



Volume 29 | Issue 2
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Library Catalogue:
[Library](#)

Forthcoming Anniversaries

30-31 December 1944: Battle of Pearl Ridge, Bougainville
31 December 1967: 3 RAR arrives in Việt Nam on board HMAS Sydney
1 January 1901: Queensland Mounted Infantry Regiment suffers the first casualties of any Australian colony in the second Anglo-Boer War
3 January 1941: 6 Div attacks Bardia, Libya
4 January 1902: Victorians repulse Boers at Onverwacht, South Africa

RUSIV Defence Update

Celebrating our 134th Year

A weekly e-newsletter relating to our security & defence

Review of this Newsletter

This weekly e-newsletter has existed for over four years and it's time to see whether it is fit-for-purpose.

The Update aims to keep you well informed on defence and security issues, particularly those relevant to Australia and New Zealand and our regions. Like all news, some items are of lasting interest while many become quickly outdated. It's also perhaps surprising that we can find out much on our defence from overseas sources.

In the New Year our masthead will change from RUSI Victoria to RUSI Australia. "Lead articles" may still relate more to RUSIV's collection than to those of our other major Library, RUSI NSW. **An appeal to RUSI secretaries – you get a copy of this Newsletter but we rely on you to forward it to your state mailing list.**

We would welcome your feedback - how well does the Update achieve its aim - to the Secretary of RUSIV. The best three responses will win a military history book from our collection of duplicates

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

Defence

Varghese review will undermine think tank independence: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Operation Okra in Iraq officially ends: [\(M\)Contact](#)

Navy

Austal to build two new vessels for Australian Border Force: [\(DefenceUP87](#)

From Japan's build-up to stumbles in the Lucky Country: 5 Pacific stories for 2024: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

Australia got a new sub drone far faster than the US Navy could have, company says: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)

Australian submariner earns US 'Dolphins': [\(M\)AsiaPacificDefencerReporter](#)

Army

2024 highlights with LDTS training establishments: [\(F\)Army](#)

Air Force

ADF supports Vanuatu earthquake response: [\(M\)Defence](#)

NATO

Germany triples submarine order to six boats in joint buy with Norway: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)
 Baltic sea cable damage: Finland seizes Russian ship suspected of sabotage: [\(F\)Aljazeera](#)

UK

More than 10,000 members of UK armed forces 'not medically deployable': [\(M\)Guardian](#)
 Fears over defence industry skills as UK waits for new Typhoon orders: [\(M\)FinancialTimes](#)

US

Super Hornet shot down by cruiser in friendly fire incident: [\(F\)WardCarroll](#)
 How Trump may shake up DOD: an insider's view: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)
 Army halted weapon development and pushed tech to soldiers faster: 2024 in review: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

Middle East

More than 4,500 US troops are spending Christmas in Iraq and Syria, according to Pentagon figures: [\(M\)TaskandPurpose](#)

Ukraine

A pathway to peace in Ukraine: [\(M\)ForeignAffairs](#)
 US to announce final package of new arms for Ukraine in coming days: [\(M\)Reuters](#)
 In Ukraine, a US firm tests a promising tool against GPS jammers: cell phones: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)

Russia

Belarus had enough of Russia - get out! [\(F\)MilitaryShow](#)
 Aviation experts say Russia's air defense fire likely caused Azerbaijan plane crash as nation mourns: [\(M\)APNews](#)
 What we know about the Azerbaijan Airlines crash: [\(M\)BBC](#)

China

China says US 'playing with fire' after latest military aid for Taiwan: [\(M\)MilitaryTimes](#)
 What reports got wrong about China's 'sunken nuclear submarine': [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)
 Chinese sixth generation fighter revealed! [\(F\)WardCarroll](#)
 China unveils amphibious assault ship that can launch fighter jets: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

Military History

The Christmas Truce | What really happened in the trenches in 1914? [\(F\)IWM](#)
 That time the US military burned down one of its own bases with a 'bat bomb': [\(M\)TaskandPurpose](#)
 The Pearl Harbor movie scene that accidentally filmed a real plane crash: [\(M\)TaskandPurpose](#)

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