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 28-November 4

3. Exercise Area
   South China Sea, East China Sea, and Sea of Japan

4. Participating units
   (1) JMSDF: JS SHIRANUI
   (2) USN: USS HIGGINS, USNS BIG HORN

5. Type of exercises
   Tactical exercise

6. Notes
   Preventive measures against COVID-19 were implemented during the exercise.
Left side USNS *BIG HORN*, right side *JS SHIRANUI* and back side USS *HIGGINS*

From the left, *JS SHIRANUI* and USS *HIGGINS*