

(Press Release)

September 8, 2026
Air Staff Office

Japan-United States Bilateral Training “Rescue Flag”

The Koku-Jieitai (JASDF) conducted a bilateral training with the United States Forces as follows:

1. Purpose

Improve tactical proficiency and Japan-United States bilateral response capabilities through cooperation with the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF)

2. Dates

Aug 25 - Sep 4, 2026

3. Location

The sea and airspace surrounding MCAS Iwakuni, south of Shikoku and north of Niigata

4. Participant

- a. J A S D F: F-15J, Air Defense Command
U-125A and UH-60J, Air Rescue Wing
KC-46A, Air Support Command
- b. J M S D F: US-2, Fleet Air Wing 31
- c. U.S. Forces: CV-22B, 353rd Special Operations Wing
C-12J, 374th Airlift Wing
F-35B and KC-130J, Marine Aircraft Group 12

5. Training

Search and rescue