

China operates two carriers in Pacific

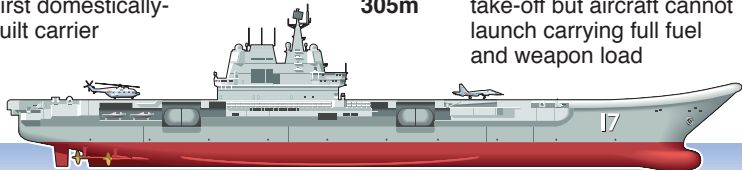
Two Chinese aircraft carrier groups were spotted conducting simultaneous operations in the western Pacific for the first time, according to Japan's defence ministry



SHANDONG: Commissioned 2019
First domestically-built carrier

Length: 305m

Ski-jump: Ramp assists take-off but aircraft cannot launch carrying full fuel and weapon load

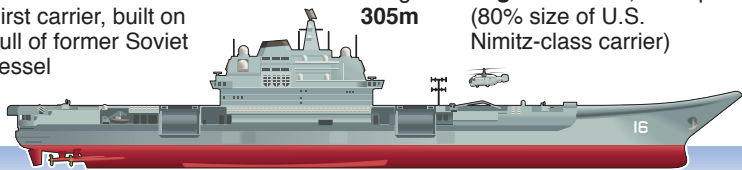


Displacement: 66,000 tonnes Speed: 31 knots (57km/h) Crew: 2,000 (est)

LIAONING: Commissioned 2012
First carrier, built on hull of former Soviet vessel

Length: 305m

Flight deck: 14,700 sq m (80% size of U.S. Nimitz-class carrier)



Displacement: 60,000 tonnes Speed: 29 knots (53km/h) Crew: 1,960