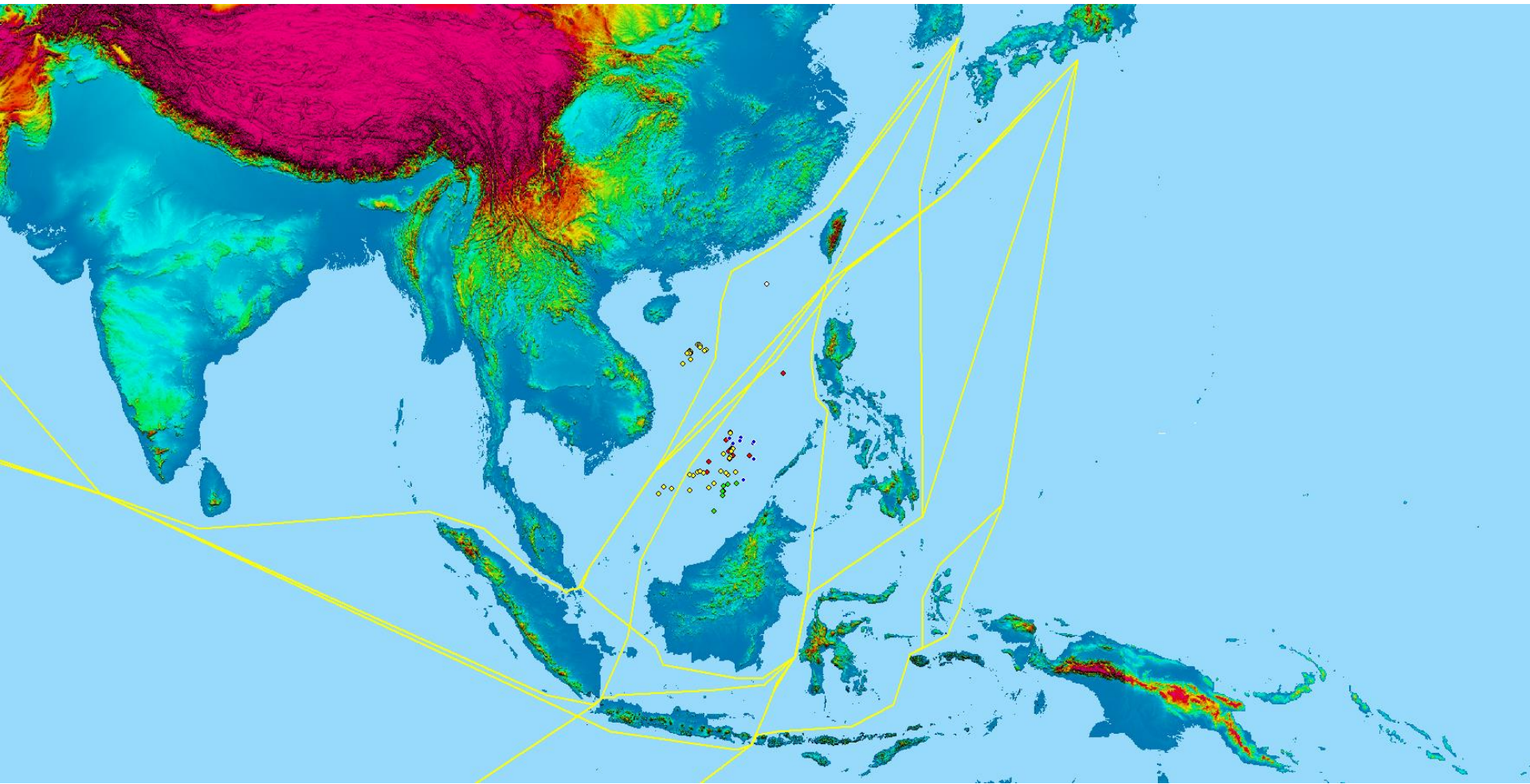


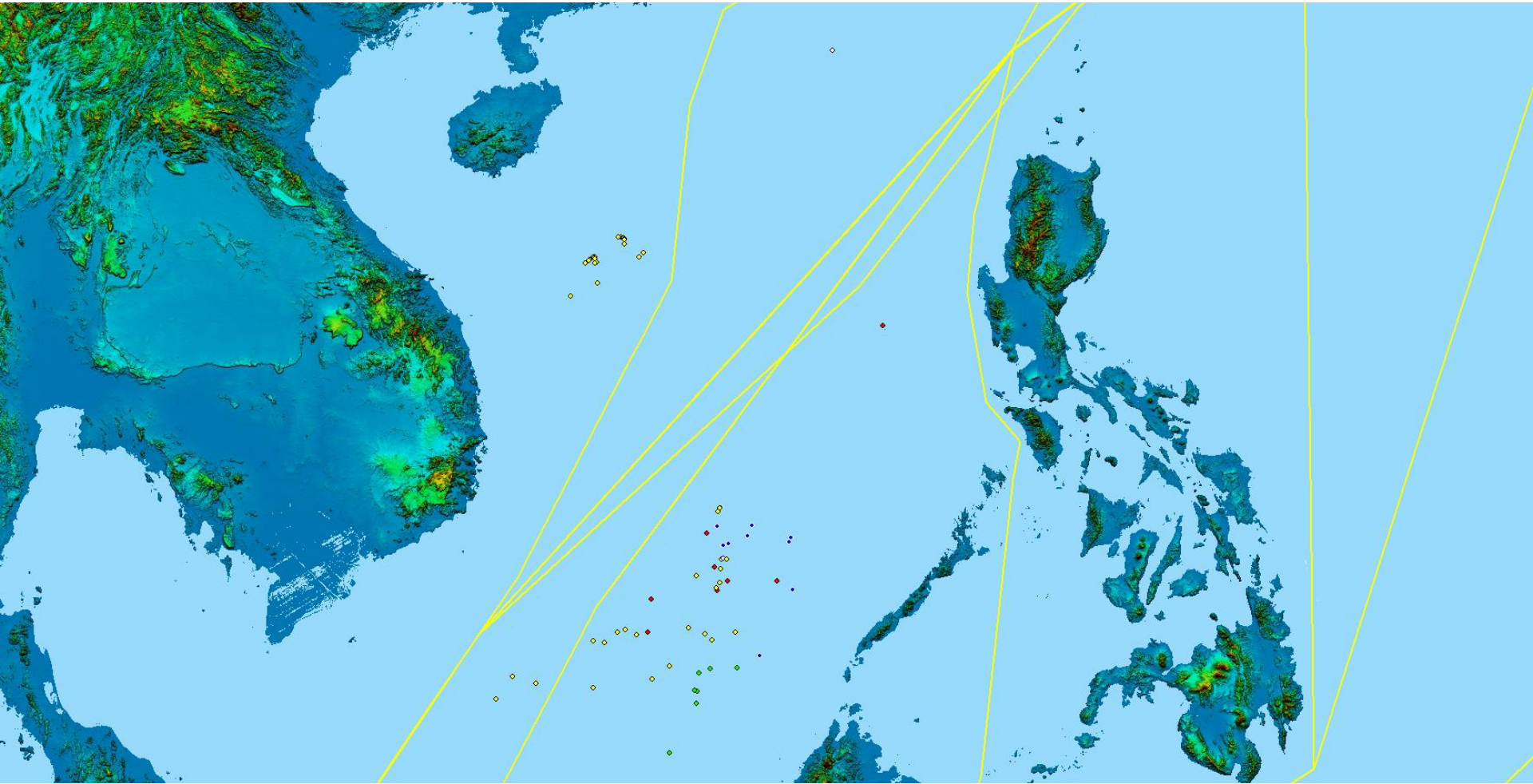
# Freedom of Navigation and Innocent Passage

Yellow routes from all points of the compass to all points in the Far East



All 74 reefs and atolls in the South China Sea: Spratly (49) and Paracel (24), plus Scarborough Shoal

