



RUSIV Defence Update



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Celebrating our 134th Year

A weekly e-newsletter relating to our security & defence

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Forthcoming Anniversaries

- 23 December 1916: Imperial force pushes Ottomans from Magdhaba
- 24 December 1941: Australians assist in the recapture of Benghazi, Libya
- 27 December 1943: 2/16 Bn captures the Pimple on Shaggy Ridge, New Guinea
- 30-31 December 1944: Battle of Pearl Ridge, Bougainville
- 31 December 1967: 3 RAR arrives in Việt Nam on board HMAS Sydney

Christmas for the Troops - 1942



Christmas was on a Friday in 1942. *Guinea Gold*, published in Rabaul contained the King's Xmas Message, news of a Zero shot down by a Wirraway and MacArthur's communique on the Buna Front (Australians not mentioned). Courtesy of the Sunday Mail and Courier-Mail, this Special Christmas Supplement featured Ginger Meggs, Bluey & Curley, two short stories and a B&W pinup of Miss America 1942, Jo-Carroll Dennison. She could ride a horse, rope a steer, read a book, broil a steak and take dictation!

Key: (M) - magazine or website; (N) - newspaper; (F) - film; (P) - podcast

Defence

Chief of Joint Operations end of year message: [\(F\)Defence](#)

Aussie annual defense report stripped of data: 'Kind of useless now': [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

Australian Government Response to the Independent Review of Commonwealth funding for strategic policy work: [\(M\)PM&C](#)

How to fill gaps in AUKUS communication efforts: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Navy

Multi-ship commissioning ceremony: [\(F\)Defence](#)

Great progress and greater potential: Australia needs to accelerate programs for uncrewed naval vessels: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Recommended: US Coast Guard to participate in first-ever drill in Tokyo Bay: [\(M\)Military.com](#)

Air Force

The final F-35A Lightning II aircraft arrives: [\(F\)AirPhotographyDigest](#)

Pacific

Guardians of the blue Pacific: [\(F\)Defence](#)

NATO

NATO takes over coordination of military aid to Kyiv from US, source says: [\(M\)Reuters](#)

UK

UK leadership on Ukraine continues as Defence Secretary announced £225m support package during Kyiv visit: [\(M\)Gov.uk](#)

US

C-130s from around the world gather for an 'elephant walk': [\(M\)TaskandPurpose](#)

New US Space Force jammers aim to disrupt China's SATCOM signals: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

Army will trim 5% of general-officer jobs in coming years, chief's spokesman says: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)

US government urges high-ranking officials to lock down mobile devices following telecom breaches: [\(M\)TechCrunch](#)

India

India commissions Russian-built warship amid enduring ties with Moscow: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

Middle East

Is stability in the Middle East possible? [\(P\)RUSI](#)

What is going on in Syria and what the hell does it mean for US troops? [\(M\)TaskandPurpose](#)

Russian bases and Hezbollah weapons: key questions follow fall of Syrian regime: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

Ukraine

Pentagon's assessment of North Koreans fighting in Kursk, rate at which Ukraine is losing ground: [\(M\)WarZone](#)

Ukraine's hardest winter: weary soldiers and citizens express fatalistic optimism while preparing for the loss of U.S. military support: [\(M\)TheAtlantic](#)

Russia

Putin challenges West to 'high-tech duel' to test missile defense: [\(M\)Military.com](#)

China

China expanding Pacific operations, Taiwan invasion 'not possible' by 2027, say DoD officials: [\(M\)USNI](#)

What the Pentagon's new report on Chinese military power reveals about capabilities, context, and consequences: [\(M\)WarontheRocks](#)

Military History

Memorial service to honour fallen nurses: [\(M\)Contact](#)

That time the US military burned down one of its own bases with a 'bat bomb': [\(M\)TaskandPurpose](#)

Cyclone Tracy: 50 years on: [\(M\)Aspi](#)

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