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The Conventional Military Balance in China and Northeast Asia

An Analytic Overview

**A Comparative Summary of Military Expenditures;
Manpower; Land, Air, and Naval, Forces; and Arms
Sales**

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Center for Strategic and International Studies**

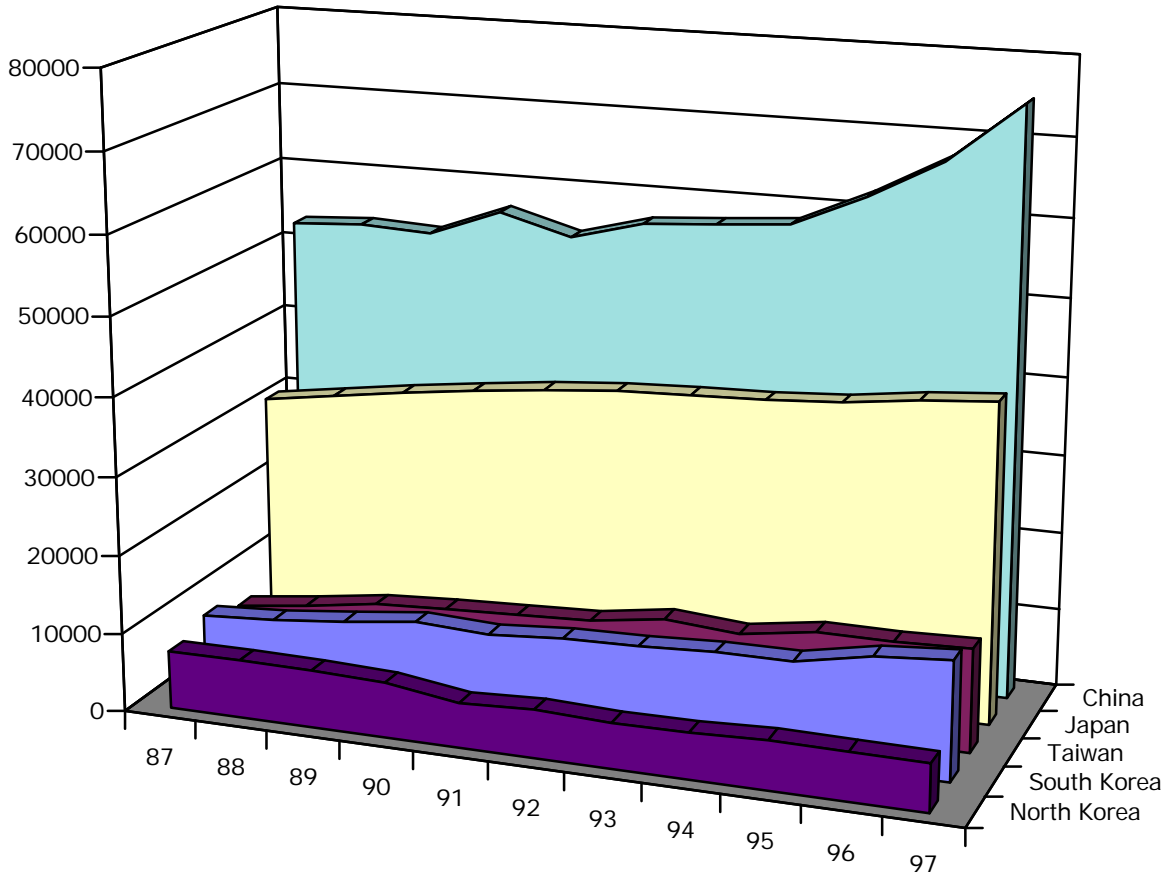
February 27 2000

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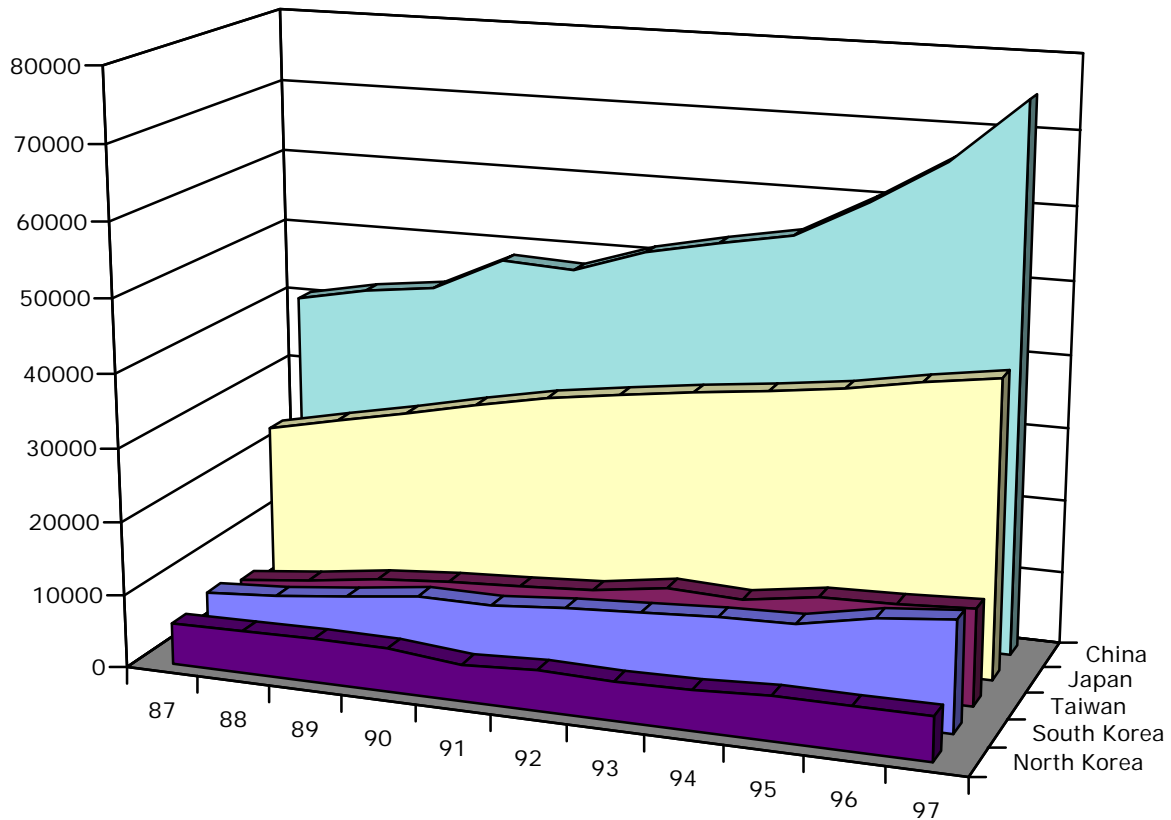
Comparative Military Spending Trends in Northeast Asia in Constant Dollars: 1987-1997
(Constant \$US 1997 Millions)



	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97
■ North Korea	7370	7380	7300	6960	5660	6100	5720	5820	6210	6100	6000
■ South Korea	8780	9350	10300	11400	11000	11700	11900	12400	12400	14300	15000
■ Taiwan	6900	8040	9410	9940	10300	10700	12100	11400	12800	12800	13100
■ Japan	31800	33200	34500	35700	36700	37500	37900	38200	38800	40000	40800
■ China	53000	53600	53100	56600	54100	56600	57300	58000	62200	67200	74900

Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, *World Military Expenditures and Arms Transfers, 1998*. GPO, Washington.

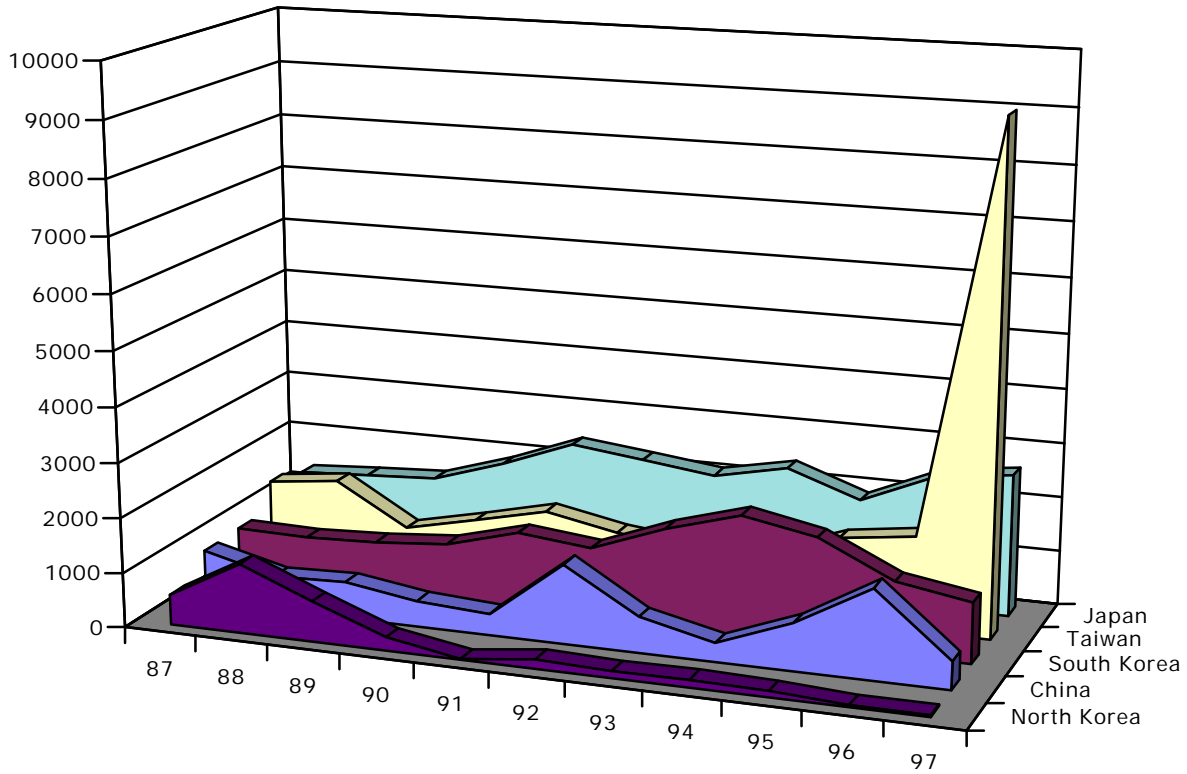
Comparative Military Spending Trends in Northeast Asia in Current Dollars 1987-1997
(Current SUS Millions)



