealed. The DF-21 is China's first anti-ship ballistic missile designed to target U.S. aircraft carriers and other warships.

3 June 2007
China participates in the annual Shangri La dialogue on Asia-Pacific security in Singapore for the first time. The leader of the Chinese delegation, Lt. Gen. Zhang Qinsheng, rejects the notion of a Chinese threat to the region. U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates offers to brief China on the U.S. missile defense system as assurance that China's nuclear deterrent is not threatened. In the past, China had criticized American and Japanese missile defense plans against North Korean missiles.

7 May 2007
China tests the PL-12 active radar-guided air-to-air missile from a J-11B, as well as two variants of the KD-88 tactical air-to-surface missile and the anti-radiation missile (ARM) YJ-91. The KD-88, in its final stage of development, is turbojet-powered with a ventral intake. The KD-88 will provide the People’s Liberations Army Air Force (PLAAF) with an indigenous family of weapons to meet requirements currently being met by buying Russian products.

9 April 2007
Aviation Week & Space Technology reports that China is accelerating flight testing of new medium- and long-range ballistic missiles. Based on information provided by U.S. Air Force Defense Support Program (DSP) missile warning spacecraft, China is demonstrating a wide range of new tactics. According to the report, China’s missile testing equals the scale of the Soviet Union’s missile buildup of the 1960s and is near war-time production of missiles.

23 March 2007
The China National Precision Machinery Import & Export Corporation (CPMIEC) confirms that China's P12 tactical surface-to-surface missile (SSM) system is undergoing its final tests. The solid-propellant missile has a range of 50 to 150km and has a launch weight of around 2,070kg, of which 450kg is the warhead. On 19 April the CPMIEC states that the P12 will be offered on the export market, along with the B611, which is also a solid-propellant SSM. The B611 has a range of 60 to 260km, and a launch weight of 2,183kg of which 480kg is the warhead.

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5 March 2007
China introduces the indigenously developed PL-12 active radar-guided air-to-air missile, which will be carried by the new J-10 fighter jet. The missile is in its final development stages. The PL-12 has the capability of hitting targets beyond visual range, and is being developed by a Chinese missile manufacturer in Luoyang. Russian firms are also providing several components to the design (including the seeker and inertial navigation systems). At the same time the J-11B, a version of the Sukhoi Su-27 Flanker with Chinese radar, is also being equipped with the PL-12. This combination poses a greater threat to Taiwan than the PL-12/J-10 combination, as the J-11B will carry six PL-12 and four infrared dogfight missiles. Furthermore, its radar has a longer acquisition range and a wider combat radius. Taiwan tries to counter China’s latest weapons by buying 218 of the latest Raytheon AIM-120C7 advanced medium-range air-to-air missiles (Amraam) from the United States. This deal is part of a $421-million weapons package, which also includes 235 Raytheon AGM-65G2 Maverick air-to-ground missiles.

2 March 2007
The U.S. Office of Navy Intelligence (ONI) publishes a report concerning China’s naval buildup. According to the report China is developing five new nuclear-powered missile submarines (SSBNs), identified as Type 094, each equipped with 12 new 8,000-km range JL-2 missiles. With sea trials already being conducted, the missiles are likely to be deployed next year. China’s broader nuclear forces buildup also includes the deployment of the new long-range land-based nuclear missiles DF-31 and DF-31A, as well as land-attack cruise missiles. ONI states China is working to achieve a force of 120 long-range nuclear missiles. These could also carry multiple warheads, as China is thought to have already acquired the needed technology. Furthermore, the ONI report says this build-up "will provide China with a modern and robust sea-based nuclear deterrent force." In addition to a submarine force, surface ships are also being developed to defend sea lines of communication (SLOCs). According to ONI, China is likely to operate an aircraft carrier by 2020.

22 January 2007
China increases the number of missiles aimed at Taiwan to 900. These include the short-range M-11 (300km) and M-9 (600km) missiles. According to a U.S. intelligence source, China also starts to deploy Donghai (East Sea) cruise missiles, similar to the U.S. Tomahawk cruise missile. Chinese missile forces mainly operate in Fujian, Guangdong, and Jiangxi Province. Roger Cliff, a senior researcher at Rand Corporation states that Taiwan’s air force, fuel depots, and radar stations would not survive a first missile strike from China.

11 January — 23 March 2007
China conducts an anti-satellite missile test, using a ground-based medium-range ballistic missile. The missile is launched from Xichang Space Center to destroy an aging Feng Yun 1C (FY-1C) polar orbit satellite (launched in 1999) about 865km above the earth and 4 degrees west of the Xichang Satellite Launch Center, through kinetic impact. The successful test comes after three misses on 30 November 2006, 20 April 2006, and 26 October 2005. Australia, Canada, the United States, Japan, South Korea, the United Kingdom, and Russia formally express their concern about the test of an anti-satellite (ASAT) weapon. The ASAT test is regarded as a message to the United States after it rejected China’s and Russia’s UN proposal to ban all space-based weapons. On 16 March, 2007,

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China asserts that the test did not target any specific country and calls for the signing of a new international treaty on peaceful utilization of outer space.

On 23 March Jane's Intelligence Digest reports that the ASAT test has produced a large amount of debris, threatening U.S. reconnaissance satellites as well as the International Space Station (ISS).


5 January 2007

China reveals its newest generation of fighter aircraft, the Jian-10, developed by the China Aviation Industry Corporation I (AVIC I). Additionally, new fourth-generation air-to-air missiles are introduced. China is the fourth country in the world to develop its own advanced fighter aircraft.


2006

29 December 2006

In its newly released white paper on national defense, China warns that the situation in Northeast Asia is getting "more complicated and serious." With U.S.-Japanese efforts to build a regional missile defense system, as well as a U.S.-Japanese missile being developed, China believes its position in the region and influence over Taiwan is being affected negatively. Furthermore, the white paper states that the capabilities of the PLA's Second Artillery Corps (or SAC, China's strategic nuclear missile force) increased significantly.


21 November 2006

The U.S.-China Economic Security Review Commission publishes a report stating that China's military buildup aims at sinking U.S. aircraft carriers and denying U.S. forces to access to the Asia-Pacific region. Daniel Blumenthal, a former Pentagon official, commented on the report stating that China's weapons include ten types of ballistic and cruise missiles, and that approximately 800 missiles are aimed at Taiwan. According to Blumenthal, China's new DF-21C ballistic missile is capable of attacking ships at sea and defeating shipborne missile defenses.


8 November 2006

A former defense contractor and Indian-born citizen, Noshir S. Gowadia, provides technical assistance to China in developing a cruise missile defense system, including a radar-evading stealth exhaust nozzle. In addition, he helps China modify a cruise missile so it can intercept U.S. air-to-air missiles. Mr. Gowadia is charged with spying in a federal indictment released by prosecutors in Hawaii. He pleads not guilty, and his trial is scheduled for July.


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31 October 2006
At China's international air show in Zhuhai, the state-owned China Aerospace Science and Industry Corporation (CASIC) shows its complete anti-ship missile production line for the first time: The C-701 (YJ-7 in China), a compact, lightweight missile used by small attack craft or by mobile land-based batteries; the C-704; the C-801/802 (YJ-8/82), China's most sophisticated anti-ship missile; and the C-602 (YJ-62), technically an anti-ship cruise missile. At the show, Chinese Defense Minister Colonel General Cao Gangchuan shows interest in the new Russian Kh-31P supersonic anti-ship missile, made by the Tactical Missile Corporation. The Tactical Missile Corporation already supplies China with such designs as the Kh-31 supersonic anti-ship missile, the RVV-AE air-to-air missile and the Kh-59 air-to-surface missile. According to Director General Boris Obnosov, China is also interested in after-sale servicing.

5 September 2006
China tests a Dongfeng-31 ICBM, from the Wuzhai launch site to an impact site in the Taklimakan desert. China informs Russia about the test in advance. Russian space control tracks the missile stating that the head section of the missile flew about 2500 kilometers. The Dongfeng-31 will be ready for deployment this year, and its improved version, the Dongfeng-31A, will be put into service in 2007.

3 August 2006
The first of the new Chinese Type 051C Luzhou-class guided missile destroyer (DDG) Shijiazhuang, currently fitted in Dalian, is believed to have a tactical missile defense (TMD) capability and is able to defeat air threats. It is expected to join the Northern fleet for missile-defense duties. The main armament consists of 48 S-300F (SA-N-6 'Grumble-C') surface-to-air missiles.

28 July 2006
The Armed wing of Hezbollah fires a radar-guided C-802 anti-ship cruise missile at an Israeli naval gunboat blockading Lebanon. The supply trail goes from China to Iran, and into Lebanon through Syria. Influenced by the U.S. use of long-range, land-attack cruise missiles during Operation Desert Storm, China and Iran started developing similar weapon systems. Iran started importing Chinese C-802 anti-ship cruise missiles. By 1996 when China suspended the deal due to U.S. pressure, Iran had received about 75 of the expected 150 missiles. The C-802 can carry a 165kg warhead over a range of 120km.

13 June, 2006
The U.S. government issues sanctions on four Chinese companies and one U.S. company under Executive Order 13382, for supplying Iran's military with missile-related and other dual-use components. The Chinese companies are Beijing Alite Technologies Company Ltd., LIMMT Economic and Trade Company Ltd., China Great Wall Industry Corporation (CGWIC), and China Precision Machinery Import-Export Company, while the U.S. company, G.W.

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Aerospace Co., is a U.S. representative office of CGWIC. The sanctions prohibit transactions between the designated companies and U.S. entities, and freeze the companies' assets in U.S. jurisdictions. All four Chinese companies have been sanctioned by the U.S. government in the past for similar activities, under the Iran Nonproliferation Act and other executive orders.


23 May 2006
The Pentagon releases its annual report to congress on China’s military power. The report states that China’s future military strategy, although the primary focus remains on Taiwan, aims at enhancing its power projection capabilities in order to increase its influence in Asia. According to the Pentagon’s report, the PLA will focus on long range targets by developing new long-range cruise missiles, precision weapons, guidance systems and anti-satellite (ASAT) capabilities. Furthermore, it highlights Chinese weapon purchases from Russia including the Novator 3MS4E (SS-N27B Sizzler) anti-ship missile and the S-300PMU2 long-range air-defense system.

In addition, China is upgrading its nuclear intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM). The new three-stage, road-mobile, solid fueled, 7,250km range DF-31 will become operational this year, while the 11,270km range DF-31A will become operational next year. Moreover, the JL-2 submarine launched ballistic missile (SLBM), which will primarily be deployed in the new Type-094 submarines, will follow by 2010.


18 May 2006
Jane’s Missiles and Rockets reports that according to a report by the Taiwanese Ministry of National Defense, China’s ground-launched land-attack cruise missile (LACM) capability is now operational. The 821st Missile Brigade of the PLA is Luorong, Guangxi province, is in charge of the new cruise missiles. The type of the LACM is believed to be the DH-10.


1 May 2006
China buys Vympel RW-AE AA-12 ‘Adder’ advanced radar active-homing air-to-air missiles from Russia. China already bought 1,500 and will procure an additional 100 in 2006. The RW-AE will be equipped to the Su-27, the Su-30MKK, and the Su-30MK2 aircraft in Chinese service.


10 April, 2006
Aviation Week and Space Technology reports that a radar-guided version of the Chinese C-701 cruise missile was recently tested in Iran during military exercises. Recent military cooperation between China and Iran includes transfers of C-701 and C-802 anti-ship cruise missiles, called the Kosar and Noor in Iran, respectively. The C-701 with radar-guided capabilities was first exhibited in 2004 by China Precision Machinery Import-Export Company at an air show in Zhuhai, China.


Related content is available on the website for the Nuclear Threat Initiative, www.nti.org.
7 April 2006
The PLA successfully tests a new surface-to-air missile system (SAM) at a desert site in northwestern China. Two targets were destroyed, one simulating a high-altitude reconnaissance aircraft and the other simulating a missile of unspecified type. The missiles are believed to be an improved version of the HQ-9 SAM.

7 March 2006
On Saturday China announces an increase of its military budget for this year by 14.7 percent, to 283.8 billion Yuan (35.1 billion dollars). Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing defends the rising of China's military budget, claiming that China's rapid development would pose no threat to other nations. Taiwan's Defence Ministry responds stating that China has deployed 784 missiles targeting Taiwan. Chen Chang-hua, intelligence officer of the defense ministry says, "With those weapons, the mainland is capable of launching five rounds of attacks for consecutively 10 hours at our airports' runways, power generation plants and military logistic units."

3 March 2006
Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense (MND) estimates that 700-800 Chinese DF-11 (M-11) and DF-15 (M-9) short-range ballistic missiles (SRBM) are targeting Taiwan. The missiles are located at Leping and Ganxian in Jinagxi province; at Meizhou in Guangdong province; and at Yongan and Xianyou in Fujian province. Taiwan's MND estimates that the number of missiles will be increased to 1,800 by 2010.

1 March 2006
Army Lt. Gen. Michael Maples tells the Senate Arms Services Committee that "one of China's top military priorities is to strengthen and modernize its strategic nuclear deterrent force by increasing its size, accuracy and survivability," and that Chinese missile expansion will "enhance their coercion and deterrence value and overcome ballistic missile defenses." Gen. Maples also said that Beijing is building a submarine-launched ballistic missile, the 8,000-mile range JL-2, and has been flight-testing it and two other long-range missiles. Deployment is expected in the next four years.

9 February – 17 May, 2006
On 9 February, a Florida federal grand jury indict two men charged with attempted illegal export of military equipment to China. Ko-Suen Moo, a Taiwanese South Korean citizen, and Maurice Serge Voros, a French national, have been accused of violations of the Arms Export Control Act including the attempted export of an F-16 fighter jet engine, Blackhawk helicopter engines, cruise missiles, and air-to-air missiles to the PRC, and face sentences of up to 20 years in prison.

On 11 March, the Albany, NY Federal District Court indicts Jun Wang of Albany, for conspiracy to violate the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), and the Export Administration Act. Wang allegedly tried to export electronics used in unmanned aerial vehicle, missile, and torpedo flight control systems to China without an export license.

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On 17 May Ko-Suen Moo pleads guilty to being a covert Chinese agent, conspiracy to broker and export U.S. defense items and attempting to pay a $500,000 bribe to win release from custody. Moo faces up to 30 years in prison and fines of $2 million at sentencing, which was not immediately scheduled.


17 January 2006
Jane’s Defense Weekly reports that the PLA is equipping its 600km-range DF-15 (CSS-6) short-range ballistic missile and the DF-21 (CSS-5) 2,150km-range, or 2,500km for the DF-21A model, medium-range ballistic missile with terminal guidance capabilities. The latest version, the DF-21C is likely to be equipped with maneuvering re-entry vehicles (MRVs) with radar or infra-red seekers.


14 January 2006
China's participation in the European Union's Galileo global navigation system raises serious security issues with the United States. Galileo technology could improve precision-strike capabilities of China's new land-attack and anti-ship cruise missiles, long-range surface-to-air missiles, and anti-radiation missiles currently under development.

The Chinese government has already invested about $240 million in the project.


2005
26 December 2005
U.S. State Department spokesman Adam Ereli announces that the Bush administration has imposed new sanctions on Chinese companies it believes have aided Iran's missile program. The companies include North Industries Corporation (NORINCO), China Aero-technology Import and Export Corporation (CATIC), Hongdu Aviation Industry Group, the Limmt Metallurgy and Minerals Company, Ounion (Asia) International Economic and Technical Cooperation Ltd. and the Zibo Chemet Equipment Company. The sanctions economic impact will likely be limited however, due to the fact that the companies are already barred from doing business with the United States.


18-20 October 2005
U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld travels to Beijing and becomes part of the first U.S. delegation to visit the headquarters of China's nuclear armed forces, the Second Artillery. During his trip Rumsfeld tells a symposium at the Chinese Military Academy for Science that China's expanding ballistic missile forces gives "cause for concern" among "a number of countries with interests in this region." Second Artillery commander General Jing

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Zhiyuan assures Rumsfeld that China will abide by its "no first use" policy with regards to its nuclear weapons. The U.S. Department of Defense also asked to visit China's military command center in Western Hills but this request was turned down.


14 October 2005

After the successful of China's Shenzou-6 manned spacecraft on 12 October, the Russian Federal Space Agency (Roskosmos) issues a statement on its official website which says that "Russia does not cooperate with China in the field of missile technologies."


1 September 2005

The Information Office of China's State Council issues a white paper on Beijing's official nonproliferation policy entitled "China's Endeavors for Arms Control, Disarmament and Nonproliferation." The document states with regards to missile proliferation that "China advocates the establishment of a fair and non-discriminatory multilateral mechanism universally accepted by the international community in the field of missile non-proliferation." The white paper also says that while China is not a member of the Hague Code of Conduct Against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (HCOC) it is making "joint efforts" with all subscribing states and relevant parties to prevent ballistic missile proliferation.


14 July 2005

Major Gen. Zhu Chengdu, a dean at China's National Defense University, tells The Wall Street Journal and The Financial Times that "if the Americans draw their missiles and position-guided ammunition into the target zone on China's territory, I think we will have to respond with nuclear weapons." Maj. Gen Zhu made the comments The Chinese Foreign and Defense Ministries declined to comment in response to Major-Gen. Zhu's remarks.


18 June 2005

According to Japanese government sources China test launches its Ju Lang-2 submarine launched ballistic missile (SLBM) from a nuclear submarine in waters near Qingdao. The SLBM, whose technology is based off the Dong Feng 31 intercontinental ballistic missile, lands in a Chinese desert several thousand kilometers away.


4 June 2005

During the first session of the Shangri-la Dialogue security forum held at the Shangri-la Hotel in Singapore, U.S.

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Defence Secretary of State Donald Rumsfeld criticizes China for lack of transparency on the amount its military spending. During his speech Rumsfeld asks "Since no nation threatens China, one wonders: Why this growing investment? Why these continuing large and expanding arms purchases?"

18 May 2005
According to Jane's Defence Weekly, China's Poly Technogies has built a prototype stage FB-6A Missile Launch Vehicle mobile air defense system. The system is said to be "nearly identical" to United States Boeing Avenger air defense system.

3 May 2005
Chinese Communist Party Central Committee Taiwan Work Office Deputy Director Wang Zaixi says that Beijing is willing discuss its "issue missile" with Taipei as long as such negotiations occur under the pretext of the "one-China" principle.

18 March 2005
Ukraine's prosecutor-general Svyatoslav Piskun tells the Financial Times that Ukraine exported 6 of its X-55 (Kh-55) cruise missiles to China in 2001. Prosecutor-general Piskun says that a Ukrainian businessman had been arrested last year for making the export and that the deal had been orchestrated by two Russian businessmen. The X-55 has a range of 3000km, giving China the ability to use it to target countries as far away as Japan.

18 February 2005
Senior U.S. intelligence officials tell the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence that China is significantly enhancing its missile capability in order to strengthen its hand in the Taiwan Strait and the region more generally. CIA Director Porter J. Goss tells the committee that China continues to develop more robust survivable nuclear-armed missiles...for use in regional conflict." DIA Director Vice Admiral Lowell Jacoby testifies that China's is increasing the capability and numbers of its ballistic missile arsenal in order to "enhance their coercion and deterrence value and overcome ballistic missile defense systems."

18 January 2005
The New York Times reports that in January 2005 the U.S. State Department issued a one page notice in the Federal Register identifying eight companies sanctioned by the Bush administration for transferring missile-related technology to Iran in violation of the 2000 Iran Nonproliferation Act. Among the companies punished include China North Industry Corporation (NORINCO), China Great Wall Industry, and China Aero-Technology Import and Export Corporation (CATIC). The Federal Register notice did not disclose the specific technology believed to have been

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transferred.

2004

8 October 2004
In a plenary meeting of the Missile Technology Control Regime, the 34 members do not mention China’s bid to join the supplier regime. According to a U.S. official, this implies that the members are not satisfied with China’s efforts to meet nonproliferation standards, and would be concerned about China’s ability to carry out the MTCR’s guidelines. China joined another supplier regime, the Nuclear Suppliers Group, earlier this year, but has also been sanctioned recently on multiple occasions for proliferation activities.

24 September 2004
The U.S. government sanctions the Chinese government-run entities China Xinhidai Company and China New Era Group, for missile technology proliferation to an unnamed recipient. The companies respond by calling the sanctions "groundless".

17 September 2004
According to a report in Jane’s Missiles and Rockets, China tests a new independently-developed long-range land-attack cruise missile. The new missile, designated the Dong Hai-10, has a range of more than 1500 km and has a GPS-based navigation system able to hit targets with accuracy within a 10-meter radius. The report also mentions another land attack cruise missile, the Ying Ji-63, which it predicts will be fielded within the next few years.

18 August 2004
Interaero Inc., a U.S. aircraft parts supplier, pleads guilty to the charges of transferring $40,000 worth of sensitive missile-related equipment to a supplier in China, which in turn planned to trans-ship the equipment to Iran. The transfers, which happened in six installments in 2000 and 2001, violated U.S. export control laws and will result in a $500,000 fine, as well as 5 years of corporate probation.

1 June 2004
Taiwan’s military magazine produces a defense report stating that China is improving the Long March 1D (CZ-1D) rocket which is capable of delivering a nuclear warhead. The CZ-1D rocket’s 200km payload is up to 1,000kg, and its 500km payload is 600kg. This rocket is used primarily as a space launch vehicle. China is also modifying its

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nuclear capable Dongfan-4 (DF-4) and CZ-4D missiles.


25 May 2004
According to a Xinhua news report, the Chinese Ministry of Commerce have fined two Chinese companies for violating Chinese missile technology export control regulations. According to the report, the fines charged to the companies amounted to, "millions of yuan."

3 April 2004
The Bush Administration announces new sanctions under the 2000 Iran Nonproliferation Act, penalizing 13 foreign companies including China North Industries Corp. and China Precision Machinery Import Export Company, as well as companies in 6 other countries. The sanctions reportedly punish transfers of sensitive long-range missile technology, and will prevent US companies from trading with those companies for a period of two years.

17 March 2004
American intelligence officials state that the Chinese military has held five missile tests since the beginning of this year, involving four new missile types including the new Dong Feng-31 Intercontinental Ballistic Missile as well as other medium- and short-range missiles. The tests have come in the months leading up to the Taiwanese presidential elections where a revised referendum on the possible purchase of U.S. missile defense systems will be voted on. The original referendum included language calling for the de-escalation of Chinese missiles aimed at Taiwan and an end to Chinese aggression. This wording was omitted in the new referendum partially because of U.S. pressure against such a provocative measure. Even so, Chinese officials believe the purchase of missile defense systems could represent steps towards Taiwanese independence.

4 January 2004
A Hong Kong news publication reports that the Chinese People’s Liberation Army Second Artillery Corps has recently undergone major high-level personnel restructuring. The corps, which is in charge of China’s nuclear and non-nuclear ballistic missile arsenal, underwent the restructuring last December following an announcement by Taiwanese President Chen Shui-Bian about a precise number of ballistic missiles being aimed towards Taiwan. This caused speculation of an information leak, leading to the formal announcement of the restructuring on December 26. The news report also acknowledged a continuing Chinese military plan to streamline operations as another reason for the restructuring.

