



RUSI NSW

# Newsletter

Issue No.71 – February 2022

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Anzac Memorial, Hyde Park  
South, Sydney NSW 2000

PO Box A778 SYDNEY SOUTH  
NSW 1235

[www.rusinsw.org.au](http://www.rusinsw.org.au)

[office@rusinsw.org.au](mailto:office@rusinsw.org.au)  
Telephone: (02) 8262 2922

Welcome to this month's issue of the electronic newsletter of the Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies NSW, Inc the aim of which is to provide members, stakeholders, and other interested parties up to date news of our latest activities and events as well as selective information on defence issues.

## February 2022 Lecture

Improving Australia's Regional Security 2022 lecture series  
Lectures are open to Members, their Guests and Visitors

**Tuesday 22 February 2022** Location: [Anzac Memorial Auditorium](#)

Speaker: AVM **Kym Osley** AM CSC, NSW Defence Advocate

Subject: **Defence & Aerospace NSW – Building a Sovereign Defence Industry Capability**

**Abstract:** The topic of the presentation will be 'Defence & Aerospace NSW – Building a Sovereign Defence Industry Capability'. Kym Osley will explain the role of the Defence Advocate, Investment NSW and Defence and Aerospace NSW in supporting NSW Defence industry. He will highlight how these entities coordinate support for Defence industry across the NSW Government and Defence in order to deliver good NSW Defence industry outcomes. Kym will discuss how NSW Defence industry can provide a more resilient supply chain for Defence through innovation and the development of key future capabilities with less reliance on overseas sources. He will also describe the support provided through the Regional NSW Defence Network, the NSW Defence Innovation Hub and other initiatives. The issues facing NSW industry in gaining Defence work will also be discussed, as well as the key challenges for the future which include an increasing need for a larger Defence industry workforce and how to build Defence industry exports.

**Booking is essential - \$10 RUSI Members, \$15 non-members, \$8 sandwich plate.**

Sandwiches will be available at 1200hr prior to the lecture

**Book and pay by Monday 21 February 2022**

To book and pay via credit card - <https://www.rusinsw.org.au/site/ActPay.php>

or send money via EFT to BSB: 062 028 - Account: 1138 3565 followed by an email to our office: [office@rusinsw.org.au](mailto:office@rusinsw.org.au) detailing the name of attendees and any sandwich orders.



Major General J. S.  
Richardson CB, Founder  
of RUSI NSW



## Institute Membership News

A special welcome is extended to the new members:

**Mr Walter Mullany, Mr Robert La Machia, Mr Alan Mitchell and Mr Bradley Perrett**



## ***In this issue:***

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## ***RUSI NSW President's Message February 2022***

On behalf of the RUSI NSW Board, we send our very best regards to all our members and supporters, and again state our thanks to all of you who have continued to support RUSI NSW through these difficult and challenging times -Thank You!

In my last month's President's report, I acknowledged that we had new Board members joining our Board-- Mr. Jim Braid, Ms. Diana Figgis, Mr. Ian Mitchell, CAPT Chris Skinner RAN (Ret'd) and LTCOL Ron Lyons RFD ( Ret'd) as our new events coordinator, and I want to thank the new and ongoing members of the RSUI NSW Board for their commitment in running a very productive Board planning session on Sunday 06 Feb- where we confirmed our program for 2022 and finalized our Strategic Plan 2021-2025 thinking.

I would also like to acknowledge the very high-quality presentation made by CAPT Chris Skinner for our January monthly lecture and the impressive lineup we have for the next few months, listed on page 1 and 3 of this newsletter.

