Multilateral exercises (Pacific Vanguard 19-1, etc.) involving Japan, the United States, Australia and the Republic of Korea

The JMSDF carried out multilateral exercises (Pacific Vanguard 19-1, etc.) as described below.

1. Japan-Australia bilateral navigation exercises
   (1) Objectives
      A. Improve JMSDF tactical capabilities
      B. Strengthen coordination between the JMSDF and the Royal Australian Navy
   (2) Exercise period
      May 20 (Mon) – 22 (Wed), 2019
   (3) Exercise location
      Seas and airspace in the area between the south of Honshu and Guam
   (4) Participating units
      A. JMSDF
         JS ARIAKE (DD 109) and JS ASAHI (DD 119)
      B. Royal Australian Navy
         Frigates HMAS Melbourne (FFG 05) and HMAS Parramatta (FFH 154)
   (5) Types of exercises
      Anti-submarine exercise and tactical maneuvers

2. Multilateral Pacific Vanguard 19-1 exercises involving Japan, the U.S., Australia and the ROK
   (1) Objectives
      A. Improve JMSDF tactical capabilities
      B. Strengthen coordination between the JMSDF and the U.S., Royal Australian and ROK Navies
   (2) Exercise period
      May 23 (Thu) – 28 (Tue), 2019
   (3) Exercise location
      Seas and airspace surrounding Guam
   (4) Participating units
      A. JMSDF
         JS ARIAKE (DD 109) and JS ASAHI (DD 119)
      B. U.S. Navy
         Amphibious command ship USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19), cruiser USS Antietam (CG 54), destroyer USS Curtis Wilbur (DDG 54), fleet oiler USNS Rappahannock (T-AO 204), cargo and ammunition ship USNS Richard E. Byrd (T-AKE 4), P-8A maritime aircraft and EA-18G electronic warfare aircraft
      C. Royal Australian Navy
         Frigates HMAS Melbourne (FFG 05) and HMAS Parramatta (FFH 154)
         Submarine HMAS Farncomb (SSG 74)
      D. ROK Navy
         Destroyer ROKS Wang Geon (DDH 978)
   (5) Types of exercises
      Anti-air, anti-surface and anti-submarine exercises, refuel at sea

3. Japan-U.S. bilateral exercises
(1) Objectives
   A. Improve JMSDF tactical capabilities
   B. Strengthen coordination between the JMSDF and the U.S. Navy

(2) Exercise date
   May 29, 2019 (Wed)

(3) Exercise location
   Seas and airspace surrounding Guam

(4) Participating units
   A. JMSDF
      JS ARIAKE (DD 109) and JS ASAHI (DD 119)
   B. U.S. Navy
      Destroyer USS Curtis Wilbur (DDG 54)

(5) Type of exercise
   Tactical maneuvers

4. Japan-U.S.-Australia multilateral exercises
(1) Objectives
   A. Improve JMSDF tactical capabilities
   B. Strengthen coordination between the JMSDF and the U.S. and Royal Australian Navies

(2) Exercise date
   May 29, 2019 (Wed)

(3) Exercise location
   Seas and airspace surrounding Guam

(4) Participating units
   A. JMSDF
      JS ARIAKE (DD 109) and JS ASAHI (DD 119)
   B. U.S. Navy
      Destroyer USS Curtis Wilbur (DDG 54)
   C. Royal Australian Navy
      Submarine HMAS Farncomb (SSG 74)

(5) Type of exercise
   Anti-submarine exercise
Japan-Australia bilateral navigation exercises (back row, left: ASAHI, back row, right: ARIAKE, front row, left: Parramatta and front row, right: Melbourne)

Japan-Australia bilateral navigation exercises focusing on tactical maneuvers (Melbourne [left] approaching ASAHI [right])
Japan-U.S.-Australia-ROK multilateral exercises (participating vessels traveling in formation led by a Royal Australian Navy submarine)

Japan-U.S.-Australia-ROK multilateral exercises focusing on anti-surface exercise (ASAH’s 5-inch gun firing)
Japan-U.S.-Australia multilateral exercises focusing on anti-submarine exercise (ARIAKE [left] and Curtis Wilbur [right] searching for an Australian submarine)

Photos taken by the JMSDF