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2003

26 November 2003
Gao Zhan, most notably a Chinese human-rights activist, pleads guilty to charges that she illegally sold sensitive US missile technology to the Chinese government in a business transaction. She faces up to 13 years in prison for the US government-controlled Intel 486 DX military microprocessor sales to a Chinese government-controlled defense firm specializing in radar design. However, John Frankenstein, a Chinese defense specialist, argues that these chips are already obsolete compared to the current Chinese defense industry standard, and would be of no significant use to the Chinese military.

18 September 2003
The Bush Administration imposes a new set of sanctions of Chinese export firms for transfers of missile technology, according to State Department officials. The new sanctions, reportedly the harshest to date, will also target the Chinese government by prohibiting any kind of missile-related technology transfers to China, including US satellites being launched on Chinese rockets. Additionally, the sanctions would ban all Chinese imports from China Northern Industries Corp. (Norinco) among other kinds of imports, and would represent lost sales of billions of dollars, according to US officials.

30 July 2003
According to the US Department of Defense’s annual report to Congress on the Military Power of the People's Republic of China, Beijing is not only targeting its coastal stockpile of deployed short-range missiles at Taiwan, but also at US forces in Okinawa. The report estimates China’s coastal stockpile of missiles at around 450, and says that it continues to grow at a rate of about 75 per year. It also states that China is in the process of configuring medium-range missiles targeting Okinawa that could be deployed further inland. The report concludes that one goal of the buildup was to "complicate United States intervention in a Taiwan Strait conflict."

4 July 2003
The Bush Administration imposes sanctions on 6 Chinese entities including China Northern Industries Corp. (Norinco) and China Precision Machinery Import/Export Corp., for a variety of transfers to Iran involving sensitive WMD and missile technology. The materials transferred were not specified, but were in violation of the 2000 Iran Nonproliferation Act. These sanctions come at a time when US leaders are in talks with senior Chinese diplomats regarding the North Korean nuclear program.

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9 May 2003
According to officials in the Bush Administration, sanctions are being levied against North China Industries Corp. (Norinco), one of China’s biggest military-industry conglomerates. Norinco has been accused of selling to Iran specialty steel which could be used for the production of missiles. The two-year sanctions would prohibit any Norinco transactions with US entities, at a reported cost of "hundreds of millions of dollars."

5 March 2003
Boeing Co. and Hughes Electronic Corp., two companies accused of illegal transfers of US space launch technology to China in the mid-1990s, settle their cases by paying the US government a $32 million settlement. The US State Department had pursued the case because of its contention that such transfers could help contribute to the Chinese intercontinental ballistic missile program. In addition to the settlement, the companies agreed to hire a special export controls compliance officer.

7 February 2003
According to a report in Japan’s Daily Yomiuri, China successfully tests a medium-range Dong Feng-21 ballistic missile with Multiple Independently-Targeted Reentry Vehicle (MIRV) technology. The test is the first successful demonstration of Chinese MIRV capability, and is thought to have been developed as a response to the further US development of a ballistic missile defense system in East Asia.

27 January 2003
Indian Foreign Minister Yashwant Sinha expresses his concern over Indian intelligence reports about continuing Chinese assistance in the Pakistani missile program. The reports describe Chinese missile technology proliferation occurring via third parties like North Korea, which Sinha stated may affect the future of Sino-Indian relations.

2 January 2003
US Intelligence officials disclose that the Bush Administration has asked Israel to stop the sale of anti-radar Harpy UAVs to China, citing concerns about the growing threat to Taiwan. The transfers were made sometime in 2002, but due to US concerns, Israel has agreed to cancel all remaining contracts for exports of arms and other security equipment to China.

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2002

20 November 2002
According to US intelligence officials, China test-fires a new supersonic anti-ship cruise missile. The missile, called the Ying Ji-83 (C-803), has a range of about 250 km, much farther than US officials had anticipated.

25 August 2002
PRC Premier Zhu Rongji signs into effect a new 24 article list of missile export control regulations entitled the Regulations of the People’s Republic of China on the Export Control of Missile and Missile-related technology. The list comes after prolonged pressure on Beijing from the US to curb proliferation to countries like Iran and Pakistan. The regulations, which use the original Missile Technology Control Regime standard limiting exports of missiles with 500 kg payloads and 300 kg ranges, will also address dual-use technologies and components as well through a yet-unpublished control list specifying problematic items and technologies. The new measures come at a time when Chinese leaders are hoping to improve Sino-US relations, especially before a presidential summit set to take place in October.

12 July 2002
The Pentagon releases a report which says that China is upgrading the range of its missiles, and has deployed all of its 350 short-range missiles along the Taiwan Strait. The reports discloses that all 20 CSS-4 liquid-fueled intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) will be replaced by longer-range CSS-4 Mod 2s, and that China will start deploying the new solid-fueled DF-31 ICBM mid-decade along with new submarine-launched ICBMs. The report also declares that, apart from Taiwan, the coastal buildup also poses a threat to Japan and the Philippines.
Secretary of State Colin Powell, however, states that he does not see the reported Chinese military buildup as a cause for concern.

25 June 2002
According to Western and Russian sources, China and Russia are in negotiations for a transfer of eight new Russian submarines, worth a reported $1.6 billion. The Project 636 Kilo-class submarines would come equipped with the SS-N-27 Klub (Sizzler) long-range anti-ship cruise missile system, and would be part of a larger $4 billion arms acquisition package including additional Sovremenny-class destroyers capable of firing SS-N-22 Moskit (Sunburn) supersonic anti-ship cruise missiles. These acquisitions, which may take place over the next 4-5 years, could vastly improve China’s ability to blockade Taiwan and threaten US warships.

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20 May 2002
According to a Washington Times report, the US government sanctions Chinese companies including Norinco, Chinese Precision Machinery Import/Export Corporation, for the proliferation of cruise missile technology to Iran, in violation of the 2000 Iran Nonproliferation Act. The technology may be related to Iran’s new ground-launched anti-ship cruise missile program that is based on the Chinese Silkworm. The two-year sanctions would bar US companies from business dealings with the sanctioned Chinese entities.

21 February 2002
During an official visit to Beijing, President Bush pushes for a stronger Chinese commitment against missile proliferation, but no conclusion is reached. US officials had been pressuring China to formulate strict domestic export control laws to limit the sales of missiles and dual use missile components, as well and chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons technology to countries like Iran, Pakistan, and North Korea. The issue was not resolved because of a dispute over the grandfathering of Chinese contracts, and the refusal of the US to allow American companies to launch satellites with Chinese rockets.

9 January 2002
According to the Washington Times a new National Intelligence Council report states that China is converting its silo-based ICBM arsenal to mobile platforms, and may improve its strategic capabilities by developing multiple-warhead technology. The report also projects that the Chinese arsenal will grow from its currently estimated 20 warheads to about 75-100 warheads. The report also goes on to say that China may have abandoned the long-range Dong Feng-31 ICBM program in favor of further upgrading the range of its new Dong Feng-31 ICBM.

2001
31 August 2001
The Bush Administration decides to impose sanctions on Chinese National Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation (CMEC) for supplying Pakistan with missile components for its nuclear-capable Shaheen 1 and 2 ballistic missile programs. The sanctions will be imposed after China’s pledge in November 2000 to stop such proliferation activity, and before President Bush’s upcoming first official visit to China. The sanctions will prevent US companies from launching satellites on Chinese rockets, and will forbid any transfers of US technology to the Chinese satellite industry.

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28 July 2001
Secretary of State Colin Powell meets with Chinese leaders, discussing alleged missile proliferation to Pakistan among other subjects. US diplomats had filed formal complaints about multiple transfers of nuclear-capable missiles and missile technology, which Chinese officials deny, and have not replied to US requests for clarification. Chinese leaders, however, do agree to consult with US experts on domestic missile export guidelines. The issue of grandfathering old contracts is still contentious though, and Powell has not ruled out sanctions as a response to continued proliferation, a marked policy shift from the Clinton administration.

10 June 2001
China test-fires a new type of air-launched land-attack cruise missile, called the Hong Niao (Red Bird). Military experts say that the new missile is an extended-range version of the C-802 anti-ship cruise missile, with a range of at least 177km, and is thought to be a hybrid of Russian Kh-55, US Tomahawk, and Israeli cruise missile technologies.

June 2001
The Journal of Electronic Defense publishes a report that the Chinese military's CSS-7 missiles may be much more of a threat to Taiwan than previously believed, because of the use of extremely accurate American GPS guidance systems. The report stated that the low-cost GPS systems could be easily ordered from 32 American mail-order companies, and had a standard accuracy of 1-5 meters 95% of the time.

15 May 2001
Assistant Secretary of State for Asian and Pacific Affairs James Kelly meets with Chinese arms control and foreign policy officials to make the case for the proposed missile defense system. Chinese officials maintain that the system would endanger global security, and that it would "harm others without benefiting the United States itself."

1 May 2001
At a speech at the National Defense University, President Bush announces plans to pull the US out of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty and calls for the deployment of a missile defense system "to protect the United States and its allies from rogue nuclear nations." The announcement prompted Democrats from the US House of Representatives to express alarm about a possible new arms race with China, which is thought to have approximately 20 nuclear-capable ICBMs in its arsenal and may seek to expand its deterrence capability.
Sun Yuxi, a spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry, says that although opposed to the development of a missile

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defense system, China is willing to engage in negotiations with the US.

21 April 2001
According to a Wall Street Journal report, the Bush Administrations has decided not to sell advanced anti-missile system-equipped Aegis destroyers to Taiwan, but will keep the possibility open depending on developments in Chinese-Taiwanese relations and the Chinese missile buildup. Some senior Pentagon officials had originally pushed for a more overt connection between the Aegis sale and pressure on China to curb missile deployments along the Taiwan straits, but the White House elected to use a less forceful approach.

28 February 2001
US officials accuse Huawei Technologies Company, a private Chinese telecommunications firm, of selling fiber-optic technology to Iraq to rebuild and improve its anti-aircraft missile systems. Such sales go against UN sanctions, and according to officials created a threat, resulting in the bombardment of Iraqi air defenses by US and British warplanes patrolling the no-fly zone in February. Chinese government officials announce they may be willing to investigate the incident.

5 February 2001
According to a senior US military official, the Chinese military is continuing to add short-range missiles to its arsenal deployed along the Taiwan straits, bringing the estimated total up to 300 missiles. The official also stated that China continues to receive high-level missile technology from Russia, naming the Russian company Rosvooruzheniy as "becoming China’s major supplier." In addition to advanced ballistic missile technology, Russia has also been supplying the Chinese military with strategic nuclear warhead technology.

2000
21 November 2000
In response to a pledge from China to rigorously control its missile exports, the US government agrees to resume issuing licenses for US commercial space-launches in China. China promises to configure its export control standards closer to the MTCR, and pledges not to help other countries "in any way" develop nuclear-capable ballistic missiles. The space launch licenses had been suspended since February.

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28 September 2000
The Pentagon approves the sale of a $1.3 billion arms package to Taiwan, including 200 Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missiles (AMRAAM), which under an unusual clause will not be transferred unless China develops a similar air-to-air missile capability. The reasoning behind the clause is to preserve stability of the regional military balance.

11 July 2000
During Defense Secretary William S. Cohen's visit to China, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Sun Yuxi links continued Chinese proliferation of missile technology to U.S. decisions to continue pursuing missile defense. Chinese officials specifically connect Washington's construction of a missile defense system covering Taiwan to Beijing's future transfers to Pakistan and Middle Eastern countries. Conversely, the Clinton administration ties U.S. missile defense efforts with Chinese missile base buildups across the Taiwan Strait.

2 July 2000
According to a U.S. intelligence report, China is continuing to supply missile materials and technology to Pakistan, although it is not believed to shipping completed missile systems as in the past. The reports come in the context of Congress considering a bill designed to punish China for its proliferation activities, while the Clinton administration is trying to normalize trade relations with China.

16 May 2000
According to a spokesman for the Russian military-industrial complex, a 24-missile shipment of Russian Moskit (Sunburn) anti-ship cruise missiles arrives in China. The shipment is the first of two to be made this year.

10 May 2000
In an interview, China's chief arms negotiator Sha Zhukang warns that if the US goes ahead with the deployment of theater missile defense, China will respond with measures like producing more nuclear warheads and developing more effective evasion methods for their missiles. Sha also describes the projected missile defense system as "threatening to China."

1 March 2000
In a statement to the Control Yuan, the Taiwanese army states that Patriot anti-missile systems deployed in Taiwan should have the capability to intercept Chinese M-series missiles. Although a large concentration of Chinese missiles are deployed only 200 km from Taiwan and would allow for little reaction time, Army officials displayed confidence in the Patriot system's quick response time.

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12 February 2000
A Chinese national is detained by customs officials at Los Angeles International Airport for trying to leave the country with sensitive components used in missile guidance systems. The man had told undercover agents that the technology was to be used, "by the Chinese government on missile and reconnaissance systems."

12 February 2000
Taiwan’s Chief of General Staff Tang Yao-ming tells reporters that earlier in the day China sailed a Russian-built Sovremenny-class destroyer through the Taiwan Straits on route to its port of delivery. The ship is the first of two such destroyers to be delivered this year, both armed with Russian anti-ship Sunburn cruise missiles.

1999
8 December 1999
At a National Defense Industrial Association luncheon in Washington, D.C., a Chinese defense official announces Chinese military plans to deploy a modified version of the Dong Feng-31, called the Ju Lang-2, on its ballistic missile submarines.

1 October 1999
Along with its new Dong Feng-31, China parades a new version of its short-range M-11 missile at the National Day military parade. The new missile, also called the CSS-7 Mod 2, has a longer range, larger warhead, and greater accuracy than earlier M-11s, and is being deployed in large numbers in the Taiwan straits region.

15 September 1999
The Hong Kong Standard reports on a new unclassified US intelligence report that China transferred M-11 short-range ballistic missiles to Pakistan. US State Department Deputy Spokesman James Foley says that the transfers could lead to additional sanctions under export control laws.

3 August 1999
A Xinhua news report states that China tested a new ground-to-ground long-range missile. US military experts say

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it was probably the Dong Feng-31, a mobile-platform missile able to deliver a 1,500-pound nuclear warhead a distance of 5,000 miles.

20 July 1999
According to an intelligence report cited in The Washington Times, Beijing is allowing an increase in transfers of missile components and possibly some US-origin technology to North Korea, in response to the NATO bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade, Yugoslavia earlier this year. According to a report in a Hong Kong newspaper, unexploded cruise missiles recovered from the same embassy attack also may have provided China the chance to extract advanced technology to enhance their cruise missile program.

25 May 1999
In the Cox Report, a US congressional panel comes to the conclusion that China has stolen plans for missiles and guidance systems for some of the most sophisticated weapons systems in the US arsenal. The technology may have been a factor in improved guidance and design for the Chinese Long March rocket, which may also be used for launching long-range missiles. In addition, US designed miniaturization technology could give China the capability to equip mobile-platform launched missiles like the Dong Feng-31 with nuclear warheads. Also, the report concludes that China plans to add up to 100 more ICBMs to their deployed missile force within the next 15 years, a significant increase from the current estimate of around 30.

7 April 1999
According to a Wisconsin Project for Arms Control report, military technology transferred to China since 1988 through legal export channels amount to more of a security threat than the recent allegations of Chinese espionage to acquire US warhead and reentry vehicle designs. Among other technology, the report cites precision machine tools and vibration testing gear - components used to develop C-802 and C-801 cruise missiles, and other types of long-range missiles.

8 March 1999
Energy Secretary Bill Richardson orders the firing of Wen Ho Lee, a Chinese-American weapons designer at Los Alamos National Laboratory, over allegations of providing information about the US-designed W-88 warhead to the Chinese government in the late 1980s. The W-88 is the US arsenal’s most advanced miniaturized warhead.

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5 March 1999
A senior Chinese official states at a press conference that the US providing Taiwan with missile defense equipment could be the last straw in US-China relations. The recent transfer of Patriot anti-missile systems, as well as the anticipated sale of Aegis destroyers, would enhance Taiwan's anti-missile capabilities. The official also noted that closer US ties with Taiwan and Japan would amount to a policy of containment.

25 February 1999
The Pentagon releases a report, which concludes that the diversion of China's missiles and other military resources to the Taiwan Straits region is shifting the balance of power between China and Taiwan in China's favor. The report states that the Chinese military's current goals include further development of advanced anti-ship cruise missiles, long-range land attack cruise missiles and short-range ballistic missiles, as well as acquiring missile defenses, space weapons, and "information warfare" capabilities. According to the report, "by 2005, China's People's Liberation Army will possess the capability to attack Taiwan with air and missile strikes which would degrade key military facilities and damage the island's economic infrastructure."

10 February 1999
According to Taiwanese officials, the Chinese military deploys more than 100 additional ballistic missiles along the Straits of Taiwan. The new missiles triple the previous number deployed in that region, and according to officials, is a clear response to discussions of a US "missile defense umbrella" that would cover Taiwan.

9 February 1999
According to Taiwanese Defense Minister Tang Fei, China is making significant progress in developing a cruise missile capability. At his first conference as defense minister, Tang says that the new Chinese cruise missiles are similar to US Tomahawks and Russian SS-N-22s, and that cruise missiles "will eventually pose a far greater threat than ballistic and nuclear arms."

26 January 1999
The Taiwanese newspaper China News reports that a new Patriot missile base will open in Taiwan over the Chinese New Year holiday, in response to the threat from mainland Chinese M-class missiles.

26 January 1999
A Pentagon intelligence report says that the Chinese military conducted exercises in December 1998, simulating missile attacks on Taiwan and US troops in Japan and Korea. According to the report, the simulated firings of CSS-5 (Dong Feng-21) and CSS-2 (Dong Feng-3) missiles "are a sign that China is willing to go to war with the US over the
issue of Taiwan."

12 January 1999
A Chinese foreign ministry official calls for a broadening of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty into a multi-lateral accord including nations other than the US and Russia. The shift in policy reflects the Clinton administration’s recent efforts to continue research on possible national and theater missile defense systems, and repercussions such systems would have on Sino-Japanese and Cross-Straits relations. According to the official, development of an Anti-Ballistic Missile system may result in China developing more powerful and capable missiles.

1998
10 December 1998
According to the Pakistani newspaper Ausaf, Chinese officials and members of the Afghan Taleban government come to a military accord, allowing Chinese experts access to examine intact, unexploded US cruise missiles in Afghanistan.

12 November 1998
US officials protest missile technology transfers from China to Iran at a Beijing meeting to discuss the MTCR. According to US intelligence and national security officials, transfers included telemetry equipment used in testing medium-range missiles, like the Iranian Shahbab-3, or short-range tactical missiles. At the same meeting, Chinese officials protest Taiwan plans to acquire US anti-missile systems as a violation of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.

21 July 1998
Pentagon intelligence officials tell The Washington Times that China will add 8 new CSS-4 Mod 2 (Dong Feng-5a) ICBMs to its stockpile by the end of this year, adding to the 18 nuclear-capable long-range ballistic missiles the CIA reported China has already deployed.

14 July 1998
The Washington Times releases details of an intelligence report stating that Sino-US collaboration on rocket/satellite technology in 1996 may form a "technology bridge" to enable China to deploy multiple re-entry vehicles on strategic missiles. The report speculates that the multiple-warhead technology could be adapted for use with CSS-4 or Dong Feng-41 missiles.

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27 June 1998
Chinese President Jiang Zemin and President Clinton agree to redirect ballistic missiles aimed at each other’s cities at a 25 June - 2 July summit meeting in Beijing. In the framework of spiraling South Asia tensions, the two presidents also agree on a joint statement pledging not to export any nuclear-capable medium- and long-range missiles to India or Pakistan. Also at the summit, President Zemin assents to "actively study" joining the Missile Technology Control Regime.

16 June 1998
The Washington Times divulges details of a 27 May intelligence report on continuing discussions between China and Iran about sales of missile technology. The Chinese assistance will help Iran develop two medium-range ballistic missile systems, the Shahab-3 and Shahab-4, and a short-range missile system, the NP-110. The same Washington Times report discloses a 14 May intelligence report on a visit to Libya by Chinese missile technicians, purportedly to assist with a Libyan missile program.

20 May 1998
The US House of Representatives votes to stop American exports of satellites and satellite technology that could improve the accuracy of Chinese long-range nuclear-capable ballistic missiles. The vote challenges President Clinton’s decision to waive sanctions imposed on China after the 1989 Tiananmen Square incident.

1,2 May 1998
According to a CIA report, 13 of China’s 18 CSS-4 long-range strategic missiles are armed with nuclear warheads and targeting US cities. The report states that this configuration indicates that China regards the US as its "major strategic adversary." On a 2 May CNN program, Defense Secretary William S. Cohen responds by saying that the Chinese missile threat was not a major concern, and expressed confidence in Sino-US relations and the US nuclear deterrent.

13 April 1998
The New York Times references an unreleased 1997 Pentagon report stating that two US companies, Hughes Electronics and Loral Space and Communications, had shared advanced missile guidance technology with China that significantly aided the guidance and control aspects of its long-range missile program. The information had been given while searching for a technical problem that caused a Chinese-boosted Loral satellite to explode during take-off from a Chinese launch site in 1996. The report concluded that because of the transfer, "US national security has been harmed."

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7 April 1998
The Russian company Progress starts production of about 50 3M-80E Moskit (Sunburn) anti-ship cruise missiles for sale to China. A Russian defense sector official states that the missiles, along with two Sovremenny-class destroyers, are expected to be delivered in late 1999. According to retired US Navy rear admiral Eric McVadon, the weapons represent technology an "order of magnitude" superior to Taiwan's current capabilities.

27 March 1998
US Pentagon officials announce that China is developing a new short-range missile called the CSSX-7 (Dong Feng-11), a nuclear-capable two-stage solid propellant missile with a range greater than 185 miles.

12 March 1998
A leaked intelligence memo states that the Clinton administration plans to offer China advanced missile technology, expanded commercial and scientific space co-operation, and support for their bid to enter into the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). In exchange, China would agree to provide assurances that it will not to help Pakistan and Iran with their missile development programs. The deal would waive sanctions imposed for human rights violations from the 1989 Tiananmen Square incident. Proponents of the deal say that it would help curb weapons proliferation and encourage commercial ties between the US and China, but critics point to China's previous violations of MTCR rules, which it had pledged to follow in the past.

20 January 1998
During a meeting between Chinese President Jiang Zemin and Defense Secretary William S. Cohen in Beijing, Jiang gives concrete assurances that China will stop sales of C-802 and C-801 anti-ship cruise missiles to Iran. Cohen, who pressed for the assurances, says this will help assure the security of US ships in the Persian Gulf. The assurances come in the wake of US congressional pressure for President Clinton to take a firmer stance on the issue of Chinese weapons proliferation, and a previous US-China summit agreement to halt the missile exports.

1997

10 December 1997
An article in Flight International says that Russia is working together with China to develop a variant of the Zvezda Strela Kh-31P (AS-17 Krypton) anti-radiation missile known as the KR-1. According to the article the Russian tactical missile design house has already given China a small number of the missiles and that these KR-1 missiles may in fact be the same as the Chinese YJ-91 cruise missiles.

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25 November 1997
The Russian Itar-Tass News Agency quotes Russian the Chief Naval Staff as saying that four destroyers which Russia plans to sell to China may be equipped with state-of-the-art "Yakhont" missiles capable of destroying aircraft carriers and other surface warships. Itar-Tass goes on to say "no navy in the world has the means to combat this missile."

