(Announcement)

Japan-U.S. Bilateral Exercise

The Indo-Pacific Deployment 2021 (IPD21) unit conducted a bilateral exercise with the U.S. Navy in order to strengthen the capability of Japan-U.S. Alliance for effective deterrence and response as described below.

1. Objectives
   (1) To improve JMSDF’s tactical capabilities
   (2) To improve interoperability between JMSDF and U.S. Navy

2. Period
   October 19-24

3. Exercise Area
   South China Sea

4. Participating units
   (1) JMSDF: JS SHIRANUI
   (2) USN: USS HIGGINS

5. Type of exercises
   Tactical exercise

6. Notes
   (1) JS SHIRANUI makes port visit to Hai Phong, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, from 24 to 26 October.
   (2) Preventive measures against COVID-19 were implemented during the exercise.
From the left, USS *HIGGINS* and JS *SHIRANUI*