	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97
■ North Korea	5640	5840	6000	5940	5000	5500	5300	5500	6000	6000	6000
■ South Korea	6720	7400	8460	9720	9680	10500	11100	11700	12000	14000	15000
■ Taiwan	5280	6360	7730	8490	9090	9690	11200	10800	12300	12600	13100
■ Japan	24300	26300	28300	30500	32400	33800	35100	36200	37500	39300	40800
■ China	40500	42400	43600	48300	47800	51000	53100	54900	60100	66100	74900

Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, *World Military Expenditures and Arms Transfers, 1998*, GPO, Washington.

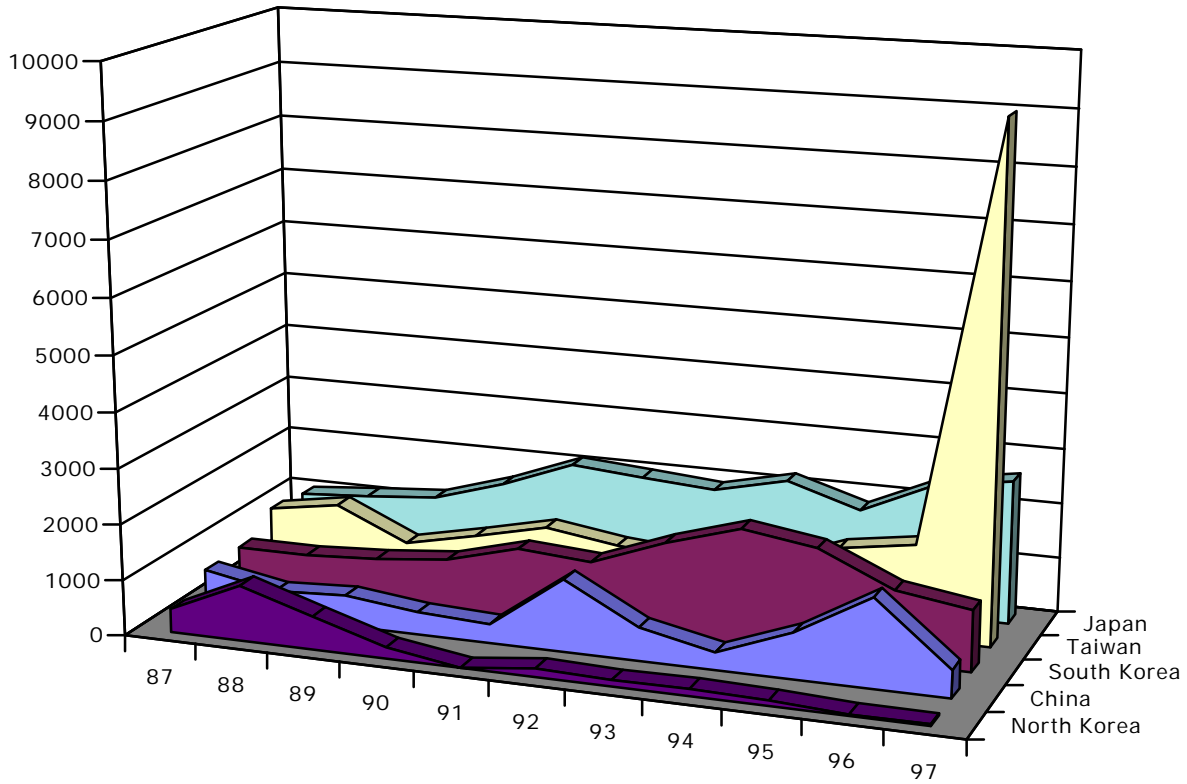
Comparative Arms Imports in Northeast in Constant Dollars: 1987-1997
 (Constant SUS 1997Millions)



	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97
■ North Korea	549	1264	730	234	6	166	130	137	104	31	30
■ China	947	619	669	468	385	1441	648	338	854	1627	500
■ South Korea	980	948	1004	1113	1473	1330	1836	2221	1967	1322	1100
■ Taiwan	1497	1643	882	1171	1473	1219	1080	1058	1553	1728	9200
■ Japan	1307	1390	1460	1874	2379	2217	2052	2327	1864	2440	2600

Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, *World Military Expenditures and Arms Transfers, 1998*, GPO, Washington.

Comparative Arms Imports in Northeast Asia in Current Dollars 1987-1997
 (Current \$US Millions)



	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97
■ North Korea	420	1000	600	200	5	150	120	130	100	30	30
■ China	725	490	550	400	340	1300	600	320	825	1600	500
■ South Korea	750	750	825	950	1300	1200	1700	2100	1900	1300	1100
■ Taiwan	1100	1300	725	1000	1300	1100	1000	1000	1500	1700	9200
■ Japan	1000	1100	1200	1600	2100	2000	1900	2200	1800	2400	2600

Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, *World Military Expenditures and Arms Transfers, 1998*, GPO, Washington.

Northeast Asian Military Forces in 2000-2001 - Part One

	<u>China</u>	<u>Japan</u>	<u>Taiwan</u>	<u>S. Korea</u>	<u>N. Korea</u>
Manpower (1,000s)					
Total Active	2470		236.7	370	683
Regular	2470		236.7	370	683
National Guard & Other	-		-	-	-
Reserve	500-600		49.2	1657.5	4500
Paramilitary	1100		12	26.65	4.5
Strategic Missile Forces (1,000s)	100		-	-	-
ICBM	20		-	-	-
IRBM	100		-	-	-
SSBN/SBLM	1		-	-	-
Army and Guard Manpower (1,000s)	1700		148.5	240	560
Regular Army Manpower	1700		148.5	240	560
Reserve (1,000s)			47.3	1500	-
Total Main Battle Tanks	7060		1070	739	2390
Active AIFV/ Lt. Tanks			60	455	40
Total APCs	5500*		790	950	2480
Self Propelled Artillery	1200		290	315	1053
Towed Artillery	12000		470	1060	5200
MRLs	2500		110	-	185
Mortars	-		1300	-	6000
SSM Launchers	-		90	-	-
Light SAM Launchers	-		740	-	910
AA Guns	-		80	400	600
Air Force Manpower (1,000s)	420		-	68	63
Air Defense Manpower	220		44.2	-	-
Total Combat Aircraft	3000		331	570	555
Bombers	120		-	-	-
Fighter/Attack	1800		60	476	-
Fighter/Interceptor	1015		210	58	-
Recce/FGA Recce	290		20	6	23
COIN/OCU	-		-	-	-
AEW C4I/BM/EW	-		14	4	-
MR/MPA	-		-	-	-
Transport Aircraft	425		40	37	-
Tanker Aircraft	6		-	-	-
Total Helicopters	170		40	24	21
Armed Helicopters****	-		-	-	-
Major SAM Launchers	-		-	140	-
Light SAM Launchers	-		-	-	-
AA Guns	-		-	-	-