We are also finalizing the details of an RUS INSW visit to the ANSTO Nuclear facility at Lucas Heights Sydney, as a follow-up to the January 2022 lecture, and we will publicize the date and details as soon as they are available  
 We look forward to seeing you at our functions in 2022,  
 Sincerely

**Michael Hough**  
**RUSI NSW President**




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## ***Library and office notice***

The RUSI NSW Office and Ursula Davidson Library and Reading room will open **on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022.**



Please see the NSW Government Health information pages for more information:  
<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19> and the [Anzac Memorial conditions of entry](#)

## ***FUTURE RUSI NSW LECTURES and EVENTS 2022***

Lectures are open to Members, their Guests and Visitors. Start Time is 1300.  
These lectures are held in the Anzac Memorial Auditorium, Hyde Park South, Sydney.  
Location: [Anzac Memorial Auditorium MapLink](#)

### ***March 2022 Lecture***

**Tuesday 29 March**

Speakers: GPCAPT **Matthew McCormack** OC 81 Wing  
RAAF (left image)

GPCAPT **Chris Hake** RAAF Air Combat Group  
Director, Loyal Wingman Program RAAF(right image)

Subject: **Aviation Capability: Air Combat Capability - F35 & Loyal Wingman Program**



### ***April 2022 Lecture***

**Tuesday 26 April**

Speaker: Commander Army Aviation Command - Major General  
**Stephen Jobson**, AM, CSC

Subject: **Significance of Army Aviation Capability Upgrades**

NOTE THIS IS A WEBCAST ONLY DUE TO THE PROXIMITY TO ANZAC DAY



## ***Cruise on the harbour: Sydney Under Japanese Attack 1942: 80-year Anniversary***

RUSI NSW has arranged a group booking for this cruise – organises by  
The Naval Historical Society of Australia (NHS):

**Three-hour cruise on Sydney harbour. Tuesday 31 May 2022**

**Check-in time: 0930h**

**\$65 per person. Numbers are limited, no reservations – please pay to  
secure your attendance.**

**To pay via credit card -** <https://www.rusinsw.org.au/site/ActPay2.php>  
or send an email to our office: [office@rusinsw.org.au](mailto:office@rusinsw.org.au) detailing the name  
of attendees followed by deposit of money **via EFT** to our account.

This Cruise on Sydney Harbour will highlight the events of 31 May 1942  
when three Japanese midget submarines entered Sydney Harbour to  
attack Allied warships. Your cruise boat will take you to sites on the  
Harbour where key events occurred and a comprehensive description of  
how those events unfolded. Morning tea is included.

**Three Hour Cruise - 31 May 2022**

**Check-in Time:** 09:30am **End Time:** 1:00pm

**Departure Point:** King Street Wharf, Darling Harbour

**Boarding Time:** 09:45am for 10:00am DEPARTURE

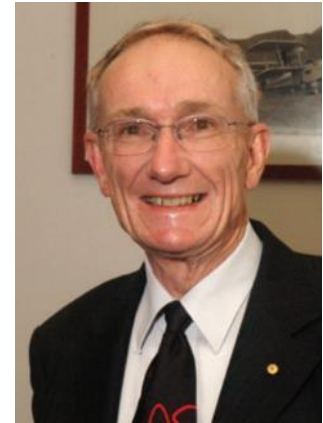
**Access:** Ferry, Train and walk from Town Hall or Wynyard Stations.



**Top Image Source**  
[Wikipedia](#): Japanese Ko -  
hyoteki class midget  
submarine raised in Sydney  
Harbour the day after the  
attack. **Bottom image:**  
Japanese Attack map from  
[NHS website](#)



**Major General Paul Irving (Ret'd) AM, PSM, RFD**  
**The new President, RUSIDSS - Australia**



Paul Irving had extensive service in the Australian Army since commencing National Service in 1972, following which he was commissioned as an officer into the Royal Australian Corps of Signals and undertook a wide variety of regimental, training and personnel postings. He raised and commanded the 8th Signal Regiment, commanded the Reserve Command Staff Wing in NSW, and was the Director of the Army Personnel Agency, Sydney.

