

IN THE NEWS

Navy Is Still Searching for A Plan to Reach A 355-Ship Fleet

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Buying smaller, relatively cheap new frigates and extending the life of current ships offers the best path to a larger fleet, said Bryan Clark, a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments and former special assistant to the Chief of Naval Operations.

"If Russia or China or North Korea want to start a fight, putting a defenseless ship like an old Perryclass in there certainly won't deter them," Clark said. Having the latest vessels on the front lines with global rivals isn't just a matter of defense, Clark added, it also deters them.