

China condemns U.S. deal on Taiwan F-16s

China has attacked U.S. plans to upgrade Taiwan's fleet of U.S.-built F-16 fighters, saying the deal would "undermine bilateral relations". However, the decision to upgrade rather than supply more advanced jets is being seen by some analysts as a move to appease Beijing

■ **\$5.3 billion upgrade:** Taiwan's 145 *F-16A/Bs* will be given virtually same capabilities as late-model *F-16C/Ds* that Taipei has sought for five years without success

■ **Pilot training:** Five-year, \$500 million extension of programme to train Taiwanese F-16 pilots at **Luke Air Force Base** in Arizona

■ **Spare parts:** Worth \$52 million, to equip Taiwan's F-16, F-5, and C-130 aircraft

■ **Radar:** 176 high-tech **Active Electronically Scanned Array** (AESA) radar sets – giving F-16 advantage over current Chinese fighters

■ **Electronic warfare:** Existing systems updated to improve aircraft survivability

FIGHTER AIRCRAFT

Taiwan 419 



Types: *F-5*, *F-16*, *Mirage*, *F-CK-1*

China 1,300 



Types: *J-7 Fishbed*, *J-8 Finback*, *JH-7*, *J-10*, *J-11*, *Su-27*, *Su-30 Flanker*

Raytheon
AIM-9X

WEAPON SYSTEMS

140 heat-seeking *AIM-9X Sidewinder* missiles and 128 **Joint Helmet-Mounted Cueing Systems**, allowing pilots to target enemy aircraft simply by looking at them. Also included are **Joint Direct Attack Munition** (JDAM) laser-guided bomb kits