*5500 includes Lt Tk, AIFV, and APC

Northeast Asian Military Forces in 2000-2001 - Part Two

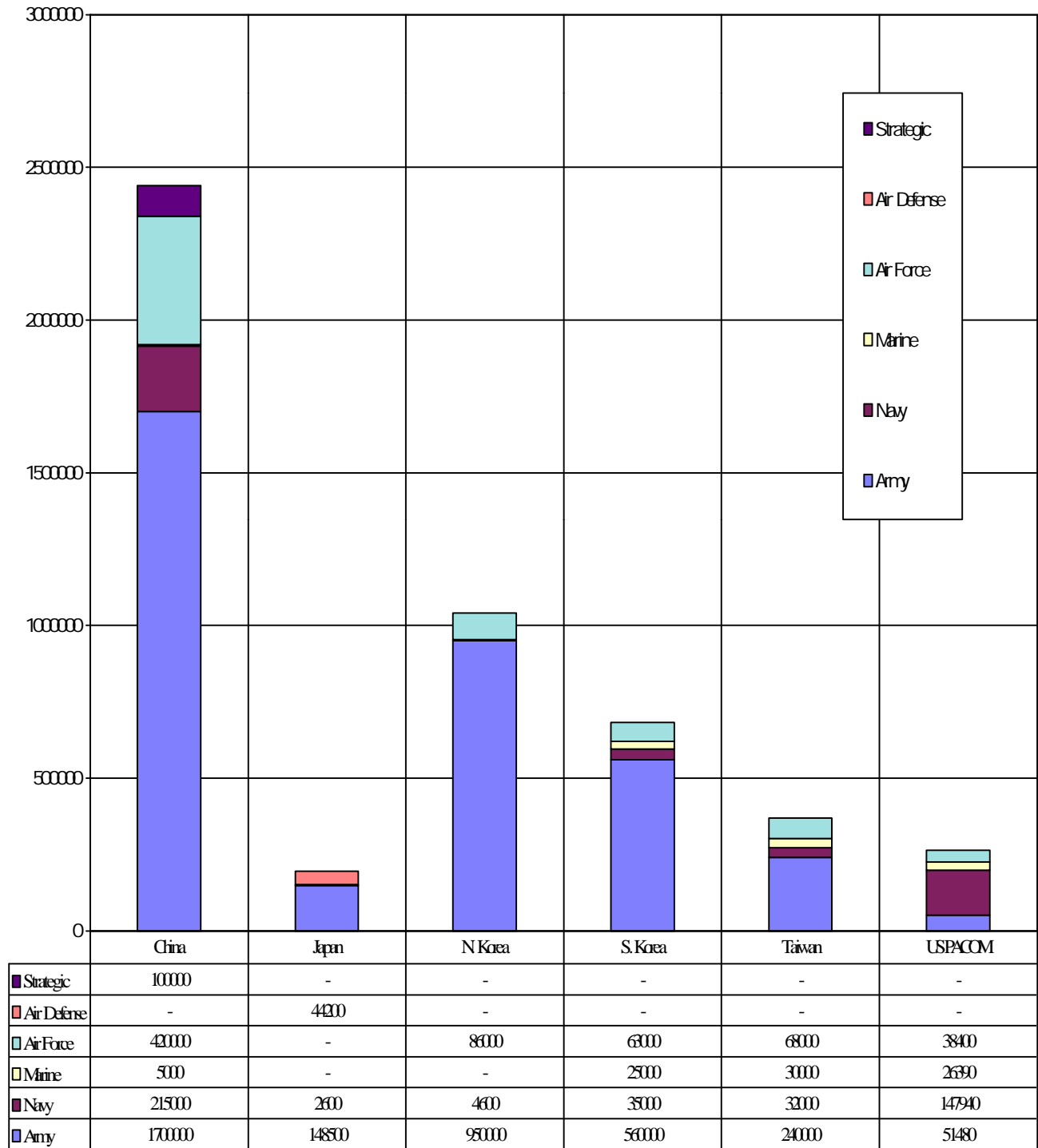
	<u>China</u>	<u>Japan</u>	<u>Taiwan</u>	<u>S. Korea</u>	<u>N. Korea</u>
Total Naval Manpower (1,000s)	220	42.6	62	60	46
Major Surface Combatants					
Carriers	-	-	-	-	-
Destroyer –Guided Missile	20	30	12	6	-
Other Destroyer	-	12	-	-	-
Frigate-Guided Missile	40	9	21	9	-
Other Frigate	-	4	-	-	3
Corvettes	-	-	-	24	6
Patrol Craft					
Missile	93	3	59	5	43
Torpedo and Coastal	134	-	-	-	128
Inshore, Riverine	141	-	-	75	133
Submarines					
SLBN	1	-	-	-	-
SSN	5	-	-	-	-
SSG	1	-	-	-	-
SS/SSK	57	16	4	19	26
Mine Vessels	39	31	12	15	23
Amphibious Ships	59	9	18	14	10
Landing Craft	285	13	325	36	130
Support Ships	159	19	20	13	7
Marines (1,000s)	5	-	30	25	-
Naval Air	25000	12000	-	-	-
Naval Aircraft	547	160	31	23	-
Bomber	77	-	-	-	-
FGA	30	-	-	-	-
Fighter	358	-	-	-	-
MR/MPA	-	80	31	-	-
Armed Helicopters	37	80	21	48	-
ASW Helicopters	37	80	9	25	-
SAR Helicopters	-	10	-	-	-
Mine Warfare Helicopters	-	-	-	-	-
Other Helicopters	78	10	-	-	-

**** Includes navy, army, national guard, and royal flights, but not paramilitary.

***** Includes in Air Defense Command

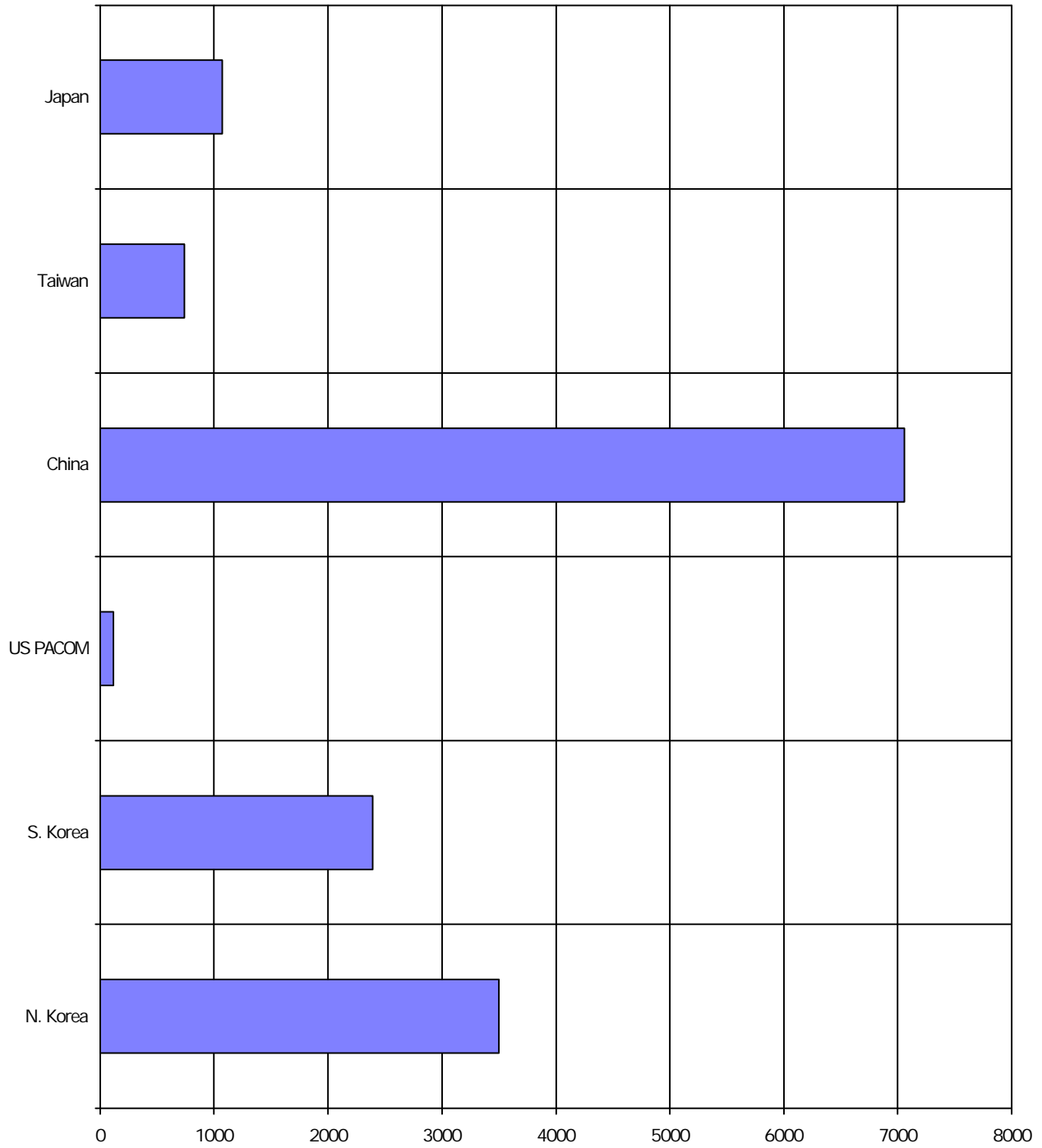
Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from interviews, International Institute for Strategic Studies, Military Balance (IISS, London); various data available from Jane's, and Military Technology, World Defense Almanac

Northeast Asian Military Manpower in Key Powers in 2000-2001



Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from the IISS, Military Balance, 2000-2001.

