
ASSESSING THE CHINESE NAVY'S NEW 054B FRIGATE

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A successor to the PLANs workhorse, the 054A, has been rumored for a decade. Now its finally here.

The Peoples Liberation Army Navy (PLAN)s most well recognized workhorse over the last decade and a half has been the 054A frigate: a multirole, blue water capable surface combatant displacing just over 4,000 tons at full load. The first 054A was launched in 2006 and entered service in 2008. As of this writing in 2023, 40 054As have been built for the PLAN, with the final hulls to enter service in the immediate future.

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