

The image displays two military logos side-by-side. On the left is the Royal Air Force (RAF) crest, featuring a crown at the top, a central shield with a red eagle on a black background, and a blue circular border with the text 'ROYAL AIR FORCE' and 'COMBAT COMMAND'. Below the shield is a scroll with the motto 'STRIKE HARD STRIKE SURE'. On the right is the Australian Air Force crest, featuring a crown at the top, a central shield with a yellow kangaroo on a blue background, and a blue circular border with the text 'AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE' and 'ROYAL'. Below the shield is a scroll with the motto 'PER ARDUA - AD ASTRA'.

By Brian Morelli

1000 BOMBING PLANES CRUSH COLOGNE

Britain Begins Mass Raids On Nazi Cities

MORE than 1000 British bombers rained death and destruction on the German Ruhr and Rhineland districts on Saturday night.

The Rhine estuary of Cologne, biggest city in West Germany and great road and rail junction, was the main target. In the short space of one and a half hours 1000 bombers went Cologne.

Forty-four British planes were lost in the raids.

The raid is described as the beginning of a terrific bombing offensive, designed to crush Nazi efforts to win the war.

From now on it is expected this long bombing series will be well paid-off.

It marks the first time that the British have attacked targets in the Ruhr and Rhineland.

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Australian Pilots In Smashing Night Raid On Tulagi

From R. T. ANDERSON, Courier-Mail Correspondent at an Australian Operational Base

TULAGI, Japanese seaplane base in the Solomon, was blasted by an Allied air force on Friday night. Majority of the aircraft used in the attack were manned by Australians.

Other Japanese aviation columns, which were being bombed by Allied forces, were seen on Friday night were Dili, in Portuguese Timor, and Rabaul, in New Britain.

Tulagi had not been bombed before.

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JAP ZEROS A NEW MENACE

WASHINGTON, May 12.—Food and information from the other Allied Nations being so far, Japanese Zero fighters have been reported to be in the hands of the American forces in the Pacific.

It is believed that the Japanese are using these fighters in the Pacific.

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3 JAP SUBMARINES SUNK AT SYDNEY

Speedy Defence Foils Attack By Midget U-Boats

SEARCH FOR MOTHER SHIP: RAIDERS TO BE LIFTED

THREE enemy midget submarines sneaked through Sydney Harbour Heads under cover of darkness on Sunday night to attack shipping, docks, and defence installations.

All three are believed to have been destroyed—by gunfire from coastal batteries and the other two by depth charges.

Only damage done was to one small harbor vessel of no military value.

Planes and naval vessels are now searching thousands of miles of ocean for the tender or mother ship, which must have brought the midget submarines to within 200 miles of Sydney.

News of the attempted attack on Australia's chief port—the most daring attempt by the Japanese since their onslaught on Pearl Harbor on December 7—was followed at a specially convened conference of war correspondents at G.R.C. in Australia at 2 p.m. yesterday.

International attention rushed from the building to lodge their dispatches of the most exciting event in Australia's war history.

Attempts will be made to visit the captured submarines. Naval authorities are anxious to take possession of one of the raiders intact, because little is known of their capabilities. A hawser has been attached to one with a view to towing it.

The communique was as follows:—

In an attempted submarine raid which must have taken place on Sunday three enemy midget submarines were detected by the Sydney Harbour defences. One of the submarines was destroyed by depth charges. The other two were destroyed by gunfire and two by depth charges.

The enemy attack was completely unsuccessful. No damage was caused to any of the ships in the harbour.

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Kharkov Shambles

LOVINSKY, June 7.—Kharkov, one of the most important cities in the Soviet Union, was the scene of a shambles on Saturday night.

The city was hit by a series of bombs which caused great damage to the city.

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NATIS WILL SCREAM

LOVINSKY, June 7.—The Nazis will scream when they hear of the shambles in Kharkov.

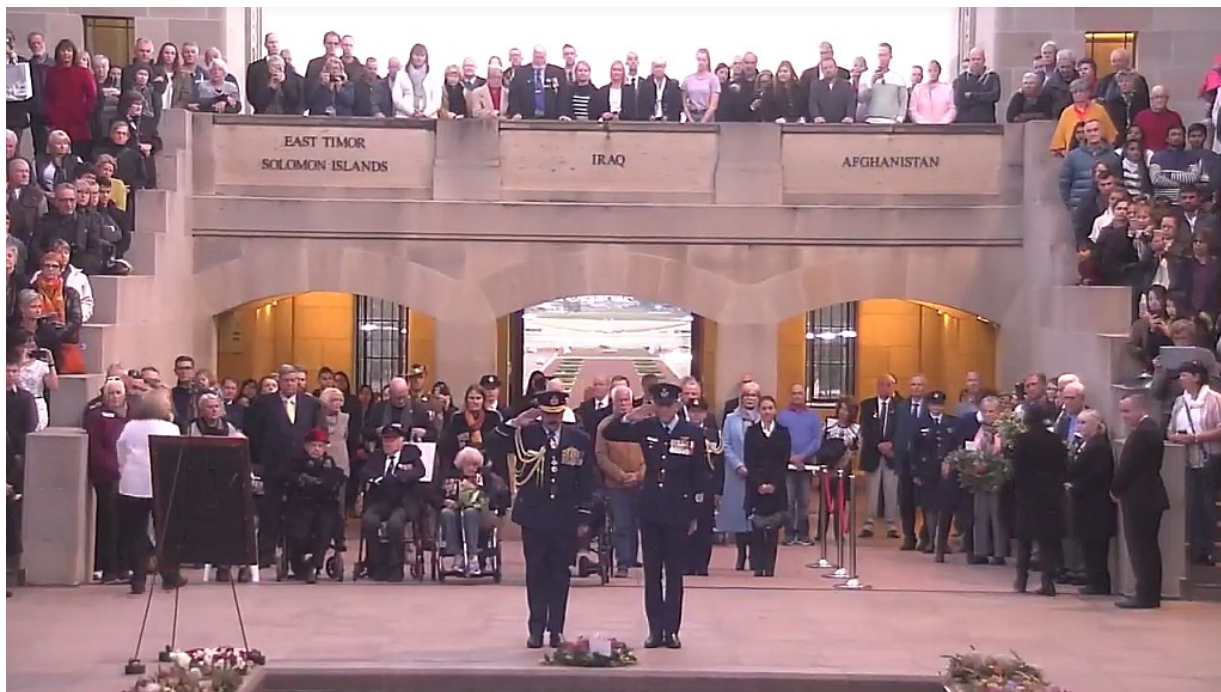
The Nazis will scream when they hear of the shambles in Kharkov.

