

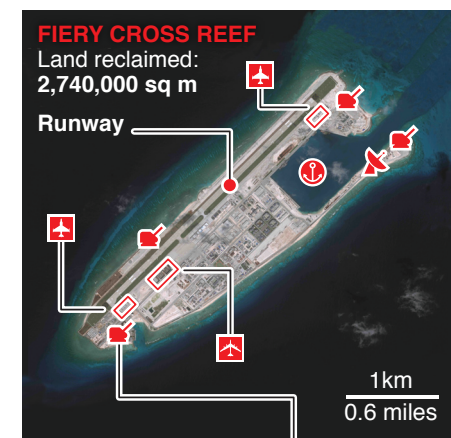
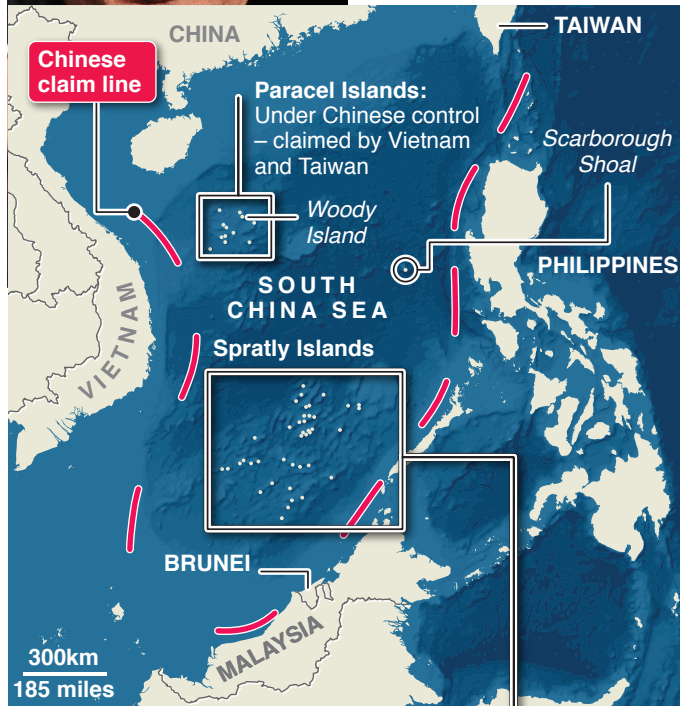


Trump faces South China Sea challenge

With U.S.-Chinese relations entering unknown territory under Donald Trump's administration, it is likely China will push to finish developing seven artificial islands in the disputed South China Sea. Over the past two years Beijing has added 1,300 hectares of land and built three, 3km-long runways capable of accommodating large military jets



- Fighter-jet hangars
- Hangars for larger planes
- Anti-aircraft or anti-missile systems
- Radar tower
- Harbour



AIRCRAFT: Each of three airstrips has hangar space for 24 fighter jets plus 3-4 larger planes, including largest planes in Chinese fleet such as **Xian H-6K** nuclear-capable bomber

Xian H-6K: Strategic bomber capable of attacking U.S. carrier battle groups and priority targets in Asia



WEAPONS SYSTEMS: Satellite images show China is building anti-aircraft guns and close-in weapons systems (CIWS) to protect against cruise missile strikes at each of its seven outposts in Spratly Islands