# RUSIV Defence Update
## Celebrating our 132nd Year

### Forthcoming Anniversaries

*19 July 1916: 5th Australian Div in the first engagement on the Western Front at Fromelles, France, suffers 5533 casualties in 24 hours of battle, one of the greatest number of casualties for an allied division in a day, yet not rated by authorities as a 'battle'*

*19 July 1940: HMAS* Sydney *sinks Italian cruiser* Bartolemeo Colleoni *off Crete*

*20 July 1943: HMAS* Hobart *hit by torpedoes from a Japanese submarine off San Cristobal*

*21 July 1900: 300 Australians ambushed by Boers at Elands River Post, South Africa*

*22 July 1919: Australians in attack at Archangel, North Russia*

*22 July 1942: Pte Arthur Gurney, 2/48 Bn, awarded posthumous VC for actions at Tel El Eisa, Egypt*

*23 July 1916: Battle of Pozières, France, begins. Lt Arthur Blackburn, and Pte John Leak 9 Bn, awarded VCs for their actions at Pozières*

*24 July 1900: Capt Neville Howse, NSW Army Medical Corps, awarded the VC for his actions at Vredefort, Orange Free State, the only VC awarded to Australian medical personnel*

*24 July 1945: Pte Frank Partridge, 8 Bn, awarded the VC for his actions at Bougainville*

*24 July 1953: 2 RAR and 3 RAR defend the Hook on the Jamestown Line against the Chinese in Korea*

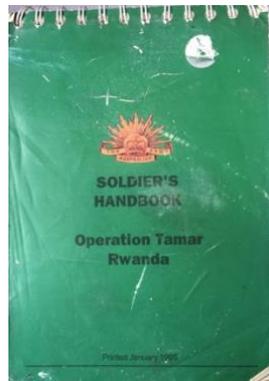*25 July 1916: Pte Thomas Cooke, 8 Bn, awarded the VC for his actions at Pozières*

Member contributions are always welcome

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

## Operation Tamar



*RUSIV Library copy of the Soldier's Handbook for Tamar*

In August 1994 an Australian Defence Force (ADF) contingent was despatched to Rwanda, an African nation ravaged by civil war and genocide. The operation was to provide medical support to the existing UN assistance mission in Rwanda.

There were two Australian deployments to Rwanda as part of Operation Tamar. In May 1994 UNAMIR II was established to "secure and protect" all those at risk. Australia agreed to deploy a medical contingent of 308 members, including a medical company, an infantry company, four Armoured Personnel Carriers, and logistic and engineering support team arriving in Rwanda in August 1994. The second contingent of 308 took over in February 1995 serving until August 1995.

The Australian Medical support force set up in the capital Kigali. Australian infantrymen provided security for the Australian medical team. Engineers worked hard at restoring war damaged medical facilities that allowed the Australian contingent to operate within a reasonably workable environment. Although tasked with supporting UN personnel, high levels of assistance were provided to the civilian population, which included complex surgeries.

In April a 32-strong detachment of the support force was despatched to Kibeho, about 150 kilometres south-west of Kigali, to set up a Casualty Clearance Post. Kibeho was home to approximately 150,000 displaced persons whom the new government wanted to move on. It was a complex situation, as many of the refugees did not wish to leave the camp as they feared for their safety, and some had most certainly participated in the genocide. Between 18–22 April, members of the Rwandan Patriotic Army began to kill people indiscriminately.

The Australians arrived during a rapidly deteriorating situation. Unable to intervene, they had to concentrate on their work despite the slaughter unfolding around them. Despite these trying conditions the CCP team headed by Captain Carol Vaughan-Evans was able to treat many injured people.

Rwanda was one of the most difficult peacekeeping missions ever undertaken by the ADF, and those who served there did so courageously and selflessly.

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

## Defence

Australia urges US to expand Asia military presence or face 'catastrophic' balance of power failure: (M)SouthChinaMorningPost

Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide - Chief of the Defence Force: (F)Defence

How Australian military linguists learn languages fast: (F)Richards

## Navy
Faces of RIMPAC: (F)Defence

## Army
Exercise RIMPAC 22 urban combat training: (F)Defence

## Air Force
Exercise Diamond Storm 2022 | No. 1 Squadron F/A-18F Super Hornet cockpit vision: (F)RAAF

## New Zealand
Royal New Zealand Navy: identifying contacts: (F)NZDF

## Pacific
U.S. Coast Guard brings water to drought-stricken Pacific island: (M)MaritimeExecutive

## UK
RN is ready to build 3 new heavy ships, at a fantastic price of £1.617 billion: (F)WorldofMilitary
HMS *Prince of Wales* hosts behind-closed-doors NATO talks: (F)ForcesNews
Royal Air Force chief says drone swarms ready to crack enemy defences: (M)DefenseNews

## US
US drone strike kills leader of ISIS in Syria ahead of Biden's first visit: (M)DefenseOne
Air mobility in the Pacific: time to adjust our sight picture: (P)AerospaceAdvantage
US Air Force says options limited for speeding deliveries of Wedgetail: (M)DefenseNews

## Canada
Defence Team News | 15 July 2022: RIMPAC: (F)CAF

## Ukraine
Russia repeatedly strikes Ukraine's civilians. There's always an excuse: (M)NYTimes
Five space lessons Russia's invasion taught Ukraine: (M)DefenseOne
Ukraine conflict: who is winning? (F)ForcesNews
What's the strange rocketing technique being used in Ukraine? (F)ForcesNews

## China
China's roadblocks to becoming a science superpower: (M)DefenseOne

## Russia
Russia preparing for next stage of its offensive, Ukrainian military says: (M)France24

## Military History
WW2 Japanese soldier found in Ukraine: (F)Felton
Gallipoli 1915 | Full Movie (Turkish, English subtitles): (F)Cinemium