Paul commanded the 8th Brigade for three years, following which he was the Assistant Commander of the Army's Training Command. During this time, he undertook the duties of Chief of Staff on full time duty.

He was promoted Major General in January 2003 and commanded the 2nd Division for three years. From 2006 to 2018, he was Representative Colonel Commandant of the Royal Australian Corps of Signals.

Paul is currently National President of the Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies - Australia, Immediate Past President of the Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies NSW, President of the Defence Reserves Association (where he represents the Association on the Ex-Service Organisations Round Table with the Department of Veterans' Affairs), President of the NSW Signals Association, Patron of the NSW National Servicemen's Association and Patron of the Signals Corps Museum.

He has a Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Legal Studies, Diploma of Labour Relations and the Law, and a Graduate Diploma in Strategic Studies.

In his civilian career, Paul had over 40 years of service in the NSW public sector, principally in senior human resources positions in large Government departments.

<https://www.rusi.org.au/>



**RUSI NSW Volunteer Greg Stevenson is responsible for the Books for sale list on our website:**



<http://www.rusinsw.org.au/documents/Booksale.pdf>

Members of the public are invited to review and purchase our books. These are duplicates or titles that are not required.

This is a great collection of quality books for sale, with all proceeds going to new book purchases for the Ursula Davidson RUSI NSW Library.

"ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE FOR DEFENCE AND SECURITY STUDIES"  
 "RUSI"  
**"URSULA DAVIDSON LIBRARY"**  
**BOOKS FOR SALE**  
**BATCH 07/2021**  
 Greg Stevenson, a Member of the Institute is responsible for the Books for Sale "OFFERS" from the Institute's Library.  
 These books are available for sale at [www.rusinsw.org.au](http://www.rusinsw.org.au) and email the Book Manager, A. Davidson, at [book.manager@rusi.org.au](mailto:book.manager@rusi.org.au).  
 NOTE: The email address is in CAPS to avoid the common error.  
 Also please indicate whether you will collect the books from the Library.  
 If you are unable to collect the books please contact the Book Manager.  
 Processing of all orders for books will be based on the Date & Time they are received.  
 If you do not receive a response, you should assume that you have not been successful in purchasing the books.  
 If you are unable to purchase the books, you will receive an email at [book.manager@rusi.org.au](mailto:book.manager@rusi.org.au) and a letter at [book.manager@rusi.org.au](mailto:book.manager@rusi.org.au).  
 The issue of books "Offers of Books for Sale" each month will be

"ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE FOR DEFENCE AND SECURITY STUDIES" - RUSI NSW

**BOOKS FOR PURCHASE FROM THE "URSULA DAVIDSON LIBRARY"**

BOOK CATEGORY - MONTH, QUANTITY, SATISFACTORY, #1 + POOL

BATCH NUMBER: 07/2021 DATE: 05/12/21

| ITEM | BOOK NAME   | BOOK AUTHOR     | PRICE \$AU\$ | BOOK TYPE             |
|------|---|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| 02   | British Discharge and Burglers of World War One?              | John Laffin     | 6.95         | 1st (Revised) Edition |
| 03   | Sluggers in France - Australian Soldiers on the Western Front | Richard Travers | 6.95         | 1st Edition           |

## **HONORARY TREASURER AND BOARD MEMBER REQUIRED**

We seek expressions of interest for the role of Treasurer & Board Member. This hands-on role is responsible for the Institute's financial and investment management and maintaining the data base of its 500 members in conjunction with the Office Manager. A comprehensive handover will be provided by the incumbent who is retiring after seven years in the role.

Experience in preparing financial statements and competency in Microsoft Excel are requirements. A knowledge of investment management and of modern accounting software and data base management systems would be an advantage.

In addition to attending monthly Board meetings, the time commitment is to the order of two hours per week plus one day following each month end and one week following financial year end. Duties may be performed remotely and/or at the Institute's office.

