



Eighth Army Public Affairs Office



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2nd Infantry/ROK-U.S. Combined Division Completes Maritime Training with ROK Navy 2nd Fleet

CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea – Pilots and crew from 4-2 Attack Battalion, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, carried out combined training operations with ROK Navy 2nd Fleet as part of annual exercises in South Korea, March 4-7.

Both units worked to integrate systems and processes by utilizing multi-domain detection and attack platforms such as the MQ-1C Grey Eagle Unmanned Aircraft System and AH-64 Apache for rapid target identification and elimination. This training was conducted in conjunction with the annual Freedom Shield exercise, which aims to enhance interoperability and elevate combat readiness.

“We have a very close relationship with the ROK Navy 2nd Fleet and training like this sharpens our sword,” said Lt. Col. Ty Huffman, 4-2 battalion commander. “It allows us to better integrate, it allows better communications, and it refines our tactics and techniques to ensure that we're the most lethal force on the battlefield. As we go forward, every time we do training like this, it builds and strengthens that relationship, and I think it's really an example of how closely 2nd Infantry/ROK-U.S. Combined Division and the Korean Defense Forces work together and how strong that partnership is to defend South Korea against any adversary on the battlefield.”

Rear Adm. Kim Kyung-chul, commander of the ROK Navy 2nd Fleet said, “The ROK Navy 2nd Fleet and the U.S. 2ID/RUCD are key partners in integrated defense and play a pivotal role in defending the West Sea and the metropolitan areas of the Republic of Korea. We set to achieve the highest joint operational capability capable of destroying any enemy threat through combined and joint maritime training and interoperability such as our Marine Counter Special Operations training.”

All six of Eighth Army's major subordinate commands are participating in Freedom Shield 2024, including 2nd Infantry Division. During the two-week exercise, Eighth Army conducts extensive combined training with the Republic of Korea Army, both on training ranges and within combined operations centers throughout South Korea.

2nd Infantry/ROK-U.S. Combined Division Completes Maritime Training with ROK Navy 2nd Fleet

Eighth Army and ROK units within FS24 are conducting multi-domain operations leveraging land, sea, air, cyber and space assets with emphasis on counter nuclear operations and non-kinetic effects. Combined training exercises with the ROKA include live-fire gunneries and command and control integration. Medical and logistics training events are also being conducted.

Freedom Shield is an annual combined exercise conducted in support of the ROK-US Mutual Defense Treaty signed Oct. 1, 1953. This combined exercise program highlights the ironclad commitment between the two nations to maintain a robust combined posture to defend the people of the ROK and its sovereignty from any threat or adversary. The exercise is not associated with any current real-world situation.



An operations officer of the ROK Navy 2nd Fleet guides a U.S. 4-2 Attack Battalion Apache helicopter for Marine Counter Special Operation Force training in the West Sea, Mar. 4, 2024. (ROK Navy photo)

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Rear Adm. Kim Kyung-chul, commander of ROK Navy 2nd Fleet, briefs the pilots of the 4-2 Attack Battalion's AH-64 Apache helicopters on the situation and battlefield environment at the ROK Navy 2nd Fleet, March 5, 2024. (ROK Navy photo)

2nd Infantry/ROK-U.S. Combined Division Completes Maritime Training with ROK Navy 2nd Fleet



The pilots of the ROK 622nd Aviation Battalion and 4-2 Attack Battalion conduct on-site briefing at 2nd Fleet, March 6, 2024. The ROK 2nd Fleet and U.S. Eighth Army's 2nd Infantry Division, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade conduct AH-64 Apache attack helicopter deployment training for the enhancement of joint maritime special operations and the display of unified maritime operational capabilities during Freedom Shield. (ROK Navy photos)

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Spc. Preston Thomas, 4-2 Attack Battalion, 2nd Infantry- ROK/U.S. Combined Division, arms a U.S. Army AH-64 Apache prior to overwater gunnery execution in coordination with ROK 2nd Fleet during Freedom Shield 2024. FS24, a defense-oriented exercise, fortifies joint defense capabilities, and safeguards security on the peninsula. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Joel Haskins)



U.S. Army AH-64 Apache from 4-2 Attack Battalion, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 2nd Infantry-ROK/U.S. Combined Division, fires flares over Jik-do Island during Maritime Counter Special Operations Forces Training with ROK 2nd Fleet during Freedom Shield 2024. FS24, a defense-oriented exercise, fortifies joint defense capabilities, and safeguards security on the peninsula. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Liseth Espinel)

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U.S. Army ground crews from 4-2 Attack Battalion, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 2nd Infantry-ROK/U.S. Combined Division, observe as AH-64 pilots prepare to take off for Maritime Counter Special Operations Forces Training with ROK 2nd Fleet during Freedom Shield 2024. FS24, a defense-oriented exercise, fortifies joint defense capabilities, and safeguards security on the peninsula. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Joel Haskins)



U.S. Army AH-64 helicopters from 4-2 Attack Battalion, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 2nd Infantry-ROK/U.S. Combined Division, conduct overwater gunnery in coordination with ROK 2nd Fleet during Freedom Shield 2024. FS24, a defense-oriented exercise, fortifies joint defense capabilities, and safeguards security on the peninsula. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Liseth Espinel)

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U.S. Army AH-64 helicopters from 4-2 Attack Battalion, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 2nd Infantry-ROK/U.S. Combined Division, move into an attack formation for overwater gunnery in coordination with ROK 2nd Fleet during Freedom Shield 2024. FS24, a defense-oriented exercise, fortifies joint defense capabilities, and safeguards security on the peninsula. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Liseth Espinel)

For more information, contact the Eighth Army public affairs office at 0503-355-8266 or 010-2295-2192.

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