



PRESS RELEASE

April 20, 2026
Maritime Staff Office

(Announcement)

Japan-U.S. Bilateral Exercise

The Overseas Training Cruise unit conducted a bilateral exercise with the U.S. Navy (USN) as described below in order to strengthen the capability of the Japan-U.S. Alliance for effective deterrence and response.

1. Objectives

- (1) To improve the JMSDF's tactical capabilities
- (2) To improve interoperability between the JMSDF and the USN

2. Date

April 16–17

3. Exercise Area

South China Sea

4. Participating Units

- (1) JMSDF: JS *ASAHI*
- (2) USN: USS *BLUE RIDGE*

5. Type of Exercises

Tactical Maneuvering, CROSSDECK, COMMEX and PHOTOEX



CROSSDECK



Personnel Exchange



Personnel Exchange



JMSDF members seeing off *USS BLUE RIDGE*