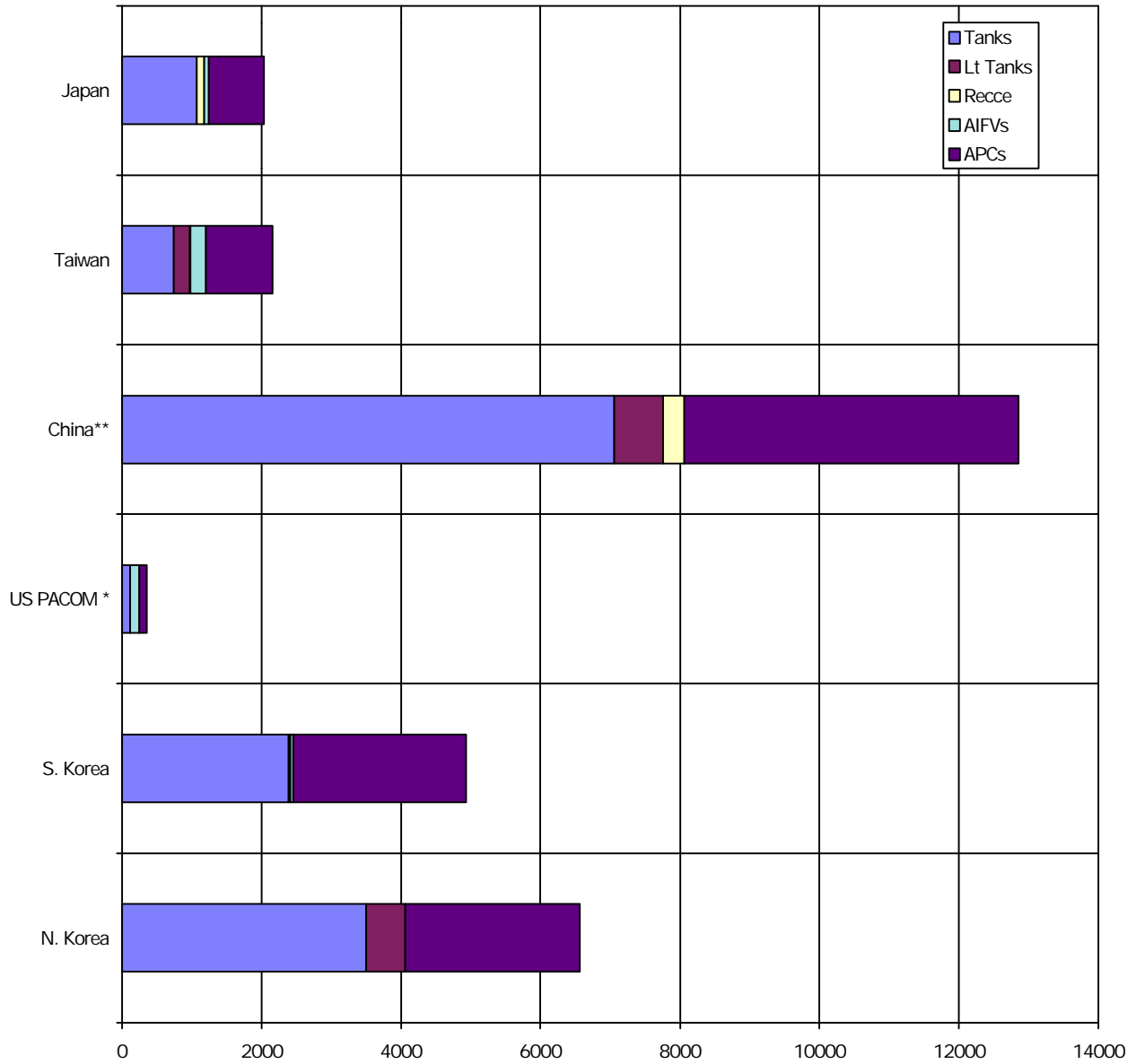
Northeast Asian Main Battle Tanks: 2000-2001
(Number in Active Service)



	N. Korea	S. Korea	US PACOM	China	Taiwan	Japan
■ Tanks	3500	2390	116	7060	739	1070

Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from IISS, Military Balance, 2000-2001.

Northeast Asian Armored Fighting Vehicles: 2000-2001
(Number of Tanks, OAFVs, APCs, Recce in Active Service)



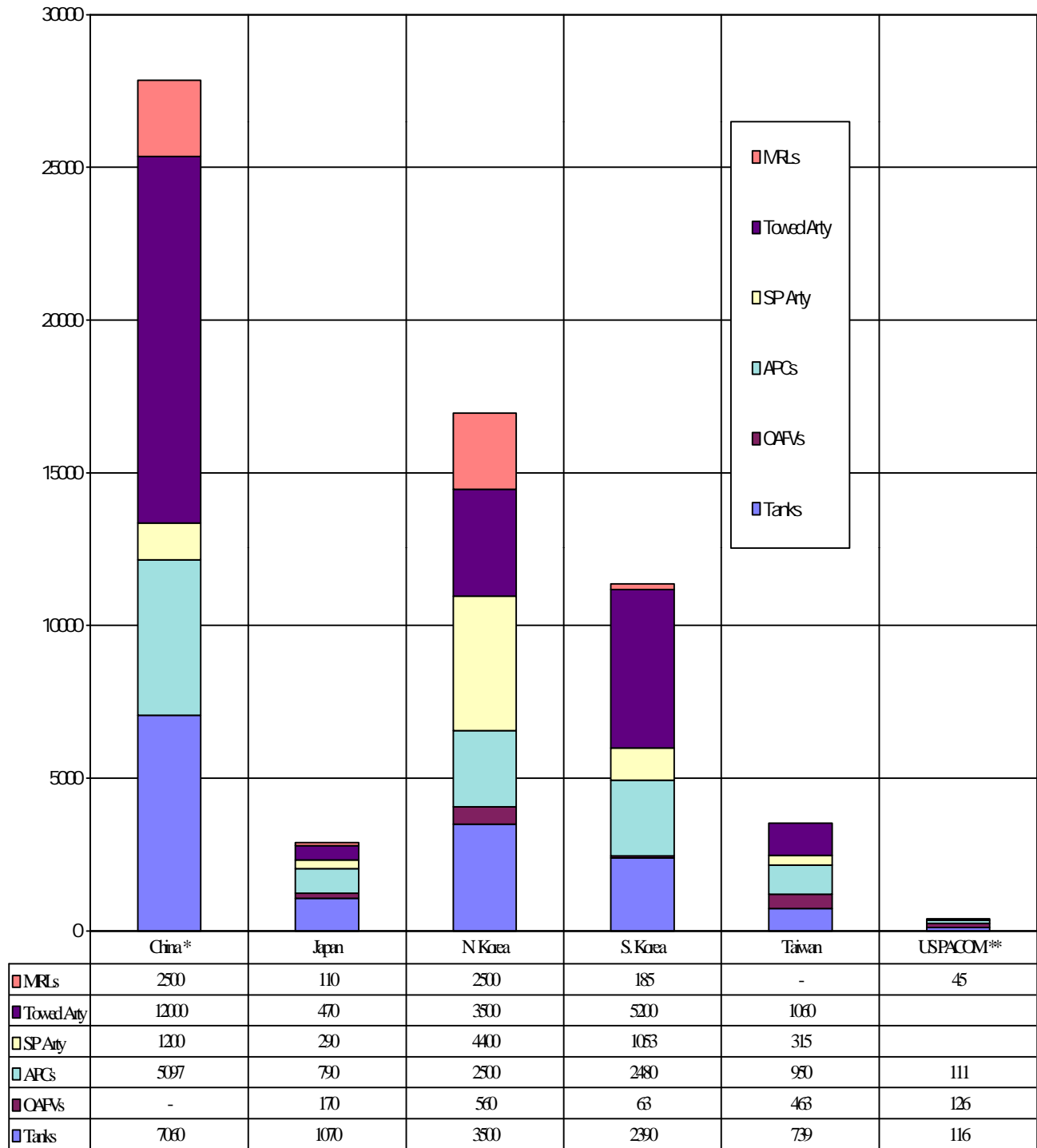
	N. Korea	S. Korea	US PACOM *	China**	Taiwan	Japan
■ APCs	2500	2480	111	4800	950	790
□ AIFVs	-	40	126	-	225	60
□ Recce	-	23	-	297	8	110
■ Lt Tanks	560	-	-	700	230	-
■ Tanks	3500	2390	116	7060	739	1070

* Does not include 1 USMC MEF in Japan

**4800 Includes both APCs and AIFVs

Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from IISS, Military Balance, 2000-2001.

