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Forthcoming Anniversaries

- 31 July 1960:** Malayan Emergency ends after 12 years and 45 days
- 31 July 1962:** AATTV arrives in South Vietnam
- 2 August 1950:** 77 Sqn RAAF completes 800 sorties in Korea
- 4 August 1900:** About 3000 Boers attack Elands River Post, mostly manned by Australians, killing most of 1500 horses, mules and oxen. Four Australians were killed in the subsequent siege
- 5 August 1914:** German ship SS Pfalz captured in Port Phillip Bay, the first enemy vessel seized in Australian waters after one of the first engagements of the war from Fort Nepean
- 6 August 1915:** Battles for Lone Pine and Sari Bair begin at Gallipoli
- 6 August 1950:** HMAS Warramunga leaves for Korea
- 7 August 1915:** Allies land at Suva Bay. Light Horse units attack at the Nek, Steele's, Quinn's and Pope's Posts, Gallipoli
- 7 August 1945:** 7 Div's assault on Balikpapan ends successfully

RUSIV Defence Update

Celebrating our 133rd Year

A weekly e-newsletter relating to our security & defence

Member contributions are always welcome

The Battle of Modder River



We have recently been given this remarkable chromolithograph of the November 1899 Battle of Modder River. Two brigades of British troops approached the river enroute to relieve the siege of Kimberley. They encountered well prepared and entrenched Boer positions on both sides of the river. A rifle fire and artillery exchange ensued. Boer casualties may perhaps have amounted to 150, mainly due to shellfire. 70 British were killed and another 413 were wounded. The Boers withdrew at night fearing being outflanked.

27 Australians from the New South Wales Lancers and a NSW Medical Corps detachment were present at the battle.

The print was formerly displayed in a South Melbourne Hotel. While it was being 'modernised' the picture was thrown in a rubbish skip, being wisely rescued by our donor. We are assessing the cost of having it conservation framed.

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

Defence

Japan, South Korea fire missiles in Australia for first time: [\(M\)DefenseNews](#)

An American view on US investment in critical-mineral mining in Australia: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

US and Australia deepen military ties to counter China: [\(M\)ABCNews](#)

All-Domain operations key focus of vast Aussie Talisman Sabre exercise: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

Army

Australian military helicopter crash: missing crew identified as Albanese pays tribute: [\(M\)Guardian](#)

Air Force

RAAF increasing Hercules fleet with 20 new C-130J: [\(M>Contact](#)

65 Years of C-130 Hercules in Air Force: [\(F\)RAAF](#)

Papua New Guinea

First ever visit to Papua New Guinea by a US SecDef announced, as Pacific Islands import grows: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

NATO

NATO's interests in a stable Indo-Pacific: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

US

How Air Mobility Command is prepping for possible conflict in the Pacific: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)

Afghanistan shows the U.S. needs a doctrine not just for fighting wars, but also leaving them: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)

UK

The United Kingdom's policy on strategic industries: [\(M\)IISS](#)

RAF joins 70 aircraft in largest US-led readiness exercise ever: [\(F\)ForcesNews](#)

Ukraine

Historic Ukrainian cathedral badly damaged in Russian strikes: [\(M\)CNN](#)

'A thousand rockets, just lying there': Ukrainian soldiers refurbish Russian weapons: [\(F\)France24](#)

Russia

Russia using 'disinformation' to exaggerate small military gains, says UK: [\(M\)HuffingtonPost](#)

China

Foreign ships, aircraft in East and South China Seas escalating tensions, China's defence ministry says: [\(M\)Reuters](#)

A brief history of China's nuclear forces: [\(P\)DefenseOne](#)

Military History

Life on a Russian nuclear submarine of the Northern Fleet: [\(F\)Science](#)

Coronation Spithead Review (1953): [\(F\)Bober](#)

Oppenheimer explored: [\(P\)DefenseOne](#)