Please advise your interest to the President, Professor Michael Hough, at [president@rusinsw.org.au](mailto:president@rusinsw.org.au)

## ***Special Interest Group on Strategy invites new members***



The Special Interest Group on Strategy (Strategy SIG) was established in 2013 to become a centre of expertise on, and a focus for the detailed study of, strategy. At the same time, separate SIGs were formed for military history and defence industry.

Strategy is defined broadly to embrace defence, national security and foreign affairs at the policy analysis and strategic [grand strategic, military strategic and operational] implementation levels.

The Strategy SIG seeks to:

- enhance members' knowledge of strategy, including the evolution of strategic thought;
- maintain members' awareness of current geo-strategic issues; and
- undertake research on nominated issues of current strategic interest with a view to publishing the findings and, when appropriate, providing advice to government.

The SIG has prepared reading lists to assist members enhance their knowledge of strategy. Summaries of current strategic issues and links to online resources which elaborate on them are circulated by email to members several times each month and are discussed by members. When members indicate an interest in studying a specific topic, they are helped to do so and to publish their findings. The extent of a member's involvement in the SIG, however, is a matter of personal choice. The majority of members participate more passively than actively.

Any member of the Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies–Australia, who has an interest in defence, national security and foreign affairs at the strategic level, may apply to join the Strategy SIG. If you would like to join, please either advise the Institute's office at [office@rusinsw.org.au](mailto:office@rusinsw.org.au) or either of the co-chairs, Brigadier David Leece AM PSM RFD ED (Ret'd) at [david.leece@bigpond.com](mailto:david.leece@bigpond.com) or Lieutenant Colonel Ian Wolfe CSM RFD at [StrategySIG@rusinsw.org.au](mailto:StrategySIG@rusinsw.org.au)

## Ways to connect with RUSI NSW



**Our website** <http://www.rusinsw.org.au/>



**LinkedIn group page - a great place to network** <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/3791242/>



**Defence's best kept secret: RUSI NSW on facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/RUSIDSSNSW/>



**Recordings of our past lectures** <http://www.rusinsw.org.au/site/Videos.php>



**YouTube** **Subscribe to our YouTube channel** <http://www.rusinsw.org.au/YouTube>



**Books for sale list on our website:** <http://www.rusinsw.org.au/documents/Booksale.pdf>



**Getting to the Institute** [http://www.rusinsw.org.au/documents/Getting to the Institute 2018.pdf](http://www.rusinsw.org.au/documents/Getting_to_the_Institute_2018.pdf)



**RUSI NSW Membership Renewal** [Renewal of your membership for 2021/2022](#)



**Register for our events email** [https://www.rusinsw.org.au/site/Events\\_Email.php](https://www.rusinsw.org.au/site/Events_Email.php)



**RUSI NSW Board and Patrons** <https://www.rusinsw.org.au/site/Committee.php>



**United Service RUSI National Journal**

[https://www.rusinsw.org.au/site/Lectures\\_and\\_Presentations.php](https://www.rusinsw.org.au/site/Lectures_and_Presentations.php)



**Ursula Davidson Library** <https://www.rusinsw.org.au/site/Library.php>

## Recent RUSI NSW Lectures – Catch up online

These recent lectures were recorded and can be viewed on [YouTube](#) or our [Videos Page](#)



**Lecture Tuesday 25 January 2022**

Speaker: CAPT Chris Skinner RAN Ret'd

Subject: [Nuclear Powered Submarines and other AUKUS technologies for the ADF](#)

1 hour 12 minutes



**Christmas Lunch Presentation 15 December 2021**

Speaker: Ron Lyons RFD

Subject: [Sydney at War 1939-1945](#)

28 minutes



**Lunchtime Lecture 14 December 2021**

Speaker: Peter Hartcher

Subject: [The Sir Hermann Black Lecture - 2021 The Year in Review](#)

44 minutes



**Seminar 23 November 2021**

Subject: [Island Australia - Improving Resilience in a Rapidly Changing Region](#)

