



Volume 1 | Issue 7
17 February 2025

Royal United Services
Institute of Victoria
rusivc.org.au
secretary@rusivc.org.au
Library Catalogues:
[RUSINSW](#)
[RUSIV](#)

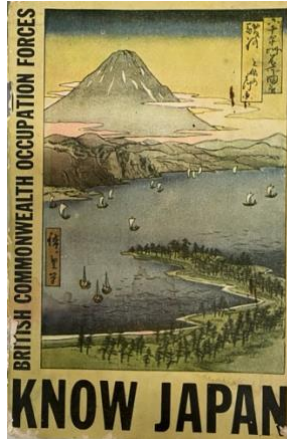
Forthcoming Anniversaries

18 February 1941: Australians arrive in Singapore
18 February 1943: 9 Div returns to Australia
19 February 1942: Bombing of Darwin by Japanese from 9.58am to 11.55am
19 February 1969: Battle of Hat Dich, South Việt Nam
20 February 1942: Japanese land on Portuguese Timor
21 February 1918: 3rd Light Horse Regt captures Jericho
23 February 1942: Main Australian task force on Timor surrenders to Japanese
23 February 1956: RAAF No.1 Sqn bombs communist terrorist camps near Kuala Lumpur
24 February 1951: 3 RAR captures Hill 614, Korea

RUSIA Defence Update

A weekly e-newsletter relating to our security & defence

British Commonwealth Occupation Forces (BCOF) Japan Handbook



Participation in the BCOF marked the second time that Australians were involved in the military occupation of a sovereign nation which it had defeated in war. BCOF participation in the Allied occupation of Japan was announced on 31 January 1946, though planning and negotiations had been in progress since the end of the war. The main body of Australian troops arrived in Japan on 21 February.

The entire BCOF force totalled 45,000, from Britain, India, New Zealand, and Australia. About 16,000 Australians served in BCOF, including an infantry contingent of 4,700, base units consisting of 5,300, an air force wing of 2,200, and 130 from the Australian General Hospital. The Royal Australian Navy (RAN) also had a presence in the region as part of the British Pacific Fleet. For two-thirds of the period of occupation the Commonwealth was represented solely by Australians, and throughout its existence BCOF was always commanded by an Australian officer.

The handbook, while primarily a cultural guide, states a policy of non-fraternisation.

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

Defence

Australia needs Australian AI: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Undermining unity: disinformation as a threat to the Quad: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Further cyber sanctions in response to Medibank Private cyberattack: [\(M\)ForeignMinister](#)

China drops flares ahead of RAAF plane, sends ships to Australia's northern approaches: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Navy

Marles meets US reps on subs: [\(M\)AsiaPacificDefenceReporter](#)

Why attack missile boats can't replace major warships: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Army

Queensland Flood Assist 2025 - temporary bridge construction: [\(F\)Defence](#)

Air Force

Exercise Red Flag 25-1 | Soaring to new heights: [\(F\)RAAF](#)

Finally Australia completes third MQ-4C Triton UAS testing for Air Force: [\(F\)DefenceUp87](#)

New Zealand

New Zealand's trouble in paradise: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Te Kaha deploys to the Arabian Gulf: [\(F\)NZDF](#)

Indonesia

Air and maritime defence, not ground combat, should be Indonesia's priorities: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Indo Pacific

In its Indo-Pacific strategy, France should engage more with Pacific islanders: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

UK

Britain's military: a tool for global ordering? [\(P\)RUSI](#)

US

Air Force pauses 'reoptimization' planning as service awaits new leadership: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

Plans for America's Iron Dome and Marine F-35s: [\(P\)BreakingDefense](#)

NATO

NATO laggard Belgium vows defense boost with more F-35s, third frigate: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

On eve of visit, Europe braces for new defense demands from team Trump: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

Baltic Sentry mission could provide proving ground for NATO's underwater drones: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

We can predict Trump's military policy. Here's how Europe must react: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Is Europe serious about defending itself? [\(F\)RUSI](#)

Ukraine

Putin's poison pill for peace talks: [\(F\)ISW](#)

Recommended: Putin's Ukraine: [\(M\)ForeignAffairs](#)

Lessons from Ukraine: recommendations for NATO: [\(F\)RUSI](#)

Russia

Putin's death squad chief killed in Moscow bombing: [\(F\)MilitaryShow](#)

China

China Takes Russian cable tactics to Taiwan: [\(M\)Bloomberg](#)

New unreported submarine in China leaves West guessing: [\(F\)HISutton](#)

Military History

The Cold War nuclear test that turned the sky crimson: [\(M\)TaskandPurpose](#)

Some url's may be subject to an intermittent paywall

© RUSIV 2025. The opinions expressed in the articles referenced are not necessarily those of RUSIV.