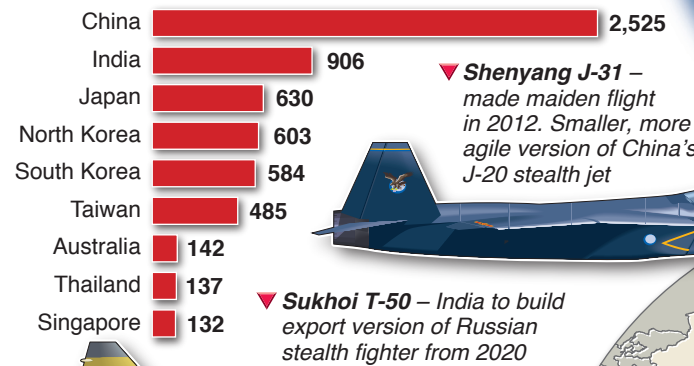


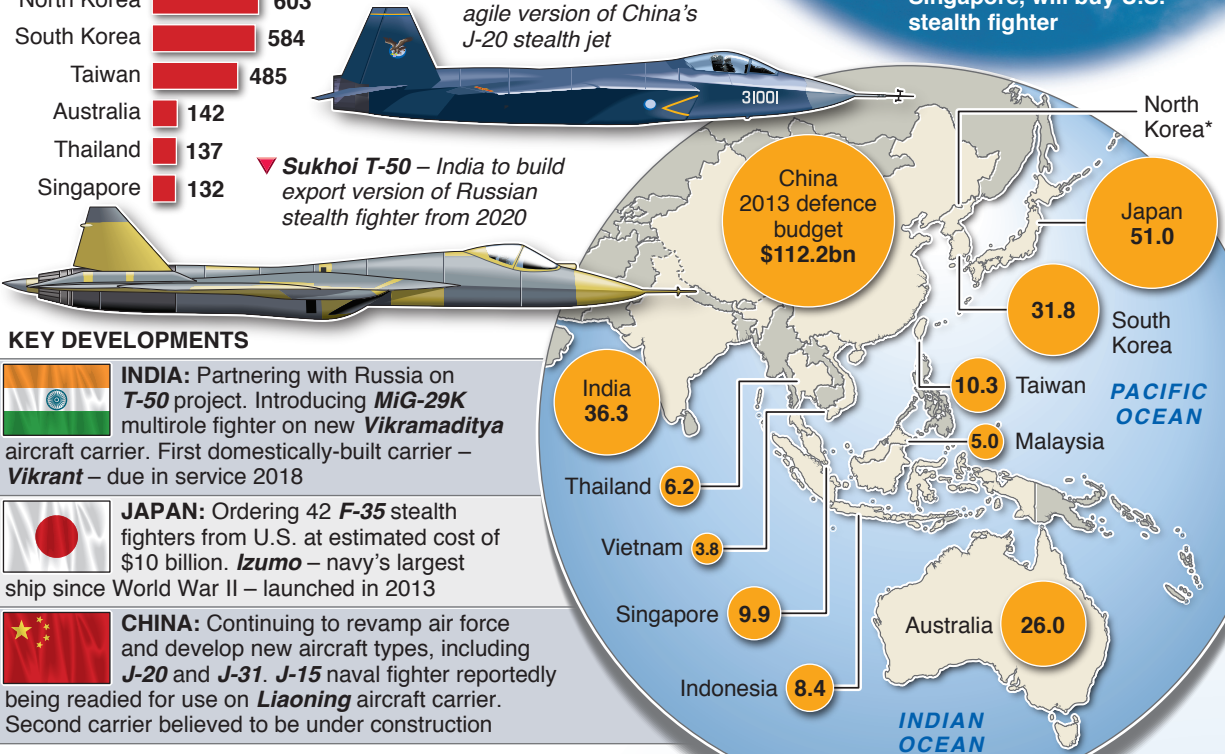
Asia's arms race heats up

Asian countries are racing to improve their military capabilities amid rising tensions between powers in the region. In real terms, Asian defence spending in 2013 was 11.6 percent higher than in 2010, with the largest increases occurring in East Asia

ASIA-PACIFIC AIR FORCES: Combat aircraft

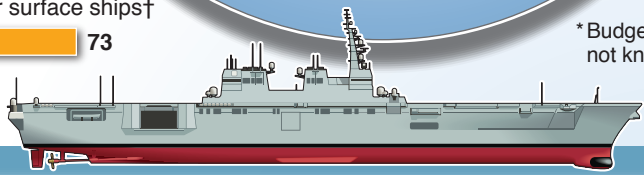
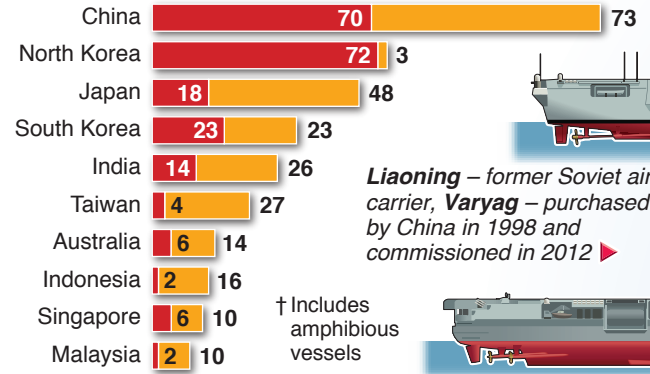


F-35 – Australia, Japan, South Korea, and possibly Singapore, will buy U.S. stealth fighter



NAVAL STRENGTH

■ Submarines ■ Major surface ships†



Liaoning – former Soviet aircraft carrier, **Varyag** – purchased by China in 1998 and commissioned in 2012 ▶

▲ **Izumo** – helicopter carrier could potentially be equipped with “jump jet” version of F-35