23 October 1997
U.S. Department of Defense Spokesman Kenneth Bacon tells reporters that China has "a small number of intercontinental ballistic missiles that are probably capable of reaching the United States."

18 October 1997
The New York Times reports that Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen has promised U.S. Secretary of State Madeline Albright that China will stop selling C-801 and C-802 cruise missiles to Iran at a meeting that took place in advance of summit to take place between Chinese President Jiang Zemin and U.S. President Bill Clinton.

23 September 1997
A group of American proliferation specialists, including former science advisor to President Reagan and National Defense University researcher Seth Carus tell a Senate subcommittee that older U.S. missile technology is readily available to potential proliferators through declassified files, information on the internet and military surplus dealers. Carus identifies China as a particular problem since Beijing has both taken considerable advantage of U.S. surplus military technology to enhance its own arsenal and has readily sold its own technology other countries such as Pakistan.

10 July 1997
According to the Washington Times a classified Pentagon report says that China is upgrading its intermediate-range ballistic missile nuclear force that is designed to hit targets in Russia and throughout East Asia, including India, Taiwan and Japan.

9 July 1997
According to India’s Pioneer newspaper Indian intelligence reports indicate that China is selling M-11 missiles to Pakistan and that Islamabad is using the technology to build its own medium range ballistic missiles. A spokesman for the Pakistani Ministry of Foreign Affairs declined to comment on the Indian newspaper report.

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31 May 1997
The U.S. State Department issues a 25-page unclassified document to Congress officially stating that it believes China has sold C-802 ship-based anti-ship cruise missiles to Iran. The report was issued in order respond to a number of questions that New York Republican Congressman Gerald B. H. Solomon asked Secretary of State Madeline Albright in February. The report also says that China "has advertised" a land-based version of the C-802 but does not explicitly confirm whether Beijing actually transferred the missile to Iran.

1996

29 October 1996
Taiwanese newspaper Tzu-li Wan-Pao says that the Taipei’s military intelligence estimates that China would begin mass producing its long range DF-31 ballistic missile the following year and will deploy the missile by the year 2000.

23 July 1996
A CIA source tells the Washington Times of an agency classified report that states that the China Precision Machinery Import-Export Corp. (CPMIE), delivered missile-related components to Syria in early June 1996. The report says the CPMIE made the delivery to Scientific Studies and Research Center, a Syrian company that works on ballistic missiles, weapons of mass destruction and advanced conventional arms programs.

20-21 May 1996
A Washington Times article states that there is a secret Defense Intelligence Agency report which posits that China, pretending to buy space launchers, is actually receiving technology and parts from Russia's SS-18 intercontinental ballistic missile technology. The report says that the technology is flowing to China outside of official Russian controls. The next day U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry says that Washington warned both Russia and the Ukraine that it "would be a significant mistake" if they sold the SS-18 missile technology to China.

2 May 1996
An unnamed Beijing source tells the Hong Kong newspaper Sing Tao Jih Pao that China no longer keeps its missile bases at fixed locations and has an Army-people joint system whereby the military works with local police to ensure the secrecy of the missiles’ locations.

22 March 1996
Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofang calls Washington’s sale of Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to

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Taiwan "irresponsible".

8-15 March 1996
China tests four M-9 ballistic missiles whose northwest Taiwan Strait target zones were within a few dozen miles of Kaohsiung, Taiwan’s largest port and northern Keelung harbor. The tests come less than two weeks before Taiwan’s first direct presidential election on 23 March and are widely thought to be an attempt by Beijing to discourage voters from supporting candidates who China believe have a pro-independence agenda such as Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui.

1995

24 December 1995
The Taiwan Times reports that China performed three more Taiwan Strait missile tests on 21 December. This time however, Beijing fired the missiles undetected over the island of Taiwan, whereas previous tests had been conducted to the north of the Republic of China.

15-25 August 1995
China conducts another series of missile tests believed to be a reaction to Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui’s May visit to the United States and to his call for Taiwan to be accorded membership to the United Nations.

21-27 July 1995
China conducts a series of missile tests believed to include as many as seven M-class and Dong-feng-class short and intermediate range ballistic missiles within the Taiwan Strait. On 27 July China’s Xinhua News agency announces that Beijing had completed its missile "training."

22 June 1995
According to a New York Times article a recently finished CIA report says that China delivered dozens, or even hundreds of guidance systems and computerized machine tools to Iran. The CIA report goes on to say that Beijing also gave Pakistan parts that could be used in building M-11 ballistic missiles over the past three months. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Chen Jian denies the allegations and says that China will "live up to its promise and commitment."

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31 May 1995
Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Kozo Igarashi says at a news conference that Tokyo "assume(s) that China conducted an ICBM experiment at the end of May." Igarashi's statement comes in response to a question about a Sankei Shimbun report claiming that China tested a Dong-feng 31 missile on 29 May. 

28 May 1995
According to Xinhua News Agency Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Shen Guofang says that China has cancelled its missile technology control talks with the United States in response to Washington's 22 May decision to allow Taiwanese President Lee Teng-hui to visit the U.S. 

23 February 1995
Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Chen Jian states that the China opposes a U.S.-Japanese joint missile defense project and believes it could "trigger a new round in the arms race around the world." Earlier in the week on 21 February U.S. Pentagon spokesman Kenneth Bacon insisted that the missile defense system was "not aimed at China."

1994
30 November 1994
China concludes its second major arms deal under which U.S. $400 million worth of military equipment was sold to Myanmar (Burma). The first agreement, an initial defense package worth U.S. $1.2 billion, included armored vehicles, trucks, rocket launchers, anti-aircraft artillery, and surface-to-air missiles. 

30 November 1994
China launches the Dongfanghong-3 (DFH-3) satellite. The satellite was lost in sub-geosynchronous orbit after Chinese officials used its propulsion system when the apogee kick stage failed. 

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6 November 1994

According to a report issued by Zhengming magazine, banned from publication since the summer of 1994, China’s limited nuclear arsenal is aimed at big cities in enemy countries. The magazine quoted He Zhaxiu, a professor at the Chinese Academy of Sciences, who said that these “soft targets” would be difficult to defend as they are concentrated population centers of economy and ordinary military power. He, the former secretary to Qian Xuesen, honorary chairman of the China Association for Science and Technology and known as the “father of Nuclear Missile Development, took part in formulating the nuclear strategy but would not reveal how many nuclear weapons China has in its arsenal.


1 November 1994

The United States waives the 24 August 1993 missile sanctions against China’s Ministry of Aerospace Industry (MAI) for national security reasons. U.S. Undersecretary of State Lynn Davis issues a determination that waives the sanctions against 9 Chinese firms identified as subsidiaries of MAI. The sanctions against the Pakistani Ministry of Defense, however, remain in place and are set to expire in August 1995.


18 October 1994

In the first visit to Beijing by a U.S. Defense Secretary since the 1989 Tiananmen crackdown, Secretary William J. Perry encourages China to be more open about its defense budget and strategic planning. He states that China’s strengthening of its armed forces paired with secrecy has led many nations to be suspicious of China, but the tension could be eased with a more transparent defense budget. Perry also said that China needs to restrain its sale of missiles and other forms of military technology, citing that the arms race between India and Pakistan could lead to a nuclear conflict along China’s southern border. As part of a reciprocal exchange of information, Perry’s aides confirm that China is willing to send defense officials to the Pentagon to review their military plans until the year 2000.


12 October 1994

According to "The Military Balance," an annual report issued by the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), China is developing “a number of new nuclear weapons.” The report states that China has conducted two nuclear tests in the past 12 months and that it is the only nation on earth to have done so during this time period. [The October 8th testing was conducted after the IISS report had been printed.] The report states that the "differences in yields tested suggest that a number of new weapons are being developed." The first missile being developed is a dual-purpose missile capable of both submarine (JL-2) and ground launches (DF-31). Both have an estimated range of 8,000 kilometers (5,000 miles). The second missile, DF-41, is estimated to have a 12,000 kilometer (7,500 mile) range. While all three missiles have solid fuel propulsion, only the DF-31 and DF-41 can be fired from mobile launchers. The DF-41 is expected to be in service by the year 2000; however, no reports confirm a submarine development for the launching of the JL-2. IISS analyst Colonel Andrew Duncan says that virtually any missile has the power to be dual-purpose in both conventional and nuclear capabilities. Colonel Duncan maintains that there is "not sufficient information available to know the Chinese plan."

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8 October 1994
China continues testing a new set of ballistic missile warheads. The test, similar to the one in June, entails exploding a nuclear device underneath the desert at the Lop Nor testing site. One Chinese scientist defends the test by stating that if China obeys the international request to stop testing nuclear weapons, then it means China would have to cancel its ballistic missile program without developing its second-generation ballistic missiles.

6 October 1994
Steven D. Dorfman, president of Hughes' Telecommunications and Space Sector, says that while the lifting of U.S.-imposed sanctions on the export of advanced satellite components to China is "a step in the right direction," the damage they caused is "irreparable." Dorfman also states that his company has lost investments opportunities in China to other foreign investors such as Germany. Before the United States placed sanctions on China, Hughes was in the process of negotiating a deal that would have given them an edge in China's burgeoning satellite market. "We are determined that satellites would become a purely commercial entity," he says. "Satellites are not weapons, they do not belong on the munitions control list."

4 October 1994
China further clarifies the nature of its adherence to the MTCR in a joint statement with the United States. China agrees to work together with the United States to promote the nonproliferation of missiles, and to promote a ban on the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. It later included those verbal assurances in a February 1992 letter to the Bush administration. The letter is currently classified. In that document, China makes two key commitments. First, China agrees to completely ban the export of ground-to-ground missiles; this pledge goes beyond the MTCR's requirements which only call for a "strong presumption of denial" for such exports. Second, China agrees to the concept of inherent capability, which states that the missile would be included in the ban if it could generate sufficient energy to deliver a 500 kg payload at least 300 km, regardless of its demonstrated or advertised combination of range and payload. This second commitment from China is especially important because it was aimed at preventing the export of missiles that could violate the MTCR if their range and payload were adjusted. For example, China argued in the past that its M-11 missile exports to Pakistan did not violate the MTCR because the range and payload of the missile (290km/800kg) do not strictly meet the MTCR parameters of 300km/500kg.

4 October 1994
The "Joint Statement on Missile Nonproliferation," is signed by the United States and China. As part of the deal to secure China's signature, the United States announces the lifting of the August 1993 sanctions on Chinese entities. Upon signing the statement, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher states: "the United States will move to lift the sanctions it imposed against China in August 1993 for transferring missile parts to Pakistan. Once the sanctions
are lifted, China has agreed not to export ground-to-ground missiles covered by the agreement. In effect, this communiqué today goes beyond the MTCR requirements. It represents a global and verifiable ban on Chinese exports of missiles capable of a range of at least 300 kilometers and a payload of at least 500 kilograms. This is a very important step forward, and I urge you not to let the complexity of it blind you to the achievement that resulted here today. This agreement also resolves a previous difference of opinion between the United States and China on the interpretation of the MTCR. Under the terms of this agreement, China accepts the MTCR definition of a missile’s inherent capability. That means that any missile that has the inherent capability to be modified to meet the MTCR thresholds is also under the control of the regime. Both of our countries have reaffirmed our respective commitments to the MTCR guidelines and its parameters. As a second step in this regard, the United States and China also have agreed to hold further in-depth discussions on the MTCR, including discussion of China’s possible MTCR membership in the near future."

7 September 1994
According to a U.S. Navy commander, Iran is acquiring four or five Chinese missile boats as a means to update their military. Vice Admiral Douglas J. Katz says that the 114-foot-long Hugong missile boats are capable of carrying anti-ship missiles, though they haven’t yet been equipped with such missiles. Western military sources are also speculating that Iran may purchase a larger missile craft from Beijing.

3 September 1994
In the first visit to Russia by a Chinese president in 37 years, Jiang Zemin and Boris Yeltsin discussed the re-targeting of Russian and Chinese nuclear missiles away from their respective countries. The visit, says Mikhail Bely, head of the Asia department in Russia’s foreign ministry, is "proof of the recent deepening in political and economic ties between Russia and China." The two also sign joint documents on avoiding nuclear wars and enhancing overall bilateral ties.

28 August 1994
China’s Long March-2E (CZ-2E) rocket launches the Optus-B3 satellite built by Hughes. The communications satellite is owned by Australia’s Optus Communications Ltd. The Optus-B3, in conjunction with the Optus-B1, will provide Australia and New Zealand with data, telephone, television, and other telecommunications services once it reaches its orbital station.

21 July 1994
China’s Long March 3 (CZ-3) rocket launches the ApStar-1 satellite built by the U.S.-based Hughes Corporation. The Hong Kong-based Asia Pacific Telecommunications Satellite Company, a consortium of Chinese-backed companies, operates the satellite.

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13 July 1994
President Clinton waives sanctions for the Echostar satellite’s export for launch from China.

12 July 1994
Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev and Chinese Defence Minister Chi Haotian sign an agreement in Moscow to prevent military clashes along their border. In the agreement, both countries vow to use diplomatic action, rather than violence, to resolve conflicts such as maneuvers, accidental missile firings, and unintended frontier violations.

10 June 1994
China conducts its 40th nuclear test. The test does not increase their nuclear capabilities, but rather serves as way to develop smaller, higher-explosive-yield, and more-accurate warheads for the development of a set of more advanced "second generation" ballistic missiles.

26 April 1994
Russia has given China a list of 44 advanced weapons for reference in purchasing weapons, according to Russia's General Staff Headquarters. A representative from Russia's Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, identified as Atonchev, says that "according to the latest statistics, Russia owes 1.5bn dollars to mainland China, of which 1bn dollars is loans and 500m results from the change in the form of clearing foreign exchange. The Russian government offered to pay off the debts with weapons. Russian Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin will discuss the matter with the mainland hierarchy during his visit to Beijing in late May." On the list are five kinds of new fighters: The Sukhoi Su-27 and Su-30, the Mig-29 and Mig-31, and the Tu-22M3 and the "Arrow"-10M and "Needle" air defense missile systems. The General Staff Headquarters stressed that the weapons they sell to China are mainly defensive. The list does not include strategic weapons such as rockets and nuclear weapons, they say.

25 April 1994
The Clinton administration is set to approve the Allied Signal sale of the Garrett gas-turbine engine. Some nonproliferation specialists fear the engines could be used to develop a longer-range cruise missile able to hit Japan or India with potential nuclear delivery capability. However, other experts assert that the Garrett engines involve neither military secrets nor cutting edge technology, and point out that such engines are easily available on the international market from other suppliers.

24 March 1994
The Bangladesh navy carries out their first exercise in the Bay of Bengal by testing an unspecified number of Chinese missiles. Each missile is fired from one of two frigates and missile boats, both provided by China. The test is carried out in the presence of Bangladeshi Prime Minister Khaleda Zia. While the defence ministry of Bangladesh

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is secretive about their weapons arsenal, diplomatic sources say that China is a major supplier of arms to Bangladesh.

17 March 1994

In a brief statement issued by Beijing's Foreign Ministry, China denies having transferred advanced missile technology to North Korea. An unnamed Foreign Ministry spokesman called the *Wall Street Journal*'s report on the transfer of Chinese technology to North Korea "totally groundless."

15 March 1994

The U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency analysts report that they suspect China has been aiding North Korea build a new long-range missile, citing the diameter of the missile as evidence. The issue further complicates China's Most Favored Nation Status, which is set for Congressional renewal in June. President Clinton has said he will push Congress to revoke their status if they fail to show significant improvement in their human-rights record. The North Korean missile, the TaepoDong-2, has a diameter similar to China's CSS-2 missile (DF-3), which leads officials to believe that the only way North Korea could build a missile of such proportions is through either physical transfer or with the help of engineers familiar with the program. Analysts at the Central Intelligence Agency disagree and question what would motivate China to transfer advanced missile technology to North Korea.

11-14 March 1994

The visit of U.S. State Department officials to China fails to break the impasse in the negotiations to get China to sign the MTCR. The U.S. offers to lift the sanctions on China, which were imposed on 25 August 1993 for selling M-11 missiles to Pakistan, if China formally signs the MTCR and comes to an understanding concerning future Chinese missile and missile technology transfers to Pakistan. China wants the United States to remove the sanctions before it signs the MTCR, and said that it already abides by the MTCR. In a subsequent statement, U.S. Undersecretary of State for International Security Lynn Davis stated that the United States is closely watching China and is willing to impose stricter sanctions if China steps out of line.

7 March 1994

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher announces in Canberra, Australia, that the Clinton administration is lifting the ban to allow $1 billion worth of satellite launches by China's Long March boosters after Hughes Corporation agreed to remove a sensitive decryption chip from their Optus B3 communications satellite. Optus B3, a Hughes H5 601, was built for the Australian National Satellite System (Aussat) and is a replacement for the Optus B2, which was destroyed in a Long March-2E accident last December. Craig Ellevsen, an Aussat official, says that his company did not realize that the chip was the only hold up in the spacecraft's launch and that the satellite does not need the chip in order to function. Ellevsen maintains that the chip was built in Hughes' quest for ongoing product development and that Aussat never wanted it. Transferring the chip, which functions to guard the satellites steering controls, is a violation of MTCR guidelines and is automatically blocked by the State Department.

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The removal of the chip shifts the authority to approve the satellite from the State Department to the Commerce Department.

8 February 1994
China successfully launches two satellites with the new Long March-3A (CZ-3A), a newly developed rocket designed to lift heavier loads. It is capable of launching a 2.5-ton satellite beyond the 1.4-ton capability of the standard Long March-3 (CZ-3) model. Long Lehao, vice-president of the China Academy of Rocket Carrier Technology and general architect of the Long-March 3A, said that the launch marks "a new stage in the development of China's rocket technology."

1 February 1994
Military ties between China and Russia are in trouble due to a dispute over the sale of advanced fighter aircrafts by Moscow to Beijing. As Russia is one of China's biggest suppliers of arms and defense technology, the dispute stands to harm China's modernization of their weapons arsenal. The dispute is regarding the purchase of a second batch of Russian Su-27 fighter aircrafts by China's air force. China had purchased 26 Su-27s two years ago, and Beijing-based diplomats were under the impression that they were to purchase 24 more. Under the agreement, Russia began to build the aircrafts. But now, Chinese military officials have told Russia that they are only interested in purchasing the production rights and technology to produce the Su-27s, which Russia finds to be detrimental to their own security and commercial interests. The disagreement could affect other deals that China and Russia are negotiating, such as China's purchase of surface-to-air missiles.

27 January 1994
China is replacing nuclear warheads on intermediate range ballistic missiles (IRBMs) with conventional loads. According to military sources, the Dong Feng 21 (DF-21) is being reconfigured to better prepare China in the event of a limited local war.

27 January 1994
Michael McCurry, a State Department spokesperson, says that after three days of talks on nuclear nonproliferation, the United States and China have failed to reach an agreement. The United States focused on its proposal of a "cutoff in the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons," McCurry says, while the Chinese side focused on its own proposal for a treaty among the five nuclear powers for an agreement on no first use of nuclear weapons. Neither side agreed on either proposal. Another proposal discussed at the talks was bilateral agreement on missile nonproliferation. Reaching an agreement on this possibility would prevent the transfer of missiles and missile technology to Pakistan, McCurry says, however, negotiating the agreement will take time, he says. At the same time, China disapproved of the U.S. decision to deploy Patriot missiles in South Korea. In a briefing in Beijing, Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Wu Jianmian expresses his disapproval, stating that "the preservation of peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula meets the vital interests of the Korean nation and

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promotes peace and security in this region." He also states that China finds the actions to be detrimental to peace on the Korean Peninsula.


25 January 1994

Jiu Jiyuan, president of the China Aerospace Corporation (CASC) and administrator of the China National Space Administration (CNSA), states that U.S. sanctions imposed on China in August 1993 for the alleged November 1992 sale of missile parts to Pakistan are hurting China’s space program. According to Jiu, the U.S. sanctions have caused delays in the development of the Dong Fang Hong 3 (DFH-3) satellite, loss of launch sales, and have damaged the reputation of Chinese space organizations.


18 January 1994

China's state-run Great Wall Industrial Corporation (CGWIC) signs the contract to launch its first U.S. satellite. The contract is signed with Hong Kong-based Asia Pacific Satellite Communications Co., who will launch a Hughes International Corporation HS601 satellite, the Apstar-2, into space aboard the Long March 2E (CZ-2E) rocket. During the signing ceremony, CGWIC President Zhang Tong calls for a removal of U.S. sanctions on CGWIC and providing licenses to other related satellites. Zhang states that ending the ban "would not only benefit satellite owners, but also protect the interests of U.S. satellite producers."


6 January 1994

The Clinton administration announces it is set to lift a ban on the sale to China of the Echostar satellite, worth $150 million, and an Asiasat II satellite, worth $55 million. Both satellites are built by Martin Marietta. In exchange, China agrees to begin talks on issues regarding weapons proliferation. The U.S. government has been under pressure from the U.S. business lobby to lift the sanctions that were imposed on China during the summer of 1993 because of China's sale of M-11 missile technology to Pakistan.


5 January 1994

The Japanese newspaper Sankei Shimbun reports that China has developed its first intercontinental ballistic missile capable of reaching U.S. territory, citing U.S. military sources. The Chinese-designed missile could be capable of carrying 8-10 independently targeted nuclear munitions.


1993

29 December 1993

Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto says that the United States' stand on Chinese M-11 missile sales to

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Pakistan is based on "erroneous" information. She goes on to say that neither Pakistan nor China had violated the MTCR in their dealings. These comments come on the heels of a visit by Bhutto to Beijing. "China and Pakistan have not violated the parameters of the MTCR agreement. And we regret the imposition of sanctions," Bhutto says. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wu Jianmin says the sanctions that resulted from U.S. suspicions of M-11 missile transfers were "entirely unjustified and should be lifted."


22 December 1993
Flight International reports that it is likely the Chinese are enlisting Russian scientists to help China develop SS-24 and SS-25 ICBMs. According to Flight International, "The multiple-independently targeted-re-entry-vehicle-capable SS-24, which is rail mobile or silo based, and the single warhead road-mobile SS-25 have a range of over 10,000km (5,400nm) and pinpoint accuracy. By comparison, the CSS4, the most sophisticated Chinese land-based nuclear missile, has a range of 11,000km, but is silo-based, has a single warhead and uncertain accuracy."


19 November 1993
The United States approves the sale of a supercomputer to China. The supercomputer had been barred from being traded to China as a part of the sanctions levied against China in response to M-11 missile sales to Pakistan.


17 November 1993
Chinese President Jiang Zemin says that linking politics with trade status is a Cold War relic that should be discarded. This statement is in relation to threats by the U.S. Congress to link China's MFN status to its human rights and missile proliferation records. "U.S.-China relations are at a crucial juncture, I hope through my meeting with President Clinton we will enhance our mutual understanding...to put Sino-U.S. relations on a normal track and to have a new start," President Jiang said.


17 November 1993
Secretary of State Warren Christopher, at the opening of the Asian-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting, cited U.S. sanctions against China for M-11 missile sales to Pakistan as one of several situations that are complicating U.S.-China relations. Christopher also cited human rights problems and MFN status as other things potentially making the relationship more complicated. "A stable, prosperous China is in the long-term interest of the United States, (But) recent problems have created the risk of a downward spiral in our relationship," Christopher said.


