

SSBNs/PLARBs

The current ballistic missile sub force is composed of Typhoons, Delta IVs, and Delta IIIs, with a scattering of earlier strategic submarines which are being phased out of service (Delta II, Delta I, and Yankee II). Current plans are for a force of between twenty and twenty-seven SSBNs, with the mainstay being the Delta IVs and the Typhoons. Some sources say that the Delta IIIs are to be phased out as well, but it seems unlikely that the force goals can be met entirely by the 6 Typhoons (now out of production) and the 7 Delta IVs. Jane's reports that thirty-nine (39) SSBNs currently remain active in the fleet; in addition to the 6 Typhoons and 7 Delta IVs, there are 8 Delta Is, 4 Delta IIs, and 14 Delta IIIs.

Force goal: 20-27

Composition: 6 Typhoons, 7 Delta IVs, ~11 Delta IIIs (projected) Units to be retired include 4 Delta IIs, 14 Delta Is, and 3 Yankee Is.