

A high-resolution image of Earth from space, showing the African continent and surrounding regions. The Earth is illuminated from the right, creating a bright blue glow along its horizon. The background is a dark, starry space.

9TH TJSD IN TAIPEI

AGENDA

1. Opening Remarks by TSRA and SSRI
2. Program description and general background announce
3. Each teams discuss and drafting its National Strategy base on 2
4. Lunch Break | and moving to group classrooms
5. *Unit 1* peacetime interference and harass
6. Tea Break
7. *Unit 2* gray zone conflicts
8. End of the 1st day / Traffic to Restaurant

9. *Unit 3* Para-conflicts and evacuation
10. *Unit 4* General Discussion and AAR
11. Lunch Break
12. *Unit 5* Discussion details about the Next Dialogue
13. End of the dialogue
14. Dinner

OPENING
REMARKS



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PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

1. This wargame is based on the "tabletop exercise" and does not use computer arbitration.
2. This wargame is divided into 3 groups: Red Team, Blue Team and Green Team.
3. Red Team is the arbitration team, acting as the PLA and responsible for the offense.
4. Blue team play Taiwan and Green for Japan.
5. Each Unit follows THREE special situations.
6. Each team should have unified response to every situation, with “Strategic Framework” and “Specified Approaches”.
7. Communications and cooperations between two teams are **ALLOWED** and **ENCOURAGED**.
8. Any conflicts of understanding and opinions will be judged by the Red Team, unless two teams could reach consensus.

BACKGROUND OF THE WARGAMING

In early 2020, COVID-19 erupted in Wuhan, China, and began to ravage the Indo-Pacific region and the whole world, triggering a global crisis in industrial supply chains and leading to nationwide lockdown in various countries. This brought about a geopolitical and economic shift in the era of deglobalisation. On February 24, 2022, Moscow took special military actions by invading Ukraine, sparking military conflicts in the European region. The United States, leading NATO countries, provided tangible and psychological support while imposing economic sanctions on Russia, reigniting a Cold War-like confrontation between the East and the West.

To curb China's assertive rise in the East China Sea, Taiwan Strait, and South China Sea within the First Island Chain, the United States initiated the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) and formed the AUKUS trilateral military alliance with Australia and the United Kingdom. Along with Japan's proposal for the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD), a multilateral strategy of containment against China has emerged. The South China Sea, which holds the world's most vital shipping routes and energy transportation lines, has become a focal point and a contested area in military considerations.

BACKGROUND OF THE WARGAMING

Regarding China's developments, in October 2022, the Chinese Communist Party held its 20th National Party Congress. As expected, Xi Jinping continued his third term, maintaining the positions of General Secretary of the Party and Chairman of the Central Military Commission. In March 2023, China held its annual National People's Congress and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, where Xi Jinping was reappointed as President and appointed his loyalist, Li Qiang, as the Premier of the State Council. Li Shangfu, with a background in technology, was appointed as the Minister of National Defense responsible for foreign military exchanges, showcasing strong autocratic rule. During the closing ceremony of the two sessions, Xi Jinping presented his blueprint for the future development of cross-strait relations, stating, "Achieving complete reunification is the common aspiration of all Chinese people and the great significance of national rejuvenation. We must adhere to the One China principle and the '1992 Consensus,' actively promote peaceful development of cross-strait relations, firmly oppose external forces' interference and separatist activities for Taiwan independence, and resolutely advance the process of national reunification."

BACKGROUND OF THE WARGAMING

Furthermore, Beijing has been engaging in “major powers diplomacy”. On February 21, 2023, it issued the “Concept Paper on Global Security Initiatives,” which not only includes training security personnel for developing countries but also introduces the new term “collective security.” Additionally, Xi Jinping has successively met with German Chancellor Scholz, French President Macron, and European Commission President von der Leyen. He also traveled to Moscow to meet with Russian President Putin, establishing an unrestricted strategic partnership between the two countries. China successfully mediated the restoration of diplomatic relations between Iran and Saudi Arabia. On March 31, Xi Jinping met with Spanish Prime Minister Sánchez, Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar, and Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong.

BACKGROUND OF THE WARGAMING

On the US' perspective: On April 10, 2023, while the PLA conducted large-scale military exercises simulating precise strikes on key targets around Taiwan, the U.S. Seventh Fleet announced the deployment of the guided-missile destroyer USS Milius to the Spratly Islands to carry out a freedom of navigation operation, asserting the right to freedom of navigation. In March, there was a dispute between China and the United States over the actions of the USS Milius. Beijing claimed that the USS Milius had illegally entered the territorial waters of China's Paracel Islands, and the Southern Theater Command tracked and monitored the ship, issuing warnings to drive it away. In fact, on July 17, 2022, the U.S. Navy's Seventh Fleet guided-missile destroyer USS Benfold (DDG-65) conducted a "freedom of navigation operation" near the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea, challenging restrictions imposed by China, Vietnam, and Taiwan on innocent passage through the Spratly Islands and upholding internationally recognized rights, freedoms, and lawful uses of the seas under international law.

