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## Forthcoming Anniversaries

**3 February 1942:** Japanese bombers launched first heavy air attack on Port Moresby

**4 February 1945:** The Fremantle-based US submarine Barbel sunk by Japanese aircraft off Palau - no survivors

**6 February 1967:** The first RAN unit to serve in Việt Nam, Clearance Diving Team 3, arrives

**8 February 1948:** HMAS Wyatt Earp sailed from Melbourne for Antarctica

**9 February 1919:** HMS Vendetta, later HMAS Vendetta, engaged Bolshevik ground troops with gunfire at Windau on the Baltic to relieve pressure on the Lettish Army

**10 February 1964:** The aircraft carrier HMAS Melbourne and the destroyer HMAS Voyager collided with the loss of 82 lives

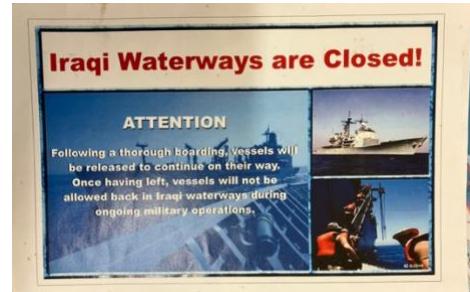


# RUSIA Defence Update

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

## Naval Boarding Operations - Iraq

This is a recent addition to our collection - a double-sided leaflet (in English & Arabic) to be issued to boarded vessels to ensure that they were not carrying contraband or fleeing members of the Saddam Hussein regime.



The leaflet was aboard HMAS *Kanimbla* that deployed to the North Arabian Gulf in February 2003. RAN Clearance Diving teams cleared mines from the Khawr abd Allah, a narrow stretch of water leading to the port at Umm Qasr. Australia was responsible for keeping this port open, and for seizing and securing Iraqi offshore oil platforms.

The Australian vessel (with boarding teams from US, UK and Australia) was used to monitor and board the smaller craft trying to leave the waters outside Umm Qasr. This helped free up larger Coalition warships.

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

## Defence

The US National Defence Strategy will demand more from Australia: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)  
Defence procurement needs minimum viable processes, too: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)  
Conflict prevention or conflict avoidance in Australia's foreign policy: [\(M\)Lowy](#)

## Air Force

RAAF Gulfstream MC-55A Peregrine arrives in Australia! [\(F\)AviationPhotographyDigest](#)

## Singapore

Singapore cleared to buy four P-8A Poseidons for \$2.3 billion: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

## Malaysia

Malaysia's first Maharaja Lela ship heads to sea trials, third advances assembly: [\(M\)DefensePost](#)

## Canada

Carney responds to Trump's "Governor" remark and explains USMCA context: [\(F\)DRMNews](#)

## US

Recommended: National Defense Strategy: [\(M\)Defense](#)

Experts have questions about the new National Defense Strategy – on China, force design, and more: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)

Trump's national defense strategy is unlike anything that's come before it: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)

Joint Chiefs chairman to convene rare meeting of all Western Hemisphere military leaders: [\(F\)ABCNews](#)

Why Greenland is important for Golden Dome: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

We've probably just seen the USAF's secret electromagnetic attacker: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Trump's new national defense strategy downgrades China threat: [\(M\)MilitaryTimes](#)

Recommended: Our allies passed your test, Mr. President. Would we? [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)

US critical-minerals diplomacy: from America-First deals to Pax Silica: [\(M\)IISS](#)

## NATO & EU

Trump and Greenland aren't the shock – Europe's dependence is: [\(M\)DefensePost](#)

Denmark fast-tracked Lockheed radars for northern air surveillance: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

NATO chief wishes 'good luck' to those who think Europe can defend itself without US help: [\(M\)APNews](#)

## Middle East

Israel agrees to 'limited reopening' of Rafah crossing: [\(M\)DefensePost](#)

US deploys aircraft carrier as Iran warns against attack: [\(M\)DefensePost](#)

## Ukraine

Talks with US and Ukraine in Abu Dhabi were constructive but major challenges remain, Kremlin says: [\(M\)APNews](#)

Russia is targeting civilians in Ukraine: [\(M\)CipherBrief](#)

## Russia

Syrian leader meets Putin, Russia eyes deal on military bases: [\(M\)DefensePost](#)

## China

China preparing for "National Total War," Pentagon says: [\(F\)Task&Purpose](#)

China's top general accused of giving nuclear secrets to U.S.: [\(M\)WallStreetJournal](#)

A perfect storm for Taiwan in 2026? How a convergence of factors could tempt Beijing to act: [\(M\)ForeignAffairs](#)

China appears set on militarizing another reef in the South China Sea: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

Xi's control of his regime is looking ever more Stalinist: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

China warns US attempts to contain it 'doomed to fail': [\(M\)DefensePost](#)

## Military History

Why the U.S. abandoned dozens of military bases in Greenland: [\(F\)WallStreetJournal](#)

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

The education of officers in military history: [\(F\)RUSINSW](#)

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