The Nazis will scream when they hear of the shambles in Kharkov.






The weekend of commemoration commenced with the Australian War Memorial honouring Flt. Lt. Williams in the Last Post Ceremony.



A large crowd who had gathered to witness the dedication to an RAAF Dam Buster airman were also present to attend the Foundation's Annual Meet and Greet social function in the Anzac Hall held alongside Lancaster G-George the iconic Bomber Command Australian bomber from 460 Squadron.



G – George caught up with former 460 pilot Murray Maxton. Murray was treated to a personal inspection escorted by AWM Director Brendan Nelson to his old flying position at the controls of George. A most unique re-union and no doubt very emotional.



Sunday morning produced a beautiful May day to welcome a very large gathering of some 500 hundred supporters to hear Dr. Nelson as the key-note speaker. A wondrous knowledge of Australia's military history presented in a most polished manner makes the occasion a very memorable experience of both history and emotion.



The service was followed by contributions of wreath laying by Military, Legacy, Salvation Army and Red Cross representatives.



And of course Veterans and descendants.



Anticipation was rife when an announcement was made that the service would conclude by an RAAF FA-18 fighter from Williamtown RAAF Base and would be doing a flyover.



ON APPROACH.

A most shattering but delightful roar of power streaked overhead.



If there could be any highlight of the Service it would be the gathering of the eagles, the Veterans themselves.



34 Bomber Command veterans were able to make the journey to be honoured for their service.

But the weekend didn't end there.
There was the Luncheon in the Anzac Hall courtesy of the Australian War Memorial.



Dr. Brendan Nelson, Director of the Australian War Memorial offered to replace the Bomber Command Commemorative Day Foundation's annual luncheon with a luncheon in the Anzac Hall to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the commencement of RAAF Squadrons operations with Bomber Command. A great historian of all military things Australian Dr. Nelson's event made a lot of Bomber Command surviving veterans extremely happy to be so honoured.



Apart from being the perfect Host his presentation was applauded by a standing ovation from the 300 guests who attended the luncheon.

The proceedings commenced with an introduction for Bomber Command Commemorative Day Foundation President Keith Campbell for the official welcome and then Bomber Command Association President Ron Houghton who gave the loyal toast.



A very pleasing seating arrangement had the veterans sprinkled throughout the tables which gave wonderful interaction during the afternoon.



And then it was the veterans turn to speak. It all commenced quite unceremoniously



Which thankfully opened the floodgates.



Were those squadron rivalry stories going to be contested.....



Veteran raconteurs tell it better than anyone. Using the whimsical side in danger stories but bringing pathos to the fore with those two words”....my mate.” It was a captivated audience.



It did of course expand the integrated conversations at the tables.







Eventually a final thankyou to the veterans and an announcement was made to introduce the light and vision show reproducing a factual Bomber Command mission taken by G-George over Europe.





And at the going down of the sun it was time to again think of those who shall not grow old...



Images courtesy of the Australian War Memorial.

We also encourage you to visit the Australian War Memorial albums on Flickr for more photos of the events:

[AWM Flickr: Last Post Ceremony](#)

[AWM Flickr: Murray Maxton revisits the Lancaster G-George](#)

[AWM Flickr: Commemorative Ceremony](#)

[AWM Flickr: ANZAC Hall Luncheon](#)

The AWM youtube channel also has the following:

[Youtube - Last Post Ceremony - 3 June 2017](#)

[Youtube - Bomber Command Wreath Laying Ceremony, 4 June 2017](#)

The moving speech given by Dr Brendon Nelson AO at the Luncheon is also available on the AWM website at:

[Bomber Command Commemorative Address 2017](#)

This newsletter can also be viewed online at the BCCDF website:

[Last Post and Commemorative Ceremony](#)

[ANZAC Hall luncheon](#)

or downloaded in PDF form at:

[BCCDF Newsletter July 2017](#)