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# RUSIV Defence Update

## Celebrating our 132nd Year

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Member contributions are always welcome

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

### Forthcoming Anniversaries

**4 July 1918:** Battle of Le Hamel – Monash's masterpiece. LCpl Thomas 'Jack' Axford, 16 Bn, and Pte Henry Dalziel, 15 Bn, are awarded VCs for their actions at Hamel Woods

**4 July 1941:** Wg-Cdr Hughie Edwards, RAAF No. 105 Sqn awarded the VC for his actions during a raid on Bremen, Germany

**5 July 1950:** Commonwealth Naval Forces assume responsibility for the west coast of Korea

**6 July 1918:** Cpl Walter 'Wally' Brown, 20 Bn, awarded the VC for his actions at Villers-Bretonneux, France

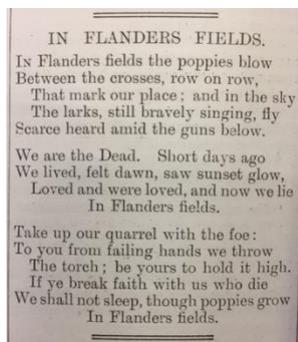
**6 July 1941:** Lt Arthur Roden Cutler, 2/5 Fd Regt, awarded the VC for his actions at Merdjayoun and Damour, Lebanon

**9 July 1940:** RAN Fleet of V- and W-class destroyers battle the Italian fleet at the battle of Calabria in the Mediterranean

**9 July 1942:** 2/24 Bn captures German 621 Coy, a radio intercept and intelligence unit, effectively blinding Rommel

**10 July 1941:** Pte James 'Jimmy' Gordon, 2/31 Bn, awarded the VC for his actions at Jezzine, Lebanon

## In Flanders Fields – First Printing



On December 8, 1915, this famous poem appeared for the first time (anonymously) in the pages of *Punch* (page 468). It soon became known that it was written by Canadian physician Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae. He was inspired to write it on May 3, 1915, after presiding over the funeral of friend and fellow soldier Lieutenant Alexis Helmer, who died in the Second Battle of Ypres.

We are most fortunate to have this issue, in a fine half-leather binding containing all the issues for the latter half of 1915. Indeed, we have all the issues of *Punch* for both the First and Second World Wars. The volumes form part of our collection of humour in war, an important subject in itself.

The humour of those past wars does not always translate well to the present day. However, this cartoon, in the same issue as the poem, is still perhaps apposite. The fawning hosier offers the puzzled captain a newly invented collar-pin, noting that. "it is an essential to smartness of appearance in the trenches"!



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

## Defence

Defence reshuffles leadership: [\(M\)DefenceMinister](#)

Census results – first-ever veteran head count: [\(M\)Contact](#)

Building overseas may be the best approach for Australia's nuclear-powered submarines: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Malaysian foreign minister says concerns remain about AUKUS pact after meeting with Penny Wong: [\(M\)Guardian](#)

NATO to approve 'biggest overhaul' of defense since cold war, leader says: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#).

Countering the Hydra: A proposal for an Indo-Pacific hybrid threat centre: [\(F\)ASPI](#)

## Navy

Why nuclear submarines will transform Australia's navy: [\(F\)MilitaryAnalysis](#)

## Army

Exercise Kapyong Warrior: [\(F\)Defence](#)

Exercise Chau Pha: [\(F\)Defence](#)

Army Aboriginal Community Assistance Program AACAP is now in its 25th year of delivery: [\(F\)Defence](#)

The Significance of Australia's Armour and Artillery Upgrades: [\(F\)RUSINSW](#)

## Air Force

Our second century | The future of the space domain: [\(F\)RAAF](#)

Our second century | The future of the cyber domain: [\(F\)RAAF](#)

## New Zealand

Royal New Zealand Navy: HMNZS Te Mana Coming Up To Speed: [\(F\)NZDF](#)

## Pacific

Australia commits to Pacific islands defence training as China plans rival meet: [\(M\)Reuters](#)

## Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea Defence Force Air Transport Wing: [\(F\)Defence](#)

## Singapore

Making waves - Singapore's navy looks to the future: [\(M\)AsiaPacificDefenceReporter](#)

## Indonesia

Widodo's mission to Moscow: seeking peace – and an end to Putin's blockade of Ukraine's wheat: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

## UK

British Army Chief warns UK and allies facing '1937 moment': [\(F\)SkyNews](#)

## US

U.S. Carrier *Abraham Lincoln* to participate in Rim of the Pacific Exercise 2022: [\(M\)USNI](#)

## Ukraine

Russia-Ukraine war: what we know on day 131 of the invasion: [\(M\)Guardian](#)

## Russia

Would Russia use bioweapons in Ukraine? [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

## Military History

How British Infantry sections evolved in 100 Years: [\(F\)BattleOrder](#)

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