

THE GALLIPOLI GAZETTE

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WW1 Soldiers took Aussie Rules to London

One of the first Australian Rules Football games played outside Australia was staged in London in 1916 by World War One soldiers

Australian soldiers were in England preparing to ship out to the Western Front for what was to be one of the fiercest battles to be fought in the Great War and from which many would never return.

With Australian Rules the dominant football code in Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania and southern New South Wales, the majority of the 330,000 Australians who enlisted for the war had some understanding of the Australian code.

Among the noted sportsmen to enlist for World War One were top level Victorian Football League and rugby players from various states, Olympic swimmer Cecil Healey and cricket star Tibby Cotter, cricket's first genuine fast bowler and a 12th Australian Light Horse trooper who was killed in the charge of Beersheba Palestine in 1917.

The Australian Rules Game was played at the Queens Club (now well known for tennis) on Saturday October 28 1916 and billed as 'The Pioneer Exhibition Game'. It was organised by Lieutenant Frank Bearepaire (1891-1956), the former Olympic swimming champion and later Lord Mayor of Melbourne and founder of the 'Bearepairs' and 'Olympic' brand car tyre, wheel and battery business. Bearepaire wanted to raise money in

aid of the British and French Red Cross.

One team was called *The Australian Training Units* and the other *The Third Australian Divisional team*.

The umpires were listed as "Corporal Gray and G. Barry".

AFL historian Barb Cullen has stated "It must have had a huge impact. I know there were 160 VFL players who died through the

Boer War, WWI and WWII and every one of them a horrible loss to their families.

She noted that "in WWI a lot of them were the elite, the officers and of course that wiped out a whole lot of intelligentsia of Australia particularly for Melbourne's University football Club (1859-1914)" which merged with the Melbourne Club to survive.



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Editorial

This edition looks at the international commemoration of the eightieth anniversary of the decisive Battle of Guadalcanal. The Battle was the first major land offensive by Allied forces against the Japanese in World War Two in contrast to other conflicts in 1942 where the Allies were the defenders.

Political representatives from across the Pacific travelled to the Solomons in August with Australia represented by the Minister for Defence Industry and the Pacific, Pat Conroy, and the United States by its new Ambassador to Australia,

Caroline Kennedy. It was in this conflict that Solomon Islanders and Australian Coastwatchers saved the life of her father, John F. Kennedy, who 17 years later was elected President of the United States.

Another aspect of the Pacific War is highlighted. We read of Japan's Fu Go Incendiary Balloon bombs which mercifully failed in their attempts to set the United State on fire.

We also hear about WW1 Soldiers who took Aussie Rules Football to London for the recorded match in Europe arranged by former Olympian,

Frank Beaurepaire that was staged in London in 1916. The story also credits other leading sportsmen who enlisted for the war effort, with some paying the supreme sacrifice.

The heroic Matron Alice Cashin of Sydney is remembered for the nursing work she undertook that saw her twice awarded the Royal Red Cross.

Patrick O'Neill takes us the Russian invasion of the Ukraine. He looks at the crucial Swalki Gap and tells us of its strategic importance and the possibility of it becoming a flash point in any escalation of the conflict.

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We believe that within the community there exists an obligation for all to preserve the special qualities of loyalty, respect, love of country, courage and comradeship which were personified by the heroes of the Gallipoli Campaign and bequeathed to all humanity as a foundation for perpetual peace and universal freedom".

Battle of Guadalcanal

Anniversary of decisive battle attracts international attendance

Political representatives from across the Pacific travelled to the Solomons in August to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Guadalcanal which raged from August 7, 1942 to February 9, 1943.

It was the first major land offensive by Allied forces against the Japanese.

Australia was represented by the Minister for Defence Industry and Minister for International Development and the Pacific, Pat Conroy, and the United States by its new Ambassador to Australia, Caroline Kennedy.

The Solomon Islands have special meaning for the Kennedy family. Caroline's father, John F Kennedy in 1943 while serving as a lieutenant in the US Navy, was rescued by an Australian Coast-watcher and Solomon Islander scouts after a Japanese destroyer sunk his patrol boat, PT-109. (see below).

The battle began when Allied forces, predominantly US

Marines, landed on Guadalcanal, Tulagi and Florida islands in the southern Solomon Islands group seeking to take over Guadalcanal and Tulagi as bases for the recapture of Rabaul in New Guinea. The Allies were keen to take a new airfield nearly completed by the Japanese.

