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Forthcoming Anniversaries

7 January 1901: Victorians relieve the garrison at Schweizer-Reneke, South Africa 8 January 1958: Last Australians return from Korea 9 January 1917: Light Horse captures Rafa, Egypt 10 January 1940: First 2nd AIF convoy sails to the Midle East 10 January 1942: Japanese planes attack Singapore 12 January 1943: 2/9 and 2/12 Bns, supported by three tanks, attack Sanananda. New Guinea

RUSIA Defence Update

A weekly e-newsletter relating to our security & defence

A Re-badged Newsletter

This is the first issue of *RUSIA's* weekly e-newsletter Its predecessor (the RUSIV Defence Update) has existed for over four years. It was distributed as widely as RUSIs in Canada The editorship is planned to remain with RUSI Victoria. Distribution outside Victoria is by state RUSIs.

The Update aims to keep you well informed on defence and secuity issues, particulary 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 Like all news, some items are of lasting interest while many become quickly outdated.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 Australian defence issues from overseas sources.

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.

You may find this letter about US Military Libraries Week is of interest - <u>LibrariesWeek</u> – it may be fair to say that military libraries seem far less important to the Australian Department of Defence.

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

Defence

Hundreds of foreigners invited to join Australian Defence Force: (M)9news Australia ends Middle East presence against Islamic State: (M)DefensePost

Navy

ADV Reliant to visit Pacific islands: (M)AsiaPacificDefenceReporter

Army

Three Australian soldiers deploy with the 15th MEU: (M)Dvids

Air Force

Operation GATEWAY: (F)Defence

New Zealand

Operation Resolution update 31 December: (F)NZDF

NATO

Did a Russian 'shadow ship' cut the Finland-Estonia undersea Baltic cable? (M)AlJazeera

UK

2025 will likely pose many threats and defence must decide what is its main priority: (M)ForcesNews

US

Bid to tackle extremism in US military unlikely to be revived under Trump: (M)Guardian

Middle East

The future of Syria, Lebanon and geopolitical moves in the Middle East to come: 2025 preview: (M)BreakingDefense

Ukraine

US to send \$1.25 billion in weapons to Ukraine, pushing to get aid out before Biden leaves office: (M)APNews

Another US precision-guided weapon falls prey to Russian electronic warfare, US says: (M)DefenseOne

Hundreds of soldiers freed in the latest prisoner exchange between Russia and Ukraine: (M)APNews

Ukraine's Su-25s seen launching Hammer rocket-boosted bombs for the first time: <u>(M)WarZone</u> Recommended: The real risks of escalation in Ukraine: <u>(M)ForeignAffairs</u>

Long-range drone strike hits Ust-Luga Port near Saint Petersburg, Leningrad! (F)Suchomimus

Russia

Putin's shadowy 'ghost ship' dragged anchor along seabed for 60 miles to sabotage key power cables: <u>(F)SunUK</u>

Russia rejects Donald Trump's Ukraine peace plan: (M)Newsweek

China

China's new stealth bomber 'nowhere near as good' as US's, intel official says: (M)DefenseOne China's new domestically developed Y-20 airborne early warning jet spotted: (M)WarZone 'Fast movers': Chinese satellites zoom around for inspections – or interference: (M)DefenseOne China's big new combat aircraft: an airborne cruiser against air and surface targets: (M)AspiStrategist

Military History

Tulagi: the baptism of fire for the Marine Raiders: <u>(F)HistoryUnderground</u> The US Air Force once proposed bombing Earth from the Moon: <u>(M)TaskandPurpose</u> How Jimmy Carter saved a Canadian nuclear reactor after a meltdown: <u>(M)Military.com</u> The Korean War 028 - Happy Nuke Year! - December 31, 1950: <u>(F)IndyNeidell</u>

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