

Located in the western hills of Beijing, this colossal facility spans over 4 kilometers across. Construction experts in the UK have speculated the construction costs at between \$150 and 200 billion dollars.

Former head of China analysis for the CIA Dennis Wilder believes it's the latter he said "If confirmed this new, advanced underground command bunker for the military leadership, signals Beijing's intent to build not only a world class conventional force but also an advanced nuclear warfighting capability"

China was observed training with them to prepare to land thousands of tanks and troops on shore. The ships linked forming a single long bridge that goes from the ship in deep water right onto the shore. if you look at the geography of Taiwan there's only a dozen beaches suitable for an amphibious assault

According to **H I Sutton who** Its bridge is 120 meters long so it can extend out past the beach which would skip the annoying sandy part of an amphibious landing and put you right on a coastal Taiwanese road.

Michael Dahm, a retired U.S. Navy intelligence officer wrote a paper published on the The Naval War college about the barges he said he no longer doubts China is preparing for war by 2027

In his paper Dahm says the barge is built to accommodate "small tactical vehicles and trucks to 50-ton tanks" "A single heavy combined arms battalion of 150 vehicles would likely need a minimum of 30 minutes to offload from a RO-RO ship using the LPU temporary pier."

So basically these giant invasion barges are sitting ducks for 30 minutes offloading vehicles, just big old targets waiting for a HIMARs to the teeth, but China's plan is to land uncontested after a massive bombardment.

What makes this particularly interesting to me though is the timing of it all. Full scale Construction began in mid-2024 even as China's property sector was collapsing.

To find out answers reporters from the financial times tried to access the site on the ground. There were warnings against flying drones or taking photographs posted everywhere.

Popular hiking trails were shut down nearby. The reporters put their lives at considerable risk to ask the local questions but a local shopkeeper only revealed that "it's military area". Satellite imagery examined by US intelligence, shows more than 100 cranes operating simultaneously, massive excavation pits, and extensive structural reinforcements hammered into the earth.

Several current US officials said the CIA has been closely monitoring the site since they first broke ground. In that initial step they cleared the area of any residential buildings flattening them in preparation for the major construction project. Even though their internet is heavily censored by the Chinese communist party we can still see a trace of this in an online forum where a resident asks why these villages are being demolished.

Then US analysts observed the grid layout appeared...those blue concrete patches you see there suggest specialized, heavy-duty construction. Then they noticed what looks like a sprawling complex and by late 2024, satellites show most major surface buildings were up. The latest images from January 2025, show a big central complex, with thick concrete walls.

According to the this 2024 DOD report. The CCP began expanding its Underground Facility program in 2011. To get you the inside scoop, our producer Armando reached out to Ron Hubbard, who runs Atlas Survival Shelters. This guy creates bomb shelters with a team of advisors who have actually worked on equivalent US sites.

Remember, It was only in 2016 that their military even split theater commands based on region. It was only recently that their military began combined arms doctrine where each branch fights in coordination.

But China's obsession with going underground didn't start with this "Beijing Military City Chinese pentagon" It began with a single, directive from Chairman Mao Zedong himself when he told his people to quote "Dig tunnels deep." It was the late 1960s. Relations with the Soviet Union had deteriorated from friendly communist brotherhood to a pissing match with a nuclear power. Not to mention, American boots on the ground involvement right next door to them in Vietnam was escalating. This made Mao particularly worried, as he felt China was surrounded by threats, he became convinced they needed to prepare for the worst.

So what followed was perhaps one of the most ambitious civilian tunneling projects in Asia's history. Beneath the streets of Beijing, hundreds of thousands of ordinary Chinese citizens – armed with nothing more sophisticated than shovels, picks, and wheelbarrows almost built an underground city with miles of hand-dug tunnels, deeper than 33 feet or 10 meters meters beneath the surface.

The network, nicknamed the underground city, had a capacity ranging from 300 thousand to six million people. It had provisions for food, water, and ventilation. In the event of a nuclear attack the plan was to be able to move every Beijing resident safely underground. Today the system lays mostly defunct some parts of it were refurbished as cheap hotels, meanwhile others were transformed into shopping centers, or and theaters.

The first Gulf War spooked Chinese leadership, their top military generals were focused how US precision bombs picked apart Iraqi command centers and hardened targets like they were nothing. The PLA got to work on an array of Hardened Aircraft Shelters (HAS) Satellite imagery would later confirm over 400 such shelters all over China. But the digging down didn't stop there. They actually doubled on their quote un quote "Underground Great Wall". The underground great wall is a vast network of almost 3,000 miles long.

It was designed to conceal China's growing arsenal of nuclear ICBM's. Beijing created a credible second-strike capability ensuring China could retaliate even after absorbing a first strike. And they kept at it, by the early 2000s, China's underground ambitions extended beneath the waves and into legitimate bond villain territory.

But China's most critical underground facility, until now has been in Xishan "SHEE-shahn," approximately 15 miles from central Beijing, this is China's primary Joint Operations Command Center. Built during the height of the Cold War at a depth of approximately 328 feet (100 meters) underground, this facility has served as the PLA's primary hardened command post for decades. Here, in underground chambers carved beneath the scenic hills, sits the brain of China's military.

But there's a problem. Insufficient capacity. The PLA of 2025 simply cannot fit its expanded command apparatus and new capabilities into a bunker designed for the much smaller, simpler military of the 1970s and that's the least of it's problems, beyond this vulnerability, the aging facility faces another challenge, a critical flaw if you will, it wasn't designed to be a secure combat command center by modern standards. The reason why China is building Beijing Military City is because of a critical date that looms large in Chinese military planning: 2027. The year they're ordered to be fully modernized.

When we interpreted the images, from the deep pits of the central grid of the complex using shadow geometry they suggest that the deepest parts are just 130 feet deep. Which I found odd. In fact this congressional report mentions how hardened facilities are safe even from nukes if buried deep enough. The Peoples Liberation Army Engineering University iin Nanjing conducted a study on the effects of nuclear bunker-busting weapons which revealed vulnerabilities down to 6500 feet. Which placed into perfect context what one of our experts had to say about this

China is known for cutting corners in their production but when it comes to their high priority new military headquarters they would spare no expense. They are likely using Ultra-High Performance Concrete, which isn't your sidewalk mix; it's concrete on steroids, 6 to 10 times stronger than the regular stuff.