**Part 1** includes an introduction by our Patron Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC, Governor of NSW and laying the ground work for understanding our defence position: Commander Australian Fleet; Commander

Forces Command; RAAF Air Commander; and Comd 2 Div

**Part 2** is a revealing discussion covering **Strategy and Resilience within Australian Academia and Defence Industry**



**Lunchtime Lecture 28 September 2021 (online)**

Speaker: Vice Admiral Tim Barrett AO, CSC, (Ret'd)

Subject: [Rebuilding Australia's Maritime Fleet](#)

39 minutes



**Lunchtime Lecture 24 August (online) 2021**

Speaker: MAJGEN David Thomae, AM

Commander of the 2nd Division

Subject: [Role of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division within the Defence Mobilisation Framework](#)

30 minutes



**Lunchtime Lecture 27 July (online) 2021**

Speaker: MAJGEN Susan Coyle, CSC DSM

Subject: [Cyber Security and Resilience](#)

33 minutes



**Lunchtime Lecture 29 June (online) 2021**

Speaker: Neville Tomkins OAM JP Chief Commissioner Scouts NSW

Subject: [Scouts NSW - Creating 'Resilient Youth'](#)

33 minutes

## Latest Defence News

### Further humanitarian support for Tonga



The Hon Peter Dutton – MP  
Minister for Defence

HMAS *Adelaide* arrived in Tonga on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 with additional humanitarian and medical supplies, engineering equipment and helicopters to support logistics and distribution as Australia continues its support in partnership with the Tongan Government following the volcano and tsunami. Australia is widening its support, including through the restoration of power and communications, the storage and effective delivery of relief supplies, and further recovery efforts on the outer islands most affected.

To date, Australia has delivered to Tonga more than 40 tonnes of emergency relief supplies, including shelter materials, water and sanitation supplies, equipment to restore communications and personal protective equipment for people clearing ash. The Australian Government will provide an additional \$2 million in humanitarian funding to assist Tonga as it moves to the next phase of its recovery from the 15 January eruption of the Hunga Tonga-Hunga-Ha'apai volcano and subsequent tsunami, bringing Australia's humanitarian commitment to

date to \$3 million. We stand ready to provide further assistance to meet Tonga's needs.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

### Tongan homecoming for ADF personnel

When HMAS *Adelaide* sailed into Tongan waters on Australia Day, it was something of a homecoming for four Australian Defence Force personnel on board. Among the 630 ship's company and other embarked ADF personnel on board, there were three Navy sailors and one Army soldier of Tongan heritage. All four are proud to return as part of the Australian Government response to assist Tonga recover from a volcanic eruption and tsunami on January 15.

For HMAS *Adelaide's* chaplain, returning to his birthplace as part of Operation Tonga Assist 2022 holds special significance. "This is an unimaginable opportunity for me," said Chaplain Simote Finau, who also participated in Operation Fiji Assist a year ago. "I never expected to have the opportunity to help the people of Tonga, who are also part of my heritage."

HMAS *Adelaide* arrived in Tonga to deliver more than 250 pallets of humanitarian stores, including water testing kits, tarpaulins, shelters, dignity and hygiene kits, and kitchen kits, as part of the Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade-led mission.



Navy sailor Leading Seaman Christine Fine on the bridge of HMAS *Adelaide* during Operation Tonga Assist 2022

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)



## ***Red Berets thrill Sydney's Australia Day crowds***

The Australian Defence Force's Red Berets parachute display team thrilled spectators celebrating Australia Day as they soared over the Sydney Opera House on January 26. Trailing smoke and carrying a huge Australian national flag and an Army flag, four paratroopers leapt from the ramp of a CASA 212 aircraft, formed-up into a tight formation and landed safely together in Circular Quay as the sun set over Sydney Harbour.