Northeast Asian Artillery Weapons in Key Powers in 2000-2001

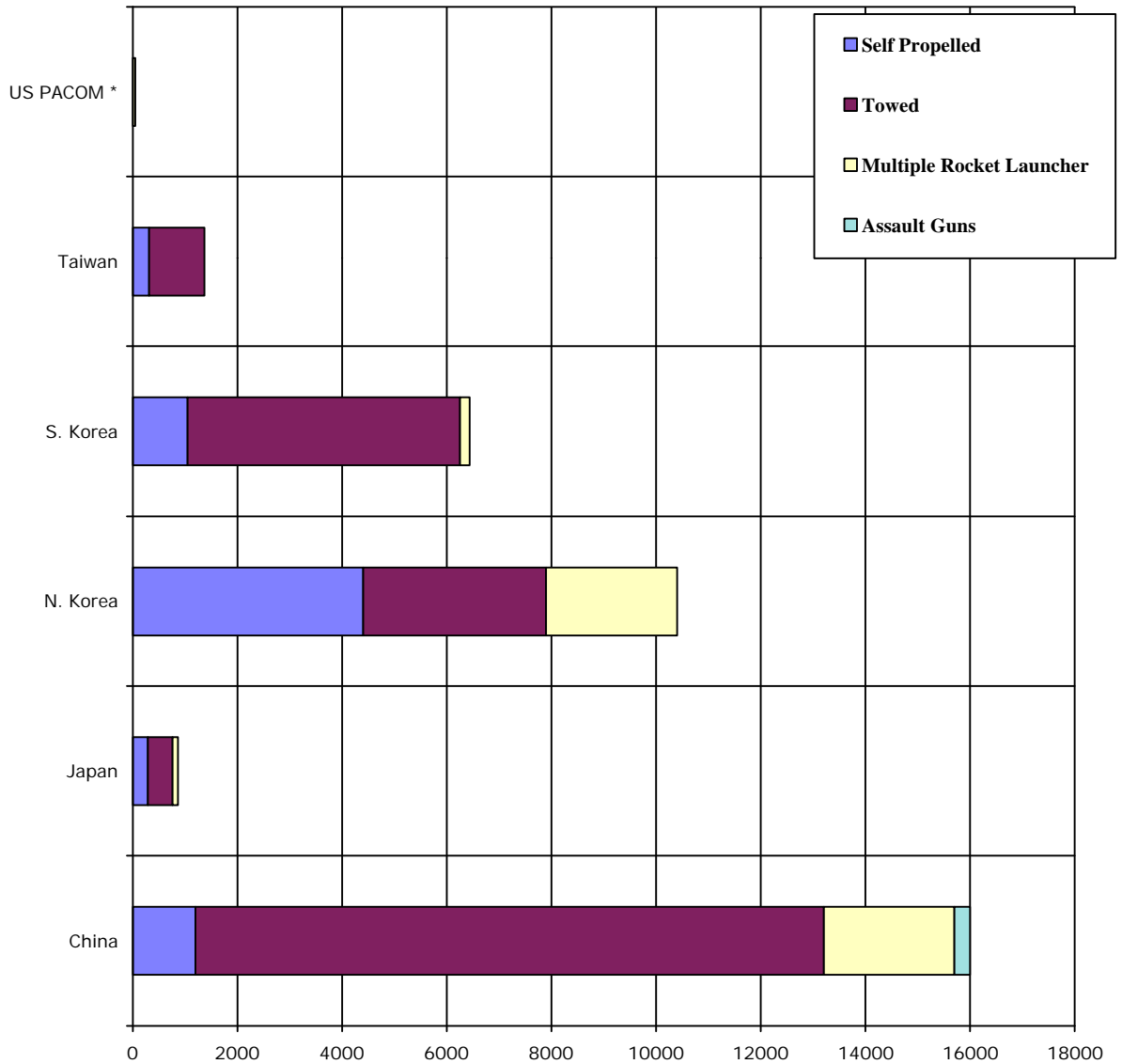


* 5097 Includes both APCs and OAFVs

**45 Includes MRLs, Towed Arty and SP Arty

Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from the IISS, Military Balance, 2000-2001.

Northeast Asian Artillery Strength: 2000-2001
(Number in Active Service)

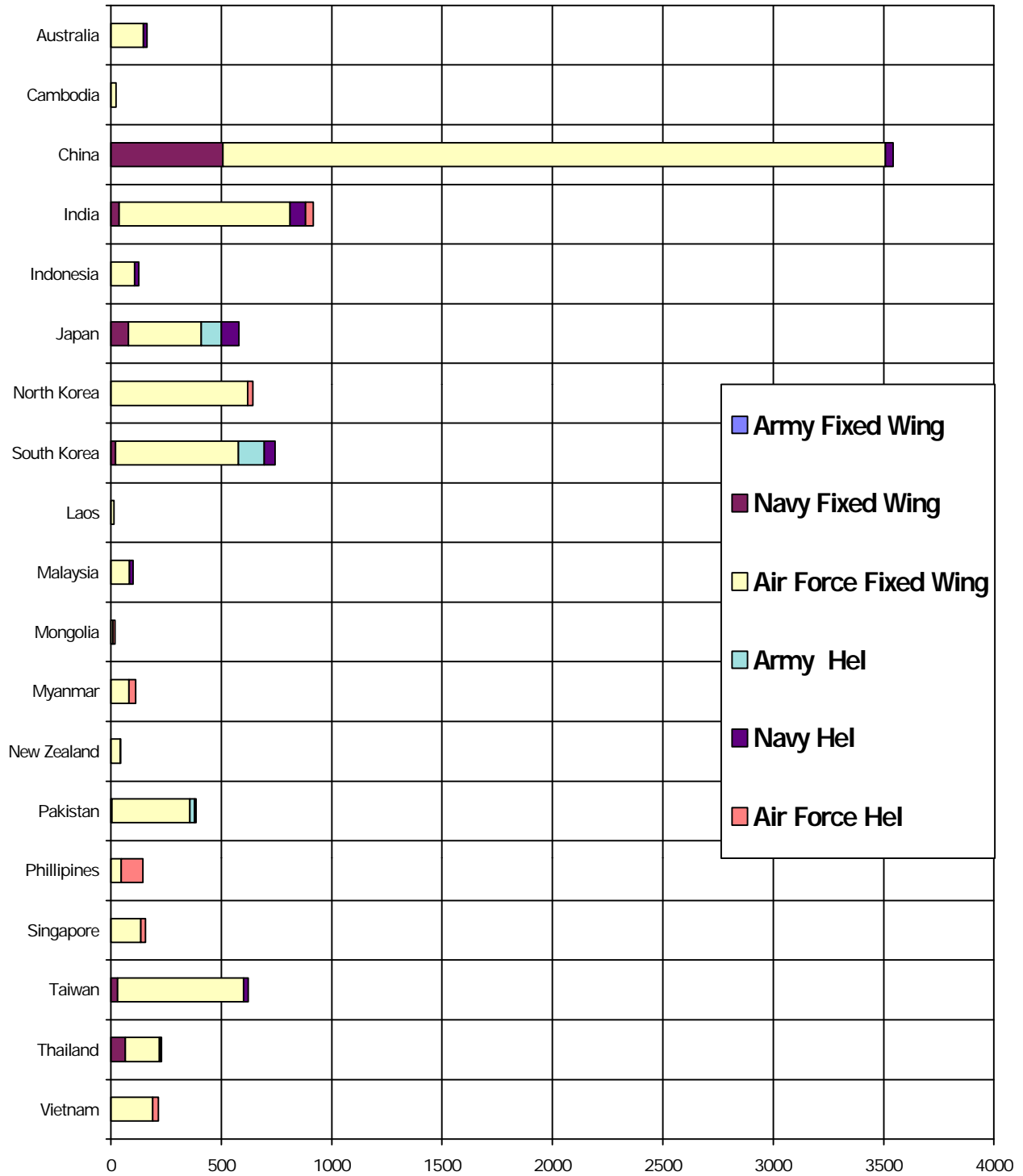


	China	Japan	N. Korea	S. Korea	Taiwan	US PACOM *
Assault Guns	300	-	-	-	-	-
Multiple Rocket Launcher	2500	110	2500	185	-	45
Towed	12000	470	3500	5200	1060	
Self Propelled	1200	290	4400	1053	315	

* 45 Includes MRLs, Towed Arty and SP Arty

Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from IISS, Military Balance, 2000-2001.

Northeast Asian Fixed and Rotary Wing Combat Aircraft: 2000-2001
(Number in Active Service)



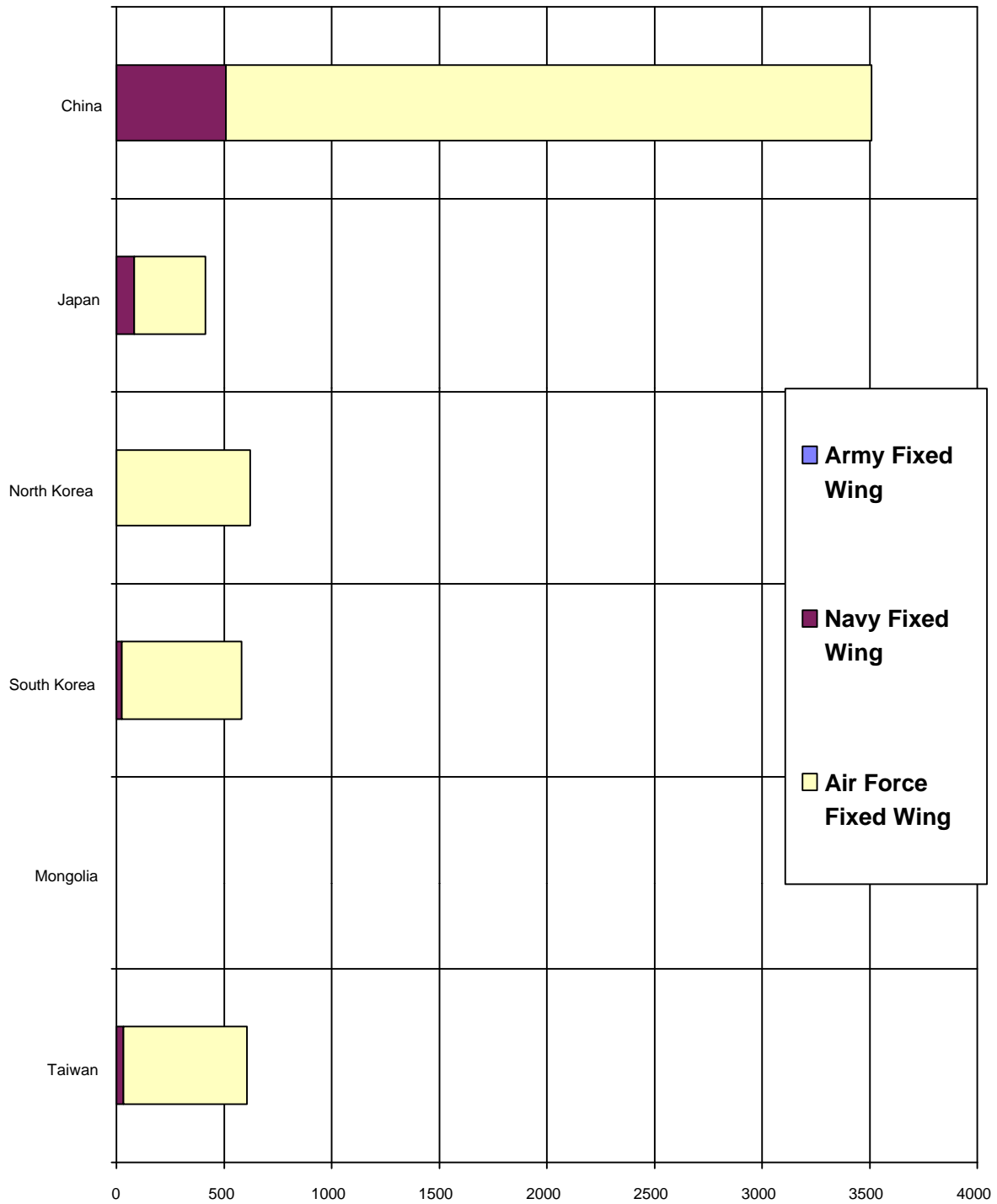
Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from IISS, *Military Balance, 2000-2001*.

