



April 23, 2014

Overview of Self-Defense Forces joint exercises planned in fiscal year 2014

The Self-Defense Forces Joint Staff Office announces key SDF joint exercises due to be carried out during FY 2014.

Please note that the details of these exercises may change under certain conditions.

1. Joint Exercises

(1) SDF joint exercise (command post exercise)

a. Objective

Carry out training to Strengthen SDF's joint operations for the defense of Japan.

b. Date

January 2015

c. Location

Ichigaya area and bases of participating SDF units, etc.

d. Key participating SDF units

Joint Staff and SDF units leading the exercise, etc.

e. History

This exercise has been carried out since 2006. This will be the fifth exercise.

f. Main focus

Command and staff exercise in a framework of SDF joint operations

(2) Japan-United States joint exercise (field exercise)

a. Objective

Carry out training in which the SDF practices coordination with the U.S. forces to deal with armed attacks.

b. Date

November 2014

c. Location

Japan's sea areas and airspace, as well as bases in Japan

d. Key participating SDF units

Joint Staff and SDF units leading the exercise, etc.

e. History

This exercise has been carried out since FY1986. This will be the 12th exercise.

f. Main focus

Strengthen bilateral joint operations.

(3) SDF joint exercise on disaster prevention

a. Objective

Carry out training to improve SDF's capability to respond to a Nankai Trough earthquake.

b. Date

June 2014

c. Location

Ichigaya area, GSDF Camp Asaka, and the bases of participating SDF units, etc.

d. Key participating SDF units

Joint Staff and SDF units leading the exercise, etc.

e. History

This exercise has been carried out since FY1999. This will be the 15th exercise.

f. Main focus

Improve SDF's early response capability to an earthquake disaster.

(4) Exercise for international peace cooperation

a. Objective

Carry out training based on the SDF's basic plan for international disaster relief operations.

(a) Overseas

Participate in a multinational training session assuming disaster relief operations (ASEAN disaster relief exercise)

(b) In Japan

Carry out training to improve SDF's capability to respond to a Nankai Trough earthquake through a command post exercise assuming disaster relief operations

b. Date

Overseas: late April 2014

In Japan: September or October 2014

c. Location

Overseas: Thailand

In Japan: Ichigaya and bases of participating SDF units, etc.

d. Key participating SDF units

SDF Joint Staff and SDF units leading the exercise, etc.

e. History

(a) Overseas

This will be the SDF's second participation following the last participation in the ASEAN Regional Forum Disaster Relief Exercise in FY2013.

(b) In Japan

This will be the first command post exercise to be carried out.

f. Main focus

Improve joint operation capability

2. Other Trainings

(1) Disaster prevention joint training on a remote island (field exercise)

a. Objective

Carry out training to improve SDF's capability to respond to a stochastic, extensive earthquake in island areas.

b. Date

September 2014

c. Location

Okinawa Prefecture

d. Key participating SDF units

SDF Joint Staff and SDF units leading the training, etc.

e. History

This will be the first training to be carried out.

f. Main focus

Swift assembly of rescue units on affected remote islands.

(2) Training to transport Japanese nationals overseas

a. Objective

Carry out training to transport Japanese nationals overseas through joint operations.

b. Date

October or November 2014

c. Location

Japan's sea areas, airspace, and bases of participating SDF units, etc.

d. Key participating SDF units

SDF Joint Staff and SDF units leading the training, etc.

e. History

This will be the first training to be carried out domestically.

f. Main focus

Take coordinated actions between associated SDF units

(3) Pacific Partnership 2014

a. Objective

Carry out medical and other training as a part of international peace cooperation in a multinational framework.

b. Date

June to July in 2014

c. Location

Vietnam, Cambodia, and the Philippines

d. Key SDF participants and equipment

About 40 medical staff from the GSDF, MSDF, and ASDF

About 10 facility repairing staff from the GSDF

One MSDF vessel

ASDF transport aircraft

e. History

The SDF has been participating in this training since FY2007. This will be the 8th time to participate.

f. Main focus

Promote mutual understanding and cooperation with other participating countries and the host countries in the area of medicine.

(4) Cobra Gold 15

a. Objective

Carry out training assuming international peace cooperation and the transport of Japanese nationals overseas in a multinational framework.

b. Date

February 2015

c. Location

Thailand

d. Key participating SDF units

SDF Joint Staff and relevant SDF units

e. History

The SDF has been participating in Cobra Gold exercises since 2005. This will be its 11th time.

f. Main focus

Learn skills to coordinate with forces from other countries.