Australian Army soldiers from the ADF Parachuting Red Berets parachute display team drop into Sydney's Australia Day festivities.

The Red Berets, formed in 1974, comprises Australian Defence Force Parachuting School instructional and support staff, who are all qualified military free-fall paratroopers specially selected and trained prior to joining the team. Australia Day marks only the third public demonstration the team has been able to perform in the past year amidst COVID-19 cancellations.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

## ***General Defence News***

### ***ADF supports Australia's response to Tonga***



RAAF personnel unload humanitarian and engineering equipment from a C-17A Globemaster aircraft at Fua'amotu international airport in Tonga

The Australian Defence Force is supporting Tonga following the eruption of the Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai underwater volcano on January 15. Defence, as part of the whole-of-Australian Government effort coordinated by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, has established Operation Tonga Assist 2022.

The first Royal Australian Air Force C-17A Globemaster III aircraft touched down in Tonga on January 20 with essential supplies to support the Government of Tonga in its recovery efforts. Supplies included shelter materials, hygiene supplies, PPE for people clearing ash and water

containers, as well as communication equipment. Equipment also included a skid-steer loader with a sweeper to support runway operations.

This assistance will help the Tongan Government meet the Tongan community's needs and support immediate clean-up efforts. Many homes have been destroyed and many people displaced by a tsunami caused by the eruption. The delivery of supplies is part of the initial package of urgent humanitarian assistance. This is in addition to the Australian Government's existing stores in Tonga, which are already being distributed to the most affected regions via two Guardian-class patrol boats and a landing craft that were gifted by Australia to Tonga. The C-17A Globemaster III flight was made possible thanks to the tireless efforts of Tongan authorities who have worked to clear a thick layer of volcanic ash from the runway at Tongatapu Fua'amotu International Airport to enable the planes to land.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

## **Australia-United Kingdom Ministerial Consultations (AUKMIN) 2022**

### **AUKMIN 2022 Joint Statement**



Senator the Hon Marise Payne  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

On 21 January 2022, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Women Senator the Hon Marise Payne and Minister for Defence the Hon Peter Dutton MP hosted the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs the Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP and Secretary of State for Defence the Rt Hon Ben Wallace MP for the Australia-UK Ministerial Consultations (AUKMIN).

Ministers agreed to strengthen our collaboration in the Indo-Pacific. Australia welcomed the UK's Indo-Pacific Tilt, as conveyed in the UK's 2021 Integrated Review, reaffirming the UK's long-term commitment to the region. They expressed support for the growing engagement of European partners in the region.

Australia welcomed the UK's expanded diplomatic presence in the Pacific and its renewed membership of the Pacific Community (SPC). Ministers committed to deepening practical collaboration to support Pacific resilience, security and sovereignty. They agreed to work together to help increase the region's capacity to analyse climate security issues, including through Pacific regional security architecture. The UK and Australia welcomed their respective financial contributions to India's 'Infrastructure for Resilient Island States' (IRIS) initiative launched at COP26.

The UK welcomed Australia's work with India, Japan and the United States through the Quad in supporting Indo-Pacific countries to respond to the region's most pressing challenges, including on COVID-19 vaccines, critical and emerging technologies, and infrastructure. Ministers noted that the Quad's positive, practical agenda aligned with many of the UK's Indo-Pacific priorities and efforts to support regional stability. Ministers underscored the importance of maritime security, ocean health and sustainable blue economies. They committed to strengthening existing support for regional countries to respond to pressing maritime challenges in the region.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

### ***Contract to support Navy's survey vessels extended***

BAE Systems Australia's in-service support arrangements for the Royal Australian Navy's hydrographic platforms in Cairns have been extended. The current support arrangements for the fleet will continue for another 12 months at a cost of \$14.3 million. Announcing the extension in late January, Minister for Defence Peter Dutton said it would provide certainty for Defence industry while supporting 60 local jobs in Cairns. "This contract extension recognises the outstanding partnership between Defence and BAE Systems Australia as we continue to support the important work delivered by



While in Cairns for the announcement, the Minister for Defence, Peter Dutton, talks with the Deputy Chief of the Royal Australian Navy Admiral Christopher Smith of board HMAS Leeuwin

defence industry in Far North Queensland,” Mr Dutton said.