Northeast Asian Fixed and Rotary Wing Combat Aircraft: 2000-2001

		Fixed Wing			Helicopter		
		Army	Navy	Air Force	Army	Navy	Air Force
Taiwan	-	31	570	-	21	-	
Mongolia	-	-	9	-	-	11	
South Korea	-	-	23555	117	48	-	
North Korea	-	-	-621	-	-	24	
Japan	-	80	331	90	80	-	
China	-	507	3000	-	37	-	

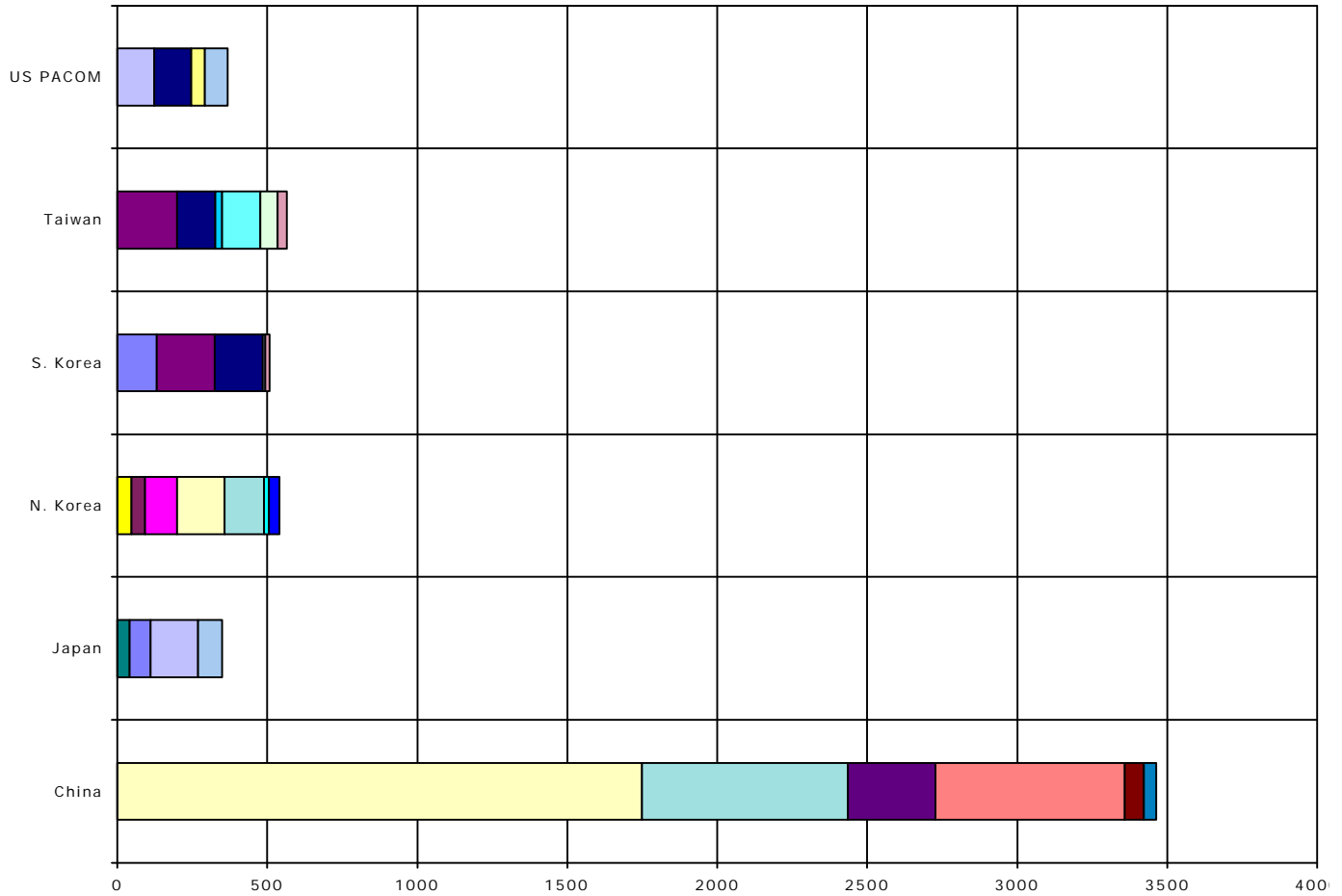
Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from IISS, Military Balance, 2000-2001.

Northeast Asian Fixed Wing Combat Aircraft: 2000-2001 (Number in Active Service)



Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from IISS, Military Balance, 2000-2001.

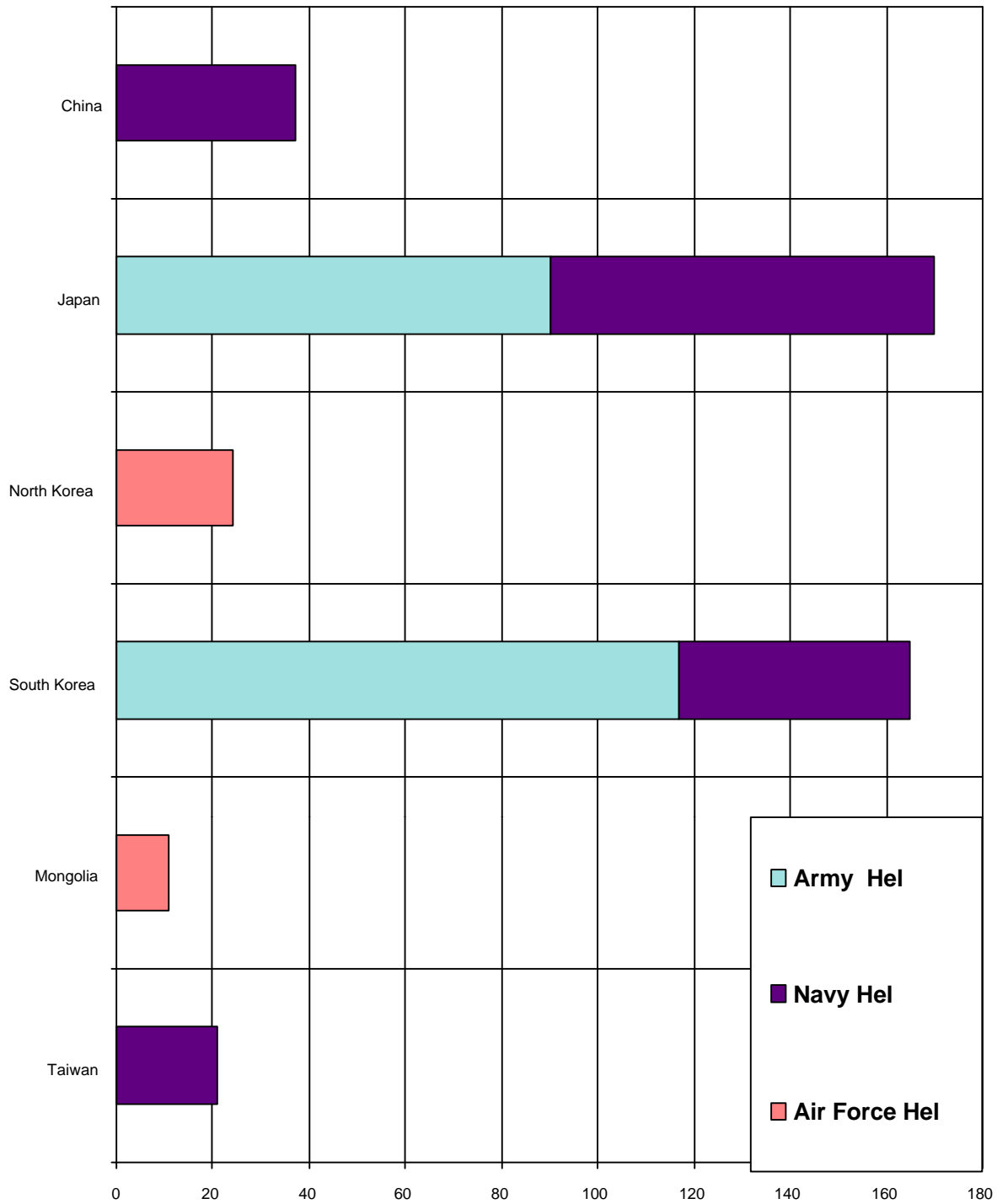
Northeast Asian Fixed Wing Combat Aircraft by Type: 2000-2001
(Number in Active Service)



