



# TALISMAN SABRE 2011

## COMBINED JOINT INFORMATION BUREAU Rockhampton, Australia

### MEDIA ALERT

CJIB 003/11

Thursday, 14th July 2011

#### **Exercise Talisman Sabre 2011 at RAAF Base Darwin**

**What:** Imagery and interview opportunity for Darwin media with participants in Exercise Talisman Sabre 11.

**Where:** RAAF Base Darwin. Media are requested to meet at the main gate off Stuart Highway.

**When:** 15 July 2011. Media are requested to be present no later than 9.30am. The visit will take no more than two and a half hours.

**Media Note:**

Media are requested to register their interest by 7pm on Thursday 14 July 2011. This visit will be an opportunity to collect imagery of United States Air Force F-15C Eagle fighters departing for a mission, followed by interviews with Darwin-based directors and participants in this Exercise.

**About:**

Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Base Darwin is currently hosting approximately 400 visiting Australian and American military personnel for Exercise Talisman Sabre 2011, scheduled to run until July 29.

Talisman Sabre 2011 is jointly sponsored by the U.S. Pacific Command and the Australian Defence Force Joint Operations Command. The Joint exercise is designed to improve U.S./Australian combat training, readiness and interoperability while providing a capstone Joint Task Force (JTF) certification culminating event for U.S. 7th Fleet as JTF 507.

The focus of the exercise is crisis action planning and execution of contingency response operations, U.S. Pacific Command units and Australian forces will conduct land, sea and air training throughout the training areas.

Over the past week, exercise participants at RAAF Base Darwin have completed their familiarization phase and will now commence the warfighting phase. Up to six United States Air Force F-15C Eagle fighter aircraft and up to five KC-135 air-to-air refuelling aircraft will operate from RAAF Base Darwin during this exercise.

RAAF Base Darwin will also host United States Navy transport and helicopter aircraft operating out to the aircraft carrier USS George Washington, located in the Arafura



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Sea. A civilian Boeing 707 refueller, contracted from Omega Air Refuelling Services, will also be operating from Darwin.

The scope of this exercise spans far beyond the borders of RAAF Base Darwin. More than 14,000 U.S. and 9,000 Australian personnel and 130 aircraft will participate at training areas throughout Australia. In the Northern Territory, this will include the Delamere and Bradshaw Field Training Areas, and the Arafura Sea.

RAAF F/A-18 Hornets from No. 75 Squadron will be operating from RAAF Base Tindal for this exercise, alongside a single Wedgetail Airborne Early Warning and Control aircraft which has deployed from RAAF Base Williamtown near Newcastle.

#### Further Information

For general media inquiries please contact the Combined Joint Information Bureau – 1800 675 601 and [ts11.cjib@defence.gov.au](mailto:ts11.cjib@defence.gov.au)

Additional information on Talisman Sabre 2011 is available at:

<http://www.defence.gov.au/opEx/exercises/ts11/>  
<http://www.cpf.navy.mil/talisman-sabre/>

High definition imagery, videos and stories:

<http://www.dvidshub.net/units/TalismanSabre>

Regular social media updates are available via:

Facebook – <http://www.facebook.com/talismansabre>

Twitter – <http://www.twitter.com/talismansabre>

YouTube – <http://www.youtube.com/talismansabrevideos>

#### Media Contact

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