

PRESS RELEASE

July 27, 2026

Maritime Staff Office

(Announcement)

Japan–U.S. Bilateral Exercise

The JMSDF 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

July 24

3. Exercise Area

South China Sea

4. Participating Units

- (1) JMSDF: JS *YUUDACHI*
- (2) USN: USS *GEORGE WASHINGTON*, USS *ROBERT SMALLS*,
USS *SHOUP*, USS *BENFOLD*

5. Type of Exercises

Tactical Maneuvering, LINKEX and PHOTOEX



From the front, JS *YUUDACHI* and *GEORGE WASHINGTON*



From the front, JS *YUUDACHI* and *GEORGE WASHINGTON*



JMSDF personnel conducting training



USS *GEORGE WASHINGTON* aircraft