The Japanese had occupied those islands since May 1942. The Japanese were swamped by the Allies, who captured Tulagi and Florida, as well as the airfield, which was soon named Henderson Field and is now Honiara International Airport.

Henderson Field was named in honour of United States Marine Corps Major Lofton Henderson, killed during the Battle of Midway while leading his squadron into action against the Japanese carrier forces, thereby becoming the first Marine aviator to perish during the battle.

Japan made several attempts between August and November to retake Henderson Field.

Three major land battles, seven large naval battles and almost daily aerial battles culminated in the decisive Naval Battle of Guadalcanal in early November, with the defeat of the last Japanese attempt to bombard Henderson Field from the sea and to land enough troops to retake it.

In December, the Japanese abandoned their efforts to retake Guadalcanal, and began evacuating troops which took three months.

The Battle of Rennell Island was the last major conflict.

The campaign followed the successful Allied defensive actions at the Battles of the Coral Sea and Midway. Along with the Papua New Guinean battles of Milne Bay, Gona and Buna, the Guadalcanal campaign marked the Allies' transition from defensive operations to offensive ones and effectively allowed them to seize the strategic initiative in the Pacific.

John F Kennedy in the Solomons

Lt John Kennedy narrowly escaped death when a Japanese destroyer ran over his patrol boat PT-109. Kennedy and his shipwrecked crew swam to a Japanese-controlled island, where they were found by two Solomon Islanders, Eroni Kumana and Biuku Gasa, who were working with the Coastwatchers – allied military operatives – behind enemy lines.

At great personal risk, Kumana and Gasa took a coconut, on which Kennedy had written an account of the crew's plight, back to the Australia coast watcher they were working with. The patrol boat crew were then able to be rescued.

Caroline Kennedy met John Koloni, the son of Kumana, and Nelma Ane, daughter of Gasa at a ceremony in Guadalcanal and presented them with a replica of a coconut husk on which her father had written a distress message. The original is in the Kennedy Museum in Boston.

"I am so grateful you came here today so I could say thank you and one day I would like to bring my children to continue the relationship," Ambassador Kennedy said.

The heroic Matron Alice Cashin

In 2016 the NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association funded a statute that was erected over the previously unmarked grave in Sydney's Woronora cemetery of Matron Alice Cashin who was awarded the Royal Red Cross twice for her nursing leadership.

Melbourne born Alice Alanna Cashin (1870-1939) began nursing training for three years at St Vincent's Hospital, Darlinghurst in 1893.

After graduating in 1897 she joined the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association. In 1909 Alice moved to London, where she studied massage and obtained a diploma of the International School of Therapeutic Massage.

World War One disrupted her plan to return home in 1914, so began nursing in the general hospital at Calais, France. She was a member of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve in July

1915. She took charge of a large surgical ward in the general hospital at Ras-el-din in Egypt.

Twice mentioned in dispatches, including a special mention from Sir Archibald Murray, commander-in-chief of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force, in January 1917 Sister Cashin was awarded the Royal Red Cross.

From June 1916 she was Matron of the hospital ship *Gloucester Castle*, which was torpedoed without warning by a German U-boat in the English Channel on March 30, 1917.

Alice defied the Captain's orders. She refused to leave the sinking ship until all her 399

injured men and 33 nurses were safely on lifeboats. She left on the last lifeboat.

In her writings, now held by the Australian War Memorial, she described how, having 'secured my crucifix, prayerbook and the cape that had been given me by Her Majesty Queen Alexandra', she had first checked that all her sisters and the wounded were safe before she took to the boats.

Three died during the transfer of crew and wounded but the ship was able to be towed back to port after two weeks. It was eventually sunk during World War Two.



Alice Cashin Statue

Alice was awarded a bar to the R.R.C., becoming the first Australian to receive this honour. A commendation noted that she 'showed an example of coolness & devotion to duty and rendered invaluable service'. She also received the French Croix de Guerre.

