

#Fakenews Alert: “China Flies Nuclear Bomber In Response To Trump’s Call ...”

By [Moon of Alabama](#)

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[Moon of Alabama](#) 12 December 2016

Region: [Asia](#), [USA](#)

Theme: [Media Disinformation](#), [Military](#), [Military and WMD](#)

In-depth Report: [Nuclear War](#)

A few recent headlines of #fakenews:

- [China flew nuclear-capable bombers around Taiwan before Trump call with Taiwanese president](#) - Fox News, December 05, 2016
- [China Flew Nuclear-Capable Bombers Near Taiwan Before Trump Call](#) - NBCNews, December 6 2016
- [China flies nuclear-capable bomber in South China Sea after Trump Taiwan call, US officials say](#) - Fox News, December 09, 2016
- [China flies nuclear bomber over South China Sea to ‘send message’ to Donald Trump](#) - Independent, December 11, 2016
- [China reportedly responds to Trump’s Taiwan call by flying nuclear-capable bomber](#) - Stars & Stripes, December 12, 2016
- [China Flies Nuclear Bomber Above South China Sea In Response To “Ignorant Child” Trump](#) - Zero Hedge, December 12, 2016

The above is #fakenews because China does not currently deploy any air-launched nuclear weapons. All its [estimated 260](#) nuclear warheads (the U.S. and Russia each have more than 7,000) are presumably for its land and sea based missiles.

China is believed to work on a short- to medium-range, air-launched cruise missiles that potentially could be nuclear armed. So far the U.S. Air Force [does not believe](#) that any of these are deployed and does not list them as part of a potential enemy force.

The relevant regular paper for such facts is [Chinese nuclear forces, 2016](#) (pdf) by Hans M. Kristensen and Robert S. Norris published by the Bulletin of Nuclear Scientists:

[T]he 2016 Pentagon report includes for the first time a discussion **of a potential nuclear role** for China’s bombers. It says the PLA air force was assigned a “strategic deterrence” mission in 2012, although that could also reflect the introduction of conventional land-attack cruise missiles on the modified H-6K bomber. But the Pentagon report states that Chinese media reports and writings “suggest China **might eventually develop a nuclear bomber capability**. [...]” (US Defense Department 2016, 38).

[...]

We do not believe that China’s bombers currently have an active nuclear mission.

For historic and deeper background of the non-existence of operational Chinese airlaunched nukes see [this tweet stream](#) by ArmsControlWonk Jeffrey Lewis.

China may fly some medium range Hongzha-6 bombers around its nearby ocean. These birds are an updated version of a Russian type developed [in](#) the late 1950s(!). Flying is what military pilots do to train. But those bombers are [not likely](#) to have anything to do with nuclear whatever. What does “nuclear capable” bomber actually mean when one has nothing “nuclear” to put on those bombers? Are we to believe that the U.S. will provide the nukes for these?

According to Fox News and NBC, China flew such bomber on November 25 (Dec 5, 6 reps above), well BEFORE the Trump phone call. It also flew the bombers AFTER (Dec 9 rep) the Trump’s phone call with the Taiwanese government. Indeed it regularly [flies](#) these bombers. The sightseeing flight had thereby nothing at all to do with any Trump call. Correlating the call with those flights is bogus spin.

The headlines above are all nonsense. There is nothing “nuclear” and the flights of [outdated bombers](#) have nothing to do with any Trump call to wherever. They are [#fakenews](#) just as most of the other news we get is:

News is fake. The higher the stakes for the ruling classes, the more you can be certain the mainstream news about it will be as fake as fuck and conversely, reports deemed fake by those same fakers should be duly considered on their merits.

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