

CHINA'S FUTURE NUCLEAR SUBMARINE FORCE

Edited by

**Andrew S. Erickson, Lyle J. Goldstein, William S. Murray,
and Andrew R. Wilson**

One of the key issues facing naval strategists and planners is the nature of the Chinese geo-strategic challenge. The editors of this book – professors and analysts at the U.S. Naval War College and cofounders of the recently established China Maritime Studies Institute – have compiled the thinking of today's leading experts in the field to focus on one aspect of the potential threat: the emergence of a modern Chinese nuclear force. Packed with useful data and cogent analysis, the essays in this book are essential reading for anyone with an interest in the future of the U.S. Navy and the nation that it defends.

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“China’s undersea fleet has been sharply focused on coastal defense and sea denial, largely in connections with Taiwan contingencies. With this role now assigned to a fleet of increasingly formidable diesel submarines, China’s growing nuclear submarine fleet may be about to move beyond symbolism and experimentation to take on strategic missions farther from Chinese shores. This exceptionally fine compendium of essays by scholars and practitioners of submarine warfare brings together in one place most of what we know and don’t know about China’s nuclear submarine programs and doctrines. By comparing and contrasting the experiences of the U.S. and Soviet navies, the authors offer informed speculation about the possible roles of both nuclear attack and ballistic missile submarines in the rapidly modernizing People’s Liberation Army Navy, and discuss the implications of differing scenarios for U.S. strategy and force structure. The result is a benchmark study that will both fascinate and inform anyone concerned with the future uses of sea power and the evolution of maritime strategy.”

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