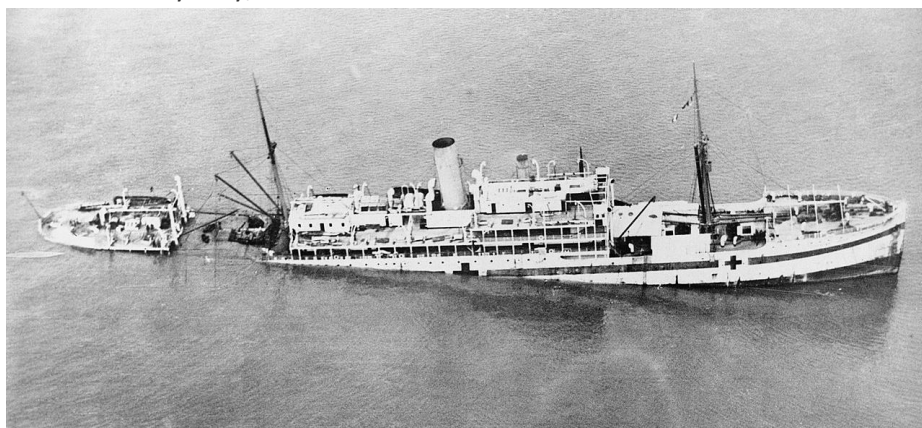
From May 1917 Matron Cashin had charge of the 400-bed military hospital at Whittington barracks, Lichfield, England, where she was much loved by the patients. On leaving in July, 1919 she was showered with daisies gathered by 'her boys'. She embarked to return to Australia in the *Morea* on October 18.

Although Cashin was a much-decorated Australian nurse, because her service was with Britain's Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve, the details of her career were little known.

Back in Sydney, Cashin wrote

The torpedoing of H.M.H.S. Gloucester Castle' for the *Australasian Nurses' Journal* (March 1920).

She nursed her aged father then worked as a saleswoman. Miss Cashin died on November 4, 1939 in her home at Marrickville.



HMS Gloucester taking in water 31 March, 1917

Continued from page 1.

"It's amazing what some thought they were going for. One of the players took his swimming trunks, his deck chairs and his car. He was a gentleman, John Bell from the Geelong footy club, and when he was killed the Army took over his car and they brought it back to Australia and it turned out to be the first ambulance in Geelong. So every one of those 160 have a story to tell."

She said there were standouts like Andrew Chris Fogarty who played for University and Essendon and was killed in Gallipoli in November 1915 and identified on the battlefield by his brother Joseph, also a VFL player, by a bunion on his left foot which was all that was left of him after a Turkish barrage.

There was also Bruce Sloss (Essendon and South Melbourne), who played in the exhibition match at Queen's Club and was the captain of the winning team, later killed by German artillery in France in 1917.

There was also William "Billy" Henry Orchard in the game with him in London, one of the Geelong cracks who enlisted part way through the 1915 season.

He had been captain of Geelong since April 1914 and had been described as a "complete footballer", blessed with all the skills of the game and capable of playing in any position. Billy served with distinction on the Western Front and received the Military Cross.



Olympic swimmer Cecil Healy

According to reporter "JW", the football columnist for the *Australasian* newspaper, "There can be surely no question that footballers are the finest raw material in the land; every quality of the game that is necessary to succeed making towards the ideal soldier."

"All outdoor exercise is a fine thing for a nation; but there is nothing like football for imparting dash, pluck, the power of giving and taking without squeaking, and the glorious quality of seeing it out to the bitter end. And it is this love of sport that has made our troops such a grand athletic crowd. If it were possible to take a census amongst all our soldiers, it would surprise many how great is the percentage of footballers in the rank of our brave lads."

The embarkation roll dates Billy's enlistment from July 26, probably because he had an urgent matter to attend to first. At 6.30pm on Wednesday July 21, at St George's Presbyterian Church, he married 20-year-old Henrietta Jessie Galbraith.

"The wedding was a very quiet one, as the bridegroom has enlisted and goes into camp shortly," reported the *Geelong Advertiser*.

After a brief honeymoon, Billy joined A Company of the 5th training depot at Seymour as a private. He quickly moved through the ranks while undertaking extensive training at Geelong and Bendigo and was Second Lieutenant of the 38th Battalion (1st Reinforcements) by the time he embarked for war on June 20, 1916.



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An Australian Football pamphlet

He would soon strap on his boots in London for the exhibition game.

The event was promoted by *The Times* as a novelty of a game that combined soccer and rugby. The match was filmed by the French owned film company British Pathe but was lost for decades, filed as it were as an 'Australian rugby match,' but later found, restored and digit-

tised in colour.

Billy would go on to fight with distinction and was awarded the Military Cross for his actions on October 4, 1917, during the Battle of Broodseinde Ridge. He arrived home in April 1919 and reunited with Henrietta, with whom he had spent just five days as husband and wife almost four years earlier.

He would not play football

again, but did umpire VFL and on account of losing an eye in the war was jokingly referred to as a "one-eyed umpire" of the game.

