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BREAKING:

China's J-20 isn't just catching up—it's outclassing the F-22 and F-35.

Not because Beijing pulled ahead—

But because America sold its edge to Lockheed and Raytheon.

The real threat isn't China.

It's the Military-Industrial Complex.

Thread:



China's J-20 Fighter Has 1 Massive Advantage over the F-22 and F-35

China's J-20 Mighty Dragon stealth fighter, despite being individually outmatched by U.S. F-22 and F-35 jets, could soon surpass them in sheer numbers.

<https://www.19fortyfive.com/2025/04/chinas-j-20-fighter-has-1-massive-advantage-ove...>

The U.S. media keeps comparing China's J-20 to the F-22 and F-35 like it's still 2005.

But here's the truth no one says out loud:

Both jets are aging Cold War fossils.

And the real story?

The Military-Industrial Complex Eisenhower warned us about killed U.S. airpower.

1/11

The F-22 Raptor: Designed in the 1990s.

Production killed in 2011 after just 187 jets.

Why? Not because it failed—because it didn't fail.

It was too good.

But Lockheed needed to cash in on something newer: enter the \$1.7 trillion F-35 fiasco.

2/11

The F-35 was never about national defense.

It was about spreading manufacturing across 45 states.

About generating endless contractor jobs.

About quarterly profits and eternal upgrades.

It's a flying jobs program with wings.

3/11

Meanwhile, China designed the J-20 in the 2010s.

It's new, scalable, and born of a doctrine:

"Build modern, build many, build fast."

They're producing 120 a year while the U.S. debates rebooting a production line it killed 14 years ago.

4/11

But U.S. media won't touch this.

They'll tell you about stealth coatings, turn radius, and radar cross-sections.

They won't tell you the F-35 was deliberately underpowered at first—

Because a future fix = future contracts.

5/11

This is exactly what Eisenhower warned about in 1961:

A self-perpetuating war economy where defense policy is dictated not by need—

But by what Lockheed, Raytheon, Northrop, and Boeing can monetize.

6/11

The MIC doesn't innovate. It harvests.

Harvests taxpayer cash.

Harvests public fear.

And harvests obsolete tech until it's too late to pivot.

The F-35 isn't the future.

It's the grave marker of U.S. industrial stagnation.

7/11

Meanwhile, China builds fighters like it builds phones:

Fast, iterative, and in volume.

They didn't fall for the one-size-fits-all "Joint" fighter trap.

They built a machine to win wars—not to win Senate votes.

8/11

So next time you see another glowing CNN or Forbes article drooling over the F-35 or comparing it to the J-20—

Ask yourself:

Are they reporting on airpower...

Or just running PR for Lockheed Martin's stockholders?

9/11

Eisenhower told us the MIC would destroy democracy if left unchecked.

Well, it's here.

Wrapped in stealth paint.

Costing trillions.

And dragging America's military edge down with it.

10/11

End.

Follow for more threads that Bloomberg won't touch.

#J20 #F35 #MilitaryIndustrialComplex #EisenhowerWasRight

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