



Volume 25 | Issue 3  
27 May 2024

# RUSIV Defence Update

Celebrating our **134th** Year

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

Royal United Services Institute of  
Victoria  
rusivic.org.au  
[secretary@rusivic.org.au](mailto:secretary@rusivic.org.au)  
Library Catalogue:  
[Library](#)

## Forthcoming Anniversaries

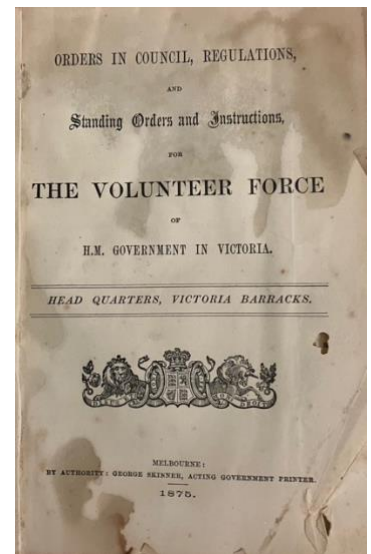
**27 May 1968:** HMAS Sydney departs with 1 RAR for first voyage to Việt Nam  
**27 May 1953:** D Coy 2 RAR attacked by Chinese on Hill 159, Korea  
**28 May 1902:** Boers surrender  
**28 May 1970:** AATTV awarded US Meritorious Unit Citation  
**29 May 1915:** Ottoman attack on Quinn's Post, Gallipoli  
**29 May 1942:** HMAS Perth damaged during Crete evacuation  
**31 May 1918:** Lt Gen John Monash succeeds Gen William Birdwood as GOC Australian Corps  
**1 June 1966:** 5 RAR arrives in Việt Nam via HMAS Sydney  
**2 June 1890:** Maj Gen Tulloch founds the United Service Institution of Victoria  
**2 June 1944:** Australian troops land on Karkar Island, New Guinea  
**2 June 1967:** 2 RAR arrives in Việt Nam  
**4 June 1900:** Victorians and Western Australians heavily engaged in a conflict at Six Mile Spruit, South Africa  
**5 June:** 250 Australians land at the Port of Archangel, north Russia, with the British North Russia Relief Force

## Victorian Volunteer Force

In 1854, Governor Sir Charles Hotham approved an Act for Volunteers in Victoria to establish a Volunteer Corps not exceeding 2000 men, with officers appointed by the Governor. The force was independent of the regular British units, which maintained a presence until 1870.

The first unit formed was the Melbourne Volunteer Rifle Regiment, following shortly afterwards by the Richmond Rifles, the Emerald Hill Rifles, the East Collingwood Rifles and the Fitzroy Rifles. Cavalry, Artillery, Engineer, Torpedo and Signal units quickly followed, named after the localities in which they were raised. All units were voluntary, with service part-time and unpaid. By 1860, the Act had been amended to allow a Volunteer force of 10,000.

The Victorian Volunteer Forces became the primary defence force of the Colony of Victoria after the withdrawal of the Imperial troops. A Permanent Artillery Corps (the Victorian Artillery) was also formed in that year.



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

## Defence

We need a third pillar of AUKUS: critical minerals: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)  
Biden's new Antarctic statement holds lessons for Australia: [\(M\)Lowy](#)  
Australia and New Zealand need an Anzac cyber incident review board: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

## Air Force

F-35 customers in Asia-Pacific monitor Lockheed upgrade saga from afar: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

## New Zealand

NZDF pivots in training package for Ukraine: [\(M\)Contact](#)

New Zealand is waking up to threats: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

## New Caledonia

RAAF flies stranded Aussies home from New Caledonia: [\(M\)Contact](#)

## Philippines

Inaugural warfighting courses delivered in Philippines by mobile training team: [\(M\)Contact](#)

## Indo Pacific

Navigating small-state security in the Indo-Pacific: [\(M\)IISS](#)

Coming of age? European defence engagement in the Indo-Pacific: [\(M\)IISS](#)

First Replicator drones already in Indo-Pacific, DOD says: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)

Pentagon asks Congress for Indo-Pacific security assistance initiative: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

## US

Pentagon unveils new Ukraine weapons package amid Russian offensive: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

## Ukraine

Russian forces may have seized first Estonian ground robot in Ukraine: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

Ukraine's air defense woes can't be fixed by American aid: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

The economic impact of sanctions against Russia - fact and fiction: [\(P\)RUSI](#)

Zelensky calls for NATO nations to shoot down Russian missiles over Ukraine: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

## Middle East

Gaza aid pier mission involving US troops is off to a chaotic start: [\(M\)MilitaryTimes](#)

USS *Carney* had 'seconds' to respond to anti-ship ballistic missiles: [\(M\)TaskandPurpose](#)

## Russia

'They've grown back': how Russia surprised the West and rebuilt its force: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

Is Putin preparing for nuclear war? [\(MK\)AspiStrategist](#)

## China

China sends dozens of warplanes and ships near Taiwan to show its anger over island's new leaders: [\(M\)APNews](#)

## Military History

The rocket-powered C-130: [\(M\)AustralianMilitaryAviationHistory](#)

C-130 Hercules in Australian service: [\(M\)AustralianMilitaryAviationHistory](#)

Please pass this newsletter to your friends and invite them to join RUSI Victoria

Some sites may be intermittently protected by a paywalls & may include advertisements.

© RUSIV 2024. The opinions expressed in the articles referenced are not necessarily those of RUSIV.