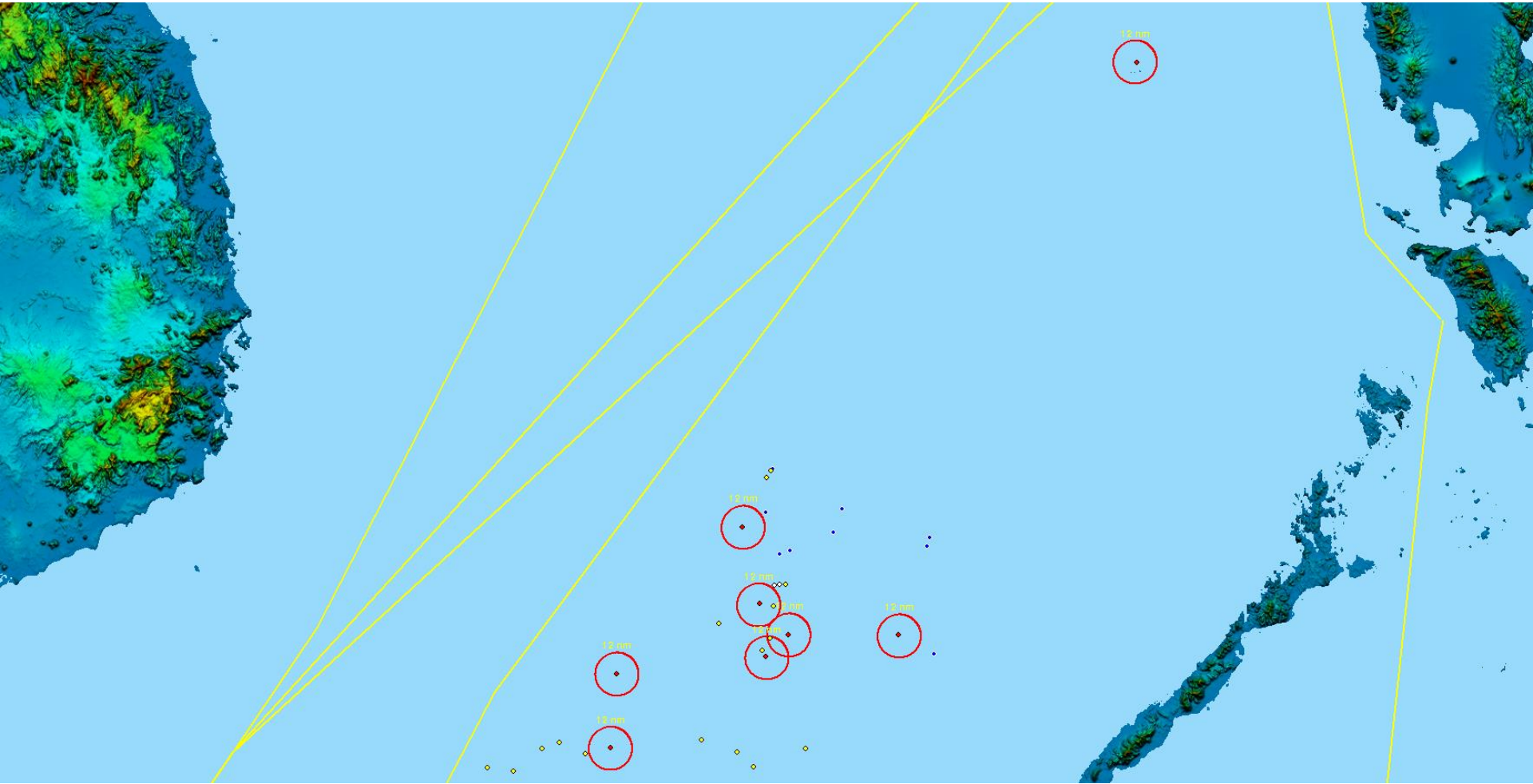
## All 74 reefs and atolls in the South China Sea: Spratly and Scarborough Shoal (50) and Paracel (24)



**Claims in the Spratly Reefs and Scarborough Shoal: Yellow: Vietnam (22); Blue: Philippines (11); Green: Malaysia (7); White: Taiwan (2); Red: China (8)**

