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Royal United Services Institute of  
Victoria  
[rusivic.org.au](http://rusivic.org.au)  
[secretary@rusivic.org.au](mailto:secretary@rusivic.org.au)  
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#### Forthcoming Anniversaries

- 20 June 1864:** *Australians engage Maoris at Te Ranga, NZ*
- 21 June 1940:** *HMAS Sydney and Stuart bombard Bardia*
- 22 June 1945:** *Australians begin operations to seize oilfields at Seria (Brunei) and Miri-Lutong (Sarawak)*
- 23 June 1885:** *NSW contingent to Sudan disembarks at Sydney*
- 24 June 1942:** *Rommel attacks Egypt. British forces fall back to El Alamein*
- 25 June 1950:** *North Korean forces cross the 38th Parallel to invade South Korea*
- 25 June 1957:** *Australians in action near the Thai border, Malaysia*
- 26 June 1916:** *Pte John Jackson, 17 Bn, awarded the VC for his actions southeast of Bois Grenier, France. Jackson was the youngest Australian to be awarded the Victoria Cross in World War I and his was the first VC to be awarded to a member of the AIF in France.*
- 26 June 1945:** *In what will become the largest combined military amphibious operation in Australian history, an invasion fleet of more than 200 ships carrying 7 Div begins leaving Morotai for Balikpapan*

# RUSIV Defence Update

## Celebrating our 132nd Year

Member contributions are always welcome

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

“The Green Hornets”

This unit of The Volunteer Defence Corps (VDC), the first to enrol members, was founded on 18<sup>th</sup> June 1940 in North Sydney. Its members, like the British Home Guard, were drawn from those not eligible to enlist in the AIF. Initially there were few uniforms and fewer weapons available, but the men were largely veterans of the Great War and improvisation was the order of the day. The VDC was initially run by the RSL but made part of the Army in March 1942. Its soldiers were used to man anti-aircraft, searchlight and coastal artillery organisations as well as guard duty of beaches and vital installations. They were granted Army pay in December 1943. Younger soldiers often transferred to more active branches of the services when they qualified. They trained on ‘Jungle Courses’ at Ingleburn, Warriewood, Cattai and Roseville! They gained no ribbons or wound stripes or service chevrons but they stood ready, relying on their prior experience in France, Belgium and the Middle East.

As one of their poets put it:

*We are the ruddy veterans; they say we've shot our bolts,  
Too old and too decrepit for General Blamey's colts;  
But if the young ones need us before this war is won,  
We'll put away our golf clubs and substitute a gun.*



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

## Defence

Trilateral Defence Ministers Meeting – 2022 Joint Vision Statement:  
[\(M\)AsiaPacificDefenceReporter](#)

Australia ticks strategic boxes in interesting times: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Australia and Japan as allies: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

## Navy

Australian Amphibious Force and HMAS *Adelaide* take part in Exercise Sea Explorer: [\(F\)Defence](#)

## Army

Australian Army's 1 REGT Exercise Barce: [\(F\)Army](#)

## Air Force

Exercise Diamond Storm 2022: armament technicians in action: [\(F\)RAAF](#)

## New Zealand

New Zealand to boost maritime security with Solomon Islands amid China focus on Pacific: [\(M\)Guardian](#)

## Pacific

A fault line in the Pacific: the danger of China's growing sway over island nations: [\(M\)ForeignAffairs](#) [Note: *Foreign Affairs* is randomly paywalled – this is beyond RUSIV's control]  
Pacific agency: a devalued political capital? [\(M\)AIIA](#)

## Solomon Islands

Solomon Islands seeks to reassure Australia on China security deal: [\(M\)ABCNews](#)

## US

The US and China talk and taunt: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Drone swarms that harassed navy ships off California demystified in new documents: [\(M\)TheDrive](#)

New bill would establish AUKUS submarine training program: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

## China

Holding up a mirror in Australia–China relations: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Peaceful words, aggressive actions: why Beijing's 'thaw' with Australia looks temporary: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

China launches third aircraft carrier: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

## Ukraine

Disinformation fight goes beyond Ukraine and its allies: [\(M\)ChathamHouse](#)

Three perspectives on Ukraine's future: [\(P\)DefenseOne](#)

What the invasion of Ukraine has revealed about the nature of modern warfare: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Russia-Ukraine war: List of key events, day 114Z: [\(M\)AlJazeera](#)

## Russia

Russia tells BBC, "we did not invade Ukraine" and there is "no war" there: [\(F\)BBCews](#)

## Vietnam

Could Vietnam's relations with Russia be another casualty of the Ukraine war? [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

## Military History

Death or glory- 17th/21st Lancers: [\(F\)BritishArmyDocumentaries](#)

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