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CMSI QUARTERLY REVIEW

● CHINA MARITIME STUDIES INSTITUTE ●

Summer 2026



中国海事研究所
China Maritime Studies Institute



Summer 2026

Notes From the CMSI Director

- **CMSI Turns 20.** On **24 September**, CMSI will celebrate the 20th anniversary of its founding at the U.S. Naval War College. To mark this milestone, we will host a Lecture of Opportunity in the Mahan Reading Room featuring the 29th Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Gary Roughead, and former CMSI Director, Dr. Peter Dutton. The event will be open to Naval War College faculty, students, staff, and Naval War College Foundation members.

Since its founding, CMSI has maintained a singular focus on the People's Republic of China's military maritime power—across the People's Liberation Army Navy, China Coast Guard, and People's Armed Forces Maritime Militia. From the outset, we have believed that rigorous scholarship should inform the U.S. Navy and policymakers. Twenty years later, as China's maritime power continues its rapid expansion, that mission is more important than ever.

- **2027 CMSI Conference (Save the Date).** Mark your calendars for **11–12 May 2027**, when CMSI hosts its next biennial conference at the U.S. Naval War College. This year's conference, "Military-Civil Fusion at Sea: China's Asymmetric Advantage?", will examine how Beijing's Military-Civil Fusion (MCF) Development Strategy is reshaping the military maritime domain and enhancing the PRC's ability to compete in peacetime and prepare for conflict. Bringing together leading U.S. and international experts on the People's Liberation Army (PLA), the conference will explore several dimensions of this increasingly important challenge. We hope you will join us. Additional details, including registration information, will be announced in the coming months.
- **PLA Fundamentals Course.** CMSI will host a three-day, unclassified PLA Fundamentals Course **27–29 July**, taught by the China Aerospace Studies Institute (CASI). Open to NWC faculty, students, U.S. military personnel, and partners at the College, the course provides a solid foundation in PLA organization, culture, personnel, and capabilities. Ideal for those new to China or anyone seeking a refresher. Contact cmsi_director@usnwc.edu if you are interested in attending – limited seating is still available.

CMSI's Recent Publications

Erickson, Andrew., "[*China's Nuclear Submarine Development Quest*](#)" published by The Korea Institute for Maritime Strategy Policy, 06 July 2026

Martinson, Ryan., "[*The New Normal East of Taiwan*](#)," China Maritime Studies Institute Note # 21, 06 July 2026

Arostegui, Joshua., "[*Loading the Well Deck; the PLA Navy's Maturing Role in Projecting Joint Ground Forces*](#)," China Maritime Report No. 55, 24 June 2026

Sharman, Christopher., "[*China's Far Seas Navy and the Logic of Global Presence*](#)," published by Survival: Global Politics and Strategy Vol 68, 5 June 2026

Martinson, Ryan., "[*Chairman Xi's Navy*](#)," China Maritime Report No. 54, 02 June 2026

Richter, Eric and Arostegui, Joshua., "[*Filling the Ranks; China's Military Recruiting System and the PLA Navy*](#)," China Maritime Report No. 53, 06 May 2026

Sharman, Christopher., "[*Mao Goes Maritime*](#)," published by Proceedings May 2026 Vol 152, 1 May 2026

Martinson, Ryan., "[*The Staged Death of China's Military Civil-Fusion*](#)," The Diplomat, 25 April 2026

Wang, Jason; Bernardo, Marvin Hamor; Wu, Pei-Jhen; and Erickson, Andrew "[*Everything Everywhere All at Once; The Growing Complexity of PLA Amphibious Exercises*](#)," China Maritime Report No. 52, 22 April 2026

Sharman, Christopher., Quarterly Review Special Edition Volume 1, Number 5 [*Strategic Projection and Operational Sustainment: Perspectives on Naval Support Systems*](#)

CMSI's Research in the News

China Maritime Report #36, "*PLAN Anti-Submarine Warfare Aircraft – Sensors, Weapons and Operational Concepts*," written by Eli Tirk and Daniel Salisbury, was cited in, "[China's Fujian Carrier Racing to Kill America's Torpedo Threat](#)," Asia Times, 10 July 2026.

Andrew Erickson was quoted in an article by Chris Buckley entitled "[Why China Fired a Long-Range Missile into the Pacific](#)," New York Times, 07 July 2026

Christopher Sharman was quoted in an article entitled "[Is Beijing preparing for submarine action with maritime survey east of Taiwan?](#)" by Gabriel Dominguez writing for the South China Morning Post, 06 July 2026

An unnamed CMSI report was cited as a source for an article by Harry J Kasianis entitled "[China Just Launched It's First Nuclear Submarine From A Shipyard That Builds Aircraft Carriers: Three Yards Now Outbuild America's Two](#)," for the online journal 19FortyFive, 01 July 2026

Andrew Erickson provided a review of the volume "[China's Mahan: Admiral Liu Huaqing and the Rise of the Modern Chinese Navy](#)," by Xiaobing Li for the Cambridge University Press and Assessment, 29 June 2026

Ryan Martinson was quoted in an article entitled "[Chinese military expands its underwater predator fleet](#)" for the Indian online news site dailyhunt, 24 June 2026

