

Vietnam Increases Fortifications on West Reef In 2020

Analysis By Similarity In Collaboration
With AllSource
October, 2020



West Reef is Just 36 Nautical Miles From PRC Military Base Cuarteron Reef



Sources: U.S. government; Reuters.

*Occupation does not signify undisputed sovereignty.

Steff, C. Chan 25/05/2015

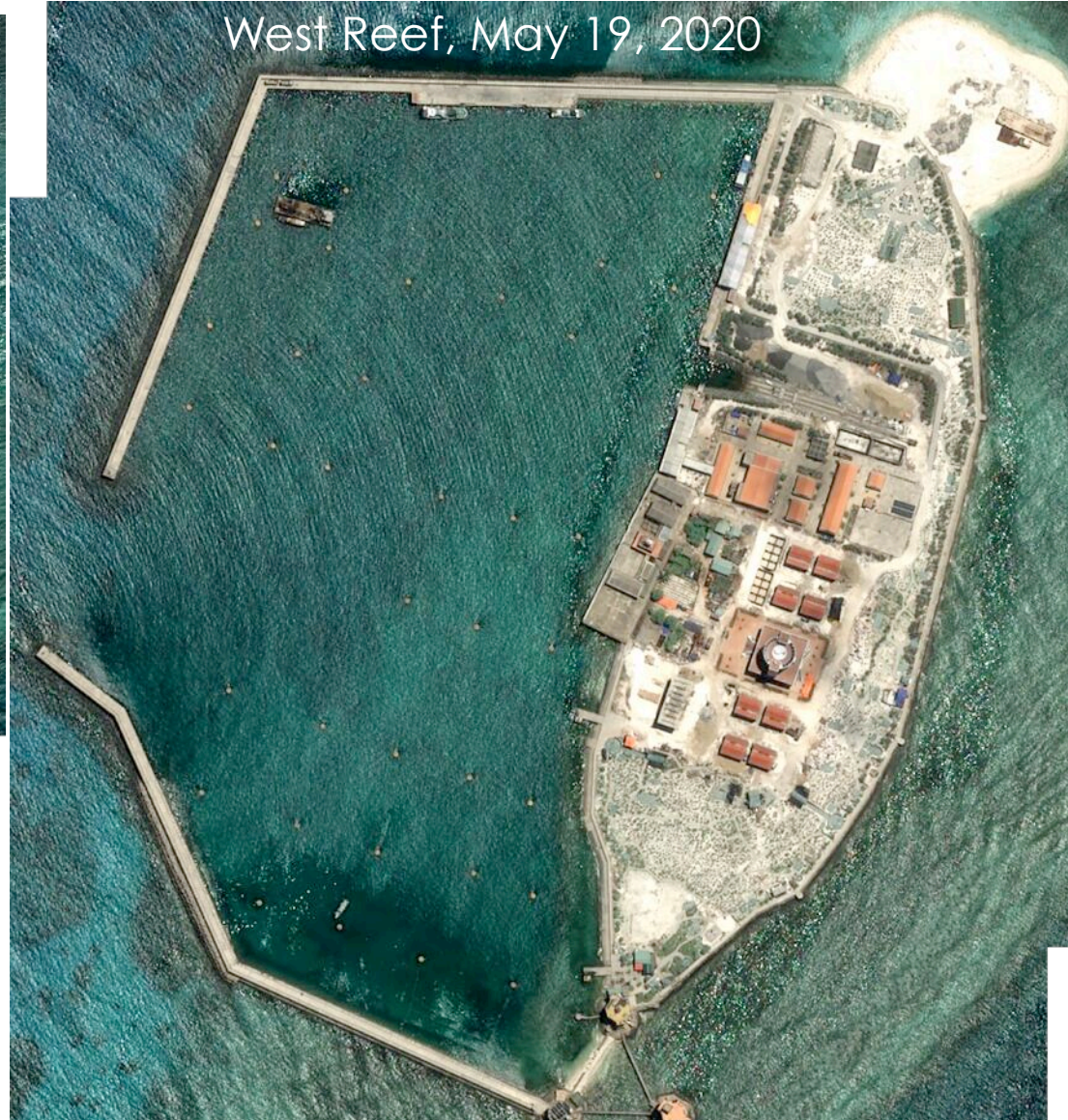
REUTERS

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West Reef, June 15, 2019



West Reef, May 19, 2020



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By May, 2020 note the appearance of air and/or coastal defense-related infrastructure on the north end (more concrete pads, buildings; possible coastal missile defense or surface-to-air missile air defense).

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West Reef, June 15, 2019



West Reef, June 15, 2019



West Reef, May 19, 2020



By May, 2020 note the appearance of air and/or coastal defense-related infrastructure on the south end (more concrete pads, buildings; possible coastal missile defense or surface-to-air missile air defense).

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West Reef, May 19, 2020



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At least 10 new structures on the island have been built since January 2020, including several underground bunker-like structures, possibly a water cistern. Construction is ongoing as of at least June of 2020.