	China	Japan	N. Korea	S. Korea	Taiwan	US PACOM
Su-30	40	-	-	-	-	-
Su-27	65	-	-	-	-	-
Su-25	-	-	35	-	-	-
Su-7	-	-	18	-	-	-
Q-5	630	-	-	-	-	-
S-2	-	-	-	15	31	-
P-3	-	80	-	8	-	77
J-8	292	-	-	-	-	-
J-7	686	-	130	-	-	-
J-6	1750	-	159	-	-	-
J-5	-	-	107	-	-	-
MiG-29	-	-	46	-	-	-
MiG-23	-	-	46	-	-	-
Mirage	-	-	-	-	58	-
Ching-Kuo	-	-	-	-	128	-
AT-3	-	-	-	-	22	-
A-10	-	-	-	-	-	44
F-16	-	-	-	160	126	124
F-15	-	160	-	-	-	123
F-5	-	-	-	195	200	-
F-4	-	70	-	130	-	-
F-1	-	40	-	-	-	-

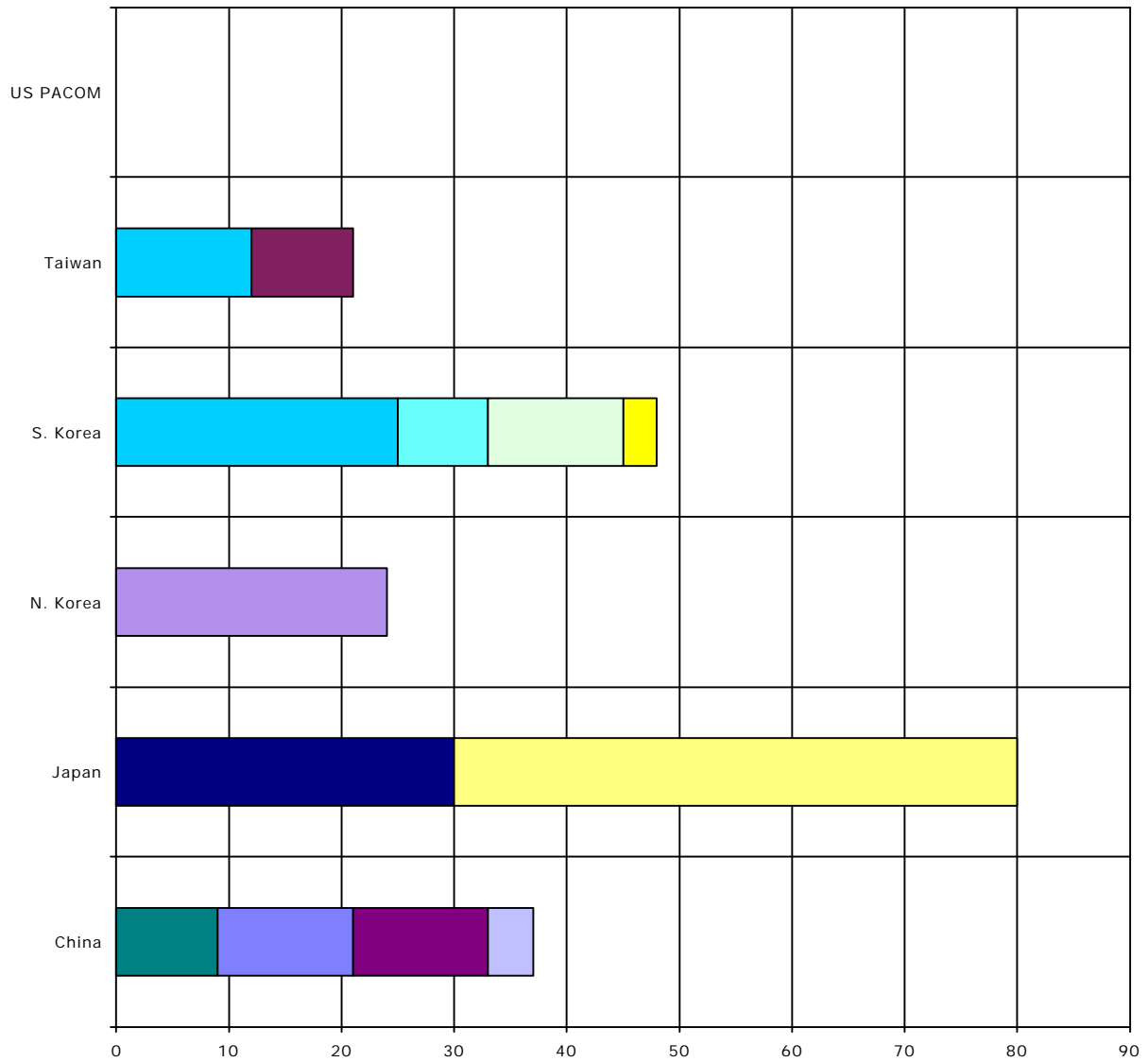
Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from IISS, Military Balance, 2000-2001.

Northeast Asian Rotary Wing Combat Aircraft: 2000-2001 (Number in Active Service)



Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from IISS, Military Balance, 2000-2001.

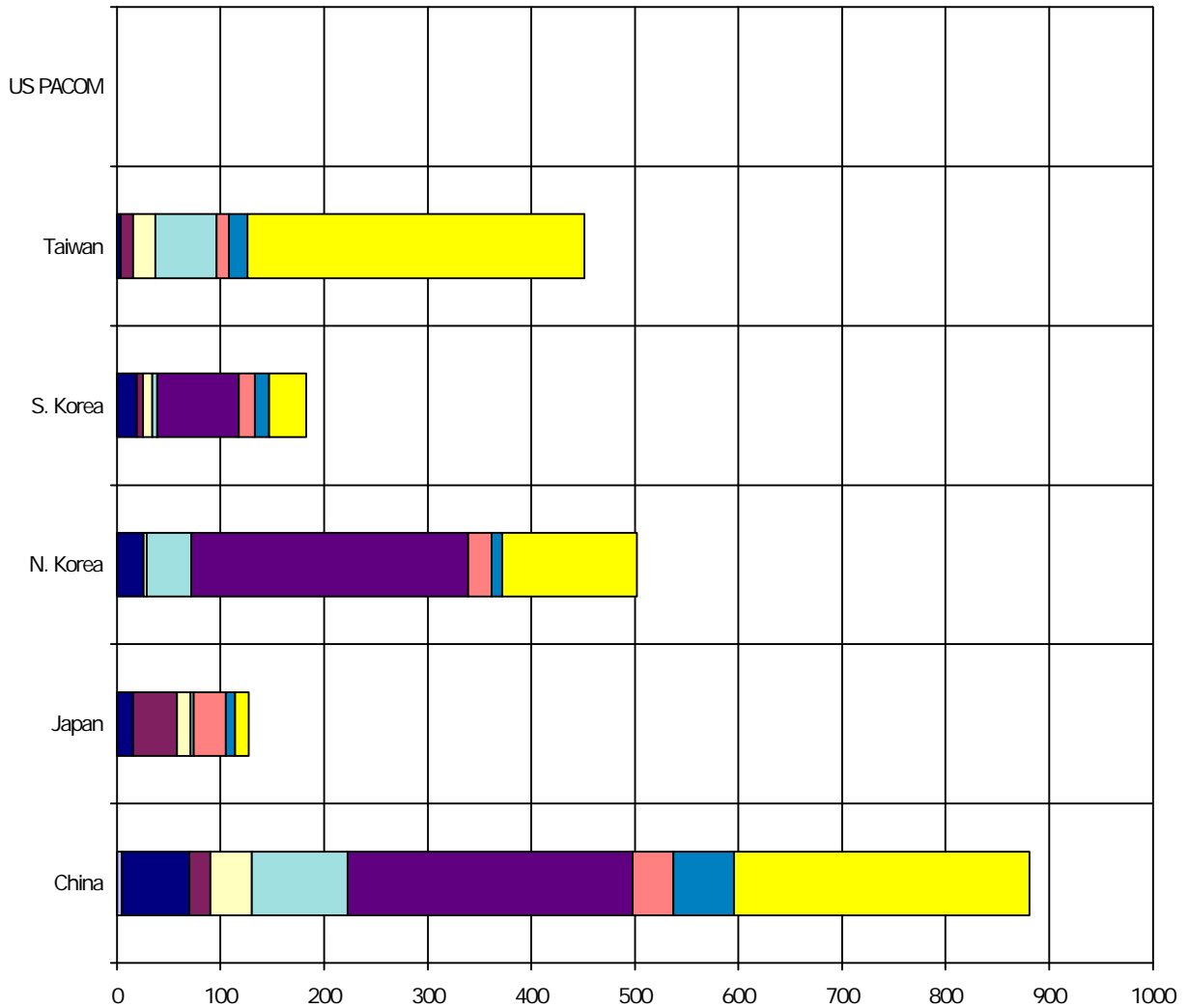
Northeast Asian Rotary Combat Aircraft by Type: 2000-2001
(Number in Active Service)



	China	Japan	N. Korea	S. Korea	Taiwan	US PACOM
■ S-70C	-	-	-	-	9	-
■ Super Lynx	-	-	-	3	-	-
■ Lynx	-	-	-	12	-	-
■ SA-316	-	-	-	8	-	-
■ Hughes 500MD	-	-	-	25	12	-
■ SH-60J	-	50	-	-	-	-
■ HSS-2B	-	30	-	-	-	-
■ Mi-24	-	-	24	-	-	-
■ Ka-28	4	-	-	-	-	-
■ Z-9	12	-	-	-	-	-
■ Z-8	12	-	-	-	-	-
■ SA-321	9	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from IISS, Military Balance, 2000-2001.