Of his Military Cross, his Commanding Officer of the 10th Brigade Brigadier General Walter McNicoll recommended him for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty, noted his bravery and stamina.



Captain Orchard (front row, right) played an exhibition football match in West Kensington, London, in October 1916. His team won. (Picture: AWM)

AFL historian Barb Cullen OAM

Barb Cullen, who received an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for services to the heritage of the game, spent 10 years running the Essendon club's museum. She now oversees the Sydney Swans and North Melbourne archives.

She said looking over archived war files and records made her cry half the time for the harrowing tales, but roar with laughter at other times with references to the Aussie Diggers' sticking it up to their British officers.

Watch the British Pathe film of the match:

[Australian War Stories: Aussie sports greats that fought in WWI | news.com.au — Australia's leading news site](https://www.news.com.au/australian-war-stories/aussie-sports-greats-that-fought-in-wwi/news-story/1234567890)

“After the deaths of his two officers at a very early stage of the fight he found himself in command of troops assaulting the second line,” he wrote.

“He carried out his task of consolidation and reorganisation in a very efficient manner in spite of a heavy enemy barrage and the difficulties of the ground. His untiring energy and cheerfulness under depressing circumstances were an admirable incentive to

all concerned”.

More than 2500 VFL players served between the Boer War, the two world wars, Korea and Vietnam with 900 serving in WWI and more than 100 serving at Gallipoli with 17 killed there.

Men like Fenley ‘Fen’ McDonald (Carlton, and Melbourne) and Claude Crowl (St Kilda) made their League debuts against each other, and less than four years later were killed at

Gallipoli on the same day on April 25, 1915. As well as Australian football and rugby league stars, many first grade cricketers also joined the war. Recognising the benefits of fitness and team bonding, the Australian Imperial Force even encouraged the game to still be played behind lines, always assuming a cricketer of note could be found in the ranks to rally others.



Remarkably, the match between the 3rd Australian Division and the Australian Training Units was filmed and archived by British Pathe. Picture: British Pathe



Three months of planning came to fruition on Saturday October 28, 1916, when the Third Division and the Combined Training Units faced off near the Queen's Club, West Kensington. Pic: AFL

Will Poland's Suwalki Gap cause War with Russia?

By Patrick O'Neill

In June this year, the new Head of the British Army, General Sir Patrick Sanders laid it out to fellow NATO Generals, that it was time to prepare 'for war with Russia'. In his June 28 address to the Royal United Services Institute, the General said that once more Britain faced its '1937 moment', when Russia invaded Ukraine. 'It was time' he said, 'for the British Army to mobilise to meet the threat.'

'In all my years in uniform. I haven't known such a clear threat to the principles of sovereignty and democracy as the brutal aggression of President Putin to seize territory in Ukraine'.

So where will General Sander's war with Russia break out? As Ukraine is not a member of NATO, 'Article 5' of the treaty rules out NATO being dragged into any war, particularly an undeclared one with a non-member.

So while tensions rise, it is unlikely the 'special military intervention' of Vladimir Putin will trigger war between Russia and NATO. But a recent increase in deployments gives us a clue as to where such a conflict could start. Since this crisis started, NATO has been reinforcing its troops all along its eastern flank. In June, Germany sent a further 500 troops to Lithuania to add to a contingent of 1500 already there. Britain and the US had already sent 2000 to Poland - all locations far from Ukraine.

That has been replicated by other NATO states, who have also called for a build-up of combat ready troops, particularly around Poland and the Baltic States.

The most dangerous part of NATO's border lies where Lithuania, Poland, Belarus and



the Russian exclave of Kaliningrad meet.

Kaliningrad used to be called Königsberg, legendary home of the Teutonic knights, and capital of East Prussia. It was ceded to the USSR after WW2, but it has no land link to Russia or Belarus, Russia's western ally. It is literally a Russian island in a hostile NATO sea.

Kaliningrad is also Russia's only ice-free naval base in the Baltic. So, what happens when winter comes and Russia's naval bases in the Gulf of Finland are blocked by sea-ice? What if NATO decided to impose a blockade?



