Chinese Aerospace Power: Evolving Maritime Roles

About the Contributors

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Lt. Col. Mark A. Stokes, USAF (Ret.), is Executive Director of the Project 2049 Institute. The Project 2049 Institute, established in January 2008, seeks to guide decision makers toward a more secure Asia by the century’s mid-point. The organization fills a gap in the public policy realm through forward-looking, region-specific research on alternative security and policy solutions. Its interdisciplinary approach draws on rigorous analysis of socioeconomic, governance, military, environmental, technological and political trends, and input from key players in the region, with an eye toward educating the public and informing policy debate. Having served for 20 years in the U.S. Air Force, Lt. Col. Stokes was assigned to a variety of electronic warfare, intelligence, planning, and policy positions. From 1984-86, he was assigned to the 6922nd Electronic Security Squadron, Clark AB, Philippines. From 1986-89, he served as a signals intelligence and electronic warfare officer in the 6912th Electronic Security Wing, Berlin, West Germany. Returning to the United States in July 1989, Lt. Col. Stokes entered the Air Force’s foreign area officer training program as a China specialist. From 1992-95, he served as the assistant air attaché at the United States Defense Attaché Office in Beijing, PRC. Lt. Col. Stokes subsequently was assigned to Headquarters, Air Force’s Plans and Operations Directorate where he was responsible for operational and strategic planning for the Asia-Pacific region. Between 1997 and 2004, Mark served as Team Chief and Senior Country Director for China, Taiwan, and Mongolia in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs (OSD/ISA). For seven years, he was responsible for developing, coordinating, and managing U.S. defense policy in this area. After retiring from the Air Force and prior to joining Project 2049, Stokes served as Vice President and Taiwan Manager, Raytheon International. He also was Executive Vice President, Laifu Trading Company, Ltd., a subsidiary of the Rehfeldt Group, one of the largest and most successful business development/consultancy firms in Taiwan. Mark also has been a Senior Associate for the Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS) and member of the Board of Governors of the American Chamber of Commerce in Taiwan. Stokes holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Texas A&M University, and master’s degrees in international relations and East Asian studies from Boston
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