BACKGROUND OF THE WARGAMING

On April 8, 2023, Chairman Michael McCaul of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee, along with seven bipartisan members of Congress, visited Taiwan to strengthen economic and defense cooperation between the United States and Taiwan. On April 19, the U.S. House of Representatives' "Special Committee on U.S.-China Strategic Competition" and the Center for a New American Security (CNAS) held a closed-door policy and military simulation on how the National Security Council should respond if China were to militarily attack Taiwan by 2027. The conclusion reached was that there should be a strengthening of Taiwan's military capabilities. Considering the upcoming presidential election in November 2024, both Democratic and Republican candidates have taken a firm stance against China, consistently expressing support for Taiwan's democracy and freedom. They have urged for continued arms sales to Taiwan and the ongoing visits of congressional members and think tank representatives to Taiwan.

BACKGROUND OF THE WARGAMING

From April 8th to 10th, 2023, during President Tsai Ing-wen's transit through the United States, she met with Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, Kevin McCarthy, at the Ronald Reagan Library in California. In response, the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) organized and carried out military exercises in the Taiwan Strait, northern and southern regions of Taiwan, as well as in the airspace and waters east of Taiwan. These exercises, known as "Joint Sword" and "Island-wide Defense Patrol," were aimed at countering what the PLA perceives as Taiwan's reliance on the United States for independence and Taiwan's efforts to build its military capabilities.

Meanwhile, former President Ma Ying-jeou embarked on a journey to pay respects to ancestors and commemorate war sites. During his trip, he advocated for the "1992 Consensus" and the "One China" discourse regarding cross-strait relations. This sparked strong criticism from Taiwan's Mainland Affairs Council of the Executive Yuan, which urged political figures from across the political spectrum to avoid falling into traps set by China's united front tactics.

BACKGROUND OF THE WARGAMING

On January 19, 2021, Japan lodged an objection with the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS) regarding China's claims. China asserts sovereignty over the South China Sea islands, including the Spratly Islands, and attempts to establish baselines that would classify these waters as internal waters, a privilege granted only to island nations. Japan expressed its inability to accept this claim.

In April 2021, the joint statement by U.S. President Biden and then-Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga expressed opposition to "China's unlawful maritime claims" in the South China Sea. A similar statement with the same expression was made in May 2022 by President Biden and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida.

BACKGROUND OF THE WARGAMING

Indeed, on August 9, 2021, satellite images of the "South China Sea Strategy" revealed that the Japanese destroyer "Setogiri" was conducting escort and security missions in the Gulf of Aden. In mid-July, it participated in joint military exercises with the UK Navy's aircraft carrier strike group, including the HMS Queen Elizabeth, in the Gulf of Aden. On August 6, the "Setogiri" had just passed through the Strait of Malacca. Between 2:05 a.m. and 2:46 a.m., it sailed from north to south through the disputed Meiji Reef and Ren'ai Submerged Reef passage.

On September 12, 2022, Japan's NHK conducted further analysis and found that data indicated that in late July of the previous year, more than 10 maritime militia vessels sailed towards the East China Sea, specifically the disputed Senkaku Islands (known as the Diaoyu Islands in China), within a 200-kilometer range in the East China Sea. They stayed there for a period of time before returning to the South China Sea.

BACKGROUND OF THE WARGAMING

In April 2023, Japan released its "Diplomatic Bluebook," based on the National Security Strategy documents of 2022. It recognized China's expanding diplomatic and military influence as the greatest strategic challenge to the "international order." It emphasized the "serious concerns" of Japan and the international community regarding the importance of peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait. Japan also expressed significant concerns about the "military cooperation" between China and Russia.

On April 18, the annual G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held in Karuizawa, Japan. In a joint statement issued by the Japanese Foreign Minister, it reaffirmed the crucial importance of peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait. The G7 decided to directly express their concerns regarding the security issues in the Taiwan Strait to China.

BACKGROUND OF THE WARGAMING

Philippines: On January 5, 2023, China and the Philippines issued a joint statement in Beijing, emphasizing that the South China Sea dispute does not encompass the entirety of bilateral relations. They agreed to properly manage their differences and peacefully resolve the disputes based on the "Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea" and the "United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea."

On March 4, 2023, Manila authorities reported the presence of 42 vessels, including a Chinese frigate, a Chinese coast guard ship, and 40 "militia boats," in the waters surrounding Thitu Island (also known as Pag-asa Island), a disputed island controlled by the Philippines. The vessels were observed loitering near the island. The Philippine Coast Guard released a statement asserting that the unauthorized and continued presence of Chinese vessels violated the Philippines' territorial integrity and the right of innocent passage.