11 November 1993
The Clinton administration offers to lift trade sanctions on China if Beijing promises to end long-range missile sales to Pakistan. The sanctions were originally imposed because of Chinese sales of M-11 ballistic missile components to Pakistan. After a meeting between Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Liu Huaqiu and U.S. Undersecretary of State

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Peter Tarnoff, one official says about the Chinese: "They showed receptivity for the first time."

20 October 1993
The BBC reports that Russian sources have confirmed that China received five sets of S300PMU-1 surface-to-air missiles. The S300PMU-1's capacities exceed those of the U.S.-made Patriot. Russian experts are training the Chinese to use the missiles. According to the Russian officials, China is likely to use the missiles as part of its air defense strategy; features of the S300PMU-1 described.

21 October 1993
U.S. government officials reveal suspicions that China is producing a multiple nuclear warhead or a lightweight one that could be mounted on ballistic missiles (ICBM). These allegations are in relation to recent reports that China hired more than 1,000 former Soviet nuclear scientists.

14 October 1993
Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wu Jianmen denies U.S. allegations that China has purchased U.S.-based weapons technology from Israel. Wu Jianmen dismisses the U.S. allegations as "groundless." The technologies in question include components for air-to-air missile technology and other arms.

13 October 1993
The London-Based International Institute for Strategic Studies releases report saying China has more than 100 land-based nuclear-capable ballistic missiles. This number is 50 percent higher than previous estimates.

12 October 1993
The CIA, in a written report to Congress, accuses Israel of selling China advanced military equipment for more than a decade. The report says that included amongst that equipment are missiles and missile technologies. "China and Israel appear to be moving forward to formalizing and broadening their military technical cooperation," says R. James Woolsey, Director of Central Intelligence.

5 October 1993
China conducts an underground nuclear test at the Lop Nor testing site, in Xinjiang Province. U.S. officials claim the test was done as a part of an attempt to develop new warheads for modern ballistic missiles. The United States claims that only about 10 of China’s missiles have the capabilities to reach America, with the others likely targeting Russia and India.

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3 October 1993
The London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies releases report saying China remains a leading supplier of military hardware to Asian and Middle Eastern countries. Included in the list of hardware the IISS report claims China is selling are ballistic missiles sold to Pakistan, Iran, Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

1 October 1993
The United States warns China that Chinese actions and policies on human rights and arms issues is threatening China's MFN status. The U.S. cites Chinese M-11 missile sales to Pakistan as one of the issues with which they are concerned.

14 September 1993
Joseph S. Bermudez testifies before the House Subcommittee on International Security, International Organizations and Human Rights, that China is working to upgrade its Dong Feng series of ballistic missile systems. Bermudez says the DF-25, DF-31 and DF-41 are being developed and are expected to be operational by the end of the decade. At the same hearing, Stephen D. Bryen warns that U.S. sanctions imposed because of Chinese violations of the MTCR will not be effective if U.S. allies do not impose the same sanctions. It is believed that NORINCO intends to make large scale purchases at an arms show in Germany at the end of the month.

27 August 1993
China threatens to stop complying with the missile export controls that it is accused of violating. Vice Foreign Minister Liu Huaqiu tells Ambassador J. Stapelton Roy "The U.S. side, ignoring the repeated clarifications made by the governments of China and Pakistan and invoking domestic legislation, has willfully imposed sanctions against sovereign states...(putting) Sino-U.S. relations in serious jeopardy."

26 August 1993
China denounces economic sanctions imposed by the U.S. government as "entirely unjustified," claiming that the U.S. information on which the sanctions relied was based on "inaccurate information." Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wu Jianmin says "The United States insisted on imposing sanctions on China in disregard of China's repeated statement. This is entirely unjustified and we are strongly opposed to it."

25 August 1993
The Clinton administration bars the export of some high-technology goods to China and Pakistan as punishment for the sale of Chinese missile equipment to Pakistan. The sanctions will block the sale of U.S. satellites to China,

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with an estimated cost of more than $500 million to U.S. companies. State Department spokesman Michael McCurry says that there is "unambiguous evidence" that China delivered missile-related technology and components to Pakistan last year.

25 August 1993
Pakistan Foreign Ministry officials acknowledge that they did receive short-range missiles from China, but nothing that violated the MTCR. The spokesman says that the missiles were "tactical short range" missiles, and that Pakistan had approached China about purchasing them in 1980s after being attacked with SCUD missiles.

26 July 1993
U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher delivers a message to Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen warning him that Chinese missile sales to Pakistan is causing serious concern in Washington and may lead to sanctions if China does not halt such transfers. China consistently dismisses allegations of missile sales as "groundless," and senior U.S. officials say that Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen "was consistent in saying that his government has not violated its promise" to honor the MTCR.

26 July 1993
U.S. Undersecretary of State Lynn Davis meets with Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Liu Huaqui to discuss M-11 missile sales to Pakistan. None of the officials involved with the discussions comment on them after the meeting.

25 July 1993
Warren Christopher calls for Qian Qichen to explain Chinese M-11 missile exports to Pakistan. "There's disturbing evidence of missile shipments and that's why we need an explanation," an official said. A meeting between the two of them failed to settle the questions surrounding U.S. allegations of Chinese missile sales to Pakistan.

21 July 1993
The United States threatens to place sanctions on China if Chinese missiles were shipped to Pakistan. In response, China reiterates its pledge to abide by international arms agreements. "The U.S. side should stop making an issue of it," a Foreign Ministry statement says.

21 July 1993
The Clinton administration threatens to impose sanctions on China if China continues to sell missiles to Pakistan. The issue - following strong evidence that China is shipping M-11 missile technology to Pakistan - will be raised by US Secretary of State Warren Christopher when he meets with his Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen in Singapore.

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Lynn Davis, Undersecretary of State and the Clinton administration’s chief arms negotiator, will also discuss the matter in Beijing.

29 June 1993
A Chinese Foreign Minister denies allegations of Chinese M-9 and M-11 missile sales to Pakistan. "Mr. Clinton’s government believes that China has sold M-9 and M-11 missiles to Pakistan, Syria and Iran," the official said. "This is sheer fabrication; China has long undertaken to abide by the guidelines and parameters of MTCR. The position of China’s remains unchanged."

27 May 1993
U.S. officials announce that China has received dozens of surface-to-air SA-10 anti-aircraft and anti-ship missiles from Russia. The fast-flying SA-10, named Grumble by the Western allies, is billed by the Russians as similar to the U.S. Patriot missile although U.S. analysts believe it is less sophisticated. The Soviets developed it to down bombers at up to 88,000 feet but adapted it to intercept tactical missiles.

21 May 1993
China promises Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Perez that China does not intend to sell any missiles or missile technology to Middle Eastern countries. Western military observers say China sold Silkworm missiles to Iran during the 1980s. The U.S. government has said China was planning to sell missiles to Syria - one of a few Middle Eastern states still technically at war with Israel - but no evidence has emerged that they were ever delivered. "The (Chinese) foreign ministry told me...that China does not intend to sell missiles to the Middle Eastern countries that are at war and that China will be very, very careful not to sell weapons that would endanger the security of our country," Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Perez says.

21 May 1993
Pakistani officials deny receiving M-11 missiles from China. The officials call accusations of missile transfers between China and Pakistan "motivated and speculative." "I categorically deny that Pakistan has taken M-11 missiles," Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Akram Zaki says.

19 May 1993
Israeli intelligence claims that Iran is building advanced medium-to-long range solid-propellant surface-to-surface missiles with technical support from China. The deal includes technology transfers, allowing Iranians to assemble the missiles themselves.

14 May 1993
U.S. intelligence agencies deliver a briefing to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee showing China is selling M-

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11 ballistic missiles and M-11 ballistic missile components to Pakistan. Administration officials describe the weight of the evidence presented to them as "heavy" but stopped short of calling it conclusive.

7 May 1993
China's Foreign Ministry denies China is selling missiles to Pakistan in violation of its promise to the United States to stop. According to the official Xinhua News Agency, the Foreign Ministry calls U.S. allegations "groundless."

6 May 1993
The U.S. issues a strong statement, warning China that if it doesn't stop missile sales to the Middle East the U.S. may revoke MFN status for China. Joe Snyder, a State Department spokesman, said the U.S. "continue(s) to monitor closely and carefully reports suggesting the Chinese are not abiding by their MTCR commitments." If such a determination were made, Snyder said, the Clinton administration "will not hesitate to take the action required under U.S. proliferation law. Along with Chinese human rights and trade practices, China's commitment to nonproliferation is one of the factors we take into consideration in our deliberations on most favored nation status."

6 May 1993
U.S. officials announce they have satellite images of new Chinese surface-to-surface missiles in Pakistan. Satellite photos of the Pakistani port of Karachi show that China has not stopped the shipments of the M-11 missiles since they began last fall. As a result of these images, the U.S. threatens to impose new trade sanctions on China in retaliation.

30 April 1993
A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman declares that China strongly opposes conditions being attached to its most favored nation trade (MFN) status. Conditions being considered by Washington include tying MFN status to Chinese controls on missile proliferation.

20 April 1993
The International Campaign for Tibet (ITC) claims China is dumping nuclear waste on the Tibetan plateau and has built missiles sites there. The ITC claims that "China's positioning of nuclear and non-nuclear weapons on the Tibetan plateau has put many of India's major industrial and military facilities within striking distance of short-range missiles," said the report entitled Nuclear Tibet."

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15 April 1993
Augusto Pinochet travels to China to attempt to sell Chilean "Rayo" missiles. "Rayo" missiles are ground-to-ground missiles with a range of 40 kilometers.

1 April 1993
China provides South Africa with technology that would extend the range of South Africa's nuclear capable missile to 2,000 miles. South Africa recently admitted to its weapons program and has said that it has since been abandoned.

3 March 1993
The South China Morning Post reports that a diplomatic source says China is acquiring advanced surface-to-air missiles from Russia. "The Chinese are already installing launchers for the S300s, which seems to indicate deliveries will be relatively swift," a source said. The sources said Beijing had recently entered into agreements with Moscow for the purchase of at least 100 S-300 missiles, one of the best defense systems in the Russian arsenal. Specially adapted for high-altitude maneuvers, the S-300, also known as the SA-10, went into operation about 10 years ago. The weapon has been so effective that it is compared to the United States' Patriot missile.

1 March 1993
Indian External Affairs Minister Dinesh Singh tells China that the Chinese supply of sophisticated arms and missiles that go beyond defense purposes threatens Indian security. Mr. Singh says that these actions may negate confidence building measures between China and India.

24 February 1993
Before the Senate Government Affairs Committee, CIA Director James Woolsey testifies that China continues to be a proliferation threat. Woolsey says that China continues to obtain missile technology from Russian and Ukraine.

18 February 1993
China displays an advanced sea-skimming missile at an arms show in Abu Dhabi. Chinese officials say that the missile has drawn interest from Iran and other Gulf States. The C-802 multi-purpose anti-ship missile has a range of 120 kilometers (75 miles) compared with 110 kilometers (69 miles) for the U.S Harpoon missile, according to Jeng Deyun, head of the Chinese delegation to the show. The six-meter missile can be deployed on warships, coastal bases and aircraft for attacking ships, including destroyers, escort vessels, landing craft and other targets.

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14 February 1993
The China North Industries Corp., China National Precision Machinery Import and Export Corp. and China Shipbuilding Trading Company Ltd. attend an arms show in Abu Dhabi. On display are Red-Arrow 8 anti-tank missiles, a multiple rocket launcher system with a range of 80 kilometers, main battle tanks, and armored personnel carriers.

4 February 1993
Wu Jianmin, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman, denies that China, Syria and Iran are cooperating on cruise missile development. The denial is a response to the U.S. Department of Defense report.

1 February 1993
Pentagon officials confirm that former Defense Secretary Cheney received intelligence briefings proving that Israel had transferred Patriot Missile technology to China. Mr. Cheney was told that in return for the Patriot technology, China gave Israel information on the Chinese M-line of missiles, including the M-9 and M-11 missiles.

1 February 1993
Aviation Week & Space Technology reports that cruise missiles present the biggest proliferation threat according to a report circulating the U.S. Department of Defense. Among others, the report lists China as having cruise missiles with low observable or stealth capable missiles.

31 January 1993
China announces a new destroyer has entered its naval fleet. The destroyer was deemed ready after successful missile tests took place at sea.

30 January 1993
A U.S. analyst says Syria, China and Iran are developing cruise missiles that will be operable by 2000 according to a new Pentagon report. The report notes that China's cruise missiles are of particular concern because of China's nuclear capabilities.

18 January 1993
Aviation Week & Space Technology reports that China is using secretly acquired Patriot air defense technology to improve the less-effective Soviet era technology it has purchased in the past. The analyst said that the Chinese have a program intact to improve the Soviet SA-10 and SA-12 surface-to-air missiles with Patriot technology.

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**12 January 1993**
The U.N. condemns Iraqi forces for crossing the border with Kuwait and raiding a weapons depot. Amongst the weapons taken, Iraq seized four Chinese anti-ship Silkworm missiles.

**8 January 1993**
The BBC reports that a Western diplomatic source claims that China is trading missile technology and a nuclear power station to Iran in return for MiG-29 fighter jets. Iran and China reportedly reached an agreement on the trade at the end of last year.

**8 January 1993**
The United States calls for China to implement stiffer guidelines in the control of missile proliferation. Two U.S. senators met with Prime Minister Li Peng to convey the U.S. desire for China to abide by the new rules in the MTCR. Defense Secretary-Designate Les Aspin also confirmed that the Clinton administration does not intend to reconsider the agreement of the Bush administration to sell F-16s to Taiwan.

**5 January 1993**
CIA Director Robert Gates confirms in a report that there is evidence China has obtained Patriot missile technology. The report says that while there are different views on the issue, there are indications that China did receive at least some Patriot technology. This marks the first time an official confirmed that there had been illegal transfers of missile technology to China.

**1992**

**29 December 1992**
The Japanese paper *Yomiuri Shimbun* reports that several hundred technical experts from the former Soviet Union are working at military plants in China, helping to improve the reliability and accuracy of Chinese missiles.

**23 December 1992**
The Chinese government orders France to close down its consulate in the Southern Chinese city of Canton, also known as Guangzhou, in Guangdong Province. The order is retaliation to French sales of 60 2000-5 jet fighters worth $2.6 billion and 1,000 missiles to Tawian. The move is seen as a warning to other European countries considering similar sales.

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17 December 1992
Russian President Boris Yeltsin, in Beijing on a visit, declares that there are "great prospects" for enhancing Chinese-Russian military cooperation. Recent reports out of Russia claim that China is trying to buy military hardware, including SAM-300 ground-to-air rockets, the Russian equivalent of the U.S. Patriot missile.

16 December 1992
Hua Di, a former leading member of China's ballistic missile projects, writes in a report that China is developing a new land-mobile ICBM capable of reaching the continental United States as well as a long-range submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM), According to Hua, the Chinese government hopes the new ICBM will become operational by the end of the 1990s for possible deployment before 2010, with the new SLBMs ready for use by the mid-1990s.

7 December 1992
The United States postpones a decision to sell a supercomputer to China because of allegations that China sold M-11 missiles to Pakistan. Washington believes that China may have broken agreements with the U.S. in selling M-11 missiles or related missile components to Pakistan. However, the U.S. government says it can not confirm whether China had sold banned missiles to Pakistan or not.

7 December 1992
China denies selling M-11 Missiles to Pakistan. A Chinese Foreign Ministry official describes the allegations as "groundless."

6 December 1992
Former Pakistani chief of staff Mirza Aslam Berg says in an interview that China did sell Pakistan M-11 missiles that did not have nuclear capabilities. He said the "missiles have a range of less than 300 kilometers (180 miles), were not built to carry nuclear warheads and were not precise enough to carry out that type of mission."

5 December 1992
Pakistani officials deny they violated any rules governing arms control in response to claims by U.S. officials that China sold Pakistan nuclear-capable M-11 missiles. "We have violated no rule or regulation but we will give a full statement later," the official stated. "We will give a complete reaction in two or three days," he added.

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4 December 1992
Intelligence analysts are trying to determine if new Pakistani missiles are Chinese M-11 missiles, or if they are shorter range missiles. The M-11 missiles would contradict Chinese commitments to not sell medium-range missiles to Pakistan, however if they are the shorter range missiles, they are not in violation of any Chinese statements. Congress has promised sanctions if China does sell the M-11 missiles to Pakistan.

3 December 1992
Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Li Jianying issues a statement saying that the allegations made in the Los Angeles Times regarding Russian arms sales to China are exaggerated. He goes on to reiterate that the Chinese-Russian relationship is a normal exchange of economic, cultural, science and engineering cooperation. Some of that science and engineering exchange does include military hardware.

30 November 1992
The Los Angeles Times reports that Russia’s extensive sales of advanced military technology to mainland China are enabling Peking to obtain core elements of the high-technology defense industries that made the Soviet Union a superpower. According to the Times, "now, officials say, there is evidence that the sales have widened and that China is acquiring a broad capability to design, produce and sustain its own modern, cutting-edge weapons systems." "The Chinese are trying to transfer a high-technology industrial base from Russia to China," a senior U.S. official was quoted as saying. "It’s both people and technology, for new guidance systems, cruise missiles, anti-submarine warfare, and missile testing."

23 November 1992
Mednews reports a U.S. government official claims that China is seeking to purchase equipment in the United States and Europe for a new project to build a strategic cruise missile. The Chinese government has signed a contract with Garrett Engines to purchase a turnkey factory to build advanced turbo-fans, a key technology to cruise missile. There may be little the government can do to stop the deal from going through, since this technology was decontrolled by the Commerce Department several years ago and thus requires no export license for China.

10 November 1992
Li Daoyi, China’s ambassador to the U.N., denies China sold missiles and other military equipment to Iraq. Li denies the accusations in a phone call with Israeli ambassador Gad Ya'acobi, who telephoned him after reading of the alleged weapons transfer in American and Israeli newspapers.

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18 October 1992
*The New York Times* alleges that Russia is selling high-technology missile-guidance, rocket engines and other advanced weapons to China. "Re-export is a big problem," a pentagon source says. "You don’t know what the Chinese will do with the stuff once they get the high-tech capabilities." Washington officials also claim that Russia is selling technology to China that can be used to enrich uranium. The official also says that Russia has sold S-300 surface-to-air missiles to China.

7 October 1992
U.S. government officials announce that Russia has agreed to sell mobile SS-25 ICBMs, and medium-range Backfire bombers to China. A Russian official admitted that the deal was concluded three weeks ago, and that the number of missiles and bombers included was significant. The SS-25 is a new type of ICBM which made its debut in a Revolution Day anniversary parade in Moscow in 1990. It has been regarded as a "special threat" by the United States because of its mobility and its ability to carry multiple nuclear warheads, just one of which has a destructive capacity equal to that of 60 Hiroshima bombs. The SS-25 has high accuracy and a range of 10,500 kilometers. It was first deployed around 1985. The United States insisted on making it subject to deployment limitations during negotiations over the START treaty, which the U.S. Senate recently ratified. Backfire bombers have a range of 4,000 kilometers, maximum speed of Mach 1.8 and a weapons load of 12 tons.

21 September 1992
Aviation Week & Space Technology reports that according to Hua Di, a visiting scholar at Stanford University who served as a scientist and missile designer with the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) from the 1960s through the 1980s, China is developing a new long-range ballistic missile equipped with a two-metric-ton, high-explosive warhead as one element of a three-pronged technology program to modernize conventional forces of the PLA. This would give it the offensive punch to enforce territorial claims in the South China Sea.

15 September 1992
State Department spokesman Richard Boucher announces that the United States received information that a Japanese firm illegally sold an electron beam machine that may have helped China make better missiles. Boucher asserted that the sale of the equipment concerns a possible violation of Japanese law and said Washington will share any findings in the U.S. probe with Japanese authorities. The alleged sales took place in 1985, and although sales to China at that time would have violated the law, sales to Hong Kong at that time would have been legal. The Japanese firm accused of the illegal sales is the Toshiba Machine Company, which claims they did nothing in violation of the law.

11 September 1992
The Bush administration notifies Congress that it is waiving legislative restrictions on satellite projects for China. State Department spokesman Richard Boucher announces that U.S. satellites may be launched with Chinese

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rockets, including the Dong Fang Hong 3.

4 August 1992
The Inter-Press Service reports that a Russian official responsible for arms control policy confirmed Russia’s intent to sell surface-to-surface and surface-to-air missiles to China. The official said that the missiles would be of limited range and pose no new threat to Asia.

8 August 1992
The New York Times reports that Iran has committed more than $7 billion to acquire fighter jets, missiles, tanks, and nuclear technology from China, North Korea and Russia, according to officials who monitor country’s efforts. The secretive program, which began in 1988, has been so costly that a Western European embassy in Teheran told its government recently that the Iranian economy is so overstretched that it doubts it could honor its debts.

18 June 1992
Robert S. Norris, a senior researcher at National Resources Defense Council, says that most of China’s deliverable nuclear weapons consist of ballistic missiles with ranges between 1,400 and 13,000 kilometers. "Because of their range, the vast majority of these are aimed at Asian targets." He also says that China may have as many as 10 ICBMs capable of reaching Europe or North America.

17 June 1992
The U.S. Department of Commerce takes steps to tighten U.S. controls on exports of missile technology to China and 20 other countries in the Middle East and South Asia. A spokesman for the Commerce Department’s Bureau of Export Administration said that the U.S. move intends to further prevent proliferation of missile technology. The Commerce Department also amended its export administration regulations to include China and other countries on a list that is subject to U.S. export controls on missile technology.

14 June 1992
Secretary of State James Baker announces that China is "living up to their commitment" to curb missile and technology trade. China pledged several months ago to work to stop shipments of medium-range missiles to several Middle East countries. Baker also says that he has no information to support allegations that the Chinese are using North Korea as a middleman to sell those missiles to the Middle East.

22 May 1992
China confirms that it tested a one megaton nuclear bomb. The test, equivalent to one-million tonnes of TNT, took

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place underground in the desert of north-west China. It is the most powerful test the world has seen in more than 20 years. The huge underground nuclear blast set off by the Chinese military was the test of a warhead for a new intercontinental ballistic missile that is under development, U.S. officials said. A Chinese ICBM with a one-megaton warhead would carry about the same explosive power as the SS-18 Mod 5, the most advanced missile in the nuclear arsenal of the former Soviet Union that carries numerous warheads capable of delivering up to 900 kilotons of explosive power. Department of Mines and Energy seismologist David Love said that the department's equipment showed the earth tremor caused by the test was equal to that of an earthquake measuring about seven on the Richter scale.


14 May 1992
The U.S. State Department says it has no evidence that China is violating the MTCR by selling missiles or missile components to Pakistan or Syria. The State Department did say that it will continue to closely monitor Chinese missile trade and transfers. The State Department will "continue to study any reports of Chinese transfers of military technology and to monitor Chinese behavior closely."

7 April 1992
The Toronto Star reports that it was Chinese officials who leaked the sale of Patriot missile technology from Israel to China to American intelligence officials a last month. Chinese attaches in the Netherlands and Syria separately told U.S. diplomats in mid-to-late March that China had received sensitive data on the anti-missile missile from Israel, according to U.S. military and civilian intelligence sources. "They (the Chinese attaches) did not say what (Patriot) technology was provided," said a military intelligence official. He said U.S. intelligence analysts believed the information was officially passed on to the United States to "limit the damage" from U.S. concerns of China's proliferation of ballistic missiles and technology to developing countries.

