

### ***SITREP as of 23:01, Dec. 7, 2027***

The HMS Queen Elizabeth Carrier Strike Group is currently 84 nautical miles from the Pratas islands. The Chinese Naval Task Force is approximately 25 nautical miles from the Pratas islands. 110 nautical miles separate our CSG from their TF. At this time, the Queen Elizabeth CSG is holding position. There are no other allied forces in the area. The closest major concentration of Allied naval forces is in Yokosuka, Japan and no other forces are within 500 nautical miles. There appear to be no other major concentrations of Chinese naval or air force detectable at this time. MI6 thinks this is not a prelude to a full on invasion, US three letter agencies are split 50%-50%, and other allies and partners similarly divided.

The Chinese Combat Air Patrol (CAP) appears to be 10 planes. We have a CAP in the air of 4 UK F-35's with another 8 on standby. The Chinese have made no threatening moves towards us. x

### ***Timeline (All times local, GMT +8:00)***

21:00 – Chinese Naval Task Force conducts a rapid turn and steams towards Pratas Island. The move is aligned that it also looks like they could be moving back towards their homeport. Commander of the Queen Elizabeth CSG takes no action at this time.

21:30 – A major cyberattack is reported to hit the ROC Military's C4ISR network. A second cyberattack hits civil and military air traffic control (ATC). A large CAP has been launched from the Chinese Task Force.

21:35 – Chinese Naval Task Force launches a Land Attack Cruise Missile (LACM) strike on the island. An anti-ship Missile (AShM) strike on the shadowing Taiwanese Kang Ding-class frigate is launched. Kang Ding-class frigate fires it's AShM in response. AShM strike hits the Kang Ding-class frigate, sinking it. The Kang Ding-class AShM strike is destroyed before hitting the Chinese Task Force.

21:37 – LACM strike hits. Casualties and defender status unknown (see attached Status of the Pratas Islands)

22:03 – Taiwanese Defenders on the Pratas islands report that a Chinese assault on the island has begun.

22:42 – Attached transmission captured (see below).

### ***Status of the Pratas Islands***

The status of the defense of the Pratas islands is difficult to ascertain at this time as Chinese jamming is fierce. An American reconnaissance satellite got a solid pass and could see at least 1 armored vehicle and a helicopter along with several fires. Battle damage assessment is still ongoing. Some elements of a radio call were audible from the island and have been transcribed below.

[Transmission begins] [T]his is Major Kao, A Battalion, 66th Marine Brigade broadcasting in the clear ... [static burst] ... under heavy attack by ... [unintelligible, sections of the words Chinese and Marines can be heard] armor and helicopters ... [short burst of static] ... North East cut off, many casualties ... [15 seconds of static] ... special forces [several unintelligible words] Lieutenant Colonel Wu killed ... [static] ... I have taken command ... [8 seconds of static] ... down the airstrip [unintelligible] stopped them ... [static] ... situation dire [unintelligible] this is Major Kao broadcasting in the clear ... [static brings the transmission to an end].

Early at 21:30 the Chinese ambassador to Taiwan handed over a letter to the government stating that any further escalation over what is about to happen will be met with force. We have received no communication from the government of the PRC, but MI5 reports with a high degree of confidence that the embassy is burning documents.

**Taiwanese Defenses on the Pratas (Reinforced)**

- 500 Marines
  - o Man launched Portable Air Defense System (MANPADS)
  - o AT-4 light anti-tank weapon
  - o 81mm mortars
  - o 2 Chaparral surface to air missile launchers for air defense
- 130 Military Coast Guard
  - o 120mm mortars
  - o 40mm AA Guns
  - o AT-4 light anti-tank weapon
- Network of underground bunkers