General Sir Patrick Sanders

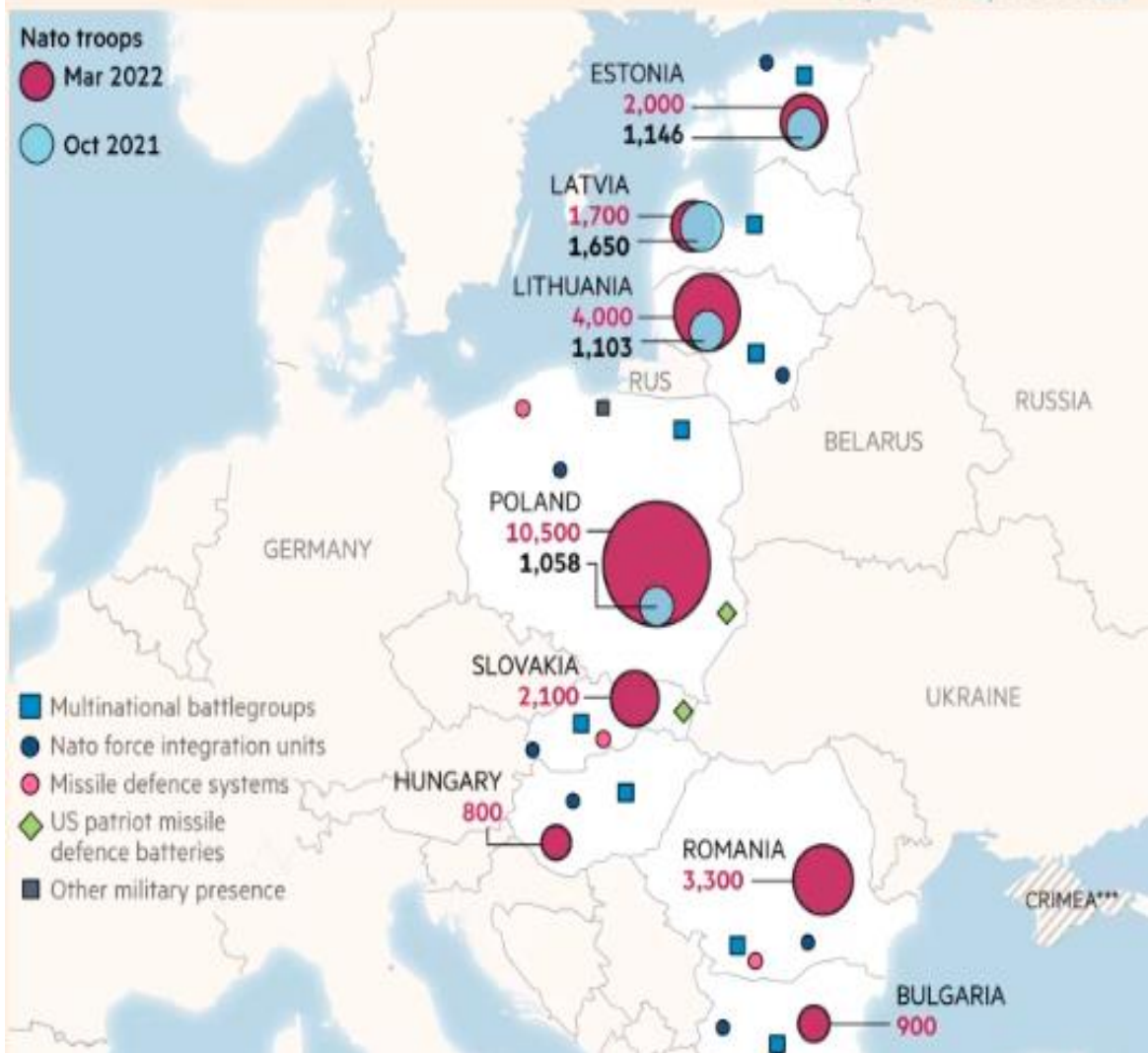


Russian Leader Vladimir Putin

Nato scales up its eastern defences

Number of Nato troops* and key headquarters

40,000 troops under direct Nato control**
(4,000 troops Oct 2021)



So Kaliningrad is rapidly becoming a Russian fortress. Russia has recently sent new Iskander-M missiles there - some possibly armed with nuclear warheads.

It has also upgraded its S-400 defences to protect its Kaliningrad base and airfields. President Putin has also reportedly sent many armoured vehicles and tens of thousands of troops, all of which would be of

concern to NATO. Close to Kaliningrad is the *Suwalki (or Swalski) gap*, a feature which adds to both Russia and NATO's paranoia. It runs between forests and swamps and straddles one of Russia's most feared invasion routes (see map next page). This 90 km stretch of land between the Dnepr and Dvina rivers, is where the Teutonic knights came during their northern crusades in the 12th Century. It was where

the Poles came on their 17th Century invasion of Russia. It is also where Napoleon came in 1812 and where the Kaiser's troops came in 1915.

