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Forthcoming Anniversaries

5 May 1915: 2 Aust Bde and the New Zealand Bde redeploy to Cape Helles, Gallipoli
5 May 1945: VE Day
9 May 1901: Tasmanian troops drive Scheeper's commandos out of Craddock District, South Africa
10 May 1940: Germany invades Holland and Belgium
11 May 1945: 6 Div captures Wewak, New Guinea
11 May 1969: WO2 Ray Simpson, AATTV, awarded the VC for his actions in Vietnam
12 May 1917: Lt Rupert Moon, 58 Bn, awarded the VC for his actions near Bullecourt
12 May 1945: Cpl John Mackey, 2/3 Pnr Bn, awarded the VC posthumously for his actions on Tarakan Island
13 May 1943: Australian ground commitment in British North Africa campaign ends at Tunisia
14 May 1943: Hospital ship Centaur sunk by Japanese submarine off Queensland, killing 268 people. Only 63 men and one female nurse rescued by USS Mugford

RUSIV Defence Update

Celebrating our 133rd Year

A weekly e-newsletter relating to our security & defence

National Service

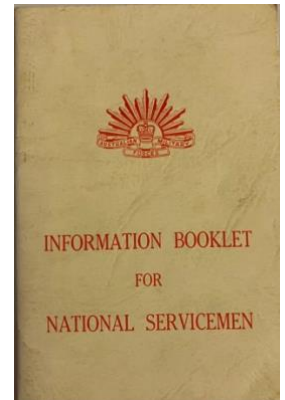
The first National Service scheme began in January 1911 and ran throughout the First World War. Some 636,000 men were called up to serve in the CMF during the first 4 years of this Universal Service Scheme. No men were conscripted into the First Australian Imperial Force (AIF) for service overseas. Amid widespread debate, Australians voted against two plebiscites to introduce conscription during the war. This first scheme was suspended in 1929.

National service was revived shortly after the beginning of the Second World War. The government announced on 15th November 1939 that compulsory military training would start on 1st January 1940. By mid-1942, some 290,000 men were enlisted in the CMF. On 26th January 1943, the government passed a bill to use Australian conscripts during the war in the South West Pacific Zone. This scheme closed in 1946.

In the National Service scheme between 1951 and 1959, all males aged 18 were called up for training in the Navy, Army or Air Force. A total of 227,000 Australians served in 52 intakes.

Regular recruiting for the Army seemed insufficient again, so the Australian Government introduced the *National Service Act 1964*. Between 30th June 1965 and 7th December 1972, over 63,000 men were called up for a period of full-time service and integrated into regular Army units. The initial service period of 2 years was reduced to 18 months in 1971.

This *Information Booklet for National Servicemen* (a 2nd edition, 1968) gave a succinct summary of the terms and conditions for those conscripted under this scheme. Each conscript received a copy of the 23-page booklet.



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

Defence

Australia tops up Ukraine military aid with \$100M: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

Defense heads of Japan, Australia, U.S. and Philippines to meet in Hawaii; carrier *Roosevelt* makes port call in Thailand: [\(M\)USNINews](#)

Recommended: In conversation with Admiral John Aquilino, Commander, US Indo-Pacific Command: [\(F\)Lowy](#)

Start thinking now about alternatives to AUKUS Pillar 1: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

National Defence Strategy: Cancellations cover 22 percent of acquisition costs: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Air Force

Defence Pacific Air Program 24-2 | 35SQN in PNG: [\(F\)RAAF](#)

Pacific

Russia and China co-ordinate on disinformation in Solomon Islands elections: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)
Bougainville's future: the hard questions: [\(M\)Lowy](#)

UK

Royal Air Force insights: Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Knighton: [\(P\)AerospaceAdvantage](#)

US

US approves \$6B weapons package for Ukraine, but Kyiv stalled on Patriot battery breakthrough: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

Air Force awards SNC \$13B contract for new 'Doomsday' plane: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

Is State Dept.'s AUKUS trade certification delay a sign of choppy waters ahead? [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

NATO & EU

France, Germany ink deal on way ahead for 'completely new' future European tank: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

EU's red tape is helping Russia: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Italy has given Ukraine long-range missiles, says UK defense minister: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

South Korea

South Korea considers joining alliance for sharing military technology with Australia, US and UK: [\(M\)APNews](#)

Ukraine

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

Recommended: The Russia-Ukraine war: stocktake and forecast: [\(F\)Lowy](#)

Ukraine pulls US tanks from front lines over Russian drone threats: [\(M\)MilitaryTimes](#)

Middle East

Jordan's navigation of the Hamas-Israel war: [\(M\)IISS](#)

Why Israel is so determined to launch an offensive in Rafah. And why so many oppose it: [\(M\)APNews](#)

Russia

Russia vetos US-Japan resolution against nukes in space, 'unprecedented escalation' in UN fight: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

China

Why China is so bad at disinformation: [\(M\)Wired](#)

Why the US isn't worried about China's new H-20 stealth bomber: [\(F\)Sandboxx](#)

Military History

Warsaw Ghetto - the 1943 uprising: [\(F\)Felton](#)

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