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# RUSIA Defence Update

A weekly e-newsletter relating to our security & defence

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## Forthcoming Anniversaries

**3 March 1942:** Japanese air raids on Broome and Wyndham  
**4 March 1942:** HMAS Yarra (II) sunk by Japanese. 138 lives lost  
**7 March 1967:** HMAS Hobart (II) allotted for gunline duty in Việt Nam  
**8 March 1977:** First female midshipman entered the RAN  
**9 March 1942:** First Australian troops return from the Middle East  
**10 March 1942:** Japanese invasion forces land at Finschhafen, New Guinea

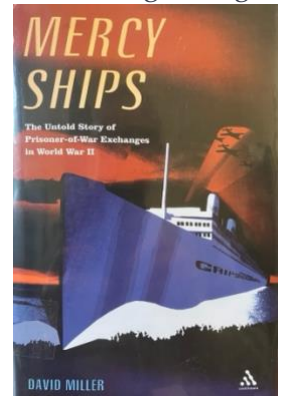
## Australian Prisoner of War (POW) Exchanges – World War Two

Prisoner of War exchanges are, in theory, governed by *The Convention of 27 May 1929 Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners-of-War*. Article 68 binds belligerents “to send back to their own country, regardless of rank or number, seriously sick and seriously injured prisoners-of-war, after having brought them to a condition where they can be transported. Article 74 says ‘No repatriated person shall be employed on active military service’.

On 27 October 1943 some sick and wounded Australians, prisoners of the Germans, (in the company of over 1000 Empire troops) were exchanged at Barcelona. There was a further exchange at the same place on 18 May 1944

Some Australians were included in an exchange by the Japanese at Lourenço Marques on 22 August 1942.

While this book, *Mercy Ships*, tells a good deal of the story of exchanges during the Second World War, it does not treat Australians and New Zealanders in detail, mostly grouping them with other personnel from the Empire. We suspect there is much more research needed on this topic.



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

## Defence

Microsoft breakthrough challenges Australia’s quantum strategy: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)  
Australia’s foreign policy in a hung parliament: [\(M\)Lowy](#)

## Navy

American submarine stops in Australia as Chinese flotilla cruises offshore  
[\(M\)Stars&Stripes](#)  
Strategic and industrial factors favour Japan for Australia’s frigate project: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

## Army

Australia's HX trucks: the powerhouse behind military logistics: [\(F\)NgouGiaiMa](#)  
Op Kudu - rotation eight: [\(F\)Defence](#)  
Op Kudu - soldiers of Ukraine: Serhii & Arthur: [\(F\)Defence](#)  
To “protect-and-project” – a call for Australian land power in the Indo-Pacific: [\(M\)Lowy](#)

## Air Force

High-stakes Exercise Red Flag Las Vegas: [\(F\)RAAF](#)  
Exercise Cope North 2025: [\(F\)Defence](#)

## New Zealand

Quantum Systems Vector/Scorpion small uncrewed aircraft system | New Zealand Army: [\(F\)NZDF](#)

## Papua New Guinea

Papua New Guinea, Australia begin hammering out first defense treaty: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

## New Caledonia

New Caledonia: a troubled France seeks agreement about the future: [\(M\)Lowy](#)

## Asia Pacific

The building blocks for security partnership in the Indo-Pacific: [\(M\)Lowy](#)

## UK

Where will the extra cash for UK defence spending need to go? [\(F\)BFBSForcesNews](#)

Senior RAF officer talks Europe's premier air exercise: [\(M\)DefenceJournal](#)

## US

The renegade order: how Trump wields American power: [\(M\)ForeignAffairs](#)

Sneak peek: US Navy unveils latest image of secretive AIM-260 JATM missile: [\(M\)DefensePost](#)

Pentagon relaxes rules on airstrikes, raids against adversaries [\(M\)Stars&Stripes](#)

## NATO

Denmark to pass 3 percent GDP on defense over fear of Russian rearmament: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

On board Nato's mission to counter Russian undersea cable attacks: [\(F\)BFBSForcesNews](#)

France accelerates rearmament plan, eyes more Rafale fighters and frigates: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

## Ukraine

**Recommended:** RUSI experts assess Russia's war against Ukraine, three years on: [\(F\)RUSI](#)

Third anniversary of Ukraine war markedly different than previous years: [\(M\)WarZone](#)

What has Russia's invasion of Ukraine cost in blood and money? [\(F\)BFBSForcesNews](#)

US-Russia negotiations won't bring peace to Ukraine: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Ukraine uses Copperhead laser-guided artillery munition in Russian strike: [\(F\)BFBSForcesNews](#)

After Oval Office disaster, Europe emerges as Ukraine's best hope: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)

## China & Taiwan

Chinese rivals to Musk's Starlink accelerate race to dominate satellite internet: [\(M\)Reuters](#)

PLA Warfighting and Taiwan: [\(F\)USAWarCollege](#)

Tactical developments during the third year of the Russo-Ukrainian War: [\(M\)RUSI](#)

## Military History

Op Okra proved worth of combined-arms training: [\(M\)Contact](#)

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