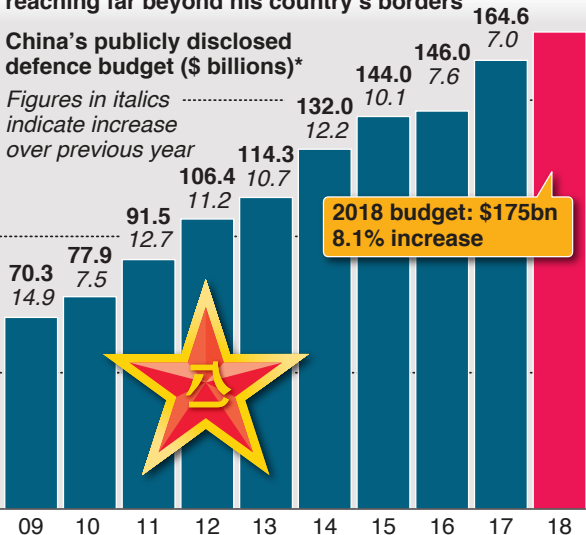


# China boosts defence spending

China's defence spending looks set to increase at the fastest rate for three years as President Xi Jinping pursues a "world-class" military, capable of reaching far beyond his country's borders

China's publicly disclosed defence budget (\$ billions)\*

*Figures in italics indicate increase over previous year*



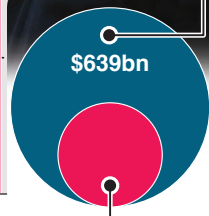
*\*Pentagon and global arms bodies estimate actual spending may be 40-50 percent higher than published amount*

Sources: Chinese government, Bloomberg

Picture: Newscom



U.S. proposed defence budget for 2018 more than three times that of China



China  
**\$175bn**

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