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FPDA to hold Annual Exercise

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The Five Power Defence Arrangements (FPDA) will hold the annual Air Defence Exercise (ADEX), a joint naval and air defence exercise, from 26 Apr to 4 May 2002. It will be held over Singapore and Malaysian airspace, as well as over the waters of the South China Sea. The FPDA members are Australia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore and the United Kingdom.

ADEX 2002 will be coordinated by Headquarters Integrated Area Defence System (HQ IADS), located at Butterworth, Penang. There will be Singapore F16s, E-2Cs and KC-135s, Australian F/A-18s, F111s, and P3Cs, Malaysian F/A-18s and MiG 29s, and New Zealand P3Ks, as well as ground-based air defence radar units, air defence artillery and surface-to-air missiles from both Singapore and Malaysia. Participating maritime forces include Singapore's RSS Victory and RSS Bedok, Malaysia's KD Kris, KD Hang Jebat, KD Kasturi and KD Sundang, New Zealand's HMNZS Te Mana and HMNZS Endeavour, and UK's HMS Nottingham.

ADEX 02 aims to enhance the interoperability of FPDA forces, and exercise their ability to defend Singapore and Malaysia should the need arise. The exercise will also enhance professional and personal relations among the members of the five armed forces.