6 April 1992
Wu Keli, President of Great Wall Industries, offers to launch Israeli satellite into space with a Chinese rocket. This has raised concerns in Washington, as it comes on the heels of a U.S. investigation into the potential Israeli transfer of Patriot missile technologies to China. "Our rocket is very cost-effective and we are prepared to offer guarantees against any technical problems," Wu said in an Army Radio interview. Referring to the recent controversy regarding allegations of Patriot missile transfers from Israel to China, Wu said China is "not interested in Patriot Missiles."

3 April 1992
The United States issues a report clearing Israel of any wrong doing in regards to Patriot Missile related transfers to China. The report states that Israel did sell some sensitive equipment though. China, Israel's biggest customer of weapons exports, got most of the exports, but Chile and South Africa also bought systems which contained the American technology. They included heat seeking air-to-air missiles, radar and jamming devices, and anti-tank

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missiles.

29 March 1992
The Sunday Telegraph reports that Saudi Arabia, not Israel, sold Patriot missile technology to China. The British paper said Mossad, Israel's intelligence agency, has evidence that Patriot technology was given to Chinese technicians who maintain and service Chinese missiles in Saudi Arabia.

28 March 1992
Israeli officials announce that the U.S. delegation investigating its Patriot Missile batteries found no evidence that Israel transferred technology to China. Israel again denies accusation that it sold air-to-air Sidewinder missiles to China.

23 March 1992
The U.S. dispatches a 15-member fact-finding team to open investigations into accusations that Israel sold Patriot missile technology to China. The team is mostly U.S. Army missile specialists.

22 March 1992
A Chinese launch of a Long March-2E rocket fails. The commercial launch vehicle is a modified intercontinental ballistic missile. The strap-on engine, which appeared on Chinese television to have caught fire, was one of two booster rockets on the original missile.

17 March 1992
Defense Secretary Dick Cheney presses Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens about Patriot missile sales to China. The Israelis again deny the allegations and agree to allow U.S. inspectors into Israel to check the Patriot batteries Israel already has.

14 March 1992
Defense Minister Moshe Arens admits in an interview with CNN that Israel is selling arms to China. The Associated Press reports Israel helped China develop the guidance system for the CCS-2, a medium-range missile the Chinese sold to Saudi Arabia.

14 March 1992
A State Department investigation determines Israel did improperly resell American equipment. That equipment includes American air-to-air missiles to China that were based on the Sidewinder. In a written statement, Israeli

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Press Counselor Ruth Yaron says that "the allegations in various press reports are sensitive matters which are subject to negotiations between the government of Israel and the government of the United States."

13 March 1992
The Bush administration launches an investigation into intelligence reports claiming Israel did sell Patriot Missile technology to China. Israel continues to deny ever selling such equipment.

12 March 1992
Israel denies a Washington Times report that it had sold a Patriot missile or Patriot missile technology to China. A defense ministry spokesman tells Israeli radio the story was "lies" and "totally baseless."

9 March 1992
The U.S. announces its intention to lift sanctions that were imposed last June on Chinese companies involving missile technology proliferation. The statement says that the U.S. expects China to announce its adherence to the guidelines and parameters of the MTCR. The statement read "Our action comes following receipt of a letter on February 1 from PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen in response to a letter from Secretary Baker. This letter confirmed that China will abide by the MTCR guidelines and parameters, as agreed in Beijing last November during the Secretary's trip."

27 February 1992
Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs James Lilley calls for China to curb ballistic missile and nuclear technology exports. Mr. Lilley's calls are a result of recent allegations of Chinese missile sales to Iran. He went on to say that he hopes Beijing would take a 'wise course' of curtailing deliveries in keeping with its decision last year to adhere to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and comply with western guidelines on missile-related sales.

25 February 1992
U.S. officials declare that an investigation of Israel finds no proof of Patriot missile technology transfers to China. State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler announces "Israel has a clean bill of health on the Patriot issue." She went on to decry leaks from U.S. government officials as "irresponsible," saying that "Those who leaked intelligence reports owe both the United States government and the Israeli government an apology."

24 February 1992
The Bush administration lifts trade sanctions it imposed on China because of its role in exporting missile technology to third world countries. The administration said that it also expects China to pledge adherence to

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international guidelines limiting such exports.

22 February 1992
China announces it will comply with international guidelines on the sale of missiles and technology as part of a deal to repay the United States for lifting some sanctions imposed on Peking last June. Washington recently said it was lifting the sanctions, which were imposed because of evidence China was supplying missiles to Syria and Pakistan. — "China Complies," Independent, 23 February 1992, in Lexis-Nexis, www.lexis-nexis.com.

13 February 1992
China denies reports it made a deal to sell Iran parts that could be used in the development of medium-range ballistic missiles. "That is a totally groundless and fabricated allegation," the Foreign Ministry said in response to questions about the reports. The brief statement was carried by the state-run Xinhua News Agency.

3 February 1992
Mednews reports that at the International Symposium on Arms Proliferation, held at the University of Wisconsin in December 1991, Hua Di, a prominent Chinese scientist, confirmed that China was installing Israeli guidance kits and other top equipment on its ballistic missiles. "There is no real chance of limiting Chinese ballistic missiles. They are one of the most important sources of income for the Chinese treasury." He went on to say that "China's M-11 missiles are being developed strictly for export as they have no practical use in Chinese defense planning."

31 January 1992
American intelligence reports indicate that China is continuing to sell missile technology to Syria and Pakistan despite statements by Chinese leaders that they are willing to curb missile exports, according to senior Administration officials. Beijing has recently delivered to Syria about 30 tons of chemicals needed to make a solid-fuel missile and plans to deliver an additional 60 tons in March or April. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney calls the amount of technology and chemicals being transferred "significant." Defense Intelligence Agency Director Lieutenant General James R. Clapper Jr. says that "China is currently assisting many of the nations that we estimate will acquire a ballistic missile capability by the end of the decade." Officials also report that China sold guidance units to Pakistan that could be used to control the flight of M-11 missiles.

24 January 1992
China and Israel establish formal diplomatic relations.

22 January 1992
Middle East sources report that Syria and Iran are actively pursuing Chinese M-9 missiles. The M-9, a solid-fuel

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missile with a planned range of 600km (325nm), is aimed at export markets. The missile will carry an 800kg warhead with a 500kg high explosive core.


1991

30 December 1991
China agrees to join the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. China is the last major nuclear power to sign the treaty.

14 December 1991
Indian Foreign Minister Madhavsinh Solanki "underlined the inherent danger in (Chinese) inputs to Pakistan's nuclear weapon's capacity and missiles technology" in talks with China with Chinese foreign minister Qian Qichen. Indian foreign ministry spokesperson Aftab Seth describes the talks as "candid," reiterating that India is concerned with Chinese assistance to Pakistan "in areas that could affect our security and hasten an arms race in the region."

12 December 1991
Arkansas Governor and presidential candidate Bill Clinton criticizes the Bush administration's policy on China, citing China's poor record with missile and technology exports as examples of its overall failure.

12 December 1991
Central Intelligence Agency Director Robert Gates says in an interview with the Washington Post that China is supplying nuclear and missile technology to the third world, but that China "occasionally backed off," under U.S. pressure. He said that China is motivated by money to make the sales.

9 December 1991
The U.N votes 150-0 to establish an international registry of conventional arms transfers of tanks, warplanes, missiles, warships and artillery. China, as well as many of its major arms clients, is absent for the vote.

November 1991
China displays Silkworm missiles, target drones, electronic instruments, and other defense equipment at the Dubai 91 Aerospace and Defence Exhibition. Represented at the arms show are China Great Wall Industry Corporation and China Precision Machinery Import & Export Company, both companies that were sanctioned by the Bush administration in September. NORINCO displays a powerful new multiple launch rocket system, the WM-80, which officials say is being marketed "throughout the Middle East." The new system will be capable of ripple launching eight long-range rockets within 40 seconds, to distances of 80 kilometers. NORINCO claims a CEP for the WM-80 of

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1.5% - meaning that under optimal conditions, rockets fired at maximum range will stray 1200 meters from target.

21 November 1991
China states it would accede to a pact covering sales of medium-range missiles if the US lifted sanctions imposed on two Chinese companies in June.

18 November 1991
China announces that it will only consider abiding by regulations in the MTCR if the U.S lifts sanctions on Chinese companies and ends its freeze on U.S. computer and satellite exports.

17 November 1991
James Baker states that China agrees to abide by MTCR Guidelines in return for the lifting of sanctions over the sale of high-speed computers and satellites. Under the agreement, Beijing pledges to apply MTCR guidelines to "any export of missiles and related technology." Baker stated that he understands this to apply to the M-9 missiles to Syria and the M-11 missile sales to Pakistan. The Chinese promise is conditioned on the U.S. agreeing to lift sanctions on two Chinese companies. China also agrees to propose ratification of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to the People's Congress by the end of the year.

16 November 1991
China carries out a missile exercise in the Yellow Sea. Chinese news services report that China conducted a 37-hour drill from an unnamed base in north east Shandong Province. 56 air-to-air missiles were fired in 41 sorties.

14 November 1991
The Chinese Foreign Ministry announces that China is now willing to talk with countries regarding concerns about China's missile exports. The announcement comes one day before U.S. Secretary of State James Baker is scheduled to arrive in China for talks.

30 October 1993
U.S. officials and nuclear experts accuse China of selling materials for nuclear bombs and the missiles capable of delivering them to Middle East countries. Gary Miholin of the Wisconsin Project, a U.S.-based research institute, claims the Chinese are supplying M-9 and M-11 ballistic missiles under a 10-year military technology transfer agreement between Beijing and Tehran, which was signed last year. In additional, Miholin claims that the Chinese are also helping Iran build a nuclear reactor at Esfahan and training Iranian nuclear engineers.

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18 October 1991
China, along with the other four members of the U.N Security Council, agrees to common guidelines for arms export controls. The guidelines take into account the self-defense needs and the threat confronting a recipient nation, but aim to deny exports which would aggravate any conflict, increase tension in a particular region, encourage terrorism, or undermine the economy of a recipient state.

15 October 1991
China denies a report by the Sunday Times newspaper in London that China is negotiating to supply Iran and Syria with factories designed to produce ballistic missiles. A Foreign Ministry spokesman labeled the report as "nonsense."

13 October 1991
The Sunday Times reports that Western intelligence sources have discovered Iran is purchasing factories from China to manufacture a new generation of ballistic missiles. The report notes that Syria has completed a deal with China to purchase M-9 missiles with a range of 600km.

5 October 1991
The Chinese Foreign Ministry denies a report from the Institute of International and Strategic Studies (IISS), a U.K.-based think tank, that China sold ballistic missiles to Iraq, Iran, and Saudi Arabia last year. The Foreign Ministry calls the claims "totally groundless."

15 September 1991
The Bush administration imposes sanctions against China. Diplomats say that the sanctions are intended "as a means of convincing the Chinese that it is not in their interest to be selling ballistic missiles and nuclear technology." China Great Wall Industry Corporation and China Precision Machinery Import-Export Company are barred from doing business in the U.S.

11 August 1991
Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng announces that China is ready in principle to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Under the terms of the treaty, China will be the fifth and final nuclear weapon state to sign the NPT, after the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, and France.

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23 July 1991
Japan defends its aid to China proclaiming that such assistance does not violate Japan's policy of not providing aid to nations threatening world peace by exporting arms or nuclear weapons. Foreign Ministry spokesman TaiZo Watanabe was responding to a question as to whether or not China's sales of long-range missiles to Pakistan and its plan to export missiles to Syria violated Japanese policy. "The Response of the Chinese government was positive in principle and that's something we are satisfied with," he went on to say.

19 July 1991
President Bush pledges to make significant changes to his China policy. Among other things, Bush pledges to "ban exports of high-speed computers and satellites until China assures it will cease selling nuclear missiles."

15 July 1991
Chen GuoQiang, Press Secretary of the Chinese Embassy in Washington, in an open letter, denounces allegations of arms shipments to the Middle East via Cyprus as "totally unfounded" in response to a Washington Times article dated 12 July. He says the "seemingly substantial evidence only serves all the more to confuse and mislead the American public."

5 July 1991
Wo Zian, an aide to Chinese Premiere Li Peng, affirms China has no intention of selling missiles to Syria. Li Peng is on a five-day Middle East diplomatic tour.

4 July 1991
Cyprus categorically denies being a transit point for Chinese and North Korean weapons headed for the Middle East. Cyprus government spokesman Akis Fantis says: "We have no indication that any M-9s or any other Chinese surface-to-surface missiles have been delivered to Syria and we have no information about the use of Cyprus as a channel or a conduit."

2 July 1991
The Bush administration accuses China and North Korea of selling missiles to the Middle East by using Cyprus as a trans-shipment point. According to U.S. intelligence officials, China and North Korea use Cyprus to avoid detection by the United States.

1 July 1991
The State Department announces that China may be facing new sanctions as a result of missiles it sold to Pakistan.

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Chinese Ambassador Zhu Qizhen said in a statement a week ago that China had sold "a limited amount of conventional weapons, including a tiny number of short-range tactical missiles." The State Department says that if it is found the missiles violate restrictions made by the U.S. and the international community in 1987, then sanction would be levied.

25 June 1991
Senate Majority Leader George J. Mitchell (D-Maine) unveils a "consensus" Democratic proposal that would renew most-favored-nation (MFN) trade status for China, conditioning it on improvement in China's human rights and trade practices, and mandating immediate termination if the Chinese government exports ballistic missiles to Syria, Iran or Pakistan. In addition, the bill requires that the president certify within 15 days of enactment that China has not exported "certain ballistic missiles or launchers to Syria, Iran or Pakistan." Should such sales occur in the coming year Mitchell said, MFN would be terminated immediately.

20 June 1991
China acknowledges that it supplied short-range missiles to Pakistan. Foreign Ministry spokesman Wu Jianmen declines to name the weapons supplied to Pakistan, but said that "a very small number of short-range tactical missiles had gone to Pakistan.

19 June 1991
Chinese officials inform U.S. Undersecretary of State for International Security Affairs Reginald Bartholomew that Beijing is considering joining the MTCR and NPT.

16 June 1991
The White House announces that President Bush implemented a previously announced decision to impose restrictions on exports of high-performance computers and ban the transfer of technology for satellites launched on Chinese rockets. The White House says the steps are being taken because of China's missile exports. The report says that two Chinese companies had transferred missile technology to Pakistan and that the United States would impose sanctions on them—the China Precision Machinery Import-Export Corporation and the China Great Wall Industry Corporation. "We have expressed urgent concern to the Chinese government about exports of missile technology," a White House statement said.

16 June 1991
China unveils a devastating fuel-air explosive bomb as part of its range of ultra-high technology 'smart weapons' at a Paris Air Show. The move comes only days after United States Secretary of State James Baker warned China not to export high-technology weapons to Syria. China also displays their latest missiles at the show, which was attending by the China National Aero-Technology Import and Export Corporation (CATIC) and the China Precision
Machinery Import and Export Corporation (CPMIEC).

16 June 1991
Liu Huaqui, the Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister, denies reports that China has sold ballistic missiles to Syria. But Liu confirmed the sale of what he called "short-range missiles" to Pakistan, another item of serious U.S. concern, and gave no indication that Beijing is willing to cancel or modify this agreement that "happened in the past."

15 June 1991
The U.S. sends Richard Bartholomew [also referred to as Reginald Bartholomew], Undersecretary of State, to Beijing for talks on weapons proliferation, amid growing concern in the west that Chinese arms sales may lead to a destabilizing weapons race in Asia.

12 June 1991
Secretary of State James A. Baker warns China that there will be "profound consequences" for Sino-U.S. relations if Beijing sells newly developed ballistic missiles to Syria and Pakistan. "We have made it clear (to Chinese leaders) that there would be potentially profound consequences for our bilateral relationship if they were to change the missile export policy that they have presented to us," Mr. Baker told a Senate appropriations sub-committee.

10 June 1991
Western diplomats and experts are concerned by indications that China is seeking to increase its share of the world market for missiles. The Chinese military, the experts say, may begin shipments of two new kinds of missiles to Syria and Pakistan, and perhaps to other countries as well. The new missiles, which are said to be more accurate than the Soviet-designed Scuds used by Iraq in the Persian Gulf war, are thought to be at the end of the development stage and could be deployed soon. The Missile Technology Control Regime, an agreement that China has not joined, defines medium-range missiles as those that travel approximately 188 miles. But a Chinese military encyclopedia defines a medium-range missile as one that can travel 625 miles. If that is the definition that the Chinese government is using, its promise not to sell medium-range missiles would cover neither the M-9 nor the M-11.

7 June 1991
China confirms that it will take part in a conference proposed by U.S. President George Bush aimed at controlling arms sales to the Middle East. "It's the consistent position of the Chinese government that proper, fair, practicable measures should be taken to achieve international arms control and disarmament in a comprehensive and balanced manner," the foreign ministry said. "The Chinese government agrees with President Bush's proposal," it said. "We are willing to study this important issue will all the countries concerned on an equal footing."

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5 June 1991
President Bush blocks U.S. companies from participating in further satellite launches with the People’s Republic of China because the country is believed to be transferring M-11 ballistic missile technology to Pakistan.

27 May 1991
The Bush administration blocks high technology exports to China. The ban will stop a $30 million sale of computer work-stations, and will ban the sale of missile-related technologies as well as satellite parts. The move is in retaliation to Chinese exports of advanced weapons to Pakistan and Algeria.

May-June 1991
Washington asks Saudi Arabia to destroy its arsenal of Chinese made CSS-2 surface-to-surface missiles as a part of the Bush administration’s Middle East arms control plan. The Saudis have ignored the request thus far.

28 May 1991
President Bush announces new sanctions on China. These sanctions stipulate that: 1.) Licenses will be refused to companies that have applied to sell China 20 high-speed computers, valued at $30 million that can be used for missile flight testing; 2) As long as the United States is not satisfied that China is abiding by international regulations restricting the flow of ballistic missile and nuclear technology, licenses will not be granted to American companies seeking to take part in seven proposed satellite launches by China. No such licenses have been requested; 3) American companies will be barred from selling any missile technology or equipment to the state-run Chinese Precision Machinery Import-Export Corporation. The White House says this action is in response to the Chinese corporation’s sale of missile technology and equipment to Pakistan. —Andrew Rosenthal, "Bush Renewing Trade Privileges For China, but Adds Missile Curbs," New York Times, 28 May 1991, at Lexis-Nexis, www.lexis-nexis.com.

20 May 1991
According to U.S. intelligence sources, China is negotiating the sale of M-11 missiles, capable of carrying chemical and nuclear warheads, to Pakistan. A separate reported deal with Syria would provide with Chinese M-9 missiles, a longer-range forerunner of the M-11, by the year-end.

7 May 1991
Chinese Ambassador to the United States Zhu Qichen says that China has long adopted a "serious, prudent and responsible attitude on the question of export of military products." He goes on to say that China stands in principle for a "just, reasonable and effective international control of sales of military products, including the sale of missiles. However, this should be worked out through comprehensive consultations on equal footing among the international community, rather than decided by a few countries." The remarks were made at a luncheon sponsored by the World Media Association.

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6 May 1991
President Bush bars the export of U. S. components for a Chinese domestic communications satellite. His actions stem from suspected Chinese exports of weapons of mass destruction to developing nations. The satellite in question is the Dong Fang Hong 3 (DFH-3), and the White House intends to raise its concerns "about the activities of the Chinese companies involved in Dong Fang Hong with the Chinese government." The U.S. is engaged in intensive talks with Beijing about proliferation issues aimed at persuading China to comply with internationally accepted guidelines on missile and missile technology exports. The Chinese government has pledged to be "prudent and responsible" with such sales, but the administration is upset about recent reports that China is helping Algeria build a nuclear reactor and preparing to sell ballistic missiles and technology to Pakistan.

5 May 1991
Israel claims that Syria has purchased Chinese M9 missiles.

30 April 1991
White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater states that President Bush does not to approve a request to license the export of U.S. satellite components to China for a Chinese domestic communications satellite, the Dong Fang Hong 3 (DFH-3). This decision is a result of concern over Chinese proliferation activities. Under sanctions contained in the Foreign Relations Authorization Act Fiscal Year 1990-91, licensing of these exports is prohibited unless the President determines it to be in the national interest.

5 April 1991
U.S. officials announce they believe that China is in the process of selling Pakistan a new missile capable of carrying nuclear warheads. The M-11 missile—the export version of the Chinese DF-11—is believed to have range of about 180 miles and capability of carrying 'heavy payload.' U.S. intelligence agencies announce that they have spotted what appear to be a number of launch vehicles for Chinese-made M-11 ballistic missiles in Pakistan, contrary to
Beijing's pledges to Washington.

27 March 1991
Chinese foreign minister Qian Qichen states, "On the question of control of missiles, recently in Tokyo, a 15-nation meeting on missile technology control regime was convened, but China did not attend that meeting. Those countries that didn't attend the meeting should not be called upon to assume corresponding obligations to an agreement reached among some other countries. "Concerning China's arms exports, China has always acted in a very prudent and responsible way, and, actually, I think I can say that China's arms sales are very, very limited. We hope that the largest weapons exporters in the world can adopt practical and effective measures of self-restraint. Now nuclear weapons proliferation is prohibited in the world. We also have in hand a convention on prohibition of biological weapons, while negotiations on a convention on prohibition of chemical weapons are also under way. However, there are no provisions concerning conventional weapons. We hope that the largest weapons exporters in the world can exercise restraint." Qian also notes that China has not signed the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) and did not attend a recent meeting in Tokyo of the 15 signatories of the agreement. "Those countries that did not attend the meeting should not be called upon to assume corresponding obligations to an agreement reached among some other countries," Qian said. U.S. Secretary of State Richard Solomon said earlier this month that "we have the missile technology control regime and the Chinese have indicated that they will honor those parameters."

20 March 1991
Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada asks China to cooperate in controlling the international trade in arms, including nuclear and chemical arms, missile technology, and conventional arms.

11 March 1991
The British Royal Navy successfully shoots down a Chinese-built Iraqi Silkworm antiship missile during sea warfare in Operation Desert Storm.

March 1991
The United States is seeking China's cooperation in efforts to control arms exports to the Middle East in the aftermath of the Persian Gulf War, a senior U.S. official said. "As we try to find some multilateral mechanism to prevent the inflow of weapons, China's going to have to be a player," said Richard H. Solomon, assistant secretary of state for East Asia. Solomon's visit is linked to Washington's move to discuss the postwar political changes with permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

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31 January 1991
The Hong Kong paper *Tangtai* on 26 January carried an article on the use of Chinese-made missiles in the Gulf war. The article said that some U.S. Tomahawk cruise missiles had been brought down by Iraq with Chinese-made Hongqi-3 ground-to-air guided missiles, which had been supplied by China to Iraq during the Iran-Iraq War, although Baghdad had not used them at that time.