Andrew Erickson along with authors Jason Wang, Marvin Bernardo, and Pei-Jhen Whu wrote an article entitled "[China's Taiwan Rehearsals](#)" that appeared both for the Australian Naval Institute, 21 June and for [CIMSEC](#), 15 June 2026

China Maritime Report #26 written by Lonnie D. Henley "*Beyond the First Battle: Overcoming a Protracted Blockade of Taiwan*" was cited by Gabriele Honroda in an online article entitled "[Power paradox: F-35 readiness crisis clouds US airpower over Taiwan](#)," Asia Times, 19 June 2026

CMSI's Research in the News (Continued)

CMSI Study #6 “*Chinese Naval Shipbuilding: An Ambitious and Uncertain Course*,” was cited by Christina L. Garafola, Joslyn Fleming, Sam Wallace, Bradely Martin, and Sale Lilly in their report “[*The People’s Liberation Army Navy’s Approach to Maintenance Management; Cooking Dumplings in a Teapot*](#),” RAND, 18 June 2016

CMSI Study #8 “*Chinese Amphibious Warfare: Prospects for a Cross-Strait Invasion*” was cited by Gabriele Honroda in an online article entitled “[*China’s new supergun trained on Taiwan’s shielded shores*](#),” Asia Times, 16 June 2026

CMSI Translation #27 “*What is the Significance of the PLAN Type 055 Destroyer Zunyi Task Forces Distant Deployment to Australia*,” was cited by Sam Roggeveen and David Vallance in their report “[*Understanding the Chinese Military Threat to Australia*](#),” Lowy Institute, 14 June 2026

Ryan Martinson’s CMSI Note #19 “*China’s Blue-Water Research Fleet: Science in Service of Strategy*,” was cited as a source in the article by Elizabeth Claire Alberts and Kara Fox “[*How we tracked China’s deep sea mining fleet*](#)” which appeared in both the online platform Mongabay, 1 June 2026 and the [*Pulitzer Center*](#), 30 May 2026

Dan Rice’s CMSI Note #6 “*Sharpening the Sword: Chinese Navy Aircraft Carrier Battle Group Defense Zones*,” was cited as a source for Sujita Sinha’s article “[*China’s 938-foot nuclear powered carrier could rival US Navy supercarriers by 2032*](#),” Interesting Engineering, 26 May 2026

The China Maritime Studies Institute’s work was referenced (but not cited) in an online article by MI News Network “[*China is Building a Great Wall of Undersea Sensors to Track U.S. Nuclear Submarines in the Indo-Pacific*](#),” Marine Insight, 21 May 2026

Ryan Martinson was quoted in an article written by Will Jackson entitled “[*What the undersea monitoring device found in Indonesia tells us about China’s maritime strategy*](#),” for Australia’s ABC News, 15 May 2026

CMSI's Research in the News (Continued)

Sarah Kirchberger's China Maritime Report #31 "*China's Submarine Industrial Base: State-Led Innovation with Chinese Characteristics*," was cited by Seth Jones in the report "[*Is the United States Prepared for a War with China?*](#)", CSIS, 12 May 2026

Ryan Martinson was quoted for the article "[*America's submarine dominance is under threat*](#)," published for The Economist, 7 May 2026

Michael Dahm and Thomas Shugart's CMSI Note #14 "*Bridges Over Troubled Waters: Shuiqiao-Class Landing Barges in PLA Navy Landing Operations*," was cited by Carl O. Shuster for his article "[*The PLA Navy's Marine Corps: China's Expeditionary Force of Choice*](#)," RealClear Defense, 7 May 2026

Dan Rice's CMSI Note #6 "*Sharpening the Sword: Chinese Navy Aircraft Carrier Battle Group Defense Zones*," was cited by Gabriele Honroda in an online article entitled "[*US fast-tracks new ship-killer missile to point at China*](#)," Asia Times, 5 May 2026 and in [*China's Fujian Carrier Racing to Kill America's Torpedo Threat*](#) appearing in Asia Times, 10 July 2026.

CMSI Translation #27 "*What is the Significance of the PLAN Type 055 Destroyer Zunyi Task Forces Distant Deployment to Australia*," was cited by Gabriele Honroda in an online article entitled "[*China's rising threat looms over Japan-Australia frigate deal*](#)," Asia Times, 24 April 2026

CMSI Translations

The U.S. Marine Corps Concept for “Stand-In Forces” – Analysis and Response, Military Art, no.11 November 2023

Joint Air and Missile Defense Operations in the Maritime Domain Must Emphasize and Strengthen the “Four Joint Functions,” Military Art, no. 10 October 2023

Vision for Future Next-Generation Aircraft Carrier Supply Ships, Shipborne Weapons, no.9 September 2025

Can “Armchair Strategizing” Secure Victory from a Thousand Miles Away? Navy Today, no.5 May 2025

Education & Engagement

OSW Net Assessment	Washington Interagency
Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force Command and Staff College	U.S. Army Asian Studies Detachment
Naval War College Foundation	China Aerospace Studies Institute
Center for Strategic and International Studies	Naval Criminal Investigative Service
China Landpower Studies Center	National Bureau of Asia Research
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Expeditionary Strike Group SEVEN	UCLA Global Development Lab
Navy Undersea Warfare Center	NATO SHAPE

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