



RUSIA Defence Update

A weekly e-newsletter relating to our security & defence

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Forthcoming Anniversaries

18 August 1966: 1 Aust Task Force in battle of Long Tan. D Coy 6 RAR awarded the US Presidential Unit Citation

19 August 1914: Australian Naval & Military Expeditionary Force sails to capture German positions in the Pacific to destroy wireless installations

20 August 1901: Australians capture Boer wagon train at Wolmaranstad, South Africa

22 August 1942: 18 Bde lands at Milne Bay, New Guinea

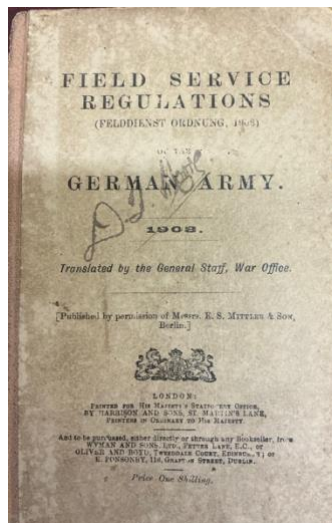
23 August 1918: Lt William Donovan Joynt, 8 Bn, awarded the VC for his actions at Herleville Wood, France. Lt Lawrence

McCarthy, 16 Bn, awarded the VC for his actions near Madame Wood, France

24 August 1942: Allied naval fleet inflicts heavy damage on Japanese ships east of the Solomon Islands



German Field Service Regulations 1908



Field Service Regulations (FSR) was a term common to the British and other armies at least until the Second World War. The booklets were sized for a large pocket and contained tactical doctrine for war fighting.

This British War Office 1908 publication contained the German (in fact Prussian) Army FSR. As a measure of the closeness between Germany and Britain at the time, it was printed with permission. The doctrine it contained did not alter prior to 1914 – it was available to the British, Australian and other allies – and to the general public – for a shilling!

Did this FSR predict the stalemated trench warfare that dominated that war until August 1918? The 1908 regulations reflected a German Army that took firepower and combined-arms cooperation somewhat more seriously than some contemporaries, which is sometimes retrospectively framed as “foresight”. But characterising them as predicting trench warfare or the war-winning dominance of machine guns and artillery overstates it substantially – the doctrine was fundamentally offensive and mobile, and the trench deadlock caught the German high command off guard just as it did everyone else.

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

Strategy

‘No such thing as a regional conflict anymore,’ STRATCOM chief says: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)
The Afghanistan reckoning: forever wars and the costs of collective forgetting: [\(M\)ForeignAffairs](#)

Defence

ASPI Defence Conference 2026: keynote session with David Johnston: [\(F\)ASPI](#)
Chief Defence Scientist Tayna Monro on asymmetric advantage: [\(F\)ASPI](#)
Space as a warfighting domain: [\(F\)ASPI](#)
Preparing for surprise: Australian defence in an age of flux: [\(F&M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Army

Parade introduces new weapon system: [\(M\)Contact](#)

Air Force

P8A full fleet: [\(F\)Defence](#)

Indo-Pacific & Southeast Asia

2026 Defense of Japan: [JapanMOD](#)

Japan's 2026 defense white paper highlights 'new era of crisis' in Indo-Pacific: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

A next step for Australia in Southeast Asia: help nations communicate what's happening at sea: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

UK

Fear not for AUKUS as Britain's new prime minister takes over: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

US

Hanwha Defense USA seeks to acquire Austal USA in \$1.2B potential deal: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

US Marines roam far and wide from temporary Darwin base: [\(M\)MarineCorpsTimes](#)

See which design won DARPA's challenge to make a drone that can carry four times its own weight: [\(F\)MilitaryTimes](#)

How about equipping local law enforcement with a better anti-drone arsenal? [\(M\)CipherBrief](#)

Bringing back steam catapults on carriers is a huge risk: [\(M\)WarZone](#)

CENTCOM launches multinational one-way attack drone force: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

It's time for the President to level with the American people on Iran: [\(M\)CipherBrief](#)

Recommended: As warfare becomes engineering, the era of the digital mercenary dawns: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)

Ukraine

Kyiv faces missile barrage after Zelenskyy targets Russian satellite network: [\(M\)Guardian](#)

Middle East

Iran calls out Trump's 'lies' about US control over the Strait of Hormuz: [\(M\)France24](#)

Inside the White House bet that Netanyahu's peace plan rejection is for show: [\(M\)Politico](#)

Did sensors on Iranian drones help shoot down F-15E? [\(M\)WarZone](#)

Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Türkiye: a new defence pact: [\(M\)IISS](#)

The US-Saudi 123 Agreement: more than nuclear cooperation at stake: [\(M\)IISS](#)

Ukraine

Tokyo's carrot for Moscow, a nudge for Kyiv: [\(M\)Lowy](#)

China

Building Xi's "world-class" military with a "red soul": [\(M\)Lowy](#)

Russia

Russia's Pacific submarine fleet could tip the scales in China's favour: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Military History

Indonesia-Malaysia conflict: rare footage inside Borneo's jungle war (1964): [\(F\)Frontline](#)

Operation Desert Storm | hour-by-hour: [\(F\)IWM](#)

We fought hard at Singapore - so why did it fall? [\(F\)RedcoatHistory](#)

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