BACKGROUND OF THE WARGAMING

In addition, on March 22, Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. stated that the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) signed with the United States allows for the establishment of four additional military bases, including one facing the South China Sea. In response, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin stated on March 22 that defense and security cooperation between countries should contribute to regional peace and stability and should not target third parties or harm their interests.

GENERAL SITUATION

In July 2023, the United States hosted the 2024 Rim of the Pacific Exercise (RIMPAC), which was larger in scale than previous exercises, with increased participation from countries and naval and aerial vessels. Taiwan was also invited to participate in maritime search and rescue, medical, and humanitarian assistance operations, with active-duty naval and aerial personnel taking part.

During the same period, Taiwan conducted its annual Han Kuang military exercises, known as Exercise No. 39, which included live-fire drills. The exercises were expanded and held at the Hengchun Joint Training Base, and participating units included the Taiwanese Armed Forces, the Coast Guard Administration, and regional civil defense and rescue teams.

GENERAL SITUATION

In September 2023, various political parties in Taiwan confirmed their candidates and began the registration process for the presidential and legislative elections, marking the official start of the election campaign. The People's Liberation Army (PLA) intensified its routine military exercises in the Taiwan Strait and the surrounding areas of the First Island Chain, focusing on "long-distance voyages" and "combat readiness patrols." The primary activity area for these exercises was in the southeastern part of Taiwan and the Bashi Channel near the Philippines.

Simultaneously, a large number of maritime militia, armed fishing vessels, harassed Filipino fishermen near Scarborough Shoal, also known as Huangyan Island, and were accompanied by Philippine Coast Guard vessels in the local waters. In a show of support for Taiwan, several influential members of the U.S. Congress visited Taiwan on official aircraft, revealing the presence of additional U.S. military advisers stationed in Taiwan to assist in the practical training of active and reserve Taiwanese military personnel.

GENERAL SITUATION

On November 31, 2023, the Taiwan presidential election entered a fierce period, with three sets of presidential candidates engaging in intense attacks and defenses. The debate primarily revolved around the prioritization of pro-U.S. or pro-China stances, while regional legislative candidates competed with a spirit of allowing multiple perspectives. Evening political talk shows became platforms for pundits to engage in heated debates, intensifying the discussion on the country's development path. Various social media platforms and LINE groups strengthened the echo chamber effect, amplifying information dissemination within like-minded communities. Similarly, Taiwanese businesspeople in China formed various support groups to provide remote support for presidential candidates advocating the "1992 Consensus" and "ultimate reunification."

GENERAL SITUATION

On December 31, 2023, in Beijing, on the eve of the new year, the Chinese President, Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), and the Director of the Taiwan Affairs Office delivered speeches. President Xi Jinping reiterated the "great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation" and specifically emphasized that the cross-strait issue cannot be passed on from one generation to another. A pro-China candidate echoed Beijing's statement on Taiwan's reunification efforts, emphasizing the intention to convene a national conference and expedite the negotiation process for cross-strait reunification. Pro-independence groups protested fiercely at the party headquarters of that candidate and followed the candidate, engaging in spontaneous protests.

GENERAL SITUATION

In January 2024, Chinese President Xi Jinping issued the annual mobilization order for the entire military, signing Central Military Commission's Order No. 1 of 2024, which directed the People's Liberation Army (PLA) to advance comprehensive military training transformation and upgrade, cultivating highly skilled and combat-ready troops. The order also emphasized strengthening the training and defense mobilization work of various theater commands and expanding the annual "Foreign Affairs Work Conference." The year 2024 was identified as a crucial year for China's reunification process, aiming to achieve peaceful development of cross-strait relations and complete reunification of the motherland's central mission. It called for expanding exchanges at all levels between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait.

GENERAL SITUATION

On January 13, 2024, the Taiwan presidential election concluded successfully, and the president-elect expressed a commitment to internal harmony, stable cross-strait relations, and deepening Taiwan-U.S. relations. They called upon both the United States and China to respect and respond to the mainstream public opinion in Taiwan, and to create peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait. The American Institute in Taiwan also announced a congratulatory message from the White House and announced the decision to send a presidential envoy to attend the presidential inauguration on May 20th, highlighting the strong partnership between Taiwan and the United States. Furthermore, Japan, South Korea, and European Union countries expressed their support for Taiwan's further deepening of democracy.

GENERAL SITUATION

Apart from public congratulatory messages, Tokyo and Seoul did not rule out the possibility of sending representatives to participate in the inauguration ceremony. The Chinese national security departments, including the Ministry of National Defense, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, National People's Congress Foreign Affairs Committee, and Taiwan Affairs Office, issued strong protests, accusing the Taiwan authorities of persistently relying on the United States and becoming a pawn in Washington's strategy to contain China, warning that such actions would be consigned to the ashes of history.

Background description and general situation, provide the player with a description of the "storyline and background scenario" of the wargaming, so that the player can understand and enter the situation of the game.