provide a 350-500 word review and critique of the peer’s operational approach .

Answer the following questions which directly address aspects of operational effectiveness:

What were the major strengths of the approach (if any) in terms of its doctrinal soundness and effectiveness?

What vulnerabilities, seams, or unresolved issues (if any) might be revealed or exacerbated by enemy action?

What improvements would you suggest to mitigate vulnerabilities or otherwise strengthen the approach?

The operational approach for the joint 634A scenario in the indo pacom region the situation in the South China Sea stream tense due to aggressive actions by the Chinese military in the region which confirmed their intent to achieve hegemony status in the Asia Pacific area in pursuit of this goal they are militarizing islands in the South China Sea turning his forcibly annexed territories claimed by Vietnam and Philippines who did in South China Sea attacked the United states destroyer in the region and is obstructing the freedom of navigation for all military vessels through the South China Sea which it claims as its own China does not recognize dasen alliance or the unclos convention and their actions have provoked other states in the region to fight for their territories and rights by occupying nearby islands and securing access to natural and maritime resources given our partnerships with countries in the region and our interests which include maintaining freedom of navigation through the South China Sea we must assist our allies including China from achieving hegemony status in the area it is also important to mention that separate terrorist actions from the Abu sayyaf group have shown they're capable of acting outside of their traditional operating area and Brazilian island the group seems to be receiving some type of outside support for weapons and munitions our end state is freedom of navigation through the South China Sea and the peace and stability in the region to achieve the end state 4 desired conditions must be met the Abu sayyaf group must be degraded and unable to project power outside of their support base in Brazilian Chinese island based offensive capabilities in the South China Sea must be neutralized and the Chinese southern fleet must no longer pose a threat to the region the territories of Vietnam and Philippines must be returned including the spotlight sinkov and Tito islands partner forces in the area of responsibility must be capable of deterrence and defence to achieve the desired conditions this operational approach includes 2 lines of operation and two lines of favorite which are counter insurgency operations offensive operations air and sea superiority and stability in the region so that trend forces are ready for future escalations our operation will begin with eliminating external support for Abu sayyaf group following this we need to neutralize the group's offensive capabilities to project power outside their support base in Brazilian and secure safe landing zones in the Philippines for our aircrafts to ensure air superiority both from land an aircraft carriers what's safe landing zones in the Philippines are secured they are going to commence air and sea superiority operations to establish air superiority and offensive operations by mobilizing United States naval vessels to neutralize the People's Liberation army Navy to ensure safe entry for our vessels into the operation area we will conduct air strike on key targets neutralized Chinese anti access area denial systems and disable enemy command and control capabilities in South China Sea once our ships have secured access to their passion area they will attack enemy forces on the Vietnamese and Philippine islands after defeating these forces our troops will return control of the islands to Vietnam and Philippines after completing lines of operation one and two as well as lines of effort one we will begin efforts to stabilize the region to prepare a partner forces to be capable of deterrence and defence we must train and advise allied forces in the area and provide them with everything necessary to achieve our shared objectives this concludes my brief thank you for your attention.

Hi Ivan, you have provided a thoughtful and multi-faceted response to the challenges posed by Chinese aggression and regional instability in the South China Sea. The major strengths of your approach are as follows. First off, your plan integrates conventional military operations, counterinsurgency strategies, and partner-nation capacity building, ensuring alignment with U.S. strategic goals of maintaining freedom of navigation and regional stability. Secondly, the phased approach, beginning with neutralizing Abu Sayyaf’s external support and progressing to air and sea superiority, reflects a structured strategy that prioritizes immediate threats while setting conditions for broader operational success. Additionally, training and advising allied forces is a critical aspect of long-term regional stability. This inclusion demonstrates foresight in reducing reliance on U.S. forces over time. Finally, the operational approach leverages air, sea, and land domains effectively. For instance, airstrikes on Chinese anti-access/area denial systems and naval operations to neutralize the Chinese southern fleet are well-coordinated actions.

Regarding vulnerabilities, gaps, or unresolved issues, I believe the simultaneous execution of multiple lines of effort and operations risks overextending U.S. forces, particularly in the event of an escalated conflict with China or unforeseen counterinsurgency challenges. Furthermore, actions like airstrikes on Chinese anti-access/area denial systems and direct naval engagements carry a high potential for escalating into a broader conflict, suggesting a need for more robust de-escalation mechanisms. Lastly, while the plan prioritizes conventional and kinetic operations, it offers limited strategies to address China’s gray zone tactics, including economic coercion, cyber operations, and maritime militia activities.

To improve and strengthen your approach while addressing vulnerabilities, I suggest prioritizing initial efforts on counterinsurgency and building partner-nation capacity. By empowering partners through training, resource-sharing, and joint operations, the U.S. can foster stronger coalitions and create a unified front against potential adversaries. High-risk operations against China should be deferred until readiness is assured and de-escalation strategies are established. Additionally, fostering open communication channels and clarifying intentions can help reduce the risk of a broader conflict. It is also essential to develop strategies to counter China’s economic coercion, cyber operations, maritime militia activities, as well as the information and disinformation campaigns associated with China's gray zone tactics.