23 January 1991
China continues rocket development in hopes of sending a man to space. The oxyhydrogen engine of China's Long March 3 rocket could be restarted under a vacuum and in weightless conditions in space, and this has enabled the most crucial technology of Chinese carrier rockets to reach the most advanced world standards. At present, the delivery capacity of China's rocket for earth-synchronous orbit has reached 1,400 kg. China is stepping up efforts to manufacture Long March 1D and Long March 3A rockets. The launching of the Long March 2E rocket has been successful. By 1992, it is estimated that China will have a delivery capacity of between 300 kg to 8,000 kg for a near-earth orbit, of between 1,400 kg to 2,500 kg for a synchronous orbit, meeting the needs of launching satellites of various types, as well as technologically preparing for launching spacecraft of more than 4,000 kg into a synchronous orbit. The BBC, quoting from an unnamed Chinese newspaper, carried the following quote from the Chinese government: "It can be predicted that through the ceaseless efforts of China's aeronautics technology workers, the era in which Chinese will be flying in their own spacecraft and developing outer space, is not far off."


22 January 1991
China successfully launches its first 120-kilometer high, low latitude sounding rocket today at a launching pad in Haikou, the capital of Hainan Province. The rocket, named 'Weaver Girl 3', was launched at 18:23 (Beijing time) today. The 4.87 meter rocket, which weighs 285 kilograms (kg) and has a pay load of 45 kilograms, became operational as a result of more than two years of joint effort by the Chinese Academy of Sciences Space Center and three related units. Data obtained from the probes can be used as altitude environmental parameters for the development of carrier rockets, ballistic missiles, man-made satellites, and manned spacecraft.


14 January 1991
A report in a U.K. daily newspaper indicates that the Saudi defense ministry is resisting American attempts to inspect Chinese-supplied CSS-2 (DF-3) ballistic missiles after intelligence reports said China might have supplied up to a dozen nuclear warheads to be fitted on the missiles. Intelligence reports indicate that 36 missiles are deployed west of al-Kharj, south of Riyadh. The reports also say half of them are likely to have been fitted with chemical warheads.


11 January 1991
China flies the prototype of two new aircraft, the K-8 and the FT-7, in Nanchang, the capital of Jiangxi Province. The FT-7 will be capable of teaching Chinese, and other third world pilots, how to fire American-built AIM-9 (sidewinder) air-to-air missiles and MK-82 bombs, the French R-550 strand of missiles, and other Western

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1990

24 October 1990
French manufacturer Thomson-CSF has been cleared to sell radars and missiles to China. The French government says that despite the arms embargo that has been in place since the Tiananmen crackdown in 1989, that France would honor a contract signed between China and France before 1988.

15 October 1990
French intentions to complete a contract to sell missiles and radar technology to China, despite the arms embargo that has been in place since the 1989 Tiananmen incident have met opposition within the global community. "The French are long on talk and short on action. They make a lot of noise about sanctions but continue behind others backs," one non-European Community diplomat said. Jane's Defense Weekly quotes the value of the deal at more than $70 million. "You don't think other countries are not trying to sell weapons to the Chinese?" A French source said.

30 September 1990
In a statement issued by Xinhua in Beijing, an unidentified foreign ministry spokesman dismisses the charges that China sold chemicals to Iraq as "totally groundless."

30 September 1990
China denies reports that a private Chinese company has agreed to sell chemicals to Iraq that can be used in missile fuels. The report, in a British paper, accuses NORINCO of supplying the chemicals to Iraq.

29 September 1990
A British newspaper reports that China sold large quantities of a rare chemical used for missile fuels, chemical weapons-and possibly nuclear weapons- in violation of the U.N. trade embargo. The Independent, in its Sunday editions, said it had documents showing that around 20 September a subsidiary of NORINCO agreed to supply seven tons of lithium hydride to Iraq for about $1.15 million.

21 July 1990
Saudi Arabia and China establish official diplomatic relations. The relationship effectively ends the relationship Saudi Arabia has had with Taiwan. Taiwan Foreign Minister Fredrick Chien accuses China of using "silver bullet" diplomacy, saying that China promised a discount of $710 million on an arms package valued at $6.6 billion that

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includes intermediate-range ballistic missiles.

14 June 1990
The U.K.-based newspaper The Independent reports that within the last week, China has agreed to help Egypt to modernize its production of surface-to-air and surface-to-surface missiles as part of an accord worth hundreds of millions of pounds, diplomatic sources in Cairo say. Under the protocol, China will update Egypt's Saqr missile factory, enabling it to produce newer versions of Soviet anti-aircraft missiles, the surface-to-surface SCUD B and Silkworm and the three types of Egyptian Saqr rockets. The deal is expected to double Egypt’s production of the Silkworm DF-4, a 50-mile range missile with a 1,000lb warhead. Egyptian-Chinese research cooperation is expected to increase the range of the Silkworm DF-4 to 90 miles. Egypt is also expected to begin producing the Silkworm DF-5, with a range of 170 miles.

6 June 1990
According to Israeli Intelligence Services, the Saudi Arabian DF-3 surface-to-surface missiles are now operational. The missiles are stored at two sites. Each site has four concrete launchers as well as 60 missiles stored in shelters at each site. Israel says that one site is located at Al-Sulaiyil, 500km south of Riyadh, the other site is at Al-Joffer, 100km south of the capital.

6 June 1990
Bush administration officials have expressed concern to the Chinese government over reports that China has continued to sell poison gas, intermediate-range missiles and other weapons to Saudi Arabia and other countries in the Middle East, State Department officials tell a Senate subcommittee. In a briefing regarding China’s most-favored-nation trading status, Senator Joseph Biden says he was told he received briefings from administration officials that China continued to sell the weapons, despite assurances that it would not. "There has been....a good deal of briefing that some of us have received that the Chinese are engaged in several dangerous military relationships with countries in the Middle East and Southwest Asia," Biden said. "We have rumors or reports that some things may be going on and we raised the matter with the Chinese authorities and make clear that these are matters of serious concern," the State Departments top China officer, Assistant Secretary Richard Solomon said. Solomon went on to say that China has reassured the U.S. that all sales of intermediate-range ballistic missiles were ceased last year. "Maybe you should get the same briefings that I get, then you wouldn't have any doubts. And I don't get them from the Chinese; I get them from the U.S. government," says Biden, in response to Solomon's statements.

11 April 1990
The Chinese defense company NORINCO unveils the second generation Red-Arrow 8 anti-tank guided weapon system for the first time deployed on a Harbin Aircraft Z-9 Haitun. The missile is helicopter mounted with a range of 100m to 3,000m. Red-Arrow 8 uses optical aiming, infra-red tracking and semi-automatic wire guidance. China Precision Machinery Import & Export Corp. (CPMIEC) releases details of the C802 rocket-boosted, air-breathing anti-ship sea-skimming missile. The C802 has a 15km minimum range and a 120km maximum range at speeds of

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Mach 0.8 to 0.9. The missile flies at 20-30m above the sea, descending in its terminal phase to between 5 and 7m. The system has a solid-rocket-launch booster and a turbojet cruise engine and uses active radar homing. The 380mm diameter system weighs 715 kg and is 6.4m long. It can be launched from aircraft, ships, or coastal defense batteries. NORINCO reveals a 273mm long-range rocket that is being developed in a truck-mounted eight-round launcher. The rocket is 4.5m long and weighs 519kg inclusive of a 150kg high-explosive warhead. The firing interval of the eight weapons is 2 seconds and has a range of 80km. CPMIEC reveals a similar rocket, the WS-1 non-guided rocket. The 320mm truck-mounted weapon is fired from a four-round launcher with a minimum range of 20km and a maximum range of 80km. Accuracy is 1.25% of range. The warhead weighs 150kg and the rocket weighs 520kg. NORINCO has also revealed the 81L, a 40-tube system with an automatic reload system. It takes 18s to fire all 40 rockets, and reload takes 3 minutes. Rockets have a range of 20km and 30km.


8 April 1990
The Chinese successfully launch a U.S. satellite into orbit. The satellite is launched on the Chinese built Long March III rocket, bringing China into the international space market. The 135-foot rocket was launched from the Xinchang launch site, in southwestern Sichuan Province. U.S. Ambassador to China, James Lilley, in a ceremony to celebrate the launch, says that it "symbolizes the positive elements of the U.S.-China relationship." He also said that the satellite will bring the "communications revolution," to millions of people previously outside the reach of modern communications to China and the rest of Asia.


4 April 1990
China unveils the PL-9 mobile surface-to-air missile at the FIDAE 90 exhibition in Chile. The PL-9 is designed and produced missile by NORINCO. The system is similar to the U.S. Chaparral mounting four Atoll type surface-to-air missiles on a 360 degree trackable launcher atop a six-wheeled WZ551D armored vehicle. Target acquisition is via a 360 degree-scan radar mounted on the top rear of the missile turret. The four missiles are stacked in pairs on each side of the turret, on the front of which is an electro-optical sting/laser rangefinder window. The radar envelope is 18km range at up to 6,000 m altitude, with an optical range of 10km. The PL-9 infra-red-guided missile is 3m long with a diameter of 160mm and weighs 120kgs at launch, including a 10kg warhead. Maximum speed of the PL-9 is Mach 2. NORINCO says that the weapons kill probability is 0.8. The maximum altitude of the missile is 5,000m, and the maximum launch range is 8.5km for an approaching target, or 5.5km for other aspects. The 16t vehicle is 6.6m long and 2.8m wide and has a 19kw engine. The crew has three operators and two drivers/mechanics. FIDAE is an aerospace and defense exhibition held in Chile.


30 March 1990
The Bush administration seeks, but fails to obtain, reassurance from China that Beijing will not sell medium range missiles to the Middle East. Deputy spokesman Richard Boucher notes that Chinese leaders pledged to pursue a "prudent and responsible attitude." "You are well aware of the importance we attach to stopping missile proliferation. Our dialogue with Beijing on missile proliferation continues. Beijing has said that it will follow a prudent and responsible attitude and we will look for actions consistent with the statement." He said. An administration official also says that a shipment of missiles that was transported through Beijing last week and suspected to have been shipped from the port of Tianjin, now appears to not have gone to Tianjin. The new

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analysis from intelligence agencies suggests that the missiles were not sold to another country.

29 March 1990
The Bush administration announces plans to ask China if is continuing to sell missiles to the Middle East and will be very concerned if the answer is yes. White House press secretary Marlin Fitzwater says the U.S. has no independent knowledge that China is selling missiles in the trouble region. The Washington Post quoted Western diplomats saying that China has been shipping short range ballistic missiles from the port of Tianjin, probably for sale to the Middle East. "If it's true we'd be very concerned about it."

28 March 1990
Western diplomats accuse China of shipping short-range ballistic missiles to the Middle East. After evaluating reports from witnesses who said they had seen the weapons being transported, said they believe the weapons were short-range ballistic missiles that are produced here for export and were being taken to the port of Tianjin, probably for shipment to Middle East countries. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Li Zhaoxing dismissed the report saying "don't believe in rumors." A Chinese defense ministry official said "we have no information on that." On Saturday and Monday two convoys of missiles, launchers and other equipment were transported at night across Peking under police escort, bound for Tianjin, some 75 miles east of the capital. "They certainly weren't big tubes of toothpaste" a western diplomat says.

27 March 1990
Western diplomats announce that they believe China has begun exporting short-range ballistic missiles, probably to Iran or Iraq, to raise cash. Officials at China's Defense Ministry say they are unaware of any missile sales.

8 March 1990
AsiaSat, a communication satellite intended to provide television and telephone service throughout the Far East, will be launched aboard a Chinese-made Long March III rocket from the Xinchang missile range in China's southwest Sichuan Province. Delivery of the satellite had been held up by U.S. sanctions on high technology transfers after the Tiananmen crackdown last year.

22 February 1990
Chinese President and Communist Party Leader Jiang Zemin meets with top Chinese scientists in the Great Hall of the People to praise them for their role in the modernization of China. He says "Many of China's sophisticated technologies, such as the atomic bomb, the hydrogen bomb and missiles, have been built through China's own efforts and despite the blockade imposed by foreign countries. I believe that the Chinese people have high

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aspirations to do even better work in science and technology despite all the difficulties."

14-18 February 1990
A delegation from the Chinese Aerospace industry takes part in the Fifth Annual Asian Air Show in Singapore. China exhibits various kinds of aircraft, guided missiles, satellites, engines and airborne equipment. Chinese delegates also hold trade talks with other participants to enter into exchange of technology.

8 February 1990
Senator Jesse Helms calls Chinese leaders "gangsters," and tells Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger that despite the contacts and the easing of certain sanctions, China continues to send technology for ballistic missiles and nuclear weapons to Middle East nations. Defending his covert trip to China shortly after the Tiananmen incident, Eagleburger says in testimony before congress that the U.S. needs "a better balance between our fascination with the China of the 1970s and today's mood of disappointment and hostility." He goes on to say that the administration seeks China's "return to reform and openness by continuing to pursue the contacts...that encouraged such reform in the first place."

3 February 1990
The Bush administration orders a Chinese government corporation to sell a Seattle aircraft-parts manufacturer after government investigators report the Chinese firm could use its new acquisition to gain secret U.S. aircraft engine technology. China National Aero-Technology Import & Export Corp. (CATIC) has been "trying to get military secrets." "We are concerned over CATIC's past activities. Our concern is CATIC using this purchase as a front to penetrate into other, more promising areas of security." A senior administration official says. In China, CATIC manufactures military planes and missiles. Administration officials say that there was no evidence that CATIC had gained any U.S. secrets over the past two months.

21 January 1990
Tehran radio announces an arms agreement Iran has reached with China. China will make transfers of military equipment to Iran, likely to include a variety of missiles, including the Chinese-designed Silkworm anti-ship missile and an extended range SCUD. The agreement is signed by Iranian Defense Minister Akbar Torkan, and the Deputy Director of China's Council of Science and Technology, General Jiang Xua.

11 January 1990
U.S. State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler announces that the Bush administration does not believe China will sell more missiles to countries in the Middle East. Tutwiler quotes a Chinese statement from 9 December that calls accusations that China is selling missiles to the Middle East "groundless." Tutwiler says that "Chinese

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leaders have said that the PRC takes a prudent and responsible attitude regarding weapons sales, including the sale of missiles. We take these public statements at face value. We expect Chinese arms sales policy to be conducted in accordance with these standards."

1989

27 December 1989
Chinese President Yang Shangkun says that China will continue to supply Saudi Arabia with medium-range ballistic missiles, Egypt’s semi-official Middle East News Agency reports. The report quotes Yang as saying China "was determined to supply Saudi Arabia with missiles, according to the contract signed between the two countries."

12 December 1989
Syria and China have agreed to a contract whereby China will sell 140 M-9 missiles to Syria for $170 million. The Chinese denied the deal existed on 11 December. "Foreign news services said that China is preparing to sell M-9 missiles to Syria. This report is groundless," Chinese national television news reported. "Except for Saudi Arabia, where a small number of mid-range missiles were sold, China has never sold, nor is planning to sell, missiles to any Middle East country," the Chinese media report said.

11 December 1989
President Bush says he was "very pleased" that the Chinese Foreign Ministry announced that it would not sell missiles to any Middle East countries. National Security Advisor Brent Scowcroft raised the issue of proliferation in visits with Chinese leaders over the weekend in Beijing.

8-10 December 1989
National Security Advisor Brent Scowcroft and Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger travel to Beijing to talk with Chinese officials about China’s plans to export missiles to countries in the Middle East. The visit is an effort to convince China not to sell M-9 missiles to Syria. The missiles, which have a range of 600 miles, could hit 10 Middle East countries, including Israel.

23 November 1989
Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Jin Guihua says that reports China intends to supply Syria with medium-range surface-to-surface missiles is "utterly groundless." He went on to say that China had long ago taken a serious attitude regarding the selling of missiles to other countries. Despite a few missiles to Saudi Arabia, China has not sold missiles to any other countries, he said.

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9 November 1989
A senior administration official says that the U.S. is concerned that China may drop its commitments not to sell medium-range missiles or the technology to make them. Administration officials said that they were aware of reports that China was selling medium-range missiles to the Middle East and elsewhere.

20 September 1989
The Xinhua News Agency reports that China will soon be equipped with new advanced weaponry, including strategic missiles, ship-to-air missiles and helicopter gunships. The reports says that the equipment has been produced domestically and will meet the needs of China's ground forces, navy, air force, second artillery brigade and other technical forces.

1 August 1989
China has agreed to sell Syria an unlimited number of missiles, according to the United Arab Emirates newspaper Al-Itihad. "Syria signed an agreement with China on May 18 for receiving Chinese-made M-9 surface-to-surface missiles" the newspaper said.

13 April 1989
Elebra Electronica, a Brazilian firm, has signed a technology transfer agreement with China for the production of Long March III satellite-launching rockets, a 90-meter vehicle capable of carrying a 4.5 tonne payload. China Precision Machinery Import and Export Corp. (CPMIEC) and the Great Wall Corp. are involved on the Chinese end of the deal. CPMIEC designed and built the Long March II, while Great Wall Corp. launched them. The deal is reportedly worth more than $2 billion.

8 March 1989
Western diplomats say that China is helping Iran build a factory to build missiles. Construction has gone ahead on the factory, despite a U.N. sanctioned cease-fire on 20 August. Speaking on a condition of anonymity, one source said "it's a missile plant and the Chinese are lending support to build it." It is believed the plant will produce surface-to-surface missiles with a 500 mile range. Jane’s Weapons Systems says that China does not have a surface-to-surface missile with a 500-600 mile range; however the Soviet Union has produced a series of mobile, land-based missiles with a range of 540 miles.

27 February 1989
In a meeting with Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng, President Bush raises concerns about missile proliferation but did not specifically mention the recent sale of Chinese intermediate-range missiles to Saudi Arabia or anti-ship

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Silkworm missiles to Iran. According to White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater, Li reaffirmed China's promise to the Reagan administration last year to act "responsibly" in its arms sales.

24 February 1989
South Africa announces that it is purchasing defensive radar, aircraft, and missiles from China.

24 February 1989
The U.S. State Department announces that it has "no evidence" to back up a New York Times article from 23 February 1989 that alleges sophisticated Chinese ballistic missiles were being shipped through North Korea to controversial countries such as Syria, Iran and Libya. The announcement by the State Department is made in an attempt to avoid an arms dispute in the days leading up to President Bush's visit to Beijing. State Department spokesman Charles Redman said, "We believe the People's Republic of China understands the concerns we have expressed, and our constructive dialogue with them thus far provides a basis for optimism with regard to the proliferation of ballistic missiles and their component technology." He went on to say "there is no evidence that intermediate-range ballistic missiles built in China have been sent to any country besides Saudi Arabia, either directly or indirectly."

23 February 1989
New York Times columnist William Safire alleges that Chinese missiles continue to be sold to Middle Eastern countries. Safire writes that Chinese missiles are being shipped by rail through northern China to North Korea, where they are then shipped out of the North Korean port at Nampo. The alleged destination for these missiles includes Syria, Libya, and Iran. Although the Chinese assured Carlucci last September that they were not selling missiles or weapons to the Middle East, by shipping them to North Korea, and having North Korea ship them to the Middle East, the Chinese are not breaking that promise.

6 February 1989
Chinese industrial and trade organizations make a strong pitch to sell military hardware and space launch services at the Dubai 89 Airshow. Chinese Precision Machinery Import and Export Corporation (CPMIEC) displays a wide range of missiles that are on sale at the show. Missiles on display include the HQ-28 and HQ-2J surface-to-air missiles. The -2B is an updated version, equipped with a digital guidance system and designed to be operated and launched from a mobile launch platform. The -2J model is designed to be launched from a fixed launch pad. "We attend a number of shows each year," Yang Jishi, vice-president of CPMIEC said, "Our presence here doesn't necessarily mean we are concentrating our efforts on sales in the gulf area."

6 February 1989
Pakistan test fires its first surface-to-surface long range missile. Analysts believe that the missile was produced with Chinese aid and technology. India believes that Pakistan did receive outside assistance. "It is difficult to

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believe that a country that hardly produces bicycles can make extremely accurate systems," said retired air commodore Jasjit Singh.

1988

15 November 1988
At an arms exhibition in Beijing, China displays its latest weaponry for arms buyers. The Chinese Precision Machinery Import and Export Corporation says it is putting six new missiles on the market during the four-day Asian Defense Technology Exposition, or Asiadex 88.

8 October 1988
The Liberation Army Daily reports that the Chinese Navy is developing a new type of ship-launched missile. The navy is developing a new type of ship-based strategic missile and has made breakthroughs in technologies and launching capabilities of tactical missiles the report says. The report also cited a high level naval officer as saying that China has achieved stronger missile offensive capabilities in experiments with submarine-launched missiles conducted in September.

30 September 1988
The Senate passes an amendment to the Foreign Aid Appropriations Bill to prohibit U.S. assistance to the missile program of China in any manner until the president certifies to the Congress that China is not supplying missiles to Iran, Iraq, Syria, Libya, or Saudi Arabia. The measure is aimed at stopping Congress from approving licensing for China to launch three U.S. satellites into space.

17 September 1988
Senator Robert Dole delivers a speech on the Senate floor regarding Chinese arms sales. Senator Dole remains skeptical of Chinese promises to curb missile sales and technology transfers. "Frankly, however, many of us in the Senate remain skeptical about Chinese arms sales policies and disturbed by past arms transfers to Iran and Saudi Arabia among others." He went on to say, "I firmly believe the Senate— and the American people—deserve to know more about the nature of these assurances before the United States commits to further military and technology transfer agreements with China." Finally, Dole said that the Reagan administration should "hold off on signing any new agreements with China until the Senate and the American people have had a chance to see some evidence that China is indeed living up to its assurances."

10 September 1988
U.S. Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci finishes his trip to China saying he will recommend to the Reagan administration that licenses be approved for the export of American satellites to be launched on Chinese rockets.

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Carlucci said that National Defense Minister Qin Jiwei was "most pleased" with Carlucci's recommendations. Before the export licenses can be approved, they must go through Congress.

7 September 1988
Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci says that he feels "fully satisfied" China will behave in a "thoroughly responsible way" in its weapons sales to foreign nations, following talks with Chinese leaders. Carlucci went on to say "In my opinion, these are the best discussions we have ever had on this subject, and I hope we can now put this issue behind us." Chinese Defense Minister Qin Jiwei asserts that Chinese arms sales to the Middle East are insignificant compared to the sales of other superpowers. "China is a developing country and even in the future it will not sell armaments in large quantities," Qin said. A U.S. official briefing the press said that the U.S. respects China's right to have an overseas arms sales program just as the United States does. He went on to say, however, "we do think that missiles fall into a special category."

6 September 1988
Chinese Defense Minister Qin Jiwei says China will continue to sell arms to the Middle East. "It is natural for China to sell weapons to the Mideast region and it will continue to do so." He also went on to say that "the U.S. is selling advanced weapons like F-16s, while China sells "ordinary" conventional ones." He also said that his "country will not be able to deal with huge weapons sales in the future due to its limited industrial development." The remarks are believed to be made to counter U.S. Defense Secretary Carlucci, who is expected to raise the question of Chinese missile sales to Saudi Arabia, Iran, Syria, and other countries, in a meeting with Qin this week.

6 September 1988
China inaugurates its third launch site by boosting a weather satellite into polar orbit on the first Long March 4 expendable vehicle. The new site is located at Taiyuan, in Shaanxi Province, south of Beijing. Western analysts believe the site is also used for missile tests into the South China Sea. Chinese officials also press U.S. Defense Secretary Carlucci to lobby the Reagan administration to allow American satellites to be shipped to China and be launched on Chinese missiles.