The Department of Defence’s Head of Maritime Systems, Rear Admiral Wendy Malcolm, said the decision also demonstrated a commitment to the Australian Defence Force’s hydrographic survey capability, which was tasked with charting more than one eighth of the Earth’s surface.

“The Royal Australian Navy’s hydrographic fleet is responsible for delivering Australia’s official nautical charts, which are essential for safe navigation at sea,” Rear Admiral Malcolm said. Rear Admiral Malcolm said the continuous support of Navy’s hydrographic fleet at HMAS *Cairns* by an experienced and capable Australian industry would ensure the protection of Australia’s marine environment and safe ocean passage for all.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

### ***Enhancing ADF's armoured combat capability***



The ADF is purchasing up to 75 M1A2 Abrams System Enhancement Package version 3 tanks

Enhancements to the Australian Defence Force’s combat capability will be delivered by the Government through the purchase of evolved Abrams tanks and combat engineering vehicles. Minister for Defence Peter Dutton announced a \$3.5 billion investment in the main battle tank upgrade (LAND 907 Phase 2) and combat engineering vehicle (LAND 8160 Phase 1) projects. Army will receive up to 75 M1A2 SEPv3 Abrams tanks, 29 M1150 assault breacher vehicles, 17 M1074 joint assault bridge vehicles and an additional six M88A2 armoured recovery vehicles.

Mr Dutton said the M1A2 SEPv3 Abrams would provide critical protection and firepower for the ADF in land operations. “Teamed with the infantry fighting vehicle, combat engineering vehicles, and self-propelled Howitzers, the new Abrams will give our soldiers the best possibility of success and protection from harm,” Mr Dutton said.

“The M1A2 Abrams will incorporate the latest developments in Australian sovereign defence capabilities, including command, control, communications, computers and intelligence systems, and benefit from the intended manufacture of tank ammunition in Australia. “The introduction of the new M1A2 vehicles will take advantage of the existing support infrastructure, with significant investment in Australian industry continuing in the areas of sustainment, simulation and training.”

Chief of Army Lieutenant General Rick Burr said tanks and combat engineering vehicles were essential to Australia’s ability to contribute to a credible land combat capability integrated with joint and coalition forces.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

## ***Upgrades underway at Joint Operations Command***



Deputy Secretary Security and Estate Group Celia Perkins and Chief Joint Operations Lieutenant General Greg Bilton conduct a sod-turning ceremony to mark the start of the upgrade works at HQJOC

The first stage of work to modernise Headquarters Joint Operations Command's (HQJOC) General John Baker Complex at Bungendore has begun. Chief of Joint Operations Lieutenant General Greg Bilton and Deputy Secretary Security and Estate Group Celia Perkins recently conducted a sod-turning ceremony to mark the beginning of the work.

The first stage of the project will include the creation of additional car parks, interim security works, construction of a solar farm, and site preparation for future works. Stage 2 works, anticipated to commence this year following government approval, will deliver an extension

to the main operations building, a new multi-agency collaboration facility, on-site operational accommodation and amenities, and upgrades to mess and fitness facilities.

Lieutenant General Bilton said the project represented a significant step-change in ADF joint operations. "The future of ADF joint operations requires a greater focus on speed, capacity, resilience and agility in order to meet the challenges of an ever-evolving operational and geo-strategic environment," Lieutenant General Bilton said. HQJOC was established in 2004 to plan and execute ADF operations.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

## ***Defence Industry and Defence Science***

### ***Defence leaders and industry come together***

Senior Defence leaders attended the Australian Defence Magazine Defence Estate and Base Summit 2021 in Canberra in December. The summit is an annual event that brings together industry and Defence to discuss opportunities and issues facing the Defence estate, to collaborate, improve, and deliver better outcomes for Defence.