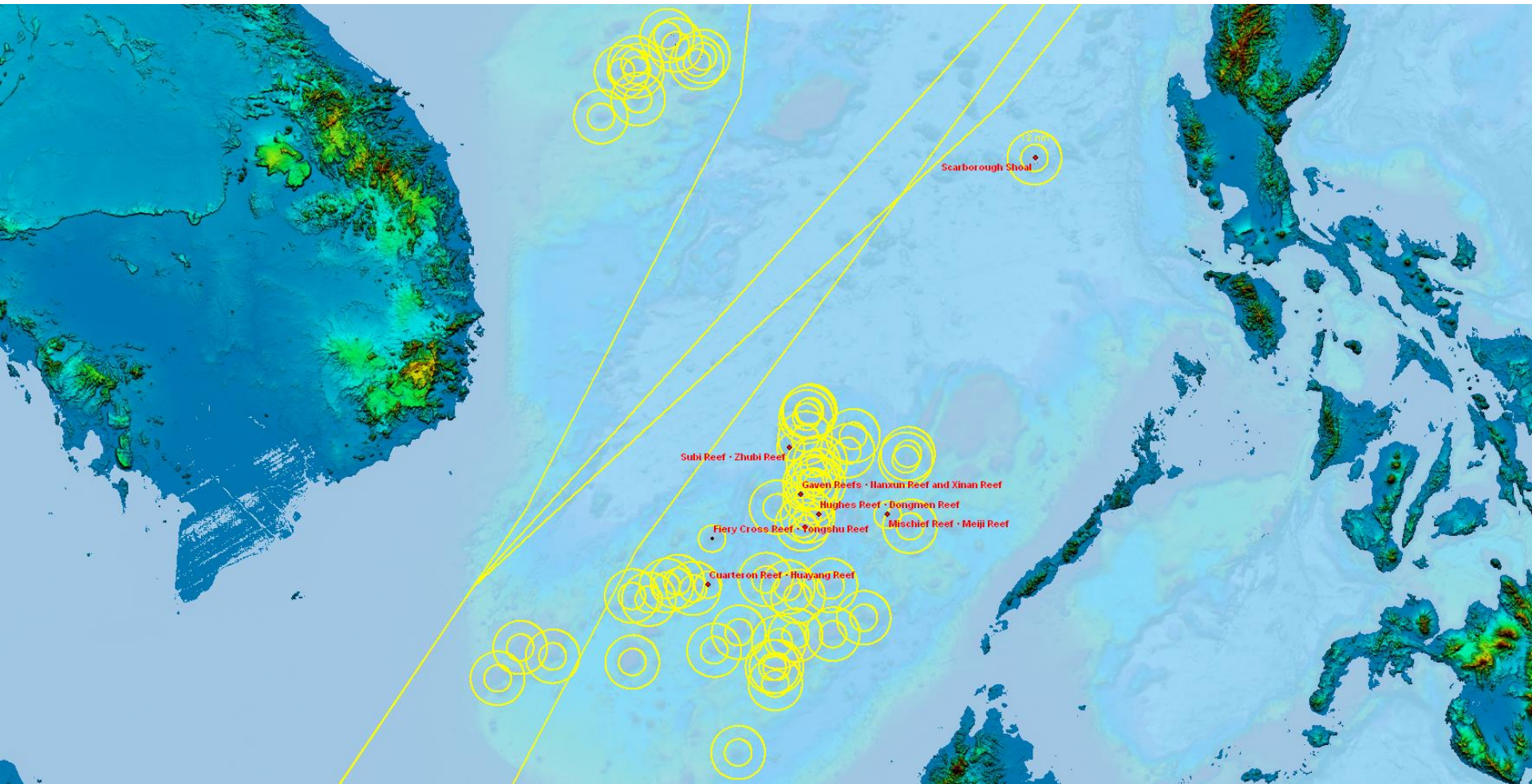


# Chinese claims and military bases in the Spratly Islands and Scarborough Shoal, with 12 nautical miles territorial sea



***“Innocent Passage”*** of foreign vessels is authorized within the circles, including military, provided it be innocent