It was through the *Suwalki gap* that Hitler sent his panzers during his 1941 invasion. Once through the gap, all invaders would proceed to the *Smolensk Gate*, a military term, referring to the open plains and easy route to Moscow.



Because Kaliningrad is an exclave, there has been an understanding between Russia and Lithuania to allow goods through from Belarus. But recently Lithuania prohibited supplies from crossing its territory under EU sanctions.

This unsurprisingly led to the usual threats and counter threats. Kaliningrad's Governor Anton Alikhanov called for the international community to:

".....negotiate between Russia and Lithuania for an extraterritorial rail-and-highway corridor to be built between Kaliningrad and Belarus. Lithuania's actions will have consequences" – that final point could have been written by Vladimir Putin himself!



And it is through the *Suwalki Gap* that the only road travelling north to the Baltic States from the rest of the EU runs. To the NATO forces in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, this road is a life line as Ministry of Defence Head of NATO and EU Department Maddis Roll said:

"It's true that the Suwalki gap is NATO's weakest point and it is still the most realistic place to attack NATO and the Baltic States. This is the reason behind the US decision to place its Corps HQ and additional US troops in Poland."

And the threats multiplied, becoming a major issue on Russian TV as a military expert said: *"taking a column through Lithuania would be the beginning of an operation to relieve the Suwalki gap. It would be an offensive operation. The depth isn't big - just 60 Kms. With good momentum it would be done in just 3 days."*

Major General Veiko-Vello Palm of Estonia's Defence Force said *"any division of the Baltic states is based on a view that NATO could be cut in two by a quick military manoeuvre across a 100 Km gap. The last few months has shown that the west is united and the Russian Federation cannot remain reliant on exploiting divisions in the west."*

So on July 13^h Lithuania, with no doubt a lot of input from NATO, backed down releasing the embargoed goods bound for Kaliningrad.

Goods are now flowing again freely across the Belarus and Lithuanian border to Kaliningrad, but General Palm went on to

remind NATO: *That doesn't mean that the Suwalki gap is no longer NATO's weakest point. It's just that at the moment Russia is too weak to exploit it."* Maybe Major General Palm has hit the nail on the head.

At the moment Russia's present offensive in the eastern Ukraine, seems to be running out of steam. Indeed, Ukraine is mounting an offensive of its own. You wouldn't think the Russian army would be under-strength, watching the displays of massed troops in Red Square during the Victory Day parade in May.

However, beyond the goose-stepping battalions, the military hardware and heavy armour displays, Russia could indeed be running out of troops.

According to Military analyst from the Swedish Defence Research Agency Johan Norberg: *"I think there are fewer soldiers in the Russian armed forces than we knew. If the pre-war figures were true, and if they had more soldiers, they would use them now. But the Russians don't have the forces to make a decisive move against the Ukrainians."*

Michael Kofman of the website "War on the Rocks" agrees: *"the truth is, after this offensive, the Russian military is a spent force."*

And the death rate of Russian soldiers has been horrendous.

Russia will not release its casualty figures - neither will Ukraine. But UK and US intelligence suggest that 12-15,000 Russian soldiers have been killed. Ukraine estimates that it has killed more than 25,000 Russian troops. Add to that the wounded, and Russia may have

sustained nearly 100,000 casualties - that's half their original invasion force.

All agree that Russia's invasion of Ukraine has been badly handled. Putin grossly underestimated Ukraine's tenacity. He also underestimated NATO's ability to unite and supply Ukraine with hi-tech weaponry. Gross incompetence by the Russian Federal Security Force (FSB) was revealed for poor intelligence and lack of security, and the army was also shown to be incompetent in both tactics, and the supply of its troops.

Of course, rumours are rife that the blame game in Moscow has started in earnest and that the military high-command is furious with the way this war has been mishandled. However, we should not assume that President Putin's days are numbered. If recent polls are to be believed more than 71% of Russians still love Vladimir Putin. That doesn't mean they want war, but as he tells them constantly it's not a war, it's a *special military operation!* However, if Russia were put on a war-footing with conscription, then Putin's popularity might suffer, particularly as the body bags come home - don't assume that the Russian High Command is against this war either.

Like the rest of Russia, the Generals also want to unite Russia and Ukraine. But from their perspective, they went into this war expecting to fight the Ukrainian army. They were not expecting to fight a NATO proxy, which Ukraine's western weaponry effectively means. They knew NATO's equipment

was better than theirs, but what really galls them is that, while facing some of the most hi-tech weaponry in the world, they are not fighting NATO on the territory they were expecting to face it. If they were to fight the real NATO, they would have expected mobilisation, a prior military procurement period, training and conscription.

