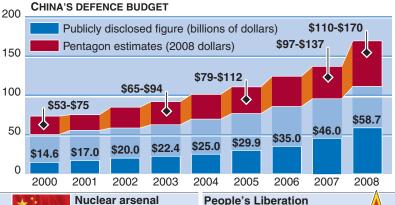
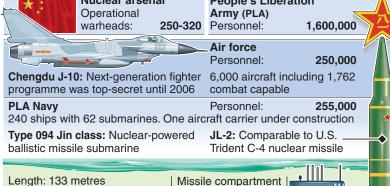
## **U.S.** concern as China's military grows

China's sharp increase in military spending is fuelling unease that Beijing is contesting Washington's air and maritime supremacy in the Western Pacific. The actual level of spending is hotly debated, with many analysts estimating it is two to three times as great as the officially disclosed figure





Third and fourth Jin class boats under construction

12 JL-2 missiles: Each believed to carry three to six warheads or single warhead with yield of up to one megatonne. Range of about 8,000km