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RUSIV Defence Update

Celebrating our 132nd Year

A weekly e-newsletter relating to our security & defence

Member contributions are always welcome

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www.thecollectingbug.com/rusivictoria/

Forthcoming Anniversaries

- 13 February 1965:** 1 SAS Sqn advance party departs Perth for Borneo
- 14 February 1942:** Vynar Brooke sunk off the Banka Island, 62 nurses survive only to be shot by Japanese. Sr Vivian Bullwinkel (Statham) fakes death to survive
- 14 February:** National Servicemen's Day
- 15 February 1942:** Singapore surrenders to Japanese. Maj-Gen Gordon Bennett hands over command of 8 Div and escapes Singapore by sampan
- 16 February 1951:** Australians and Chinese battle for Hill 327 in Korea
- 18 February 1941:** Australians arrive in Singapore



Keith Batiste Collection

Keith Charles Batiste was born on 30th December 1918 at Flemington Victoria. He joined the Militia in May 1935 to serve with 15th Field Brigade, Royal Australian Artillery (RAA). In May 1940, as a gun sergeant, he transferred from 112th Howitzer Battery to enlist in the 2nd Australian Imperial Force and was allotted to 2/8th Field Regiment, RAA. He was commissioned in August 1940. He embarked from Australia on 16th November 1940 for the



Middle East and was on active service with A Troop, 15th Battery (equipped with 25-pounder guns) until January 1943 when he returned to Australia. He continued to serve with his unit on the Atherton Tablelands until transferring to the Reserve of Officers on 11th February 1944. He died on 18th March 2000.

We have Keith's diary of a six-month period in 1942 covering the Battle of El Alamein. He also left a significant bequest to RUSIV. His legacy is further perpetuated by a collection of military books in our Library purchased and inscribed in his memory.

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

Defence

Recommended: Understanding Australia's submarine commitment: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)
Joint ministerial statement of intent on upgrading our Defence Cooperation Arrangement [with Indonesia]: [\(M\)DefenceMinister](#)

Navy

Growing signs Australia's new nuclear sub will be British design: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

Army

Soldiers prepare for Philippines deployment: [\(M\)Contact](#)

Air Force

Australia to upgrade Growler electronic warfare planes: [\(M\)AsiaPacificDefenceReporter](#)

New Zealand

New Zealand authorities recover 3.2 tonnes of cocaine from Pacific Ocean, believed to be bound for Australia: [\(M\)ABCNews](#)

UK

Giving RAF Typhoons to Ukraine would be a very expensive symbolic gesture: [\(M\)RUSI](#)

US

F-22 shoots down Chinese balloon off coast of South Carolina: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)

Moment China 'spy balloon' is shot down by fighter jet: [\(F\)SkyNews](#)

Balloons to cyber attacks: how China has spied on the US for decades: [\(M\)TaskandPurpose](#)

China's balloon may have taught Pentagon more than Beijing learned from it: [\(M\)DefenseOne](#)

Has US foreign policy become too militarized? [\(P\)DefenseOne](#)

All your burning questions about the Chinese spy balloon, answered: [\(M\)TaskandPurpose](#)

F-22 shoots down new 'object' over US airspace, days after Chinese balloon saga: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

Fiji

A new era in Fijian politics: [\(M\)CSIS](#)

Ukraine

Along Ukraine-Belarus border, a war of nerves – and drones: [\(M\)Stars&Stripes](#)

RAND experts fear stalemate, 'frozen conflict' in Ukraine: [\(M\)BreakingDefense](#)

US-led security assistance to Ukraine is working: [\(M\)RUSI](#)

Ukraine's rocket campaign reliant on U.S. precision targeting, officials say: [\(M\)WashingtonPost](#)

Western tanks will bring their own complexities to Ukraine's fight against Russia: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Japan

Japan's strategic imperative: [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

Japan ditches attack helicopters – will Australia do the same? [\(M\)AspiStrategist](#)

North Korea

North Korean parade showed off record number of ICBMs, analysts say: [\(M\)Strs&Stripes](#)

Cyberspace

Media release: audit: Commonwealth riddled by CCP spyware: [\(M\)SenatorPaterson](#)

Military History

Operation Secret Squirrel - top secret B-52s: [\(F\)DarkSkies](#)

Recommended: Dogfight vs Soviet MiGs & shoots down 4 MiG-15 fighters | Royce Williams: [\(F\)AmericanVeteransCentre](#)

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