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## Australia's Pledge to Joint Military Development with the US

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Australia's commitment to collaboratively develop its military with the United States strengthens the alliance against Indo-Pacific threats. This article examines the deepening defence ties, focusing on joint technology initiatives, exercises like Talisman Sabre, and concerns over the Albanese government's defence priorities.

The Australia-United States Ministerial Consultations (AUSMIN) have solidified a robust partnership, rooted in the 1951 Australia, New Zealand, United States (ANZUS) Security Treaty. A July 18, 2025, post

on X by @Aus\_Channel highlighted Australia's pledge to "collaboratively develop" its military alongside the US, emphasizing interoperability and advanced technology. The AUKUS (Australia, United Kingdom, United States) pact drives this, with Pillar II focusing on hypersonic weapons, quantum computing, and autonomous systems, as noted in a November 2024 DefenseScoop report. Joint projects, like the Precision Strike Missile (PrSM) program, where Australia invested \$73.5 million, enhance deterrence against the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) military expansion, per a 2024 United States Studies Centre brief.

Exercise Talisman Sabre 2025, involving 30,000 troops from 19 nations, showcases this collaboration. A US Army post on X (@USArmy, July 16, 2025) described it as the largest bilateral training event, held at Cowley Beach, Queensland, to ensure seamless operations between the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and US forces. Sappers and marines practiced littoral operations, while the US Army Futures Command (AFC) and Australia's Defence Science and Technology Group share research on command, control, communications, computers, cyber, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (C5ISR) systems, per a 2021 Army.mil report. These efforts bolster regional stability amid China's aggressive naval maneuvers, reported by The New York Times in March 2025.

However, the Albanese government's defence spending, capped at 2.3% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), raises concerns. Critics argue Labor's hesitance to match US investment levels hampers ADF readiness, especially for AUKUS commitments like nuclear-powered submarine development. With Chinese-linked firms eyeing strategic Australian ports, per a July 2025 Bloomberg report, robust funding is critical. Australia's military collaboration with the US is a cornerstone of

Indo-Pacific security, but it demands resolute leadership to counter rising threats effectively.