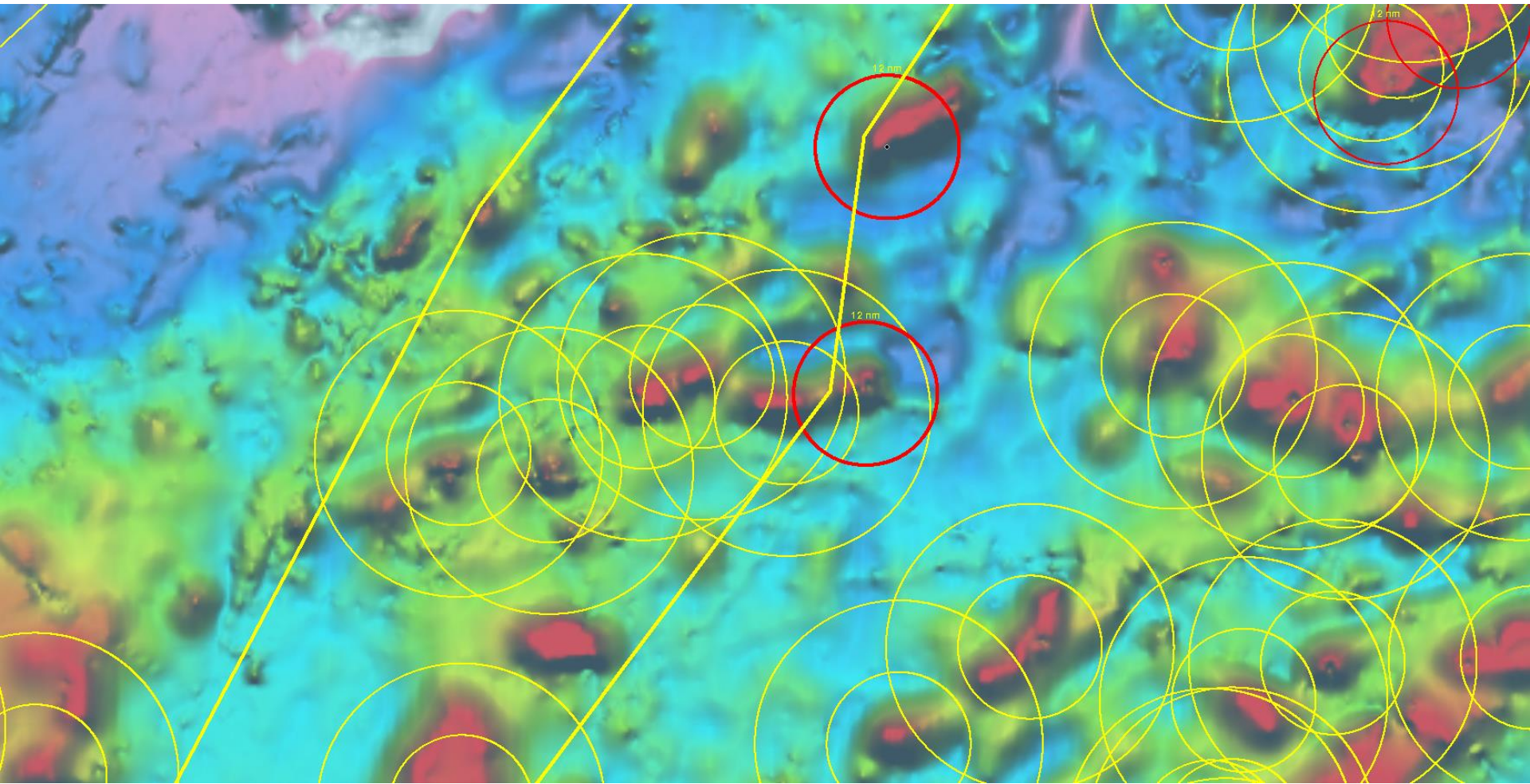
**All 74 claims by countries other than China including the Paracel Islands, with 12 and 24 nautical miles seas, some militarily occupied by the claimant powers**



**China claimed such reefs which were not occupied militarily by others**  
**(你打瞌睡就吃亏)**



**On the left, the Cape of Good Hope to Japan route via Sunda and Luzon Straits  
On the right a longer alternative within 12 nautical miles of the reefs**



**Irrespective of claims of national sovereignty, the alternate route is quite contrary to basic common sense and tenets of nautical safety (and promises the Innocently Passing Captain to discipline before some Admiralty Court for reckless navigation)**

Elsewhere: regulated navigation in the English Channel. Passage, even innocent, is prohibited close to shore. The radius of the dashed circle is 12 nautical miles

