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Royal United Services
Institute of Victoria
rusivc.org.au
secretary@rusivc.org.au
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Forthcoming Anniversaries

12 January 1942: Japanese enter Kuala Lumpur, Malaya

12 January 1943: 2/9 and 2/12 Bns, supported by three tanks, attack Sanananda, New Guinea

13 January 1900: Boers attack New South Welshmen at Prieska, South Africa

14 January 1942: 8 Div inflicts heavy losses on Japanese in an ambush at Gemas, Malaya.

18 January 1952: Australians in front line at Little Gibraltar, Korea.

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



Monash Memorial Defence
Library

RUSIA Defence Update

A weekly e-newsletter relating to our security & defence

Matron Monica McMahon (1904-1990) - Women's Weekly Cover -1946



Monica McMahon joined the Australian Army Nursing Service (AANS) as a triple certificated nurse and in late 1941 became the matron of the Australian military hospital at Puckapunyal. Then she was a matron at the internment hospital at Tatura, a hospital ship, 11 other Australian military hospitals, a camp hospital at Koitaki New Guinea and the 130th Australian General Hospital at Eta Jima Island Japan.

Her detachments of commissioned Australian Army Nursing Service members formed patient-care communities with both male and female members of Army officers and other ranks.

She fought a gender war against male attempts to prevent AANS members from nursing soldiers with venereal diseases, others suffering from severe and suicidal depression and bans on her nurses teaching some Japanese nurses aspects of patient care for Japanese civilians suffering from the effects of atomic radiation at Hiroshima. Monica's War depicts other Australian matrons and AANS members as compassionate, resourceful and self-sacrificing women, especially during the Japanese massacre of some members at Banka Island, Malaysia.

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

Defence

Bondi reviewer Richardson has already said our security laws are no good: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)
A Bondi royal commission would let the intelligence community speak, and expose some polite fictions: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

National commemorative service to honour Nashos: [\(M\)Contact](#)

Maduro seizure: implications for US allies and China: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Facing China's threat, Australia-Japan alignment is indispensable: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Australia needs a Dutch mindset for food security: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Indo-Pacific partners enhance interoperability: [\(M\)Defence](#)

Army

U.S. Marines, Australians compete in the Coral-Balmoral Cup: [\(F\)1stMarineDivision](#)

Air Force

Chinese fighter jet flies too close to Australian plane – big mistake: [\(F\)BeyondMilitary](#)

Indo Pacific

Pacifist Japan moving from exclusive self-defense to military buildup: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

UK

UK's DragonFire Weapon just made drones completely useless: [\(F\)MilitaryShow](#)

US

How 'Absolute Resolve' harnessed 150 aircraft and more to launch a regime change in Venezuela: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)

'BEWARE': Trump order demands some defense firms halt paying dividends, buying back stock: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

Can the US 'run' Venezuela? Military force doesn't equal legitimacy: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

Who stress-tests U.S. war plans? [\(M\)WarontheRocks](#)

US boards a ship sailing under a Russian flag: what we know and don't know about the legal position: [\(M\)TheConversation](#)

Lessons learned from the US raid on Venezuela: [\(F\)BreakingDefense](#)

NATO & EU

US-European relations will define the next year: 2026 preview: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

Ukraine's allies praise major progress on defense guarantees: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

NATO ally Denmark warns US against taking Greenland by force: [\(M\)DefensePost](#)

Middle East

Gaza Civil Defense says Israeli attacks kill 13 including 5 children: [\(M\)DefensePost](#)

Ukraine

Zelensky hails 'substantive' declaration on Ukraine security guarantees: [\(M\)DefensePost](#)

Russia

Russia uses its new hypersonic missile in major attack on Ukraine and warning to the West: [\(M\)PBS](#)

China

Chinese cargo ship converted to launch advanced combat drones emerges (updated): [\(M\)WarZone](#)

China grows its air-to-air refueling capacity with an eye to Taiwan: [\(M\)Lowy](#)

Military History

Australia and the great Arab Revolt – the 1918 campaign: a partnership forged under fire: [\(F\)DFAT](#)

The RAN in the Battle of Leyte Gulf: [\(F\)UNSWCanberra](#)

Australia had no artillery factories – Queensland munitions built 252 million rounds in 3 years: [\(F\)StrikerAustralia](#)

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