But Putin refuses to bring in conscription because he doesn't want to declare war for political reasons. They also blame the Russian Federal Security Force (FSB) and its incompetence.

With such a high death-rate, it is not surprising that Russia is running out of troops, and its offensive has ground to a standstill.

Of course, Russian Generals have never shown much regard for their soldier's lives when sending them into action.

So where does this leave the Russian soldier who has been lied to, sent out on exercise - only to find he is at war, has not been fed or properly armed? Has their morale reached rock bottom? Are they on the point of revolution?

Surprisingly, evidence suggests that the common Russian soldier wants to fight but wants the war better managed. According to many postings by soldiers on a much-used Russian social media platform *Telegram*, they will not be happy with just settling for a cease fire, or an armistice line in the Donbas. They want to take the whole of

Ukraine, even if it means dying for it.

Indeed, some of their *Telegram* posts suggest they want to take the war right up to the Polish border, which means up to NATO itself. It's not just ordinary soldiers who feel this. Many messages seem to have been posted by NCO's and officers, up to a senior level. Putin will be reading all those messages too.

So, General Sir Patrick Sanders is probably right to advise Britain and NATO to prepare for war with Russia, which sort of, brings us back to where we started; The Suwalki Gap!



Japan's Fu Go Incendiary Balloon Bombs

The Fu-Go balloon was the first weapon to possess intercontinental range but it proved of little value.

The Fu-Go balloon was developed by Imperial Japanese Army's Noborito Research Laboratory, a decade after the initial concept was discussed.

In 1933, the laboratory's Lieutenant General Reikichi Tada began an experimental balloon bomb program which proposed a four metre diameter hydrogen balloon equipped with a time fuse and capable of delivering bombs up to 110 km, but the project was stopped by 1935 and never completed.

After the April 1942 Doolittle Raid in which the US Airforce bombed the Japanese mainland, the Imperial General Headquarters directed Noborito to develop a retaliatory bombing capability against the USA.

In mid-1942, Noborito investigated several proposals, including long-range bombers that could make one-way sorties from Japan to cities on the U.S. West Coast, and small bomb-laden seaplanes that could be launched from submarines.

On September 9, 1942, the latter was tested in the Lookout Air Raid, in which a Yokosuka E14Y seaplane was launched from a submarine off the Oregon coast. It dropped two large incendiary bombs in a forest in the hopes of starting a forest fire and safely returned to the submarine; however, response crews spotted the plane and contained the small blazes. The program was cancelled by the Japanese Navy

Also in September 1942, Major General Sueki Kusaba, who had served in the original balloon bomb program under Tada, was assigned to Noborito and revived the Fu-Go project with a focus on longer flights.

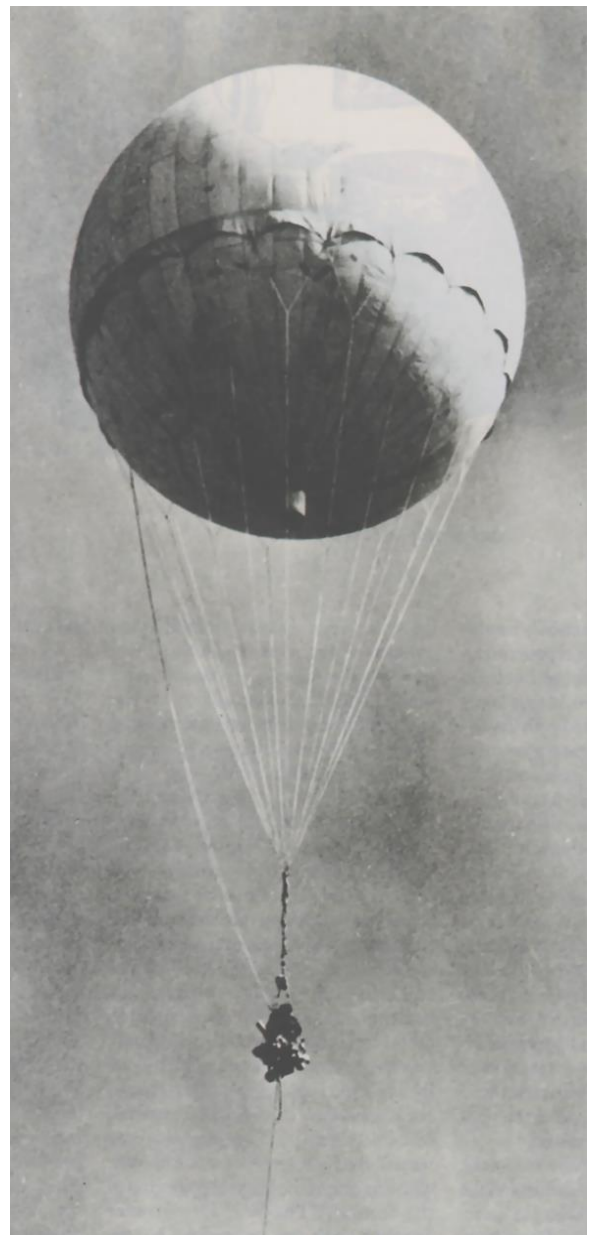
After months of research, Kusaba's team developed a six-metre prototype balloon capable of flying at 7,600 metres for 30 hours. The balloons were constructed from five thin layers pasted together of *washi*, a durable paper derived from a mulberry bush.