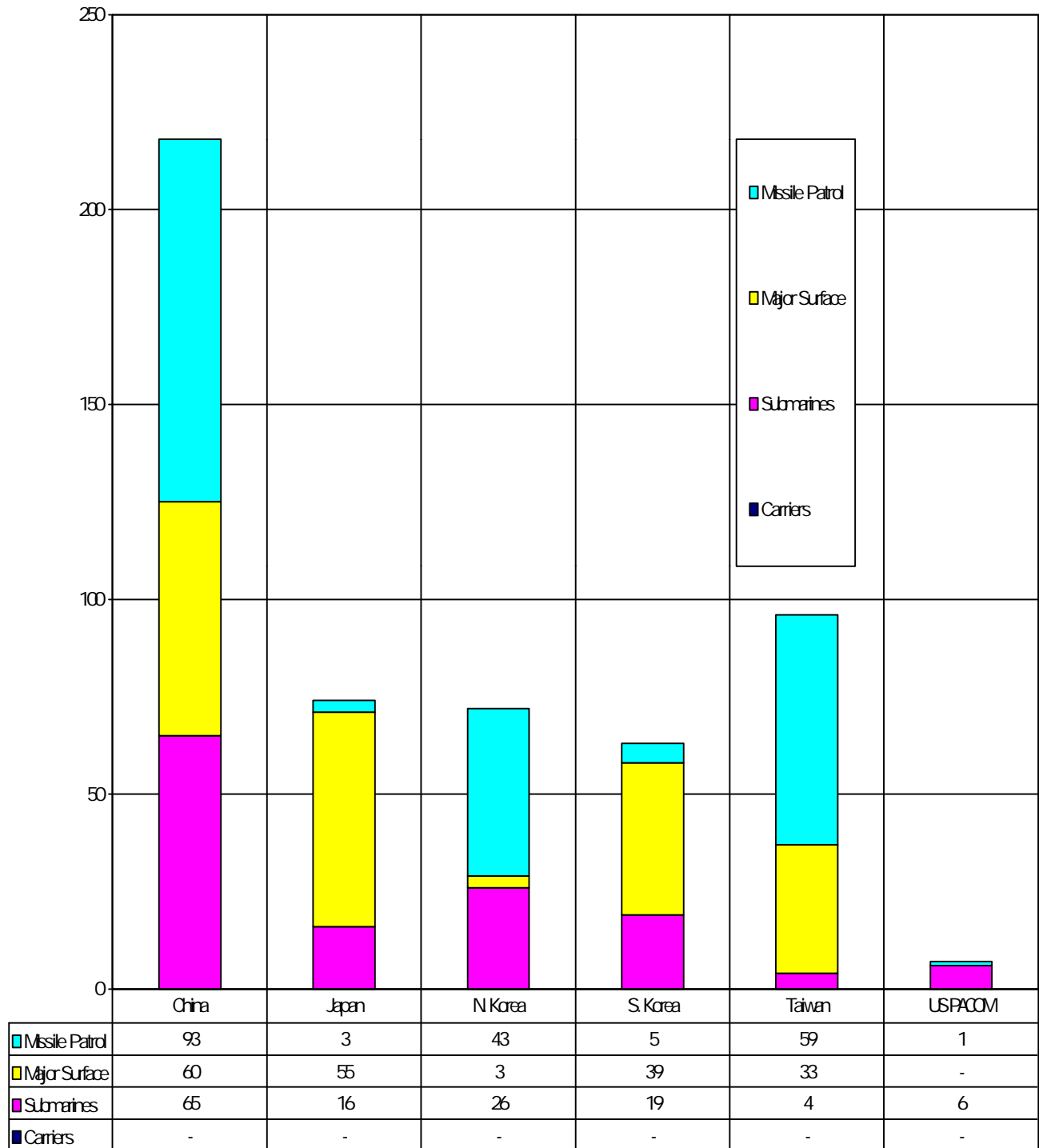
Northeast Asian Naval Combat Ships in 2000-2001
(Number in Active Service)



	China	Japan	N. Korea	S. Korea	Taiwan	US PACOM
Landing Craft	285	13	130	36	325	
Amphibious	59	9	10	14	18	
Mine	39	31	23	15	12	
Other Patrol	275	-	267	79	-	
Missile Patrol	93	3	43	5	59	
Frigates	40	13	3	9	21	
Cruisers	-	-	-	-	-	
Destroyers	20	42	-	6	12	
Carriers	-	-	-	-	-	
Submarines	65	16	26	19	4	
SSNs	5	-	-	-	-	

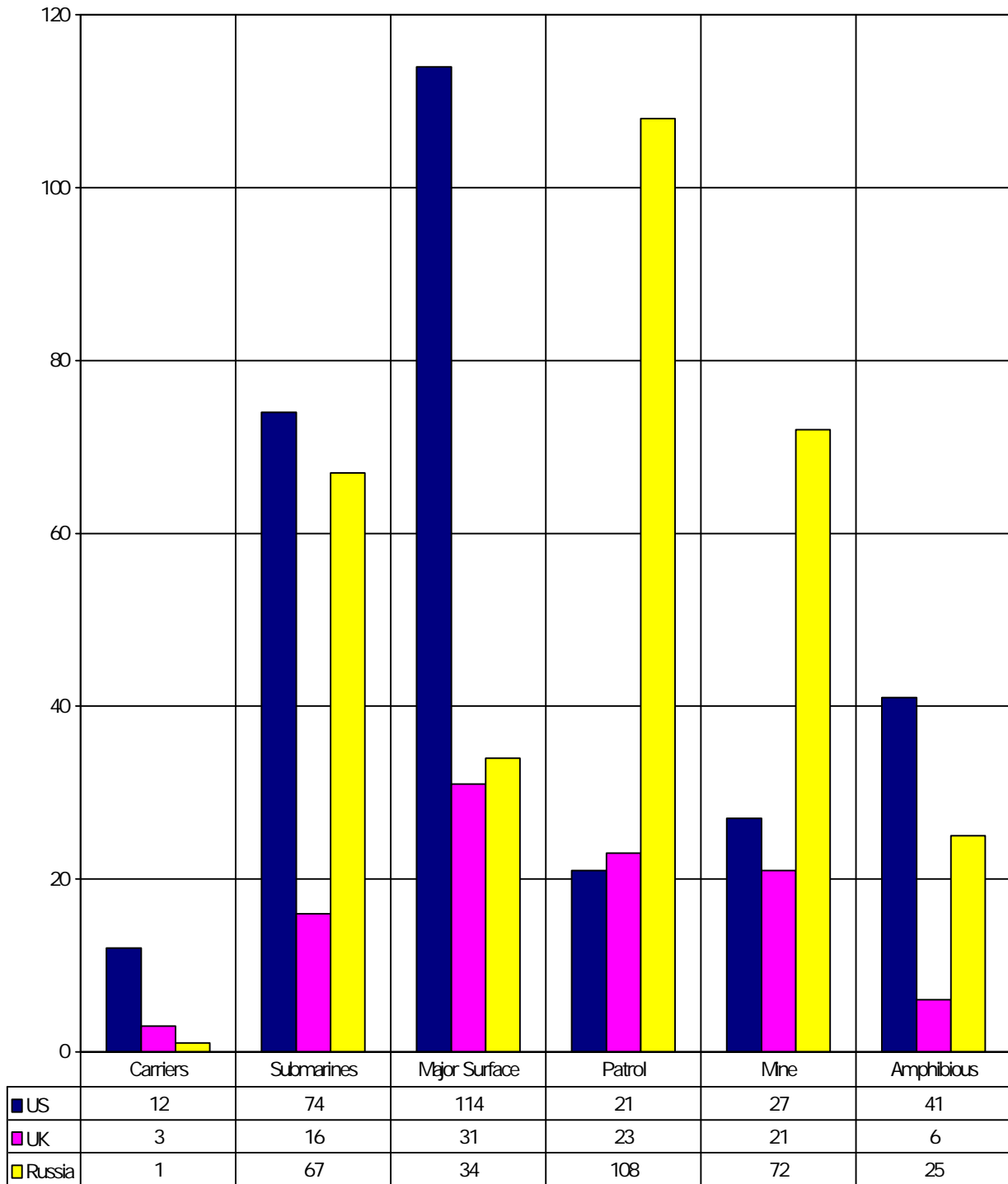
Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from IISS, Military Balance, 2000-2001.

Northeast Asian Major Naval Combat Ships in Key Powers 2000-2001



Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from the IISS, Military Balance, 2000-2001.

Western Naval Combat Ships Affecting the Asian Balance in 2000-2001



Source: Adapted by Anthony H. Cordesman from the IISS, Military Balance, 2000-2001.