5 September 1988
The Abu Dhabi-based paper Al-Ittihad reports that Western military sources are saying that Syria has signed an agreement with China to purchase M9 ballistic missiles. The report says that Syria will receive the first consignment of the missiles within the next 18 months.

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5 August 1988
The Chinese government denounces a resolution in the U.S. Senate criticizing Chinese arms sales to the Middle East, and called concerns that China is destabilizing the region "a big joke." Zeng Tao, spokesman for the National People's Congress, said the resolution was unreasonable interference in China's internal affairs. Zeng called on the Senate to "treasure the achievements of the development of Sino-US relations."

4 August 1988
William Burns, director of the US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, commenting on talks with Peking on the sale of medium-range missiles to Syria, said, "The Chinese approach to this particularly vexing problem was frank, and I believe also positive." On 27 July, the U.S. Senate passed a non-binding resolution calling for Peking to immediately halt "its irresponsible and dangerous arms sales to the Middle East." The Chinese Foreign Ministry on denounced the resolution, saying "This amendment, which makes a big fuss about the so-called arms sales, brings harm to Sino-US relations."

2 August 1988
China and Iran are reportedly close to signing an oil-for-arms agreement. Sources say the agreement will send a cargo of crude to China for further supplies of Chinese Silkworm missiles. Negotiations are understood to be in the final stages this week.

16 July 1988
Secretary of State George Schultz indicates he has received no assurances from China's leaders that they would curb their sales of missiles in the Middle East after two days of talks in Beijing. "We didn't come to any agreements about it," Schultz said. "But I think it has been worthwhile to talk about it, and I am sure that that subject will continue to be an important one on our agenda." Schultz went on to say that "The Chinese told me that they had not made any sale of ballistic missiles to a country other than Saudi Arabia."

9 July 1988
Secretary of State George P. Schultz criticizes China for building and selling the same types of missiles that Washington and Moscow are working to eliminate. "There is an irony in that just as we are eliminating nuclear-armed ballistic missiles in the range of 500 to 5,000 kilometers (310 to 3,100 miles), the Chinese are producing exactly those weapons," Schultz said.

2 July 1988
Syria denies any deal for Chinese-made missiles exists between the two countries. A spokesman for the Syrian military dismissed Israeli reports of the deal as "untrue."
The missiles in question are the Chinese M-9 missiles, a missile China specifically designed for its export market. Syrian television reports that the Israeli claims are designed to blackmail the U.S. into selling Israel more advanced

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American weapons systems.


10 June 1988
The Xinhua News Agency reports that Chinese-guided missile tests launched by the PLA strategic missile force in the past five years have been "95% successful."

7 June 1988
The Chinese Foreign Ministry denied a U.S. newspaper report that Chinese-made Silkworm missiles arrived in Iran last month, saying China had tried to stop the flow of the missiles to Iran.

25 May 1988
Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Li Zhaoxing denies reports that Chinese leaders agreed to supply Argentina with technology for producing anti-ship and medium-range missiles capable of hitting the Falkland Islands, as well as reports that China helped Pakistan launch a missile. "The allegations about China's assistance in Pakistan's launching of a medium-range missile is utterly groundless," he said. Li also dismissed as "groundless" reports that Israel helped develop Chinese ground-to-ground missiles recently sold to Saudi Arabia.

14 May 1988
Chinese technicians will operate recently deployed mobile, medium-range missile systems sold to Saudi Arabia. The Chinese will work under Saudi supervision. Chinese technicians were brought in to deploy the missiles because the weapons "cannot be operated without constant support of their designers," a Pentagon analyst said.

6 April 1988
Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian defends China's decision to sell missiles to Saudi Arabia. He confirmed that China had sold "some nonnuclear, conventional surface-to-surface missiles" to Saudi Arabia. "The Saudi government made a commitment to us of no transfer, no first use of these missiles, and to use these missiles entirely for defensive purposes. We believe the Saudi government will honor its commitment." He went on to say that the missile sale "is conducive to the stability of the situation in Saudi Arabia in particular and to the Middle East in general." "China's attitude on the question of arms sales is a serious one [and] responsible one as well." He went on to say that "some press tend to pick on China, and whenever China sells weapons, China becomes the newsmaker. How about the weapons flying around over the [Persian] Gulf? There are many kinds of them. At least I know there are such weapons as the [American-made] Stinger and the [French-made] Exocet. These are not Chinese weapons. Why is it that some people always harass China with this so-called issue?"

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4 April 1988
The Sunday Times reports that Israel and China have reached a secret arms deal. Israel has agreed to provide China with advanced missile technology. Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin denies the agreement exists. The report says that Israel is to supply China with advanced trajectory-corrected missiles of an unspecified designation. 

28 March 1988
Shang-Yao Chi is sentenced to one year in prison for his role in the missile-smuggling plot that involved high-ranking Chinese officials in the United States. Chi pleaded guilty on 10 December to conspiring to illegally export 10 TOW II missiles to China. U.S. District Court Judge Dickinson R. Debevoise could have sentenced Chi to more than five years in prison, but because of "exemplary" cooperation in the case, only sentenced him to one year. Defense attorney Alan Zegas said Chi went along with the plot out of fear that his brother, an anti-communist like Chi, would be harmed while in a Chinese prison.

24 March 1988
John H. Hall, former president and engineer of Micro Power Systems, Inc., testified in front of the Senate Commerce Committee, saying "I have reason to believe Seiko may have illegally transferred critical ballistic missile guidance technology to China." The technology was invented at Japan's Hattori Seiko Co. Group in a joint venture with the United States. The technologies in question include 12-bit accuracy digital-to-analog data converter technology, used in target area inertial guidance systems providing near-perfect accuracy for ballistic missiles. "In sum, Seiko's takeover of Micro Power has resulted in the transfer of significant military technologies to Japan, where export control is notoriously less stringent than in the United States," Hall said.

21 March 1988
China confirms the sale of medium-range ballistic missiles armed with conventional warheads to Saudi Arabia. "China has provided Saudi Arabia with conventional and non-nuclear surface-to-surface tactical missiles" a Foreign Ministry spokesman said in a statement. The DF-3 has a range of 2,200 km and has the capability of hitting any area in the Middle East. "China does not favor nor engage in nuclear proliferation, China does not sell nuclear weapons to any country." The spokesman said. "We trust the government of Saudi Arabia in its commitment that these weapons are solely for the purpose of defense."

17 March 1988
The U.S. State Department releases a statement claiming China is selling missiles to Saudi Arabia. The missiles are reported to be the DF-3, capable of carrying nuclear weapons, although both countries deny that China is supplying nuclear weapons to Saudi Arabia. Charles Redman, a State Department spokesman says "The United States believes that the acquisition of such a system is not in the interest of peace and stability in the region." He went on to say the purchase is "part of a disturbing trend in surface-to-surface missile proliferation that threatens the security of all states in the region." Mr. Redman also said that the Saudi Government "has assured us at the highest level that Saudi Arabia does not have, nor does it intend to acquire any nuclear capability."

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9 March 1988
The Reagan administration announces the lifting of sanctions on the sale of high technology to China because it is satisfied China is not selling Silkworm anti-ship missiles to Iran. "We are encouraged by Chinese statements and actions regarding Iran's acquisition of Chinese anti-ship missiles, Silkworms," State Department spokesman Charles Redman said.

9 March 1988
Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian tells President Reagan that China will support an embargo on Iran if the resolution wins the backing of an "overwhelming majority" of the Security Council. The President thanked Foreign Minister Wu for "the Chinese direct expression of support."

7 March 1988
U.S. Secretary of State George P. Schultz appeals to Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian for China to back a U.N.-sponsored arms embargo on Iran as an "essential step" toward ending the seven-year war in the Persian Gulf. The Chinese claim that since last November, they have stopped supplying Silkworm missiles to Iran. A senior State Department official told reporters, "as far as we can tell, from our information, they [the Chinese] have been living up to that pledge."

16 February 1988
Hua Xiang, director of Peking's Center for International Studies, warns that ties between Peking and Washington will worsen unless the U.S. stops "interference and blackmail." The warning comes in an issue of the Peking Review, an official government publication. Hua warns that U.S. protests on human rights abuses in Tibet and accusations of Chinese Silkworm missile sales to Iran threaten ties between the two states.

9 February 1988
Charles Chang is sentenced to two years in prison for conspiracy to illegally export missiles to China. Shang-Yao Chi was also indicted in the case. He pled guilty and faces sentencing February 22.

3 February 1988
Chinese officials urge the U.S. to end "some irrational practices" regarding high-technology transfers in order to improve trade relations. The U.S. placed curbs on technology transfers in October after China shipped Silkworm missiles to Iran.

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13 January 1988

U.S. officials claim Iran has received a new shipment of Chinese Silkworm missiles via North Korea. New intelligence reports indicate that the new missiles are not only land-based, but can also be fired from ships, giving the missiles more mobility.


1987-1986

30 December 1987

Three merchant ships believed to be carrying Chinese-made arms are reported en-route to Iran. U.S. intelligence analysts say two of the ships left North Korean ports last week, while a third left Shanghai a few days ago. North Korea has been a common route for Chinese arms headed to Iran in the past. The ships are believed to be carrying advanced Silkworm missiles, which are needed for an Iranian offensive against Iraq.


27 December 1987

China denies selling missiles to Iran. The U.S. accused China of selling advanced Silkworm Anti-ship missiles to Iran. A spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry stated that: "The reports about China's direct or indirect supply of the missiles to Iran are all groundless."


16 December 1987

Taiwanese businessman Shang-Yao Chi pleads guilty to charges of conspiring with high-level U.N. diplomats to illegally export arms to China. Chi originally pled innocent on October 27. Chinese diplomat Fan Lianfeng was also implicated in the case, although high-level diplomats normally enjoy diplomatic immunity. Fan left the U.S. shortly after the case broke.


19 November 1987

The U.S. State Department welcomes Chinese statements regarding the control of the international sale of Silkworm missiles. State Department Spokesman Charles Redman said a new Chinese statement issued yesterday was "consistent with comments by a number of Chinese officials indicating that China has taken strict measures to prevent the diversion of Chinese-origin arms to Iran." Redman does not know what steps China has taken but said that "it would be a positive development if these measures are effective in stopping the flow of Chinese arms to Iran."


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18 November 1987
The Chinese Foreign Ministry announces that China has halted the international sale of Silkworm Missiles, which have been used by Iran against neutral shipping in the gulf. "We have taken measures to prevent Chinese-made missiles (from) entering the international market," Foreign Ministry spokesman Ma Yuzhen announced. "China sells no weapons to Iran, including missiles," Ma said.

4 November 1987
China accuses U.S. officials and the American media of spreading "groundless rumors" in alleging that China was selling arms to Iran. "The U.S. press has been trying to give the international community the impression as if China had become the biggest arms supplier for Iran and has been spreading such rumors," said Li Zhaoxing, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman. "This is really ridiculous. We express our strong dissatisfaction with the practice of shifting to China the responsibility for the escalation of tensions in the gulf."

3 November 1987
China pledges to take strict measures to ensure that Chinese-made Silkworm missiles are not diverted to Iran. Undersecretary of State Michael Armacost says "Our objective is to put the issue behind us," upon the completion of a three-day visit for talks with Chinese vice Foreign Minister Zhu Qizhen. "Our concern, obviously, is that weapons of Chinese origin, however they are delivered to Iran, hit American-flagged ships and injure Americans, and also are directed against friendly countries in the (Persian) gulf."

2 November 1987
Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang attacks the U.S. for criticism of China's human rights record in Tibet and for accusing China of selling missiles to Iran. Zhao said the U.S. charges "are not only harsh words, but these words are completely groundless. It's unfair to shift the responsibility of the intensification of the tensions in the gulf region to China."

23 October 1987
China says the U.S. was "not reasonable" in imposing sanctions on high-tech sales in response to alleged continued sale of Chinese missiles to Iran. The Xinhua News Agency says that it "is not reasonable at all for the United States to halt the review of relaxing controls of high-tech exports to China under the pretext of mounting tensions in the Gulf."

22 October 1987
The U.S. moves to limit the sale of some high-technology items to China in retaliation for continued Chinese missile sales to Iran. State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley announces: "During this period of rising tensions,...we have decided not to proceed for now with review of certain liberalization of high-technology export controls on the People's Republic of China." Senator Frank H. Murkowski asked the administration to review all transfers of

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U.S. military-related technology to show that the "continued transfer of Silkworm missiles to Iran may seriously jeopardize U.S.-China relations." Murkowski went on to say that he wants to "send a message that U.S. military sales should not, in my opinion, continue if China continues its Silkworm sales" to Iran.

21 October 1987
Shang-Yao Chi pleads innocent to charges that he tried to illegally sell U.S. missiles to China.

1 October 1987
Shang-Yao Chi is arrested for allegedly conspiring to illegally export TOW and Sidewinder missiles, and blueprints for F-14 fighter jets to China. According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark S. Olinsky, Chi has links to "high-ranking members of the United Nations (Chinese) delegation and the People's Republic of China." According to the complaint, the negotiations were with an undercover federal agent, and that no missiles or plans changed hands.

26 September 1987
In an interview with Tom Brokaw, Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang says China has not sold any weapons to Iran. "We have repeatedly stated that China has not sold weapons Iran, and of course no missiles. China has all along been making efforts for an early end to the Iran-Iraq war. We will never do anything which is not in the interest of reconciliation between Iran and Iraq." He went on to say that China "will make our efforts to prevent the weapons China exports from being acquired by Iran or Iraq through other channels."

14 September 1987
Iraq denies that Iran captured Chinese-made Silkworm missiles from Iraq in an offensive, as was claimed by Iranian officials. Saadoun Hammadi, president of Iraq's National Assembly, said in a statement. "The Iranians are absolutely not telling the truth when they say they have captured these missiles from Iraq."

17 August 1987
Iran is said to have purchased $1.6 billion worth of Silkworm missiles and unsophisticated planes from China. The price of the Silkworms is reported at $600 million, with two different categories included, missiles with a 1,000 pound warhead and missiles with a 1,300 pound warhead.

27 June 1987
A new shipment of Chinese Badger bombers and Silkworm missiles arrives in Iraqi ports. Intelligence reports

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indicate that the latest shipment includes 30 crates for Silkworm missiles. The reports say that the shipment "completes a big order" of Chinese made arms that have been arriving in Iraq for the past several months. China is a major supplier to both sides during the Iran-Iraq war.


10 June 1987
Foreign Ministry Spokesman Li Jinhua denies Chinese sales of Silkworm missiles to Iran. "It is quite obvious that certain U.S. newspapers have kept on fabricating and spreading such irresponsible reports with ulterior motives," she said referring to reporting in U.S. newspapers on the Iran-Iraq war. "We have also noted that recently senior officials of a big power have also made similar remarks on several occasions. We are very surprised at that." A western diplomat responded by saying "China has held itself up as a leader in world disarmament, how can you say you’re a leader and at the same time be a major arms supplier?"


10 June 1987
Iranian officials claim to be domestically producing the Silkworm anti-ship missiles the U.S. government has accused China of selling to Iran. Amir Zamini, spokesman for the Iranian mission to the U.N., said that Iran had captured the missile from Iraq in an offensive 18 months ago. Responding to questions regarding how Iran built the missiles considering Iranian capabilities, he responded "Necessity is the mother of invention."


10 June 1987
White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker contradicts National Security Advisor Frank Carlucci by saying that he believes China's denial that they sold missiles to Iran. "I accept the Chinese government's statement that they did not give them or sell them to Iran. I do not dispute that." Shortly after the statement was released, an official said that Baker was mistaken. "We have no doubt the missiles are coming from China directly to Iran."


6 June 1987
National Security Advisor Frank Carlucci says that the Chinese deny selling Silkworm anti-ship missiles to Iran. He also says that Iran has received "somewhere over 20 now and the (final) package is at least twice that size." He went on to say that although the Chinese deny the sales, "We think they are coming from China."


5 June 1987
Arab leaders meet together to discuss what actions must be taken against China in response to Chinese aid to Iran in the Iran-Iraq war. Included in the allegations against China are reports that China has sold Silkworm anti-ship missiles to Iran. "Our policy of keeping strict neutrality in the Iran-Iraq war remains unchanged," a spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry said. "Our position of not providing any weapons to Iran remains unchanged also." However, in a separate statement in April, Iran's ambassador to China, Alaeddin Borujerdi, did indicate Iran had

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received weapons from China, including missiles.

1 June 1987
It is believed that Iran and China are working towards an arms agreement to include missiles. Iran may have asked China to supply the HY-2, Silkworm, anti-ship missile to Iran.

27 May 1987
Chinese Foreign Ministry officials deny reports that China has been providing Iran with anti-ship Silkworm missiles. Speaking on the condition of anonymity, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said "it's not true," in commenting about the alleged missile sales.

26 May 1987
U.S. officials announce that China has shipped a second delivery of Silkworm anti-ship missiles to Iran. The Chinese missiles were delivered two weeks ago, adding to an arsenal provided by China in a shipment earlier in the year.
"The missiles add dangerous dimensions to shipping in the Gulf," said U.S. officials under conditions of anonymity.

21 May 1987
Mounting tensions in the Persian Gulf are putting new pressure on China for missile sales to Iran. "The (Communist) Chinese decision to sell such weapons (Silkworm) to Iran is most unwelcome and disturbing," Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asian Affairs Richard Murphy said. He went on to say that "We have made clear to both Iran and Red China the seriousness with which we consider the Silkworm threat." The State Department refuses to comment on whether or not the U.S. has lodged an official complaint directly with the Chinese.

4 May 1987
Hunag Hua, vice-chairman of the standing committee of the Chinese National People’s Congress, denies reports that China has sold arms, including missiles, to Contras in Nicaragua. He calls the accusations “false and groundless.” Huang stressed that no false reporting would harm the friendly relations between China and Nicaragua, Mexico, or the contradora group.

20 March 1987
U.S. military officials and analysts believe new Iranian missile batteries pose a serious threat to commercial shipping in the Persian Gulf. The HY-2 missiles are Chinese-built and carry 1,000 pounds of explosives. They are designed to attack ships from land. They have a range of 50 miles.

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**4 March 1987**

In response to ongoing disarmament talks between the United States and the Soviet Union, China urges both states to include Asia in discussions on missile reduction. A Chinese Foreign Ministry official said, "We have consistently held that the reduction of the medium-range missiles deployed in Europe and Asia by the Soviet Union and the United States should be simultaneous and balanced and should be carried out according to the same principle until their total destruction." China is concerned that the reduction of nuclear missiles in Europe will simply mean a Soviet transfer of those missiles to Asia.


**15 January 1987**

China unveils the Air Force's new B6-D bomber. The plane carries guided missiles under its wings for attack against enemy warships.


**4 November 1986**

China hosts Asiandex '86, the largest international arms bazaar ever hosted by China. Chinese launch rockets and tactical missiles are on display, which also includes models of its missiles, fighters, tanks, mobile rocket launchers, machine guns, torpedoes, mortars, and other ordnance.


**17 February 1986**

Aviation Week & Space Technology reports that China carried out a test launch of the DF-5 Intercontinental Ballistic Missile last September. Western intelligence analysts believe that this missile uses a multiple independent reentry vehicle (MIRV) type of nuclear warhead. The launch took place from Xichang launch facility in Sichuan Province in Southwest China.


**28 January 1986**

The Xinhua News Agency reports that the missile tests conducted last September "greatly increased the ...strategic capability" of an improved guided missile "and the number of targets within its range."


**1985-1980**

**21 September 1985**

China announces it is preparing to launch a "carrier rocket" toward a target area in the East China Sea north of Taiwan. Western military experts said the test may involve a new cruise missile. The agency described the low-altitude missile as "China's Exocet," after the French weapon that proved so effective in the Falklands conflict.

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between Britain and Argentina in 1982.

22 July 1985
China has modified its Titan-class CZ-2 and CZ-3 rocket boosters by adding large tail fins and improving their rocket engines and electronics to provide more flight control and reliability to a vehicle they hope will be competitive in the international commercial launch market. The CZ-2/3 series that has launched 14 of China's 16 satellites is manufactured on a one-by-one custom basis as Chinese spacecraft near flight readiness rather than being produced on an assembly line to support long-term Chinese space mission planning. A U.S. space team visited the Shanghai plant that manufactures the Titan-class booster used both as a launch vehicle and as China's largest intercontinental ballistic missile capable of lofting a five-ton nuclear warhead 6,000 mi. Only about five of them have been deployed as ICBM's. The two-stage CZ-2 can place more than 5,000 lb. into a low Earth orbit and with an oxygen/hydrogen upper stage added to form the CZ-3 can place 3,080 lb. in geosynchronous transfer orbit.

8 July 1985
China is seeking a foreign customer for its proposed C101 ship-launched anti-ship missile, and is offering to develop the weapon with the customer in a cooperative effort. A scale model of the C101 was displayed on the China Precision Machinery Import/Export Corp. stand at the Paris air show. China's participation this year was its first in the Paris show.

17 June 1985
At the Paris air show, China displays new missile and weapons technology. Included in the display is the HQ-2J surface-to-air missile, based on the Soviet SA-2 guideline, a two-stage weapon with a length of 10.8 meters (35.5 feet). First stage is 0.654 meters (2.1 ft) in diameter and is powered by a solid propellant rocket motor. The HQ-2J weighs 19.3 kilograms, and bursts into 12,000 fragments. It is claimed to be lethal within 6 meters of the blast radius. Also included are the HY-2 anti-ship missiles, which can be fired from a portable land-based launcher. It is a winged missile with a length of 7.36 meters (24.14 ft.) and a diameter of 0.76 meters (2.49 ft.). Weight is 2,998 kg. (6,610 lb.). Chinese officials said the HY-2 is launched by solid boosters and is powered to the target at high subsonic speeds by a liquid motor. The HY-2G version has active radar homing and uses a radio altimeter to reduce the cruise altitude. The HY-2A uses passive infrared homing. Maximum effective range of the HY-2 series is 95 km. (59 mi.) according to Chinese data. Warhead weight is 513 kg. (1,130 lb.), Chinese officials said. Typical operational range for the HY-2 is from 20 to 95 km. (12 to 59 mi.) at cruise speeds of Mach 0.9. The China Precision Machinery stand at the Paris air show also included a full-scale HN-5 shoulder-launched antiaircraft missile. The weapon is designed for use against low-altitude targets, and the missile flies at a speed of 500 meters/sec. (1,640 fps.).

June 1985
China and Iran agree to a contract for China to sell 200 Silkworm ground-to-ground missiles worth $250 million dollars to Iran. Arms brokers in Tehran said China also delivered 120 HQ2J surface-to-air missiles. Chinese officials have denied the sales.

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7 April 1985
Chinese officials leave for a summit with Soviet leaders. The Chinese maintain that Soviet troop deployment along the Sino-Soviet border, Soviet missile deployment aimed at China and Soviet involvement in Afghanistan remain barricades to normalization of relations between the two states.

1 April 1985
Aviation Week & Space Technology reports that on October 1 of last year, the Chinese government unveiled a submarine-based ballistic missile at National Day celebrations. The missile is under development for use on the Chinese navy’s Xia-class nuclear submarines, each of which is expected to carry 16 operational missiles. A developmental version of the CSS-NX4, a single-stage missile, was test fired from a submerged submarine in late 1982 and the missile hit a target area about 900 nautical miles away. Operational range is expected to be 1,600-2,000 nautical miles.

