

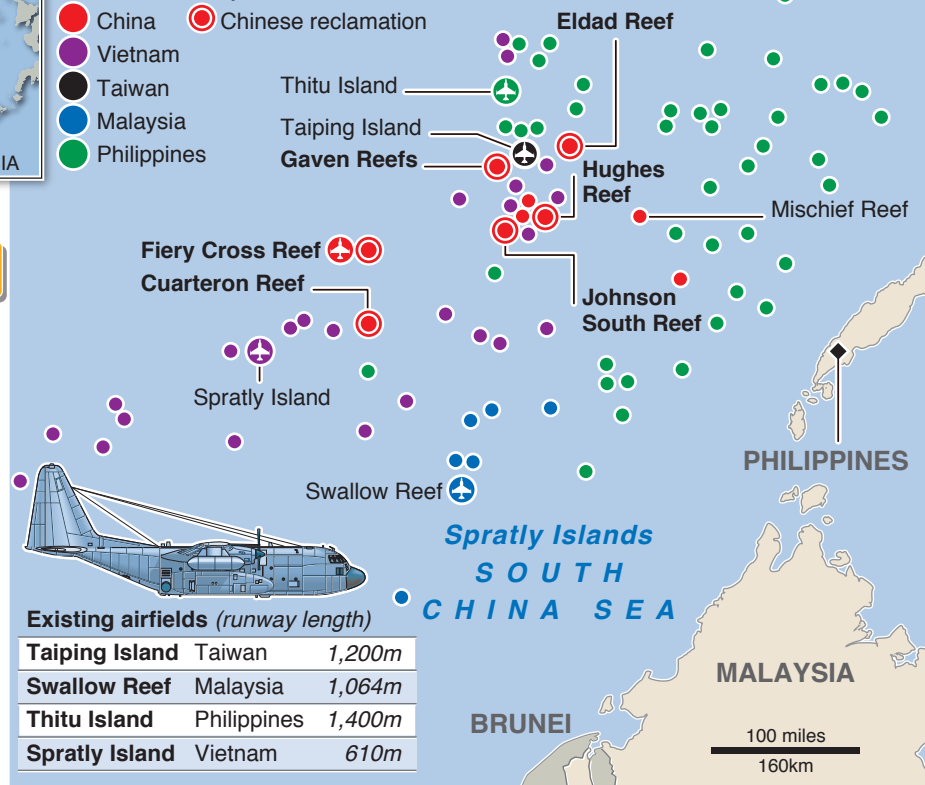


# China's island-building projects

China is conducting dredging operations to reclaim land at six locations in the disputed Spratly Islands in the South China Sea. The largest project – which started at Fiery Cross Reef in August – is an artificial island big enough for a 3,000-metre-long runway and harbour

Islands claimed by...

- China    ○ Chinese reclamation
- Vietnam
- Taiwan
- Malaysia
- Philippines



Existing airfields (runway length)

Taiping Island	Taiwan	1,200m
Swallow Reef	Malaysia	1,064m
Thitu Island	Philippines	1,400m
Spratly Island	Vietnam	610m

**Spratly Islands**

**Johnson South Reef**  
Military structure, Feb 2013



**Johnson South Reef**  
Military structure, Feb 2014

**Fiery Cross Reef Jan 2015**

**Reclaimed land:** 3,000m long and up to 300m wide. Runway could support attack aircraft and aerial refuelling tankers



**Aug 2014:** Reclamation around Chinese Navy platform starts

**New terrain:** Land likely to be used for garrison

**Military harbour:** Large enough to receive tankers and fast attack craft