Minister for Defence Industry Melissa Price, opened the event and noted the impressive scale of the Defence estate's 70 major bases, 400 properties, and 30,000 structures. The

Minister then outlined that industry can respond to Defence's requirements by continuing to create employment opportunities for Australians, and supporting operational readiness for the ADF. "Supporting local businesses is one of my key priorities—I want to see the local tradie winning work," Minister Price said. "On average 82 percent of work is being delivered to local business, and I would like to thank each of you for prioritising local industry."

Deputy Secretary Security and Estate Celia Perkins, gave a wide-ranging address on the future of the Defence estate. Ms Perkins highlighted the scope of the estate workforce and the Defence estate as a capability, delivering functions for Defence while also facing its challenges, including



An Australian Army S-70A-9 Black Hawk helicopter lands at Victoria Barracks in Sydney

delivering substantially more infrastructure in the next decade. “The estate also supports shaping Australia’s regional partnerships by providing facilities, training areas, and ranges to enable increased partner country training and conduct of exercises,” Ms Perkins said.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

## ***Defence Exercises***

### ***Royal Australian Air Force in Guam for Exercise Cope North 2022***

The Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) will deploy aircraft and personnel to Guam and the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands to conduct Exercise Cope North 2022 with the United States Air Force (USAF) and the Japan Air Self-Defense Force (Koku-Jieitai) from 2 to 18 February 2022. The trilateral exercise is focused on increased interoperability of the RAAF, USAF and Koku-Jieitai through combined tactics, techniques and procedures for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) operations and large-force employment. The RAAF Task Unit Commander, Group Captain Andrew McHugh, said Cope North 2022 will be an excellent opportunity to further enhance interoperability between the tri-lateral forces.

## International

A number of international organisations publish excellent material on issues which impact on our region.

*The Interpreter Weekly Digest 27 Jan 22 published by the Lowy Institute* has an article by Susannah Patton entitled **AUKMIN shows the UK is a world away from Australia** – it opens with the following “London’s global focus on malign authoritarian actors makes clear thinking and prioritisation impossible.”

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)



*The Strategist* dated 27 January 2022 published by The Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) **AUKMIN’s global view is good for Australia** by Peter Jennings. The opening line is “Foreign Minister Marise Payne told the post-dialogue media conference she had observed an exponential and continued upward commitment of UK engagement in the Indo-Pacific. UK Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said “we are facing global challenges from multiple aggressors”.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)



*USNI News Weekly Update* for 27 Jan 22 “**Report to Congress on Great Power Competition**” by the US Naval Institute.

The emergence of great power competition with China and Russia has profoundly changed the conversation about U.S. defense issues from what it was during the post-Cold War era...

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)



### Renewed Great Power Competition: Implications for Defense—Issues for Congress

Updated January 25, 2022

## ***About the Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies, NSW Inc***



Founded as the United Service Institution of New South Wales in 1888, the Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies, NSW (or RUSI NSW) is one of seven self-governing constituent bodies of the Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Australia Limited.

The aim of RUSI NSW is to promote informed debate on, and to improve public awareness and understanding of, defence and national security. To this end, RUSI NSW:

- educates the public about Australia's defence and national security;
- publishes a highly-respected professional journal;
- provides a forum for the discussion of defence and security issues by conducting regular lectures, seminars conferences workshops and visits to defence and security establishments;
- provides professional development programs;
- operates a public library, specialising in defence and security literature dating from the late 18th century to the current day; and
- conducts social and networking functions for members

The RUSI's office and the Ursula Davidson Library are located in the Centenary Extension of the Anzac Memorial, Hyde Park South, with access from Liverpool Street – close to Museum railway station, buses and car parking stations.

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