## **Chinese Naval Task Force**

### Liaoning (Suspected Air Wing)

- 22 Shenyang J-15 (4.0-4.5 generation fighter)
- 4 J-15 (EW variant)
- 6 Changhe Z-18F (ASW helicopter)
- 6 Changhe Z-18J (AEW helicopter)
- 2 Harbin Z-9 (attack/utility helicopter, copy of the Dauphin)

### Type 71 LPD

- Well deck
  - o Type 726 LCAC (can carry 60-70 troops, 1 tank, or 2 IFV's)
- 4 Helicopter
- 600-800 Marines (1 overstrength or 2 understrength battalions of Marines)

### Screen

- 3 Type 55 (Guided missile destroyer)
  - o 112 Vertical Launch System (VLS) cells
  - o 2 Helicopters
- 1 Type 52 (Guided missile destroyer)
  - o 64 VLS cells
  - o 1 Helicopter
- 5 Type 54 (Multi role frigate)
  - o 32 VLS cells
  - o 1 Helicopter

### Support

- 1 Type 901 (Fast combat support ship)
  - o Helo deck

### Submarine Screen (Suspected)

- 1 Type 93C (Nuclear attack)
  - o 12 VLS cells (AShM)
- 1 Type 39C (Diesel attack)
  - o 6 VLS cells (AShM)

## **Queen Elizabeth Carrier Strike Group**

### [UK] HMS Queen Elizabeth

- Air Wing
  - o [UK] 1 F-35B Squadron of 8
  - o [UK] 1 F-35B Squadron of 6
  - o [US] 1 F-35B (Marine) Squadron of 8
  - o [UK] 8 Merlin (ASW)
  - o [UK] 4 Merlin (AEW)
  - o [UK] 4 Merlin HC4 (can lift ½ company of marines at a time)

### [UK] Albion class LPD

- Landing Craft
  - o 4 LCVP Mk5 (1/4 RM Company (35) each)
  - o 4 LCU Mk.10 (120 RM, 1 MBT, 4 Trucks)
- Space for 67 vehicles (31 trucks, 36 other vehicles)
- Landing space for 2 helicopters at a time
- Royal Marines (Total 405)
  - o 6 Assault Squadron, 47<sup>th</sup> Commando (Company element)
  - o J,K,M Companies. 42<sup>nd</sup> Commando
  - o Support Elements (total company size)

### [UK] Bay class LSD

- Landing Craft
  - o 2 LCVP Mk5 (1/4 RM Company (35) each)
  - o 2 Standard Mexeflote (1 IFV or Equivalent, 4 Trucks, could cram a Coy. of RM on) – powered float
- Space for 24 Challenger 2 tanks or 150 light trucks
- Cargo capacity of 200 tons ammunition or 24 TEU containers
- Landing space for 1 helicopter at a time (up to Chinook size)

### Screen

- [UK] 2 Type 45 (Guided missile destroyer)
  - o 48 VLS cells for SAMs
  - o 2 Harpoon quad launchers for AShM
  - o 1 Wildcat HMA2 helicopter (can have AShM, ASW torps, Martlet missiles (for small swarming targets), depth charges)
- [UK] 2 Type 23 (ASW frigate)
  - o 32 VLS cells for SAMs
  - o 2 Harpoon quad launchers for AShM
  - o 1 Wildcat HMA2 helicopter (can have AShM, ASW torpedoes, Martlet missiles (for small swarming targets), depth charges)
- [US] 1 Flight III Arleigh Burke (Guided missile destroyer)
  - o 94 VLS cells
  - o 2 Seahawk helicopters
- [NL] 1 De Zeven Provinciën-class (AA frigate)
  - o 40-cell VLS
    - 32 SAMs
    - 8 Harpoon AShM
  - o 1 NH-90 Helicopter

### Support

- [UK] 1 Tide Class replenishment tanker
  - o 1 Merlin helicopter
- [UK] 1 Fort Class fleet stores/tanker
  - o 3 Merlin helicopter

### Sub Screen

- [UK] 1 Astute Class
  - o Tomahawks and Torpedoes