March 1985
The Chinese government announces that it has the nuclear capabilities to counter a surprise nuclear attack. This is based on its ballistic missile capabilities, which include ICBMs and IRBMs.

12 January 1985
The United States reaches an agreement to sell China anti-submarine and anti-missile defense systems. The hardware is to include the Phalanx anti-missile system.

January 1985
China announces over state radio that it intends to develop a new anti-ship missile by 1989. According to the commentary, the Chinese are developing new missiles that will be supersonic, fly at sea-skimming altitudes, and have a long range capability.

29 October 1984
The People’s Daily reports that China now has an adequate nuclear combat capability to counter a surprise attack. The report suggests that China is completing deployment of intermediate and long-range missile forces.

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16 October 1984
China opens a defense exhibit in Athens displaying models, photos, and videos of battle proven Chinese weaponry. The display includes military electronics, ordinance weapons, tactical missiles, and warships.

1 October 1984
In National Day celebrations, China displays a broad range of artillery, armor and missiles, along with more than 6,000 marching soldiers. Chinese intercontinental ballistic missiles, medium-range ballistic missiles, and intermediate-range ballistic missiles are all on display. Western analysts note that the equipment looks old, but generally in good shape. Analysts also notice the similarity between some of the Chinese equipment and Israeli equipment, including a sea-launched cruise missile similar to Israel’s Gabriel.

26 September 1984
Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, in an address delivered before the U.N. General Assembly, demands the U.S. and Soviet Union resume arms talks and destroy their arsenals of deployed nuclear missiles. "The two superpowers ought to bear the responsibility. It is they who possess over 95% of the world's total nuclear weaponry, and they alone are in a position to fight a nuclear war" he said.

27 August 1984
Chinese President Li Xianian and Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu call jointly for the U.S and Soviet Union to halt deployment of medium range nuclear missiles. They call for the resumption of talks between the superpowers regarding the reduction and eradication of all nuclear weapons.

15 August 1984

28 July 1984
Li Yiamg, President of the official Chinese Association for International Understanding, pledges that China will scale down its nuclear arsenal if the two superpowers take the lead, noting that the Chinese force is only a deterrent against "nuclear blackmail." According to analysts, China has a nuclear arsenal that includes ICBMs with a range of 8,000 miles.

27 July 1984
A U.S. federal judge dismisses charges against two Chinese and three Americans accused of smuggling more than $1 million worth of radar jamming and missile-guidance equipment to China. Judge H. Lee Sarokin concluded that

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they had been “charged with an act that does not constitute a crime.”


15 June 1984

The U.S. and China have not been able to reach a formal agreement on an arms package. Zhang Aiping, the Chinese Defense Minister, ends talks in Washington before the U.S. and China are able to reach an agreement over the sale of U.S. antiaircraft missiles and anti-tank weapons.


12 June 1984

Han Huaizhi, Assistant to the PLA Chief of General Staff, announces the formation of a strategic missile wing. "Rapid advances in military technology have made it necessary for the PLA to raise its combined attacking ability. Only in this way would it be able to win battles in the coming anti-aggressive war to defend socialist construction and world peace."


12 June 1984

Secretary of Defense Caspar W. Weinberger announces that the United States and China have reached an agreement regarding U.S. weapons sales. The Chinese request that the details of the talks remain private. The U.S. and China discussed anti-tank missiles, and the potential for the U.S. to provide China with high technology to improve artillery ammunition. Weinberger states that anti-tank missiles may be sold to China in the future.


6 June 1984

Yuri Dergachov, a Soviet commentator, warns the U.S. about selling advanced technology to China, which could be used for advanced weaponry. Mr. Dergachov warned that China might use advanced U.S. computers, microprocessors, and nuclear power technology to improve its intercontinental ballistic missiles.


5 June 1984

Chinese Defense Minister Zhang Aiping says that China wants to buy advanced weapons and technology from the United States and other friendly countries in an attempt to continue the modernization of the Chinese military. Continuing talks with the U.S. include early-warning radar, air defense systems, and anti-tank missiles.


27 April 1984

Chinese diplomats express concerns regarding the arms race between the Soviet Union and the U.S. in talks with President Reagan in Beijing. Zhao Ziyang tells U.S. officials that "if the two sides continue their deployment of these missiles there will inevitably be a progressive escalation of the arms race in Europe which will aggravate the international tension."

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8 April 1984
China successfully launches a permanently orbiting satellite. The satellite was launched on a three-stage launcher with a refined guidance system. The system far exceeds the firing capabilities of China’s most advanced ICBMs.

4 April 1984
Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian denounces the Soviet deployment of SS-20 missiles in the Far East, saying "The deployment of additional SS-20 missiles was regarded as a practical threat to the Security of China."

14 February 1984
Bail is set at $1.5 million for Da-Chuan Zheng who is accused of plotting to smuggle up to $1 million of missile-guidance and radar jamming equipment to China. Jing Li Zhang, Kuang-Shin Lee, Kwong Allen Yeung, and David Tsai were all charged in the case.

13 February 1984
U.S. customs agents arrest five persons in New Jersey for conspiring to smuggle more than $1 million in classified high-technology military equipment for missile guidance, radar jamming and electronic surveillance to China.

1 February 1984
Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qi Huaiyuan comments on U.S. and Soviet missile deployment. "At present the two superpowers are competing with each other to deploy middle-range nuclear missiles in Europe. Under these circumstances, European countries hope that the convening of the Conference on Disarmament in Europe would play a certain role in easing tension in the region." His comments are in regards to the Stockholm Conference on Disarmament taking place in Europe.

9 January 1984
The Reagan administration comes under fire from the Conservative Caucus for easing restrictions on technology transfers to China. Conservative Caucus President Howard Phillips accuses President Reagan of caving to the pressure from business interests. He asserts that access to U.S. technology will make it easier for China to upgrade its missile capabilities.

31 December 1983
The Soviet Union harshly criticizes China for biased analysis of U.S. medium-range missile deployment in Western Europe. The report, published in the military newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda, states that China seems unable to

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understand how Washington alone has aggravated international tension by deploying the medium-range nuclear weapons.

25 November 1983
Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian announces that the Soviet Union must reduce the number of SS-20 missiles deployed in the Far East as a prerequisite to normalization of relations between the two states.

7 October 1983
China and the Soviet Union open talks aimed at normalizing relations. The Chinese are set to pressure the Soviets regarding Soviet nuclear missiles deployed along China’s frontier.

17 September 1983
China asks the Soviet Union to drastically reduce its SS-20 medium range nuclear missiles in Asia. It is the first time China has included the missiles as a major obstacle to normalizing Sino-Soviet relations.

28 July 1983
China launches its first nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine. "From what we understand, they [China] did launch a nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine sometime last year, but it is not operational yet." China is still developing its SLBMs, and will likely mate them with these submarines. Retired British Admiral John Moore is quoted in Japanese newspapers as saying that China is constructing the second fleet of eight nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines.

23 July 1983
The Chinese government lodges a protest with the U.S. regarding arms sales to Taiwan. "The Chinese government hereby lodges a strong protest with the U.S. government against this act which seriously contravenes the above agreement [U.S.-China Joint Communiqué]," proclaimed Zhang Wenjin, Chinese Ambassador to the U.S.

23 March 1983
The Washington Post reports that China has cancelled an arms deal worth more than $150 million with Britain. It is reported that the cost was too high for the Chinese.

14 March 1983
Georgy Arbatov, a member of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Commission, calls for China to be included in negotiations seeking to restrict medium-range nuclear missiles in Asia.

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3 March 1983
Chinese Defense Minister Zhang Aiping publishes an article expressing views regarding Chinese military spending and development. "Defense funds should be concentrated on those programs which are badly needed and the most important areas which affect the overall situation, such as strategic guided missiles and center for producing nuclear fuel and bombs" he wrote.

2 March 1983
China and the Soviet Union conduct talks in an effort to ease tensions between the two countries. China expresses concern regarding Soviet missile deployment targeting China.

6 December 1982
China buys more than $170 million worth of missiles from the British. The negotiations began in July 1981, at a conference in Shanghai. The missiles are part of a package that includes other naval-oriented weapons systems.

2 November 1982
The *New York Times* reports that China has signed a deal with Britain to buy Sea Dart missiles and advanced electronic equipment. Deliveries are set to take place over several years.

17 October 1982
China News Agency reports that China successfully test-fired its first submarine-launched missile in the East China Sea during October 7-16 exercises.

12 October 1982
China conducts its first underwater launch of a submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM), the Julang-1 (JL1) from Bohai Bay, 150 miles north east of Beijing in the North China Sea.

2 October 1982
China announces that it will test fire an unarmed missile into the East China Sea northeast of China later in October 1982. The government warns ships to stay clear of the area.

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17 August 1982
China News Agency reports that China has developed a guided missile destroyer and continues to test weapons for other ships.

7 December 1981
China test launches the DF-5 ICBM from Wuzhai test center in Shaanxi Province.

21 October 1981
The Chinese Foreign Ministry denies that a submarine exploded during missile firing test in the North China Sea.

21 September 1981
U.S. officials protest Japanese intentions to sell high-tech computers to China. U.S. officials contend the computers could easily be converted from civilian use to military use analyzing the trajectory of ballistic missiles.

30 April 1981
China launches its first Daqingyu-class (U.S. designation: Xia) nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine from Huludao Shipyard in Liaoing Province.

October 1980
China test fires the DF-4 missile from the Jingyu missile test center in Jilin Province.

August 1980
China test fires the DF-4 missile from the Jingyu missile test center in Jilin Province.

21 May 1980
China conducts its second full range test of the DF-5. The test fails as the missile falls 800 miles short of the intended target.

18 May 1980
China conducts its first full range test of the DF-5 ICBM from Shuangchengzi missile test center in Gansu Province to a Pacific Ocean impact site. The test flight covers a distance of 6,000 miles. Chinese officials announce that "China's launching of carrier rockets into the Pacific Ocean between May 18 and May 20 was completely

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successful." The new missiles are able to reach the western United States.

1970s

4 September 1979
China conducts a partial-range test of the DF-5.

21 August 1979
China conducts a partial-range test of the DF-5.

15 July 1979
China conducts a partial-range test of the DF-5.

4 July 1979
Chinese radio in Beijing reports the successful test of a ballistic missile.

7 January 1979
China tests the DF-5 ICBM from the Wuzhai missile test center in northwest Shaanxi Province.

30 August 1978
The International Institute for Strategic Studies releases a report saying the China has intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs). The report says that multi-stage ICBMs first tested in 1976 are now likely operational.

3 May 1978
China reportedly purchases anti-tank missiles from France. It is the first order of advanced weapons from a western state Beijing has made since China began modernizing its military.

18 April 1978
U.S. State Department spokesman Tom Reston declines comment regarding accusations that the CIA sent agents in

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to India to set up nuclear powered equipment to monitor Chinese missile tests.

15 April 1978
Indian government officials demand an explanation from the CIA regarding reports that the CIA recruited 14 mountain climbers to hike into the Himalayas and place nuclear powered sensory equipment to monitor Chinese missile tests.

26 January 1978
China successfully launches a satellite into space. It marks the eighth satellite launch for China since 1970 and was deemed a success as it was brought safely back.

13 September 1977
China discloses through the Xinhua Press Agency that it has tested guided missiles with nuclear capabilities.

24 August 1977
The Defense Intelligence Agency reports that China has embarked on a slow military modernization that will not threaten the United States in the near term. The Agency reported that no Chinese missiles have the capability to reach the United States and that Chinese missile capabilities will not likely threaten the U.S. for at least a decade.

12 July 1977
Qian Xueshen says in the Chinese journal Red Flag that Chinese development of science and technology is lagging behind due to political interference. Provincial radio is also reporting that political infighting at a main support base for nuclear weapons and missiles crippled defense production for months last year.

12 October 1976
President Ford and the National Security Council approve the sale of high technology computer equipment to China, despite opposition by the Energy Research and Development Association. The sale has been approved but is subject to safeguards recommended by the Department of Defense. The sale will have to be approved by the International Export Control Coordinating Committee. Two computers have been approved for sale, but only one will be delivered immediately for oil exploration. The other will not be delivered until proof has been given of the need for seismic research. In addition to the possibility of using the computer equipment for nuclear weapons calculation without the safeguards, they could also be used for anti-ballistic missile systems and large phased-array radar to track ICBMs.

18 October 1976
China’s ballistic missile programs are not progressing as quickly as U.S. intelligence had previously forecast. It

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seems to be the result of a combination of economic and technical restraints that China is facing.

**25 February 1976**
Former Defense Intelligence Agency Director Lt. General Daniel O Graham says that China has probably made a political decision not to produce ICBMs so that it would not have a weapon that directly threatens the United States. China probably made a "deliberate political decision" after President Nixon visited, to not produce the missile that was test fired in 1971. Graham believes China will only produce submarine-launched ballistic missiles.

**13 October 1975**
China is reported to have deployed two DF-4 missiles with a range of 3,500 miles and 3 megaton warheads in an underground silo in Western China. It is believed that a silo for a third missile is being constructed, but that the Chinese are having some difficulty with the two-stage system.

**14 April 1975**
Newsweek reports that U.S. intelligence now has evidence that China's intermediate range missiles, with a range of about 1,500 miles, are now mobile and can be moved across the country. The report is based on intelligence that picked up a missile base more than 80 miles from the nearest railroad line, with no railroad tracks on the site.

**2 July 1973**
Department of Defense and Atomic Energy Commission officials report that China is making rapid headway in the development of nuclear weapons but is running into technical difficulty with the missiles necessary to deliver them.

**4 March 1973**
Nixon administration officials report that China is developing an intercontinental ballistic missile designed to stave off potential first strike capabilities by either the U.S. or the USSR.

**8 January 1973**
CIA Director Richard Helms testifies to the Senate Armed Services Committee that China may be reaching "superpower" status because of developments in nuclear weapons technology and delivery systems. Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird asserts before the committee that China is moving forward rapidly on the development of liquid-fueled missile systems.

**7 November 1972**
U.S. officials announce that there is evidence China has deployed a handful of strategic missiles capable of reaching Moscow. The missiles are reported to have a range of 3,500 miles and carry a 3 megaton warhead. China has also deployed 20 other missiles, some with a range of 1,000 miles.

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1 February 1972
Senior American analysts believe that China has started to deploy medium-range ballistic missiles with greater range and improved propellant systems than on earlier nuclear rockets. The missiles are using storable liquid propellant that permits them to be installed in special underground silos.

9 October 1971
Department of Defense Research Director Dr. John Foster says China now has medium range missiles, is in the process of developing IRBMS, and is likely to have ICBMs very soon.

10 September 1971
China conducts the first successful test flight of the DF-5 missile.

6 August 1971
The Department of Defense believes that China may have developed medium-range ballistic missiles with a range of up to 1,500 miles. The expectation is that China will have a modest operating force of medium-range and intermediate-range ballistic missiles by the middle of 1972.

8 June 1971
A U.S. Department of Defense report indicates that China is building a nuclear powered submarine. The sub is not believed to be capable of firing missiles.

1971
The DF-3 enters service.

30 January 1970
China conducts the first successful test flight a long distance missile. It is believed to be the D-F 4.

23 November 1970
U.S. analysts report that they believe China has developed a new medium-range nuclear-armed ballistic missile with a range between 600 and 1,000 miles at test range sites reportedly in preparation of a potential showdown with the Soviet Union. It is believed that the Chinese are also trying to develop a long-range missile with a range of more than 2,500 miles. That test center is believed to be in Manchuria.

October 1970
China tests a ballistic missile that travels 2,000 miles. The test is conducted entirely within China's borders.

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### 22 July 1970

Analysts in Hong Kong and Washington note the continued military build up on the Sino-Soviet border. It is also believed that a new missile test facility has opened near Peking. Officials expect China to be ready to test ICBMs with a range of over 1,000 miles very soon.


### 20 May 1970

U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense Daniel Henkin reports that China launched a second object of considerable size. The launch was likely a satellite. The feat means China is likely on the verge of testing intercontinental ballistic missiles, Henkin says.


### 24 April 1970

China successfully launches its first satellite the Dong Fang Hong-1 (DFH-1) using a CZ-1 launcher.


### 19 February 1970

China accuses Japan of developing missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads.


### 30 January 1970

China conducts its first test launch of DF-3 at Jiuquan launch facility in Gansu Province.


### 10 January 1970

China tests the CZ-1 launch vehicle at Jiuquan launch facility in Gansu Province.


### 1960s

### 1 November 1969

China attempts an unsuccessful launch of a satellite using a DF-3/CZ-1 launcher. The launch was deemed a failure because the satellite did not reach orbit.


### 17 September 1969

Asahi Shimbun reports that Japan believes China has developed ballistic missiles with a range of more than 1,200

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miles and will test an ICBM by the end of 1970.


26 January 1968
The first test run of the third stage of the Long March-1 launch vehicle ends in failure. The engine explodes 30 seconds after take-off. The failure is blamed on a malfunction with the adhesive.


26 December 1966
China conducts its first successful test flight of the DF-3 missile.


27 October 1966
China launches a Dong Feng-2 (DF-2) medium-range ballistic missile (MRBM) from the Shuangchengzi missile test site in Gansu province, which strikes its target in the Lop Nur test site. The missile carried a 12 kiloton nuclear warhead, marking the only time that a country has tested a nuclear warhead on a ballistic missile over populated areas.


1 July 1966
The Second Artillery Force, commanded by Xiang Shouzhi, is created to lead China's nuclear forces. It is equipped with strategic and ballistic missiles. It consists of six ballistic missile divisions.

— Second Artillery Corp, GlobalSecurity.org, www.globalsecurity.org

July 1965
The four engines for the DF-1, DF-2 and DF-3 are tested together on a stand for the first time. The DF-3 is to be a multi-engine rocket, unlike the single-engine DF-1 and DF-2.


March 1965
Research and development begins on the Dong Feng 4 (CSS-3). The DF-4 is to be a two-stage, liquid-fuelled ballistic missile with a range of 4,000 km. It is to carry a single warhead with an estimated yield of 3.3 megatons. Research and development also begins on the Dong Feng-5 (CSS-4). The DF-5 is to be a two-stage, liquid fuelled multi-megaton warhead with a range of more than 13,000 km. The DF-5 is to target the continental United States.


4 November 1964
The DF-2 is re-designated the DF-2A, with the intention to increase its range to 1,250 km.


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12 September 1964
The DF-1 is renamed DF-3. The new designation requires the missile to be developed with a longer range and greater payload.

29 June 1964
China conducts a successful test of the Dong Feng-2 surface-to-surface missile at the Jiuquan launching site in Gansu Province.

April 1964
Research and development begins on the Dong Feng-3 (CSS-2). The DF-3 is to be a single stage, liquid fueled missile. It is to be 24 meters long and 2.25 meters in diameter, and weigh 64 tons at lift off. The DF-3 is to be an intermediate range missile with a range of 2,800 km. The Philippines is the initial target of the DF-3.

[Note: Although designated the same name, this DF-3 is a completely different missile than the original DF-3ICBM with a 10,000 km range initially envisioned by Qian Xuesen in 1960 and abandoned in 1963.]

1963
The DF-1 is abandoned because of the weakness of its engines.

1963
Research and development on the 10,000 km. DF-3 ICBM is abandoned. The project suffered a series of setbacks as it was determined to be too ambitious for Chinese manufacturing capabilities at the time.

6 December 1962
Two female technicians are killed when 200 kg of solid fuel explodes in a mixer.

21 March 1962
China conducts its first test of the Dong Feng-2 missile. The launch is carried out at Jiuquan launch facility, in Gansu Province. The test is unsuccessful, as the rocket crashes 69 seconds into its mission.

March 1962
The Solid-fuel Rocket Engine Research Institute in the Fifth Academy is opened. Xiao Gan is named the head of the

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Institute.

1962
The Cuban Missile Crisis sparks a debate in China regarding the utility of nonstorable fuels in the Chinese missile program. It is believed that such missiles take too long to launch in a rapidly escalating showdown and cannot be held in readiness for long periods of time.

14 November 1960
Development begins on the DF-3. Qian Xuesen leads the project to develop a missile with a range of more than 10,000 km.

5 November 1960
China launches the first Dong Feng-1 (DF-1) missile, the Chinese version of the R-2 or SS-2 missile. The DF-1 was launched from the Jiujuan base in Gansu Province.

September 1960
China successfully launches a Soviet made R-2 missile.

19 February 1960
China launches the first rocket designed and manufactured in China. Launched near Shanghai, the rocket only flies 8 meters high before plummeting back to earth.

1959-1935

June 1959
The first strategic missile battalion is formed within the Artillery Corps.

16 October 1958
The PLA, directed by Nie Rongzhen, establishes the Science and Technology Commission for National Defense. This commission makes resource allocation decisions for the conventional and nuclear weapons programs.

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21 June 1958
Mao Zedong proclaims that China will have intercontinental missile capabilities within ten years. He delivers his message to the Central Military Commission, to whom he also tells that China will have nuclear and hydrogen bombs within that same time frame.

1 January 1958
China receives two R-2 missiles (U.S. code name SS-2) from Russia. Included with the missiles are missile blueprints, from which China intends to research and develop their own missiles.

1958
China establishes the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center, in Gansu Province. Jiuquan is a launch site for missile and satellite tests.

15 October 1957
China and the Soviet Union sign the New Defense Technical Accord. Included in the deal are two Soviet R-2 ballistic missiles, which have a greater range and larger payload than the R-1.

8 October 1956
The Central Committee establishes the Fifth Research Academy of the Ministry of National Defense to develop the space effort. Vice-premier Nie Rongzhen is in charge of the Institute, with Qian Xuesen as its first director. Within the academy, the first Rocket Research Institute is established.

13 September 1956
China purchases two R-1 missiles from the Soviet Union. The R-1 is a copy of the German liquid propellant V-2 missile used during World War II.

26 May 1956
The Central Military Commission, chaired by Zhou Enlai, accepts the reports issued by Nie Rongzhen and orders the establishment of administrative machinery to get work under way on missile and rocket development.

10 May 1956
Nie Rongzhen issues a paper entitled *Preliminary views on Establishing China's missile research* to the Central Committee Military Commission. The paper is one of many which outline the future of the Chinese missile program.

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April 1956
Qian Xuesen begins supervision of the research and development of Chinese missiles, rockets, and spacecraft. A former officer in the U.S. Army, Qian was one of the leading rocket scientists in the United States while working at the California Institute of Technology's Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena, California, where he was a co-founder of the lab.

1956
Construction commences on a rail line out to Shuangchengzi, the missile test firing range, in Gansu Province, China.

1955
Qian Xuesen is deported back to China as part of a prisoner exchange for 74 American Prisoners of War from the Korean War.

1951
Qian Xuesen is accused of being a communist and arrested during the McCarthy-led anti-communism crusades. His security clearance is revoked and he is put in prison.

5 May 1945
Qian Xuesen meets German rocket engineer Wernher von Braun.

May 1945
Qian Xuesen, as a temporary colonel in the United States Air Force, goes to Germany to survey the German rocket program. The trip includes inspecting rocket factories and secret test sites.

1939
Qian Xuesen graduates from the California Institute of Technology with his doctorate in aerospace and mathematics.

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1936
Qian Xuesen enrolls at the California Institute of Technology to pursue a doctorate in aerospace and mathematics.

1935
Qian Xuesen enrolls at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to pursue a master's degree in aeronautical engineering.