



September 8, 2026

Maritime Staff Office

(Announcement)

Japan- U.S. Bilateral Exercise (Rescue Flag)

The JMSDF, together with the JASDF, conducted a bilateral exercise with the U.S. Armed Forces (USF) 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 enhance cooperation among the JMSDF, the JASDF and the USF

2. Period

August 24 - September 4

3. Exercise Area

In the vicinity of JMSDF Iwakuni Air Base and South of Shikoku

4. Participating Units

- (1) JMSDF: US-2
- (2) JASDF: F-15J, U-125A, KC-46A, UH-60J
- (3) U.S. Air Force: CV-22, HH-60W
- (4) U.S. Marine Corps: KC-130, F-35B, CH-53, UH-1Y, MQ-9A, TRAP Team

5. Type of Exercise

Search and Rescue Exercise



Personnel rappelling from a UH-60J



US-2 at Sea