The Army mobilized thousands of teenage girls at high schools across the country to laminate and glue the sheets together.

The initial plan was for night launches from submarines 1000 kms off the USA coast for a likely 10-hour flight. A timer would release a five-kilogram incendiary bomb at the end of the flight.

Two submarines were prepared and two hundred balloons were produced by August 1943, but the attack missions were postponed due the need for submarines as weapons and food transports. so Noborito turned to investigating the feasibility of balloon launches against the USA from the Japanese mainland using the prevailing jet stream, the

strong seasonal air currents flowing from west to east at high altitude and speed over Japan, that measure up to 200 km/hour and so could carry the balloons at least 9,700 km to the USA mainland.



A shot-down balloon reinflated by Americans in California, January 1945

The balloon finally agreed on was 10 metres in diameter with 540 cubic metres of gas and a payload of two 5 kilogram incendiary devices plus one 15 kg anti-personnel bomb or just a 12kg incendiary bomb to start large forest fires.

Between November 1944 and April 1945, Japan launched about 9,300 balloons from sites on Honshu, of which about 300 were

found or observed in the U.S., with some also in Canada and Mexico.

However, the balloon bombs were largely ineffective due to damp forest conditions and malfunctions, causing only six deaths from a single civilian incident in Oregon and minor damage. Six people on a picnic found a bomb and probably kicked it causing an explosion.

The press blackout in the USA on the balloon bombs was then lifted to ensure others were warned of the threat.

A memorial, the Mitchell Monument, is located at the point of the explosion. Several Japanese civilians have visited the monument to offer their apologies for the deaths that took place here, and cherry trees have been planted around the monument as a symbol of peace



The Monument to the six people killed by the explosion in Oregon of the bomb attached to the Fu-Go balloon

"Pride In Our Heritage"



'The Landing' 25th April, 1915

THE GALLIPOLI CAMPAIGN THE BEGINNING – "THE LANDING"

Men of the 1st Australian Division A.I.F. (Australian Imperial Force) landing under heavy Turkish fire at ARI BURNU, 4.30am on 25th April, 1915. The beach was later named ANZAC COVE.

The name "ANZAC" originated in Egypt early in 1915 where the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps were training. The Corps Commander, Lieut. Gen. William Birdwood, used the abbreviated title of the Corps, A.N.Z.A.C., as the code word for the Corps in preparation for the Gallipoli Campaign – a word that was to make history and be revered by Australians and New Zealanders for all time. An "ANZAC" was an Australian or New Zealand soldier who served in the Gallipoli Campaign. The term "an Original ANZAC" identified those men who participated in the initial landing on the 25th April, 1915 – the 1st Australian Division, A.I.F.

The Campaign ended on the 18th December, 1915, following the evacuation of all Allied troops from the Peninsula.

In the 8 months period of the Campaign, Australian casualties were:

Killed in action and died of wounds	8,079
Wounded in action and missing	<u>17,924</u>
Total	<u>26,003</u>

Our Club was originally "The Gallipoli Legion Club" until November, 1967 when it became "The Gallipoli Memorial Club" – a memorial where the legend of GALLIPOLI would be firmly entrenched as an inspiration to future generations of Australians.

It was founded and developed by the GALLIPOLI LEGIONS OF ANZACS, those "ANZACS" who survived the Gallipoli Campaign and following that, the Campaigns of France and Belgium until the Armistice on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918.