



# RUSIA Defence Update

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## Forthcoming Anniversaries

**19 January 1944:** 1st New Guinea Inf Bn seizes observation post on Gazelle Peninsula, New Guinea

**20 January 1942:** Six RAAF Wirraways engage 100 Japanese planes over Rabaul, New Guinea

**21 January 1941:** 6 Div begins attack on Tobruk

**21 January 1942:** Japanese planes attack Lae and Salamaua, New Guinea

**22 January 1942:** Lt Col Charles Anderson, 2/19 Bn, awarded VC for actions near Akri, Malaya

**22 January 1943:** Australians capture Sanananda, New Guinea

**25 January 1942:** Japanese land at Lae, New Guinea

**26 January 1942:** 2/18 Bn sets ambush for Japanese north of Jemaluang, Malaya

**26 January 1945:** Borneo death march begins



*A weekly e-newsletter relating to our security & defence*

## MacArthur's Right Hand Woman

Lieutenant Colonel Mary-Agnes Brown (1902-1998) is featured on the cover of the August 5, 1944 *Women's Weekly*. She was Staff Director, U.S. Women's Army Corps in US South-west Pacific Command.

She was born in Washington, D.C., and educated at George Washington University (AB 1924, LLB 1932, SJD 1942). She was a lawyer in the solicitor's office of the Veterans' Administration (1931-1941) before entering the Women's Army Corps (WAC), where she was on active duty for four years and promoted to lieutenant colonel. Later Mrs Groover, she retired in 1952 from the Board of Veterans Appeals.

In 1975 she was interviewed on a ship visit to Australia by Patsy-Adam Smith. State Library Victoria has the tape recording.



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

## Defence

Japan aims to be indispensable to Trump. Australia should follow: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Australia's suddenly emerging Greenland dilemma: [\(M\)Lowy](#)

Securing Australia's fuel supplies in a major conflict: [\(M\)Lowy](#)

## Navy

HMAS *Brisbane* highlights from regional presence deployment: [\(F\)Defence](#)

Britain's submarine challenges do not spell AUKUS failure: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Mariners first: rebuilding Australia's navy for war at sea: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

## Army

Kenney Strikes Back in north and south parks: [\(M\)Contact](#)

## Air Force

The C-17A pivot: how Australia projects power across the Indo-Pacific: [\(F\)NguoiGiaiMa](#)  
 Royal Australian Air Force announces changes to heritage fleet: [\(M\)AsiaPacificDefenceReporter](#)

## Asia Pacific

How tiny Singapore ties China and Taiwan in training for war: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

## UK

Mass criticality: rethinking critical infrastructure in the UK: [\(M\)RUSI](#)  
 The 2025 SDR promised a new navy - So where's the money? [\(F\)Warships&Warriors](#)

## US

Why the US military is buying Australian: the E-7A, Nulka & Ghost Bat: [\(F\) NguoiGiaiMa](#)  
 CNO drops hints about forthcoming 'Fighting Instructions' strategy: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)  
 The 'Donroe Doctrine' reaches the Arctic: [\(M\)IISS](#)  
 Trump's Golden Dome excuse for Greenland grab is 'detached from reality,' experts say: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)  
 Trump's 'battleship' could be most expensive US warship in history: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)  
 Northrop Grumman to make US Navy's upgraded ASW torpedo for \$233M: [\(M\)DefensePost](#)

## NATO & EU

NATO nations send scouting teams to Greenland amid US annexation talk: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)  
 Prepare for a new age of conflict, warns Spain's defense chief: [\(M\)IESE](#)

## Middle East

Iran's protests: the regional and international responses: [\(M\)IISS](#)  
 Pentagon moving carrier strike group toward Middle East amid tensions with Iran: [\(M\)TheHill](#)  
 Trump announces 'Board of Peace' formed for Gaza: [\(M\)DefensePost](#)

## Ukraine

Ukraine's future may turn on upcoming votes in Congress: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)

## Russia

Ukraine says Russian military trucks are at Zaporizhzhia power plant: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

## China

US reveals seizure of purported anti-submarine mission trainers en route to China: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)  
 Xi's Taiwan scorecard: why 2026 is not the year: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

## Military History

Bendigo soldiers of the Great War: [\(F\)Coyne](#)  
 The life and achievements of LTGEN Lord Freyberg VC: [\(F\)NZSappers](#)  
 Unheralded victory: the battle of Wau Jan - Feb 1943: [\(F\)HypoHystericalHistory](#)

