

The Republic of Korea (ROK) Armed Forces and the United States Forces Korea and Combined Forces Command (USFK/CFC) will conduct the annual Ulchi Freedom Guardian (UFG) exercise from August 16 – 26, 2010. UFG 10, like all other major CFC exercises, is designed to improve the Alliance's ability to deter aggression and if deterrence fails, fight tonight and prevail in the ROK. These exercises are designed to help teach, coach, and mentor Service Members on staff and leadership decision-making processes.

UFG is an exercise that takes place about the same time every year. Alliance Forces must be agile and adaptive to meet the challenges of our current and future security environment. This year's UFG will be a CFC-led exercise to ensure that our Alliance is prepared to respond to threats across the spectrum of conflict, to include north Korean provocations.



# ULCHI FREEDOM GUARDIAN (UFG) 2010

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**Prepared to Fight and Win  
Strengthen the Alliance  
Improve Quality of Life**

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## Purpose

UFG is a CFC-led warfighting exercise. It will provide an invaluable opportunity to evaluate, train, and improve combined and joint coordination, procedures, plans, and systems necessary for the conduct of contingency operations by the Republic of Korea and U.S. forces.

## CFC's Mission

The ROK/U.S. Combined Forces Command was established in November 1978 by agreement between the Republic of Korea and United States governments



for the sole purpose of deterring acts of external aggression against the Republic of Korea and, if deterrence fails, to defeat an armed attack against it.

## Partnership

UFG 10 is carried out in the spirit of the Republic of Korea and the United States Mutual Defense Treaty, signed between the United States and the Republic of Korea on October 1, 1953. The exercise highlights the historic and enduring partnership between two nations in their combined commitment to the defense of the Republic of Korea and in ensuring regional peace and security.

## Focus

UFG, a computer assisted simulation exercise, is a key supporting element of Strategic Alliance 2015. It is a tough and realistic training event focused on preparing, preventing and prevailing against the full range of current and future north Korean threats to the Republic of Korea and the region. These threats could include provocations, use of weapons of mass destruction, asymmetric threats such as the attack on the Cheonan or the conventional force-on-force fight. UFG tests and builds the Alliance's commanders' and staffs' ability to translate information superiority into actionable decision-making, implemented faster than our enemy can react.

## Scope

The scope of the exercise extends well beyond the Korean peninsula and takes a whole-of-government approach. All of the Alliance's major commands participate, augmented by approximately 3,000 U. S. personnel from the United States and its bases in the Pacific region. They join over 500,000 South Korean military and government participants, 27,000 U.S. Joint Forces, and multi-national representatives from the United Nations Sending States. They are connected by communications and computer simulation networks that reach from locations in South Korea to Washington, D.C. and U.S. military headquarters around the world.

## History of the Name

Ulchi Freedom Guardian is named after a famous Korean general of the ancient Goguryeo Kingdom named Ulchi Mundeok; he is well respected among Koreans for his selfless service to his country. Ulchi Mundeok overcame a superior Chinese Sui Army, the virtual super power of its time. He maintained composure, united his soldiers and, ultimately defeated the enemy.<sup>1</sup>



## History of the Exercise

In July 1976, in anticipation of the establishment of a Combined Forces Command, the annual ROK government mobilization exercise ULCHI was combined with UNC/USFK/EUSA's CPX FOCUS LENS. Exercise ULCHI-FOCUS LENS was institutionalized to enhance ROK-US interoperability by training commanders and staffs from both nations in wartime planning, command and control operations, intelligence, logistics, and personnel procedures required for the successful defense of the Republic of Korea. The name of the exercise was changed in 2008 to ULCHI-FREEDOM GUARDIAN.

1. SGT Choi, Keun-woo, "Exercise Named for Korean Hero." *Morning Calm* 21 August 2009: 11.